

82 Introduction:

Hazrat Ali R.A as a Caliph, wrote letters to different Governors, Generals, Judges, And Bureaucrates, which is compiled in Nahjul-Belaghe. These letters provide deep insight about on Ethical Governance and responsible leadership. Hazrat Ali R.A through these letters provide knowledge about basic fundamentals of Islam regarding public administration and Governance. In these letters, he stressed on justice, ethical leadership, public welfare, and human dignity. He gave instruction to the subordinates that decisions must be taken through consultation, and ~~erected~~^{removed} corruption in all its form.

Letters of Hazrat Ali R.A:

Hazrat Ali R.A wrote letters to different Generals, Governors, judges, and bureaucrats, and provide instructions about ethical Governance and responsible leadership. These letters are present in Nahjul Belaghe in detail. Following are the instructions

that he gave to the subordinates.

Instructions of Hazrat Ali R.A to the Subordinates:

a) Authority as Amanah — not privilege:

Hazrat Ali R.A advised to the subordinates that authority is Amanah from Allah, and everyone has to be present in front of him or accountable. Leaders should fulfil their duties under the divine guidance, and not considered power as privilege.

Duren says:

"Human is vice agent of God on Earth".

"Render trust to whom are due, when you judge between them, judge justly, either it is ^{against} yourself or your family or relative."

b) Justice as cornerstone of Governance:

Letter to Malik Al-Nasir, he warned.

"When you do judgment, always do justice impartially".

He advised judges to give decisions on justice — as it is closer to Allah.

These line puts stress that when any individual comes to you, and ask for anything. Do justice with him.

PBUH said:

"The best among you are those who is righteous"

These education helps to reduce oppression in the country.

c) Ethical leadership — practice what you say.

Hazrat Ali R.A emphasized on ethical leadership.

He practised what he said, when he was

Caliph, he made various decision against his

own community. Nowadays, ethics and civilization are very far from the current leadership.

These leaders are corrupt and lack of moral integrity. They give lectures on simplicity, but enjoy huge protocols. These letters help in ethical ruling.

d) Financial Integrity and Transparency

Hazrat Ali emphasized on financial Integrity and transparency. He used public money

very consciously as a trust. He did not

spend a penny on himself unduly, and utilized each on public welfare. Nowadays

tax officials and finance officers used public money extravagantly. These letters

help tax officials to maintain financial Integrity & transparency.

e) Meritocracy — No favoritism:

Hazrat Ali (R.A) stressed on meritocracy on appointment and promotion. He appointed right man for right job. He avoided ~~favoritism~~ and ~~Nepotism~~. Nowadays, politics and Bureaucracy are overloaded with favorite officials, who are appointed on racial ^{ethnicity} affiliation. His letters can help to appoint officials on merit based.

f) Respect for human dignity:

Hazrat Ali R.A stressed on human dignity. He advised officials to deal public calmly and ~~carefully~~ ensuring and protecting their integrity. Nowadays, bureaucracy considers public as 2nd class ~~citizen~~, and deals with them according to their social strata. His letters can help them to improve their attitudes with the common people.

g) Public welfare — end corruption.

He stressed governors to do public welfare enthusiastically. He allocated funds for the masses' development rather than their privilege. Hazrat Ali R.A. focused to end corruption.

Allah says:

"Do not spread corruption on Earth after its reformation"

Al Quran

Nowadays, bureaucracy needs ethical training and responsible attitudes. Hazrat Ali R.A. stressed.

h) Consultation in decisions — shura:

Hazrat Ali R.A. did consultation before taking any decisions with their cabinet (Shura). It helps in taking good logical decisions.

Allah says:

"When you take any decision, take it with consultation"

Al Quran

Today bureaucracy needs to take decision with consultation to enhance its predictability.

Conclusions

In short, Hadrat Ali R.A Letters are clear guidance about ethical governance and responsible leadership. He advised Governors, Generals, judges, and bureaucrats to take authority as a trust, fulfill responsibility, ensure ethical governance, end corruption, maintain financial transparency, do public welfare, maintain human dignity, avoid nepotism, and disseminate justice on Earth. These letters help civil servants to ensure excellence performance and sound governance.