

10. Heavy is the head that wears the crown

Outline:

A. Introduction

B. Heavy is the head that wears the crown

1) Head of the family is supposed to remain vigilant, careful, and provide for financial needs of his family members apart from his personal needs and desires.

- Example of family

2) Leading even a small group demands extra work than others.

- CR of the class

3) Leading a collective social cause demands extra efforts as he/she is required to advocate for the cause to gain mass support apart from individual efforts.

- Greta Thunberg's advocacy

4) Leaders of the masses are required to idealize their lives through careful actions as their actions act as direction for their followers.

Case in point: Prophet of Islam's ideal practical life

5) Endurance of extra pain and hardships is the destiny of many leaders who lead the national movements; or propagation of religion.

~~• Prophet of Islam's endurance of pain~~

6) Incumbent government is held accountable even minute disruptions in country's economy and governance.

• Case in point: Pakistan

7) Economic institutions of the world are prone to additional criticism which increases their responsibility and demands gradual policy adjustments pertaining to contemporary challenges.

• IMF & World Bank policies' criticism

8) Leading global institutions for general peace and security remain more careful in their missions as failures or setbacks echo widespread attention.

• United Nation's missions

9) States desiring to lead region or globe must provide for the domestic needs of the states to be leaded.

• Case in point: China

10) Global superpower pay the cost of leadership apart from its domestic expenditures.

• US foreign aid and cost of combating terrorism

11) Global cause to fight collective threat becomes successful when leading nations contribute as well as help other states to contribute.

- Case in point: Global North's commitment to provide technology for carbon emission reduction (Paris Agreement)

C. Conclusion

"Everyone of you is a shepherd, and is responsible for his flock", said by prophet of Islam Muhammad (PBUH), the saying highlights that everyone will be held accountable for his deeds as leader. A leader is supposed to take extra care for his/her subordinates. The thought in "Heavy is the head that wears the crown", similarly, reflects the idea of extra responsibility which comes with leadership or even heading a small group. Word 'heavy' defines the extra burden, efforts, work, and accountability which comes with the crown - leadership. Leadership in this thought range from family and domestic level to international institutions and global causes. Either it be representing classroom or being head of the family, position demands vigilance and extra efforts. At social or domestic

level, leading a cause or moment demands endurance of extra hardships and accountability. Similarly, at international level, global economics' leading institutions fear extra accountability which is reflected in their frequent policy adjustments. Global leaders pay the price of leadership through financial aid and military support, apart from their domestic expenditures and defense. Global causes like Global War on Terror (GWOT) reflects extra financial burden on global leading economies. As a whole, leading is not merely a privileged position, rather it is the additional responsibility and demands extra efforts and hardwork. Hence, ~~leading small family~~

Head of the family is supposed to fulfil the financial needs of his members of the family in addition to his personal needs. Head of the family has his own desires which he wants to fulfil, but his position as head of family demands prioritizing needs of his family. For instance, in a family, child wants new shoes for some event, and the head's shoes are also torn and are in deteriorated state, head's position requires fulfilling child's demand as a priority. Although head can fulfil both the demands,

his and child's, but prioritizing and efforts to fulfil child's demands is the burden of the head only. In simpler terms, extra efforts or additional responsibility are the core factors which come with the leadership of the family. This same logic applies to leadership of small group.

Leading even a small group demands extra work than others. A small group or community has their general works to be completed individually, but leading figure is supposed to do extra work. This can be better understood from example of Class Representative (CR) of class. CR has to do extra works like, updating class about upcoming assignments and tests, coordinating with teachers and submitting work of all students. Although CR, like all other students, is supposed to complete his work individually, but his role as CR demands extra efforts. So, therefore, it's the position of leading a class which comes with the cost of extra efforts and work, other than his own needs and works.

Similarly, leading a collective social cause requires extra efforts in addition to individual efforts. In

other words, leader of collective social cause must take additional responsibility of advocating the cause to gain support of others, apart from his or her individual ~~step~~ efforts. Recent attempt of providing aid to Gaza Strip by "Global Flanella Samuel" ^{included} ~~in the list of~~ ^{contained} hundreds of participants who faced hardships to reach Gaza. On the other hand, Greta Thunberg, Swedish activist, faced similar hardships, but her leading role demanded advocacy for the cause to gain support of volunteers. She advocated and gained support with extra efforts she put, apart from her hardships she faced as everyone faced. Hence, it is the leadership position which comes with responsibility of advocacy to gain mass support for the social cause.

Moreover, leaders are supposed to act carefully in their practical life and idealize their personalities as their actions act as direction to be followed by their followers. Leaders having following of the masses require them to act carefully in their practical life, as their every action is considered as direction. For instance, Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) of Islamide-

alized his personality by carefully acting in practical life. It was because of the fact that his actions were, spiritually, followed. He acted so carefully that his followers' life was improved, practically, by following him. Therefore, leaders have to act carefully and put extra efforts in their conduct to provide right direction to their followers.

Furthermore, endurance of ^{extra} pain and hardships is the destiny of many leaders who lead national or religious movements. Although all experience hardships when protests persist to gain objectives of national or religious movements, but leaders face extra pain and endure more hardships. It can be referred to case of Nelson Mandela, the great leader, who faced thirty years prison and endured torture and hardships in the jail for his national cause. He faced extra agony as leadership position demands firmness when leading a national movement. It is, therefore, leadership position which must bear the burden of pain and hardships.

Additionally, incumbent governments, lea-

ding people, is held accountable for small misdeeds in their territory.

These disruptions from governance to economic instability spark public outrage. Governments lead the nation, therefore, leadership position demands careful efforts. Case of Pakistan's economic and political instability in 2022 onwards relate to this scenario. Pakistan, in 2023, faced Balance of Payment Crises when foreign exchange reserves fell below \$4.4 billion. ~~FX~~ (formerly Twitter) trends and public discourse reflected outrage and dissatisfaction with government's policies. Events, related to public outrage, led government to tighten its economy policy which resulted in stabilization of foreign reserves. Therefore, it's the leading position of government which face accountability for even, small misdeeds.

Similarly, at global level, economic institutions which provide for aid or stabilization of short-term balance of payment crises face extra criticism which increases their responsibility.

Bretton Woods Institutions (IMF and WB) are leading global economic institutions which provide aid and loans, when requested by states. They face serious criticism for their conditional loans, which include

policy changes to stabilize economy and return of loans. IMF is criticized for lack of taking account of social conditions of particular states as "one size can't fit all". This criticism has led to frequent policy adjustments in IMF's administrative role. Leading position in the economy is the reason which demands such institutions to review their policies.

Moreover, institutions which lead world to ensure peace and national security remain vigilant while conducting their missions. It is because of the fact that their leading position in the world demands perfect actions.

For instance, United Nations missions for peacekeeping and peace enforcement are criticized for their inactive nature, but the reality is that the leading nature of United Nations require to conduct operations only as last resort. Secondly, United Nations is criticized for its failure in ensuring peace. In response to that there have been administrative policies changes in recent years for smooth functioning of the institutions. Hence, extra accountability comes with the burden of leadership.

States who aspire to lead the world or states in lead pay the

cost of leadership by providing financial assistance, military support and security for its development. China, emerging greatpower, assist neighboring countries in development projects and providing infrastructure. It also provides cheap renewable energy projects to its allies. US, on the other hand, is the superpower who pay the cost of global causes like as in Global War on Terror (GWOT) in 2001. After the GWOT, US defense spending nearly hit \$1 trillion, more than 9 subsequent countries spending combined. This cost to maintain leadership is the burden a leader is supposed to pay, apart from its domestic expenditure.

Collective threats, at international level, ~~become~~ are fought collectively with the extra contributions from leading states. For instance, Paris Agreement (2015) to cut the carbon emission was remained successful due to Global North's commitment to aid Global South by financing renewable energy projects and technology transfer. This additional contribution comes with the position of leadership.

To sum up, whether it be small family or global cause, it's the leader who has to put extra efforts physically

financially, socially, and politically. Collective social causes or national movements demand leader to put extra efforts and face accountability. At international level, similarly, leading states and economies pay the cost of leadership by providing financial assistance and security to struggling states. Therefore, the phrase "Heavy is the head that wears the crown" reflects extra efforts and responsibilities of a leader.