

33898 - Zain Atta - 066

Islamic Studies

— {Ans no. 8} —

— (a) —

Accountability in Islam

Islamic system of accountability also known as Hisbah is one of the central theme of Islamic governance. Numerous examples can be found in the governance under pious Caliphate, where Caliphs resorted to accountability, no matter who so ever is in the scrutiny and they also lead by the example.

At one instance, Hazrat Ali's brother Anees requested some money from the Public treasury (Bait-ul-Maal) to which Hazrat Ali replied;

“Do you want me to give you money from the money of the people and go to Hell?”

Similarly our beloved prophet laid so much emphasis on the accountability by remembering each Muslim the final accountability at the day of Judgement;

Each one of you is like a ruler and is responsible for his subordinates.

(Al-Hadees)

This hadith of holy prophet highlights that a man is responsible and accountable for family, a governor is responsible for his governance and a Caliph is responsible for all the Muslim Ummah.

Governance and Accountability under

Pious Khilafat

System of accountability under Pious Caliphs can serve as a best example for current authorities to ensure accountability.

(a) Equality before law

In the reign of Caliph Umar, governors were held accountable in front of public. At one instance, he called all

his governors to hajj and asked public if they have any complaints regarding their governors.

Similarly, at one point, one of his governors was accused of corruption in Bait-ul-mal, he immediately held him accountable.

We can also find example from the Seerah of Prophet, where he said if my daughter Fatima has committed a theft I would have treated her the same way as other people. (Cutting hands)

(b) Public Accountability

Hazrat Abubakar Siddique when became the first Caliph of Islam, he said to the people;

“If I follow the path of Prophet and Allah SWT, then follow and obey me and if I don't then you can abandon me”

Similarly, one day Hazrat Umar in a gathering asked his followers and public that what will you do if I get distracted from the path, to which one of the people replied;

“We will straighten you like an arrow”

so rather than getting offended by such a blunt comment, Hazrat Umar (R.A) appreciated the man and replied that he needs more people like him.

Quran's Emphasis on Justice and Accountability

↳ Quran has warned muslims to be just in your dealings and fear the accountability of the day of Judgement where no one will come to your help.

“ان تعروا”

“Be maintainers of Justice”
(Al-Quran)

Similarly,

“He (Allah) is the one who causes death and to him you all shall be returned”

(Al-Quran)

Conclusively, our beloved prophet has given this religion of God as a sacred trust which Caliphs delivered to us with full integrity. Now, it depends on us to fulfill the trust.

—(b)—

Characteristics of Islamic Civilization

Many empires came and go, but the impression Islamic civilization has imprinted is undeniable. Throughout history Muslims have fairly contributed in the advancement of both material and non-material evolution the world.

→ Algebra, is the invention of muslim scientist, which lead to foundation of Algorithms. Algorithms are so important in the post-modern society that our whole life depends on it.

→ Similarly, contributions in medical field such as surgery are an undeniable fact.

→ Moreover, contributions in philosophy and sociology are also renowned throughout the world.

Characteristics

(a). Tolerance

Islamic civilization has

always been a good host of christians and jews but the feelings were never reciprocal by the jews and christians.

→ Crusades (Brutality against Muslims)

→ Current Jew's attitude against people of Palestine.

But, our Prophet's story of Taif, gives us wonderful insight about practicing tolerance despite having power to destroy adversary. Moreover, Surah Baqarah; (Verse 152-153)

(b) - Purification

"Cleanliness is half the religion"

Purification is the central theme of Islamic civilization whether it is bodily purification or soul purification (Tazkiya)

→ Islam teaches bodily cleanliness through abulution five times a day and also advises to practice Haya (Shyness) to self-purify oneself.

(c) - Rule of law

Without the rule of law, the system of accountability and good governance

Islamic civilization could not have prevailed over the world.

(d). Tauheed

→ The Islamic ^{belief} of Tauheed has been the biggest reason of Muslim unity which helped in the proliferation of Islamic civilization.

→ Allah is one and all the sovereignty belongs to him, makes human to immediately surrender to Allah SWT.

... ذِكْرِي أَذْكُرْكُمْ

“Remember me and I will remember you”

(e). Dignity of Human Being

In Islamic civilization, each individual has a right to dignity. Quran and Sunnah highlights that nobody can humiliate other and rob their dignity and self respect.

At one instance, when a slave girl was left to Prophet from his parents, he said; Who wants to marry this girl of heaven?

→ which shows the importance of dignity of every individual that even a

slave girl was treated and projected so humanely.

—(Ans no. 3)β—

Judicial System of Islam

Islam, unlike other religions, is a complete code of life. It has introduced a political, social, economic and judicial system of its own, with each system providing great detail about it.

Purpose

“To ensure social Justice”

Prophet PBUH highlighted the importance of social justice in a hadith, which provide us wonderful insights in the judicial system of Islam.

“If somebody seeks the house of Qazi, then let him find it and if his justice prevails over tyranny, he will go to paradise and if his tyranny prevails over justice, he will go to hell”

(Al-Hadith)