

2023-Q:6. Analyze the Charter of Madina as a social construct.

## Introduction

Despite all the development mankind has made in all aspects of economic, social and technological aspects. This has made the world a small village where it is easy to communicate with others in easiest way and with least expensive methods. However, the matter is completely different at the international level's political regimes or ideological, religious or economic blocs. It is as the world dominated by law of the jungle, where survival is for the fittest. There no governing principles, no covenants to be preserved nor respected. The Medina charter should be taken as a model as a historical root that establishes the theory of an ideal social construct that preserve people's civil rights, religious belief and human dignity through coexistence and equality of rights and duties.

## Making of Charter of Madina

The first islamic state was founded not in the shadow of swords, but in the security of a social construct, called constitution of madina. By all counts, the Medina constitution like the torch of freedom by establishing a Free State for



a pluralistic community composed of Muslims, Jews, and pagans. This unprecedented Free state was founded by Prophet Muhammad ﷺ in the Gregorian year of 622, that is more than thirteen hundred years before the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948).

## Purpose of Charter of Madina

The Constitution of Madina sets out in general terms the rights of various classes of citizens, their duties to each other, and the manner in which dispute will be resolved.

## Charter of Madina as Social Construct

A small number of people of Yathrib were already Muslims, having converted during period when Prophet Muhammad ﷺ and his followers were being persecuted in Mecca. The rest of the people of Yathrib were non-Muslims, either pagans or Jews. The pact signalled these peoples' voluntary agreement to be ruled by Islamic law, making charter as a social construct.

Following are articles of charter of Madina that prove that it is made for the security of social construct.



1. The constitution of Medina brought into creation of "Ummah"

The concept of the 'Ummah' was a community which formed an official political entity. This was the most important revolutionary concept. The heart of the 'Ummah' community was Muslims, but also included Arabs from Medina and Jews.

2. The constitution of Medina redefined relationships between Muslims

Muhammad's ~~document~~ document eradicated the previous system where central organising principle which gave someone validity and identity was the tribe into which they were born. Instead, religion was now the most important identity marker of who belonged in Ummah and who did not.

3. Jews were not included in Ummah

It was noted that the Jews were one community with the Muslims, even while the document acknowledged they had their own distinct religion.

4. Jews have the right of life protection like Muslims

As Jews were considered one



community, a part of ummah. They have right of their life protection just as of Muslims.

#### 5. Non-Muslims had certain rights

On the condition that they "followed" the Muslims. They were, however, expected to help pay for the warfare of entire umma.

#### 6. Prohibited Muslims from killing each other

Its charter of Madina was constitution of peace it prohibited Muslims from killing each other.

#### 7. The Muslims must resist anyone who tries to disrupt peace or spreads mischief.

The Muslims were the heart of the ummah community it was their responsibility to resist anyone who took any step against maintenance of peace or spreads mischief for bad deeds.

#### 8. Guaranteed life protection to all Muslims

Muslims being considered core part of community. The charter of Madina guaranteed life of every Muslims to be protected legally.



9. The punishment of execution for a Muslims or any other person who intentionally kills a Muslim.

Charter of Madina declared the punishment of execution for a person who intentionally kills a Muslims.

10. Guaranteed Freedom of religion to all  
Charter of Madina guaranteed freedom of religion to all. Muslims, Jews, and pagans all are allowed to have right to for the religion.

11. All people shared joint responsibility of defending Madina if it come under attack.

Constitution of Madina states that all people; Muslims, Jews, and pagans have responsibility to defend Madina in case of war.

1.2. Forbade fighting and bloodshed among its people

Muhammad's ~~Charter~~ charter forbade people to fight each other and spread bloodshed in the Yathrib in order to maintain the peace.



13. The people must engage with mutual consultation and honorable dealing

Charter of Madina emphasizes that people of Yathrib has to be engage in mutual consultation and honorable dealing of the state.

14. Life of Muslims must according to Islam

It is clearly emphasizes on the charter that life of Muslims must be according to Quran and Sunnah.

15. Allah and Muhammad ﷺ have the final authority.

Charter states that all authority belongs to Allah and Muhammad ﷺ in case of any dispute.

## Conclusion

Muslims must believe that, Islamic social contract in the constitution of Madina is the most complete because it connects the relationship between society and God as well as promote justice to all people.