

## A SURVEY OF THE CULTURAL STATUS AND SOCIAL ROLE OF WOMEN IN DRAMATIC RITUALS OF KOMIJAN – IRAN

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*ABSTRACT* : The present study was aimed to survey the different cultural aspects and social roles of women, in the seventy-eight performing and non-performing ceremonies of Komijan, Milajerd and 67 other subordinate villages (Markazi, Iran), through a field survey method during the years 1383 – 1389. Results indicate that in addition to the traditional position of komijan women as “Kad-Banu” (Dame, Queen of the House) which has been inherited from ancient times, they have an authorized presence in many social activities such as agriculture, animal husbandry and administration of outdoor affairs. In the cultural entities of Komijan villages, there has been a division of tasks between men and women from long time ago. Furthermore, women as a part of rural society have always played a pivotal role in social contribution. Therefore, it can be said that more than eighty percent of traditional dramatic performances are allocated to women, and man has no official right to participate in them. This study was designed as a participant observation research, carried out by use of interviews and filming technique in the research field.

*Keywords*: **Ritual, Drama, Performing women, Komijan, Culture, Queen of the House**

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