

QNO:1

Islamophobia is the major threat to Muslim world.
How it can be countered?
Suggest proposals.

Christchurch mosque attack in New Zealand in 2019 resulted in the death of 51 innocent Muslims who were doing nothing but performing their religious obligation, yet they were attacked and killed. This is just one incident related to Islamophobia that highlights that how it is perpetuating violence against Muslims. Islamophobia refers to prejudice, fear and hatred towards Muslims. It involves negative stereotypes, discrimination and hostility directed towards them because individuals or groups who claim to be Muslims. Islamophobia has become a significant threat to the Muslim world as it is perpetuating violence towards Muslims, discriminating and marginalizing them, resulting in the rise of psychological and mental health diseases and depression in Muslims. Moreover, it also creates geopolitical tensions and international feelings of hatred towards Muslim states. However, it can be countered by taking certain

measures which are discussed in this discourse

2 Islamophobia a major threat to the Muslim world

Islamophobia is a major threat to the Muslim world as mentioned below.

(A) Increasing violence towards Muslims:-

After 9/11 Islamophobic sentiments raised all over the western world as a result Muslim communities living there became subject of violence, hate speech, physical and verbal violence. This trend is still continue today.

(B) Discrimination and Marginalisation of Muslims

Due to Islamophobia Muslims faced discrimination in all the sectors of social life. They faced discrimination in jobs, appointments, workplaces and every where else. Policies were designed which are not targeting their issues and as the result of all this Muslim communities are getting marginalise in western world.

(C) Rise of Psychological and Mental health disorders:-

This constant verbal and physical abuse, marginalisation and discrimination is rising mental and psychological illness all over the muslim world. Mental conditions like depression and anxiety are becoming spreading all over the muslim world.

↳ Causing Geopolitical tensions and hate towards muslim states.

Islamophobia is sparking division between west and the muslim world, creating geopolitical tensions and hatred towards muslim countries. This can be seen when United state invaded Iraq and Syria, justified this invasion as a fight against terrorism and this resulted in killing of many innocent lives in these ~~Muslim states~~ ^{republics}. These events created massive hate towards muslims in west and people adopted the mindset of us vs them. Muslim world is still suffering from the aftermaths of these events.

3 Proposals to counter Islamophobia

Islamophobia can be countered by adopting following measures.

1) Educating masses about the true values of Islam

Islamophobia is because of the misconception of Islam. Therefore, it is important to increase awareness about the actual values of Islam which are justice, peace and equality. Furthermore, it is important to educate about the cultural diversity and contribution of Muslims scientist in the field of science, art and medicine. This will create positive sentiments towards Muslims.

It can be achieved by educational awareness campaigns, movies, podcasts and social media.

2) ~~The~~ Media responsibility and accountability

Media plays a very vital role in creating Islamophobic sentiments by portraying Muslims as terrorists, extremists and conservatives. It is important to fight Islamophobia that media ^{outlets} perform their job responsibly. They should highlight positive aspects of Islam and Muslims. Moreover, they should be held accountable for their business with strict penalties. Muslims for this needs to raise their voices against such discrimination and should push governments for policies that ~~limit~~ ^{curb} this business in reporting.

(3) Highlighting Muslim Role models: Role

Models like Malala Yousafzai should be highlighted which shows the world about the views and beliefs of Muslims. This will wash off the image of Muslims as conservatives. In an interview Malala Yousafzai ~~is~~ stated that she will debate with Talib ~~with~~ by giving references from Quran and Sunnah and will prove that Islam calls for education, equality and freedom to all the humans especially for women.

(A) Encourage interfaith dialogues and programs:

Muslims should participate and encourage interfaith dialogues and ~~comm~~ with the help of which they can peacefully deal all the misconceptions about ~~Islam~~ ^{religion} ~~teaching~~ and can educate people about the true essence of Islam. Moreover, they should invite non-Muslims in their religious programs such as Ramadan Iftar drives and others, this will help Muslims and non-Muslims connect with each other. In addition to this, ~~this~~ ^{it} will educate people of other faith that Islam calls for empathy, respect and love.

(5) Muslim leaders should push for the enforcement of antidiscriminatory laws.

Muslim leaders should push and call for the enforcement of anti-discriminatory laws. They should push laws that provide religious freedom as freedom whether because freedom is a fundamental right of every human being. By doing this such laws will be imposed which restricts discrimination towards Muslims and they will feel accepted by the society. Moreover, when state will impose such laws, the general acceptance of Muslims in the society will increase.

4 Conclusion:

To sum up, Islamophobia is sentiment of hate towards Muslims because of their faith and religion. Islamophobic sentiments have increased since 9/11 and it poses a major threat to the Muslim world by making Muslims a subject of violence, discrimination and marginalizing Muslims and Muslim communities, sparking psychological and mental disorders among Muslims. It is very important to counter Islamophobia and this can be done by raising awareness about the actual message of Islam, create a more responsible media and by highlight

muslim role models. In addition to this, promoting interfaith dialogues and programs and Role of muslim leaders in pushing anti-discriminatory laws holds a significant steps for counteracting Islamophobia.