

13004 - Warning and comment on the Peking Women's Conference

the question

What is the view of the Muslim scholars on the recommendations of the Peking Women's Conference? What is the ruling on getting rid of all forms of discrimination against women?

Detailed answer

The fourth international conference on women has been announced in the media, to be held from 9-20/4/1416 (4/10/1995) in Peking, the capital of China. I have read a agenda prepared for this conference which includes 362 items in 177 pages, and the statements published by a number of scholars in the Muslim world stating the danger posed by this conference and the evil consequences it will bring to humanity in general and the Muslims in particular. It became clear to us, from the agenda mentioned above, that this conference is a follow-up to the conference on population and development which was held in Cairo in Rabee' al-Thaani 1415 AH, concerning which statements were issued by the Council of Senior Scholars and the Founding Committee of the Muslim World League, both of which were headed by myself. The two statements both condemned the conference mentioned, because it went against the religion of Islam and opposed Allaah and His Messenger (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him), and because it promoted promiscuity and the violation of sanctities, and aimed to turn human societies into herds of animals, so the conference should be boycotted... etc.

Now comes this conference which is along the same lines as the Cairo conference, focusing on the equality of men and women in all areas. The proposals of the document referred to above have been adopted by the General Secretariat of the United Nations on the basis of principles of kufr and misguided means of achieving that, including the following:

Calling for the abolition of any law that distinguishes between men and women on the grounds of religion; calling for promiscuity in the name of "practising safe sex"; encouraging single-parent families; educating the youth, boys and girls, about sexual matters; fighting discrimination between men and women; calling upon young men and women to destroy the

differences between the two sexes that are based on religion; telling them that religion is an obstacle to equality... and other obvious examples of kufr and misguidance that are mentioned in the document. This plot is against Islam and the Muslims, and indeed against humanity as a whole, to rid it of chastity, modesty and honour.

Hence it is obligatory for the Muslim authorities and all those to whom Allaah has given power over the Muslims' affairs, to boycott this conference and to take the necessary measures of preventing its evils from reaching the Muslims. They must present a united front against this immoral assault. The Muslims must take precautions against the plots of the plotters and the hatred of those who hate.

We ask Allaah to foil the plots of our enemies and turn them against them. We ask them to bring these efforts of theirs to naught, and to give the Muslims and their leaders the strength to do what is in their best interests. May He reform them, men and woman alike, and grant them happiness and salvation in this world and in the Hereafter, for He is the One Who is Able to do that. May Allaah bless our Prophet Muhammad and his family and companions, and grant them peace.