

**www.answering-christianity.com presents:**

**Response to the lies and distortions of christian missionaries about the position of women in islam**



**Part 3, Written by Kevin el-Karim**

*"The most perfect of believers are those most perfect of character; and the best of you are the best of you to your spouses." Tirmidhi, Ibn Hibban*

*"None but a noble man treats women in an honourable manner. And none but an ignoble treats women disgracefully" At-Tirmithy*

**He wrote:**

It is important to note that the Quran teaches that there is no waiting period for marriages that have not been consummated:

O you who believe: When you marry believing women and then divorce them before you have touched them, no period of idda (waiting) have you to count in respect of them: so give them a present and set them free in a graceful manner. S. 33:49

What this shows is that the waiting period only applies in the case of a prepubescent if her husband has actually slept with her. In other words, Islam is allowing men to have sex with minors, legally sanctioning pedophilia!

**Response:**

Additionally, a girl can be married prior to puberty, but consummation and her moving into his home may only occur at the onset of puberty or later. So sexual relations before puberty is not possible in islam, since nikkah can only be consummated when a girl reaches puberty or the general age of puberty. As the hadith about Aishah's age show, her betrothal took place at least three years before the consummation of the marriage. The reason for this was that they were waiting for her to come of age, i.e. to have her first menstrual period. Puberty is a biological sign which shows that a women is capable of bearing children. The prophet, peace be upon him, consummated marriage / nikkah with Aicha when she started to menstruate, or in others words when she reached puberty and entered womanhood. Had islam allowed men to consummate marriage with a girl prior to puberty, then certainly the prophet, peace be upon him, wouldn't have wait for three years to consummate his marriage with Aicha, which proofs that islam doesn't allow sexual intercourse with children like sham shamoun tries to suggest. This is a lie, since Aicha had reached puberty and womanhood when the prophet consummated marriage with her. Also remember that womanhood was reached at a much earlier age back then than it is in many societies today.

Some female authors agree:

**Rites of Passage: Puberty, by Sue Curewitz Arthen**

Puberty is defined as the age or period at which a person is first capable of sexual reproduction, in other eras of history, a rite or celebration of this landmark event was a part of the culture.

**From the Women's Resource Center**

Getting your period" marks a rite of passage for young girls entering womanhood"

The age limit for puberty varies with countries and races due to the climate, hereditary, physical and social conditions. Those who live in cold regions attain puberty at a much later age as compared with those living in hot regions where both male and female attain it at a quite early age.

**The well-known authors of the book Woman say:**

The average temperature of the country or province, is considered the chief factor here, not only with regard to menstruation but as regards the whole of sexual development at puberty <sup>1</sup>

Raciborski, Jaubert, Routh and many others have collected and collated statistics on the subject to which readers are referred. Marie Espino has summarised some of these data as follows:

**A:**

The limit of age for the first appearance of menstruation is between nine and twenty-four in the temperate-zone;

**B:**

The average age varies widely and it may be accepted as established that the nearer the Equator, the earlier the average age for menstruation. <sup>2</sup>

So now we know that the age of the first appearance of menstruation can be between nine and twenty-four years, this is important to know, which we shall see next. The quran confirms that consummation of marriage can only occur when girls have reached puberty, or in other words had their first menstrual period or had reached the general age of puberty and / or had already other signs of majority like having wet dreams and public hair.

**Qu'ran An-nisa 6:**

Waibtaloo alyatama hatta itha balaghoo alnnikaha fa-in anastum minhum rushdan faidfaAAoo ilayhim amwalahum wala ta/kulooha israfan wabidaran an yakbaroo waman kana ghaniyyan falyastaAAfif waman kana faqeeran falya/kul bialmaAAroofi fa-itha dafaAAatum ilayhim amwalahum faashhidoo AAalayhim wakafa biAllahi haseeban

*Prove orphans till they reach the marriageable age; then, if ye find them of sound judgment, deliver over unto them their fortune; and devour it not by squandering and in haste lest they should grow up Whoso (of the guardians) is rich, let him abstain generously (from taking of the property of orphans); and whoso is poor let him take thereof in reason (for his guardianship). And when ye deliver up their fortune unto orphans, have (the transaction) witnessed in their presence. Allah sufficeth as a Reckoner.*

What does the arabic word balaghoo in this verse mean ?

**Baligh:**

Originally balagha, to reach, mature, ripen. Here it is the person who has reached the state of puberty. At this age the person is responsible for his or her acts. The state is known also as bulugh.

**Bulugh:**

The state of puberty. It's synonym is Hulum, meaning the age of dreams, and tamyeez, the age of discretion.

Prove orphans till they reach the marriageable age ,...It means the age of marriage, the age of their maturity in the Legislation.

**Ibn Kathir in his tafsir comments:**

The age of puberty, according to Mujahid. The age of puberty according to the majority of scholars comes when the child has a wet dream. In his Sunan, Abu Dawud recorded that `Ali said, "I memorized these words from the Messenger of Allah , "There is no orphan after the age of puberty nor vowing to be silent throughout the day to the night" .

In another Hadith, `A'ishah and other Companions said that the Prophet said, "The pen does not record the deeds of three persons: the child until the age of puberty, the sleeping person "until waking up, and the senile until sane"

Or, the age of fifteen is considered the age of adolescence. In the Two Sahihs, it is recorded that Ibn Umar said, I was presented in front of the Prophet on the eve of the battle of Uhud, while I was fourteen years of age, and he did not allow me to take part in "that battle. But I was presented in front of him on the eve of the battle of Al-Khandaq (The Trench) when I was fifteen years old, and he allowed "me (to join that battle).

Umar bin `Abdul-`Aziz commented when this Hadith reached him, " This is the difference between a child and an adult." There is a difference of opinion over whether pubic hair is considered a sign of adulthood, and the correct opinion is that it is. The Sunnah supports this view, according to a Hadith collected by Imam Ahmad from `Atiyah Al-Qurazi who said, We were presented to the Prophet on the day of Qurizah, whoever had pubic hair was killed, whoever did not was left free to go, I was one of those who did not, so I was left free." The Four Sunan compilers also recorded similar to it. At-Tirmidhi said, "Hasan Sahih." Allah's statement,<sup>3</sup>

**Maulana Muhammad Ali in his commentary of the qu'ran comments:**

These words, moreover, show that marriage should be performed at the age when a person has attained majority, for the age of marriage is spoken of as being the age of attaining majority. <sup>4</sup>

We now clearly see and have enough proof to state that consummation of marriage in islam can only occur when a girl has reached puberty. Puberty in islam can be reached by: menstruation, having wet dreams, public hair & breasts, and the age of 15. These facts can be found in Ibn Kathirs famous tafsir and the hadith. So a girl who has not yet menstruated can only consummate her marriage when she has reached puberty/ majority through other ways / signs. The verses quoted by sham shamoun apply to a girl in this condition (she has reached majority for example by having public hair and wet dreams, while she had not yet menstruated). This exposes the cheap lie of the christian missionary Sham Shamoun that Islam condones pedophilia, which we have proven is not true. Notice also how the qu'ran in soerah 65:1-4 only speaks about 'those have no courses yet', nowhere does the verse say 'those who have not reached majority', the soerah doesn't say this ! Remember also that in islam a girl on the onset of puberty may not marry or consummate her marriage if it would do her any harm. She can only marry if she is able to and agrees with it. If she is not mentally and emotional ready for it or does not have the means for it, then she cannot marry and / or consummate her marriage (scholars agree about this), see booklet 3 B. This sort of understanding and respect for a girl's feeling and state of condition cannot be found in the bible. Also read:

<http://www.answering-christianity.com/age3.htm>  
[http://www.answering-christianity.com/pedophilia\\_rebuttal.htm](http://www.answering-christianity.com/pedophilia_rebuttal.htm)

**He wrote:**

For further, detailed discussion of this issue, see: [An Examination of Muhammad's Marriage to a Prepubescent Girl And Its Moral Implications.](#)

**Response:**

<http://www.answering-christianity.com/aisha.htm>

**Sources:**

1:

Herman H. Ploss, Max Bartels and Paul Bartels, *Woman*, Volume I, Lord & Bransby, 1988, page 563.

2:

English-translation of Sahih Muslim, Volume 2, International Islamic Publishing House, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, page 715.

3:

<http://www.tafsir.com/default.asp?sid=4&tid=10463>

4:

The Holy Qu'ran by Muhammad Maulana Ali , commentary soerah 4:6