

“Divorce as Mentioned in Our Scriptures”

1. Is divorce permitted in the Holy Qur’an?

2:227 “And if they resolve on a divorce, Allah is surely Hearing, Knowing.”

4:35 "And if you fear a breach between the two, then appoint a judge from his people and a judge from her people. If they both desire agreement, Allāh will effect harmony between them".

2. What the Holy Qur’an states about the principal permission to divorce?

2:229 “Divorce may be (pronounced) twice; then keep (them) in good fellowship or let (them) go with kindness. And it is not lawful for you to take any part of what you have given them, unless both fear that they cannot keep within the limits of Allah. Then if you fear that they cannot keep within the limits of Allah, there is no blame on them for what she gives up to become free thereby. These are the limits of Allah, so exceed them not; and whoever exceeds the limits of Allah, these are the wrongdoers.”

3. What the Holy Qur’an states as to what needs doing before any divorce?

2:228 “And the divorced women should keep themselves in waiting for three courses. And it is not lawful for them to conceal that which Allah has created in their wombs, if they believe in Allah and the Last Day. And their husbands have a better right to take them back in the meanwhile if they wish for reconciliation. And women have rights similar to those against them in a just manner, and men are a degree above them. And Allah is Mighty, Wise.”

4. What the Holy Qur’an recommends as alternate action before the divorce?

2:231 “And when you divorce women and they reach their prescribed time, then retain them in kindness or set them free with kindness and retain them not for injury so that you exceed the limits. And whoever does this, he indeed wrongs his own soul. And take not Allah’s messages for a mockery, and remember Allah’s favour to you, and that which He has revealed to you of the Book and the Wisdom, admonishing you thereby. And keep your duty to Allah, and know that Allah is the Knower of all things.”

5. When is divorce not permissible?

65:4 "And for those of your women who have despaired of menstruation, if you have doubt, the prescribed time shall be three months, and of those, too, who have not had their courses; and as for the pregnant women, their prescribed time is that they lay, down their burden".

6. What are some well-known quotations from various *Hadith or Musnad* on “divorce” by the Holy Prophet Muhammad (pbuh)?

(a) Ibn 'Umar reported: The Prophet (pbuh), said "With Allāh, the most detestable of all things permitted is divorce." (*Hadith Abu Dawood. 13:1*)

(b) Thaubān said: The Messenger of Allāh (pbuh), said: "Whatever woman asks for divorce from her husband without any harm, the sweet odour of paradise shall be forbidden to her." (*Musnad of Ahmad. 5: 277.*)

(c) Ibn al-Musayyab said: The Prophet (pbuh), said “When a person is found missing while fighting, his wife shall wait for one year.” (*Hadith Sahih Bukhari. 68:22.*)