

Q Explain the Concept of Dignity in Islam and How can humans maintain it. What are the reasons for its deterioration?

Answer

Introduction

Islam is a comprehensive religion it is not only about sacred things and its devotion but it also touches upon humans social life i.e. personal life, domestic and economic dealings. Similarly, dignity with is the central factor of humans life. It focuses on human rationality and knowledge, there way of humane dealing with other people. Unfortunately, in a contemporary world, humans have eliminated this from their lives which leads to chaos and disruption in societies.

Term 'Dignity':

The term dignity is a wide terminologies, means it consist of values, rationality, ethics, human knowledge, position in a society.

→ Concept of Dignity In Islam

According to Islam, dignity lies in humans ability to control his evil inclination, use rationality in his/her personal or social dealings and also ~~attaining and using knowledge in a right way~~. Allah ~~has~~ defined certain characteristics through which human dignity can be reflected.

1) Human a Unique Creature:

Allah has told in the Quran that the most fascinating aspect of the human creature is that he can speak, think, or taste. And because of this feature they are obliged ~~to~~ follow Allah's command and believe in His entirely.

وَلَقَدْ خَلَقْنَا فِي السِّمَانِ تَقْوِيمًا ۝

And We have created humans in best way.

(Tin - 4)

2) Granted Knowledge

Allah mentioned in the Quran that He has taught men knowledge,

because he knew nothing.

وَعَلَّمَ آدَمَ الْأَسْمَاءَ

(Baqarah - 226)

And we taught Adam names.

This highlighted the fact that knowledge importance can never be undermined, it helps humans to distinguish evil from good.

3 Creation Of Communities And Tribes :

Allah has mentioned in the Quran that He spread humans in different tribes and communities so that they know each other. Communities distinguish them on the basis of status and position. This help humans to recognize their relation to other each other and to help each other through different means.

4 Kindness and Equality :

Dignity lies in the factor of being kind and good towards other.

This cannot be achieved until humans recognize Allah and His commands. This not only help humans to attain dignity but also help them to achieve Allah's mercy.

→ Principles For Maintaining Dignity:

Islam has focuses much on humans lives i.e humanity. Dignity plays a central role in this respect. Human societies includes various aspects in which dealing with peace and ethics is the sole requirement. For this purpose, Islam has set some principles of dignity, which are as follows;

1. Obedience of Allah:

Allah, the only one has placed humans on earth for a purpose, which is His obedience and devotion.

Certainly! We have not created humans and jinns except they worship (Zariyat: 56)

Obedience doesnot only include worshipping but also to follow his given commands and serve for him in the earth.

2. Responsibility as justice.

One of the pivotal aspect of the dignity is the factor of justice. In social dealing, its presence

promote peace and order. Human dignity lies in be fair, kind and just in matters.

Allah has commanded justice, grace, honesty & kindness with relatives
(Surah Nahl)

3 Considering the given responsibility

Allah has named humans as a Vicegerent mean calipha.

I am going to place caliph in the Earth! (Baqarah: 30)

Being a vicegerent we hold a lot of responsibilities. So dignity requires humans to recognize them and to give a shape to your lives according to it. Means follow Allah orders and commands & fulfill your duties.

4 Factor of Accountability:

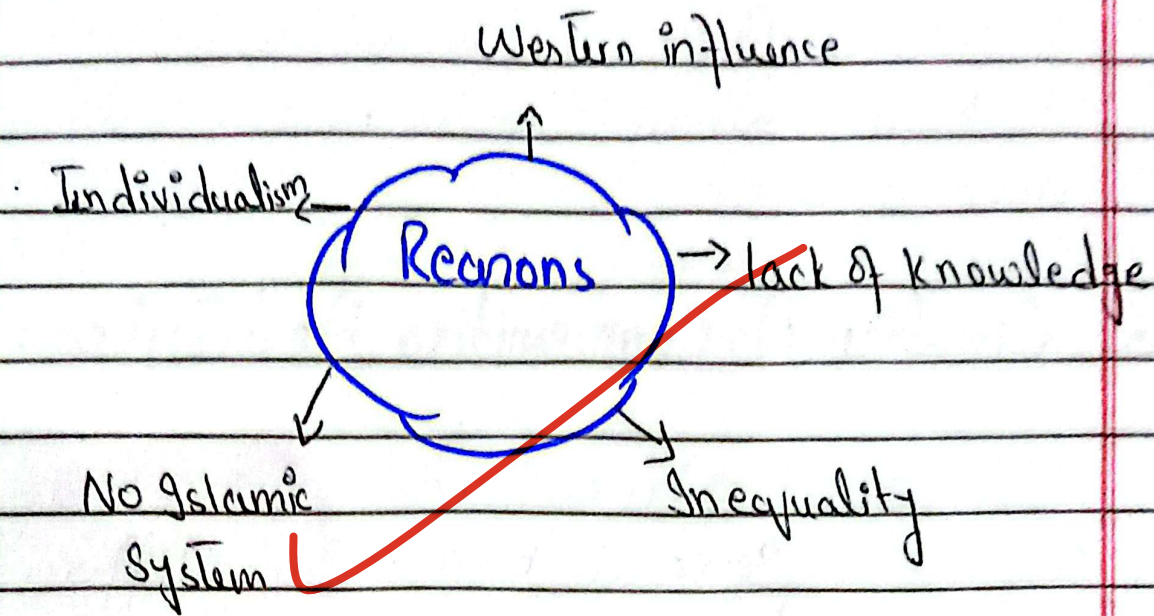
Accountability, makes human awaken and afraid of Allah. ~~He/she~~ While doing anything or duty, this factor makes humans to do rightful jobs and be honest in order to avoid Allah's anger.

وَلِكُلِّ دِينٍ عَذَابٌ

And everyone should be held for their actions

(Mudassir: 38)

→ Widespread Reasons for its deterioration:



→ In contemporary societies, dignity has completely lose its ground due to the following reasons;

There is no proper Islamic system followed by ~~any~~ muslim leadership. If there ~~is~~ not any framework given to societies, how can they even try to attain it.

→ Secondly, there is a widespread lack of knowledge means, Islamic laws and principles are new fully taught to layman through different platforms i.e. Mosques, institutes etc.

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→ There is a prevailed concept of Individualism and Western influence. Community which promote strength and unity has been abolished due to widespread dominance of western ideas.

→ There is a lack of equality due to rising concept of capitalism and elite classes. This has eliminate the concept of dignity.

Conclusion:

It can be concluded that dignity which is a central factor of societies, promote peace, rationality and values, has started to eliminate. Due to this reason many problems has been originated and is causing problems.

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