

---

## The Study of Religious Principles of the Status of Women in the Iranian-Islamic Models of Progress

Mohsen Akhbari<sup>1</sup>

Mansurah Zare'an<sup>2</sup>

Since the level of development of countries is a function of the quality indexes of different groups, the stable and enduring development would be impossible if the participation of women, who comprise at least half of that of each country, were not taken into consideration. As human beings, women are the pivot and essential element of development for the ideal of which one cannot disregard their natural position and due roles and their differences from men. Nonetheless, the current status of women is far from their desired and due one underlined in the religious culture. One of the strategies to change this situation is to theorize the contribution of women in course of progress highlighting their capabilities in the field of macro-policy makings such as the Iranian-Islamic model of development; a model that, contrary to the Western ones, not only takes the material aspects, but also does the spiritual and all other aspects of the presence of Muslim women in the process of progress.

In what follows, the author has tried to explain the position of female gender and women's role in the compilation of the Iranian-Islamic model of progress thus paving the way for proposing sound criterion and indexes according to the religious and cultural infrastructure. Having collected various data from the libraries, the author has made use of quality and rational analysis method in order to explain those data.

**Keywords:** development, progress, the Iranian-Islamic model of progress, the role of gender, matrimony, motherhood, house-keeping.

---

1- A PhD. student of Women Studies, The University of Religions and Denominations, Qom, Iran (the author).

2- An assistant professor and a faculty member at the Research Institute of Women, Al-Zahra University, Tehran, Iran.