

Lesson -1:-

There are different problems in Bangladesh. These problems have harmful effects on individuals and social life. Some of them are- poverty, over population, illiteracy, superstition, customs of dowry, child marriage etc.

➤ Concept of dowry:-

One of the major social problems of our country is the custom of dowry. Exchange of dowry is prohibited in the marriage law.

The money or property that the groom or bride demands and receives from the opposite side during marriage is called dowry. In Bangladesh, the groom's side demands dowry from the bride's side. Few marriages are held without dowry. It is an old age tradition.

➤ Causes of dowry:-

In Bangladesh, dowry has turned into a deadly social disease. There are many reason behind it.

- Poverty
- Groom's side demands
- The groom wants to establish himself using dowry
- Most of the women are not engage in economic work
- Parents believe that the dowry will help their daughter to keep her head high in husband's house.

➤ Effects of dowry:-

Dowry is a practice in all social sections of Bangladesh. Many problems have arisen in the society out of this custom. The main reason of violence against women is dowry. Incidents such as-post marital conjugal quarrel, torture, murder of wife are happening mostly due to dowry.

Lesson-2:-**➤ Law against dowry:_**

The Muslim family does not regard 'Mohorana' in marriage as dowry.

- The Anti-dowry act was passed in 1980 in Bangladesh. The law prescribes a highest one year of imprisonment or a fine of five thousand taka as punishment for giving or receiving dowry.
- The Anti- dowry act was amended in 1986. According to the revised law, the convict for receiving or giving dowry will receive a minimum of 1 year to a maximum of 5 years jail sentence.
- According to the Act Against Women and Child Repression 1983, a convict may be awarded death sentence or life imprisonment and financial penalty if a woman is tortured to death or any attempt to her death for dowry. To marry a woman against her will and receiving dowry have also come under the provision of severe punishment.

We have to keep in mind that both giving and receiving dowry are equal crimes.

Read the text book and solve the following questions:-

1. What is dowry?
2. In which age dowry is a tradition?
3. Write the causes and effects of dowry in our social life.
4. Explain what is told in the act against dowry.

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Date-04.10.2020