

Islam and Homosexuality

The Qur'an and Homosexuality:

There are references in the Qur'an which have been cited as referring to gay and lesbian behavior. Some obviously deal with effeminate men and "masculine women." The main references to homosexual behavior are:

"We also sent Lut : He said to his people : "Do ye commit lewdness such as no people in creation (ever) committed before you? For ye practice your lusts on men in preference to women: ye are indeed a people transgressing beyond bounds." Qur'an 7:80-81

"What! Of all creatures do ye come unto the males, and leave the wives your Lord created for you? Nay, but ye are forward folk." Qur'an 26:165-166

"Would ye really approach men in your lusts rather than women? Nay, ye are a people (grossly) ignorant!" Qur'an 27:55

"And (remember) Lut: behold, he said to his people: "Ye do commit lewdness, such as no people in Creation (ever) committed before you. "Do ye indeed approach men, and cut off the highway?- and practice wickedness (even) in your councils?" But his people gave no answer but this: they said: "Bring us the Wrath of Allah if thou tellest the truth." Qur'an 29:28-29

"If two men among you are guilty of lewdness, punish them both. If they repent and amend, leave them alone" Qur'an 4 (Nisaa), Verse 16

And Allah says (interpretation of the meaning): "And they indeed sought to shame his guest (by asking to commit sodomy with them). So we blinded their eyes (saying), `Then taste you My Torment and My Warnings.'" [al-Qamar 54:37]

These references relate to gay sexual activities; lesbian practices are not mentioned in the Qur'an.

Lut is referred to as "Lot" in the Hebrew Scriptures. This passage is an apparent reference to the activities at Sodom and Gamorah. It seems to imply that there was no homosexual behavior before it first appeared in Sodom. This is a uniquely Islamic concept; it does not appear in Jewish or Christian beliefs. The passage also links the sin of Sodom (the reason for its destruction) to homosexuality.

Qur'an 27:54-56, "(We also sent) Lut (as a messenger): behold, He said to his people, "Do ye do what is shameful though ye see (its iniquity)? Would ye really approach men in your lusts rather than women? Nay, ye are a people (grossly) ignorant! But his people gave no other answer but this: they said, "Drive out the followers of Lut from your city: these are indeed men who want to be clean and pure!"

The Hadith and homosexuality: The Hadith are collections of sayings attributed to

Muhammad. The Hadith is also considered sacred and divine scripture by Muslims. Many Hadiths (ahadith) discuss liwat (sexual intercourse between males). Two examples are:

"When a man mounts another man, the throne of God shakes."

Abu Dawud Book 33 (4462) "Kill the one that is doing it and also kill the one that it is being done to." (in reference to the active and passive partners in gay sexual intercourse) (Abu Dawood, Tirmidhi, and Ibn Majah, authenticated sahih by al-Albani, Arwaa' ul-Ghaleel 2350

Abu Dawud Book 33 (4448) - "*If a man who is not married is seized committing sodomy, he will be stoned to death.*" (Note the implicit approval of sodomizing one's wife).

Shamaa-il al-Tirmidhi, Ibn Majah Sunan 1:152 (Sunan 1376)- [Muhammad said] "Whoever is found conducting himself in the manner of the people of Lot, *kill the doer and the receiver.*" Al-Baihaqi, Abu Dawood, Tirmidhi, and Ibn Majah, authenticated Sahih by al-Albani, Arwaa' ul-Ghaleel 2350

The Prophet (saws) said: (1) "Kill the one who sodomizes and the one who lets it be done to him." (al-Tirmidhi, a sahih (authentic) hadith)

"May Allah curse him who does that Lot's people did." (Ibn Hibban, sahih (authentic))

Shamaa-il Al-Tirmidhi "Allah Who is glorious will not look at a man who has intercourse with a man or a woman through the anus."

Sahih Bukhari (Volume 007 Book 72:774) - "*The Prophet cursed effeminate men (those men who are in the similitude (assume the manners of women) and those women who assume the manners of men, and he said, 'Turn them out of your houses .' The Prophet turned out such-and-such man, and 'Umar turned out such-and-such woman.*"

Volume 7, Book 72, Number 775:

Narrated Um Salama: "...that once the Prophet was in her house, and an effeminate man was there too. So the Prophet said (to his wives) "These effeminate (men) SHOULD NOT enter upon you (your houses)."

Hadith- Sunan Ibn Majah, Book of Marriage, Number 1904 "Ibn Abbas reported: **The Prophet, peace be upon him, cursed men who imitate women and women who imitate men.**"

Hadith-"Cursed are those men who wear women's clothing and those women who wear men's clothing." - Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him)."

Hadith- Abu Dawood Narrated AbuSa'id al-Khudri: "The Prophet (saws) said: **A man should not look at the private parts of another man, and a woman should not look at the**

private parts of another woman. A man should not lie with another man without wearing lower garment under one cover; and a woman should not lie with another woman without wearing lower garment under one cover. “

Hadith- Abu Dawood Narrated AbuHurayrah: “The Prophet (saws) said: A man should not lie with another man and a woman should not lie with another woman without covering their private parts except a child or a father. He also mentioned a third thing which I forgot.”

There is at least one mention of lesbian behavior mentioned in the Hadith: "Sihag (lesbian sexual activity) of women is zina (illegitimate sexual intercourse) among them."

A hadith related by Hadrat Anas says that the Holy Prophet observed: "When the following five evils shall creep into my Ummah, it will then be destroyed: (i) invoking curses on one another (ii) use of liquor on large scale (iii) wearing of silken clothes (iv) increased number of dancing girls and their frequent entertainment shows in large gatherings. (v) when man shall engage in sexual intercourse with males and women shall engage in sexual acts with other females i.e. sodomy and homosexuality."

Hadith-And Allaah says (interpretation of the meaning): "Nay, Allaah never commands Fahshaa' (evil deeds, unlawful sexual intercourse). Do you say of Allaah what you know not?" [al-A'raaf 7:28]

Reliance of the Traveller, p17.2 - *"May Allah curse him who does what Lot's people did."* This is also repeated in three other places.

“Lesbianism by women is adultery between them.” (Tabarani, sahih)”
This is taken from the Reliance of the Traveller, translated by Nuh Ha Mim Keller, p 664-665.

Traditionalist orthodox Muslims generally claim that the Hadith literature contains the authentic sayings of Muhammad.

Treatment of homosexuals within Islam:

According to a pamphlet produced by Al-Fatiha, there is a consensus among Islamic scholars that all humans are naturally heterosexual. Homosexuality is seen by scholars to be a sinful and perverted deviation from the norm. All Islamic schools of thought and jurisprudence consider gay acts to be unlawful. They differ in terms of penalty:

The Hanafite school (currently seen mainly in South and Eastern Asia) teaches that no physical punishment is warranted.

The Hanabalites, (widely followed in the Arab world) teach that severe punishment is

warranted.

The Sha'fi school of thought (also seen in the Arab world) requires a minimum of 4 adult male witnesses before a person can be found guilty of a homosexual act. Al-Fatiha estimates that 4,000 homosexuals have been executed in Iran since their revolution in 1979. 10 public executions of homosexuals have been performed in Afghanistan by the Taliban army...

Homosexuals have been beheaded, hung and stoned in modern Saudi Arabia and Iran, where Muhammad's laws are applied most strictly. Five other Muslim countries also have the death penalty on their books for homosexual behavior. In the past, gays were burned as well. As one cleric **recently put it, the only point of theological debate is over *how* the offender should be killed.**

It must also be noted that in a normal husband-wife relationship, anal sex is prohibited in Islam. It would thus seem a matter of logic what Islam's stance on anal sex might be for extra-marital relationships or relationships between members of the same sex.

There are several places in the Qur'an where the story of Sodom is repeated, with emphasis placed on the destruction of the town for homosexual lewdness. Also, according to Serge Trifkovic:

Mohammed's first successor Abu Bakr reportedly had a homosexual burned at the stake. The fourth caliph, Mohammed's son-in-law Ali, ordered a sodomite thrown from the minaret of a mosque. Others he ordered to be stoned. One of the earliest and most authoritative commentators on the Koran, Ibn 'Abbas (died 687) blended both approaches into a two-step execution in which "the sodomite should be thrown from the highest building in the town and then stoned.

Homosexuality is illegal in most Muslim countries and punishable by death in several. For example, in April 2001, nine gay men were given prison terms of 4 to 5 years with 2400 to 2600 lashes in Saudi Arabia. Abdul Sami (18) and Bismillah (22) were killed by the Afghan Gov't by having a wall toppled on them in 1998 while 10 others were publicly executed. In 2001, 52 men were arrested following a party on a riverboat and charged with "immoral behaviour" and "contempt of religion" in Egypt. 4,000 homosexuals have been executed in Iran since their revolution in 1979. The Secretary of the Gay and Lesbian Humanist Association in Britain, George Broadhead, commented that all Muslim countries outlawed homosexuality, and the penalties for those convicted ranged from prison, flogging, execution by a variety of methods - such as throwing the victim off a cliff or pushing a stone wall on to them.

<http://www.understanding-islam.com/reader-articles/social-issues/all-sources-of-islam-condemn-homosexuality-as-sinful-7985>