

Islam: Universal Life Provisions for Peace and Harmony

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Abstract

Islam is a religion of peace and harmony. This ideal of peace and harmony in Islam is not only for Muslims. This message of peace and harmony of Islam has been announced for all the creatures of the whole world. Before the advent of Islam, there was a large lack of this peace and harmony in the society. Peace and harmony were established in that society within a short period of time under the unique ideals of Islam. Peace and harmony are largely absent in today's world. But the humanist ideals of Islam still exist, but they are not reflected in society to the extent expected. Peace and harmony are essential for a prosperous and improved society. The golden ideals of Islam contain the ingredients, which if followed will bring the expected peace and success in human society. This ideal of universal peace and harmony of Islam is discussed in the present article.

Key-words: Islam, Religion, Holy Quran, Peace, Harmony, Society, Provision.

Almighty Allah says about His power of creation:

إِنَّمَا أَمْرُهُ إِذَا أَرَادَ شَيْئًا أَنْ يَقُولَ لَهُ كُنْ فَيَكُونُ

“All His command, when He wills something, is to say to it ‘Be,’ and it is”.¹ He created the atmosphere as well as the texture. In simple words, He created the whole universe. Allah created angels and jinn as inhabitants of the universe. But neither angels nor jinns get the dignity of excellence. Destitution and

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incompleteness prevail everywhere. All that complexity extrudes after the creation of Human being (The greatest creation of Almighty Allah). Almighty Allah did not give any importance to the opinion of the angels regarding the creation of man; and created Adam (as) as the first human being and got the dignity as the greatest creation of Allah. After this declaration, the accursed Satan became furious and wanted Adam (as) and Hawa (as) out from the paradise. And after sometime, the intention of Satan fulfilled. Then Allah sends them to the mortal world as the first couple of mortality. Hazrat Adam (as) and his spouse Hawa (as) stepped into the earth for the first time. Thus the journey of mankind started.

Allah settles the policy of life for Adam (as) and Hawa (as) and their incoming generations also. It helps the mankind to maintain their daily lifestyles. This is called ‘Hedayat’ or ‘Hedonism’ (A complete provision of life). Conformation of the policy given by Allah extrudes fear and all the menacing- trembling situations from human mind. Allah says:

فَمَنْ تَبِعْ هُدَايَ فَلَا خَوْفٌ عَلَيْهِمْ وَلَا هُمْ يَحْزَنُونَ

“Those who follow my guidance shall have no fear, nor shall they grieve”.² In the early period of mankind, after a long aliquot journey; Islam initiates. After that, numerous Prophets and Messengers come on earth through a continuous process and they all cherish the same perceptions, views and thoughts.

In the Holy Quran Allah says:

وَلَقَدْ بَعَثْنَا فِي كُلِّ أُمَّةٍ رَسُولًا أَنِ اعْبُدُوا اللَّهَ وَاجْتَنِبُوا الطَّاغُوتَ

“Certainly, we raised an apostle in every nation (to preach), Worship Allah and keep away from the Rebels.”³ Among the Prophets and Messengers Hazrat Ibrahim (as) plays a very important role and become famous as the father of Muslim denomination. Hazrat Ibrahim (as) was very obedient to Almighty Allah’s order. The level of his subservience to Allah was beyond our thought. Islam provides a complete way of life for mankind. Allah prefers Islam among all the religions in the whole universe. About the devotion of Hazrat Ibrahim (as) Allah says:

وَ إِذِ ابْتَلَىٰ اِبْرٰهٖمَ رَبُّهُ بِكَلِمٰتٍ فَاَتَمَّهُنَّ ۗ

“Ibrahim (as) was tested by his fostering over and over again, He fulfilled and passed all that exams with full authenticity.⁴ Allah also says about Ibrahim (as) that:

قَالَ اِنِّىْ جَاعِلُكَ لِلنَّاسِ اِمَامًا

“He said, I am making you the Imam (Leader) of mankind.”⁵ In the history of Islam Ibrahim (as) has a boastful position. Allah says:

مَلَّةَ اٰبِيكُمْ اِبْرٰهٖمَ-هُوَ سَمَّكُمْ الْمُسْلِمِيْنَ

“Ibrahim is the father of your community and He named you ‘Muslim’.⁶ Hazrat Ismail (as) was the beloved son of Hazrat Ibrahim (as) and Hazrat Hazera. Prophets and Messengers come to the earth in a continuous process. Hazrat Muhammad (sm) is the greatest man, Prophet and patriarchs as well as trazodone of mankind. He was the last but not the least messenger of Islam. Islam became famous and got complete meaning by the greatest man of the universe.

Arab peninsula is the middle part of the earth. In 6th century (ac) the situation of that place was just terrific. The then sociological system was totally corrupted with violence and ferocity. Humanity, justice, honesty, freedom of life was just absent on that time. Even people didn’t get their basic human rights. Gender discrimination was a very acute problem then. Women didn’t get any dignity and privilege in their society. Baby girls were killed by the ferocious- heartless monsters. Actually more painful thing was; they were buried alive. In historical term, the then time is recognized as ‘Ayyame Jaheliya’ (The era of darkness).

To solve the menacing problem, to cure the ill-fated society, to spread love and wisdom, to stop the disaster and inversion and make the whole world pleasant, smooth and peaceful; He comes. Hazrat Muhammad (sm) was the greatest, complete man of mankind. He comes to the superstitious-turmoil Arabian society on 570 AD. Famous Persian spiritual poet Fariduddin Attar (1145-1221 AD) praised Hazrat Muhammad (sm) and sang:

سيد الكونين ختم المرسلين
آخر آمد بود فخر الاولين

“He was the leader of the universe
He was the last messenger for mankind
Creator feels proud by creating Him
Though, He came at the last
But, His height beings first.”⁷

According to Islamic life provision and religious belief, Almighty Allah is regarded as ‘Rabb’ (An Arabic word, means Lord, Keeper) by Muslims. The Holy Quran declares that:

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ

“All praises and laudation is only for Almighty Allah, He is the creator and requiting of the whole universe.”⁸ There are various definitions about the word ‘Rabb’. But the simple and straightforward meaning of this word is– ‘Who fulfilled all the needs of the whole creation, who arranged everything for His genesis, called Rabb’.

In the meantime, Allah sends Hazrat Muhammad (sm) as an absolute friend of mankind, when the whole world bears the scandal of being sinful. Muhammad (sm) was a bearer of all the magnificent and generous characteristics from His childhood .He wanted to build a polished, luminous and peaceful society for all in His juvenility. And finally when He gets the dignity of being the greatest messenger of Islam as well as the whole mankind, He tried all possible steps to serve humanity. He uprooted all improprieties and dishonesty from the society. He eradicated the panic of terrorism from human mind. His wisdom, strength, knowledge, strategy and miraculous power became a mixture of a great personality. He helps Islam to be a perfect, liberal, universal, generous, humanitarian and loving religion. And it is possible only for the greatest man, the Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (sm). He sacrificed His whole life for the command of Allah, for the welfare of Islam, for the mankind and finally for the whole universe. We are very proud to be His followers (Ummah).

There are different religious faith were in vogue on that time in Arab. 360 statues were put in The Holy Kaba Sharif (The best religious place according to Islam). Nevertheless, some people were monotheist in the society on that time. They were called ‘Hanif’ (Believing in monotheism, Hanif, in the Quran, the sacred scripture of Islam, an Arabic designation for true monotheists, especially Abraham who were not Jews, Christians, or worshipers of idols).⁹ But most of the people were dishonest, wicked, impious, and whelmed in indecency on that time. They were provoked by their progenitors. Humanity, amenableness, peace, equivalence, unity, amity, kindness, discipline all were totally absent on that time.

When Prophet Muhammad (sm) wanted to spread Islam in Arab society, He was afflicted by the unprogressive and sectarian people. Prophet (sm) flourished the aroma of the Holy kalema (sentence). But the ungenerous and reactionary people were deprived of the right path. So, they couldn’t perceive the light of Islam as well as the aromatic flavor of the Holy Kalema. The main theme of this Kalema is:

لا اله الا الله محمد الرسول الله

“There is none worthy of worship except Allah (and) Muhammad (sm) is the messenger of Allah”.¹⁰

They disobeyed the Holy Kalema. Basically, they couldn’t realize the actual truth of life. Rather, they persecuted Prophet (sm) and outraged Him a lot. Even they wanted to kill Him finally. By following almighty’s order, the Prophet (sm) migrated to Madina from Makkah al Mokarramah. After His migration to Madina He started to spread the light of Islam in a new formation. He secured Islam by the cordial invitation of Islam; sometimes He committed agreements, protocols and treaty. After about a period of decade, the situation changed randomly. Makkah is the birthplace of Prophet (sm), but he couldn’t stay there because of the cruelty of the inhabitants of Makkah. Finally, Prophet (sm) backed to his motherland after conquering Makkah and pardoned everyone with benevolence. Prophet (sm) not only conquered the Makkah and Madina but

also make changes the psychographic situation of mankind. People changed themselves by the thought of perfections and spiritualism. The personality of the Prophet (sm) amazed the then Arab people. Gradually they became cultured, pious and kind hearted. The form and the situation of the society changed totally. And all this happened only for the life provisions of Islam as well as the miraculous power of Prophet Muhammad (sm).

The headings of this article, we accessed two key points. The first point is: ‘Universal’ and the second is ‘Peace and Harmony’. In true sense, Islam is a complete, universal and peaceful code of life. Islam means tranquility; Islam means capitulation. And the capitulation is only for the Almighty Allah. He is recognized as ‘Salam’. It means Allah sustains peace all over the universe. The word Salam is a very important matter in Islam. ‘Assalamu Alaikum’ the sentence means a lot; it means peace may always be with you.

We are mentioning some parts of a very recent comment of the famous French Footballer ‘Paul Pogba’ (born: 15th March, 1993): “Islam is respectful to humanity, it helps to change my outlook about life, it opens my third eye, it makes me a perfect human being, it brought peace in my intimate part and made positive changes to my life”.¹¹

There is no boundary of Islam. The peaceful code of life is for every nation, religion, cast and creed. Finally we can say that, Islam is for the whole universe.

Harmony is an eternal norm of Islam. Especially in the inter-religious harmony, Islam creates exceptions. Prophet Muhammad (sm) is the greatest exemplar of sectarian harmony. It will be relevant to this regard we are mentioning, “Once in a mosque in Madina, where Prophet (sm) was present; a non-Muslim person committed a very shameful work. The man excreted at the mosque. But Prophet (sm) was not rude to him. Even Muhammad (sm) implying him about the honor and worthiness of such a sacred place of Islam. If you dishonor our mosques, our religious faith; it becomes painful to us. It hurts

our hearts. So, in future do not do it again to such a sacred religious place. After that, Prophet (sm) bid him goodbye! And instantly the man said, I wanted to see the level of patients of Prophet Muhammad (sm). And for this I did that worst deed. I know that, He is the last messenger of Islam from the Almighty. And after that the man said, now I have no doubt about His excellence. So, please accentuate me the sacred sentence of Islam for the sake of Almighty Allah: “La Ilaha Illallahu Muhammadur Rasulullah”.

Here we can mention the benevolence of Prophet (sm), after conquering Makkah. This incident is quite similar to the aforementioned matter. And all that incidents were very much helpful to spread Islam around the world.

In the heading of our article we mentioned before that, Islam is a peaceful and universal life provision for mankind. In actual meaning, Islam is an ecumenical and universal religion. The Holy Quran describes the incident of the apparition of Prophet (sm):

فَلْيَايَهَا النَّاسُ إِنِّي رَسُولُ اللَّهِ إِلَيْكُمْ جَمِيعًا

“Prophet Muhammad (sm), you say, I am the messenger of Allah and He sends me for you all.”¹² In this verse it is clearly proved that, Prophet Muhammad (sm) is not for a fixed region or state, not for any definite nation or not for only a community. He is for all the nations and religions. He is the patriarchs as well as Trazdone for us. He is our Prophet and He is for all. Recently in modern India a famous Hindu Guru (teacher) and Pandit (scholar) Shri Accharya Promod Krishna (Born: 2nd July 1962) said in a program that, “Prophet Muhammad (sm) is not only for yours (Muslims), but also for ours (Hindus). The ideology of His life is not only for the Muslims but also for the Hindus. He circulated the provision of Salam among the Muslims. Salam means peace always be with you. He preached Islam as the religion of peace; the Patriarchs of any religion didn’t like violence, the followers of that religion couldn’t be terrorists any more. So, Muslims cannot be terrorists.”^{13, 14}

In the Holy Quran Almighty Allah says:

فَمَنْ تَبِعَ هُدَايَ فَلَا خَوْفَ عَلَيْهِمْ وَلَا هُمْ يَحْزَنُونَ

“Who obeyed the order of Allah, become fearless and blithesome.”¹⁵ Allah ordered that:

وَمَا أَلْتَكُمُ الرَّسُولَ فَخُذُوهُ وَمَا نَهَاكُمْ عَنْهُ فَانْتَهُوا

“Assumption of the things that your Trazodone brings for you and desist from the thing that He forbidden.”¹⁶ Allah also says:

لَقَدْ كَانَ لَكُمْ فِي رَسُولِ اللَّهِ أُسْوَةٌ حَسَنَةٌ

“The best ideology for you is in the life of the Messenger of Allah. The valuable ideology of Prophet (sm) is very important for you and you should pursue it”.¹⁷ Hazrat Muhammad (sm) is our Prophet and He is for the whole universe. Islam says that, the ideology of Prophet Muhammad (sm) as well as his characteristics is beyond any type of arguments or doubt. On the other hand, people of different religions; who are pious and peace lover are bound to accept the provisions with importance. Even the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) bacchantes and enacts a rule that, no one is permitted to say any abusive word against Prophet Muhammad (sm) and His ideology as well as the method and policy of His life. Not only that, 7 sapient judges of the court of Austria have enacted a law that, no one has permission to use any insulting word against Prophet Muhammad (sm). ECHR accepted the rule of the court of Austria with full assistance. ECHR vigilant everyone and enact a law with strong points dated 25th October 2018 that, in the establishment of social and religious peace ; any abusive word or rudeness against Prophet Muhammad (sm) is adjudicated as a misdeed.¹⁸

The European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) ruled against defamation of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and said such activities exceed the permissible limits of freedom of expression. The court’s decision comes after an Austrian woman; named Mrs. S. held two seminars in 2009, in which she defamed the Holy Prophet (PBUH).¹⁹ According to this latest judgment, defaming the Islamic prophet Muhammad, even if inadvertently,

is quite simply always unacceptable, regardless of the language.²⁰

Here we mention the matter of defamation of Prophet Muhammad (sm) because of it that, the impact of denouncement of Islam and prophet (sm) in some Muslim countries is seen affectedly. For this, the social and religious grudge as well as complication arises in those Islam based countries and it makes dangerous rioting and inversions. European law and other human rights organizations took appropriate and effective steps to mitigate this menacing problem. Its actual intention is to establish peace and social stability. On the other hand, extrude all obstacles.

Terrorism is the main problem of today's world. In the very beginning of Islam, in the society there was prevalence of terrorism, rioting, clash and hostility. Almighty Allah ordered to the Arabian Quraish:

فَلْيَعْبُدُوا رَبَّ هَذَا الْبَيْتِ الَّذِي أَطْعَمَهُمْ مِنْ جُوعٍ وَآمَنَهُمْ مِنْ خَوْفٍ

“Both of you solicit the master (Allah) of this place (Kaba Sharif); He will give you sustenance and shelter.”²¹

Annunciation of Almighty Allah:

مَنْ قَتَلَ نَفْسًا بِغَيْرِ نَفْسٍ أَوْ فَسَادٍ فِي الْأَرْضِ فَكَأَنَّمَا قَتَلَ النَّاسَ جَمِيعًا

“The man who killed someone innocent, suchlike he killed the whole mankind.”²² After this important announcement; Allah announced another important matter:

وَمَنْ أَحْيَاهَا فَكَأَنَّمَا أَحْيَا النَّاسَ جَمِيعًا

“And whoever saves a life is as though he had saved all mankind”.²³ Enunciation of Prophet Muhammad (sm) is quite similar to the Holy Quran in this context. He said that, ‘If the whole mankind committed a decision to kill someone innocent, they all would be thrown down to the hell by Almighty Allah; nevertheless He doesn't recognize the crime of man slaughter’. ‘In the matter of killing someone innocent, if somebody makes silence or doesn't rectify the inhumane deed with a single word, the man is declared as a culprit on the last day of consideration’.

'If someone claims to Allah that, he or she didn't commit any type of crime or inhumane job; then Almighty Allah forgive them and presumes them as an innocent human being'.²⁴ The strict order of Allah and the enunciation of Prophet Muhammad (sm) are very important for the whole mankind and it is an inspiration to all of them. But, the main motive of these sayings is to make the society inoffensive and peaceful.

Another discussible subject is that, Prophet Muhammad (sm) proclaimed Islam in accordance with the Holy Quran. And Allah recognized the Quran as "a manifest Book" (كِتَابٌ مُّبِينٌ).²⁵ It is the wonderment of His (Allah) excellence, The Holy Quran like guarded pearls, (كَأَمْثَالِ اللُّؤْلُؤِ الْمَكْنُونِ)²⁶ in a preserved tablet, (فِي لَوْحٍ مَّخْفُوظٍ)²⁷ this is the Book, there is no doubt in it, (ذَلِكَ الْكِتَابُ لَا رَيْبَ) there is no doubt to change, improve or accession this. The Book gradually sent down from Allah for all the worlds (تَنْزِيلًا مِّن رَّبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ).²⁹ It is not for a nation or a country or the people of any community; It is the guidance for all nations (وَهُدًى لِّلْعَالَمِينَ).³⁰ The Quran was sent down as guidance to mankind, with manifest proofs of guidance and the criterion (هُدًى لِّلنَّاسِ وَبَيِّنَاتٍ مِّنَ الْهُدَىٰ وَالْفُرْقَانِ).³¹ This is an explanation for mankind, and a guidance and advice for the God wary (هَذَا بَيَانٌ لِّلنَّاسِ وَهُدًى وَمَوْعِظَةٌ لِّلْمُتَّقِينَ).³² We have sent down the Book to you as a clarification of all things and as a guidance and mercy and good news for the Muslims (وَنَزَّلْنَا عَلَيْكَ الْكِتَابَ تِبْيَانًا لِّكُلِّ شَيْءٍ وَهُدًى وَرَحْمَةً وَبُشْرَىٰ لِّلْمُسْلِمِينَ).³³

There is no narrowness and sectarian matters in the Holy Quran. The characteristics of this greatest Book are universal and it has the entire dictation of life. Prophet Muhammad (sm) addressed the whole mankind to maintain the path of Islam and ordered to follow the dictation of Allah at the speech of His last Hajj. In the meantime, Allah sent down the sacred line:

اليوم أكملت لكم دينكم وأتممت عليكم نعمتي ورضيت لكم الإسلام ديناً³⁴

"Today I have perfected your religion for you, and I have completed My blessing upon you, and I have approved Islam as your religion."³⁵ So, Islam is recognized as a religion of peace, harmony and benevolence as well as a perfect provision of human life from that day.

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