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Muslim debates on women leadership in political space: Gender perspective

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Abstract

The debate on women's leadership in Islam, based on QS.4: 34 and hadith al-Bukhari from Abu Bakrah path. Asghar Ali Engeneer find two difficulties in this issue: first, the Koran often refers to the normative and contextual understanding. Normatively, the Koran seemed favoring equality of men and women, but contextually declared an excess of men over women; second, the ontological reality show subjectivity of interpretation of the commentators on religious texts, both the Qur'an and Hadith. Historically, there are two aspects that must be studied to understand the hadith: first, the historical aspect of the hadith narrated by Abu Bakrah. History of the disability Abu Bakrah not readable by the critics of hadith. Hadith is implicated in the construct of thought scholars of the salaf, which requires the male to be a leader and prohibit female leadership. Second, aspects of the historicity of hadith when uttered by the Prophet Muhammad, which has a key position in the understanding of hadith. The Hadith has two possibilities: first, maybe these traditions is the prayer that the leader of Kisra was not successful and victorious; second, perhaps the personal opinion of the Prophet based on the historical reality of the time that does not allow a woman into the country's leaders, because it has no legitimacy from the public and has no authority. Through historical-sociological study, the gender activists also argue that there is no prohibition for women to become leaders in public spaces, as long as have the ability.

Key words: women, leadership, gender perspective

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VENUE: ROOM 4/PARALLEL 8

DATE/TIME: 14 DISEMBER 2015 4.00-5.30pm

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2. IConIGS1582	Umi Sumbulah	Muslim Debates On Women Leadership In Political Space: Gender Perspective
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VENUE: ROOM I/PARALLEL 9

DATE/TIME: 15 DISEMBER 2015 9.00-10.30 am

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