



Examples of Conflicts between the Wife's Employment and Marital Obligations and Their Solutions

Fatemeh shekari¹

Azam foadiyan²

DOI:

10.30497/FLJ.2025.246811.2060



Introduction

The family is one of the most important foundations of society, and according to Islamic teachings, marriage and family formation are among the most valuable social institutions. Despite the significance of family stability, contemporary developments have created new challenges for marital relationships. One of the most important developments is the increasing presence of women in various social, economic, cultural, and political fields after the Islamic Revolution.

On the one hand, Islamic teachings emphasize women's participation in social affairs and their role in society; on the other hand, certain marital rights and obligations, such as the husband's right to sexual relations, the wife's marital responsibilities, and duties related to family management and child upbringing, may conflict with the wife's employment. Therefore, this study aims to examine the different forms of conflict between women's employment and marital obligations and to provide appropriate solutions for resolving these conflicts.

1. (Corresponding author) 4th level Student of Family Jurisprudence, Fatemeh Al-Zahra Specialized Theological School, Semnan, Semnan, Iran. f. shekari1356@gmail. com

2. Graduated from the 3rd level of Islamic Theology, Fatima Al-Zahra Specialized Theological School, Semnan, Semnan, Iran. aezamfoad@gmail. com



Research Background

Previous studies have addressed certain aspects of the relationship between the wife's employment and marital obligations. The study entitled "*The Wife's Employment Right and Its Conflict with the Husband's Right to Obedience in Historical Jurisprudential Texts*" examined the relationship between women's employment and the husband's right of obedience and concluded that although women have financial independence in employment, the husband's authority in family matters may impose certain limitations.

Another study entitled "*The Condition of Modifying the Wife's Obedience in Relation to the Husband in Imami Jurisprudence*" analyzed the possibility of adjusting marital obligations through contractual conditions. Furthermore, research on the challenges of absolute obedience of working wives has examined religious texts and jurisprudential principles regarding women's employment and social presence.

The present study differs from previous research by examining all major forms of conflict between employment and marital obligations and presenting separate solutions for each type of conflict.

Methodology

This fundamental research employs a descriptive-analytical method. The required data were collected through library research by referring to jurisprudential, legal, and academic sources related to women's employment, marital rights, and family jurisprudence. The collected data were analyzed to identify the types of conflicts and possible solutions.

Findings

The findings of this study indicate that most conflicts between the wife's employment and marital obligations can be prevented



through proper management, mutual understanding, and appropriate planning between spouses. One of the most effective preventive measures is reaching an agreement regarding the wife's employment and including relevant conditions in the marriage contract.

The study also demonstrates that a universal solution cannot be applied to all cases. In determining priorities between employment and marital duties, individual characteristics of women, including physical and psychological abilities, family circumstances, cultural beliefs, and the social importance and effectiveness of employment should be taken into consideration.

Furthermore, employment that is permissible or recommended in itself remains valuable as long as it does not result in neglecting obligatory marital duties. However, if employment causes the abandonment of obligatory responsibilities toward the spouse or family, its religious and moral value may be affected.

Conclusion

Women's employment is an important aspect of social participation and provides opportunities for personal growth and the development of talents. Nevertheless, in some situations, it may conflict with certain rights and obligations arising from marriage. This study concludes that resolving such conflicts requires identifying the more important duty when two obligations cannot be fulfilled simultaneously.

According to rational and Islamic jurisprudential principles, when two duties conflict, the more significant obligation takes precedence over the less significant one. Therefore, resolving conflicts between the wife's employment and marital responsibilities requires considering the specific circumstances



of each family, prioritizing essential obligations, and achieving balance through mutual agreement, proper management, and adherence to family-oriented principles.

Keywords

Wife's Employment, Conflict of Obligations, Marital Duties, Husband's Rights, Family Jurisprudence, Marital Responsibilities, Marriage Contract Conditions