

ISLAM IN FOCUS



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2014

Islam in Focus

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Cadet College Larkana

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Foreword

The book "ISLAM IN FOCUS," is a collection of articles, mainly contributed by the teachers and cadets. These all articles were published in pervious college published Magazine "Indus", from 1992 to 2010 and cover a variety of topics which are beneficial not just for our cadets but for the general readers also.

I felicitate Mr. Abdul Razzaque Lanjwani, Lecturer in English, who surely has put in great efforts in bringing out this book which I hope will prove helpful for the education and training of the youth of our country.

01 June 2011

Cadet College Larkana

Prof. Muhammad Yusuf

Principal

Preface

Islam is the religion of peace and order. Before Islam, it was period, full of vices, corruption, superstitions and unrestricted enjoyment. In such conditions, the Holy Prophet (SAW) of Islam appeared with his universal message of brotherhood.

It is a matter of pleasure and honour to have been assigned with the task of collecting and compiling religious articles published in various volumes of annual college Magazine "Indus" of Cadet College Larkana.

"Islam is Focus" contains different research articles by professors, lectures and cadets on Islamic teachings and Holy Prophet (PBUH)'s life with special references. Sufficient Reading Material and research oriented references of Hadith have been added.

It is hoped that his book will be welcomed by those who are keen to know about religious beliefs and its message.

I am extremely grateful to my worthy principal who always provides us a strong platform for learning. I am also thankful to Fazalul Rehman Memon and Muhammad Arshad Solangi for their assistance in completing the task.

01 June, 2011
Cadet College Larkana

Abdul Razaque Lanjwani
Lecturer in English

Miraculous Nature of Quran

Sikander Ali Channa, Astit. Prof. Islamiat

Definition

The Quran has certain features which make it unique and of inimitable quality. This inimitability is called "Aijaz—ul—Quran", "the miraculous nature of Quran". The word Aijaz is derived from the root ajaza which means incapacitating or rendering powerless. Technically it means the inimitable and unique nature of the Quran which leaves its opponents powerless or incapable of meeting the challenge which the revelation poses to them.

Origin of the Thesis

Quran itself claims that the composition like it is beyond the capacity of men and jins. The following verse gives this challenge:

"If men and jins should combine together to bring the like of this Quran, they could not bring like of it though some of them were aiders of other."

(17:90)

This challenge is repeated more than once: "the enemies of the Prophet should produce ten Surahs, if their disbelief was justified" (11:16) "or only one Surah" (10:39) Again we read:

“If you are in doubt as to what we have revealed from time to time to Our servant (Prophet), then produce a surah like thereunto and call your witnesses or helpers besides Allah if your (doubts) are true, but if ye cannot— and of surely you cannot— then fear the fire, whose fuel is men and stones (or their leaders) which is prepared for those who reject faith”

(2:23-4)

These verses of the Quran constitute the origin of the thesis of the belief of Aijaz-ul- Quran or the miraculous nature of the Quran.

Various Aspects of Aijaz

(a) Language and Style

The language of the Quran is well known, that is Arabic. The Quranic words are correct, familiar, effective and they wonderfully coordinate with their ideas in a way beyond the reach of the Arabs. But, its language is very easy to understand. The message of the Quran can be understood by all human being who are willing to listen as stated by the Quran.

“We have indeed made the Quran easy to remember: but is there any that remembers it?”

(54:17)

With the Arabs, the established forms of speech had been Shi'r Saja, Khutub, and other kinds of prose. But the Quran opened a path unique and different from the established-ones. Thus it can be said that Quran has originated a style of expression of its own. The Arabs of the age were recognized to acknowledge the superiority of this new style.

There are two main literary forms:

1. Prose, and
2. Poetry

But the style of the Quran is totally different from the both patterns of prose or poetry, as refuted by the Quran itself:

“It is not the word of a poet; little it is ye believe. Nor is it the word of a sooth-sayer: little admonition it is receive. (This is) a message sent from the Lord of the worlds.”

Although the Quran is in prose but its language and style is not in the everyday established forms of prose. By prose is meant a way of expression close to the everyday spoken language and distinct from poetry but Quranic prose cannot be called prose or rhymed prose. It is divided into verses. One reaches and breaks where taste tells one that the speech stops. It is then resumed and “repeated” in the next verse. (Rhyme) letters, which would make that (type of speech) rhymed prose, are not obligatory, nor do rhymes (as used in poetry) occur. This situation is what is meant by the verse of the Quran: God revealed the best story, a book harmoniously arranged with repeated verses. (39:23).

Example:

A good example of the Quranic prose is the Sura Al-Ikhlās (112:1-4). It is somewhat irregular in its rhythm, and it has a rhyme ending with the syllable ad:

Qul Huwa Ilaliu Ahad, Allahu Samad, Lamyalid, w
lam yulad, Wa lam yakun lahu kufuwan Ahad.

The wonderful composition and extra ordinary style of the Quran, in-spite of dealing with different subjects,

is remarkable. There is no variety of style and it retains its high level in all the phases of expression, although there are many stories based on the principles of religion, admonition, laws, promises and threats. Another quality of the Quranic style is that the lengthy arguments and deep ideas are conveyed in short sentences. Similarly abundant and different ideas are combined in one continuous sentence in a way that is clearly beyond the human potential. The teachings of the Quran are very easy to follow by everybody. In spite of this simplicity it cannot be imitated. There is an element of awe in the vocabulary of the Quran that the hearts of hearers are greatly affected. The recitors and the hearers of the Quran are never tired of it. It is always fresh and new. It is easy to preserve the Quran in memory and learnt it by heart. No book or scripture can be compared with the Quran in this respect. The ease with which it can be committed to memory by an Arab or non-Arab, a boy or a grown up is remarkable.

(b) Free from contradiction

The message of the Quran revealed over a period of 23 years in both short and longer parts, on numerous occasions and in a variety of circumstances is nevertheless free of any contradiction. If the Quran had been written by a human being then certainly some contradictions would be there and could be discerned. Already the Quran has pointed out this fact: "Do they not consider the Quran? Had it been from other than Allah they would surely have found therein much discrepancy. (4:82)

- (i) *Conquest of Makkah:* It was predicted about the battle of Badr that the disbelievers would be defeated.
- (ii) *Preservation of the Quran:* The Quran appeared among the most illiterate people, for whom the art of writing was in its infancy. At the time of revelation of the Quran, throughout the world, the original scriptures of all religions/faiths were corrupted and could not remain in their original textual form. The Quran at that period of history claimed that it would remain free from corruption for all times to come. After 1400 years we find the Quran in its original textual form and free from all human indulgence.
- (iii) *Defeat of Persians by Romans:* It was anticipated by the Quran at the time when Persians had over-run the whole of Roman Empire. The Quresh were jubilant at the victory of Persians because they had sympathy with the fire-worshiper Persians more than with the Christian who being the followers of the scriptures (Gospel) were classed by the Muslims:
- The Romans are vanquished in a near land and they after their defeat will gain victory within nine years. (3:2-3). It was in the year 616 A.D. that this revelation came to the Prophet, and exactly within nine years (624 A.D.) that the Romans won the battle at Issus in 624 AD. (After seven years).

All above prophecies were fulfilled up to the hilt.

(c) *Science and the Quran*

The Quran contains information on scientific facts which are in perfect agreement with the findings of

man's scientific pursuits. Some of them are the following:

- (i) That the earth was previously part of the sun and only after separation from it became a habitable place for mankind.(21 :30).
- (ii) That all life originated from water (21:30).
- (iii) That the universe was in the shape of flery gas (which the Quran calls dukhan (41: 11).
- (iv) That the matter is made up of minute particles (10:62).
- (v) That the oxygen content of the air is reduced at higher altitudes (6:125).
- (vi) That in nature everything consists of complementary elements, not only man and animals, but also plants and even inorganic matter (36:36).
- (vii) That the human embryo in the womb is enclosed by three coverings.(39:6).
- (viii) That fertilization of certain plants is done by the wind (15:22).
- (ix) Those microscopic organisms exist that are not visible to the naked eye, such as spermatozoon (96:1).
- (x) That each human being has permanent individual finger prints (75)

These are just a few of many examples, for more examples and detailed discussion, see Maurice Bucaille's book: The Bible , The Quran and Science.

(d) Quranic Teachings

The real miracle of the glorious Quran is in its teachings, and in its principles of science and knowledge and laws, in its unique wisdom and ideas with which the ignorant and barbarous Arabs of the age were raised to the civilization and changed into the pious and civilized nation of heroes within the shortest period of 23 years . The teachings of the Quran changed the destinies of the world by bringing the greater portion of it under its healthy influence, which setting the rest on the right path of the civilization. The Quran is the source of inspiration to the human race and inculcation of the noblest of ideals: monotheism, universalism and democracy.

The Quran is the book that came to preach a cosmopolitan religion. Every book before it was sent to a particular nation or a country. Islam came on the other hand as a universal dispensation. It took the whole world as its jurisdiction and preached its truth to the whole human race. The book declared that

“Every one of you is of the single root.”

Quranic Concept of Human Embryo's Development

Sikander Ali Channa, Asstt. Prof. Islamait

Statements referring to human reproduction and development are scattered throughout the Quran. It is only recently that the scientific meaning of some of the verses has been appreciated fully. The long delay in interpreting these verses correctly resulted mainly from inaccurate translations and commentaries, and from a lack of awareness of scientific knowledge.

Quran says:

"He creates you in your mothers' wombs one act of creation after another, in three-fold depths of darkness".

We do not know when it was realized that human beings underwent development in the uterus (womb), but the first known illustration of fetus in the uterus, was drawn by Leonardo da Vinci in the 15th Century. In the 2nd century A.D, Galen described the placenta and fetal membranes in his book "ON THE FORMATION OF THE FOETUS"

Consequently, doctors in the 7th century A.D knew that the human embryo developed in the uterus. It is unlikely that they knew that it developed in stages, even though Aristotle had described the stages of

development of the chick embryo in the 4th Century B.C. The realization that the human embryo develops in stages was not discussed and illustrated until the 15th century A.D.

After the microscope was invented in the 17th century A.D. by Leeuwenhoek, descriptions were made of the early stages of the chick embryos. The staging of human embryos was, not described until the 20th century A.D. Streeter (1941) developed the first system of staging which has now been replaced by a more accurate system proposed by O' Rahilly (1972).

Quranic statement of three-fold depth darkness may refer to: (1) the interior abdominal wall (2) the uterine wall) and ; (3) the amniochorionic membranes amnion. In another statement Quran says:

“Indeed, we create man out of matrix or essence of clay and then we placed him as drop in place of rest”.

The drop of (Nutfa) has been interpreted as the sperm or Sapermatozoon, but a more meaningful interpretation would be zygote, which divides to form a blastocyst which is implanted in the uterus (a place of rest). This interpretation is supported another verse in the Quran, which states that “A human being is created from mixed drop”. The zygote forms by the union of mixture of the sperm and ovum (the mixed drop).

Again Quran says:

“Then we made the drop into a Leech—like structure”.

The word “alaqa” refers to a leech blood sucker. This is an appropriate description of the human embryo from days 7-24 when it clings to the endometrium of the uterus, in the same way that a leech clings to the skin.

Just as the embryo derives blood from the host, the human embryo derives blood from the decidua pregnant endometrium. It is remarkable how much the embryo of 23-24 days resembles a leech. As there were no microscopes or lenses available in the 7th century. A.D, doctors would not have known that the human embryo had this leech-like appearance. In the early part of the 4th week, the embryo is just visible to the unaided eye, because it is smaller than a kernel of wheat.

In same Surah Quran says:

“Then of that leech-like structure, we made a chewed lump.”

The Arabic word ‘Mudghah’ means chewed substance or chewed lump. Towards the end of the fourth week, the human embryo looks, somewhat like a chewed lump of flesh. The chewed appearance results from the somites which resemble teeth marks. The somites represent the beginnings or primordia of the vertebrate.

Again Quran says in the same Surah:

“Then we made out of the chewed lump, bones, and clothed the bones in flesh”.

This indicates that out of the chewed lump stage, bones and muscles form this in accordance with the embryological development. First the bones form as cartilage models and then the muscles (flesh) develop around them from the somatic mesoderm.

Final stage of human embryo according to Quran:

“Then we developed out of it another creature”.

This next part of Surah Al-Mauminoon implies that the bones and muscles result in the formation of another creature. This may refer to the human-like embryo that forms by an end of eighth week. At this stage it has distinctive human characteristics that possesses the primordia of all the internal and external organs and parts. After the eighth week, the human embryo is called a fetus. This may be the new creature, to whom the verse refers.

“And He gave you hearing and sight and feeling and understanding.”

It indicates, that the special senses of hearing, looking and feeling develop in this order, which is true. The primordia of the internal ears, appear before the beginning of the eyes, and the brain (the sight of understanding) differentiates last

“Then out of piece of a chewed flesh, partly formed and partly unformed”.

This indicates that the embryo is composed of both differentiated and undifferentiated tissues. For example, when the cartilage bones are differentiated, the embryonic connective tissues or mesenchyme around them is undifferentiated. In latter, differentiates into the muscles and ligaments attached to the bones.

“And we cause whom we will to rest in the wombs for an appointed term”.

This part of Surah Al-Haj seems to imply that Allah determines which embryos will remain in the uterus until full term. It is well known, that many embryos abort during the first month of development, and that only about 30% of zygotes, that form, develop into fetuses that survive until birth. This verse has also been

interpreted, to mean that Allah determines whether the embryo will develop into a boy or girl, and whether the child will be fair or ugly.

The interpretation of the verse in the Quran, referring to human embryo development would not have been possible in the 7th century A.D. or even a hundred years ago. We can interpret them now, because the science of modern embryology affords us new understanding. Undoubtedly, there are other verses in the Quran related to human development that will be understood in the future as our knowledge increases.

Creation of Universe and Origin of Human Life

Sikander Ali Channa, Asstt. Prof. Islamait

Over the centuries, various cultures have produced answers to the puzzling questions of the creation of the Universe and the origin of human life. In eastern civilization, only the Holy Quran provided a satisfactory and almost universally accepted solution to this problem for fourteen centuries. As science began to progress, beginning with the renaissance and produced more and more evidence that seemed to conflict with the religious concepts, scientific challenge to Biblical assertions began to develop in the Western civilization. This challenge gained impetus in the 17th and the 18th centuries and culminated in the mid of 19th century with the explosive impact of Charles Darwin's Theory of Organic Evolution. Today, more than a century after Darwin, the conflict between science and religion continues.

The theory of Special or Divine Creation or Vitalism is based on literal interpretation of the Book of Genesis of the Bible, which holds that each species of living organism was created in its exact form and can not give rise to a different organism. On the contrary, Quranic concepts are identical with the scientific findings.

Indeed, the Holy Quran is not a book of science, but it has some references to certain scientific aspects in order to endorse the thrust of it. Argument in support of the oneness of Allah and of His Being, the Supreme Lord in the universe. Here, in this article, an effort has been undertaken to interpret the Quranic philosophy with reference to creation of the Universe and origin of human life.

Creation of the Universe

Physical sciences have themselves proved that all that exists in the universe is matter, which is actually the content of the universe and is capable of being moulded into different bodily forms for corporal existence. Different conceivable forces of the universe, as confirmed and admitted by the science are:

1. Force of Gravity
2. Electro-Magnetic Force
3. Weak Nuclear Force
4. Strong Nuclear Force

Two main attributes of Allah are consistently mentioned wherever the phenomenon of creation of the Universe is taken up in the Holy Quran, and they are:

1. Power or Qudrat.
2. Knowledge and Wisdom or Ilm-o-Hikmat

It is asserted that with Allah's supreme sovereign authority, along with His exalted power and supreme knowledge, the phenomenon of the creation of the universe was initiated, and that process is being repeated with continuity so that whatever is between the heaven and the earth is going through this experience to maintain that uninterrupted continuity, which is obvious

in the phenomenal existence of the universe. The idea of creation also proves that it is an admitted fact that there was a definite moment in time, and there must have been a distinct point in space assigned for creation. It is also revealed in the Holy Quran, in Surah Al— Yaseen that the creation of universe was the result of the will of Allah:

“Verily, when He intends a thing, His command is, “Be” and it is.” (36/82)

The word “Amr” means, ‘Pre—ordained plan”, or “The process of Becoming” which denotes that the evolution is the soul of Allah’s creation. In the following verse of Surah Al Ambiya, the Holy Quran tells us that the creation was in stages:

“Have not those who disbelieve known that the heavens and the earth were of one single entity, then We parted them.” (21/30).

It is interesting to note that lately, the physical sciences have realized and admitted that there was a beginning and that there was also a time when everything in the universe was like a packed, superhot, superdense ball of very hot photons, like a sea of highly energetic radiation, which is represented and is considered to be a Unified Force with all the other forces inbuilt in its nature. So sciences are only predicting as a position that at very high energies there can be merging of Strong Hadronic (nuclear force) with electro weak force and force of gravity, and it thus constitutes unified force. While the concept of a unified force remains a theoretical supposition with the empirical sciences, the Holy Quran asserts about the “Supreme Principal Force”, which emanates from Allah

and it thus establishes its existence as an activity and highlights its potentials, wherein all the conceivable forces of nature are represented. It is the charisma of nature that the Supreme Principal Force remains unmanifest so far as human perception and scientific sensors are concerned, although it is allegorically hinted in several verses of the Holy Quran. Physical sciences go on to believe that they have constructed a theoretical model in which they endeavor to explain how the universe appeared in superhot and superdense state at the actual moment of creation itself, which they believe to have happened as the Big Bang. Surprisingly enough, sciences still admit that the Big Bang takes them back as far as one ten thousandth (10^{-4}) of a second after the actual moment of creation. After that, they feel confident to describe beautifully all the subsequent events in details as to how in different stages Universe evolved to assume its present design. But surprisingly, they totally ignore the extremely important related sphere, and that is the source of Big Bang in the Big Bang theory. In other words:

- a. Sciences fail to admit the existence of the Supreme Principal Force which exists without any limits of space and time.
- b. Science also fails to conceive the Divine Authority who laid down the design of the universe.
- c. Sciences also fail to admit the Supreme Order in the form of Command which actually initiated and thus generated immense energy in order to create superhot and Superdense fire-ball.

Sciences are thus bringing about actualization of nothingness which is in utter contradiction to their own

concepts and logics. Quranic concept is very clear and it is asserted as a challenge, throughout its narration, that Allah Almighty, Eternal, is Absolute and Exalted in Power as given in the following verse of Surah Al-Baqarah:

“To Hint is due the primal origin of the heavens and the earth, when He decreeth a matter, He saith to it “Be” and it is.” (2/117).

Thus, according to the Holy Quran the truth is that the creation of the universe is the result of a simple command, as the Supreme Order ‘Be’. Supreme Order ‘BE’ maintains the Eternal Word of Allah and the whole of universe comes into existence as a result of His design and thus becomes a manifestation of His unmanifest Supreme Force. Prime Principal Control of the Supreme Order “B” maintains itself from the moment of the creation of superhot, superdense and fire-ball of the Big Bang to the creation and evolution of entire grand phenomenal existence of His universe.

Surprisingly enough, sciences have not been bothered about a pertinent question as to why the universe was created at all? The Holy Quran opens our spiritual eyes by giving description of Allah Who is our Lord and Master, highlighting the attributes of Allah, creation being the most frequently asserted attribute, and then following verses also highlight the causes how universe is created: In Surah Ankaboot-29/20:

“Travel through the earth and see how Allah did originate creation. So will Allah Produce a latter creation, for Allah has power over all things.”

In Surah Al-Hijr 15/85:

We created not the heaven, the earth, and all between them, but for just ends."

Quranic Time Scale

Quran described that Allah has created the heavens, the earth, and all that is between them in six days. As stated in Surah Sajdah:

(32/04):

"Allah is He, Who created the heavens, and the earth, and all that is between them in six days."

The word "Six Days" creates ambiguity in human mind, because it is perhaps the most misunderstood word in the context of the Holy 'Arabic word "YOUM" is commonly translated as 'DAY'. Its application to an earthly 'day' of twenty four hours is only one of its many connotations, but in Arabic the word YOUM is used to denote any period, whether extremely long as "AEON" or extremely short as MOMENT". In the above mentioned verse of the Holy Quran the word YOUM" is used for 'AEON" or an Era or Long period or Epochs, as cleared in the following verses in Surah A1-Sajdah (32/05:):

"In a day the length whereof will be (like) thousand years of your reckoning".

In Surah Al-Maaraj (70/04):

"in a day the length whereof is (like) fifty thousand years".

Geological Time Scale

According to geological time scale, the creation of the universe and human life possessed following eras and periods, those are identical with the Holy Quran:

Archaezoic Era	Formation of the Heavens and the Earth.
Proterozoic Era	Origin of Primitive Life.
Paleozoic Era-	Ancient Life.
Mesozoic Era -	Middle Life.
Cenozoic Era-	Modern Life.

It is interesting to note that the Paleozoic Era consists of six periods as under:-

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| (1) Cambrian Period | (2) Ordovician Period |
| (3) Silurian Period | (4) Carboniferous Period |
| (5) Devonian Period | (6) Permian Period. |

Creation of Firy Creatures (Jinn)

The Holy Quran reveals that Allah had created firy creatures namely Jinns long before the origin of creation of homosapians out of the fire of scorching winds which was the fittest in environment of superhot, superdense and fire ball. As described in Surah Al-Hijr that:

“And, indeed, we created man out of sounding clay out of dark slime transmuted or matrix whereas the invisible beings or Jinns, We had created (long) before that, out of the fire of scorching wind”. (15/26)

Here sciences also fail to discuss about these firy creatures which show a basic flaw in their interpretation of origin of life and universe.

Origin of Life

According to the Quranic philosophy, all mankind is believed to have descended from Adam. So, all the cells of the body, stem from that first cell which evolved, sometimes and somewhere during the process of

creation. As stated in the following verse of Surah Al Nisa:01:

“O Mankind! Be conscious of your Sustainer, Who has created you out of one living entity (or unicellular) and out of it created its pair (or division of cell/Multicellur) and out of them spread abroad a multitude of men and wo (division of sex).”

In the above mentioned Quranic text, confirms the biological fact that the cell is basic unit of life.(Nafs-e-Wahidah). The Holy Quran also stated the gradation or evolutionary process as described in the Surah Noor (71/14) that:

“And He (Allah) created you in successive stages.”

Role of Water in Origin of Life

The Holy Quran reveals that the water is origin of life. This is very important truism which is told to us by the Quran fourteen centuries ago, when no human being, even remotely, linked the origin of life with water. Today, we accept this fact that the water is the predominant element in all living creatures. As Quran says in Surah Al-Ambiya (21/30)

“And (that) we made out of water every living thing will they not, then (begin to) believe?”

The statement that “Allah made out of water every living thing expresses most concisely a truth that is nowadays universally accepted by science. It has three fold meanings.

- (1) Water and specifically, the sea was the environment within which the prototype of all living matter originated.

- (2) Among all the in-numerable existing or conceivable liquids, only water has the peculiar properties necessary for the emergence and development of life.
- (3) The Protoplasm, which is the physical basis of every living cell whether in plants or animals and represents only form of matter in which the phenomena of life are manifested, consists overwhelmingly of water and is, thus, utterly dependent on it. The control over the source of life that is water lies with Allah Almighty as described in the Surah Hud (11/07):

“And He it is Who has created the heavens and the earth in six aeons and the Throne of His Almighty has rested upon water”.

This symbolic reference to ‘the Throne of His Almighty upon water’ would seem to point to the Allah-willed evolution of all life out of water, a fact clearly brought out by the Holy Quran and in modern times confirmed by biological research.

Creation of Homo-Sapian Out of Clay

There are many references in the Holy Quran to homo-sapians having been created out of clay or out of dust, both these terms ‘Tura’ab’ and ‘Teen’ signifying homo-sapian’s lowly biological origins as well as the fact that his body is composed of various organic and inorganic substances existing in other combination or in their elementary forms on or in the earth. It shows the description of the primeval biological environment out of which the sounding clay the matrix, as it was of homo-sapian’s physical body has evolved in accordance with Allah’s plait of creation, as told by the Quran that:

"It is He Who creates you out of dust". Al-Maumin (40/67)

Dust means substances organic that is proteins, carbohydrates, liquids and other complex forms like enzymes and hormones, which are also proteins in structure and inorganic substances that is water and minerals which are found in their elementary forms on and in the earth. In Surah Al-Mauminoon the Quran says that:

"Indeed, we created homo-sapian out of the essence of the clay or extract of purified clay". (23/12):

"Behold! them have we created out of (mere) clay co-mingled with water".

Surah Al-Safa'at (37/11):

"And, indeed, we have created homo - sapian out of sounding clay, out of dark slime transmuted". (Surah Al-Hijr 15/26)

Quranic concept that "Allah created Adam (Homo-Sapian/mankind) from clay" becomes a scientific assertion because the constituent parts of clay have been scientifically identified in the human body. Sciences have also demonstrated that constituents of every cell are all those elements and salts, pigment and water, which are present in plentiful in the material structure of the clay of the planet earth.

Division of Vertebrate and Invertebrate

In Surah Al-Noor the Quran says that:

"And it is Allah Who has created all animals made out of water and among them are siwl: crawl on their bellies, and such as walk on two legs and such as walk

on four. Allah creates what He will, for verily, Allah has Power to will anything”.

Similarities Between All Living Things

in Surah Al—Inaam Allah says that:

“Although, there is no beast that walk on earth and no bird that flies on its two wings which is not (Allah’s) creature, like yourselves”. (06/38)

Nowadays sciences confirm it on the following similar grounds:

1. Biological Similarities
2. Anatomical Similarities
3. Bio-Chemical Similarities
4. Genetic Similarities

Quranic Concept Of Natural Selection

Selection is perhaps the most misunderstood of all the mechanism of change in biological evolution. This is the most often the case when selection is confused with such a phrase as *Survival of the Fittest*”. What is selection is not always ‘the fittest’ in the popular sense. An organism is “fit” only in relation to its total environment including, the other organism in it. An organism that was the fittest in one environment might be very poorly adapted to another. Selection is a concept that applies to population not individual.

The problem with scientists’ research in the West is that it seeks to provide a theory which can be used as an alternative to the fact that the universe is Allah’s creation. As a result, scientists go far astray. Scientists tried to show that the great observations of Darwin indicate that there is a process of natural selection which

is set in motion and continues to operate forever, Hence, that process provided for them a platform to announce their atheism and agnosticism and reject Allah's role altogether. They could not explain how the process of natural selection operates? What made all species acquire the ability to adapt themselves to such phenomena? As for the two gaps, Western scientists who took over from Darwin tried to explain them away by saying that these were two missing links. They have not come up with any explanation why these links have been and continue to be missing? If the process of natural selection is self supporting and ensures its own continuity, why has it not tried to bridge these two gaps? Why does the missing link continue to be missing at those particular two points? The Quranic concept of selection is totally based on the Will of Allah as described in the Holy Quran in Surah Al-Ra'ad:

"Allah annuls or confirms whatever He wills for which Him is the source of all things or natural laws". (13/29)

Charles Darwin's theory of Evolution has two basic flaws. It observes in fine details of species from one-cell organisms up to the Chimpanzee and mankind, who the theory considers to be next in line. Advocates of the evolution theory have admitted this and sought to explain by speaking about a "missing link." The other basic flaw in this theory is that it can not be proven in any scientifically accepted way. It is a dogma or theory without demonstration. Its argument is rather didactic. It makes a huge jump from scientific observation to theorization about life and existence. Thus, it imposes its theory on scientific findings. If advocates of theory of evolution want to carry their research a step further,

they must come up with a complete explanation that can be proved throughout with facts that can not be challenged.

In the light of the above discussion, it is clear that the creation of the Universe and origin of human life and its continuity is all due to the Supreme Divine Order of the Unmanifest Supreme Principal Force that is Allah Almighty.

Holy Prophet the only role-model for Humanity

The Presidential Address

of Federal Minister for Religious Affairs Government of Pakistan

Dr. Mahmood Ahmed Ghazi

on the eve of

Seerat Conference dated 01 June 2002

It is a privilege for me to have been here listening your valuable speeches and presentations this evening. I congratulate the Principal, the teachers and the students of this institute. The presentations which have been made by the students were marvelous, excellent and thus deserve congratulations and encouragement.

I have been really impressed by the memorization of Ahadith and the mastery of the students over the details of the life of the Prophet (SAW). This shows commitment of the Principal, teachers and the students to the cause of Islam and the teachings of the Holy Prophet as well as teachings of Islam in general. I hope this institution will have its mark on the future of this country and on the future of Islamic education in Pakistan, and will play significant role in having re — orientation of our educational system for 21st century.

The father of the nation, Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah had, soon after the creation of Pakistan, convened a national education conference, in which

some 200 educationists were invited, hailing from different parts of the country i-e, East & West Pakistan. The Quaid-e-Azam had addressed that gathering and asked them to prepare an educational system for Pakistan, which he called right type of education. He had pointed out the maladies of the educational system, they inherited from western colonizers. He had impressed upon the educationists of Pakistan to develop a right type of educational system which suited the genius, the values and the requirements of independent Pakistan.

Permit me to say, Gentlemen, that this institution represents that ideal of Quaid, in which he wanted to see an Islamic commitment, coupled with professional competence, coupled with dedication, patriotism and perfection in every aspect of education and training. I feel that this educational institution will have its impact on the coming generations, both in terms of the Islamic commitments, in terms of professional competence and in terms of perfection in different branches of knowledge. I congratulate the Principal, teachers, students, the parents and the administration for this valuable success.

Gentlemen! I do not propose to make any lengthy presentation. But I would like to share the basic concerns with young students, who have presented the beautiful presentations on the life of Prophet (SAW).

We all follow different models, younger people follow younger models and older follow the older ones. Either you have a player as your model or a leader or somebody else as your model. But you will notice that these models that you follow and emulate, they are confined to a particular branch of your activity. If you

are a player, you follow a model of good player; he will be your model as long as you are player. But if you are not player in that particular skill or trait, then that particular player is not your model. He cannot be my model because I do not play that game, or you might not be playing that game ten years later.

It means that particular role model will remain your role model within that particular periods as long as you are playing that game and that is all. If somebody else is following other models, who is political leader, and then he may be a model for those who are interested in politics. He may not be a model for those who are not interested in politics.

For agriculturist, trader, teacher and scholar, a politician may not be a model. For politician, a teacher may not be a model. What I mean to say is that different models have different areas where they can be emulated, there is no role model for entire humanity a role model for the entire humanity may be. A person who can provide guidance and motivation to all walks of life, irrespective of time, age, situation and consideration.

That role model must be a real role model. He must be a historic figure not the legendary one. He must be somebody whose model example of living is before us all the time. If we consider different role models from this aspect, we find that it is the only Prophet of Islam who can be the role model for the entire humanity. His role model provides guidance in all walks of life such as, in family life, social, economic, political and even in sports and games; as a father, as husband, and for almost every human being irrespective of his trade, interest and skill.

There are different great men in history and they have founded different religions, but they could not be followed by human beings.

Sometimes back, I was invited to a country which follows Buddhist religion. I was asked to speak over there on the model example of Prophet of Islam. I told them look here, the followers of the Buddhist religion, "You are also following the role model of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). You are not following the role model of Buddha, because the moment you decide to start the role model of Buddha and follow it, that would mean an end of history and end of this world because Buddha never married and he had no family. He had a family which he had already renounced and denounced.

It means that everybody who is living in the world, trying to promote and develop the world would leave it, renounce it and after some time will come to an end. There will be no culture, no civilization and no development, because entire development will come to an end and stand still. If you want this destiny for this world of yours, you may follow the model example of Buddha. But if you want to lead a civilized life, the life of a happy husband, the life of a happy father, the life of a successful businessman, the life of a social friend, then you have to obey and follow the model example of Holy Prophet of Islam. This shows that it is only his model, and no model else, to the exclusion of all other models, which is to be followed successfully by the humanity.

There are many role models which may claim relevance for human beings, but we are not aware whether they existed in a real sense or they were only legendary.

We do not know about Buddha, we do not know even the language he spoke, we do not know the language spoken by Jesus Christ; we do not know how and in what manner prophet Moses behaved. Similarly we do not know about so many other leaders of other different religions, civilizations and cultures. It is only the Prophet of Islam, about whose life each and every detail is preserved. You might have noticed from the Quiz Competition that the minutest details about the Prophet of Islam have been preserved. The name of his foster brothers and sisters is also recorded in the books and known to many of us.

If I ask you what was the name of foster brother of Abraham Lincoln, even the great experts in the history of American people will not be able to tell you. Although, Abraham Lincoln is very recent personality. But, even about these recent personalities, these details are not available.

These details are available only about the life of Prophet of Islam. The language he spoke is still intact, the environment in which he lived, is clearly and distinctly before us. His family, tribe, clan, personality, environment and his society, all the details of these things have been preserved in the books of Ahadith and in the life of Prophet(S.AWS). So, if anybody wants to follow him in each and every detail, even his personal liking and disliking, the model of his dress including the ways of eating and wearing the dresses are preserved in details and are also available for all those who want to follow him,

It shows that it was a divine wisdom of Allah who wanted that these details be preserved for humanity to follow and for all times to come.

We are proud and fortunate that we are the

followers of Prophet Muhammad (SAW). This country had come into existence on the name of his message and for the preservation of his message and implementation of his system of life. This is our national duty and commitment to the history and to coming generations that we make this country an embodiment of his message, as a laboratory in which we should show to the world at large that his life example, his model and his teachings are as applicable today as they were fourteen hundred years back. This was the message of the founder of Pakistan Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah. Let us resolve that we will make Pakistan an Islamic Republic and an Islamic country in true sense. We will make Pakistan a very strong, developed and advanced country.

We will make Pakistan a leader of the Muslim world, we will make Pakistan a role model which is to be followed by the third world, first and second world also. This should be our commitment and goal. If we set this goal before our eyes and we resolve to do it and achieve it, we are confident that Allah Subhanho-wa-Talla will help us. He has promised in His divine book:

Those who strive to achieve in our Way we must guide and help them.

Allah has promised to provide help and guidance in these very strong terms. We pray Almighty Allah to guide us to make Pakistan a model example for all other countries to follow; for all other civilization to emulate, and all other cultures to follow. This should be our goal and target.

With these words, I again express my gratitude to the Principal, to the members of faculty and to the students for this successful presentating evening.

Benefactor of Humanity

Muddassir Javed

In the year 570 of the Christian era, a posthumous child was born to Abdullah, son of Abdul Muttalib, the well-known Quraish tribe who claimed descent from Prophet Abraham. The child was named "Muhammad" which means "the praised one".

While the young boy was only eight, he lost the loving and protecting care of his powerful grandfather who was the chief of the Hashmi clan of the Quraish tribe. But his equally loving, popular and powerful uncle Abu Talib took him under his care.

As a young boy, and later as a young man, we see him solitude-loving, unassuming, inclined towards privacy, avoiding show and glamour. Yet we see him very alive and active trying to lend a helping hand to the needy, the poor, the aged and the disabled.

While still young he out-shined the rest of his compatriots in one particular respect, i.e, trustworthiness. We hear from all sides, that people call him "Al-Amin", the true and the trustworthy.

It was at the ripe age of forty that the mantle of prophethood fell on him, while he was in meditation at a cave in Mount Hira, not very far from Makkah. The very opening words of the revelation bespeak two basic

facts which are the very corner stones of Islamic teachings i.e, the emphasis on reading and writing. In other words, on education and knowledge and also emphasis on the oneness of God.

The next thirteen years were years of trial and tribulation. During this period, temptations of the highest order were offered to him but this embodiment of truth was not prepared to yield and fall a prey to any of those exciting and attracting temptations.

With this iron resolve and firmness of faith, the opposition gradually began to melt. And the turning point came after thirteen years of sustained work. The same un-assuming Muhammad, doing all his works with his own hands and also doing the work of others, despite all his power and hold over his followers, he still never claimed to be a deity, but always referred himself to be one of them.

He died peacefully in Medina at the age of 63 in 632 AD. May Allah shower his the choicest blessings on Muhammad (P.B.U.H) and may he guide us on Sirat-e-Mustaqim, the straight path, the right path and the path of those whom God has blessed.

Holy Prophet, The Benefactor of Humanity

Saeed Ahmed Shaikh, X

It was the pitch-darkness when the frowny night was riding on the wings of blind cruelty, enveloping the innocence of the people in its grip. It was before that the Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) was born. The birth of Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) was not different from the rise of a sun, under the bask of which, there ruled the goddess of prosperity. All the dark clouds of war were prohibited to hover over the land of pleasures. The Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) as a person, who turned the table of world and pushed it from the darkness of tribulation, to the lofty light of love. He paved a royal path for the humanity, leading towards the victory in this world, as well as in the world hereafter.

The people were completely drowned into the ocean of evil. The Arabian Peninsula was not distinguishable from the battlefield; a battle that had been littered with the human-corpses. He taught the lesson of being hand-in-glove with one another. Much water had flown under the bridge that peace had badly bade bye to Arabia. The songs of sorrows used to be sung there, but he let the white flag of fraternity to fly high in the breeze of

harmony. It was for the first time in history that man had caused such a great revolution. He lit the candle of peace in the dark-age of cruelty, as sung by one of the great Urdu-poets:

*The worthiest and noblest was our Holy Prophet
(peace be upon him),
On whose arrival, the cruel fires were extinguished,
The candle of peace was brought by our Holy Prophet
(peace be upon him)."*

Arabian territory was passing through the worst period of illiteracy. The penury was dancing at the tunes of the rich. The right had to be scape-goat before might. The music of foul, but not of fairness was playing. Women were deprived of their Due-rights. Girl-babies used to be buried alive. The injustice of tyrants. In that black era, he twinkled as a guiding star for humanity.

He was the splendid example of traveling in the terrain of God's command, running on the railway lines of best-character. His character is a challenge for the entire world, to be found nowhere. Almighty Allah has praised him in the Holy Quran in this way:

"We have sent you as a blessing for all the eras."

He has presented his mannerism (Sunnah) to his followers to incorporate. Throughout his life, we find many events, in which he has displayed high moralities. In this behalf, the conquest of Makkah occupies a golden place in the pages of history. On this occasion, he set forth his great deed, ever done on the part of any else. He forgave his all those bitter enemies who had left no stone unturned to strew thorns on his path and had made all possible endeavours to spin cock and bull stories about him. But he proved that patience was an

instrument strong enough to climb the mountains of life smoothly. This event was a moving picture of what he had himself once said:

"I have been sent to complete the moralities."

We can say that Hazrat Muhammad (peace be upon him) was a fountain which washed out the dirt, rancours, and rusts from the hearts of humanity. He was not a benefactor of a particular nation but a panacea for all the human beings. He chiseled the character of humanity by proposing an idea of resurrection after death, coupled with the reward of the deeds, done in life. In short, the whole world's horizon was overcast with the ill storms of irreligion and immorality. In such era of absolute ignorance, the last hope of humanity emerged in the shape of the Holy Prophet (peace be upon him), a benefactor and mercy for all the creatures.

To sum up, I would say when the humanity was sleeping in the sound slumber of sluggishness, he appeared as a flower whose fragrance diffused far and wide. Everyone who smelt it, was suffused with the enthusiastic faith over head and ears, and was ultimately compelled by its sweetness to include himself in the boundaries of Islam. If we all draw ahead on acting according to what our Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) did and said, the day will not be far when the tortures and traumas will be found nowhere in the world. Then this world would not be less than an Eden. No doubt, this is also fulfillment of God's order:

"for you (Oh Believers!) it was good to learn the example of messenger of Allah (Uswah-i-Hasanah).

Holy Prophet as the Benefactor of Mankind

Waseem Bhand, XI

Man needs the light of his past experience to brighten his present and future. All the different segments of humanity have done to their best to make this world a better place. Among them the most deserving are those whom we call prophets.

Muslims have preserved the record of the life of the Holy Prophet (PBUH), the greatest among the prophet, throughout last fourteen centuries. Each fact of his mission and the minutest details of his efforts tell the struggle for the betterment of mankind.

The Holy Prophet (PBUH) was very much merciful even to his bitter enemies. Hazrat Abu Sufyan (R.A.) before embracing the Islam was one of the worst enemies of Islam and the Holy Prophet (PBUH). He had plotted the prophet's assassination several times and opposed Islam at every step. Once he was brought before the Holy Prophet (PBUH). His record of conspiracies against Islam deserved severe punishment but Holy Prophet (PBUH) not only forgave him but also made his house shelter for the Quresh asking for mercy. Muhammad's mercy did not proceed from weakness or servility, nor was it ever vitiated by pride,

haughtiness or the expectation of gratitude. It was purely for the sake of God.

Holy Prophet (PBUH) was the one who saved humanity from the typical tone of tyranny, vulgar volumes of wickedness, from despotic decisions, from actions of atrocities, from floods of ferocities, from callous crimes, from unforgivable sins, from the moral decadence and from the crocodiles of cruelties.

When the clouds of ignorance had covered the mental approach of human beings, when the Arabs were in the abysmal sea of darkness, when the every nasty and obnoxious action was set free, when the vulture of voluptuousness was opened and when the sex enjoying despots were established, then in such a ghostly and dark era the Holy Prophet (PBUH) burned the candle of knowledge, morality and kindness.

The Holy Prophet (PBUH) was well-informed, the witness to the God's commandments, the harbinger of glad tidings, the warner unto those who are heedless, the summoner of erring to the way of God, the resplendent light which dispels the darkness and shows the right path.

The Holy Prophet (PBUH) said that "Wisdom is my capital, love my foundation, remembrance of God my pleasure, trust my treasure, knowledge my arm, patience my robe, contentment my booty, poverty my pride, exoticism my profession, conviction my strength, obedience my argument, war my ethics and prayer my supreme pleasure".

He observed some bad characters which were responsible to destroy humanity as jealousy, wealth and etc.

In order to discourage the jealousy The Holy Prophet (PBUH) said:

“Avoid the jealousy, it consumes virtues in the same manner as the fire consumes wood”.

Holy Prophet (PBUH) thought wealth as base of many evils. He advised wealthy Muslims to keep their wealth circulating in Muslim society. They were advised to spend it for common welfare.

So, from every destruction and deterioration the Holy Prophet (PBUH) tried to save humanity. Thus, it is clear that the Holy Prophet (PBUH) is the great benefactor of humanity ever born in the history.

Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH)

Cadet Mansoor Ali Malah, Class X

Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH) was the only man in history who was extremely successful on both the religious and secular levels. He founded and promulgated one of the world's greatest religions, and became the most effective statesman. Today, fourteen centuries after his death, his influence is still powerful and pervasive.

Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH) was born in the year 570 AD, in the city of Mecca, in Southern Arabia, a backward area of the world, far from the centers of trade, art, and learning. Orphaned at the age of six, he was reared in modest surroundings. Islamic tradition tells us that he was illiterate. His economic position improved at the age of twenty five, when he married a wealthy widow as he approached forty. There was little outward indication that he was a remarkable person. **Most Arabs at that time was who believed in many gods. There were, however, in Mecca, a small number of Jews and Christians. When he was forty years old, Muhammad (PBUH) was convinced that one true God (ALLAH) was speaking to him, and had chosen him to spread the true faith.**

For three years, Muhammad (PBUH) preached only to his friends and associates. Then, in 613, he began

preaching in public. For that he was bitterly opposed by the Quresh. In 622, Muhammad (PBUH) migrated to Medina. This migration is known as Hijra, which was the turning point of the Prophet's life. In Mecca, he had few followers. In Medina, he had a big number of followers, and he soon acquired an influence that made him a virtual leader. During the next few years, while his followers grew rapidly, a series of battles were fought between Muslims of Madina and the Quresh of Mecca. **The war ended in 630 with the Prophet's triumphant return to Mecca as a conqueror. The remaining two and a half years of his life witnessed rapid conversion of the Arab tribes to the new religion. When Muhammad (PBUH) died in 632, he was the spiritual ruler of all Southern Arabia.**

The Bedouin tribes, men of Arabia had a reputation as fierce warriors. But their number was small, and were plagued by domestic warfare. Unified by Muhammad (PBUH) for the first time in history and inspired by their fervent belief in the One true God, these small Arab armies embarked upon one of the most astonishing series of conquests in human history. Numerically, the Arabs were no match for their opponents. **On the field of battle, the inspired Arabs rapidly conquered all of Mesopotamia, Syria, and Palestine. By 642, Egypt had been wrested from the Byzantine Empire, while the Persian armies had been crushed at the key battles of Qadisiya in 637 and Nehavend in 642.**

But even these enormous conquests which were made under the leadership of the Prophet's close friends and immediate successors, Abu Bakar and Umar-ibn-Khattab, did not mark the end of the Arab advance. By 711, the Arab Armies had swept completely across

North Africa to the Atlantic Ocean. There, they turned to North and crossed the strait of Gibraltar, overwhelmed - the Visigoth Kingdom in Spain.

For a while, it must have seemed that the Muslims would overwhelm all the Christian Europe. However, in 732, at the famous Battle of Tours, a Muslim army which had advanced into the centre of France, was at last defeated by the French.

Empire stretching from the borders of India to the Atlantic Ocean, the largest empire that the world had yet seen. And everywhere the armies conquered, large scale conversion to the new faith eventually followed.

Now, not all of these conquests proved permanent. The Persians, though they have remained faithful to the religion of the Prophet, have since regained their independence from the Arabs. And, in Spain more than seven centuries of warfare, finally resulted in the Christians re-conquering the entire peninsula. However, Mesopotamia and Egypt, the two cradles of ancient civilization have remained Arab, in the entire coast of North Africa.

The new religion, of course, continued to spread in the intervening centuries far beyond the borders of the original Muslim conquests. Currently, it has millions of adherents in Africa and central Asia, and even more in Pakistan and northern India, and also in Indonesia. In India, the new faith has been a unifying factor. In the Indian Subcontinent, however, the conflict between Muslims and Hindus is still a major obstacle to unity.

Like all religions, Islam exerts an enormous influence upon the lives of its followers. Since there are roughly twice as many Christians as Muslims in the world, it

may initially seem strange that Muhammad (PBIJH) has been ranked higher than Jesus.

Muhammad (PBIJH) played a far more important role in the development of Islam

In the concepts of Christianity, Paul was the main developer of Christian theology, its principal proselytizer, and the author of a large portion of the New Testament.

Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH), on the other hand, was responsible for both the theology of Islam and its main ethical and moral principles. In addition, he played a key role in proselytizing the new faith and establishing the religious practices of Islam.

We see then, that the Arab conquests of the seventh century have continued to play an important role in human history, down to the present day. It is this unparalleled combination of secular and religious influence which I feel entitles Muhammad (PBUH) to be considered the most influential single figure in human history. No doubt, this great statesman still rules the world. His teachings are followed throughout the world. And, with him Prophet hood comes to an end.

Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH): The Greatest Leader of All Times

Saifullah Unar, Sr. Computer Assistant

Our ideals play very important role in our personality making, character building and overall grooming. By following them we become successful in our life and utilize our energy and strength to snatch the highest standard in the society. My ideal personality, like that of every Muslim of the world, is Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), the last Prophet of God.

The Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) is the most successful of all the prophets and religious personalities. He was born in Arabia in the year 570 A.D, started his mission of preaching the religion of truth, Islam (Submission to One God) at the age of forty and departed from this world at the age of sixty three. During this short period of 23 years of his prophet hood, he changed the complete Arabian Peninsula from paganism and idolatry to submission to the one true God, from tribal quarrels and wars to national solidarity and cohesion, from drunkenness and debauchery to sobriety and piety, from lawlessness and anarchy to disciplined living, from moral bankruptcy to the highest standards of moral excellence.

He was the most remarkable man that ever set foot on this earth, preached a religion, founded a state, built a nation, laid down a moral code, and initiated numerous social and political reforms. He established a powerful and dynamic society to practice and represent his teachings and completely revolutionized the world of human thought and behavior for all times to come.

The Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) was nothing more or less than a human being. But he was a man with a noble mission, which was to unite humanity on the submission to One and Only God and to teach them the way to ideal and upright living based on the commands of God. He always described himself as, "A Servant and Messenger of God," and so indeed every action of his proclaimed to be. The world has not hesitated to raise to divinity, individuals whose lives and missions have been lost in legend. Historically speaking, none of these legends achieved even a fraction of what Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH) accomplished.

Muhammad (peace be upon him) accomplished so much in such diverse fields of human thought and behavior in the fullest blaze of human history. Every detail of his private life and public utterances has been accurately documented and faithfully preserved even today. The authenticities of the record so preserved are vouched for not only by the faithful followers but also even by his prejudiced critics.

Not only Muslims but non-Muslims also believe that Hazrat Muhammad's (PBUH) personality tops among the list of great people of the world. Let's see what great people of the world, though being non-Muslims, say about our Holy Prophet, the role model for humanity, and his religion:

I have prophesied about the faith of Muhammad that it would be acceptable to the Europe of tomorrow as it is beginning to be acceptable to the Europe of today."

If any religion had the chance of ruling over England, nay Europe within the next hundred years, it could be Islam."

— George Bernard Shaw

(The Genuine Islam, Vol. 1, No. 8, 1936.)

"He was Caesar and Pope in one; but he was Pope without Pope's pretensions, Caesar without the legions of Caesar without a standing army, without a bodyguard, without a palace, without a fixed revenue, if ever any man had the right to say that he ruled by the right divine, it was Mohammed, for he had all the power without its instruments and without its supports."

— Rev. Reginald Bosworth Smith,

"My choice of Muhammad to lead the list of the world's most influential persons may surprise some readers and may be questioned by others, but he was the only man in history who was supremely successful on both the religious and secular levels."

— Michael H. Hart

(The 100: A Ranking of the Most Influential Persons in History, New York, 1978, p. 33)

Lamar Tine, the renowned historian, speaking on the essentials of human greatness wonders:

"If greatness of purpose, smallness of means and astounding results are the three criteria of human

genius, who could dare to compare any great man in modern history with Muhammad?

The most famous men created arms, laws and empires only. They founded, if anything at all, no more than material powers which often crumbled away before their eyes.

This man moved not only armies, legislation, empires, peoples and dynasties, but millions of men in one-third of the then inhabited world; and more than that, he moved the altars, the gods, the religions, the ideas, the beliefs and souls....

“The league of nations founded by the prophet of Islam put the principle of international unity and human brotherhood on such universal foundations as to show candle to other nations.”

— Professor Hurgronje

“I Believe in One God, and Muhammad, an apostle of God is the simple and invariable profession of Islam.” The intellectual image of the deity has never been degraded by any visible idol; the honor of the Prophet has never transgressed the measure of human virtues; and his living precepts have restrained the gratitude within the bounds of reason and religion.”

— Edward Gibbon and Simon Ockley

(History of the Saracen Empires, London, 1870, P. 54)

Thomas Carlyle writes in his book “Hero and Heroworship”:

“The lies (Western slander) which well-meaning zeal has heaped round this man (Muhammad) are disgraceful to ourselves only...How one man single-

handedly, could weld warring tribes and wandering Bedouins into a most powerful and civilized nation in less than two decades.... A silent great soul, one of that who cannot but be earnest. He was to kindle the world; the world's Maker had ordered so."

- Mahatma Gandhi says in 'Young India':

"I wanted to know the best of one who holds today's undisputed sway over the hearts of millions of mankind. I became more than convinced that it was not the sword that won a place for Islam in those days in the scheme of life. It was the rigid simplicity, the utter self-effacement of the Prophet the scrupulous regard for pledges, his intrepidity, his fearlessness, his absolute trust in God and in his own mission..."

- Annie Besant in "The Life and Teaching of Muhammad" says:

"It is impossible for anyone who studies the life and character of the great Prophet of Arabia,, to feel anything but reverence for that mighty Prophet, one of the great messengers of the Supreme. And although in what I put to you I shall say many things which may be familiar to many, yet I myself feel whenever I re-read them, a new way of admiration, a new sense of reverence for that mighty Arabian teacher."

- Lane-Poole, says in "Speeches and Table Talk of the Prophet"

He was the most faithful protector of those he protected, the sweetest and most agreeable in conversation. Those who saw him were suddenly filled with reverence; those who came near him

loved him; they who described him would say, "I have never seen his like either before or after." He was of great taciturnity, but when he spoke it was with emphasis and deliberation, and no one could forget what he said...

"His military triumphs awakened no pride nor vain glory as they would have done had they been effected by selfish purposes. In the time of his greatest power he maintained the same simplicity of manner and appearance as in the days of his adversity. So far from affecting regal state, he was displeased if, on entering a room, any unusual testimonial of respect was shown to him."

— Washington Irving

By knowing the views of different people of the world on the life, teaching, action and simplicity of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), we can say that western world which is leading nowadays in all the fields has followed our religion. Though, they may not agree with this idea yet but, it is obvious that they have made their constitutions and laws by referring Islam.

The present situation of Islamic world is not satisfactory because we are lacking everywhere in all walks of life. Muslims have been blamed as terrorists. It is said that seventy five percent natural resources of the world are in Muslim countries but their people are suffering and they are not prosperous as compared to the people of western world. Why are we so behind? The answer is clear that we have changed our way, not following the path as told by our Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). In his last sermon, the Holy

Prophet said, "I am leaving among you a thing which will guide you and that is Qura'an."

Keeping the teachings of Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) in mind we can overcome the present issues of our country and of the Muslim world by starting self-accountability method.

Was Jesus Born On Dec 25?

Sikander Ali Channa, Assistant Professor, Islamiat

In the Christian community, Christmas is a regular annual festival celebrated on 25th December, commemorating the birth of Jesus Christ, also called "Jesus of Galilee" or "Jesus of Nazareth".

Christmas Day is generally celebrated on 25h December. Many Eastern Orthodox Churches celebrate Christmas on 06 January because they follow the Julian rather than the Gregorian calendar. The Armenian Church follows the old Eastern custom of honouring Christ's birth on January 06, because of the day of the Epiphany, commemorating in the West chiefly the visit of the Magi to the infant Jesus and in the East, Christ's baptism. However, the actual date of Christ's birth is not known and no one knows on which day of the year Jesus was born. The earlier Christians did not even set a feast day for observing the Nativity or birth of Christ. It was not until the 4th century that the celebration of Christ's birth began.

By the year AD 336, the birth of Christ was being celebrated in Rome on 25th December. The actual reason why the birth of Christ came to be celebrated on December 25th, remains uncertain. Most probably, the reason could be that the early Christians wished the date to coincide with the pagan Roman festival marking the

“birthday of the unconquered Sun”, their celebration of the winter solstice, shortest day, after which the nights begin to grow shorter and the days longer. The Romans also celebrated the saturnalia, or the feast of the god Saturn, during the week before 25th December.

In Britain, Christmas was abolished by the Puritan Parliament although, it was restored when Charles II came to the throne in 1660. In North America, the Puritans also forbade the observance of Christmas and in most of the parts of the New England Area, the Christmas holiday continued for be ignored until 19th century.

We have no record of the exact date and time of Jesus birth, but it was probably around 6 BC, several years earlier than historians at first thought. According to the Gospel, the Jesus Christ was born in Bethlehem, a town in Judea, on the West Bank of the River Jordan to a young girl called Mary who was engaged to be married to a carpenter called Joseph. Very little is known of his life as a child and young boy up to 30th years of his age. The dates of his birth and death are uncertain.

The actual name of Jesus Christ was JE SUS. The term Christ is a title which was so closely associated with Jesus that it became part of his name. It comes from the Greek word "CHRISTOS" which is the translation of a Hebrew word Messiah that means “anointed one”. Thus, the name Jesus Christ means “Jesus, the Messiah or anointed one”.

In those days Palestine was ruled by the Romans during the reign of the Roman Emperor Augustus (27 BC to AD 14). It is said that Jesus was born in Roman-

ruled Palestinian town Bethlehem, a town in Judea which was situated at the west bank of River Jordon. Just to avoid to face the opposition of Jewish Jewry, the mother of the Jesus Christ, Mary decided to shift from the Bethlehem and set-tied down in the Galilean village of Nazareth. The Jesus grew up in the Galilean village of Nazareth. Associated early in his career with John the Baptist, he gathered around him a group of disciples attracted by his interpretation of Jewish Law and his miracles, especially his exorcism and healing of the sick. Jesus criticism on Jewish religious leaders, coupled with the political rhetoric he used in announcing that God's rule was going to be replaced by human-rule, led to mounting opposition towards him in both the Jewish and Roman establishments.

Jesus was arrested in Jerusalem, was tried, condemned and executed as a claimant to Jewish kingship. This death by crucifixion, a form of execution used by the Romans to punish non-Roman citizens who threatened Roman authority, took place when Pontius Pilate was Roman governor of Judea.

Islamic Thought

The above mentioned account regarding the Jesus Christ is purely based on European and Christian thoughts. As compared to this, the Islamic or Qura'anic thought regarding the interims of Jesus birth and his death or crucifixion is totally different. Qura'an completely denies and refutes abruptly about the death of Jesus Christ,

According to Qura'an, the story of the Jesus follows as under:

And mention thou (O Prophet!) in the Book Maryam (Mary), when she had withdrawn from her people to a chamber looking, East. And had chosen seclusion from them. Then, we sent unto her our Spin (Revelation Angel), and it assumed for he (or appeared to her) in the shape of a well made human being (perfect man). She exclaimed: *"Verily, I seek refuge from thee with the Most Gracious! (Approach me not if thou art conscious of Him"*. (The angle answered: *"I am but a messenger of the Sustainer. (Who Says?) I shall bestow upon thee the gift of a son endowed with purity"* Said she: *"How can I have a son when no man has ever touched me? For, never have I been an unchaste woman!"* (The Angel) answered: *"Thus, it is; (but) thy Sustainer says, **this is easy for me; and (thou shall have a son), so that We might make him a symbol unto mankind an act of grace from Us.**"* And it was thing decreed (by God) and in time she conceived him, and then she withdrew with him to a far-off place. And (when) the throes of childbirth drove her to the turn of a date-palm-tree, she exclaimed: "Oh! would that I had died on this, and had become a thing forgotten, utterly forgotten. Thereupon a voice called out to her from beneath that (date-palm-tree): *"Grieve not Thy Sustainer has provided a rivulet (running) beneath thee; and shake the trunk of the date-palm-tree towards thee; will drop fresh, ripe dates upon thee. Eat then, and drink and let thine eye be gladdened! And if thou should see any human being, convey this unto him: Behold abstinence from speech have I vowed unto the Most Gracious: hence, I may not speak today to any mortal."* And in that time she returned to her people, carrying the child with her. They said: *"Oh Mary! Thou hast indeed done an amazing thing! Oh sister of Aaron! Thy father was not a wicked man nor was thy mother an unchaste*

woman!" Thereupon she pointed to him. They exclaimed: "How can we talk to one who is in the cradle, a young boy?" (But) the Jesus said: "Behold! I am a servant of God (Allah). He has given me the book (vouchsafed unto me revelation) and made me a prophet. And made me blessed, wherever I may be and He has enjoined upon me prayer and Charity as long as I live. And (has endowed me with) piety towards my mother; and He has not made me haughty or bereft of grace. Hence peace was upon me on the day when I was born, and (will be upon me) on the day of my death, and on the day when I shall be raised to the (again)." Such was, in the words of truth, Jesus, the son of Mary, about whose nature they deeply disagree."

(SURAH MARYAM-MARY. XIX (19) AYAT No:16 TQ 34).

Quranic Details Regarding Crucifixion:

The Qura'an, categorically describes the story of the crucifixion of the Jesus Christ. It says: -

"And because of their saying: we slew the Messiah Jesus, son of Mary, Allah's messenger. They slew him not nor crucified, but it appeared so unto them; and lo! Those who disagree concerning it are in doubt thereof; they have no knowledge thereof save pursuit of a conjecture; they slew him not for certain. But Allah took him up unto Himself. Allah was ever Mighty, Wise."

(SURAH NISA-WOMEN (IV) AYAT No: 157-158).

Conclusion:

From the above mentioned facts and figures, I conclude my article on two points:

- (a) According to the Christian Community, the Christian year starts with the birth-year of the Jesus Christ. But it is refuted by the historians as we have mentioned earlier that the Jesus Christ was born in 06 B.C. six years prior to the established Christian Calendar.
- (b) All Christians of the world unanimously celebrate the birthday of the Jesus Christ on 25 December or 6 January as in Armenia. December or January is the month of winter season and in these both months the cold grows high even up to the freezing point. Whereas, the Holy Qura'an says that the Jesus was born in the season when the dates were ripen. The word RUTABAN JANIYYA is used in Qura'an that means fresh and ripen. And the dates are not ripen in the very cold season. According to Agriculture tourist, the date-palms thrive in hot, dry climates. Flowers bloom on the trees between February and June and the fruit ripen period is from June to December. December is the latest period in which dates on trees do not remain fresh, whereas the Qura'an says ripen date were ready at the time of the birth of the Jesus Christ. Therefore, 25 December or Christmas is not the birthday of the Jesus Christ.

Dignity of Man as Guaranteed by Islam

Muhammad Yusuf

It was the Victorian age when Benjamin Disraeli speaking at the Oxford Diocesan Conference on November 25, 1864, posed the question about the mankind's essential nature, "Is man an ape or an angel?" Benjamin Franklin thought "humans as the only tool-using animals". The later thinkers discussed the ascent of mankind, made improvement over Franklin's statement to the extent that they considered human as the only tool-making animals.

Before evaluating the positive contribution of Islam towards revival of man's dignity, let's refer Quran to know the position of mankind. Quran says:

We have honoured the sons of Adam (XVII: 70)

*We have indeed created man in the best of mould.
(XCV: 40)*

And now returning to the subject matter let us have a look at the history of human civilization, be it in cursory terms, to find out how the noblest of all the creatures had been treated by the most celebrated civilizations that swayed this globe.

Conditions in Persia (Iran)

“Iranian society was based on discrimination of stock and profession. An unbridgeable gap existed between the classes of society. One of the bases of Sasanian Policy was that each individual should content himself with the position bestowed upon him by his descendant, and should not strive for something beyond it. None might engage in a trade other than that (God had created him for.”

“The Kings of Iran used to claim that divine blood ran in their veins. The Persians used to regard them as gods, and to believe that there was something sublime and divine in their natures. They begged them for forgiveness of their sins, sang hymns in praise of their divinity and regarded them as above law, above criticism and above humanity.

They might not mention their names or sit in their assemblies.”

Roman Civilization

The celebrated Roman civilization had the following famous code of Justinian as their "Civic Guide".

“Whosoever ravishes a respectable widow or a virgin, his punishment, if he be from a noble house-hold, in the forfeiture of half of his wealth. If he be from a lowly family, he shall be scourged and driven out of the land.”

Indian Caste System

Indian caste system of those days presented the worst example of man's heinous deeds to man.

Manu, the author of Manushastra says:-

“The Absolute and Almighty one in the interest of the world, created the Brahmins from His mouth, the Kahatris from His arms, the Vaishyas from His thighs, and the Shudras from His legs. He distributed among them various obligations and duties for the sake of the world. The Brahmin who memorizes the Rigvads has all his sins forgiven, even if his sins and foul deeds were to annihilate the Universe. The Kahalri a hen year old Brahmin is superior to a centenarian Kahatri, in the same way as the father is superior to his son.

“..... As far the untouchable shudars, they were the basis to this religious and Civil code lowers than the beast, and more despised than dogs. If a shudra stretches out his hand or a stick to attack a Brahmin then his hand shall be cut off. If he kicks him in anger, his foot shall be severed if an untouchable attempts to sit in the company of a Brahmim, the king shall banish him from the realms. If he reviles a Brahmim, tongue shall be plucked out. If he lays Claim to acquaintance with a Brahmin, he shall be made to drink boiling oil. The compensation to be paid for the murder of an untouchable is the same as that to be paid for a dog, a cat, a frog, a lizard, a crow or an owl.

Conditions of Arabia

On its advent, Islam was confronted with huge Arabian peninsula and beyond it the entire world with the beliefs, ideas, values, criteria, systems, circumstance, interests, and loyalties of peculiar nature established for centuries of history. “Perverted and corrupted beliefs were enthralling mankind. False gods were crowding the courtyard of Ka,aba and the minds, imaginations and hearts of man. Tribal and economic interests were based

on these false gods, and behind them stood the guardians of the Ka,aba and the soothsayers.

The Jews recorded their malicious pride in Talmud by saying:

"If you try to save the life of a non-Israelite who is drowning you would be committing a sin"

From the African coast (which later came to be known as Slave Coast) in only one century from 1680 to 1786 the men who were caught and rendered slaves for the British colonies were numbered by the British writers themselves, as 100 million.

From the above few quotations, a man with average intellect also can easily appreciate that a treachery, wickedness and degradation man had to face at the hands of their fellow beings who by virtue of superiority of creed, colour, caste and ancestry had assumed the status of worldly gods. Humanity at large was under the yoke of the arrogates to the Creator of the universe.

Islam's Proclamation

Islam came and proclaimed to everyone that humanity was one, having one and the same origin and directed towards 'the same God; the Difference is of race and colour of fatherland and ancestry existed not to create division enmity and alienation among humanity but merely that men might recognize and identify each other, so that the task of vicegerancy of God on earth might be distribute among them.

Code of life which provides the highest moral guidance in all aspects of life. We proclaim that its teachings are not for those who renounce the world but they are for the ones who play their active role in the

society. We have been announcing to the world that the heights of morality which the world had been searching in convents, Monasteries and the Cloisters are made by Islam, available and attainable in the very life that is led with all its odds and advantage in the society. But can we determine as to why still we are not able to achieve the glory that was our heritage? The answer is very simple: we have deviated from the teachings of Quran and Sunnah.

Quran reminds us in unequivocal terms:

Many were the ways of life
That has passed away
Before you, travel through
The earth and see what was
The end of those
Who rejected truth?

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See they not how many
Of those before them
We did destroy?
Generations We had established
On the earth, in strength
Such as we have not given
To you.....
Yes for their sins
We destroyed them,
And raised in their wake
Fresh generation
(To succeed them)

Modern Challenges

After the Industrial Revolution of 1776 Capitalism started gathering momentum. In 1917. the Revolution in

Russia gave rise to another materialistic interpretation of human life, the Communism. Whether the ideal is of fostering the growth of "Industrial man or dialectical man", all worship is offered at the altar of brute matter of naked force. **"It is not what separated the United States and the Soviet Union that should frighten us",** writes Francois Maurias in his anti-communist *Le Figaro*, but what they have in common. These two technocracies that think themselves antagonistic are dragging humanity in the same direction.

It is needless to say that humanity today stands divided, one part set against the other. Peace, harmony and tranquility have become rare phenomena.

Islam the Last Hope

Under such conditions when the humanity seems committing suicide, there is one last hope Islam that guarantees not only peace and harmony but also rids mankind of tyranny and oppression. By recognizing God Almighty as the sole Master, The Creator of the universe and the sole Possessor of divinity and right to legislate for the life of humanity. Islam prevents men from being the gods of others.

To attain our lost glory and to lead the humanity to brother-hood and peace, we all the Muslims of the world ought to strive as one Umah rather than territorial nations or ethnic groups. Islam is the only religion which in modern times also guarantees peace all over the world and brotherhood of mankind.

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Be Good to Parents

Sikander Ali Channa, Assistant Prof. Islamiat

The parent-child relationship is complementary. Parent and child in Islam are bound together by mutual obligations and reciprocal commitments. But the age differential is sometimes so wide as to cause parents to grow physically weak and mentally feeble. This is often accompanied by impatience, degeneration of energy, heightened sensitivity and perhaps misjudgment. It may also result in abuses of parental authority or intergenerational misjudgment and uneasiness, something similar to what is now called the "generation gap". It was probably in view of these considerations that Islam made basic provisions to govern the individual's relationship to his parents.

The Qura'an sums up the whole question in the master concept of Ihsan, which denotes what is right, good and beautiful. The practical implications of the concept of Ihsan to the parents entail active empathy and patience, gratitude and compassion, respect for them and prayers for their souls, honouring their legitimate commitments and providing them with sincere counsel. One basic dimension of Ihsan is deference. Parents have the right to expect obedience from their children.

The integral part of Ihsan to be mentioned here is that children are responsible for the support of parents. It is an absolute religious duty to provide for the parents in case of need and make their lives as comfortable as possible.

The Parents' Rights in the Light of Holy Qura'an

"And (God Says)" We have enjoined upon man goodness towards his parents, his mother bore him by bearing strain upon strain, and his utter dependence on her lasted two years, (the entire period of conception, gestation, birth and earliest infancy) (hence, O man,) be grateful towards Me and towards thy parents, (and remember that) with Me is all Journeys' end.

"But if they strive thee to make thee ascribe unto Me as partner that of which thou hast no knowledge, then obey them not; but (even then) bear them company in this world's life with kindness, and follow the path of those who turn towards Me. Then unto Me will be your return, and I shall tell you what ye used to do."

(Surah: Luqman verses No: 14 and 15)

"Thy Lord hath decreed, that ye worship none save Him, and be good to parents. If one of them or both of them attain old age with thee, Say not anything unto them nor repulse them, but speak unto them a gracious word". "And lower unto them the wing of submission through mercy, and Say My Lord! Have mercy on them both as they did care for me when I was little".

(Surah Bani Israel verses No: 23-24)

The Parent's Rights in the light of the sayings of the Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H)

Abu Omamah reported that a man asked: O Messenger of Allah! What are the rights of the parents over their children? He replied: They are your Paradise and your Hell. —Ibn Majah

Mother's place is next to Allah and his Apostle regarding obedience

Abu Hurairah reported that a man enquired: O Apostle of Allah! Who is the most proper person for my good association? "Thy mother," replied he. Then he asked: who is next? "Thy mother", he replied. Then he asked: who is next? "Thy mother," he replied. He enquired" who is next? "Thy father", he said. In another narration, he replied, "Thy mother, then thy mother, then thy mother, and then thy father, and then thy nearest relatives and then thy nearer relatives." (Bukhari & Muslim)

Utmost care of old parents is key to paradise

Some one reported that the Messenger of Allah said: May he be humbled! May he be humbled! It was questioned: Who. O Apostle of Allah! He said, The one who finds parents in their old age one of them or both of them, and yet does not enter Paradise. (Muslim)

Even if the parents are polytheists, they should be obeyed

Asma'a-bnt-Abi-Bakr reported: My mother, while she was a polytheist during the treaty of the

Quraish came to me. I asked, O Messenger of Allah! My mother has come to me while she is ill disposed (to Islam). Should I show her respect? "Yes" replied he, show respect to her. (Bukhari & Muslim)

Friendship with the friends of the father is commendable:

Ibn Omar reported that the Messenger of Allah said, The most excellent form of obedience to parents is a man's befriending the friends of his father after he has passed away. (Muslim)

Life can be prolonged by obedience to parents:

Saoban reported that the Holy Prophet said; Nothing but supplication can annul predestination, and nothing but obedience to parents can prolong life. A man is deprived of his provision for his sins he commits. (Ibn Majah)

The pleasure of the Lord is in the pleasure of the father:

Abdullah-bin-Amr reported that the Messenger of Allah said: The pleasure of Lord is in the pleasure of the father, and the displeasure of the Lord is in the displeasure of the father. (Tirmizi)

Duty towards parents is greater than the duty towards wife:

Abu Darda'a reported that a man came to him and asked: I have got a wife but my father bids me to divorce her. Abu Dara'a said to him; I heard the Messenger of Allah say; A parent is the best of the gates of paradise. So if you like guard the gate or

destroy. (Tirmizi & Ibn Majah)

Ibn Omar reported: I had a wife under me whom I loved but whom Omar disliked. He told me to divorce her. But I refused. Then Omar came to the Messenger of Allah and mentioned it to him. The Messenger of Allah told me divorce her. (Tirmizi, Abu Daud)

Mother is source of God's forgiveness:

Ibn Omar reported that a man came to the Holy Prophet and said: O Apostle of Allah! I have committed a great sin. Is there any repentance for me? He enquired: have you got mother? 'No' replied he. He asked: Have you got mother's sister? 'Yes' said he. He said: Then accord her good treatment. (Tirmizi)

Obedience to parents after their death:

Ibn Osaid-as Sayedi reported; we were near the Holy Prophet when a man of Banu Salemah came to him and asked: O Apostle of Allah! Is there any obedience to parents left that I can show to them after their demise? "Yes" replied he, to pray for them, to seek forgiveness for them, to fulfill their instructions after their death, to keep affinity with those who are not connected with you but through them, and to honour their friend. (Abu Daud, Ibn Majah)

Respect by the Holy Prophet (PBUH) to his foster mother

Abu Tofail reported; I saw the Messenger of Allah dividing meat at Jeerana when a woman

approached till she came to the Holy Prophet. He spread out his sheet for her and then she took her seat thereon. I enquired: who is she? He replied, She is my mother who suckled me. (Abu Daud)

Ayesha reported that a man asked the Holy Prophet, My mother died of hunger, and I consider that if she could have talked I could have given alms? So, will there be reward for her if I give alms? "Yes" replied he. (Bukhari & Muslim)

No Muslim is allowed to join the Jihad (Battlefield) without mother's permission

Muawiyah-b-Ja'hemah reported that Ja'hemah came to the Messenger of Allah and said: O Messenger of Allah! I intend to join battle and have come to you for consultation. He enquired: Have you got mother? 'Yes' replied he. He said: Then Keep near her, because Paradise is at her feet. (Ahmad, Nisai, Baihai)

Kindness to the parents is key to mercy of Almighty Allah

Jaber reported that the Holy Prophet said: One, who has got three things in him, Allah will make his death easy and will admit him in Paradise: mercy to the weak, kindness to the parents and doing good the slave. (Tirmizi-Rare)

Allah may pardon all sins except disobedience to parents

Abu Bakrah reported that the Messenger of Allah said: The Almighty Allah may pardon all sins He pleases except, disobedience to parents; and hastens

(punishment) in this life before death for one who commits it. (Trimizi-Rare)

Look of kindness towards parents is equal to one accepted Hajj

Ibn Abbas reported that the Messenger of Allah said, No obedient son looks to his parents with a look of kindness but Allah does not write for him one accepted pilgrimage for every look. They enquired, And if he looks hundred times everyday? "Yes" said he, "Allah is most Great and most Beneficent". (Baihaqi)

Fruits of obedience to parents

Ibn Abbas reported that the Messenger of Allah said, Whosoever gets up at dawn being obedient to Allah regarding his parents, two doors in Paradise are opened up for him in the morning. If he has one parent, then only one (door). Whoever is disobedient to Allah in respect of his parents, in the evening two doors in Hell are opened up for him. If he has got one parent, then only one. A man enquired, Even if they oppressed him? He replied, Even though they oppressed him! Even though they oppressed him! Even though they oppressed him! (Baihaqi)

Supplication:

"My Lord! Make me to establish proper worship, and some of my posterity (also); our Lord! and accept the prayer. "Our Lord! Forgive me and my parents and believers on the day when account is cast". (Surah Ibrahim 40-41)

Concept of Jihad in Islam

Sanaullah Rind, Class XI

The subject which I have to discuss is fortunately one of those which have been dealt with by both Islamic and non-Islamic worlds of learning. Islam, the religion is quite different from other religions by its particular attitudes towards human life. It does not look at this world and religion in narrow sense and does not recognize them as two separate entities. I can justifiably claim that a duty on which Hazrat Hussain (A.S) sacrificed his life and our Holy Prophet (PBUH) spent his entire life performing it, of course, Jihad (holy war) is considered to be/ the sixth pillar of Islam.

Jihad or Jahd literally means "to struggle", "to strive" or "to apply full power in order to complete any mission". In Islamic terminology, Jihad means "the regular and armed light against enemy for the sake of saving the religion (Islam)." But, in fact, Jihad is a comprehensive term in Islamic vocabulary which means, "To be ready at all times and to fight out against the enemy to protect religion (Islam) against all evil forces within ones own self as well as prevailing in the society"

Qur'an-e-Hakim has supported Jihad in following words:

“And fight them until persecution is no more and the religion is all for Allah.”

Islam does not oblige any individual to live a life completely sequestered from the society, thinking simply about his own betterment and his own salvation. Instead, Islam makes everybody responsible to his own part in the formation of better and brighter society. Quran-e-Hakim has rightly said:

“You are the best of all groups of people raised up for mankind; you enjoy right conducts and forbid indecency and believe in Allah.”

Through Quranic references we can come to know one of the types of Jihad by wealth. It is imperative on wealthy Muslims to spend their extra money in supplying and preaching of the religion of Allah.

“And they ask you (O Prophet!) what they should spend, tell them whatever remains with you as extra money after fulfillment of your rightful needs.”

“And come out lightly or heavily to fight with your wealth and your lives in the path of Allah.”

Jihad is the holy duty which our Prophet (P.B.U.H) performed throughout his life. He (Prophet) said:

“Whenever anyone of you sees any wrong anywhere, he must stop it by force; if he is unable to do so he must stop it by tongue; if he can't do even that, he must despise it at heart, and this is the lowest grade of Iman (faith).”

Even our Holy Prophet had hankered for it and said:

“I would like to die in the path of Allah as to be revived so that I die again only to be revived once

again to get a chance of giving away my life once more in the path of Allah."

Jihad is of different kinds, some of which are as follows:

(i) **Jihad against Inner Temptations:** When evil forces emerge within the inner self of a Muslim, it becomes imperative on him to fight out against all such evil forces within one's own self. Quran has forbidden Momins to follow the dictates of inner self (Nafs).

"And who can be more astray than one who followed temptations of one's own self without the guidance of Allah."

(ii) **Jihad with Arms:** When evil forces existing in society, come to destroy the religion of Allah, then it becomes the duty of Muslims to protect the religion of Allah with arms and equipments. To come out with such determination to fight out against enemy is called Jihad with arms.

In light of foregoing discussion, I come to conclude that Jihad is directly connected to the soul of Muslims. I like to quote a Dutch proverb that

Money is lost, something is lost,

Courage is lost, more is lost,

Honour is lost, most is lost,

Soul is lost, all is lost.

And the Muslims without the torch of Jihad would go to darkness, having lost their soul and everything.

The Moment of Anxiety for Muslims

Saeed Ahmed, Class XII

Today time asks the value of its each moment. The world which is developing very fast, calls the human to match with her. There are many people who are going with her and not waiting for others. Those who remained back due to their laziness are quite visible facing the results of their doings. No doubt, they were given chance but they did not think at that time. Now they are facing never-ending problems.

Question arises who are those people? Certainly these are the Muslims. The nation which once had all these honours, authorities, power of science and the best qualities of a good leader; a leader who led very successful life but now the situation of the Muslims is not hidden from any one. Now, they are facing never-ending hardships and they cannot find its solution very easily. Because when they had all the powers, they did not contemplate. Today they are passing the life like slaves for their happiness, development and to maintain their good position, they have to flatter and butter the western leaders. They even bow down before them. If we look at the cause of the development of the West, we find their bases from Muslim's learning of the golden age. Another reason of the downfall of the Muslims is to

abandon the Quran, the bright path which guides every thing of the world; unfortunately, we have given it up. That is why they are lagging behind in every field of life.

Since the time of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H), Muslims were very developed, happy and passing very good life but they started leaving the basic rules and principles which were given to them by God, they went into deep abyss of darkness. Now we can see that Jews who are very less in population, are ruling over the world. No one is there to declare war against them because they have power and support. Even thing depends upon them, whatever they want they can do. No one can say them anything. Best examples are in front of us. The Jews are ruling the world with power; they can attack any country which they want as they attacked on Afghanistan and Iraq.

Moreover, many innocent people are killing daily, their only sin is they are Muslims, so they are called terrorists.

I can say confidently that even now if any Muslim country is working or making some policies against United States, she will be targeted and no other Muslim country will rescue her. But, if they all get together then no doubt they can face every difficulty encountering them.

My Muslim brothers must wake up otherwise we will be ruined badly. I do not mean by waking up that we should take weapons in hands but we should work hard and be united.

In the last OIC summit the Malaysian president Mahatir Mohammad said in his address that Jews are

applying every wrong method to destroy Muslims and very few Jews are ruling the world.

Now, we have only one way to get out of this quagmire and that is to act according to the teachings of Islam. Otherwise we shall always be at sixes and sevens.

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Concept of Justice in Islam

Muhammad Khan Baloch, XII

Muslims can pride that from the beginning their judicial system was placed on right line. There is no difference in their law and system of those days and the laws and system of today. Let's take a brief look at some main features of administration of justice in Islam.

Supremacy of Law:-

In Islamic legal system no ruler and no officer or someone else can claim to be above the law. Everyone has to follow the rules of law and has to act upon that.

Equality before Law:-

The Quran and Sunnah which are the primary source of Islamic laws put great emphasis on equality. In Islamic system there can not be one law for the ruler and another for the servant, one for the powerful and another for the weak, one for rich and another for poor. Even the Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) did not consider himself or his family above the law. Instead of avoiding the law, he laid the rule that even the head of the state may be challenged by anyone in the court of state.

During his last sermon, The Prophet publicly offered to the community that if he owed anything to anyone or had done harm to anyone's life or property he

is available to answer for it. One person came forward and demanded some money which was immediately paid.

Judiciary:-

The Quran says, "Surely we have revealed the book to them with truth that you may judge between people by means of what Allah has taught them. And be not one pleading the cause of the dishonest". (4:105). It is said that the reason or occasion of the revelation of the above given verse was a dispute between a Jew and a Muslim, in which The Prophet decided against the Muslim. The verse means dishonesty must be punished and the balance of justice must be held equal between friends and foes and between Muslims and non-Muslims.

The Prophet was known for his fairness and justice. Even non-Muslims used to come to him for settlement of their disputes and he used to give the decision according to law, and never differentiated between litigants on the basis of religion or relations.

The Quran says, "O' you! who believe be maintainers of justice, bearers of witness for Allah even though it be against your own self, your parents or near relatives, whether he be rich or poor. And if you turn away from truth surely Allah is ever aware of what you do". (4:135)

Judiciary's Independence:-

In Islamic system judiciary is independent of executive control. Judges can perform their functions without any interference of any high authority. The

following portion of a letter that was written by Caliph Ali (R.A.) to one of his governors explains the independence of judiciary in Islam:

“Once you have selected the right man for the office, pay him handsomely enough to let him live in comfort and in keeping with his position, enough to keep him above temptations and give him a position in your court so high that none can even dream of coveting it”.

Free Administration of Justice:-

In Islamic legal system, justice is administered free of cost. All citizens can get justice without incurring any expenses in the form of court fee.

God's Delay is not God's Denial

Shafique-ur-Rehman, XII

Each and every thing present in this world needs justice and it is human nature to disturb justice and natural discipline. When these both things are disturbed, the man dwelling in this world chants the slogans against it and voices knock at the doors of ruling party. Voices which fly on the bold wings of hope are not paid due to attention, then man gets disappointment and only one way remains which relates to Allah and when it gets late further, man gets puzzled.

This late comes up with wars, bickering, quarrel, disappointments and discouragements, and then victim enters in the boundaries of confusion, and starts committing crime; starts taking revenges and avenges, and starts taking part in bad activities.

As it is well said by some one, "A bad fish in the water spoils whole the river." The bad activities done create disturbances for all the people, for all kith and kins leading their lives in the society, and that a culprit becomes agony for whole society.

When the ray of love vanishes, sympathy flies away, peace gets colossal strokes of war, hatred gets birth in every nook and corner of the world, and that hatred leads to wars and wars bring destruction, demolition, and development towards good behavior stops; bad ideas kick the good ideas from man's mind by taking

their place and that society or country becomes shadow in the eyes of other societies and countries.

Man's history is full of experiences, pertaining to this topic, we can take the example of First World War which bursted out with the assassination or murder of one man Ferdinand who was King of Austro- Hungry Empire.

Germany announced the war with French, Russian, Britain and USA, and then whole world bore the war for four years. During this war humanity was ill-treated and love was destroyed. We also can take example of second World War (1939-1945) which lasted for six heavy years with bombarding of atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, two international cities of Japan. We can take example of war of 1965 between two neighbouring countries Pakistan and India which lasted for 17 days. We can take example of Kargil war. Any war fought in this world entails the same concept.

Coming to another aspect if any one is suffering from any disease and ailment for long period then he starts thinking that he will not be in this world for long time and he loses the faith in God. The only and one solution to this problem is that, one should have firm faith in God prescribed in each and every religion of world. One should think of betterment for others. He should think that one day he will get justice and freedom from that disease if not here at least the hereafter (on the Day of Judgment.)

I have seen such people who waited and kept strong faith in God, they got fascinating gifts from God and those who did not wait, they not only destroyed their own lives but also demolished other's life aimlessly.

A Rare Judgment of Hazrat Ali

Sabir Ali, XI

Hazrat Ali (R.A.) was the fourth orthodox caliph of Islam. He was endowed with great intellectual and scholastic powers. He was wise in counsel, eloquent in speech and learned in law of Islam. He possessed many superb qualities of head and heart, that is why his bravery had won him the title of the "Lion of God" and his learning that of the "Gateway of Knowledge". He was not only kind and considerate towards his friends but also magnanimous and forgiving towards his foes.

His counsels were as weighty as his manners were vigorous and his words categorical. He had a deep sense of justice and profound concern for the wellbeing of his people. He was as great as his capacity for accountability, self-security, devotion to duty and his feeling for justice.

Hazrat Ali's (R.A.) judgment which have been acclaimed by almost all the scholars of the world still stand unique and indispensable. I cite one of his great judgments.

Once upon a time two travelers travelling on the road sat under the shade of tree for lunch. One of them took out his big five breads and the other took out three breads and put them near the five breads of his companion, making the total of breads eight. They had

not yet started eating when a third man happened to cross them. Invited by first two third man also sat with them and shared their lunch. While going away he gave them eight Dhirms against the share of food he had taken with them.

After he had gone, the first two travelers started quarrelling about their portion in eight Dhirms. One of them who had five breads claimed to have five Dhirms, but his companion did not agree to such division, reasoning that the stranger did not give the eight Dhirms for the food, he shared and he was wanting to divide the money equally. Finally they decided to approach to Hazrat Ali (R.A.) for decision. Having heard the case, Hazrat Ali (R.A.) first advised them for a compromise and when they did not agree, particularly, the one who had three breads, he solved the problem as under:

He said to one who had three breads and had taken the case to him with the claim that half of the eight Dhirms i.e. four Dhirms was his due share. "If you want a righteous decision in the case you should have only one Dhirm which is your due actually". When requested to explain he enlightened him as follows.

He said to him, "had you not have only three breads and your friend five breads, making total eight breads?" If we divide one bread in three bits and total bits will be twenty four. You said stranger to share your food equally, he should have eaten eight bits i.e. only one of your nine bits of breads and seven of them eaten from other's. That's why you should have one Dhirm for only one bit of the eight bits and your friend will take seven Dhirms of his seven bits. Feeling uneasy at the above decision of Hazrat Ali (A.S) the claimant who had taken case to Hazrat Ali (R.A.) agreed to take three Dhirms offered by his companion.

Khalid Bin Walid, The Striker

Imtiaz Ahmed Shaikh, XII

The Muslim history is replete with great military achievements and glorious feats of arms. In the annals of war, there is no any battle which surpasses the brilliance and decisiveness of the battles of Islam. There is no any Commander who surpasses in courage and skill of the God-gifted generals of Islam. The sword has always held a place of honour in Muslim culture, the sword to destroy paganism and spread the name of God on the globe of earth. This sword was used from time to time by great generals of Islam. Amongst them, was Khalid Bin Waleed, "The Sword of Allah", that is what Holy Prophet (PBUH) gave him the title.

Hazrat Khalid Bin Waleed (May Allah be pleased with him) who, from Badar to treaty of Hudabia, was a great resistance to Islam, soon after was a hero of Islam, when he got the sword which flashed against the enemies of Islam. He, with his boldness and bravery struck fear in the hearts of the infidels. He, with his stormy attacks and unending victories put the world at astonishment. Today, though centuries have passed, still his name fills new spirits in the hearts of the Muslims of the world.

Khalid was a versatile soldier history has ever known. A true military genius, he had the strategical vision as Changez Khan, and Napoleon, and tactical

brilliance as Frederick. In no other case, we see such diverse military virtues combined in one man. He was one of the only two great generals of the world who never in their life suffered any defeat, the other being Changez Khan.

He was the first Muslim commander to conquer the foreign land, the first Muslim to humble the two great empires of that time one after the other, i.e., Rome and Persia. From battle of Uhud upto the time of his dismissal as commander, he fought forty one major wars in a period of over fifteen years. Out of 41, he fought 35 in the last seven years. But, he never lost even a single of them. Such was Khalid, the irresistible and all conquering master.

Today, even in the age of pure nationalism, where everyone counts his national hero as the hero of the world, Gibbon, the writer of "Decline and Fall of Rome" wrote that " He (Khalid) was the fiercest, and most successful of all Arabian Warriors.

Khalid is one of those examples of history, where impossible became possible; where we find minority subduing majority. The example of battle of Yarmook is before us, where he, with his few number of soldiers, made the huge number of enemies kiss the dust. This is not the only example but, battle of Mauta, where he broke nine swords and got the title of 'The Sword of Allah', small number of Muslims defeated their enemies. Gracefully in strength almost hundred reater greater But, still, with the strategically vision, tactical brilliance and individual power of Khalid and with the great help of Almighty Allah, Muslims waved the symbol of victory in the battles. In all those battle which were fought in Iraq and Syria, the number of Muslims

was far less than half of the number enemies, but still with strange war tactics of Khalid, they were able to win

He was innovative kind of commander. He would at first surprise the enemy by strange moves and in that surprise, he would hit them so hard that his enemy won't have time to think and retaliate until' were defeated.

He was a great keeper of his words, honest in his duty, mature in his vision and a good availer of opportunity. He placed his mission more important than his life. He had indefatigable confidence and matchless courage. He always remained in front row of his army.

At the time of his death, his body was full of cut-marks of swords, arrows and lance, and each cut had less distance than span of hand from the other. He always wished to be the martyr in the way of Islam. He always believed God as a great Helper and Guide. He prayed God after each victory.. Even after getting glorious victories, he never grew proud.

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad

(1888-1958 AD)

Sikander Ali Channa, Asstt. Prof. Islamiyat

A great scholar, a profound religious thinker, an intrepid freedom fighter, an ideologue, a skillful and successful journalist, a poet laureate and India's first Education Minister after partition, Mohiuddin Ahmed, better known as Maulan Abul Kalam Azad (means 'free' his pen name), son of a well reputed Arabic scholar and Pir of Qadri and Naqshbandi order Maulana Khairuddin Dihlavi (1831-1908) was born at Makkah sometime between 9 August to 11 November, 1888 and on 19 February 1958, he fell in his bathroom and broke his hip. Thereafter, he suffered a stroke and died three days later in Delhi on 22 February, 1958 at about 2.00 am and buried in the premises of Badshahi Masjid Delhi.

He was a scholar thoroughly trained in the traditional Islamic sciences, with great intellectual abilities and eloquence of pen and speech. He made a lasting contribution to Urdu prose literature with his translation and interpretation of the Holy Qura'an, his many other religious writings, and his introspective autobiographical and epistolary works. He was a skillful journalist and ideologue who played a leading role in the Indian struggle for independence and then in the

government of the Indian republic. His mother was Arab and he received his early education at Makkah, therefore he was very fluent at Arabic. His religious thought left very strong impact on religious groups and parties of his time such as Devbandies and Ahl-e-Hadith and Muslim scholars and party leaders such Sayyed Abul A'ala Maudoodi and Chaudhry Ghulam Ahmed Pervaiz simultaneously. His two volumes Tafsir of the Qura'an "Tarjuman al-Qura'an" is widely readable book among the Devbandi Madressahs of the Indo-Pak sub-continent. Being a skillful journalist he associated and founded so many newspapers, weekly journals and monthly magazines such as Al-Misbah (The Dawn) (1901), Ahsan al-Akhbar (The Balanced News) (1901), Lisan al-Sadiq (Voice of the Truth) (1903), Wakil (Defender) (1904), Dar-al Sultanat (Capital City) (1907), Al-Nidwa (The Call) (1905), Al-Hilal (The Crescent) (1912), Al-Balagh (The Communication) (1915), Paigham (Message) (1921), Al-Jamia (Arabic) The Alliance 1923.

His major works are:

1. **Tarjuman al-Quran:** (1931 & 1936), Translation and Tafsir in Urdu of first 23 Surah of the Holy Qura'an in 2 volumes. First volume completely dealt with one Surah of Fateha. Third volume was compiled and published by Maulana Ghulam Rasool Mahar under the title of "Baqiyat-e-Tarjuman al-Qura'an, (Remains of the Tarjuman al-Qura'an) from the files of al-Hilal and al-Balagh.
2. **Tazkira:** (Memoirs) (1919) Autobiography.
3. **Ghubar-e-Khatir:** (The dust of memories) (1946) collection of letters addressed to Nawab Sadar-yar

Jung Bahadur and Maulana Habibur-Rehman Sherwani

4. **Karwan-e-Kheyal:** (Vehicle for Thought), collection of letters addressed to Maulana Habibur-Rehman Sherwani
5. **Nairang-e-Alam:** (Wonders of the World) (1899) Poetical anthology
6. **India Wins Freedom:** Pages of his secret diary which was published after his death in January 1959 which revealed many secrets relating to the politics and personalities of the India
7. **Imam Hussain (R.A.) Shaheed-e-Karbala**
8. **Sarmad Shaheed.**

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad was elected as the president of the Indian National Congress in 1939 and remained up to 1946, and after independence became Education Minister in January 1947 till his death in 1958.

Islam

Shahid Ali Jatoi,

Islam, an Arabic word, meaning "submission to Allah (God), is based on the revelations of Allah to Muhammad (Peace be upon him), who was born in Makkah, and lived from 570 to 632 A.D. Among Muslims, Muhammad (P.B.U.H) is believed to have been a descendant of Abraham, the founder of Judaism. Muhammad (P.B.U.H.) received the revelation of Allah, compiled as Quran and provided explanations of Quranic teachings in the Sunna, a collection of traditions. Both are reinforced by the principle of Ijma. The Quran, the Sunna and the Ijma are the three foundations of Islamic Shariat.

Islam is radically theistic, and the essence of its creed is stated: "There is no god but Allah, Muhammad is the messenger of Allah.'

There is no professional priesthood in Islam and followers are expected to refrain from drinking wine. Islam means complete surrender to the will of Allah, Who is the all power-full, Whose will is supreme and determines men's fate.

Good deeds will be rewarded at the last judgment day in paradise and evil deeds will be punished in hell. The five pillars (primary duties) of Islam are confessing the oneness of God and prophethood of Muhammed

(P.B.U.H) including all the other prophets, praying five times a day, alms-giving to the poor, fasting during the month of Ramdan and pilgrimage to Makkah at least once in a Muslim's life time if he can afford financially.

Muslims pray five times a day at dawn, noon, afternoon, dusk and night. The prayers which consist primarily of thanks giving and praise of Allah, are performed facing to Makkah and involve traditional physical postures. The principal public service takes place at mid-day on Friday usually in mosque.

The Last Sermon of the Holy Prophet (PBUH)

A Comparative Study

Sikandar Ali Channa, Asst: Prof, Islamiat

“Hijjatual-wida, the last or farewell pilgrimage performed by Muhammad (PBUH), is taken as the model of an orthodox Hajj. It is called Hajj-i-Akbar, or greater Pilgrimage, in the Qura'an (Surah Taubah, Ayat No:3; see mishkat-al-Muhammad PBHU). It was performed on February 23, A.A. 632. (Dictionary of Islam, P.T. Hughes, Page No: 160).

On this historic occasion, the Holy Prophet (PBUH) addressed a very large gathering of Muslims on the mount of mercy at the ground of Arafat. This address proved to be his last Hajj sermon and is accepted as a classical document in Islamic literature. This address, like was a short one but it contained an important message for Muslim community, which, if followed in letter as well as in spirit, would truly make the good Muslims.

Later on, taking advantage of the popularity of this address, many additions were made in it, apparently with good motives. These additions not only marred the beauty of the original address but also created doubts

about its authenticity. To give the idea of these additions, the text of the original address is translated from Sahih Bukhari, the most authentic collections of Ahadith.

“Hazrat ibne Abbas has reported that the Holy Prophet (PBUH) addressed the believers on the day of sacrifice (Yoom-un-Nahr). He asked from them about that day. They replied that it was a sacred day. Then he asked about the city. They replied that it was the sacred city of Makkat-al-Mukarmh. Then he asked about the month, and they replied that it was a sacred month. At this, he explained that their blood, property and honour were sacrosanct like that day, month and city. He repeated these words again and again and then he raised his head towards the sky and said, “O Allah! Have I not conveyed your message?” Hazrat Ibne Abbas adds that by Allah, the Holy Prophet (PBUH) advised the Ummah that those who were present. He also emphasized upon them not to return to infidelity and stop killing one another.” (*Sahih Bukhari, Hamid & Co. Edt., Lahore, Volume*)

The text given in Text Book for Class Ninth, published by the Sindh Textbook Board, Jamshoro, is different from that of Sahih Bukhari which reads as:

“There is no God except Allah. He is the only God. None shares his authority and power. He fulfilled his promise and helped his Prophet against the forces of evil. "O people! Listen to me carefully. We may not have another opportunity to meet again in such an assembly after today." He quoted a verse from the Holy

Quran and said, "Allah says, O Mankind! We created you from a male and female and made you into tribes and nations so as to be known one from the other. And in the eyes of Allah, the most righteous is the most honourable among you. In the light of this verse, no Arab is superior to a non-Arab. Nor is a white man in any way better than a Blackman. Only the goodness of a person makes him superior to others. The whole of humanity is the offspring of Adam and he (Adam) was created from dust. I, therefore, crush under my feet all the false claims to greatness and superiority founded on blood and wealth." He further said, "O people! A Muslim is another Muslim's brother and all the Muslims are brothers among themselves." Finally he said, "I have given you the messages of Allah. I am leaving among you a thing, which will guide you if you act according to it, you will never go wrong. This is the Holy Book of Allah." (Page No:3-4, first Edition, February 2000)

When Allama Shibli Numani compiled his magnum opus 'Seerat-un-Nabi (PBUH), he took great pains to find out the original authentic text of this..... but failed. However, after making a thoughtfully.... study of Ahadith on the subject, he compiled it as under:

"The Holy Prophet (PBUH) declared that all the customs of the Jahilliah period (Age of Ignorance) were under his feet. "O people! There is no doubt that your Nourisher is one and your father is one. An Arab has no preference over non-Arab. Similar is case of the non-Arab and the people of the other races. The preference is only in respect of Taqwah". To know that every Muslim is a Muslim's brother and that all the Muslims are brethren. Take care of your slaves, feed them with

the same food and cloth them with the same clothes you wear. All the bloods of the Jahillia period are abolished. The first claim on blood I abolish is that of Ibn-e-Rabiya, son of Harith (s). All the Riba (usury) of the days of ignorance are abolished and first of all I abolish the Riba (usury) of Abbas, son of Abdul Muttlib. Take care of the rights of the women. You have rights over your wives and they have rights over you. Your Blood and your property is sacrosanct until the day of Judgment as this day and this month is holy. I have left with you something, which, if you hold fast to it, you will never fall into error. What is it? It is the Book of Allah (The Holy Qura'an). Allah Almighty has given everybody his right. Now, there is no need of making a will for anybody. The child is for him on whose bed he was born and adulterer is to be stoned. Almighty Allah will take him to task. Worth of Allah be upon a child who attributes himself to another person instead of his father and a slave who attributes himself to another master. A woman cannot spend from the property of her husband without his permission. Debts must be paid. Loaned articles be taken back and gifts should be returned. The surety is responsible for the damages. After this he asked from the believers that if Almighty Allah inquired from them about him, what they would reply. The companions replied that he had conveyed God's message and did his duty. He raised his finger to the sky and said "O Allah! Be witness." (*Seerat-un-Nabi PBUH by Allama Shibli Numani, Volume II, pages 154 to 159*)

Allama Shibli Numani was a great scholar but while making additions in the text of the address, as reported by Imam Bukhari, he did not care that by this addition,

he was legalizing the slavery banned in the Qura'an verse No:4 of the Surah Muhammad, which made it clear that either the prisoners of war be set free as a favour or for ransom.

Seerat-e-Ibne Hisham is popularly accepted as the most authentic book on the life of Muhammad (PBUH). But, the text of address incorporated with the reference of Ibne-Ishaque, in this book, is totally different from that of Sahih Bukhari and the one compiled by the Allama Shibli Numani. It is as under:

"The Holy Prophet (PBUH) made a speech in which he made things clear. He praised and glorified Allah then he said: "O men! Listen to my words. I do not know whether I shall ever meet you in this place again this year. O men! Your blood and your property are sacrosanct until you meet your Nourisher as this day and this month is holy. You will surely meet you Allah and He will ask you of your actions. I have told you, he who has a pledge, let him return him who entrusted him with it; all kind of riba (usury) are abolished, but you have your capital. Wrong not and shall not be wronged. Allah has commanded that there is to be no Riba (usury) and the riba of Abbas son of Abdul Muttalib is abolished, all of it. All bloodshed in the Jahilliah period is to be left un-avenged. The first murder of the murders of ours which I abolished is the murder of Ibne-Rhiyah son of Harth (s) who was fostered among the tribe of Layth (s) and whom Huzail had killed. It is the first blood (murder) of Jahilliah period which I deal with. After that O men! The devil is despaired of over being worshipped in your land, but if he can be obeyed in anything short of worship, he will be pleased matters you may be disposed to think of little account, so beware of him in your

religion. O men! Postponement of sacred month is only an excess of disbelief whereby those who disbelieve are misled; they allow it one year and forbid it another year that they may make up the number of the months which Allah has allowed so that they may permit what Allah has forbidden and forbid what Allah has allowed. Time has completed his cycle and is as it was on the day Allah had created the heavens and the earth. The number of months with Allah has twelve, four of them are sacred, three consecutive and the Rajab of Muzar tribe which is between Jamadi and Shuban. You have rights over your wives and they have rights over you. You have the right that they should not defile your bed and they should not behave with open unseemliness. If they do, Allah allows you to put them separate rooms and to beat them but not with severity. If they refrain from these things, they have their rights to food and clothing with kindness. Lay injunctions on women kindly, for they are prisoners with you having no control of their persons. You have taken them only as a trust from Allah and you have the enjoyment of their persons by the words of Allah. So understand and listen to my words. O men! For I have told you, I have left with you something which if you will hold fast to it, you will never fall into error, a plain indication, the Book of Allah and the Sunnah of his Prophet, so give good heed to what I say. Know that all Muslim are brethren. It is only lawful to take from a brother that he gives you willingly, so wrong not yourselves. 'O Allah! Have I not told you?'

I was told that the companions said, 'O Allah! yes.' And the Holy Prophet (PBUH) said: 'O Allah bear witness'." (*Al-Seerat-al-Nabwuyya by ibne Hasham. Volume No:4, pages 259- 260, Darul Ahya Altarath al-Arabi, Beirut,*

Lebanon, 1994 and the Life of Muhammad by A Guillaumi, Oxford University Press, Karachi, 199, page No:650 to 652).

This text of the address of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) is quite different than the text reported by Imam Bukhari, in the class ninth's textbook published by the Sindh Textbook Board, Jamshoro. However, more strange is the fact that text which is popular among the Ulema and the masses of our country is totally different from the above texts. It contains many additions which lack documentary proof. According to the principles laid down by the authorities on Hadith (s), for ascertaining the authenticity of Ahadith of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) the text quoted by Imam Bukhari is the most authentic one.
