

WHAT ARE THE CONTEMPORARY CHALLENGES OF MUSLIM WORLD

SUGGEST ITS SOLUTION ON LIGHT OF QURAN & SUNNAH

1) INTRODUCTION:-

Before 1417 years ago, an Arabic person, the last Prophet Muhammad PBUH, spread the divine message of Allah that gave birth to a new community called Muslim. The divine message, Islam, means bring peace or submit to Allah in peace. It is a complete code of life. Under Islam, many prominent personalities, intellectuals, scientists and others came and they spread Islam all over the world. Today, there are fifty seven Muslim sovereign states, and their population is almost one fifth of the total world population. However, these states are very important and have natural resources. Unfortunately, Muslim community is facing numerous internal and external challenges. The internal challenges that arise among the community are very insidious rather than external challenges. For the unity of the Muslims, such challenges require serious attention to mitigate these disparities.

2) INTERNAL ISSUES:-

At this time, Muslims are facing many internal challenges among themselves that have

untowards consequences are given below

1. DIVISION WITH MUSLIM UMMAH

Muslims are divided themselves by differences in practices and interpretations that leads to sectarian tens. The community majorly divide into two sects, Shis and Sunni. The Sunni majority countries are Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Oman and others while the Shis majority countries are Iran, Libya, Yemen and so on. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has conflicted with Huti - Shis dominant group in Yemen. The same sectarian conflicts are also at peak in many muslim countries like Pakistan, Libya, Syria etc. This sectarian division has made ~~active~~ adverse role among ^{the} muslims.

2. LACK OF UNITY:-

The Ummah has also another challenge of that vacuum of strong leader who represents whole Community, and address common & issues collectively. Every state has its own national and regional interests. It leads to ~~limited~~ cooperation and communication among ^{the} muslim majority countries. For instance, the Palestine issue has become long-standing conflict, underscoring lack of unity among ^{the} muslim countries.

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So, this lack of unity has undermined the Muslim's collective strength to address their challenges and pursue their meaningful goals.

3. LACK OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND DIGITAL SKILLS

The lack of technical education and digital skills has weakened the development among the Muslim countries. This gap of digital expertise has limited the abilities of innovation and adoption to new technologies opportunities in the digital era. The countries like Bangladesh, Pakistan and so on have vast capabilities in the technical industry, but lack of digital skillful workforce has left behind among developed countries like USA, France and India. They rely on these countries. A report by Islamic Development Bank highlights the requirement to invest in technical education and digital skills trainings for the Muslim nations to stay competitive in the global economy and address the challenges of the 21st century. Therefore, the technical education and digital skills is very important for the development and progress of Ummah.

W. 4. MISMANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Despite having natural resources, many muslim countries struggle to utilize these resources which cause Corruption, misappropriation and hindrance in the development. For example Sudan is rich in the Hydro-carbon resources but internal conflicts and poor management have left countries amongst the poorest countries of the world. According to "Paradox of Plenty" theory that natural resource wealth can be curse rather than bless, if it does not utilize well. Therefore, this mismanagement of natural resources is a significant challenge for the progress of countries.

5. THE RISE OF UNBRIDLED MATERIALISM

The Rise of unbridled materialism has increased in the Muslims. The lust of materialism has declined the moral characteristics. The Muslims are giving priority to accumulate more wealth that leads to societal disequality; the poor are dying while the rich are busy to collect and earn more money. Once, Jamal ud din Al-Afghani said that the Muslim have lost their courage, their ambition asleep, their heart dying, but the only thing that prevalent among them is the lust and indulgence. Hence, the moral

- degeneration of Muslim has backed their development, and made society disintegration.

iii. EXTERNAL CHALLENGES

The external threads for the Muslims are originate from Western hypocrisy that arises from surrounding environment Muslims and their brotherhood relationship.

1. ISLAMOPHOBIA

Islamophobia is one of the serious external threads for the Muslim individually as well as socially. It diffuses from anti-muslim prejudice, social stereotypes and discrimination by the media. Muslims are individually victimizing in the society, workplaces, and public spaces. Islamophobia extends the violation of the Muslim's pious places, Mosques, and Islamic teaching centres. As the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) notes that Islamophobia is a form of a racism, xenophobia and intolerance that hurts not only the muslim but also society as whole. Hence, Islamophobia unleashes Muslim's social erosion.

use marker for references.

2. WESTERN CULTURE INFLUENCE

The influence of Western civilization has potential threat to the Muslim community.

eroding ^{Islamic} spiritual and traditional values. The Western culture has always challenges the traditional values and norms, forcing or attracting Muslim for adoption. For example, Individualism, Secularism, materialism in the west can decline in a Muslim's spiritual values and communal cohesion among them. The Swiss Muslim Philosopher Tariq Ramadan has said that "the challenges for Muslims is to engage with Western modernity while preserving their Islamic identity and values." Therefore, the Muslims requires to make balance between these two civilization, creating as they can take benefits from Western civilization and conserve their culture heritage.

3. THE PERILS OF FOREIGN INTERVENTION

The Peril of foreign meddling is an external threat that challenges the sovereignty and stability of the Muslim states. The Geo-Political and geoeconomics interests have led destabilities in many Muslim countries. The history is full of many external interference of USA in the Muslim states like Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan etc. caused conflicts, instability, and suffering for local populations. The more foreign intervene, the more local suffers, can lead to deeper-seated grievances. Hence, foreign interferences has hurt the Muslim countries' stability, and which requires Muslims unity and self-reliance to protect their sovereignty.

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4. GLOBALIZATION:-

Globalization means world without borders or global village is another threat to Muslim community. It's manifestation is only beneficial for the West only. The vast natural resources extracted from Muslim countries but, these invest do not utilize to their own development. Resultantly, West become beneficiary and while Muslim countries destabilize and become poor. The Globalization is two-edged sword while it can boost economy, technical advancement and culture exchange, simultaneously, it leads to inequality, exploitation and cultural homogenous.

5. BRAIN DRAIN

Brain drain phenomenon in the Muslim countries is going unsolved issue that requires serious issue. It is concept of migration of intellectuals, skilled person, experts and professionals from Muslim countries to developed countries i.e. USA, UK etc. The Muslim countries have failed to utilize their talent that is being waste in the country or emigrate to industrialized countries. Munir As Hassan Nayfeh, a Palestinian-American physicist write in his article that the fifty-seven countries of

Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) have failed to stop brain drain by tackling root causes. Therefore, the Muslim countries requires effective strategies for retaining talent for their progress and development.

SOLUTIONS FOR THE CONTEMPORARY CHALLENGES OF MUSLIM UMMAH.

Islam is a complete code of life. It emphasizes to live in peace. Currently Muslim are divided because they are not interpreting the real teaching and of Quran and Sunnah. It requires to live their lives according to the teaching of Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H).

1. PROMOTE UNITY AND INTERFAITH

DIALOGUES:-

Muslim should encourage to promote interfaith dialogues for unity. They must mitigate their interpreted differences and emphasizes on common shared values. They should learn from the life of Prophet and the Quran that has sent by Allah for the guidance of its believers. As Allah says in Quran, stressing on unity.

وَأَصْلَابًا جَمْعًا وَلَا تَفَرَّقُوا فِيهَا (القصص)

And hold firmly together to the rope of Allah and do not be divided.

This verse emphasizes on the unity and prohibits from division. Hence, it is necessary to build platforms for inclusive dialogues among sects to build understanding and bridge gaps.

2. Effective Political LEADERSHIP

The Muslim needs capable and vigorous leadership that can recognize and respect the different diversity of Muslim Community. The Khulafa-e-Rashideen who followed the footsteps of Prophet P.B.U.H are the examples of capable leadership. They promoted justice, transparency, and rule of law, irrespective of their faith. As Hazrat Ali, the third Caliph, said,

"A nation with disbelief may survive, but a nation with injustice cannot."

Therefore, it is necessary to deal with justice among the community by the strong leadership that promote social cohesion and communal harmony among the Ummah.

3. STRENGTHEN MUSLIM WORLD ECONOMIES

The economics issues ^{are} faced by the

Ummah needs strategic solutions. Beyond the diversifying economies, reliance on natural resources and promoting enterprises are the suitable for sustainable growth. There must prioritize infrastructure, Combat Corruption and follows the Islamic financial system which is taught by Prophet to attract foreign investors. All muslim countries must establish a centralized Treasury to address economic needs of developing Muslim countries.

4. PROTECT MUSLIM SOVEREIGNTY

Tackling the foreign intervention, Muslim countries must combat their internal security issues, strengthen intelligence capabilities. There must be collaborative initiatives between Muslim nations, to share mutually intelligence and resources, to create united front force to destabilize the intervention. There should be promotion of self-sufficient and equitable trade relationship and reduce dependancy on external factors. By this nation can collective resist the external threats as well as develop social cohesion coherence.

5. DIGITAL EMPOWERMENT FOR MUSLIM

Muslims must invest in the

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education, research and infrastructure. They must foster digital literacy programs inclusively to empower society. By enhancing technology, the muslim can compete global landscape and preserving cultural integrity. By using digital technology, muslim countries not only interconnected the world but also counter the misinformation and anti-muslims' prejudice which flashes the Islamophobia. Therefore, recognizing this digital world can help Muslim to address disparity.

CONCLUSION

Muslim globally faces multifaceted challenges both internally as well as externally that require serious demand. Internal challenges are more complex than external issues which are discern Western lobby pose threats muslims integration. The internal issues are subtle due to spiritual vacuum. Muslims should reinterpret the teaching of Islam as a single communities irrespective of their diverse culture. By eliminating internal challenges, the muslim arise in the world by balanced relation with countries.