

Question #1

Civil servants are crucial for the effective delivery of public services, elaborate their responsibilities in accordance with Islamic teachings.

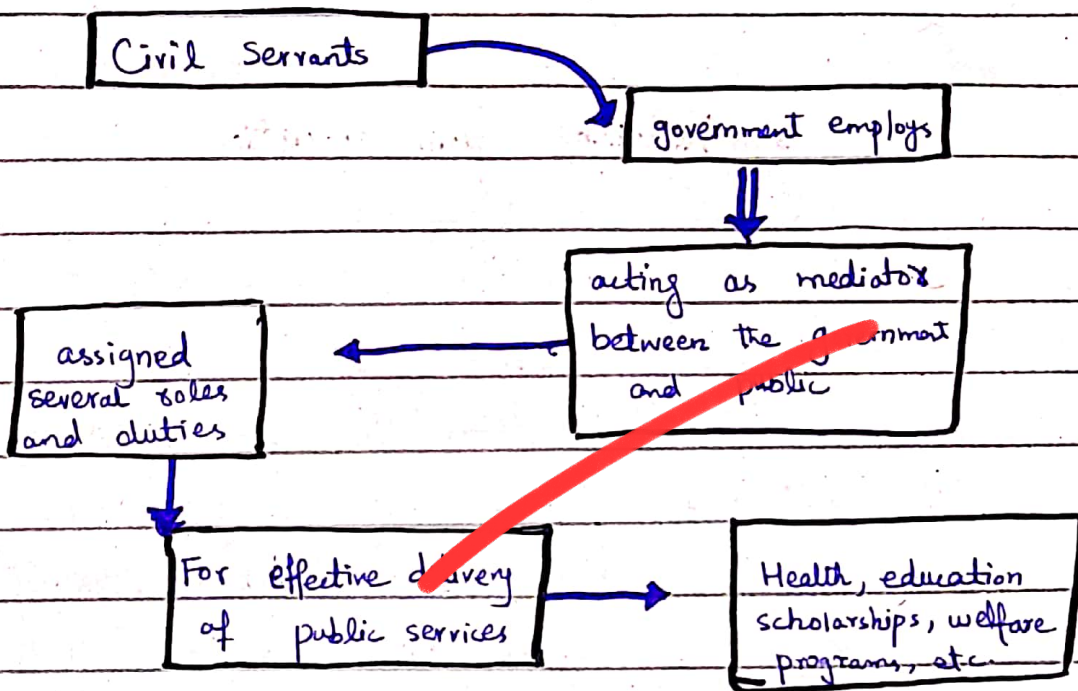
1- Introduction

~~سيد القوم خادهم~~
"The leader of the people is their servant."
~ Holy Prophet (S.A.W)

Islam, as a comprehensive and all-encompassing code of life, provides extensive guidance on the principles of governance, administration, and public service. For the effective functioning of governance and delivery of essential services to every citizen, civil servants play defining role. For this very purpose, Islam has designated various responsibilities to the civil servants. These responsibilities include ensuring accountability, deciding matters as per sharia, refraining from corruption, promoting justice, and bolstering consultation, thereby resulting in effective delivery of public services.

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2) Understanding the nexus between civil servant and delivery of public services



3) Responsibilities of Civil Servants as per Islamic Teachings

3.1) Taking decisions as per Shariah

First, it is a prime responsibility of a civil servant to uphold Shariah through his decisions and must decide all matters as per Islamic teaching.

As illustrated in the conversation between the Holy Prophet (S.A.W) and Maaz bin Jabal (R.A) when appointed him as governor of Yemen.

So, in this conversation, the Prophet (S.A.W) showed his pleasing with Muaz bin Jabal (R.A) when he said he would take decisions as per Shaikh.

3.2) Refraining from corruption

Next, it is an ultimate responsibility of a civil servant to refrain from corruption.

For example, during Hazrat Umar (R.A) caliphate, Hazrat Khalid (R.A) was accused of corruption in spoil after winning the battle, so Umar (R.A) dismissed him from the designation.

Thus, this shows that the prime responsibility of a civil servant is refraining from corruption.

3.3) Ensuring accountability and transparency

Moreover, ensuring accountability is also significant responsibility of civil servants as this will thrive a society based on justice and equality.

For instance, The congregant questioning Hazrat Umar (R.A) on piece of cloth is the defining example of it.

3.4, Accessible and available to public

Besides, it is also the responsibility of civil servants to be accessible and easily available to public in order to address their grievances.

Such as, Hazrat Umar (R.A) order Hazrat Muhammad Bin Musalim Ausi (R.A) to destroy the House of Saad Bin Abi Waqqas (R.A) for installing grills in front of governor house.

3.5, Leading a simple life as proportionate to income

Furthermore, leading a simple life is also responsibility of civil servants as per Islamic teaching. This will ensure their loyalty towards effective public service delivery.

As aptly put by Mahatama Gandhi,

"I can not help presenting you names of Abul Bak (R.A) and Umar (R.A).

They were leaders of vast empires, yet lived a simple lives."

3.6, Bolstering consultation

To add more, bolstering

consultation for greater cause of public is also key responsibility of civil servants, designated by Islam. In this regard, Allah says in the Quran,

وَشَاوِرْهُمْ فِي الْأَمْرِ

"And consult them in the matters."

~ Surah Al-Imran #159

3.7, Promotion of Justice

Civil servants are also responsible to promote justice as per Islamic teaching. In this way, they will treat both the poor and the rich equally and ensure equality. Allah also says in the Holy Quran,

اعْدِلُوا أَقْرَبَ لِلتَّقْوَى

"Be just; that is nearer to righteousness."

~ Surah Maida #8

3.8, Resolving conflicts effectively

Additionally, the responsibility of civil servants is also include to resolve the conflicts effectively in order to save the lives of people and promote peace.

Resolution of Jang-e-Jamal and Jang-e-Safel by Hazrat Ali (R.A) is glaring illustration.

3.9, Flourishing free speech

Moreover, civil servants are also entitled to flourish free speech in society, giving space to constructive criticism.

For instance, old lady claim of dowry during the era of Hazrat Umar (R.A) presents perfect instance in this regard.

3.10, Protection of minority rights

Last but not least, civil servants are also supposed to protect the minority rights in an Islamic state.

Such as, the incident of Hazrat Umar (R.A) where He (R.A) forgave the jizya of old dhimmis. A good example in this regard.

4- Conclusion

To conclude, civil servants, as instrumental forces in governance and public services, have various responsibilities as per Islamic teaching. These responsibilities ranging from promotion of justice to protection of minority rights and ensuring accountability to safeguarding from corruption. By fulfilling all these responsibilities, civil servants ensure the promotion of just and equitable society.

Question #2

Elaborate the principles of good governance in Islam.

1- Introduction

"And We made them leaders, guiding (mankind) by our command."

~ Surah Ambiya # 73

Good governance is a bedrock of a thriving society. Islam as a holistic deen provides various principles of good governance based on the injunctions of Quran and the Sunnah. These principles are commanding good and forbidding evil, establishing justice, promoting meritocracy, and ensuring public welfare. Moreover, promoting rule of law and bolstering consultation. Hence, all these principles of good governance of Islam laid the basis of just, equitable, and progressive society.

2- Concept of good governance in Islam

Al-Mawardi describes Islamic concept of governance in these words,

"In Islam, good governance is the efficient and robust management of public affairs in line with Quranic principles and Hadiths."

3- Discussing the principles of good governance of Islam

3.1) Enjoining good and forbidding evil as cornerstone of good governance

To begin, the key principle of good governance of Islam is based on the concept of enjoining good and forbidding evil, as a result managing public resources effectively. So, Allah says in Surah Hajj # 41,

الَّذِينَ أَنْعَمَ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِمْ فِي الْأَرْضِ وَأَقَامُوا الصَّلَاةَ وَآتَوُا الزَّكَاةَ وَ
أَمَرُوا بِمَا هُمْ بِأَعْيُنِنَا

"(And they are) those who, if we give them authority in land, establish prayer, and give Zakah, and enjoin what is good and forbid what is wrong."

3.2) Promoting meritocracy

Additionally, promoting meritocracy

is also the key principle of good governance in Islam because in this way, talented people will get their due right. Also, ensure the Arabic maxim, which says, "Right person for right job."

For example, the selection of Maaz bin Jabal (RA) and Hazrat Usman Bin Abi Alaa (RA) were purely based on merit.

3.3, Ensuring public welfare

To add more, good governance can only be fulfilled by completing its principle of ensuring public welfare. Through this principle of good governance of Islam, the state would be able to serve the poor in effective way.

Such as, Hazrat Umar (RA) used to go at night to find the need of people and in this regard, the incident of Woman and her children crying due to hunger is striking illustration.

3.4, Ensuring rule of law

Another principle of good governance

of Islam is promotion of rule of law to ensure justice and equality in a state.

The saying of Prophet (S.A.W), "Even if my daughter Fatima (R.A) committed theft, I would have issued the same punishment" is the testimony of importance of rule of law in good governance.

3.5) Upholding strict accountability of governors

Likewise, good governance of Islam also resonates the principle of upholding strict accountability of all governors whether they are fulfilling their responsibilities or not.

"The Hajj Courts and Vertical Review of all assets of governors used to practice in the era of pious Caliphs for upholding accountability of governors."

3.6) Promotion of justice

Moreover, promotion of justice is also the key principle of good governance of Islam. As Allah says,

"O you who have believed, be persistently standing firm in justice."

~ Surah Nisa # 135

3.7) Bolstering participatory environment

Furthermore, bolstering participatory environment is another defining principle of good governance in Islam. In this way, the public can openly presents their demand in front of governors and demand for their due rights.

3.8, Promoting consultation

Consultation is also a prime principle of good governance of Islam as this practice attract multiple solutions to public issues. As a result issues get resolved swiftly. As Allah says in the Quran

وَشَاوِرْهُمْ فِي الْأَمْرِ
"And consult them in the affairs."

~ Surah Al-Imran #159

3.9, Construction of infrastructure for public good

Going down the ladder,

good governance of Islam also involves the construction of infrastructure for good of public, providing them benefits and effectively delivering services.

For example, construction of canals, jails, Bait-ul-Maal, police stations, and so on during Pious Caliphate helped in making governance good and effective.

3.10, Reforming the state institutions

Lastly, reforming the state institutions is also profound principle of good governance of Islam as it, ultimately, helps in making resource management and governance better in multiple ways.

Such as, by reforming various institutions, tax of Egypt increased to 40 lac dirham from 20 lac dirham during era of Hazrat Usman (R.A).

4- Conclusion

To sum up the discussion, governance holds significant importance in Islam as it deals with public affairs. Therefore, Islam has given some principle of good governance in order to serve the public effectively,

ultimately laying the foundation of peaceful society. The principles of good governance of Islam includes ^{upholding} accountability of governors, promotion of rule of law, ensuring meritocracy, bolstering justice, and commanding good and forbidding evil. Thus, all these principles collectively make good governance system of Islam.

