

Question.1

Contemporary challenges of Muslim Ummah and solutions

Muslim Ummah losing front seat:

Muslim Ummah of the world after emergence of West has started to lose their authority and power even though the world constitutes 1/5th of Muslim population. Their power can not be denied in the UN ~~as they~~ as they possess 43rd of membership of UN. Muslim Ummah comes from 57 sovereign states full of natural resources and vast territories. Yet, the exploitation of all these resources is not done properly. This chunk of population ^{to face} has started their downfall because of intellectual stagnation, lack in advancement of technology and domination of the ~~world~~. Muslim Ummah faces severe challenges from within along with external factors which has altogether become a hurdle in the progression of Muslim society in the world.

Challenges faced by Muslim Ummah:

Contemporary challenges faced by Ummah

Internal challenges

External challenges

a. Internal contemporary challenges faced by Muslim Ummah:

① Intellectual Stagnation

Muslim Ummah is facing problems in the modern age not due to the religious issues rather intellectual stagnation. Muslim Ummah has forgot their golden era of achievements of Muslim scientists Al-Khawalizmi and Al-Beruni etc rather they have adopted Western way of life. Western political, economic and social system has brought a drift between the sovereign Muslim states and they are not on the road of progress altogether like those

glorious past.

② Exploitation of resources

Muslim Ummah is blessed with major resources including natural gas, oil, copper, jute, cotton and many other resources. World even in this modern age when talk of renewables make around 45% of energy from the oil and natural gas and Muslim world is unable to exploit these resources. They see towards the West to take benefit of their resources in exchange for their dollars. e.g. Saudi Arabia a major exporter of petrol and oil looks towards US for exploitation of its resources.

③ Lack in advancement of science and technology

Muslim Ummah has a golden history of being the father of many sciences and today it has lost all of its desire, passion and drive to excel in different emerging fields. We have failed to produce notable Nobel Prize winners. We lack in establishing universities and education centres of world class recognition. Only 2 to 3 countries of Pakistan comes above 500 in world ranking of universities. Turkey however is striving to promote itself in this field.

④ Importance of Materialism over Moral Values

Muslim Ummah today runs for the power. Power strife has made the countries forget about moral values Islam had taught us. Leaders of these 57 sovereign states run for power and they will do everything even if it requires killing of individuals. Palestine is not highlighted by Muslim Ummah today because of their cordial relations with the Western superpower to go for power and play in world affairs all alone.

⑤ Extremism and Terrorism within the Muslim countries

Muslim countries after 9/11 have faced the Western side labelling of ~~the~~ Muslims being terrorists and extremists. This has given rise to their concept of Islamophobia. This labelling by West has been conceived by the whole world and has made Muslim Ummah an extremist community. Muslim leaders have failed to take a stance against this concept and taken a measure to eradicate this concept as some terrorist organizations ISIS and Al-Qaeda in the name of Islam are spreading violence among the rest of the world.

⑥ Political Disunity

Leaders of the Muslim Ummah have all failed to be on the same page for the betterment of the community rather all are getting and becoming a part of sectarianism. This Shia Vs Sunni debate has weakened the social fabric of the Islamic community and made one nation stand in front of the other rather than side by side.

b) External challenges faced by Muslim Ummah

Colonization

Western world today too had colonized over the world especially Muslim countries through neo-colonialism. Muslim countries have a history of subjugation under Western rule which had taken away the unity, integrity and moral values of Muslim world completely influencing them. Colonization today in modern ages has not left Muslim Ummah and it has all destroyed the power of all Muslim countries.

② Globalization

West has the most advantage of this concept of globalization as all

world being connected is run because of Western economic and political system. West has all the time gaining benefits of sucking the economy of Muslim world and made it all dependent of itself. Muslim Ummah now does not think of exploiting its resources or making their own financial bank to run economy according to the rules of Islam.

③ Failure of UN to solve issues of Muslim world

Middle East has been failing immense crisis. ~~that between~~ Genocide of Israel on Palestine, Syrian crisis along with the situation of Yemen is not covered from anyone and yet UN has failed to give a verdict on these issues because of the superpower of Western world. US being the hegemonic power of the world supports Israel to go on with these crisis. Muslim world is being paralyzed because of the western hegemonic acts as all Muslim nation demand for is the power and betterment of its own state.

④ Western Baggage of Domination

Muslim Ummah has been left crippled under the Western rule. Leaders have all been left devoid of their moral values and integrity. Not a single nation tried to face them and take a stand for Muslim Ummah. Today, Muslim Ummah is all dependent for economy running on the West.

Muslim has failed to rebuild their own devastated Empire of all glory, due to advancement in technology, science and leading the world.

Solutions of the challenges faced by Muslims:

① Muslim Unity

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

وَاعْتَدُوا بِكَلَّ اللَّهِ وَلَا تَقْرُبُوا
(Al-Imran)

The foremost solution to all the challenges today faced by Muslims is the unity of Muslims from all 57 sovereign states. Muslim Ummah need to come together to face all these challenges and devise necessary policies for the eradication of these challenges. Only unity as advised in Quran can bring the Muslim community their glorious and successful period back.

② Education and Development

"Seek knowledge from the cradle to the grave." — Hadith

Excelling in education and development can bring back the honour of Muslims they once had. This will raise their status in the world. Muslim Ummah can take Turkey as example to set their priorities and regain their position in the field of education. Education, moreover will allow them get rid of the militant mindset and values engraved by them in young minds.

③ Ijtihad

Muslim Ummah as today is facing modern challenges regarding globalization and failure of their Islamic economic system values. Muslim countries ~~and~~ can do Ijtihad regarding this and all other contemporary issues to get back to the pure and straight forward Islamic economic system values. Ijtihad has been only given so as Islam is not a stagnant religion rather progressive. It helps them get rid of their problems and look for the concerned solutions using it.

④ Good Governance

Muslim Ummah had to take a step forward for the proper and good governance system in the world. The governance system of Hazrat Umar (R.A) ~~is~~ is a prime example. Good Governance can control the factors which mislead Muslims from the right path ordered by Allah Almighty.

⑤ Political and Economic Stability

Muslim world can exploit its resources by helping each other and giving each other opportunities by putting aside the political issues between the Muslim states. They can proceed to establish their own bank to implement economic system devised by Islam. Sectarian issues can only be addressed when there will be will between the governments to develop the Islamic world.

Conclusion:

Muslim Ummah being a major part of the world is losing its ground because of political and economic instability, western domination, lack in advancement and progression and many other factors. All of these factors though can only be solved when Muslim world come forward as one single body while helping one another and bringing good opportunities for each other to the table. Internal will of the Muslim Ummah can make them win this world and in the hereafter.

الحمد لله رب العالمين