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# RISING ISLAMOPHOBIA AND THE RESPONSIBILITY OF MUSLIM WORLD

## OUTLINE

1) Introduction:

2) Rising wave of islamophobia around world:

2.1) In France

- a) Charlie Hebdo incident
- b) Anti-muslim legislation by Macron

2.2) New Zealand

- a) Mass shooting incident by a man named Tarrant

2.3) America and Canada

- a) Anti-muslim immigration policy by trump
- b) Ontario incident in 2018 in Canada.

3) How muslim world has failed to take responsibility of tackling islamophobia:

3.1) Dyfunctional OTC

3.2) No stern action taken against state sponsored islamophobic incidents.

a) Maroon's comments on Islam

b) Disrespecting muslims under the garb of freedom of expression by western media

3.3) Ties of powerful muslim countries with states wreaking havoc against muslims.

a) Saudi and UAE ties with India

b) Arab-Israel normalisation of ties.

4) What hampers muslim world to take this responsibility of overcoming islamophobia?

4.1) Economic backwardness of muslim countries

a) No muslim state in top five GDPs of world

4.2) Poverty

4.3) Illiteracy and lack of scientific development

a) Impact even needle and thread of west.

1) Muslim disunity  
a) divided into Arabs and non-Arabs

Sectarian conflict between Saudi and Iran has hampered unity among Muslims,  
a) Persian war since 90,

2) Domestic political, economic and social instability in Muslim world.

a) autocratic regimes such as Syria  
b) Middle east tops inter-ethnic terrorism.

3) Following steps can help Muslims take responsibility of tackling Islamophobia.

1) Raising etc to talk less and do more.

2) Role of Muslim writers and scholars.

3) Education, scientific and economic development and poverty alleviation of Muslims.

4) Role of UN and EU

5) Conclusion:

# "RISING WAVE OF ISLAMOPHOBIA AND THE RESPONSIBILITY OF MUSLIM WORLD"

Don't write to capital

Phobia is defined as an illogical, inexplicable and exaggerated fear of something. Recently western societies are gripped with a kind of phobia — Islamophobia. "Suspicion, discrimination and outright violence against Muslims has risen to epidemic levels," says Amnesty International in one of its reports. Amnesty International on the other hand says discrimination against Muslims is touching new highs in West in its report titled "Discrimination against Muslims: The state must react". All this shows that Islamophobia is real and threatening Muslims. Murders, accidents like <sup>dog biting</sup> cartoons made by Charlie Hebdo, Ontario incident in Canada, New Zealand mosque attack incident and many more show how much West is obsessed with Islamophobia. Tackling Islamophobia, on the other hand, is the responsibility of the Muslims. The Muslim world must stand united as an

is on hand to thwart any attack against its religion and beliefs. But what the muslim world is doing? Its muslim world, fulfilling its responsibility of protecting and safeguarding the interest of muslims, and Islam? The answer to these questions, at least presently, is in negative. Muslims world has failed to take this huge responsibility as it has evident from dysfunctionality etc. Also, its silence on incidents of Islamophobia apart from some countries. Moreover, ties with aggressive states who are working hard against muslims. What hampers muslims world to fight Islamophobia aggressively and vehemently. There are a number of reasons responsible for this. Firstly, partly hampers them. Secondly, illiteracy and lack of scientific advancement of muslim world. Thirdly, low GDP growth rate. Fourthly, muslim disunity. Fifthly, sectarian war between Saudi and Iran. Sixthly and lastly, muslim world is embroiled in its political, economic and social issues. All these factors compel western powers to trample upon the needs and rights of muslims. Western powers are not bound to muslims by anything apart from oil and petroleum. If muslims want to contribute in international political arena, protect their interests, defend against western

onclought or islamophobia, they need to follow some pragmatic steps in the right direction. Only then they will be able to take this huge responsibility of protecting muslims against Islamophobia. In short, muslim world has failed to fulfill the responsibility of tackling rising islamophobia, and a number of reasons are responsible for this; However, with some steps in right direction this can help muslim world take on this responsibility and tackle islamophobia.

Islamophobia is touching epidemic levels. Muslims around the world are feeling sense of insecurity. A number of following incidents show rising wave of islamophobia. Firstly, in France islamophobia is increasing with each day. Muslims in France feel aliens. They experience suspicion at the hands of political personalities and local public. For example, recently Emmanuel Macron, President of France, said that Islam was in a crisis, and urged to tackle Islamic Separation in muslim communities in France. He didn't think about hurting the sentiment of around 5% muslim population of France. He even tabled a law in French parliament to put a ban on foreign marriages and homeschooling etc. Moreover, Charlie

Hedbo, founder of a satirical magazine / published some derogatory cartoon of muslim famous personalities. Charlie Hedbo didn't receive criticism from west, but was protected by them under the garb of freedom of expression. In short, a rising wave of islamophobia can be seen in France.

Moreover, incidents of islamophobia in New Zealand are no secret from anyone. Muslims in New Zealand are also frightened and feel insecure. They feel their life under constant monitoring. They are being suspected of terrorism. They have to go through increased security check-ups at important points. This creates a sense of alienation in them. A major incident of Islamophobia in New Zealand happened in 2011. A man named Tarrant entered a mosque and brutally killed muslims sitting there. He went to another mosque and killed a number of muslims there also by opening fire against them. In total he killed a 51 muslims in this shooting. He wanted to go to the third mosque, but in the mosque and inflict as many fatalities as possible. This incident terrorized muslim and still engross fear in the minds of muslims. In short, a

rising tide of islamophobia is there in New Zealand.

Furthermore, America and Canada are considered to be home to islamophobia. Muslims feel that the government in these countries is biased towards Muslims. According to a few research 58% of American Muslims and 49% of Canadian Muslims think that west does not respect Muslim societies. Muslims in Canada and US are not uttering anything unseel. A number of islamophobic incidents buttress their claim. A recent incident in Canada in which a truck driver killed 4 members of a family near a mosque. Two of women, one girl and an adult man perished and a nine year old boy was rescued. Moreover, US is no different. US under Trump was more islamophobic than current Biden administration. A number of anti-Muslim policies were initiated by Trump. For example, anti-Muslim immigration legislation. To cut the long discussion, a wave of islamophobia is there in Canada and United States.

A number of examples show that the muslim world have failed to tackle this responsibility of protecting



murders against islamophobia. Firstly, dysfunctional OIC in terms of tackling islamophobia. OIC plays the politics of rhetoric only and falls short of taking action against countries sponsoring islamophobia. Apart from mere condemnation OIC has ~~not~~ done nothing to alleviate the sufferings of muslims regarding islamophobia. Not just on islamophobic incidents, but also incidents where muslim population is under constant bullying, persecution and discrimination OIC has largely remained silent. Islamophobia is touching new heights in West and around the world: OIC must react to it and take action against it. Dysfunctionality of OIC shows muslims has lost their sense of responsibility of protection and promotion of Islam. In summary, dysfunctionality of OIC shows that muslims around the world are unable to take responsibility of protecting muslims against islamophobia.

In the same way, powerful muslim states have not taken any action against state sponsorship of islamophobia. It is no secret that many western states are sponsoring islamophobia, for example, France and United States. Why muslim leadership is silent on words of Emmanuel

Maroon. Maroon must have been realized that talking ill and taking any action against muslim communities of France will not go unnoticed by muslim world. Apart from mere condemnation condemnations that too by some poor, less developed and small countries like Pakistan and Afghanistan. Why not Saudi Arabia sever ties with France? Why they did not reduce the number of diplomatic missions of France serving in kingdom. No such step was followed. In conclusion, muslim world has ~~de~~ dispossessed itself of this responsibility of protecting muslims as no stern has been taken against state-sponsorship of incidents of islamophobia.

Also, many muslims countries have even increased ties with states notoriously known for committing crimes against muslims. India is depriving innocent Kashmiri muslims of their right to self determination. On the other hand, UAE and Saudi Arabia are forging greatest partnership with New Delhi. Moreover, Israel is committing genocide of palestinian muslims and Arab world is busy normalising ties with Israel. When OIC hit Delhi with criticism regarding its actions in Kashmir on request of Pakistan.

Indian Express, mouthpiece of hinduista regions in India, replied, "New Delhi has hit back at OIC for references to Kashmir. Pakistan has strong voice in OIC. New Delhi has strong bilateral relations with most other members of OIC. This must be a shame for us for being an Ummah. In the end, ties of muslim brotherhood with states committing violence against muslims shows countries have lost responsibility of protecting each other."

A number of factors are responsible for this lack of responsibility of muslim world to tackle islamophobia. Firstly, economic backwardness of muslim countries hamper them from taking action against powerful western states who violate rights of muslims. Around 42% of world economy contributors are two states, China and US. US is busy in anti-muslim legislations and actions whereas China is committing crimes against muslim rights in Xinjiang region of China. No where is any muslim country in top five world largest economies. When we are economically backward, we can take no important action on global political arena. Summarizingly, economic backwardness of muslims hamper them from taking any action against islamophobia.

Secondly, poverty hampers muslim countries efforts against islamophobia. If we look at the world's poor, these alot of muslim countries can be found in the list. Moreover, because of their poverty, they are dependent of western aid and assistance. And because of their dependance on west and west led institutions they can not take any principled stance against them. Most muslim countries like Iraq, Jordan, Egypt and Pakistan are among top 10 recipients of US aid. In these circumstances talking against west becomes an existential threat to them. Summarizingly, poverty is one of the reasons of no action against islamophobia by muslims.

Thirdly, illiteracy and lack of scientific development hamp muslims from taking action against western sponsored Islamophobia. Muslim countries lack scientific innovation and technological development. They import technology and skilled manpower from west. This is especially true for our Arab brothers. They heavily rely on west in terms of skilled manpower and technology. Muslims even can't manufacture steel and thread of their own. They import

almost every essential item from west  
Can anyone think, west will respect  
muslim interest and needs? Of course  
not. To conclude, one of reasons of  
giving up of responsibility to protect  
muslims against islamophobia is depende  
nt on west in terms of technology  
and scientific innovations.

Fourthly, muslim disunity  
hampers muslims to take a united  
stance against islamophobia. Muslims are  
divided into Arabs and non-Arabs, and  
eventually into OIC and Arab League.  
Arabs prefer Arab League in place of OIC. The  
result is that ~~one~~ none is strengthened  
and both have become dysfunctional.  
To take a united stance against  
to islamophobia muslims must first learn  
to be united. Once they become united  
they can deal with any issue be it  
islamophobia or any other. To cut the  
long discussion into short, muslims  
are in a state of disunity themself  
ves in comparison to united west  
which hamper them from taking any  
united and effective actions against  
Islamophobia.

Fifthly, sectarian conflict  
between Shia and Sunni or Saudi  
and Iran has further weakened.

Muslim Communities: Saudi wants to impose its own hegemony on Muslim world. Iran on the other hand wants only its own presence everywhere. In tug of war of both of these countries smaller states have to bear the brunt. Their tug of war have reached Yemen where both are involved in a deadly war. In these circumstances, Muslims are weakened and concept of Ummah has withered away. To summarize, Shia Sunni sectarian conflict of Saudi and Iran stop Muslim leadership to tackle Islamophobia efficiently and effectively.

Lastly, political and economic and social instabilities in Muslim countries have also hampered their action against Islamophobia. Yemen is under political crisis. Many Muslim countries are under autocratic regimes such as in Syria. Also, a number of social issues damage their image in world arena such as Middle East is among world's top 10 global executioners. This week Saudi Arabia executed some 91 prisoners in a single day. Economic vulnerabilities are no secret and have already been discussed. This all have had a huge negative impact on Muslims progress and international image.

Muslim leadership is embroiled in these conflicts and issues at domestic level. They can put their input in international politics once they get rid of domestic agenda. In summary, Economic, social and political issues of Muslims at home waste their potential energies leaving none for global politics.

A number of steps can help muslim realize their responsibility of one Ummah and protection of that Ummah against any kind of aggression be it Islamophobia or anything else. Firstly, Reviving OIC is the first and foremost duty of muslims. Muslims both Arab and non Arab should work towards reviving OIC even at the expense of giving up of their parochial and self interest. OIC need to take the role of protector and guardian of muslim culture, heritage, soul and economic value.

Secondly, muslim writers and scholars should also need to take on some duties. They need to write and publish material that glorifies good things of Islam. Removing mis understanding regarding jihad must be their first motive. Moreover, Islam is considered and women rights in the world.

They also considered as a threat to world peace. This <sup>belief</sup> must be eliminated via publishing and circulation of content and books by writers and scholars. In short, debunking myths regarding Islam by muslim writers can help muslim clear their wrong image and create ground for working to reduce islamophobia.

Thirdly, poverty alleviation, scientific development, ~~and~~ economic wellbeing and literacy improvement must then be prioritised by muslim states. This role must only be taken by leadership of respective muslim countries but muslim institution on the map and pattern of World Bank, IMF and UNO must be created to facilitate state to state fund sharing and program sharing. With coordinated and concerted efforts we can remove poverty, illiteracy and economic backwardness of muslims. Also, women should be centre of policy in these efforts. To end the long discussion in short, muslim education, poverty alleviation and scientific development can help them realize their responsibilities.

Lastly, muslims need to pressurize ~~at~~ EU and UN to take an enhanced role to protect muslim population around the world. In this case



an EU legislation against Islamophobia to curb Islamophobia in west will be very beneficial. Also, pressuring UN to take such kind of step as mentioned above will also do wonders. This is the responsibility of muslim states. This can be ensured through sustained coaxing and cajoling of UN and EU. In short, muslims need to pursue a policy of pressurizing UN and EU to take anti-Islamophobic steps.

In conclusion, a new wave of islamophobia is gripping west and other world. Muslims are terrified. They feel mocked, ridiculed, unsulted and persecuted. Many international organizations have voiced their concern regarding rising tide of islamophobia but to no avail. This is responsibility of none other than muslims to tackle Islamophobia. But the state of affairs of muslims seems that they have lost sense of this responsibility as evident from dyfanchi-onal etc, patronage of state committing crimes against muslims and no action against islamophobia incidents. A number of reasons are however, responsible for this lack of action against islamophobia and this lack of responsibility. Poverty, illiteracy, lack of scientific advancement of muslims, economic backwardness, muslim disunity, Saudi-Iran conflict and domestic instabilities are these reasons.

However, whatever the reasons be, a number of steps in the right direction can ensure and help muslims to realize responsibility of tackling islamophobia. Firstly, revisiting OIC to actually take action rather than do talks. Secondly, role of muslim writers and scholars to debunk myths regarding islam. Secondly, educational development, poverty alleviation, economic development and scientific advancement of muslims can help muslims reemerge and protect their interests. Lastly, persuading UN and EU to take anti-islamophobia actions to protect muslims in non-muslim lands. The day will soon come when the above mentioned steps will be realized out and out. The future of muslims where there is no bullying, harassment or discrimination will one day come. However, as Abraham Lincoln has said, "the best way to create future is to work towards it." In the same, muslims need to work towards it.