

UNDERSTANDING

ISLAMOPHOBIA

OUTLINE:

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5. Different form of Islamophobia.
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 - (b) Structural Islamophobia.
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 - (d) Reactionary Islamophobia.
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7. Islamophobia after 9/11.
8. Contextualizing France related Islamophobia.
 - (a) Full Spectrum Intolerance

(b) Global issues are labelled as Islamic Issues.

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9) How to counter Islamophobia?

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(c) Building Coalition with others.

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Abobakker Dirar and Muhammed Elamin claimed the incidence happened after they boarded an Alaska flight from Seattle to San Francisco on 17 Feb, 2020.

While they were awaiting departure they made small talk in Arabic with each other.

According to the lawsuit Dirar also texted his friend in Arabic and use an emoji.

They were on complaint immediately surrounding with the security officers and subjecting them to unnecessary investigation after confining with police that the text message was innocuous and posed no threat. It is not only the story of Abobukker and Elamin but of every Muslim that lives in west has to bear the prejudice behaviour toward them in every aspect of life whether social, political or economical.

These all leads toward a term, Islamophobia widely used in the media, political and academic circles. It is a new word for an old concept, widely used in public and scholarly circles.

In John Esposito and Ibrahim Kalin's edited volume, Islamophobia: The Challenge of Pluralism, in the 21st Century, Jocelyne cesari describes Islamophobia as "Although the term Islamophobia arises first appeared in 1922 essay by Orientalist Etinne Dinet, it was only in the 1990 that it became common parlance in defining the discrimination Muslims face in Western Europe".

From the crusades to the colonialism, multiple confrontations between Muslim world

and Europe mark the history of the negative perception of Islam. However, Islamophobia is a modern and secular anti-Islamic discourse and practice appearing in the public sphere with the integration of Muslims immigrant communities and intensifying after 9/11. Islamophobia is increasing in different forms including private, structural, dialectical, reactionary and most destructive one is the online Islamophobia. The Islamophobia is an anxiety towards the Muslims which should be countered through different preventive measures. Like educating the Muslim community, relationship with the different faith must be in a good conditions, and most importantly the rational response of the Muslims towards the west. It was due to the rational behaviour of the Muslims that it achieved a landmark International Day to Combat Islamophobia. Muslims need to understand the Islamophobia. However, Islamophobia is the problem of the West. Muslims are facing prejudice conduct from the side of western world but countering Islamophobia in a positive fashion can overcome the anxiety towards Muslims.

Islamophobia is a combination of hate, fear and prejudice against Islam, against Muslims, as well as against anything associated with the religion. It also constitutes hatred, stigmatization, racism and discrimination in daily life on a Media, at work place, in political sphere, etc. It rest in the mind and it can reflect in an attitudes and could be manifested through violent actions, such as burning Mosques, vandalizing properties, abusing women wearing scarf, or insulting Prophet or sacred symbol of Islam. It can not only manifested in the incidents but also in the statements, thoughts, behaviors, and gestures. For example Donald Trump in his era gave a statement that "Muslims represents an extraordinary influx of hatred and danger coming into our country" (December 7, 2015). This is an anti-Muslims statement. Since the two decades, the Islamophobia keeps growing through intensive campaign and public discourses.

Erick Bleich is an author who said that Islamophobia is a social psychology of prejudice like a disease. Gemberg said that It is a social anxiety towards Islam and Muslims culture. Gidsser rejected the

religion reference of Islamophobia. He argued that treating Muslims religion as an irreducible identity maker between us and them. Webner argued that, "Islamophobia is a form of differential racism".

Moreover, the above statements presented that Islamophobia is a social evil, but alternative interpretation is always present. Polly Toynbee, a British journalist argued that "I am Islamophobic and proud of it". Like this, Rod Liddle, an English journalist presented the same view. He argued that "Islamophobia? Count me in?". These writers emphasized their distrust of Islam as a doctrine and as a religion. But they express it, rather they target Muslims.

Third side of the coin presented another concept of Islamophobia. Cristia Joppok and Kenan Melik. argued about Islamophobia that the very concept of Islamophobia heightens the Muslims claims as a British state and raises expectation to a point that cannot be met. This concept presented a view that the Islamophobia is not that much greater issue either Muslims make it.

The above three concept of the scholars

presented three views of Islamophobia that First school of thought considered it as Psychological Problem. Second school of thought presented it as a Hatred towards Islam that reflects Muslims. Third school of thought considered Islamophobia as that Muslims misuse it. Hence, it is a kind as subject to scholarly disagreement just like democracy, ideology or any other concept.

Particularly in Europe Anti Turks, Anti-Arabs sentiments always present their. Anti-Turks, and Anti Arabs always have interaction issues with the Europe. For example, in Levant crisis were their. but in 634-641 these areas were captured by the Arabs. The center of the excellence, Alexandria was also conquered by the Arabs in 652. Furthermore, The great Turkish Europe war was fought between them in 683-1699. Ottomans reached to the gate of Europe, Vienna. That is why, Europe has an antisentiments towards Islam.

West mostly related the issues with the race and religion. Like Edward Said in his famous book "Colonial ~~Mastery~~ and Cultural Exploitation". that A west erroneous.

correlated the issues with race and Religion.
A west associated Islam with negative images, sentiments and stereotype.

In institution the anti-Islamic sentiment also prevails. Runnymede Trust Report (1997) argued that "Islamophobia a challenge for us all". International Forum like UN (2007) Kofi Annan held conference on "confronting Islamophobia". The report published by European Union in 2002, 2003 & 2006 also enhancing the trends of Xenophobia, Racism and Islamophobia. So, institutional are also against the Islam.

Islamophobia is mostly blamed in Europe and in countries like India and China ~~to~~ are taking lightly. 37 countries have been reported where Islamophobic incident are notice in systematic context. In Australian continent 2 countries are anti-Muslims, South and North America have 4 countries, especially Canada and US shows higher Islamophobia. In Asia only 8 countries are Islamophobic. While in Europe, 20 countries are with anti-Islamic sentiments. That is why, West is mostly blame for Islamophobia and

and the Europe. The higher actuum towards Islamophobia in Europe traced back to the Arabs and Turks relations with the Europe.

Islamophobia appears in many forms, like private Islamophobia, structural Islamophobia, Dialectical Islamophobia, reactionary Islamophobia and most dangerous one Islamophobia.

In private Islamophobia, the Muslims were especially targeted by the individuals, private actors and non-state actors. For example Brigitte Gabriel, Pamela Geller, David Horowitz and Robert Spencer etc., targeting by writing etc. This causes an individual targeting.

In structural Islamophobia, the Islam is especially targeted by institution and governmental agencies manifested through enactment and advancement of the policies. in which the Muslim identity is associated with national security threat. For example, Patriot act, National Act and Registration act all counts for structural Islamophobia.

In dialectical Islamophobia, a politicized dialect between state and its polity is developed. These countries shape and reshape the

the popular view against the Islam and Muslims within the borders and outside the borders. For instance, France, Norway, Poland, Austria etc. reshaped and popularized the view. In this way, an anti-Islamic ~~and~~ sentiment is developing.

In Reactionary Islamophobia, the reaction of the Muslim leaders --- are not accepted by the west. The west do not accept and comprehend it. Bernard Lewis in his Book "The crisis of Islam" argued that "The urgent problem of the west is that it can not bear Muslim thoughts and Muslim development". The west believe --- in territorial identity of the state, but in contrary Muslim believe --- in universality ideology.

If Muslim leaders react on any Islamophobic content in a country other than his own one. Then, this is not acceptable for the west, because west believe in territorial National

In Online Islamophobia, the tendency of anti-Islamism is beyond the control. It can not be control easily. It is not of a single day product. It is divided in three levels. In 1980's social Networking sites contextualizing from hostage crises (1979-1988

After 9/11 social networking especially in US and the whole world blaming Muslims and considered them as a terrorist. In 2015, the attack of ISIS on the Paris also blame Islam and Muslim on social media, Facebook, Twitter, and others. In 2.5 decades it negatively affects the image and reputation of Islam. Even after Paris attack, the slogan of ban Islam was prevailing on social media. Online Islamophobia is more dangerous. It is because of the fact that Muslims reacts on Islamophobic post on social media, with a little knowledge about the Islam it is irrational behaviour which further destroy the image of Islam.

France being a secular country is more Islamophobic than any other country in the world. There was a full spectrum intolerance of Muslims. They shows systematic racism. Basically the roots related with the politics and electoral interest. The National Anthem of France has a lyrics that means "we will throw out the Impure from our pure land". They blame that Muslim can challenge their status quo. They always blame Muslim. Secondly, Global issues are labelled as

Islamic issues. Security, racism, proselytism, Animal welfare are all labelled as National issues and they considered Muslims as their violators. For their political and electoral gains, they make control over the races. They with the help of NGOs, Leaders and Intellectuals, put strict surveillance on Muslims. France mostly shows reactionary Islamophobic.

Islamophobia can be counter by many way. By educating Muslim community in a greater sense. The people who are inhabitant of west bears a greater tendency of Islamophobia. His life is affecting their. In ^{USA} (2001-2002), 4400 Homes were raided for investigation. If they know their civil rights in the US as a citizen, they ~~will~~ ~~not~~ might not suffer that much. So, in order to compete Islamophobia. Muslim should be educated about their rights.

Muslims in the west mostly preferred to live in the isolated environment. and not engaged with the other faiths. Muslims should have good interaction with other faiths. If they show good interaction, the response will be positive from the other faith. In contrary, if they live in an isolated environment, they

would face negative response. In short, Muslims should develop good relations with the other faiths, so that anti-Islamic sentiments will be starting reducing.

Muslims should develop coalition with others like Christian people of Africa, American Black people. Muslims should develop international alliances with these countries on the same page. In this way a formidable plot is made which will reduce the anti-Islamic sentiments.

Muslims in west should ask for more political representation. In USA, House of representatives have only 4 Muslims in France last election, there were only 8 members in the assembly and UK have only 18 Muslims representatives. These membership is low with regards to the population of Muslims in western countries. So, Muslims should ask for representation, which will then take care of Muslim civil rights and represent Muslim at greater extent.

Muslim must demands for just foreign policy. They should demands that the foreign policy towards Muslims were not based

on the concept related to US, Algeria and different other group.

Islamophobia is not only a Muslim issue, but it is a social issue. It is a hate speech towards a social community should be counter on society level. It causes societal destruction of a community. In Europe they must understand unemployed and unprivileged Muslims youth. Instead of expelling illegal immigrant and harsh treatment, Europe should give social integration and give employment to them.

Muslim world should avoid the aggressive leadership. The statements which have an aggressive words against in response to Islamophobia should be avoided. Muslim must use economy as tool to counter Islamophobia in 2004-2005. The Denmark controversy was prevailed. Malaysia refused to anchor the daneship with Denmark.

Muslims should encounter the Islamophobia by rational response. It is the most effective one. It is due to the rational response of the Muslim World that "International Day to Combat Islamophobia" is an international

observance designated by United Nations in 2022, taking place on 15 March every year in 140 countries worldwide.

This essay has argued that the Islamophobia is not literally the problem of the Muslims. It is the problem of the west. West has an historical black time with the Muslims. They gain ^{anti-} Muslim sentiments from the history. This anti-Muslim sentiments developed to very with the passage of time. It is more developed in the countries of Europe. Muslim should counter the Islamophobia with a rational perspective. It is a social issue which should be resolve. For this Muslims should know the nature of different development platforms of the Islamophobia. Then Muslim should have to developed countering technique in educating the Muslims that how to combat it more rationally.

