

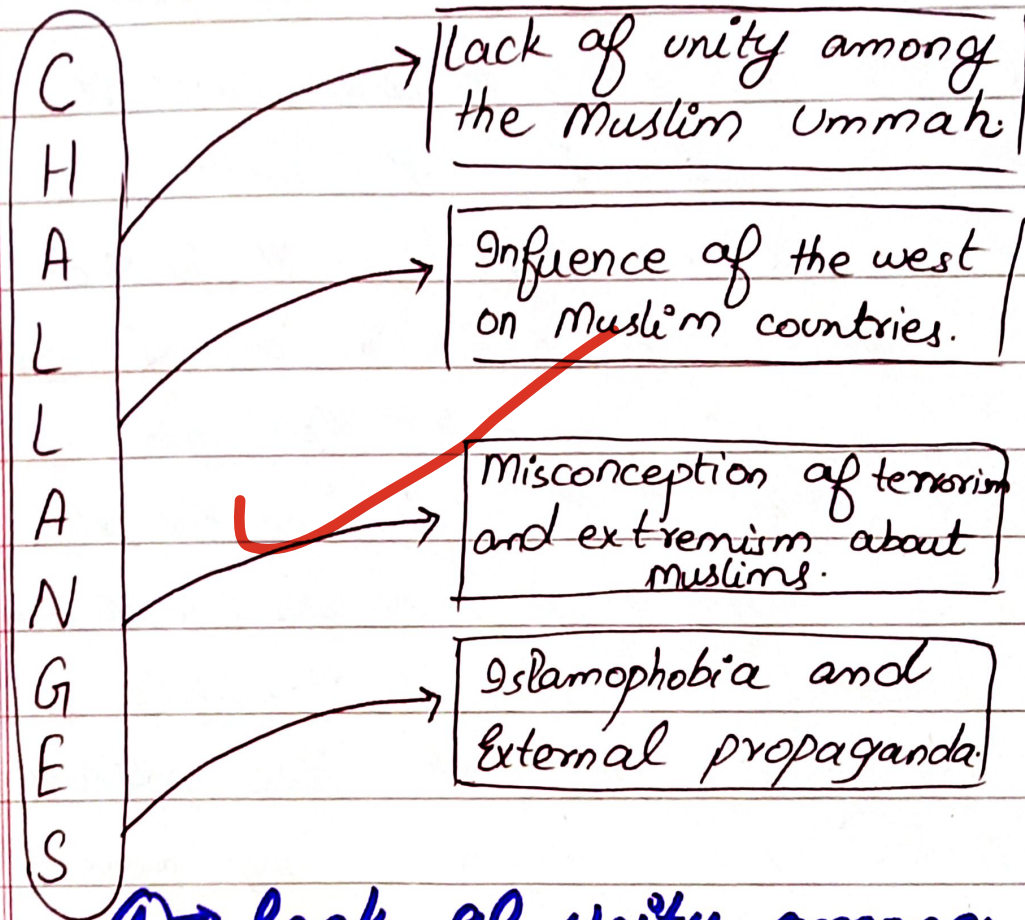
① Contemporary challenges of Muslim Ummah and their solution according to the teaching of Islam:-

① ⇒ Introduction:-

Muslim ummah is a global community of Muslims united by faith, values or norms. Islam is a complete code of life for every Muslim. Muslims, the architects of a glorious era, once ruled on empires with justice and wisdom. But with passage of time, Muslims have lost their glory. Today, they faced multifaceted crisis like disunity, sectarianism, intellectual decline, political and economic challenges. Some issues like political instability, economic dependency and educational decline cause rise in Islamophobia. Islam provides comprehensive guidance for solving problems to Muslim Ummah through teaching of Islam in Quran and Sunnah of Muhammad (S.W.A). These teachings emphasize the unity, justice and moral

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Integrity which works as the strong foundation of a society.

Contemporary challenges to Muslim Ummah



① Lack of unity among the Muslim Ummah:-

It is one of the most biggest challenges faced by Muslims in these times is the lack of unity among the Muslim Ummah. Muslims, who once stood as a strong pillar of

social cohesion, are now like a fragmented society divided due to multiple differences. This fragmentation occurs due to cultural practices, differences on the base of interpretation, sects and other things. For example; ongoing conflict between sunni and shia has given rise to multiple sectarian issues and extremist ideologies for each other. Such conflicts demand that Muslims communities stand firmly against it.

Thus, lack of unity is one of contemporary challenge faced by Muslims.

② ⇒ Influence of west on Muslim countries:-

The second most significant challenge faced by muslim countries is the growing influence of the west on Muslim countries. Often, this concept is occurs due to inflicted superiority complex of the west. The difference between western and Muslim have raised concerns re-

- regarding right and wrong, as the west views Muslims as backwards and inferior people with no modern education or technological advancements. For instance, Turkey under Mustafa Kemal Atatürk underwent significant Westernisation in the early 20th century, including the adoption of a secular legal system, replacing Islamic law (Sharia) in many areas of governance.

This shows the changes Muslims have undergone many changes owing to the influence of western culture. Thus, the growing influence of the west on the Muslim countries serves as another challenge.

③ → Misconception of Terrorism and Extremism about Muslims:-

Another significant issue is the misconception of terrorism and extremism about Muslims. This

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discrimination and hatred against the Muslims in society. Most Western nations view Muslims as terrorists, extremists, and violent people. Many people wrongly associated the actions of a small minority of violent extremists with the beliefs of over a billion Muslims worldwide, ignoring the vast majority who advocate for peace and co-existence. For example, in the case of 9/11 attacks in the USA, the West equated all Muslims as terrorists who spread violence, whereas in reality, majority of Muslims condemned the attacks and stood with the casualties with America faced.

This illustrates how one event can undermine the true teachings of Islam and lead to the marginalization of Muslims. Thus, the misconception of terrorism and extremism linked to Muslims

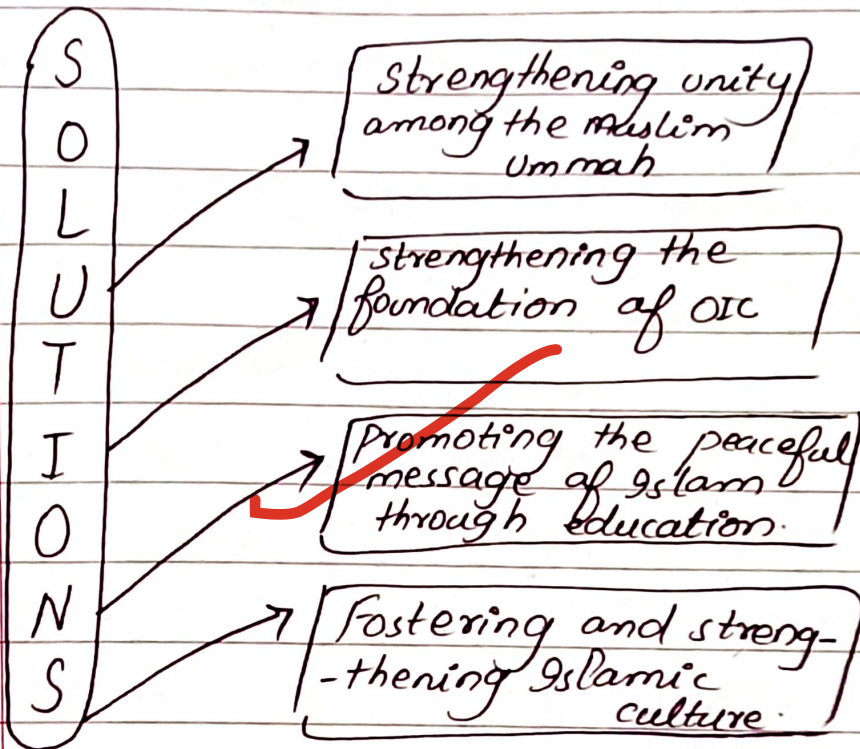
is a great challenge to the growth of Muslims.

④ ⇒ Islamophobia and External Propaganda

Islamophobia and external propaganda are also significant issues faced by Muslims in today's time. Islamophobia is driven by external propaganda as various media outlets and narrative have negative image of Muslims; as a result, the Muslim community is seen as reserved, extremist and rigid mindset people. For instance, media often declared Muslim as terrorist or extremists, harmful stereotypes that foster fear and mis-understanding in society. This shows how several factors have shaped the Muslim picture in the West and how such narrative like Islamophobia, hamper the teachings of Islam. Thus, Islamophobia and external propaganda serves as another

challenge for muslims in today's time.

③ ⇒ Solutions to the challenges faced by Muslims in the light of the Quran and sunnah :-



① ⇒ Strengthening unity among the muslim Ummah :-

Muslims should firmly adhere to the principles laid by Allah in Quran and sunnah in order to strengthen themselves as a united muslim ummah. It is

necessary for Muslims to overcome sectarian, ethnic and regional differences to form a cohesive front. Once Muslims achieve unity among themselves, this would ultimately strengthen political and economic alliance between Muslim countries. For instance Allah in Quran's surah Al Imran (3:103) says;

واعتصموا بحبل الله جميعا ولا تفرقوا

"And hold firmly to the rope of Allah all together and do not become divided."

This verse shows the importance of avoiding divisions among the Muslims. It deteriorated the social fabric of Muslim society.

So, adhering to the principles laid down by Allah and holding the religion firmly can help the Muslims be united at one platform.

② ⇒ Strengthening the foundation of OIC:-

It is most important for Muslims to strengthening the foundation of Organization of Islamic co-operation. It is high time to bring reforms in organization like OIC that give Muslims a platform to address the issue, they face, align all Muslims countries at one agenda, and work together for a better result. Muslims can work on developing stronger mechanisms for conflict resolution. For example the ongoing Israel and Gaza conflict can be solved if the OIC, including all Muslim countries, take action together, boycotts trade and take measures that would destabilise Israel and its allies resulting in withdrawal from Gaza. Hence, reforming organizations like OIC can help Muslims stand united against

western threats.

③ → Promoting the peaceful message of Islam through education to eliminate the misconception of terrorism and extremism.

Another solution is promoting the peaceful message of Islam through education and exemplary conduct to eliminate the misconception of terrorism and extremism. The peaceful message of Islam highlights peace, justice and love.

According to Sahih Bukhari, the prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) says;

"The best among you are those who have the best manners and character."

These teachings and engaging in educational initiatives that accurately convey the message

of Islam. Muslims can foster understanding and tolerance, dispelling the myths.

④ → Fostering and strengthening Islamic culture.

Lastly, fostering and strengthening Islamic cultural identity is crucial in preserving the rich heritage of Muslims for the world to see. It is important to keep the rich global history alive in order to decrease Western influence on Muslim societies. Muslims have made significant contributions to the arts, science, and culture. For example, the development of algebra by Muslim mathematicians like Al-Khwarizmi laid the foundation for modern mathematical theories used worldwide today. This highlights the far-reaching impact of Islamic intellectual

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This highlights the far-reaching impact of Islamic intellectual advancements that continue to benefit modern societies.

Therefore, reclaiming and strengthening Islamic culture is important to preserve the richness of Islamic heritage for future generation.

④ ⇒ Critical Analysis :-

Undoubtedly, Muslims, who were once glorious and most powerful nation in the world. Muslim countries are now divided due to their own vested interests and are fragmented on multiple levels. It is high time for the Muslim world to keep its differences aside and stand for true cause and principles of Islam. However, it is the responsibility of the Muslim leaders to preach and follow

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the true message of Islam and stand united against the forces that crumble the muslim society.

The most renowned quote of

Aesop,

"Divided we fall, united we stand"

Conclusion:-

To wrap up, today's muslim world, while standing strong on its historical and contributory perspective, has plenty of challenges to face: internal divisions and worldly pressure being the main ones. It is important for the muslim ummah to rectify these issues and seek guidance through Islam and sunnah. It is only through unity, faith, and adherence to the principles of Islam that the ummah will be able to rise above these difficulties

and work toward a future that
is peaceful, progressive, and
harmony with all.

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