PROBLEMS FACED BY MUSLIM UMMAH AND ITS SOLUTIONS

➤ The devastating situation of muslim ummah in modern world is far beyond the imagination of our ancestors. When they tried to spread true teaching of Islam at the cost of their lives, ummah of todays world is facing extreme hardships to even stand by itself without any support. This failure of muslims in many aspects of life are due to ~~many~~ various problems at both individual and collective level. ~~at~~ some of them with their solutions are given below.

➡ ## At Individual level:-

* ## Extreme Ideology:-

Muslims are unable to balance their ideologies with counter ~~effect~~ opinions of rest of the world. They are so involved in their ideology that extreme opinions related to religion have indented the true shape of Islam. Extreme ideology leads to lack of tolerance between different sects. Muslims are not even ready to hear stances other than ~~that~~ that they have been taught and believed over the years. This intolerance is illustrated by violent attacks and clashes between muslims and hindus or other ~~non~~ non-believers. Thus, sense of tolerance and balance in opinions is cornerstone for progress ~~of~~ of any nation.

* Misinterpretation:-

Most of religious problems starts when followers misinterpret teachings of their own religion. Unfortunately, most of muslim scholars while giving sermons and lectures mould Islamic history or teachings in their interests, which lead to spread of wrong exposition related to religious problems within followers. The term "Jihad" ~~which have various types~~, means "to struggle", this include: struggle or to fight against his "nafs" or sins. But nowadays, it is misinterpreted and used for personal gains ~~interests~~. Jumping on "Jihad-bil-Saif" or "with the sword" without practicing "Jihad-bin-Nafs" shows how muslims are played by their own people. This lack of clarification in Islamic teachings results in bad situation of muslim ummah.

* Sectarianism:

History suggests, downfall of muslims truely depends when they indulge in sectarianism. Muslim Ummah is facing harsh reality of different sect: within itself. In contrast, where Almighty Allah Himself orders in Quran:

" وَاعْتَصِمُوا بِحَبْلِ اللّٰهِ جَمِيعًا وَلَا تَفَرَّقُوا "

(al-Quran: "And hold firmly to the rope of Allah all together and do not become divided".)

As Allah himself orders to be united on single grounds and not become divided. Unfortunately, muslims are prone to destruction as their main motive of unity is vanished.

The division in muslim followers is so much that they are at verge of killing people of opposite groups. Conflicts of Shia and Sunni, is taking away true essence of peace in Islam. This sectarianism can further lead to damage and hinderance in prosperity of religion.

* **Impact of Western Culture:**

Most of Muslim ummah ignore instructions of their religion and follows western culture blindly. Main reason behind this western influence is that muslims donot realise their worth. They see western world as their guide to success. The progress of western countries influence muslims that they divert their focus of eternal world and indulge whole heartedly in this mortal world. It is hard to believe that this western parasite is not only eating the external structure of religion but also growing at root-level of muslims individual lives. For instance, hijab for a muslim women is taken as right of a girl, either she wants to take it or not is her choice. Instead it is an order and "farz" for muslim women clearly mentioned in Quran. (al-Quran: " O Prophet, tell your wives and your daughter and the women of believers to bring down over themselves [part] of their outer garments.).

This shows without knowing true teachings of Islam and living lives under the shadow of western culture can uproot the basic ideology of Islam.

* lack of Supremacy of Islam :-

    This world was created as a test for people to show their submission and devotion to Almighty God. This devotion can only be achieved when person live according to the rules set by Islam. The dos and don'ts are clearly mentioned in Quran and Sunnah, ~~so that the teachings of Islam should easily prevails in their~~ Muslim should live their lives on the basis of supremacy of Islam. ~~To~~ Muslims are choosing personal interests whenever their problem conflicts with Islamic ideology. This lack of placing Islam at the top of list in various aspects of life deviated Islamic followers.

→ **At Collective level :-**

* <u>Islamophobia</u> :-

    The great threat to muslim ummah nowadays at collective level is Islamphobia. The close link created between Islam and terrorism have evolved ~~the~~ muslims picture at global level. This association have widen gaps between Islam and western world. The ~~med~~ western media depicts Islam as terrorist religion, which delivers misinterpretation of religion to its viewers. This led to phobia ~~of from~~ Islam and hinders in spread of its true values. The word "Islam" itself means "peace", the religion whose name is build on peaceful ideology, it is foolish of them to mould Islam and emphasizing ~~their~~ veiwers to stay away from muslims This creates a division and disparity among mulims and non-muslims. ~~In~~ In order to show true face of Islam United nations paved a resolution to combat Islamophobia in 2022. This wrong depiction illustrating hate for muslims is one of main problem faced by muslim ummah.

* **Misrepresentation :**

Correct representation of any religion is needed for its success and deviation from this can lead to huge loss in its progression. Following unauthentic opinions or scholars without seeking its validity results in misrepresentation of Islam. Many Islamic scholars use religion as leverage for their personal interests and their blind followers demonstrates ill representation of Islam on global level. Those followers who truely follows Islam and know its deep knowledge usually step-back against the illetrate scholars having great influence in lives of general population. This is shown by recent evolution of terrorist ideology in religion. Many muslims under the influence of their polarised teachers and wrong teachings misrepresent image of Islam arround the world.

* **lack of leadership :**

The Impact of religion is ~~influedred~~ depends on Strong leadership. The injustice faced by muslims in kashmir, Syria, palestine & china on daily basis shows lack of leadership, through which strong stance against this violence can be volumised across the globe. To overcome this, muslims gathered on single platform of OIC but still solutions to these problems are far away to achieve. The divisions in a religion have participated in unstable situation of muslims. Focussing on various different theories than on common grounds results in inability to gather Islamic followers under one leadership.

of Muslims

* **Incompetency in Modern Era:-**

      Countries uses advanced technology and modern science in maintaining world order. In this regard, muslim ummah face a reality check when other communities top the list of achieving modern goals. Pakistan is the only country among muslim states which have nuclear power while rest of 8 countries suggests the competency of non-muslim states. Most of Gulf countries employ people other than their own arab muslims. Instead of training their people to compete in modern world, they are busy in importing skills from rest of world. Recent inventories in science or infortion technology are mostly brought up by non-muslims.

      The downfall of muslim ummah is mostly due to less involvement in modern education and skills

* **Inability to Materialize Opinions:-**

      Muslim ummah face problem of inability to materialize decisions taken against the injustice. Muslim followers are facing racism, ethnic cleansing and hatred because our leaders can not stand by their decisions. ~~and~~ Their ~~de~~ judgements are influenced by national interests rather ~~by~~ in the interest of whole ummah. This inability results in polarity in policy-making which have haulted muslims in most parts of world. Communitees only progress when they stand by their opianions and lack of which illustrates ~~correc~~ current condition of Muslim ummah.

→ SOLUTIONS :

* Spread true teachings of Islam :

The ~~counter effect~~ implications of wrong image of Islam can be countered ~~done~~ by spreading true teaching of Islam. This can be done with help of print media, social media or broadcast media. In this regard Pakistan, turkey and malaysia gathered to launch a muslim TV channel to help in fighting the phenomenon of Islamophobia and setting the record straight on Islam. Muslim Ummah should focus on expand real image of peace and tolerance in religion in order to dissolve ~~tacties~~ harmful tactics by its enemies. Media can play a major role in combating this issue and provide a platform to remove misunderstandings related to Islam.

* Tolerate difference of opinion:

Progressive and mature person is always the one who shares his thought and is also ready to listen and understand different ideas. If anyone don't withstand difference of opinion, he may lead to a stagnant position. The person can jump into extreme ideology which can damage the image of his ~~regi~~ religion. In order to replace this extremism with balance, muslim ummah should tolerate different ideologies and thought. Muslims should understand guidance comes only from Allah, they can only try to expand and share teachings of Islam without enforcing them onto non-believers. This will create a chance for different communities to have a deep thought on true religion Islam.

* Follow Competent and Neutral Religious Scholars:-

The seed which is bown in innocent hearts of muslims by incompetent and polarised religious scholars, results in the devastating situation of ummah seen today. Extreme ideology, different groups within religion can only be resolved when followers will diverge their thought to achieve peace and properity in religion. They must follow great religious leaders who have real knowledge and teach true facts, correct interpretation of Islam. They should avoid indulging with those who misinterpret teaching of Islam for their own interests.

* Unite on Common Grouds :-

The problem of sectarianism in Islam have costs muslim ummah more than anything else. This has created various groups within religion. This can be solved by focussing on common grounds rather than discussing different thoughts. As every muslim believe in Almight Allah as only God, Muhammad (P.B.U.H) as last messenger, Quran as last holy Book of Islam. These commonalities should be core reason for muslim ummah to sustain and succeed in world. Whether they are shia, suni, deobandi or ahl-e-hadees, at the end of the day they are called as muslim. So, Muslim ummah have to unite and come forward in the world as single identity.

* **Know your worth :-**

Muslims should know their worth in this world and hereafter. Western culture has ~~so~~ deeply rooted in Islamic ~~our~~ religion that it is very difficult to extract it. But ~~with~~ by knowing your identity can solve this problem. Many muslims underestimate themselves against progressive western communities so much that they try to apply their teaching and rules in order to achieve same status. They forget that this world is temporary and have to focus on real reward of here-after. But that doesn't mean muslims should ignore blessings of this world which were created for man himself. Muslims should not be influenced by western culture greatly that they forget their islamic teachings but should know their identity.

* **Follow Islam in every aspect of life :-**

~~then~~ It is human nature that whenever he is stuck in any difficulty, he try to solve it by any means without following the guidelines or rules enforce by his religion ~~or~~ ~~society~~. This problem of getting solutions at the cost of your religion has greatly affected muslim ummah. Whenever they faces a situation where only one option can be chosen, they prioritise personal interests over religion. Muslim ummah should follow Islam in every aspect of life without any polarity which will not only be helpful in this world but in eternal world as well.

* **Get rulings by Authentic Sources:** ~~only~~:

legal rulings regarding any issue are given as "Fatwas" in Islam. Most of muslims reach out to incompetent, biased religious scholars who give religious advices based on their ~~priorities~~ priorities and interests. Muslim ummah should have a single criterion based on his qualification, skills, and sincerity to whom muslims can easily ~~reach~~ access for their problem. They must be authentic and reliable, so that no space of polarity or difference should be ingrown. There are so many false and misleading representatives of Islam sitting randomly in streets or gatherings where they listen to problems and ~~solve~~ give generic solutions Muslims blindly follow them rather than accessing reliable and qualified scholars.

* **Focus on Education:**

In this ~~new~~ new era of technology, muslims have saparated educational institutions in which only religious education have been teached since ages. Muslim ummah should focus on both religious as well as modern education so that they can compete with rest of the world. They should intermingle their religious schools called as "madarsas" with modern science knowledge. This division in education have created a wide gap for muslims to show their talent around the globe. To overcome this problem, Muslims have to get evolving scientific knowledge.

* Have Will-power to implement ideas :-

The situation in palestine, kashmir, syria, china where muslims face violence every other day. Muslim leaders donot have will-power to stand against this barbaric action They just pass resolution and ideas without implementing on real grounds. Muslim ummah should gather courage and face it without thinking about their own interests which have given authority to their enemies for continuing these heineous acts for so long. They should stand by their opinions and face its consequences with boldness. and so that muslim ummah live prosper life without facing any racism or under violent authority.

* lead Ummah at the forefront :-

Muslim ummah lack leadership in modern world, which by their political, economic, religious, cultural, social problems can be listened and solved easily. Muslims should have a leaders which accepted by every group or division. They can lead muslims at forefront and try to solve their problems at global level. Muslim ummah have various sect and in those sect many different religious leaders try to emphasize their ideologies. In order to counter this muslims should remove all odds and get leaders who are neutral or validated by every division. so that Those leaders can amplify the voice of muslims and solve their issues.