

Islamic Studies

Q 1. Discuss the overall effects of western Civilizations on Muslim Societies.

Introduction :

The whole world has become a global village. The present era is called age of globalization. Advancement of media, internet and smartphone are the main source of globalization. Obscenity and nudity, social evils of western culture are getting embedded in Islamic societies. In western culture the family system is very unstable, while in the East, the foundations of family system are weaker day by day. Free sexual relationship, concept of single mother, Homosexuality, these are the western civilization which effects Islamic societies.

Effects on family system in Muslim Societies :

Due to industrial revolution, the feminist movement served as a fuel against the traditional family system. Thus, the women feel burden

on doing household affairs. Due to idea of equality between men and women, the rate of divorce is ~~increasing~~ increasing rapidly. Homosexuality is legalized in Europe while it is prohibited in Islamic Culture. It is stated in Holy book of Christianity "You ^{have} heard that it was said not to commit adultery" Mathew. 5:18

So, even adultery is not allow but modern society of west violating the moral teachings of their own religion. However, we have seen many people doing just for pleasure in Islamic societies. ~~Through~~ This is how western culture affects Islamic society. Allah said in the Quran that:

"Surely, those who like that lewdness spreads among the believers, for them there is painful punishment in this world and hereafter." Quran, 24:19

Political effects on Islamic Societies:

Islam emphasis on justice
consultation (Shura) and accountability.
Western political systems introduced
Democracy, law which have some
similarities to Shura. However, Secularism,
which separates religion from governance,
is against Islam because Islam is
complete code of life. Allah said that
in the Quran:

اليوم اكملت لكم دينكم

Surah Al-Ma'idah 5:3

"Surely, I have perfected your religion
for you."

Prior the western intervention,
the political identity of muslim societies
was largely based on Ummah, a transnational
community of believers. Western Colonialism
fragmented this unified identity by
imposing artificial borders and the
concept of secular and nation-state
system.

The rise of individualism vs. Communalism

Traditional muslim societies are built on communal framework, where family and Ummah are central.

The westerns culture emphasis on individualism, personal autonomy. The focus has shifted from collective good to the desires of individual, leading to a social fragmentation and weak family.

At such moments, Quran reminds believers to hold fast to divine guidance.

"And hold firmly to the rope of Allah all together and do not become divided." (Surah Al-Imran, 3:103)

Conclusion: The western influence on muslim societies is a complex and inescapable reality. It has introduced new opportunities for technological advancement and political reform but also brought profound challenges to traditional identity, governance, and moral values. The path forward for muslim societies lies not in a complete rejection of modernity, but in a process of critical adaptation, guided by principles of Islam.