

SHARED VISIONS: ON WOMEN

Across the world's religions and practices, one finds that respect for women is an expressed value. As we interpret our texts and honor the dignity in all of us, this is valuable to remember. The quotes below show how, fundamentally, within all traditions women are recognized as men's partners, allies, and equals in humanity.

BAHÁ'Í

The world of humanity is possessed of two wings: the male and the female. So long as these two wings are not equivalent in strength, the bird will not fly. Until womankind reaches the same degree as man, until she enjoys the same arena of activity, extraordinary attainment for humanity will not be realized; humanity cannot wing its way to heights of real attainment. – *The Promulgation of Universe Peace, p. 375. Abdu'l-Baha.*

BUDDHISM

We should handle all other matters according to the circumstances and the law and, not discriminating between men and women as in the past, should treat everyone according to what they do. – *Principle Book of Won Buddhism, 24*

CHRISTIANITY

There is neither Jew nor Greek, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. – *Galatians 3:28, King James Version*

HINDUISM

Where women are revered, there the gods rejoice; but where they are not, no sacred rite bears any fruit. – *Manusmriti*

ISLAM

The believing men and believing women are allies of one another. They enjoin what is right and forbid what is wrong and establish prayer and give zakah and obey Allah and His Messenger. Those - Allah will have mercy upon them. Indeed, Allah is Exalted in Might and Wise. – *Qur'an, 9:71, Sahih International Version*

JUDAISM

Chava (Eve) was not created from Adam's foot so that he would consider her lowly maidservant, nor from his head so that she would lord over them. Rather, she was created from his side so that she would be equal to him. – Abarbanel's commentary on *Genesis 2:4*

NATIVE AMERICAN

All who have died are equal. – *Comanche Tribe*¹
Nemaxinkwelemaok Xkweyok (We honor women). – *Lenape Tribe*

¹ <https://www.legendsofamerica.com/na-proverbs/>

SIKHISM

All-Pervasive created all women and men; all is Your doing. Nanak says: All-Pervasive created the entire creation; it is greatest of the great. – *Guru Granth Sahib p. 304*

TAOISM

Know the Masculine, keep to the feminine. – *Toade jing, 28*