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Q "The Last Sermon of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) is the basic document for awakening of conscious of mankind for human rights". Discuss.

## 1) Introduction

The Last Sermon of the Holy Prophet (PBUH), delivered during his farewell pilgrimage in 632 CE, is widely regarded as foundational text for human rights. This address encapsulates the core principles of equality, justice, and respect for human dignity. Its timeless message resonates with universal values, offering profound guidance for the moral and ethical treatment of all individuals. Indeed, this Sermon stands as a pivotal document in awakening the global consciousness to the importance of human rights.

2) How the Last Sermon of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) is the basic document for awakening of conscious of mankind for human rights

2a) It gave the message of equality and brotherhood which underpins modern concept of equality and non-discrimination



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The last sermon of the Prophet (PBUH) gave the message of equality and brotherhood, which forms the foundation of modern concepts of equality and non-discrimination. In his sermon, Muhammad (PBUH) declared that all humans are equal regardless of race, colour, or social status, stating, "All mankind is from Adam and Eve. An Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab, nor does a non-Arab have any superiority over an Arab; a white has no superiority over a black, nor a black have any superiority over a white; <sup>Black</sup> none have superiority over one another except piety and good action." This principle resonates deeply with contemporary movements against racism and discrimination, such as the Civil Rights movement in the US, and Anti-Apartheid in South Africa.


2b, It calls for the fair treatment of women which inspired various movements advocating for women's rights.

The Last Sermon of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) called for the fair treatment of women. He stated, "O People, it is true that you have certain rights




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with regards to your women, but they also have rights over you". This directive has inspired numerous movements advocating for women's rights. For example, International Women's Rights Action Watch (IWRRAW) and All Pakistan Women's Association (APWA). This demonstrates how the Prophet (PBUH)  for gender justice in his last sermon continues to inspire efforts towards achieving women's rights.

2c) The Sermon stresses the sanctity of life and property, which aligns with modern legal frameworks.

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said in his last sermon, "O people, as just as you regard this month, this day, this city as sacred, so regard the life and property of every Muslim as sacred trust." This principle aligns closely with modern legal frameworks that prioritize the protection of individual right to life and property. For example, Universal Declaration of Human Rights upholds the  right to life, liberty and security of person, as well as the

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The right to own property and Article 8 to 28 of the constitution of Pakistan guarantees fundamental human rights.

2d) The Sermon calls for the universal brotherhood and its inclusive message promotes tolerance and peaceful co-existence

The last Sermon emphasizes the message of peaceful co-existence as he (BUH) calls for equality. For example, countries like Canada, Singapore, and UAE incorporate this principle of co-existence. These examples demonstrate how the Sermon's message of equality continues to inspire efforts towards creating an inclusive society.

### 3 Legacy

Universal Declaration of Human Rights incorporates values expressed in the last Sermon, such as equality, dignity and justice



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- According to Ann Elizabeth in her book "Islam and Human Rights, Islamic principles, including those from the last sermon, are compatible with modern human rights frameworks.

- Organizations promoting interfaith dialogue and cooperation draw on the inclusive message of the sermon to foster peace and understanding.

Short answer, add more arguments

## 5 Conclusion

Indeed, the last sermon of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) awakened the conscience of mankind for human rights. It <sup>has</sup> enduring relevance and profound contemporary implications. Its principles of equality, justice, and dignity continue to inspire and shape modern discourses on human rights. Therefore, by integrating these timeless values into contemporary practices and policies, societies can work towards a more just, equitable and compassionate world.

A 20 marks answer should have around 15 arguments and be on 7-9 pages