**Modesty**

**A modest man is usually admired -- if people ever hear of him. *(Ed Howe)***

**Some men have an oblique way of expressing superiority by assuming an attitude of humility. But, as a great scientist observed about an aggressively diffident colleague: "He is not great enough to be that modest. *(Sydney J. Harris, on false modesty, Field Newspaper Syndicate)***

**If thou hast wit and learning, add to it wisdom and modesty. *(Ben Franklin)***

**Modesty is to merit what shade is to figures in a picture; it gives it strength and makes it stand out. *(Jean de La Bruyere)***

**Modesty is the only sure bait when you angle for praise. *(Philip Stanhope, British statesman)***

**The veil doesn't come from God: Why does Islam put the burden of modesty on women? asked Nikhat Sattar. In many Muslim nations, including in parts of Pakistan, women "are restricted to the most horrific cage-like garments" so they won't provoke sinful desires in men. But in the Quran, "modesty and shyness are basic requirements for men and women equally." In fact, the Quran gives instructions to men first, telling them to lower their gaze and refrain from staring at or harassing women. Only in a later verse does the Quran tell women to be similarly modest. And "nowhere does God enjoin men to enforce laws related to modesty upon women or to restrict them in any way." Instead, e\ach person is responsible for his or her own actions. One passage describes how, when a beautiful woman came to the Prophet Mohammed with a complaint, another man began staring at her but the Prophet turned his own face away. Notably, he did not ask the woman to veil her face. It is not, therefore, Islam that is to blame for the repression of women, but rather patriarchal customs in some Islamic cultures. Isn't it time for "the focus of societal development and moral training to shift toward boys and men"? If men want to be the "moral police," let them police themselves.. *(The Week magazine, November 2, 2018)***

**Some people are born modest, and others have modesty thrust upon them. The great composer Igor Stravinsky was once told by an admirer that of all his works, she enjoyed Scheherazade most of all. "But madame," Stravinsky said, "I did not compose Scheherazade." "Oh, don't be modest," the woman replied. *(Ben Franklin's Almanac, p. 11)***

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