



بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

Federal Shariat Court

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PRESS AND MEDIA RELEASE

Federal Shariat Court Declares Customary Practice Denying Women's Inheritance Rights as Un-Islamic.

Islamabad, March 19, 2025 – The Federal Shariat Court of Pakistan has announced its landmark judgment authored by Mr Justice Dr Syed Muhammad Anwer in the Shariat Petition No. 10/I of 2023, declaring that any custom or usage, including the custom "Chaddar" and "Parchi," prevalent in the area of Bunu whereby women are deprived their right of inheritance as un-Islamic and illegal. The full bench, comprising Mr Justice Iqbal Hameed ur Rehman Chief Justice, Mr. Justice Khadim Hussain M. Shaikh, Mr. Justice Dr. Syed Muhammad Anwer, and Mr. Justice Ameer Muhammad Khan, ruled that such practices are violation of the clear injunctions of Islam as laid down in the Holy Quran and Sunnah of the Holy Prophet (SAWS).

The Judgment emphasized that the deprivation of women from their inherited property through coercion, social pressure, or through any unlawful means in the name of custom or usage or tradition prevalent in any province of Pakistan by any name or title, is against the Islamic injunctions. It urged the relevant authorities to take strict action against perpetrators under Section 498-A of the Pakistan Penal Code, which criminalizes such violations. Furthermore, the judgment called for increased awareness and proactive enforcement of laws protecting women's property rights to eliminate these unjust practices.

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