

Topic: Contemporary Issues Faced by Muslim Ummah

and their solutions in teachings of Islam.

"He will test you, which of you are best in actions" Al-Quran (67:2)

In this turmoiled world where humanity has lost its worth and grace so does the muslims. This era is a tough zone for muslims all over the world as they are facing number of issues including terrorism, extremism, defying basic Islamic teachings etc.

Here are some contemporary issues;

- Weak Muslim nations in hot waters

Muslims, all over the world are living like second order citizens or worse.

Palestine, Kashmir, Syria, Iraq etc are amongst the nations where massacre of muslims is routine. This muslims massacre news bulletins have become so common that only the pain is felt-in heart with no actions. Hardly, there will be condemnations by famous muslim rulers but nothing more. Palestinians for example are being attacked on their holiest days and in holiest sites like Masjid-e-Aqsa. Seeing today's situation of Palestine reminds of famous

Ottoman emperor Sultan Abdul Hameed who said "If Ottomans withdraw from Palestine bloodshed will never stop there until the day of Judgment"

Kashmir that is called "Paradise on Earth" is no more less than hell on Earth for Kashmiries who are fighting for their fundamental rights of freedom. Muslims are being not allowed to worship their religion, to perform their rituals ^{for} what else can we call the imprisonment. Unfortunately, there has been no serious action taken by Muslim brother countries. There is famous prophetic narration "Muslims are brothers, they never do wrong to each other, they never forgo supporting each other and they never abandon their brothers in hardships". If today's muslims fulfill this definition of brotherhood of which Allah has repeatedly said in Quran that Believers are ^{in far better position} nothing else than brothers, we muslims would have been

2) Muslims combating terrorism.

Terrorism is another factor taking stance to destroy muslims. Many muslim countries are being affected by terrorism and Pakistan tops the list.

Thousands of the muslims lose their lives in bomb blasts. Recently, suicide bombing in Peshawar mosque claimed the lives of eight worshipers and there are other plenty of examples.

For which Quran says "Shedding blood of one human is equal to ^{the} shedding blood of whole humanity" The soil of muslim countries is being used for providing safe heavens to such extremists. Unfortunately, there are not any executable measures taken to eradicate this deadly terrorism.

- Disharmony among Muslim Ummah.

There is a famous Hadith saying

"Muslim Ummah is like a single body, if one part is affected the whole body feels the pain" The cornerstone of muslim's disgrace is disunity among muslims. Muslim countries are prioritizing their national interests over brotherhood which is the important element of Muslim Ummah. The countries which should have been working together as one arm are regional rivalries.

Rivalries. For example today's Iran and Saudi Arabia, coming to the extent of cutting diplomatic ties with each other and fighting against each other in Middle East.

- Divide of Sectarianism.

Quran says Inculcation of different sectarian beliefs have divided the muslims. Shia-Sunni riots are nationwide. Muslims kill each other

proving themselves as masters of Islam and the opponent as "Kafir".

These Sunni-Shia riots have led to the division of ~~two~~ Islamic nations

Saudia, ~~and~~ Iran, Iraq, Syria etc.

Iraq, "When we came to Iraq we didn't understand the complexity, what it meant for society to live under ethnic and sectarian divisions" H.R. McMaster

Even, in Pakistan there are massacre killing on ~~the~~ sects. Shia-Sunni riots are becoming the routine.

- **lack of Leading Figure.**

It is said that good leaders pave the good way for nations. Unfortunately today muslim ummah lacks such strong leading element to cling ~~to~~ and on.

The plight of muslims is heart-wrenching.

There is no lead to decide ^{how} where shall this weakening rope of Islam be held, by muslims. There is no leading country voicing the basic rights for suffering nations like Palestine, Kashmir, Iraq, Syria, Afghanistan etc.

- **Islamophobia.**

Islamophobia is the fear of Muslims or Islam in the world. In this context, muslims are framed as terrorists, killers and villains

Due to this, different prohibited acts such as burning of Quran, hating muslims, restrictions on hijab are amongst the common issues.

Recently, France education minister announced restriction on wearing "abaya". Denmark, Sweden has recently underwent hatred activities like burning of Quran. Salwan Monika has repeatedly underwent this prohibited task in Sweden in recent months of 2023.

"Islamophobia dehumanizes muslims, reducing them monolithic threat rather than recognizing their individuality and contributions" Linda Sarsour.

This islamophobia is killing thousands of people including 2019 Christchurch New Zealand mosque attack resulting in brutally murdering 51 muslims.

→ Solutions in the light of teachings of Islam.

1) Muslim Unity

Islam repeatedly taps the importance of unity of muslims in Quran.

"None of you will have faith, until he loves for his brother what he loves for himself". [Al-Bukhari]

If muslims of 52 countries unite and voice for their rights, stand for weaker muslim brothers like Palestinians, Kashmiries, Syrians, Iraqis etc, only then there can be a prospect of better future.

"Stand out firmly for justice as witness to Allah, even if it be against yourselves, your parents and relatives" Al-Quran (4:135), Quran advises muslims be with those who are on righteous path.

"O you who believe! Be afraid of Allah and be with those who are true" (Al-Tawbah 9: 119).

2) Donot get divided in Sects

Sectarianism which has caused the divide of muslims shall be eradicated.

Muslims shall learn to respect each others sects and shall not accuse each other of being non-believers and follow which is righteous.

"And hold firmly to the rope of Allah altogether and do not become divided. And remember the favour of Allah upon you - when you were enemies and He brought your hearts together and you became by His favour brothers" Al-Qur'an [3 : 103]

3) ~~Unit~~ Strong Muslim economies shall play their role.

Developed economies shall take a step forward and make a path for muslim world. Voice for their rights and provide help to poor in economies. Here, Gulf Sea countries KSA, UAE and and Pakistan, Turkey ~~as~~ can play the leading role! ~~as~~ ~~also~~

The parable of the believers in their affection, mercy and compassion for each other is that of a body. When any limb aches, the whole body reacts with sleeplessness and fever."

[Al-Bukhari]