

You would follow the traditions of your predecessors inch by inch and arm by arm even if they entered a hole of a lizard⁸²

⁸² Imitation of foreigners deconstructs one's personality. It is a sign of one's weakness. It is the weak who imitates the strong. Imitating the unbelievers in their clothes may lead to imitating them in their ideology and belief.

The dress should not be similar to what is known as the custom of unbelievers. This requirement is derived from the general rule of Shari' ah that Muslims should have their distinct personality and should differentiate their practices and appearance from that of the unbelievers. Therefore, a Muslim woman should have the following requirements in her dress:

(1)Extent of covering: the dress must cover the whole body except for the areas specifically exempted: face and hands.

(2)Overall appearance: the dress should not be such that it attracts men's attention to the woman's beauty. The Qur'an clearly prescribes the requirements of the woman's dress for the purpose of concealing adornment. How such adornment could be concealed if the dress is designed in a way that it attracts men's eyes to the woman.

(3) Thickness: the dress should be thick enough so as not to show the color of the skin it covers, or the shape of the body which it is supposed to hide. The Prophet (pbuh) said, "In latter (generations) of my *Ummah* there will be dressed but naked.

(4) Looseness: the dress must be loose enough so as not describe the shape of a woman's body. Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) once received a thick garment as a gift. He gave it to Usama Ibn Zayd, who in turn gave it to his wife. When asked by the Prophet why he didn't wear it, Usama indicated that he gave it to his wife. The Prophet (pbuh) then said to Usama , "ask her to use a *ghulalah* under it (the garment) for I fear that it (the garment) may describe the size of her bones."

(5) It should not be perfumed.

(6) It should not be similar to what is known as a male costume. "The Prophet (pbuh) cursed the men who act like women and the women who act like men".

(7)It should not be similar to what is known as the customs of unbelievers.

(8) It should not be a dress of fame, pride and vanity. The Prophet (pbuh) said, "Whoever wears a dress of fame in this world, Allah will clothe him a dress of humiliation on the Day of Resurrection, then set it a fire.

Chaste People Are under Allah's Shade

The Reward of Chastity

Qur'anic verses:

{But she in whose house he was, sought to seduce him and she fastened the doors, and said: "Now come, he said: "Allah forbid!⁸³ Truly (your husband) is my lord! He made my sojourn agreeable! Truly to no good come those who do wrong.}

[Yusuf: 23]

Do Not Approach Adultery

Qur'anic verses:

{Nor come night to adultery: for it is an indecent (deed) and an evil way.}

[Al-Isra':32]

{And the servants of (Allah) most gracious

⁸³ Many stories have been recounted about some young men who suppressed their desires and whims for the sake of Allah. For example, one day Umar Ibn Al -Khattab, a Muslim caliphate, heard while walking at night a woman voice praising the beauty of a young man called Nasr Ibn Hajjaj. The young man was not with her and he does not know her. She composed and sang the following poetic lines:

Would I drink wine

Or meet Nasr Ibn Hajjaj

Who has a good family line

And he is lovely and generous

Umar, when hearing that, said, "By Allah I do not want to have a man about whom women say such words at his absence. In the morning he sent for him. Having seen him he noticed that he is very handsome. Umar commanded him to leave the town so as not to allure women unintentionally. Thus, Umar banished him to Syria.