

Question:

Highlight the responsibilities of civil servant in Islam?

Pg No.

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### A INTRODUCTION :

In public administration all the key public functionaries ought to be people of high caliber, just, energetic and must possess high qualities of head and heart.

In the words of caliph Ali (RA) they should have the qualities of refinement, experience, alertness, insight, serenity, freedom from greed and lust. A civil servant in Islam is a publically responsible person. He has been entrusted with great responsibilities. Hazrat Abu Bakar (RA) when assumed the caliphate is reported to have said :

"In my sight, the powerful and the weak are alike and to both I wish to render justice".

This shows the democratic, responsible, justice-centered, based on rules and law nature of public administration and its functionaries in Islam.

### B QURANIC INJUNCTIONS REGARDING RESPONSIBILITIES OF CIVIL SERVANT :

#### i Quran declares :

"Those who should use established them in the land, will keep up prayer and pay the poor-rate and enjoin good and forbid evil".

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- ii Quran further says :  
 "Oh you who believe stand up as a witness for Allah in all fairness, and do not let the hatred of people deviate you from justice. Be just, this is closest to piety".

### C RESPONSIBILITIES OF CIVIL SERVANT :

The responsibilities of civil servant are given below :

#### i TO UPHOLD ISLAMIC SHARIAH :

The first duty is to uphold the Islamic Shariah. If anyone makes innovation or become skeptic in religious matters, the Imam should try to correct them.

#### ii TO DISPENCE JUSTICE :

He must dispence justice and settle the cases in accordance with the Shariah. He should thus curb the strong and encourage the weak to seek his due right.

#### iii TO MAINTAIN LAW AND ORDER :

He must maintain law and order in the country, so as to encourage economic activities and enable people to travel freely in the land without fear.

#### iv TO ENFORCE CRIMINAL CODE OF ISLAMIC LAW :

He should enforce the criminal code of Quran, so that the people might live within the hudud of Allah.

## V TO COLLECT ZAKAT AND OTHER TAXES :

The civil servant must collect zakat and other taxes without any fail as this is essential for financial aspect of good governance.

## VI TO ESTABLISHED AND MAINTAIN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION :

The Imam should keep himself informed of the affair of his state and he should himself direct the national policy and protect the interest of the people.

## VII TO ENJOIN GOOD AND FORBID EVIL :

The civil servant must advise people about to do good thing and forbid bad things.

## D RESPONSIBILITIES OF CIVIL SERVANT ACCORDING TO CALIPH UMAR :

A civil servant has to entertain the complaints of people and his door should be open to all. This is the principle which form a constant current in Islamic system of administration. The system is humane and in nature. When caliph Umar (R.A) appointed as a governor, he would invariably advise the incumbent "Not to make reception hall so that you are accessible to everyone; not to eat refined blood as it is not available to all citizens of the Ummah, not to wear thin cloth because this would make you easy going and not to ride a turkish horse because this would make you haughty".

## E RESPONSIBILITIES OF CIVIL SERVANT ACCORDING TO CALIPH ALI :

According to Caliph Ali (R.A) the responsibilities of an administrator are as under.

- i He should be an ideal for his staff and fellow citizens and choose the most qualified, honest, truthful and God fearing man.
- ii He should be impartial and dispense justice with equity and should be very careful about the back biters, corrupt and scandal mongers. He should constantly remain in contact with his staff and consult them and should not issue authoritative orders.
- iii He should strike against corruption, injustice and abuse of authority against citizens and take responsibility for any defect in his staff.
- iv ~~He~~ They should love their fellow citizen as they love ~~themselves~~ themselves and their families and not behave like absolute ruler.

## F CONCLUSION :

We conclude the subject discussion with the sermon of Caliph Umer (R.A) :

"By God, he that is weakest among you, should be in my sight the strongest until I have vindicated for him his right: but him that is strongest which I treat as the weakest, until he complies with the law".