

Liaquat Ali

Batch-317

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Q: Explain the concept of Public Administration and Good Governance in Islam. Explain the responsibilities of civil servants to ensure Good Governance.

1. INTRODUCTION:

In an Islamic society, the goal of every sub-system is to evolve an Islamic framework of life; public administration and good governance. The concept of public administration is an ideological orientation, moral accountability and supremacy of Allah's Law. Furthermore, the good governance focuses on rule of Allah, quality assistance, consultation, justice and transparency.

In addition to, Islam has provided the responsibilities for the civil servants to ensure good governance—and responsibilities are to ~~create~~ ^{provide} trust, justice, accountability, transparency, consultation, public welfare and upholding the rule of Allah.

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START 2. PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION IN ISLAM:

According to Islam, the "public administration" is the hierarchically organized body of government who work through fixed rules of Allah. Islam provides the financial system, defence strategies, peace process, health and education system, social and moral issues guidance, foreign policy and every essential systems or rules which govern the country.

2.1 ISLAMIC SOURCES OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

i) Enquiries Against Officers:

The enquiry commission under the chairmanship of Kaab-bin-Malik in the administration of Hazrat Ali (R.A). He deputed in Iraq with some assistant and went around all districts to watch how officials did their work. Some of the officials were punished by equity commissions due to their harsh behaviour.

ii) ~~Provisional~~ Provincial Administration (Decentralization)

Hazrat Umar (R.A) divided the whole Islamic Khilafat into various provinces with each capital due to the betterment of public and administration.

iii) Police Department and Institution of Prisons

To keep order inside the state, a police force is necessary. Hazrat Umar (R.A) was established the Police department. There was no jails in Arabia. He bought five houses in Makkah and used as jail. Also, he opened jails in some districts.

2.2 PRINCIPLES OF ISLAMIC ADMINISTRATIONS:

i) Ideological Orientation:

The Muslims are obedient to the commandments of Allah which are contained in the Holy Quran and Hadith. All the rules by Allah must be followed by the government as well as the people.

ii) Supremacy of Law:

Islam establishes the relationship between the politics and the administration to run the state. The basic concept is the ~~sup~~ sovereignty of Allah. The Holy Quran says ~~that~~ "All the rules which Allah created is helpful to in every step of life." (Al-Quran)

The supremacy of law is actually the best administration for the public as well as the state.

iii) Moral Accountability:

Another principle of Islamic administration is moral accountability which focus on moral values of the ~~administration~~ society. Where no one ^{can} cross the limits and rules of Islamic civilization. Everyone ~~is~~ is accountable to immoral activities performed in the society.

3. GOOD GOVERNANCE IN ISLAM:

Islam is not a religion only, it is a complete code of life. It guides the people in every aspect of life; from home to office or business to governments. In fact, Islam is a perfect religion to follow if one wants to implement good governance in the state or anywhere. Hazrat Muhammad (SAWW) provided the unmatched model of good governance in all aspects.

3.1. The Concept of Good Governance in Islam:

The Holy Quran describes the good governance as the law of justice, accountability, transparency, responsibilities, fair resources and rights distribution in the society and Khalifa is the chief servant of the nation.

The Quran declares:

"Those whom we have given authority in the land, establish prayer, give Zakat and enjoin what is good and forbid what is wrong." (Al-Quran).

3.3. Principles of Good Governance in Islam.

Islamic view of good governance is qualitative. The major principles of good governance can be prescribed under eight principles.

- i) Trust
- ii) Justice
- iii) Accountability
- iv) Transparency
- v) Consultation
- vi) Role of leadership ⁱⁿ and Good Governance
- vii) Public Welfare
- viii) Upholding Rule of Allah.

4. THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF CIVIL SERVANTS TO ENSURE GOOD GOVERNANCE.

Government officer or more rightly civil servants are the officials who perform their duties as the representative of the state. Furthermore, the agreement signed between the officials and the state before taking the charge. They have actually the responsibilities to perform for the state as well as the people. ~~There~~ On the other hand, there are basic responsibilities of civil servants to ensure good government in the shape of appointment of capable person, base consultative administration, discipline and order, transparency, accountability, rule of law, justice, financial administration and leadership qualities. The major responsibilities of civil servants to ensure good governance are the following:

4.1: Appointment of Capable Person

The most important responsibility of civil servant is the appointment of capable person to ensure good governance; right people at right place. Resultantly, a capable person ^{will} perform the duties with zeal and zest for the betterment of people and state. Favouritism is violation of merit and unfortunately this practise is common in almost every field of life.

So, the promotion of meritorious and put them at top will be success of the state.

4.2: Consultative Administration

The implementation or exercise of any policy or law without consultation may not give desirable results. The Holy Prophet (PBUH) said:

"Before any initiative do consultation with your elders and companions."

Therefore, the another responsibility is consultative administration which give suggestions and methods to implement the law for the betterment of department.

4.3: Fairness in Dealings

It is the responsibility of civil servant to be honest and fair in all the affairs and dealing ~~at~~ the duty.

In a Hadith narrator says:

"Hazrat Muhammad (SAWW) appointed a man as in-charge for collection Sadqja. That man came at the end of day ~~after~~ ^{with} collection and said that this is for you as a gift and refused."

Government officials who use and keep something as a gift which is the property of state commit dishonesty against the Allah as well as the state. Therefore, fairness in dealings in all matters of office ensure the good governance.

4.4: Loyalty to State

Civil servants are under oath to stay loyal with the state. This oath is like a commitment that officer is given to the state. Allah says:

"And fulfil commitment. Indeed, the commitment is ever questioned" (Al-Quran).

4.5: Ensure Accountability

The another responsibility of civil servants to ensure accountability in their offices and protect the national resources. The officer should be safeguarded ~~more~~ the official ~~state~~ assets, money, or any ~~thing~~ other more than personal assets. Pakistan is facing the most dangerous disease; corruption in every department and unfortunately civil servants are involved in it. The accountable officers will be helpful to counter corruption in the department for ~~the~~ making prosperous state.

4.6: Dispensation of Justice

Dispensation of justice to the people is the foremost duty of a civil servant because nation can not survive unless it has justice in all ~~department~~ field. The conditions of justice must be fulfilled at any cost.

5. CONCLUSION

The civil servants with their good conduct can make the lives of masses easy and satisfied with the state. With bad conduct, they ~~are~~ are committing sins that will ~~be~~ be awarded with anger of Allah. So, the government keep on striving to facilitate common people and complete their responsibilities to ensure good governance.