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Title of thesis: Status of women and family in Iran before and after the Islamic Revolution of 1979 and India Today.

ABSTRACT

This thesis on “Status of women and family in Iran before and after the Islamic Revolution of 1979 and India Today” is, most probably the first attempt to describe, analyse and determine the position of women of women in both Iranian and Indian society. It is divided into five following chapters:

First Chapter: Women in Islam and other religions of the East.

Second Chapter: The Iranian women in Pre-Islamic Revolution Era.

Third Chapter: The role and participation of women, in the Iranian Revolution-1979 and India in past thirty years.

Fourth Chapter: Status of woman and family in society, culture, education, politics, technology, and modern sciences in Iran and India today.

Fifth Chapter: Comparative study of Iranian women after revolution and Indian women after independence.

Iran and India are rightly regarded as the most ancient and civilized countries in the world. Some thousand years old civilization of these countries, because of its fascination, is still talked about as the most valuable legacy of two people. The race of Indian and Iranian people, as per the classification by the social scientists and linguists, has been the same Aryan. Iran and India have been in close contacts with each other since the time immemorial. Hence, Indian and Iranian civilizations have been immensely influenced by each other. This is one of the reasons that in the wake of the analysis of the status of Indian and Iranian women, the cultural, political and social commonalities during the past ages have been studied.

To have a better understanding of women in Islam, the status of women in other religions of the East has been described. It has been found in this study that Islam has bestowed on woman what was due to her. It has been considered proper to carry out brief research about the position of women in pre-Islamic

Revolution era. This study has enabled me to have a better understanding of women after the success of Islamic Revolution. It has been found that the position of women was not as satisfactory as it should be before the Islamic Revolution. The beginning of the Islamic Revolution in Iran was also the beginning of the participation of women in various fields. They took part in the formation of the revolution and in the process of its success to them, as a result of their endeavour and participation, are also now the recipient of its fruits.

Similarly, the wholehearted and wide participation of Indian women in the movement for freedom enabled her to earn out for herself a permanent active place in Indian society. They are progressing in every field of activity after independence. During this period, Indian women have attained such a confidence and influence in the Indian society that they are even moulding the course of their life and activity themselves. The women, both in Iran and India, have realised the importance of modern education. They have come out in great number to equip themselves with modern education and learning. As a result, their status in the society (culture, education, politics) has been enhanced. They are now even engaged seriously in the fields of technology and various branches of modern science. Some of the Indian and Iranian women have earned laurel in these fields from International organizations.

In the last chapter, a comparative study of Iranian women after revolution and Indian women after independence has been made on the basis of the results of the study in the previous chapters. This elaborate study leads us to the conclusion that women in Iran and India at present are satisfactorily moving forward to attain full independence in their respective fields. Skill in some spheres, Indian women are ahead of the Iranian counterparts and in some other Iranian women have marched ahead of the Indian women.

This scenario has been summarised in the concluding part of the thesis. With more and more confidence in Indian and Iranian women, we would certainly witness further blossoming and development of these two countries in near future.