

(CSS-2023)

Q:-

Describe Hadhrat Mohammad (PBUH) as a prophet of Peace for the contemporary transnational world.

Ans

Introduction:-

The world we live in is full of wars and hostilities. No peace keeping force or authority is able to spread and maintain peace in the world. Holy Prophet (PBUH) is a perfect example of peace and harmony. Throughout his life, he practiced principles of peace and tolerance. He never took revenge on anyone based on personal issues. He always preferred peace over wars and always tried to make friendly relations with all the peace loving states. Today the world needs to follow his peace making principles to come out of violence and chaos on personal, social and political levels.

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## Contemporary Transitional World and Difficulties in Peace-Making:-

Today the international community is facing many cultural, ethnic, social, religious and nationalistic disputes. The previous century has witnessed two world wars, the long drawn cold war and many small and large scale conflict. The September 11 attacks and the subsequent war on terror at the start of this century have further divided the world. After the Russian invasion of Ukraine in 2021, another era of cold war has started and the world is once again split into two blocks. In this context, the world needs to implement the universal peace making principles given by our beloved Holy Prophet (PBUH) to deal with these conflicts.

## Peace Making Strategies of Holy Prophet (PBUH):-

The Peace making strategies

of Holy Prophet (PBUH) are given below:

### 3.1 Demonstration of Patience and Tolerance to negative reactions:-

During the first thirteen years of Prophetic mission in Makkah, Holy Prophet (PBUH) peacefully promulgated the message of Islam and tolerated the harsh behavior of Makkans who not only opposed his mission but also teased the early followers of Islam both physically and economically.

"We have sent You as mercy for all the worlds" [Surah Alaabiya]

### 3.2 Violence Prevention and Non violence:-

Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) said:-

"Never aspire to confront Your enemies (in a fight).

Pray to God to be among those who seek to live peacefully with others. But if ever You confront them (in a fight) be patient and know that Heaven is as close to You as the shades of the swords."

[Narrated by Al Bukhari, Muslim and Abu

### 34 Peace Making Principles of Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) in the battles :-

Holy Prophet (PBUH) always adopted the peace making principles even on the battlefields. He always preferred peace over war. He always invited his enemies towards peace first and only waged war in extreme conditions. He used to treat the war criminals in a very good manner and the needs of their food, health, shelter and rehabilitation were properly fulfilled. Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) had strictly forbidden his army to kill innocent citizens. Makkah was also conquered in a peaceful way at the conquest of Makkah as the Prophet (P.B.U.H) asked his army to: ① To not cut trees or destroy crops and other valuable resources.

② The woman, children and old people were not to be harmed in any way.

③ Anyone who took refuge in the Kaaba or the house of Abu Sufyan or their own houses was not to be harmed.

④ Any unarmed man were not to be attacked.

⑤ Muslim should not attack, they were to defend themselves.

The above command of the Holy Prophet (PBUH)

show how he is the embodiment of peace and these examples serve as a reminder to humans about they need to conduct themselves in conflicting situations.

### 3.5 General Amnesty at Conquests:-

The life of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) is full of examples where ~~we~~ <sup>he</sup> always forgive his enemies instead of taking revenge. At the conquest of Makkah, he was in a strong position to take revenge but he forgave all his enemies and declared amnesty for all of them. This peaceful approach of Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) helped in the promotion of Islamic teachings and he set a net worthy example for the entire human kind.

Prophet (PBUH) said:

“Whoever suffers an injury done to him and forgives (the person responsible), Allah will raise his status to a higher degree and remove one of his sins” [Al-Trimidhi]

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### 3.6 Peace Making Via Pacts and treaties :-

An example is the Medina charter which was signed between the Muslims, Jewish tribes, and non muslims arab tribes of Medina to maintain peace and security of all the communities of Medina. Similarly, Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) signed a treaty of Hudaibiya to make peace between Muslims and nonmuslims of Makkah, although many articles of the treaty were against the interests of the muslims. Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) always honored the treaties he signed and never violated them.

### 3.7 Peace through Justice and Rule of law :-

The Holy Prophet (PBUH) was a just and kind ruler. He treated the public using the good governance and strictly prohibited any discrimination against minority.

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"The Holy Prophet (PBUH) has prohibited the Believers from Loot and Plunder"

[Bukhari]

"The loot is no more lawful than the carrion." [Abu Dawud]

### 38 Peace through Pluralism and Diplomacy:-

The Holy Prophet (PBUH) was a great leader and diplomat. Through his great diplomacy and peace promoting leadership skills, he was able to spread Islam throughout Arabia with very few loss of life.

### 39 Establishing Good Relations with Peace loving Countries

The Holy Prophet (PBUH) always advised to make friendly relations with the peace loving states and avoid any sort of hostility.

"And if you fear treachery on the part of a people, throw back to them on terms of equality;

Surely Allah does not love the treacherous."

[Surah Al-Anfal]

### Critical Analysis:-

Maulana Wahidudin Khan (b.1925) is of the view that the Holy Prophet (PBUH) was supremely successful as he always followed the principles of peace and refers to him as a "The Prophet of Peace".

According to Karen Armstrong in her book "Mohammad: The Prophet of our Time" Islam is the religion of peace and its Prophet preached tolerance and coexistence.

Former UK Prime Minister Tony Blair once remarked that "Tolerance is the defining characteristics of Islam".

### Conclusion:-

To sum up, Holy Prophet (PBUH) was a great peacemaker. Today, the world is facing many conflicts due to long drawn hostilities. The contemporary world needs to follow the peaceful principles given by Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) in order to build a harmonious society.