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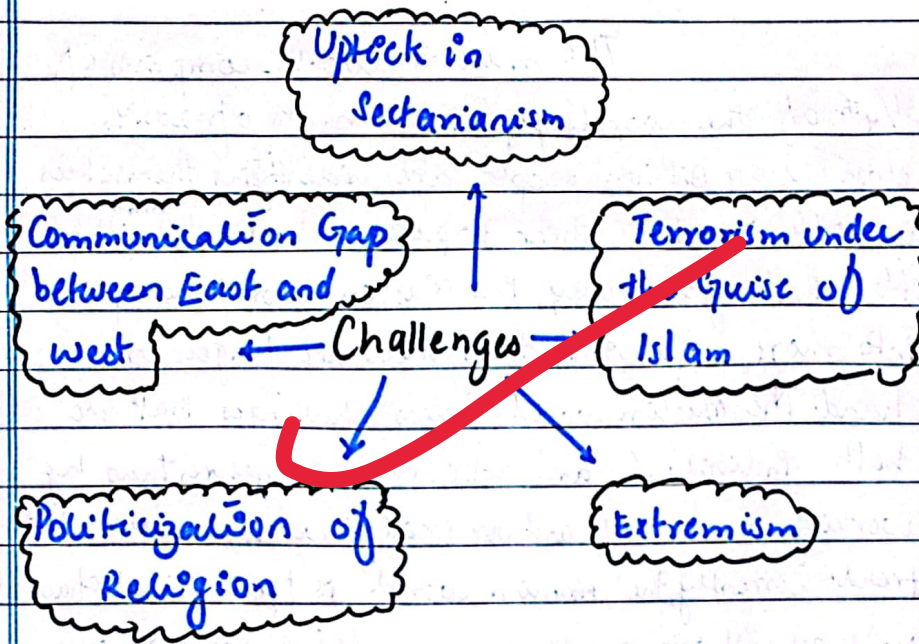
What are the contemporary challenges of Muslim world? Suggest its solution in the light of Quran and Sunnah?

INTRODUCTION

The muslim world comprises of $\frac{1}{4}$ th of the world's population. As of 2024, close 2.04 Billion people are identifying themselves as Muslims. This sheer populace does not ^{come} without its challenges. Today, the Muslim world has split into more factions than there are fingers on a hand. The Muslim world faces challenges that are both individual and collective in nature, thus by working on ourself and our society we can reverse this trend. Currently, the Muslim world is facing multifaceted problems which range from countering sectarianism, the misuse of religion by Islamic fundamentalist terror groups, extremism that has taken the pulpit hostages, a huge communication gap between the East and West to the phenomena of politicization of the Islamic religion. These challenges require first of unifying all muslims under one banner of the multi-lateral organizations such as the Muslim World League and Organisation of Islamic Countries, actively combatting extremism, and other measures that could improve the current situation.

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CONTEMPORARY CHALLENGES TO THE MUSLIM WORLD



Uptick in Sectarian Violence

Over the course of sectarian hate has spread throughout the Muslim world. With many followers taking up arms against members of other sects. This division is a case of intolerance sowed by the society. The pulpit has failed to spread the message of compassion and tolerance in society leading to those who spread negativity to gather a mass followers. One should not go far from our own country to see

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the effects of sectarian violence. Recent sectarian clashes in Korram have led to 130 deaths.

Terrorism Under the Banner of Islam

Islam is a religion whose basic premise is spreading the message of compassion and peace and harmony. Islam itself is derived from the root word (Salm) which means 'entering into peace'. A religion which advocates for peace, ^{can} ~~which~~ never promote hatred or violence. However, misguided and evil personalities have twisted and turned Islam to fit their ideals of fundamentalism and extremism. Groups such as ISIS (Islamic State or Daesh) or Al-Qaeda preach an Islam that is totally different from the Prophet's one. They have weaponised the religion and have narrowed it so that it could fit into their perspective.

Communication Gap has widened ^{between} the East & West

Islam is a religion that preaches tolerance; however the West purportedly thinks that this a religion of fundamentalists or terrorists. The Muslim diaspora haven't done much to reverse this perception. The

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perception of Muslims being 'alien' or different should never exist at all in the first place. However, it does and the west takes full advantage of it by labelling all Muslims as such and blames the Muslim Ummah for the actions of a small misguided group. This gap in clearing the Muslim position has hurt Muslim standing and due to this has earned them a bad reputation.

Add and highlight references against these arguments

Politicization of Religion for Petty Gains

In this era of clicks and views, every single political leader claims to be the defender of the honor of Muslims; at the same time, their character might be questionable. In developing countries, populism has taken a hold of politics and to appease every religious segment politicians are going out of their way to use Islam and its teachings for their political and worldly gain. Thus bringing unwarranted questions and tarnishing the name of Islam and its teachings.

Add more arguments in this part

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SOLUTIONS IN LIGHT OF QURAN AND SUNNAH

Uniting Muslims through Multi-Lateral Organisations

The first step in reversing this ^{downward} trend is unifying the major leaders of all sects under the banner of the OIC and MuK. Through these, they should preach the loud and clear message

"And I firmly ^{hold} together to the rope of Allah and do not be divided. Remember Allah's favour upon you when you were enemies and then He united your hearts, so you - by His Grace - became brothers."

(Quran)

By preaching this message, Muslims can realise that fighting among one another is of no use and the true victors will be those who obediently follow Allah's command and live in harmony and peace.

Countering Terrorism with a Iron Fist

Muslims must combine together and tackle head-on

Try to add the Arabic of quranic ayats

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those who use the name of Islam for terrorism.
It is in the Quran itself

cc Who ever takes a life - unless as a
punishment for murder or mischief
in the land - it will be as if they
have killed all of humanity

(Quran)

How can the Muslim world allow the indiscriminate
killing of innocent in Islam's name. Even the
Holy Prophet has prohibited these activities in
the time of war when harm civilian
populations, crops and infrastructure. Under the
banner of the IMCTC (Islamic Military Counter
Terrorism Coalition) terrorism must be rooted out.

Using Multi-lateral Forums to Preach Moderation

Islam is a religion that prohibits extremism.
Instead it advocates a balance approach to life.
In any sphere of life, it preaches for moderation.
As the Holy Quran says about the Muslim Ummah

'And so We have made you 'believers' into an
upright (moderate) community so that you may

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be witnesses over humanity.?"

(Quran)

The Quran on multiple accounts verifies that the Muslim Ummah is a moderate nation whether it comes to spending or any other activity. It is high time this is reiterated from the pulpit.

Bridging the Gap by preaching the values and teachings of Islam

In order to bridge the gap between the perception created by the west about Muslims and Islam, Muslims should follow the Sunnah of the Holy Prophet that is to lead by example. The Holy Prophet won the hearts and minds of his followers by his exemplary conduct and character. Any new action, he would practice himself then preach to his followers.

"The Holy Prophet warned of the man who will be cast into Hell because although he enjoined in telling others to do good; he did not do it himself, he forbid others to do evil while he was doing it himself."
(Hadith)

By following this, hadith, Muslims can showcase

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the beauty and openness of Islam and really change the perceptions of the Western mind regarding Islam.

Add more arguments

CONCLUSION

Islam is a beautiful religion and what it preaches is moderation, love for one another, peace and compassion. However, due to the disunity of the Muslim world these lessons have been lost to time. The Muslim world faces challenges more from within than from outside. Extremists have taken positions and are preaching a narrative that goes contravene to Islam. Only by truly following the Sunnah and Quran can we make sure this cycle is reversed.

A 20 marks answer should have around 15 subheadings

Improve the references and the paper presentation part