

# Al-Ghazali

## Functions of Amir

### Introduction:

Al-Ghazali, a political philosopher renowned in West and East because of his versatile genius. He appears to be particularly about the duty and functions of the sovereign, so that administration of the state must not become unwieldy and dogmatic.

### Daily Routines and Duties of Amir:

- 1) The amir after morning prayers, should go out riding in order to have investigation in the person about wrongs done to his subject.
- 2) He should then sit in court and permit all and sundry

to have direct access so that he might have first-hand information about any complaints.

3) The ruler should make a point of taking advice from simple men of knowledge, intelligence and experience.

4) The ruler must extend interviews to foreign ambassadors ~~to~~ ~~indulgence in drink, chess or~~ and envoys. He should be well versed in diplomacy and politics.

5) Al-Ghazali strictly warns the Amir against too much indulgence in drink, chess or hunting and say that best mode of simple life be practiced.

6) The Amir and good Kings should use to divide their time in four parts, setting apart one for prayers, another for state affairs, justice and counsel of learned about affairs of the state, the third for food and rest, and the last for recreation and hunting.

7) He is very particular that Amir, should not pay heed to the advice offered to his women favorites, and quotes the instance of Umar who actually divorced his favorite wife he was elected to his exalted office for fear of being influenced by her in state affairs.

8) Al-Ghazali warns that the ruler must not show them any favoritism, but instead must appoint nepotism or people on merits.

## Simplicity of the "Amir"

Al-Ghazali persistently lays stress that ruler should be simple in his habits.

### Limited sources

⇒ Al-Ghazali says that Amir should have limited source of income which does not provide him provide ~~him~~ possible opportunity to indulge in luxury and debauchery.

### Spend life at his disposal

⇒ He say that Amir must spend his life according to the income at his disposal and should not abundantly.

## Contribution of Al-Ghazali to Islamic Political Thought:

Al-Ghazali is undoubtedly an outstanding and remarkable political scholar in Islam. His philosophy is an expression of his own personality. He abandoned the attempt to understand this world. But the religion problem he comprehended much more profoundly than did philosophers of his time.

### Conclusion:

In a nutshell, Al-Ghazali was one of the great philosophers from Muslim philosophers. He tells how the Islamic political system can be applied in Muslim countries. Also, he tells the duties of the Amir,

Caliph or Khulifa which is called president of state according to western philosophers. How Islamic state can run he gives his philosophy.