

# Mr. Khan Gives Some Reasons

# Why Does Islam OK Polygamy?

By MAHAMED A. KAHN  
(Editor's Note: Mr. Khan is a graduate student. He is from Pakistan. In this article he points out some things about the Islamic faith that are generally unknown in the United States.)

Some ignorant people think of Islam as "a religion of sex indulgence." We frequently see the so-called "Harem" displayed in movies, mocked at in newspapers and falsely criticized in books. The Prophet has been attacked by European writers because he had several wives. They think a plurality of wives is evidence of general laxity and love of pleasure. This impression of the Prophet's marriage is, however, belied by the devotion and self-consuming love which the Prophet's wives had for him. Their devotion and love proved that the Prophet's married life was pure, unselfish and spiritual. It was so singular in this respect that no man can be said to have treated his one wife so well as the Prophet treated his wives.

If the Prophet's married life had been motivated by pleasure, it would most certainly have resulted in making his wives in-

different, and even antagonistic to him. But the facts are quite contrary. All his wives were devoted to him and their devotion was due to his unselfish and high-minded example.

According to one, Maimuna, after marriage met the Prophet for the first time in a tent in the desert at one day's journey from Mecca (Arabia). She lived long after the Prophet's death. She died full of years but could not forget what her marriage with the Prophet had meant for her. On the eve of her death, at a time when gone are the delights of flesh, when things only of lasting value and virtue move the heart, she asked to be buried at the same place where she had first met her husband. If she was not convinced of the unselfish spiritual love of the Prophet and if her marriage with him had been associated with unpleasant or indifferent memories, she would have forgotten all about it.

Islam enjoins marriage, whether monogamous or polygamous, as the conditions of life necessitate, with due regard to piety so that there may be no violence to human nature; and the animal desire like other cravings of nature, being duly gratified, may lead to perfect safety and the complete security of social morality. Thus the Islamic system of marriage fits into natural environment, practical need and requirements of mankind under diverse ages and all conditions. Islam claims to be a world-wide religion. It was not designed to meet the requirements of a particular race or age. With its universal mission, it embraces requirements of all ages, countries and civilizations.

Islam does not enforce polygamy; but it simply permits it, if one cannot live piously and happily with one wife. The Koranic verse giving license to polygamy reads: "Then marry what seems good to you of women, two, three or four (wives); but if ye fear that ye shall not act equitably, then one (wife) only." (4:3)

Permission to polygamy is curtailed by the proviso which enjoins strict equity and justice toward all wives as obligatory on man. In case a man feared that he could not act equitably and justly between his wives, he was directed to be content with one wife only. And, it need hardly be pointed out that to prove equal to this ideal is impossible unless one is spiritually well advanced. Nay, the Koran itself admits in another verse the inability of man to observe the required equality of treatment in every respect to all of his wives; and thus emphasizes the desirability of having only one wife.

## Battalion Editorials

Page 2 THURSDAY, AUGUST 23, 1951

### Danger Takes No Break . . .

FOR those students and faculty members who have been in school all summer, vacation is just beginning. Once more The Battalion takes this opportunity to remind its readers that "Danger Takes No Vacation."

These seven rules are offered for your consideration as a means to reduce traffic fatalities and to help you reach your destination without mishap.

1. Before starting your trip and immediately upon entering another state, learn the speed limits, both rural and urban. DON'T EXCEED THE SPEED LIMIT!
2. There's only one sure-fire rule when you've been celebrating—ALWAYS REFUSE TO DRIVE AFTER DRINKING.
3. Never argue about the right-of-way. If in doubt, yield to the other driver—always give the right-of-way to pedestrians.
4. Common sense considerations of time, speed and distance ahead will keep you out of deadly situations in which two speeding automobiles arrive at and try to occupy the same space at the same time. Improper passing and driving on the wrong side of the road are inexcusable.
5. Allow at least one car's length distance between your car and the car ahead for each 10 miles an hour you are traveling. DON'T FOLLOW TOO CLOSELY!
6. Plan your trip in short, easy stages. If fatigued, pull off the road until you are rested.
7. When you want to see the sights, park your car off the highway. Watch where you park, using parking places if available. Signal and be sure the way is clear when you drive back on the highway. Be patient in heavy traffic. Don't let annoyances make you take chances.

### I Admire The Human Race

(By ROGER WILLIAM RHIS)  
(Copyright 1951—Book-of-the-Month Club, Inc.)

I ADMIRE the human race. I do, indeed. Everybody is busy running us down, these days, for the mess they say we have made here and there and everywhere. Pshaw! That's short-range stuff, a worm's-eye view of our world. Over the marching and abundant centuries, we haven't made any mess. Far from it!

We have done and are doing a better job than anyone has any right to expect. We're all right!

From the beginning, we found ourselves alone in a vast universe, and not only alone but the only living thing on this planet which could realize its loneliness. We realized it, gave it a good close look, and then turned our attention to making something practical and useful out of an unprecedented situation.

First of all, we found for ourselves a Light, a God, and we got a sense of direction, a goal to work toward. This was pretty clever of us, if you think of it carefully.

We proceeded to set up standards for living together. Early in our experience we made the revolutionary discovery that gentleness and kindness were more practical than brute strength. No other species has ever found that out and used it as a model and practical code of conduct.

We have in actual fact no one we need answer to, beyond ourselves, and yet we observe our ideal standards in remarkable degree. We are honest and trustworthy one with another so that it is the exception, it is news, when we commit a theft. We are decent 99 per cent of the time, when we could easily be vile.

With silence and mystery behind us and ahead of us, we make up gay little songs and whistle them. We look life and fate in the eye, and smile. I like that, and I admire the people who do it.

Alone among all living things, we have discovered Beauty, and we cherish it, and create it for eye and ear. Alone among living things, we have the power to look at our environment and criticize it and improve it.

Finding it necessary to live together by the millions, we created for ourselves governing systems covering vast geographical spaces. Now we actually have the thrilling and terrific idea of a world government, a global government to bring justice to white and black, to Eskimo and Rfrikander, rich and poor, not because any tribe is powerful and can exact justice, but because we have conceived and created the ideal of justice and plan it for all men. This is great. This is not the act of a little animal, or a mean animal. This is possible only to a great animal. We think in global terms. We inhabit a star, and we know it.

Finding that we have to work to stay alive, we work with ability beyond imagining. Out of the earth we take food, and improve that food year by year; we take heat, and light, so that darkness which lay upon the face of the earth is dispelled by man-made light. We enjoy all the myriad products of our unparalleled ingenuity.

Every morning the necessity for the day's work faces us. And we go and do a day's work, with an overall average effectiveness and perseverance that is amazing, considering many of the jobs.

Of a persistence, a daring and ingenuity impossible to surpass, we find ways to move easily under the water and through the air. Now we speculatively eye our neighboring planets. It should astound no one if man one day begins to move among these planets. How shall I not admire such a creature? Daunted by nothing, his horizons constantly recede, the territories of his possession and use expand and expand.

Whenever he comes to an impassable obstacle, an apparently final barrier, he goes to work at it and, in due time, surpasses it. If he has limits, I do not see where they are. I do not think he has limits. I think he is a child of the universe who inherits eternity. I think he is wonderful. I am his devoted partisan, and I am proud indeed to be one of him.

### MARKET

- CHOICE PEN FED CALVES—
- Loin Steak . . . . . lb. 93c
  - T-Bone Steak . . . . . lb. 93c
  - Porter House Steak, lb. 83c
  - TALL KORN SLICED Bacon . . . . . lb. 47c
  - Ham Hocks . . . . . lb. 25c
  - BONELESS SHORT CUT Ham Slices . . . . . lb. 79c

### PRODUCE

- CALIFORNIA RED Plums . . . . . lb. 17c
- CALIFORNIA RED OR Seedless Grapes . 2 lbs. 25c
- Yellow Onions . . . . . lb. 5c
- COLORADO FIRM GREEN Cabbage . . . . . 2 lbs. 9c
- RED SKIN Potatoes . . . . . 5 lbs. 19c

- 3-POUND CAN Crisco . . . . . 95c
- 2-303 CANS TRELIS Early June Peas . . . . . 29c
- 2-NO. 2 CANS MOON ROSE Whole Green Beans . . . 43c
- 2-NO. 2 CANS CROSSE POINT Diced Carrots . . . . . 19c
- 2-NO. 2 CANS LUCKY LEAF Sliced Apples . . . . . 47c
- BATH SIZE SWEETHEART Soap . . . . . 4 cakes 41c
- KAISER ALUMINUM—25-FT. ROLL Foil Wrap . . . . . 29c
- MIRACLE WHIP Salad Dressing . . Pint 36c
- 2-16-OZ. CANS Pard Dog Food . . . . . 29c
- MRS. TUCKER'S—3-LB. CTN. Shortening . . . . . 83c
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- 12-OZ. CAN ARMOUR'S Treet . . . . . 51c

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L'L ABNER Doll Dance By Al Capp

**WHAT HAPPENED?**  
YOU SUDDENLY ROSE—SCREAMING—INTO THE AIR—AND YOUR JAW—IT'S TERRIBLY BRUISED!!

**HUCKLE!!—AH STARTED ON HER WIF A SIMPLE, LADY-LIKE SMACK IN TH' JAW—BUT—NOW—CACKLES!!—AH BEGINS TH' REAL DIRTY WORK!!**

**WH'LL GIVE HER TH' LEAPIN' JEEBIES!!**

**SHE'S A SCREAMIN' AN' A LEAPIN' IN PAIN, NOW—AN' THET SMART-ALECK DOCTOR IS (CACKLE) HELPLESS T' HELP!!**

L'L ABNER Person-to-Person Call By Al Capp

**AH G-GOT TH' L-L LEAPIN' JEEBIES!! OH—SOB!!—S-STOP—ME—**

**I-I CAN'T!!—I'VE GIVEN YOU EVERY REMEDY KNOWN TO MEDICAL SCIENCE!!**

**D-DON'T LAFF AT ME—B-BUT M-MEBBE IT'S S-SOMETHIN' BEYOND M-MEDICAL SCIENCE!!**

**M-MEBBE AH'M B-BEIN' OUCH!!—HEXED!!**

**THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE, MY DARLING!!—THIS IS THE TWENTIETH CENTURY!! THERE ARE NO SUCH THINGS AS WITCHES—HEXES—EVIL POWERS—**

**CACKLE!!—AH'LL KEEP IT UP ALL NIGHT—ALL TOMORRY NIGHT—ALL TH' NEXT NIGHT!!—HOOMIN FLESH CAN'T STAND THIS!! SPEESHLY DAISY MAE'S PORE WEAK, TORTURED FLESH!!**

L'L ABNER The Sorcerer's Apprentice !! By Al Capp

**OH!!—SOB!!—AH C-CAIN'T S-STOP IT NO MORE!!—IT'S BIN GON' ON FO' 48 HOURS—WIF N-NO LET-UP!!—AH WANTS T' DIE!!**

**(NOTHING I CAN DO HELPS HER!!—IF IT DOESN'T STOP—MY DARLING WILL DIE!!)**

**CACKLE!!—RECKON SHE'S LARNED NOW, NOT T' BUTT IN ON MAH ROMANCES!! AH'LL SASHAY DOWN, AN' POP TH' QUESTION T' HIM AGIN—**

**BUT—IT BETTER NOT LET UP WHILE AH IS GONE!!—AH'LL TURN IT OVER T' MAH—UGH!!—ASSISTANT!!**

**HEY, CRITTER—IS YO STILL ALIVE?**

## The Battalion

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Joe Arnett, Editor  
at Morley, Women's Editor

### Dr. Wing, Family Away on Vacation

Dr. L. W. Wing, ornithologist in the Department of Wildlife Management, is vacationing in Berkeley, California. Planning to travel through northern Mexico on the way to California. Dr. Wing, his wife Anne, sons George, Tommy, Bill, and daughter Mary Anne left July 21.