

**FEMALE
GENITAL
MUTILATION/
CUTTING(FGM/C)
IN INDIA**

WHAT is Female Genital Mutilation, how is it practiced in India ?

- FGM/C is the total or partial removal of the external female genitalia for non-medical purposes [\[1\]](#)
- In India, practitioners usually perform Type I or Type IV FGM/C as defined by the World Health Organisation [\[2\]](#)

Who practices it?

- In India, FGM/C is prevalent and practiced by Islamic communities like Dawoodi, Alvi and Suleimani Bohras, as well as certain sections of Sunni Muslims.

1. The Clitoral Hood A Contested Site – Study

Khafd or FGM/C in India



INDEPENDENT STUDY - 2018

- 75% daughters of respondents in sample study were mutilated
- 92.5% cut by traditional circumciser

2022

Indian Government's Response to FGM/C

- No attempts to collect data of the prevalence and nature of FGM/C practiced in India.*
- No move to introduce a law and policy to deal with the practice and achieve the goal to eliminate it.*

No recommendations
against FGM/C have
been made by any
country to India

On the contrary India has made

recommendations on FGM to Guinea, Mali

and Gambia

India – A country where FGM/C is practiced

Prosecutions Worldwide

- A charity run by religious head of Bohra Community, spent nearly £770,000 defending one FGM/C prosecution in Australia
- **Vacation cutting – NRI's cut in India**

Public Interest Litigation to Ban FGM in India

- Bohra Doctor Claims FGM/C Prevents Cancer
- Community issues new Standard Operating Procedures for midwives

India has ratified International Treaties on women and child rights

- Convention on the Rights of the Child (**CRC**),
- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (**CEDAW**) [**with reservations**]
- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (**ICCPR**)
- International Covenant on Economic and Social and Cultural Rights (**ICESCR**)

RECOMMENDATIONS -Roadmap

Conduct research and collect data on the national prevalence of FGM/C in the country across all communities who are known to practice FGM/C

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Legally adopt the WHO's definition of FGM and pass a law that criminalizes FGM/C, Khatna, Khafz as a human rights violation in India

Establish a national action plan to eradicate the harmful practice of FGM/C in all its forms across the country and within the Bohra community, including the dedication of resources to prevention and education aspects.



My daughter is eight years old...I got her back from the hands of death...

Mother of a girl child who bled through the night after being subject to FGM in the state of Gujarat, India

THANK YOU

