

(Islamic Studies)
Test - 3

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QUESTION#01

Islamophobia is the major threat of Muslim World. How it can be countered? Suggest Proposals.

Answer

INTRODUCTION:

The term Islamophobia is coined by Runnymede Trust, UK-based Think Tank referring towards religious and cultural identities. It is later backed by Western Political Scientist Samuel P. Huntington's Clash theory of Civilization. This theory warns that Islam poses a great danger to west. Islamophobia is referred to as fear of, hatred of

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and prejudices against muslims, their culture and even dress codes. The west exercises anti-muslim sentiments under the cloak of freedom of speech. There is no denying of the fact that this anti-muslim rhetoric is a great threat to muslim community. However, dancing around the fire is not a solution. There is a need to act effectively and efficiently in order to plug the loopholes of Islamophobia. For this purpose, OIC and UNO need to play their role. Additionally, the need of hour is to aloft the banner of Islam through Interfaith harmony summits.

There is a fine line between freedom of speech and reckless freedom of speech. (Newton Lee)

Islamophobia - Anti Muslim Rhetoric

Diving deep into the

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term Islamophobia, it is unfolded that at the time of crusades, the notion of Islam as sensualism and brutal violence was entered into the minds of Europe. . . though this concept is not naive, yet it gained momentum after America's 9/11 and London's 7/7 attack. Thus, a fear of muslims penetrated across the globe.

People's cultural and religious identities will be primary source of clash of civilization in post-cold war era.

(Samuel P. Huntington - Clash of Civilization)

Islamophobia - a major

Threat to Muslim World:

In an era of constructivism, west has generated a narrative that muslims and

Islam is a great danger to western states. This self-fulfilling prophecy has tarnished muslims image at international level. This derogatory and discriminatory behaviour is denting muslims cause and interests. Burning of Holy Book Quran in Newzealand, the issue of caricatures in France, attack on mosque in Switzerland and ban on veil all present glaring examples of Islamophobia. Moreover, muslims are labelled as terrorists and Frankstein monsters. Trump's policy to ban muslim countries portrays nightmarish picture of Islamophobia.

The faultlines of civilization will be battelines for future. (Samuel P. Huntington)

Nonetheless, India's exclusionist Hindutva agenda, Indian Citizenship Amendment Act and National Register Citizens are posing a

major threat to muslim world. In addition to it, to malign muslims, west has published a novel Heart of Darkness on muslim African continent and released a movie Innocence of Muslims.

Islamophobia - a major threat to Muslim World

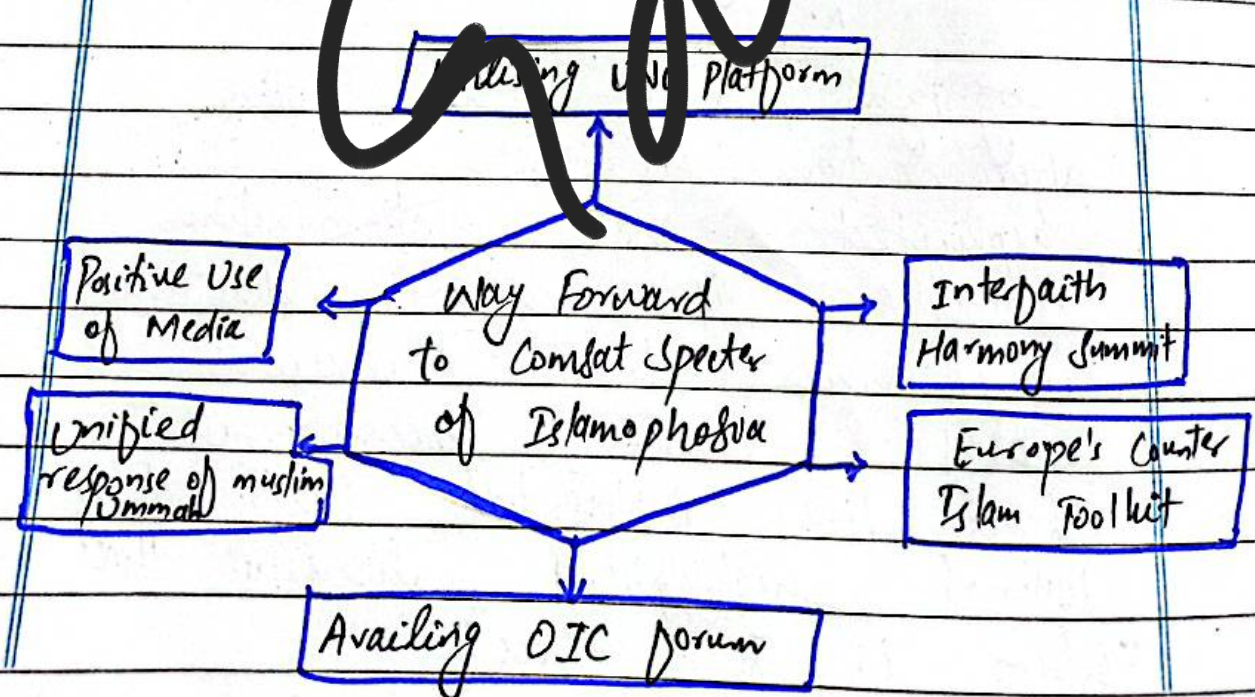


- Ban on veil and caricatures in France
- Desecration of Holy Quran in New Zealand
- Trump's ban on muslim countries
- Indian Citizenship Amendment Act
- Heart of Darkness novel by west to malign muslims

Cognizant to all the aforementioned statistics, it is explicit that anti-muslim narrative is causing deleterious consequences to muslim world at international level. The influential Wall Street Journal highlighted headline that "Islam is a cancer"

Holistic And Prudent Measures To counter the Pernicious Islamophobia

In order to eradicate the pernicious implications of Islamophobia, there is a need of multipronged strategy. The time clamours for unified response of muslim Ummah to spread peaceful notion of Islam. Additionally, OIC and UNO must play their role and do not act as toothless tigers.



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(1) United Nations Organisation -

Largest World Organisation:

UNO is an organization of 193 member states. It should play its active role to eliminate the pessimistic view of west for muslims. The agenda of 75th conference of UNGA was "Multilateralism." UN must play its role to foster multilateralism in an age of globalization.

Future must not belong to those who slander

Prophet (SAW). (Barack Obama)

It is a good omen that UNGA has declared 15th March as an International Day to Combat Islamophobia.

(2) Role of OIC:

OIC is the second largest world organization comprising of 57 muslim states.

It is a platform which unifies muslim community

for a single cause - OIC must
step forward to preserve
the identity of muslims
and to serve the cause
of Islam in international
arena.

Islam is not spread by
sword. It is spread
through peaceful means.
(Karen Armstrong)

(3) Conduct Interfaith Harmony

Summits

Interfaith Harmony Summit was
conducted in Turkey in
which leaders of muslim
countries collaborated together
to spread Islam as a
peaceful religion. The summits
of such kind must be
held to revitalize muslims
and Islam. It is an open
corridor is a constructive approach
by Pakistan to uplift soft
image of Islam.

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(4) Counter Islam Toolkit by Europe:

Muslims should avail opportunities such as Counter Islam Toolkit by Europe to edify Islam. Europe has established this toolkit in order to checkmate Islamophobia - Canada has become first country to appoint ministry on countering Islamophobia. This is a silver lining for muslim world.

(5) Unified Response of Muslim

Ummah:

There is a dire need that muslims should rectify themselves and make a unified response to counter anti-Islamic sentiments.

To revive Islamic narrative, muslims world needs to join hands and fight against the terror of Islamophobia. In this regard,

muslim clerics can play
their active role to
revitalize Islam. peaceful purpose

(6) Use of Media:

In the digital generation era,
the optimistic use of
media can be enhanced
to propagate Islamic cause.
As media is considered
fourth pillar of state so
avail this platform to
counter Islamophobia. Tripartite agreement
between Pakistan, Turkey and Malaysia
to open a BBC like channel
in order to combat Islamophobia
is a right step in the right
direction.

Conclusion:

Cutting the long debate
short, Islamophobia is a
derogatory behaviour against
muslims. Anti-muslim rhetoric
is a major threat to
muslim world as it
tarnishes soft image of
Islam and muslims at

international all this, there is cognisance to
 need of vigilant and
 prudent measures to
 combat the menace of
 Islamophobic otherwise any
 decilation will result into
 a massive disaster.

“The right to swing my fist
 ends where other man's nose
 begins.” (Oliver Holmes)

QUESTION #02

Write a comprehensive note
 about social system of Islam.

Answer

INTRODUCTION:

Islam is a complete code
 of life. It provides
 injunctions regarding socio-

economic, political and judicial realms of life - It covers all aspects of a society and teaches how to lead a life. It tells us how to conduct at home and outside, in war and peacetime. It provides basic foundation of a just and fair society. Islam stresses upon equality and brotherhood. In a society, Islam preserves the rights of minorities and women. It emphasizes upon importance of education in order to build a sound society on the basis of Islamic provisions.

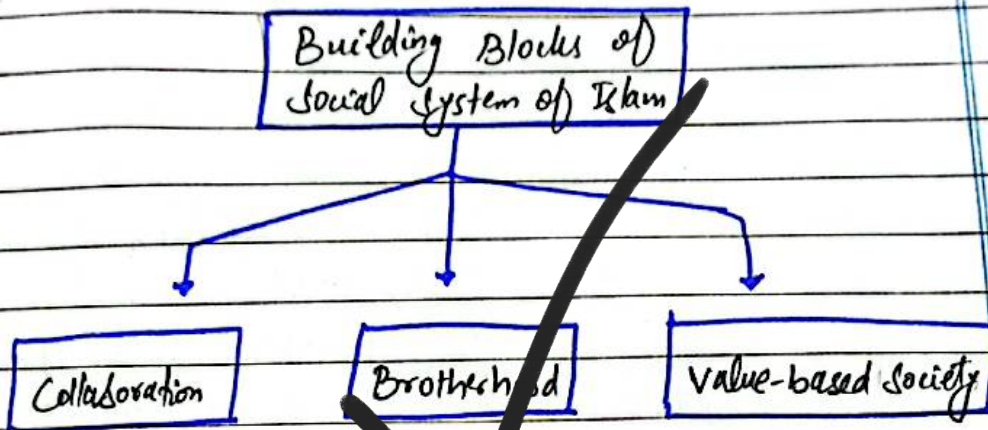
Islam provides a complete charter. It covers social and political aspects and talks about consultation democracy, not monarchy.

(Dr. Israr Ahmad)

Building Blocks of Islamic Social System

There is no bifurcation

between matter and spirit.
 Islamic social system is
 based upon collaboration
 between individual and society.
 The prosperity of individual
 is linked with the progress
 of society and vice versa.



Moreover, brotherhood is the
 fundamental pillar of social
 system of Islam.

“All muslims are
 brethren.” (Sahih Bukhari)

Over and above that
 Islam stresses upon to
 acquire useful knowledge
 in order to establish
 a harmonized society.

هل يستوي الذين يعلمون والذين لا يعلمون.

“Are those equal who know
 and who does not know?”

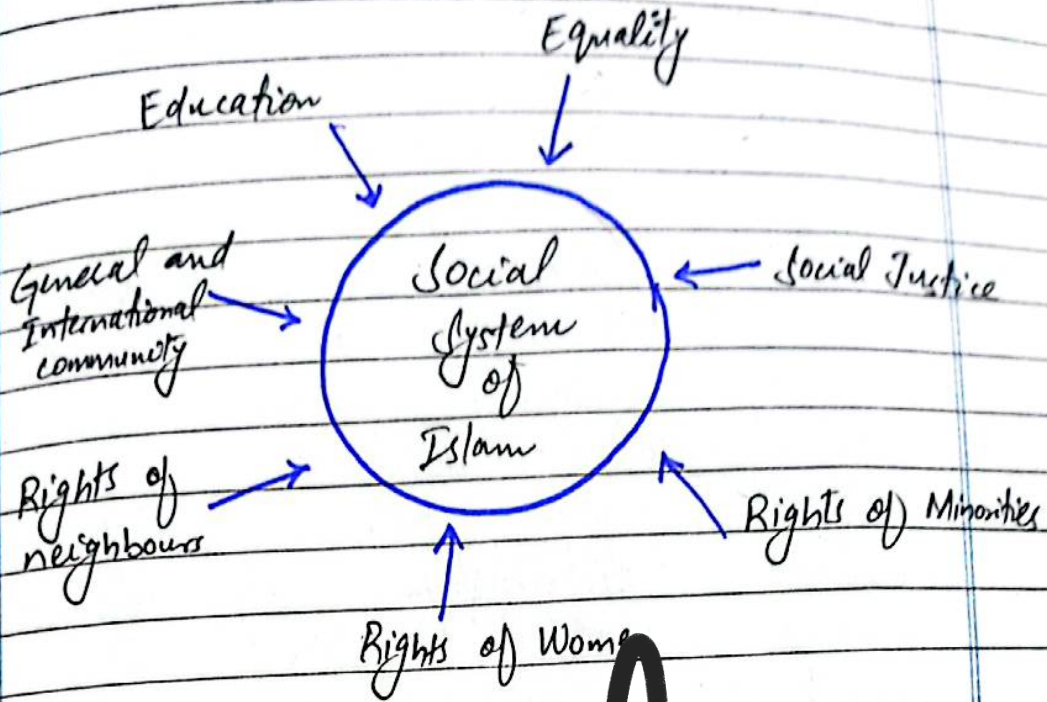
(Al-Quran)

Dive Deep into Social System of Islam:

Taking an appraisal of social system of Islam, it is elucidated that social system is based upon equality, solidarity and freedom. A system where human's inalienable rights are preserved and everyone enjoys his status of personhood. The dignity of man is preserved in social system of Islam. Thus, Islam emphasizes upon the unity of people to build an intact social fabric.

The social system is just like human body. If a limb suffers pain, the whole body responds with sleeplessness and fever.

(Sahih Muslim)



(1) Equality - Foundation of Social System of Islam

In a just and fair society where Islamic fundamentals prevails, everyone is considered equal either men or women. Islam scuttles the concept of superiority and inferiority. As well illustrated by Holy Prophet (SAW) in His last sermon that "The Arabs are not superior to Ajams or Ajams to Arabs."

(2) Dispensation of Social Justice

Keystone of Social System:

Social justice is imperative to build a sound and healthy society. Islam curbs monopolistic attitude of life and teaches about equal distribution of resources among all factions of society leaving no one behind.

“Allah has sent this Quran in order that you may judge as guided by Allah.”
(Al-Quran)

(3) Rights of Minorities Preserved:

In an Islamic society, the rights of minorities are preserved. The fundamental right to life, liberty and property are well served to non-muslims in an Islamic society. Their right to worship is also

rendered to them.

“The Jews of Bani Auf are equal to Muslims of Madinah.” (Hadith)

Thus, the Sunnah of Prophet (SAW) teaches us to preserve the rights of minorities to build an unscathed society.

(4) Rights of Women - Cornerstone of Islamic Social Systems

Before the advent of Islam, women were considered as frail and weak - They were subjugated and subordinated to men. Islam preserves the personhood of women and gives them their fundamental rights. Holy Prophet (SAW) commanded that “Fear Allah concerning women.” Islam provides women their economic, political and spiritual rights.

(5) Rights of Neighbours - Imperative for Islamic Social System Allahu Almighty in His

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Holy Book ordains about the rights of neighbours - The Holy Prophet (SAW) said that the angel Gabriel emphasized so much about the rights of neighbours that I fear that they might have share in the inheritance.

Treat your neighbours well,
be a good muslim.

(Al-Quran)

(6) Institution of Marriage - Basis of Social System:

A society is based upon family which in turn has its roots in the institution of marriage. It is referred as social structure of Islam where husband and wife are considered as two wheels of a cycle and they rear and bear their children to raise a family.

When a muslim marries, he perfects half of his religion. To protect remaining half,

he must practice righteousness.
(Hadith)

(7) General And International Community - Prerequisite of Islamic Social System:

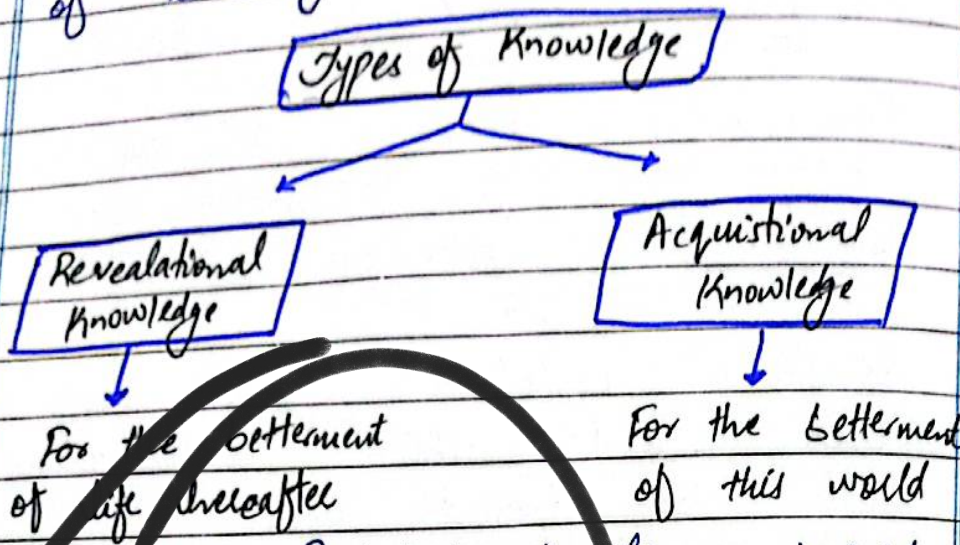
Muslims collaborate with each other and this collaboration must be based upon Islamic teachings. Muslim community should take care of the muslim brothers and should fulfill their pacts and agreements.

Respect your pacts
and fulfill your
promises. (Al-Quran)

(8) Education - Lynchpin of Islamic Social System:

In pre-Islamic Arabia, the pagans were slumbering in deep sleep. On the advent of Islam, an educational society was built and hence, Islam

gave birth to an enlightened society. Islam has stressed upon acquisition of knowledge.



The Holy Prophet (SAW) also emphasized to acquire knowledge in these words:

طلب العلم كل فریضه

It is an obligation for every muslim to seek knowledge.

Conclusion:

In a nutshell, Islamic social system is based upon prosperity of individual as well as society. The former works for the later and later serves the former. In a sound social system, fundamental human rights are preserved and everyone enjoys the status of equality and brotherhood. Thus, social system of Islam resides upon Islamic injunctions and followings of Prophet (SAW).