

## TRADITIONAL CUSTOMS IN KHOREZM OASIS

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### Abstract

This article describes the rites of cradle wedding in the Khorezm oasis, its specific aspects and related transformational processes. Besides it is said that if a girl is born, amulets are sewn on the cradle, and glasses are put on, and bread, salt, and bitter stones are placed on the head of the baby in the cradle.

**Keywords:** cradle wedding, four generations, wedding ceremony, firstborn, swing.

### Introduction

Cradle wedding is one of the oldest rituals. Basically, a cradle wedding is a ceremony held in honor of the birth of the first child in the family. Usually, this wedding is held on the odd days of the baby's birth, 7, 9, 11. A cradle is a house to live in until the child is standing. This is the discovery of our ancestors who can raise three or four generations [1].

There are 2 different views about the creation of the cradle wedding ceremony: religious and secular. In religious literature, the cradle wedding ceremony mainly goes back to the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh). That is, the cradle wedding is considered a ritual left over from the time of our prophet. But in secular literature, there are opinions that this ritual has been passed down from ancestors to generations.

According to religious beliefs, in ancient times a rich man had no children. He asked God: "If you give me a child, I would sacrifice this child for you." Allah gave him one son. They named him Abdullah. Abdullah grew up and became such a handsome young man. The father looked at his son and cried day and night, saying: "How can I sacrifice my son?" He wanted to sacrifice Abdullah to fulfill his promise to God. Then a voice was heard from Allah Almighty: "Sacrifice a camel instead of your son." Abdullah's father was pleased with God. I agree to sacrifice not one, but ten of my camels instead of my son," he said and sacrificed his camels[2].

After that, the custom of giving alms when a child is born has reached the present time. After Abdullah came of age, his father married him to a girl named Amina. The prophet of the Muslim community, Muhammad (peace be upon him), was born from Amina. When Prophet Muhammed (pbuh) was born, the angels took him from his mother Amina, washed him, dressed him in white clothes, wrapped him in a white cloth and brought him to his mother. Then a light radiated from the prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him). That's why the child smells good. Later, this custom, i.e. cradling the baby, was held as a separate ceremony.

Old cribs, crib weddings are different from today's modern cribs and crib weddings. For example, in ancient Khorezm, cribs were first made of willow (white wood). The main reason for the fact that it is made of willow is that worms did not fall on this tree, it did not absorb moisture, and it did not smell harmful to the child. Rags are woven, and clothes are sewn from white rags for the child. A cover of silk fabric is placed over the crib. The baby's shirt is called



"chilla goynak" - a chilla shirt in the oasis, and it is put on after bathing the baby on the day of the navel drop[3].

A day after the birth of the child, before putting him in the crib, the call to prayer was called to his ear and his name was given as "Allahu Akbar!". The child was delivered at home by midwives in ancient Khorezm.

Bathing the child - our old mothers bathed the child without showing it to his mother, just as the angels bathed our Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) without showing it to his mother Amina. When bathing the child, water was poured first into his right hand and then into his left hand. Then the mouth, then the face, then the head and the whole body were washed. Then the feet and the fingers of the right hand, then the fingers of the left hand were washed and wrapped in a white cloth. Then they put on white clothes and put them in the crib. When putting them in the crib, the head was placed on the side of the holy Qibla, and bread and salt were placed under the pillow so that the child would not be afraid.

When the child was 7 days old, the hair was cut off, and the person who cut the hair was given a silver coin equal to the weight of the child's hair. In ancient times, children were born who were circumcised by Allah.

Basically, if a boy was born, one animal (sheep, ram, rooster) had to be slaughtered, and if a girl was born, two animals had to be slaughtered.

If it is not possible to give alms at the time of the birth of a child, then the girl will be slaughtered until the child is given away, and the boy will be slaughtered until the child is married. Then what was slaughtered was given in charity. If it's a girl, a feather of a sulgun bird is attached to the head of the cradle. This gave beauty to the crib. When a boy is born, a tower-like thing is carved out of wood at the head of the cradle. This kept the cover firmly in place. In addition, it was considered a historical-religious symbol for the child to become a professional in the future. Until now, the cradle is brought by the bride's parents along with the mother-in-law, patir, and sweets. In addition, the bride's parents prepare sarpols for their daughter, son-in-law, father-in-law and mother-in-law. Of course, the cradle is brought together with the ram[4].

There is another custom in Khorezm that if a girl is born, amulets are sewn to the cradle and glasses are put on. In the crib, bread, salt, and bitter stones are placed on the side of the child's head.

In conclusion, I can say that the place and role of the cradle in the development and growth of the child is very big. The cradle helps the child's limbs to grow properly. In the crib, the child sleeps peacefully and well. Unfortunately, many brides nowadays prefer to nurse their children in swings rather than in cradles. As a result of this, it is the parents themselves who cause the bones to develop incorrectly and cause various diseases.

## References

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