

Female Performers in Pakistan – Singers, Actors and Dancers

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Pakistan is a country in which the Islamic policy as a national religion and traditional secular performing arts are delicately balanced, particularly in matters related to music and dance. In Pakistan, music and dance are not "Forbidden" as Haram or "Allowed" as Halal depending strictly on the description in the Qur'an. Rather, they are subject to interpretation of legal schools, including some differences in interpretation. They still occupy the gray zone of Makruh "things that should be repelled," which is an intermediate classification. In Pakistani society, women are welcomed, both personally and customarily, as singers, actors, dancers, and dramatic performers for an unspecified public on the stage. Where are female entertainers found in movies?

In this presentation, we introduce a representative female singer in Pakistan in a TV program and video footage shot by the presenter to show the actual circumstances of female entertainers from India who might be in different situations. Furthermore, we verified their background and achievements as singers. As an example, the author introduces Abida Parveen, a classical folk musician who studied classical vocal music and who is active as a top female singer in Pakistan. Also introduced is Zarsanga, a shepherd who also reigned as a top female singer in the folk song of the ethnic language Pashto.

Furthermore, as shown in the videos posted on SNS, it is impossible to commercialize DVDs for commercial purposes, as verified by the dance scene with men as female dancers, and by the singing scene with musical instrument accompaniment.