

Assignment No. 2

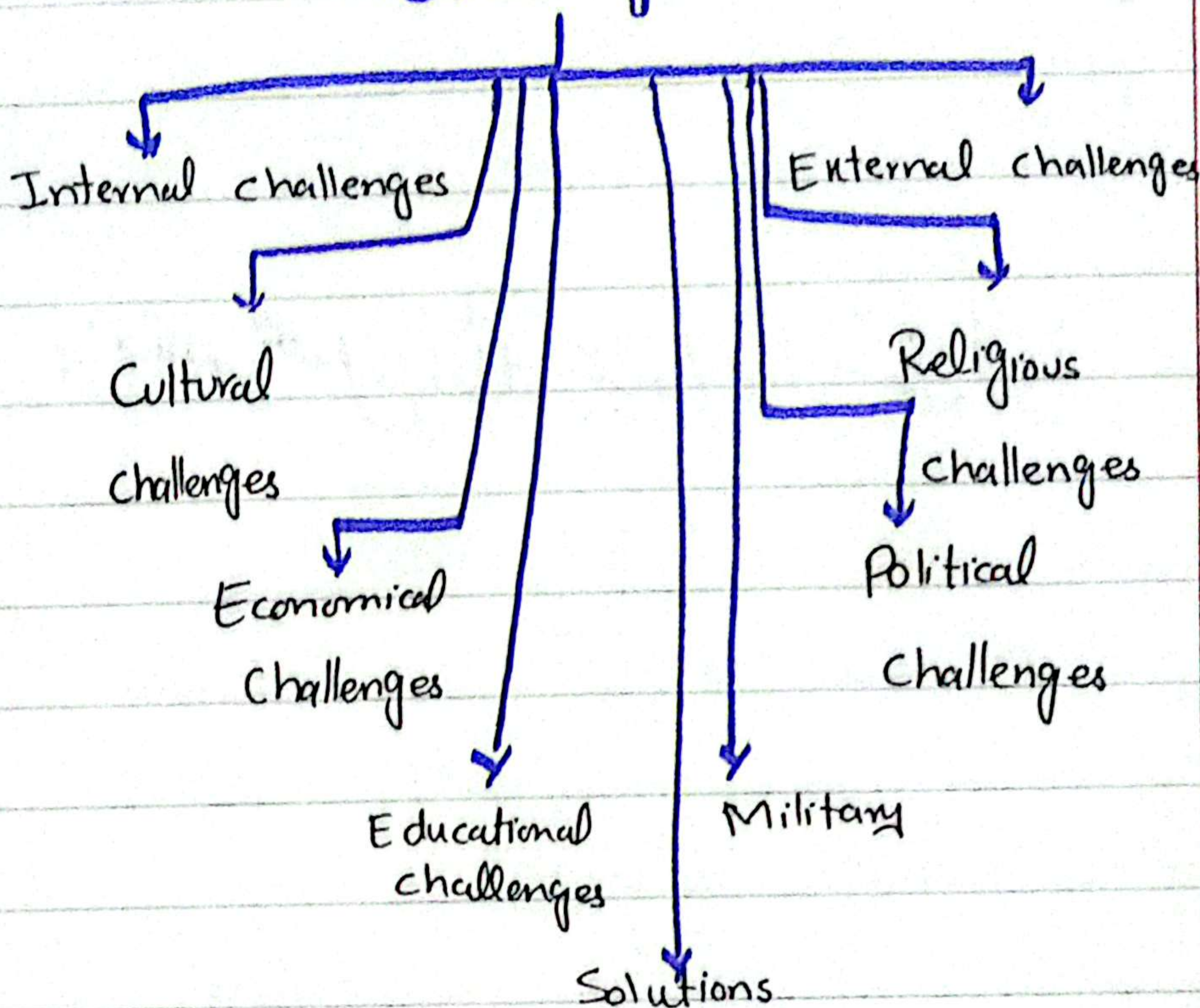
Q Contemporary challenges of Muslim Ummah and their solutions according to the teachings of Islam?

Ans 1 Introduction:

As the world changes, challenges for Muslim Ummah are also getting difficult. Muslim Ummah is facing various challenges such as internal, external, cultural, educational as well as religious, economical and political. With the advancement in globalisation it is also a threat for Muslim Ummah whereas it proved to be beneficial but to a little extent. A wave of cultural exchange and polarisation of Islamic world put the Muslim Ummah in danger. Lack of spirit of jihad in muslims ^{is} are also a reason of insecurity and love of this worldly life.

Now the Muslim Ummah is facing multiple challenges which are as follows:

Contemporary Challenges



2. Internal challenges:

(a) Political instability and disunity:

Today, most of the Islamic states are indulged with perpetual instability among the masses as well as the political dignities. There seems to be disunity among the politics inside the Muslim countries. Some want Shariah enforced and some want democracy.

There seems to be less cordial and harmonic ties between the Muslims and their brethren as they have different desires. For the sake of power in politics parties are blaming each other and igniting abhorring feelings in innocent public. It ^{and divide them in parties} seems the Muslim Ummah forgets Allah's Command:

واعتصموا بحبل الله جميعا ولا تفرقوا

"Hold firmly to the rope of Allah and do not become divided."

(Al-Quran 3: 103)

(b) Poor resource management and absence of resource exploration:

As in the past, the Muslim countries have been endowed with so much resources that they do not know what to do with them. The Muslims do have resources, but have no idea how to manage them. Now their resources are being exploited by the major multinational companies (MNCs) who have the management skills and the technologies to manage them. Due to poor management

of the resources, there is also absence of resource exploration. Many of the Muslim countries have been blessed by indigenous resources yet they lack the technology and the desire to exploit^{re} these resources for their own use.

c) Rise of extremist tendencies:

Today, perhaps more than any time in the history of Islam, the word fundamentalism is ascribed with the fanatics and extremists of the world. The rise of Islamic fundamentalism has seen people emerging from the Muslim countries that have interpreted Islam in a whole new different manner and are spreading hatred among the masses. This has also led to the creation of the notorious groups namely the TTP, and the ISIS.

d) Sectarianism:

The rise of sectarianism, a threat is seen even more dangerous by many scholars compared to the threat of terrorism. It is enough to sink a whole nation into a whirlpool of catastrophe. This has

led to the disunity among the Muslims states where two countries, Saudi Arabia and Iran, are seen fighting Proxy^{ways} over it.

Ⓔ Increasing materialism and moral decline:

Islam urges its followers to keep balance between the mundane life and spiritual life. Now Muslims have diverted from Islamic teachings and are busy in elevating their pockets with stash of money and they are desiring to live a lavish and luxury life portrayed by the West. Today's Muslim masses is the annihilation of the moral values once the Muslims in the golden Islamic era had. Now Muslims have suppressed all kinds of rights i.e rights of neighbors, parents, and many other, and forgot that ~~this~~ this worldly life is temporary. As it is stated in Quran:

انما الحيزة الدنيا لعب ولهو

"Indeed, the life of this world is but play and amusement."

f. Persecution of women:

The Prophet (PBUH) ascribed the woman as 'mercy' of God. The Muslims have descended back to the era of jahiliyah and have started persecuting and burying females alive. Metaphorically, situation varies now females are being killed on the name of honour, for dowry and now Muslim forgets the Allah has made women a blessing. The rank of women in Islam is as follows:

A girl born : Rehmat (blessing)

A sister : Respect

A spouse : Peace

A mother : Jannah in her feet

g. Poverty:

The Muslim countries, though with resources they have, shouldn't be living in poverty. The system of capitalism has made rich richer, while the poor poorer. Poverty in Muslim countries is on the rise and the Muslims are today facing the music of not utilising their resources efficiently and effectively.

3 External Challenges:

a) Globalisation and Media wars:

Globalisation exploited Muslim countries by the West developed countries as those who extract their natural resources of their countries and end up investing in the developed states, enriching them indirectly. The media of Muslim countries and non-Muslim countries are in a tirade of terse wars. Their blame game on each other develops hatred among whole population now ^{west} makes ^{Muslims} ~~west~~ extremists.

b) Cultural invasion:

The youth of Muslim world are more pro-West and are drifting towards the western lifestyle. This issue led many Muslims to become a victim of identity crisis.

c) Economic hegemony of west:

The economy of all Muslim countries combined today cannot match the economy of U.S. This suggests who has tide in his favor. The Muslims are at mercy of the Western hegemony and system of capitalisation.

d) Defaming Islam:

The rivals of Muslim countries and

are working day and night to defame Islam. Islam is a threat for West so they invented Islamophobia and it is the success of our rivals that majority West's thoughts about muslim as extremist or terrorist are developed.

4. Economic Challenges:

a) Capitalisation and political economy:

The muslim world was ordained to follow a system prescribed by the Prophet (PBUH). But unfortunately Muslim countries are also part of this interest based system. The Muslim countries have their economies based on taxes and interests which are against the Islamic economic system.

b) Unequal distribution of wealth:

Following the international capitalist model to run their country, the muslims have created a huge gap between the rich and the poor. The unequal distribution of wealth has resulted in more frustration among the muslim community which instead has lead to more intolerance and belligerence towards each other.

c) Absence of Zakat system:

The introduction of tax system and the

capitalist model has made the system of zakat obsolete in the Islamic world. This system was supposed to keep the Muslims more socially concerned. But today interest based debts and tax system has eluded the Muslims from the Zakat system.

5. Religious Challenges:

a) Disunity and the absence of the concept of Ummah:

There seems to be less cordial and harmonious ties between the Muslims and their brethren as they have different desires. Willingly or unwillingly politics is involved in religion and winning ~~make~~ of party makes one happy and other one frustrated. There seems to be lost the concept of "brotherhood" and one Ummah.

b) Absence of ijtihad Practices and institutions:

Lack of practice of the institutions of ijtihad and ijma. These practices were introduced to Muslim Ummah so that great scholars of the present era can elaborate their say on any queries of the world. But unfortunately, today, the Muslim world seems to be out of practice when it comes to use of this practice.

6. Educational Challenges:

a) Excessive dependency on Western knowledge:

What the current Muslim world has made of itself mingled into is the notion of being dependent on the West. The Muslim countries lag far behind in technology, agriculture, and other propinets. ~~and~~

b) Lowest portion of the budget goes to the Education:

The Muslims are seemingly heading towards the opposite direction where the rest of the world is focused on studies and education as their priority; the Muslims seem to be having magnitude of other unimportant sectors in view for the allocation of the fiscal budget.

c) Lack of Parents' interest for Islamic education:

Muslim Ummah's interest ~~for~~ of being pro-west has extenuated the importance of Islamic education. Now-a-days everyone is thinking of making one's child an expert in western education.

7. Solutions:

a) Protection of Ideological foundations:

One great step to countering the challenging Western ideologies would be to protect our own ideologies. ^{The} By more and more syllabus amendments will promote and encourage the promotion of our ideologies.

b) Firm belief and performing rituals:

A wave of awareness is highly needed to aware youth about firm Islamic beliefs and show them the path of Islam and realise them by performing rituals ^{can get} one jannah easily.

c) Promotion of Islamic values:

A pre-requisite to save Muslim Ummah is to promote our Islamic values. Apart from west Islamic religion provide guidance in all fields of life

d) Muslim unity:

In this time when Muslim world is facing a calamity in Gaza (Palestine) only Muslim unity play a pivotal role for saving Gaza from Israel. OIC exists as a platform but there ~~is~~ still exists a

massive area of improvement in it.

a) Countering media war and strengthening Muslim media:

Muslim world needs to establish an ~~intellectual~~ international media where it conveys its news in unilaterally form without any sponsorship or patronage of the Western world.

Also a need of banning those channels that promotes vulgarity, racism, and other bad societal acts.

b) Improve trade between Muslim Countries:

Muslim Ummah should need to preserve its dignity by helping each other. They need to maximise their trade among themselves and refrain from western imports and promote their export to them.

g) Common currency of Muslim countries:

Another marvelous yet difficult task to bring unity among Muslims would be to bring a common currency in the Muslim world.

h) Establishment of quality education:

Allocating budget for the education sector will lead to establish quality education. As single national curriculum

provided same education to both private and government schools. Further steps needed to make education at easy access for all people.

i) Sectarian harmony:

The unity of Muslims is a prerequisite but only when sectarian conflicts will end. The sectarian conflicts are such parasites that sucks the enthusiasm of jihad because Muslim become an enemy of other muslim.

ii) Solving internal issues:

By solving regional issues and internal issues, economy will prosper as well as military might will be used for right cause.

8. Conclusion:

Worldly changes will never stop ~~un~~^{til} the day of judgment but a dire need of unity, and harmony among Muslim Ummah. Focusing the issues and try solving them for the sake of a healthy Islamic generation. As the world is upgrading Muslim ^{Ummah} also needs to upgrade.

DATE: _____

DAY: _____

itself from old sophistication to develop
moder sophisticated Islam by Ijtehad.

Allah Almighty has blessed us Quran
and prophet (PBUH) completed the ~~work~~ ^{teachings}
of Islam. Till the day of judgement
challenges will ~~come~~ ^{rise} but only true
believers can detect them & end
them. Walking side by side with world
Muslim Ummah needs to fix all problem
in the light of Quran and Sunnah.
