**SUNNA**
**TAKE CARE OF YOUR DAUGHTERS AND DON’T HURT THEM!!**
**SAYS THE PROPHET**

---

**WHAT IS FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION?**
Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), Sunna or Nyakas is a cultural and social practice in which female genitalia are completely or partially removed.

---

**WHERE IS IT PRACTISED?**

---

**WHY IS IT PRACTISED?**

**IT IS BELIEVED THAT...**
- It’s a religious obligation.
- It’s cleaner.
- These are customs and traditions.
- A clitoris can grow to be like a penis.
- It protects virginity.
- You can have more children.

**BUT...**
- The Qur’an makes no reference to female genital mutilation. The Prophet says: “Take care of your daughters and don’t hurt them”.
- Genital cutting may cause urinary and gynecological infections, tetanus, hepatitis, AIDS, severe anemia and death.
- Genital cutting causes pain, fear and suffering.
- Traditions can change when they endanger people’s human rights.
- A woman’s clitoris does not grow.
- Girls do not need to be mutilated in order to protect their virginity.
- Genital cutting may prevent a woman from having more children, and may cause problems during childbirth as well as the baby and mother’s death.

---

**WHAT DOES THE LAW SAY IN SPAIN?**
Female genital mutilation is a crime (Article 143.2 of the Penal Code):
- Parents may be imprisoned from 6 to 12 years.
- Parents may lose custody of their daughters.
- Girls may be sent to a children’s home from 4 to 6 years.
- People who practise FGM or collaborate in the practice or allow it may be imprisoned,
  ...even when it is practised out of Spain (LOPJ/05)

---

**DON’T GENITALLY MUTILATE YOUR DAUGHTERS, BECAUSE:**
- It’s very painful.
- They may suffer severe bleeding.
- They may suffer infections and might be unable to have anymore children.
- They may suffer from problems arising during childbirth and both the mother and baby may die as a result.
- AIDS, hepatitis and tetanus may be transmitted.
- Female circumcision is not a religious obligation.
- In Spanish law, FGM is considered a crime, even when it is practised in another country.
- Remember the Prophet’s words: Take care of your daughters and don’t hurt them.”