

Contemporary challenges of muslim ummah and their solution in the light of Sunnah?

Introduction:-

Muslims, the great scientists and inventors, the great architects of eras, once ruled empires with justice, wisdom and shaped world through unmatched advancement in different field of life. Muslim have left a great legacy in different areas, including science, medicine, culture, Governance, architecture, literature and much more.

But with swift changes ^{in the} ~~the~~ world, muslim have lost their glory with multiple factors.

We muslim are facing severe challenges that may vary in nature but leave a big black spot on muslim for a long time.

Whereas problems didn't emerge overnight, the problem persisted during the time of Prophet (PBUH) and during the time of Caliphate. Throughout the journey of 1400 years, each generation faced different challenges over the time.

Muslim can re-gain their legacy, glory by following the Sunnah and ~~guard~~ guidance of Quran. This can help muslim to pull themselves from hot water and pave the way toward bright success.

Some of Challenges which muslim ummah faced

are

- Fall of unity (Disunity among muslim)
- Rapid rise of extremism and terrorism
- Lagging behind in education.
- Weak economy of muslim world
- Influence of the West

Unity cannot occur if muslim remain isolated and distant from each other in separate groupings, or if little or no effort is put into changing this situation.

Challenges for Muslim

• Fall of Unity:

The one of most serious challenge faced by muslim world ummah is fall of unity among them. Islam order muslims to stay unite in every aspect of life and established brotherhood among yourself and equitily.

Allah Almighty say in Quran Surah Al-Imran (3:103),

"And hold firmly to the rope of Allah all together and do not become divided. And remember the favor of Allah upon you. When you were enemies and He brought your heart together and you became, his favor, brothers. And you were on the edges of a pit of the fire, and He saved you from it. Thus does Allah

make ^{clear} to you his verses that you may be guided."

If muslim countries are united and start to help each other economically, culture wise or security wise so it would not require any sort of assistance from their western clients. Whereas common language bring unity among each other but close to 25 muslim countries located in North Africa, Arabian peninsula and Middle east, with common Arabic language didn't bring them closer to each other.

Muslim controls main gateways of the world's trade and commerce like Straits of Gibraltar, Malacca, Suez Canals and others. They produce more than 2-third of world's oil. Muslim countries like Saudi Arabia and Iran are rich in energy resources. Turkey and Malaysia with advance technology, Pakistan with nuclear weapons and well professional military.

These country need to unite together help each other in developing, transforming technology, exporting energy and getting military training.

Muslim countries are not divided only but fight among muslim country has bring tension and higher temperature among Saudi Arabia and Iran make status of muslim world more weaker.

Muslim can rule the world if they are banded together. But hate among muslim has increased to that level that some Muslim countries proudly declared another muslim as infidel causing disintegration of the Ummah.

Prophet PBUH in his last sermon said "An Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab nor a non-Arab has any superiority over an Arab. Also white has ~~no~~ no superiority over black, nor a black has any superiority over a white except by piety and good action."

• Rapid Rise of Extremism & Terrorism:

Most western nation view muslims as terrorists, extremists and violent people. Many people wrongly associate the action of a small minority of violent extremists. They ignore the muslim ummah is a peace loving people and the advocate for peace and coexistence.

Whereas poor governance of muslim countries and their failure to prevent the spread of radical material in their educational insitution caused rise of extremism in Muslim

The slogan of Terrorism and extremism about Muslim get attention after 9/11 attack in ~~muslim~~ USA, the West equated all muslim with terrorists who spread Violence, Whereas the ^{reality} ~~int~~ majority of Muslim condemned the attack and stood with the America.

The master mind of this attack as per USA is Osama bin Laden a University graduate holding degree of Economics and Business administration at King Abdul Aziz University in Jeddah.

Such misconception of terrorism and extremism linked to muslim is a great challenge to the growth of muslims.

Lagging behind in Education:

One of biggest challenge of Contemporary for muslim Ummah today is Lagging behind in education. Late Former PM Benazir Bhutto has written in her book, Reconciliation: Islam Democracy and the West. "Islam's first generations produced knowledge and wealth that empowered Muslim to rule much of the world. But now almost half the world's muslim are illiterate.

The 15 million citizens of tiny Greece

buy more books annually than do all Arabs put together."

She further writes, "It is notable that 57 member countries of OIC have approximately 500 Universities, compared to 5000 Universities in USA and 8000 Universities in India."

It is very concerning that Dubai spent money in the construction of world tallest building. Where as Saudi Arabia on other hand has decided world ~~highest~~ largest ~~for~~ shopping mall and an artificial city. But both countries never tried to establish world largest University or research center as per Islamic tradition.

Well for love Mughals were busy in construction of Taj Mahal, Europe was busy in construction of Cambridge and Oxford University. Still we have time to rise again with more power of education to uplift the status of education and Muslim.

Weak economy of Muslim World:-

Most of muslim countries are economically weak. The total world's trade of OIC countries is less than a single country like China.

Where as the combine GDP of OIC country is less than the total GDP of USA.

Arab countries are rich because of their oil revenue. For example KSA five-year budget from 1969-1974 was \$9.2 billion. During next five year it became \$142 billion. It is because of rise in oil price after 1973 oil crises.

OIC countries work together and help each other, they could improve their economic status.

Influence of west :-

The growing influence of west on muslim countries challenge the glory of muslim countries.

The difference between west and muslim societies have raised concerns regarding right and wrong, as west ~~view~~ views muslim as backward and inferior people with no

modern education and technology.

Turks under Mustafa Kemal Atatürk underwent significant westernization in the early 20 century, including the adoption of a secular legal system, replacing Islamic law (Sharia) in many areas of governance.

This changes of muslim world undergone and owing the influence of western culture.

Solution in Light of Sunnah

• **Uniting Hearts of the Believers:-**

Muslim should firmly adhere to the principles of Allah in the Quran and Sunnah in order to strengthen themselves as the United Muslim Ummah.

Once muslims achieve unity among themselves, this would ultimately strengthen political and economic alliances between muslim countries.

Allah in ^{the} Quran Surah Al-Imran 3:103 says
And hold firmly to the rope of Allah all

together and do not become divided."

Allah in the Quran's & Al-Anfal 8:63 says.

"Also highlight the divine role in uniting hearts and fostering love among believers.

According to Sahih Bukhari

Prophet PBUH says, "All the Muslim blood is of equal value, and all the Muslim are like one hand against others, and the lowest of rank among them moves around freely under their protection."

The verses of Quran and hadith of Prophet PBUH illustrates the importance of avoiding divisions among muslim that would ultimately end sectarianism that has deteriorated the social fabric of Muslim society.

• Promoting Peaceful Living

Promoting the peaceful message of Islam through education and exemplary conduct to eliminate the misconception of terrorism and extremism. Highlighting the true essence of Islam as it is deeply rooted in peace, justice and love.

According to Sahih Bulhari Prophet PBUH says, "The best among you and those who have the best manners and character".

In Allah in the Quran's Surah Al-Khijrat:10 says,

"The believers are but brothers, so make reconciliation between your brother. And fear Allah that ~~you~~ you may receive mercy.

These teaching and engaging in educational initiatives that accurately convey the message Islam is a peace loving religion and discourage the violence.

• Reviving and Enriching Islamic ~~Environment~~ Tradition.

Reviving and enriching Islamic tradition is crucial in preserving the rich heritage of Muslim for the world to see.

To keep the rich global history alive in order to decrease western influence on Muslim society.

Muslim have made significant contribution to arts, science and culture.

For example: Ibn Sina commonly known as

West as Avicenna was a philosopher
and physician of the Muslim world.

He was a seminal figure of the Islamic
Golden Age. He was influential to medieval
European medical and scholastic thought.

• Strengthening the foundation of OIC

Muslim countries need to strengthen the foundation of OIC. Bring new and strict reforms that would give muslim a platform to address the issue they face. Align all muslim countries on one agenda like E.U. OIC need to work on stronger mechanism for conflict issue and resolution, humanitarian aid and political advocacy.

On going issue of Israel and Gaza can be solved if OIC take strict action. like boycott trade and measure for muslim country to not do any foreign policy till issue of Gaza not solved. Reforming in OIC can help muslim.

Critical Analysis:-

"Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much." Helen Keller.

It time to be one again if not we will be fallen to that level where getting back to same position will take decades. Muslim who were once glorious and most powerful, now we are ~~sur~~ surrounded by challenges.

Muslim countries are divided due to their own vested interest and fragmented at the multiple level. The challenges are the part of success but not encountering it is the part of weak state.

All Muslim countries leader need to preach and follow the true message of Islam and stay united. If not these forces will try to crumble Muslim.

Divided we fall, United we stand.

Aesop.

Conclusion:

Quran give us all the guidlines of how to over come tough time, it is important for Muslim Ummah to rectify issue and follow the sunnah of Prophet PBUH.

This is only possible for us by staying united, faith and the core principles of Islam that ummah be able to rise above these difficult time and work together in a peaceful, progressive and united manner.