

THE WOMEN'S SECTION IN THE CENTRAL MEDIA OFFICE OF HIZB UT TAHRIR PRESENTS:
A GLOBAL CAMPAIGN AND INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S SEMINARS


BEIJING+25




HAS THE MASK OF **GENDER EQUALITY** FALLEN?

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#GenderEqualityUnmasked

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HAS THE MASK OF GENDER EQUALITY FALLEN?

The year 2020 marks the 25th anniversary of the **Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (BPfA)**, an extensive document that was the outcome of the UN's fourth World Conference on Women in September 1995, held in Beijing, China. Its aim was to advance the rights and improve the lives of women globally through the establishment of '**Gender Equality**' in all spheres of life: political, economic and social, and to incorporate gender perspectives into all policies, laws and programmes within states, at all levels of society. It set strategic objectives and actions to be taken by governments and others at national, regional and international levels in 12 '*Critical Areas of Concern*', including poverty, education, health care, violence, armed conflict, the economy, politics, the media, the environment and human rights.

The document was hailed as the most visionary agenda for the empowerment of women and girls internationally and the "*most comprehensive global policy framework and blueprint for action*" to realize gender equality and the human rights of women and girls everywhere. It promised to revolutionize the status and lives of women for the better by eliminating gender discrimination in all its forms.

The declaration was adopted by 189 countries, including the majority of governments in the Muslim world, who agreed to implement its commitments within their states and promote its agenda amongst their nations, with the aim of establishing equality between men and women in all spheres of life: public and private. It promised to revolutionize the status and lives of women for the better.



The aims and agendas contained within the declaration were promoted heavily within nations and formed the basis of many subsequent international conventions and national acts and laws regarding women's rights. To mark this 25th year milestone of the BPfA, UN Women have also launched an international campaign: "*Generation Equality: Realizing Women's Rights for an Equal Future*", which aims to galvanize a new generation to call for gender equality, and to achieve it in economics, politics and family life before 2030.

Over many decades, '**Gender Equality**' has become a marker internationally of civilized, progressive states, and a measure of how well nations treat their women. It is seen as a universal value that all people should embrace regardless of their cultural or religious beliefs, despite the concept being a Western-born construct that is founded upon the Western secular doctrine. It is also viewed by many as the unquestionable means to empower all women, improve their quality of life, and advance the development of nations.

Any belief, culture or ideology at odds with gender equality, is condemned and labelled as anti-women, backward and oppressive. The Islamic social and family laws have been the main target of this accusation. Successive regimes in the Muslim world sought to reform or abolish these Islamic provisions in their lands, under the guise of securing women's rights and achieving modernization and progress.

Twenty-five years on from the BPfA, and its intensive agenda to further the cause of gender equality globally, the political, economic, environmental and social problems facing Muslim women across the world, and indeed women internationally, remains dire and are worsening by the day. The promises of bringing empowerment and improvement to their lives has not been delivered.



This March, the Women's Section in the Central Media Office of Hizb ut Tahrir has launched a global campaign entitled, "**Beijing+25: Has the Mask of Gender Equality Fallen?**" which will culminate in a book launch on the subject in women's seminars to be held in different countries across the world.

The campaign will seek to.....

- **CHALLENGE** the dominant narratives of '**Gender Equality**' and its claims of advancing women's rights and the progress of nations.
- **EXAMINE** the reasons for the failure of gender equality policies and laws in improving the lives of women.
- **EXPLAIN** the true ideological and systemic root causes of the multitude of problems women face today.
- **EXPOSE** the true agenda of the Beijing Declaration and other international women's agreements.
- **PRESENT Islam's** unique comprehensive blueprint of detailed principles, laws and systems as implemented by its political system, the **Khilafah** (Caliphate) based upon the method of the Prophethood, that would provide an alternative credible vision to raise the status of women, secure their rights, elevate their standard of living and achieve true progress within a state.

For all those who genuinely wish to create **REAL CHANGE** for women across the world, we call you to follow and support this important campaign which we hope will serve as a means to distinguish the truth from the falsehood with regards to advancing the rights of women, and help lay the path towards building for them a brighter, and more prosperous and secure future.

وَمَا أَرْسَلْنَاكَ إِلَّا رَحْمَةً لِّلْعَالَمِينَ

**"And We have not sent you, (O Muhammad), except as a Mercy to the worlds."
[Al-Anbiya: 107]**



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