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EINIDING OFF WOMEN RAPE CULTURE



- 1. Indian Students Stand with Palestine.
- 2. Humanism v/s Islam: An Analysis.

3. Modesty. Nove...

Private Circulation

EDITORIAI

MAAZ AHMAD JAVED (M.Tech, AMU)

When Allah sent the first human to this world, He said, "Descend from here, all of you, and if guidance comes to you from Me, then whoever follows My guidance will have no fear, nor will they grieve." (Al-Bagarah: 38). This means that when humans were sent to the world, Allah promised them guidance. To fulfil this great task, a series of resolute Prophets and Messengers were sent, bringing with them books and scriptures. Thus, the fundamental duty of the Prophets was to invite people to the truth. After the Prophet Muhammad (*), the responsibility of this task fell upon the Ummah (the Muslim community). Throughout history, sincere individuals in the Ummah have taken on this great responsibility, even sacrificing their lives for it. Therefore, the work of invitation (Da'wah) is not a trivial matter; it is the tradition of the Prophets and the righteous. Since the beginning of time, this work has continued, and most importantly, it is obligatory upon the Ummah. Allah says, "O Messenger! Convey everything that has been revealed to you from your Lord. If you do not, then you have not fulfilled the duty of His Prophethood." (Al-Ma'idah: 67).

Understanding the significance of this work, the Ummah has always embraced it, and continues to do so today, albeit to varying degrees. Allah has emphasized the importance of those who invite others to Him by stating, "And who is better in speech than one who invites to Allah, does righteous deeds, and says, 'I am among the Muslims."

(Fussilat: 33). How does this work elevate a person to such a high rank? A hadith explains it like this: "The example of me and the people is like a person who has kindled a fire. When it lights up the surroundings, moths and insects start falling into the fire, and the person begins to pull them out of it, but they keep falling in despite his efforts. Similarly, I grab you by the waist to pull you away from the fire, but you insist on falling into it." (Sahih Bukhari, Kitab Al-Rigag). This means that a caller to Allah (Da'eei) is someone who feels deep concern and anxiety for humanity. He knows that those who are engrossed in the world today will become the fuel of fire tomorrow. This concern compels him to forsake the worldly distractions and devote himself to the task of calling others to the truth. Such is the greatness of this work.

If humanity truly understood the rank of a Daeei, they would place him on a pedestal and adorn him with garlands of flowers. But history paints a different picture. It shows that the work of Da'wah is not a bed of roses, but rather a crown of thorns. It is a difficult path, one that is not easy for the faint-hearted. History shows that the Daeei has always been greeted with stones by his people. He has been mocked, insulted, boycotted, beaten, forced to migrate, and even killed. This hostile approach towards Da'wah continues even today. In our country, this hostility is evident as well. Recently, several prominent Daeeis were sentenced to life imprisonment by a court. Although this is not a new example, such incidents have increased in recent times. They have been accused of forcibly converting people to Islam, and of luring them with



money. Given the current state of the judiciary in our country, there is little to do but mourn. The baselessness of these allegations is clear from the fact that Islam itself condemns forced conversions. Allah says in the Quran, "There is no compulsion in religion." (Al-Baqarah: 256). This means that no one can be forced to accept Islam. This is a well-known and fundamental principle of Islam. It is impossible that the eminent scholars involved in this case were unaware of this or acted against it.

The second allegation, that they lured people with money, also appears equally baseless. How can a community, known for its poor economic condition in India, expect its prominent Da'eei to use money for something that Islam considers a sin? It seems that those who drafted this case have no knowledge of Islam or the priorities of Muslims. However, lamenting over such things in this country is a waste of time, as it has become a normal occurrence here. continued on.....page - 03

CREATOR'S CALL

يَّأَيُّهَا ٱلَّذِينَ ءَامَنُواْ لِمَ تَقُولُونَ مَا لَا تَفْعَلُونَ ٢ كَبْرَ مَفْتًا عِندَ ٱللَّهِ أَن تَقُولُواْ مَا لَا تَفْعَلُونَ ٢ كَبْرَ مَفْتًا عِندَ ٱللَّهِ أَن تَقُولُواْ مَا لَا تَفْعَلُونَ ٣ إِنَّ ٱللَّهَ يُحِبُّ ٱلَّذِينَ يُقَاتِلُونَ فِي سَبِيلِهِ صَفَّا كَأَنَّهُم بُنْيَانُ مَّرْصُوصٌ ٤ تَفْعَلُونَ ٣ إِنَّ ٱللَّهَ يُحِبُّ ٱلَّذِينَ يُقَاتِلُونَ فِي سَبِيلِهِ صَفًّا كَأَنَّهُم بُنْيَانُ مَّرْصُوصٌ ٤

OBAIDUR RAHMAN (Jamiatul Falah) | Tr.: BILAL HASAN

believers, why do you say things you do not practice? Allah dislikes the most that you speak words which you do not fulfill. Surely, Allah loves those who fight in His path as a united and organized force, like a firm wall.

The name of this Surah is taken from the fourth verse, "لِقُلْتَالُونَ فِي سَبِيلِهِ صَفَّا".

CONTEXT

There are two explanations behind the first and second verses.

- 1. According to Ibn Abbas, before the obligation of Jihad, some Muslims would ask the Prophet to guide them to the most beloved deed to Allah. When Jihad was declared as such, some Muslims were reluctant or uncomfortable, so Allah revealed these two verses.
- 2. The second explanation is that after the Muslims temporarily faced defeat in the Battle of Uhud, many fled, leaving the Prophet behind. Consequently, Allah revealed the verse: "It is most hateful in the sight of Allah that you say what you do not do." (Surah As-Saff).

Maqatil bin Hayyan narrates: "The believers said, 'If only we knew the most beloved act to Allah, we would have performed it.' So, Allah revealed that fighting in His cause with unity and sacrifice is the most beloved deed."

The first two verses warn believers not to say what they do not do, as this is a sign of hypocrisy. The Prophet ##

said, "The signs of a hypocrite are three, even if he prays and fasts: when he speaks, he lies; when he promises, he breaks it; and when entrusted, he betrays."

We must reflect on our actions and promises, as lying and breaking promises are common today. Yet, these behaviours are signs of hypocrisy, which Allah and His Messenger strongly condemn. Even when Jihad was obligated, some Muslims showed displeasure, and they were rebuked by Allah in these verses.

In the third verse, Allah mentions His most beloved deed—fighting in His cause in an organized and disciplined manner. Some opponents of Islam interpret this to mean that Islam promotes violence, but this is incorrect. Islam only endorses fighting when necessary for defence and establishing justice. Before Islam, wars were constant, and Islam brought an end to such conflicts.

This verse emphasizes that any struggle or effort must be purely for Allah's cause, with unity and discipline, resembling a solid wall against the enemies of Islam. Such qualities are most beloved to Allah. As Maulana Maududi (R.H.) writes in "Tafheem-ul-Quran," these traits cannot be achieved without:

- 1. Complete unity of belief and purpose,
- 2. Trust in one another's sincerity,
- 3. High moral standards,

4. And a deep commitment to the cause, which inspires self-sacrifice and bravery on the battlefield.

Finally, may Allah grant us the ability to align our words with our actions, and instil in us the spirit of jihad and the love of martyrdom. Ameen.

EDITORIAL CONTINUED....



Now, regarding the law under which these individuals were sentenced: this law defines forced conversion as one where deceit, coercion, fear, or intimidation are used. Even the fear of divine punishment or the promise of rewards cannot be used. This means that Muslims cannot invite others to Islam based on Heaven and Hell. In essence, this law deprives Muslims of their right to fully invite others to their faith. It's important to note that this is neither new nor unique. In the past, falsehood has always used similar tactics. But today, the champions of falsehood are using the veil of "human freedom" to carry out their work. Those involved in the noble task of Da'wah should carefully assess the pros and cons before stepping into this thorny path. They should also remember that the opponents of Da'wah can stoop to the lowest of levels. The Quran states, "The disbelievers say, 'Do not listen to this Quran and make noise during its recitation so that you may prevail." (Fussilat: 26). But it also says, "Good and evil are not equal. Repel evil with what is better." (Fussilat: 34). May Allah grant all Daeeis patience and steadfastness in this path. Ameen.

ENDING OF WOMEN RAPE CULTURE

ape culture is a sociological concept Notice for a setting in which rape is pervasive and normalized due to societal attitudes about gender. Behaviors commonly associated with rape culture include victim blaming, slut-shaming, sexual objectification, trivializing rape, denial of widespread rape, refusing to acknowledge the harm caused by sexual violence, or some combination of these. According to TBS report India stands 12th among countries where, sexual violence against women is highest. The number of rape incidents in India in per 100,000 citizens is 22,172 as of 2020, according to World Population Review data. India recorded an average of 87 rape cases daily in 2019.

No, one is born as rapist in this world. But society, culture, media, parenting and environmental plays a major role in shaping a boy into man or a rapist. During childhood days proper parenting is necessary for nurturing of good human being. Sadly in an Indian society a boy is never told to lower his gaze and honour a woman. He is never told, if you don't behave properly with a girl it will affect her mentally and it reflects how you will treat your future wife and daughter. All lectures are applied to girls only in most of the cases, which is not wrong in itself but shouldering the responsibility goes both the ways. Otherwise how will the society function if only girls are taught to be modest and men are left to roam as wild beast. This wall which stands between, of what girls should do and what boys should do, must be broken. Both of them must be equally taught good moral values under Islamic guidelines, which will create a morally responsible society.

"O Prophet! Tell the believing men to

lower their gaze and guard their chastity. That is purer for them. Surely Allah is All-Aware of what they do." [24:30]

"And tell the believing women to lower their gaze and guard their chastity, and not to reveal their adornments." [24:31]

When children reach puberty, they become curious regarding opposite genders. Due to lack of proper education by parents, and the internet flooded with information, curious children opt for inappropriate resources, sometimes unintentionally, to satisfy their curiosity. These websites affect their mind in a very negative manner, and they are misled onto a treacherous path. Hence, parents must be very careful of what their children are browsing on internet and what websites they visit. Cinema has played a major role in largely intensifying this crime through glamourizing filth. To exercise control on this culture, all movies or shows which have a direct or indirect impact in promoting them must be boycotted, but that's not the case today. Communal hate and caste-based discrimination are also dominant reasons for crime against women. Consumption of drugs, alcohol are some other reasons.

Every day, some or the other women become victims of this serious criminal act, but their voices go unheard. When a few cases are highlighted by the large section of the media, they cause uproar. After few words of assurance from authority the things go back to normal. Then again new cases emerge, and the same cycle is followed. How will these problems be solved if the same society who are involved in all sorts of dissent are also involved in the acts which are root causes and the ones guiding

humanity away from these slippery slopes are branded as judgemental or extremist? The root of the problems is us. We don't want to eliminate the main source of the problem like obscenity, alcoholism, discrimination, pornography, wrong parenting and lack of fear of God and hope that things will improve miraculously.

The Islamic sharia law is most supreme for handling rape cases. A narration which addresses rape issue is:

A man was invited for a meal to a home. He then forced a woman of theirs to have sexual relations with him. When this case was brought to Abu Bakr, he had the man flogged and exiled and did not punish the woman. (Sunan al-Kubra Bayhaqi)

Readers of different religions may find this bizarre. They may feel it is too brutal to flog or execute someone publicly, but honestly nothing can be more brutal than women suffering mentally the trauma of rape for her entire life. Many women and men activists have supported this law irrespective of their religion. We can see that rape cases are very low in countries like Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Iran etc where sharia laws are implemented partly. On the other hand, in America which blabbers itself as the defender of human rights, has extremely high number of rape cases. I must admit the death of a rapist will not abruptly end this vicious cycle unless and until the root causes are not curbed from the society, because you can never cure the disease without acknowledging the symptoms.

The safest place for women is her home but when they go out, they should adhere to proper veil. Being accompanied continued on.....page - 06

ENAMUR RAHMAN (M.Sc., AMU) | ZAIN AHMAD (B.Sc., AMU)

n this topic, the first question we need To answer is whether there is any real difference between humanism and Islam. And if there is a difference, which one is better for our lives? At this point, we should also ask ourselves another question: could it be possible that humanism, compared to Islam, is leading us toward disbelief? This question is important because many intellectuals, seeing some of the moral claims of humanism, fail to recognize the disbelief and atheism hidden behind it. As a result, humanism easily finds its way into religious circles.

In this article, we will explore what humanism is, what beliefs are necessary to be a humanist and try to analyse the kind of life and society humanism has created. We will also examine which perspective-humanism or Islam-is better suited for the modern age of science and technology.

We must have heard or read at some point in our lives that before being Muslims, Hindus, Sikhs, or Christians, we are all humans. We have also heard the accusation that asks why we keep viewing people as believers or nonbelievers. Some say we should move beyond this and focus on the fact that the world has advanced, while we remain stuck in the same place. They argue that it doesn't matter whether someone is a believer or a non-believer, a Sikh or a Christian; what matters is progress. If we have to divide the world, let's do so between developed and underdeveloped nations. At least this would seem more reasonable, and no one would disagree with us. This would lead to a prosperous life.

They ask, "Can't you see how far the West has advanced? Look at their achievements in science and technology." It seems as though someone is trying to convince us that if we just accept their views, all the successes of the world will be at our feet. The only thing left is for us to accept everything they say. However, we should pause and ask them a small question: are they saying that religion is the reason we haven't progressed? And if we want to move forward, do we need to put religion aside? At first, they will be unwilling to give the answer. Even if they answer, they will simply say that religion is a personal matter and has nothing to do with science and advancing technology.

My dear friends, every false ideology tries to show us a bright future and wants us to abandon the one which is dearer to us than our own souls. A humanist, pretending to be our wellwisher, wants us to deny God and everything that has any connection to religion. Many of us misunderstood this point when "Human Rights" were translated as "Insani Huqooq". However, human rights only apply to those who follow the ideology of humanism.

Let's understand what humanism is by asking a humanist. Jack Grassby, in his book "Postmodern Humanism," describes it like this: "The foundation of humanism begins with the belief that there is no God, no soul, and no supernatural force that we need to reach out to. There is no unseen power to guide us, inform us, or help us live a peaceful life. "Julian Huxley, the former president of the British Humanist Association, wrote in his book "Man in the Modern World" that ignorance and humility are what make humans bow before God. After gaining knowledge and understanding, humans no longer feel the need to think about God. Now, humans see themselves as their own God.

These two examples make it clear that humanists are inviting us to deny God. Every ideology has some good points. But we shouldn't decide whether it's good or bad for living based only on a few good things. We must look at the overall message of the ideology, the kind of life it promotes, and most importantly, we should ask who is presenting this ideology and what kind of life and society its followers have built.

Humanism is a philosophy or system of thought that emphasizes the value and agency of human beings, individually and collectively. The following seven points are fundamental to humanist beliefs, based on Stephen Law's book Humanism:

- 1. Science and Reason: Humanists believe that all aspects of life should be examined through the lens of science and reason. They hold that no belief system or thought process should be above rational scrutiny.
- 2. Atheism or Agnosticism: Humanists are generally atheists or, at the very least, agnostic. They are sceptical about the existence of God, as well as about angels, demons, and other supernatural beings.

To check how far these two approaches are correct, let's consider an example where renowned researchers examined specific phenomena:

Linus Pauling, a prominent atheist and chemist, proposed a triple helix model for DNA, suggesting three intertwined strands with outward-facing bases. He was confident in this model, considering his expertise and the available data. Later, the triple helix was

HUMANISMUSSIAM And Analysis Crick, using Rosalind Franklin's X-ray data. revealed DNA's actual etructure as double helix, with two complementary strands, bases inside, and a sugar-phosphate backbone on the outside.

> This is just one of many examples that highlight that in scientific research, an old theory can be entirely replaced by a new one, sometimes with completely opposite conclusions. This is especially significant when theories are used to challenge the existence of God. What if a new theory emerges later, disproving the previous one? It shows that when even material objects, which can be quantitatively and qualitatively analysed, are misunderstood by science, how reliable is it to trust human intellect alone when judging the existence of Allah **?

> Some might argue that the scientific method should be used to prove the existence of God. But first, what is a scientific method? A scientific method involves making conjectures (hypothetical explanations), deriving predictions from these hypotheses as logical consequences, and then carrying out experiments or observations based on those predictions. A scientific hypothesis is falsifiable, meaning it should be possible to identify an outcome that contradicts the predictions. If it's not, the hypothesis cannot be meaningfully tested.

> However, the Ouran had already addressed this question clearly a long time ago:

> "They are those who remember Allah while standing, sitting, and lying on their sides, and reflect on the creation of the heavens and the earth and pray, 'Our Lord! You have not created all this without purpose. Glory be to You! Protect us from the torment of the Fire." (Qur'an 3:191)

> The Quran emphasizes reflection on the creation of the heavens and the earth, indicating that careful observation and right conclusions lead one to recognize the existence of a Creator. What science might call an "exceptional case" is, in fact, a special case that supports the correlated phenomenon.

> To be more practical, researchers who have observed deeply and with sincerity have often been compelled to acknowledge the existence of a Creator. For example, Canadian anatomist and embryologist Keith L. Moore, after studying the embryological descriptions in the Quran, was struck by their accuracy. His work in embryology and his engagement with Islamic scholars significantly influenced his perspective on Islam.

> Thus, the Quran emphasizes keen observation and drawing correct conclusions, suggesting that sincere study and reflection naturally lead to the recognition of a higher power.

> > to be continued.....

Recently, three separate incidents indicated that the Indian student community is largely standing with Palestine in the ongoing genocide, which is close to completing a year. They were as follows:

1. The Governor's Prize Acceptance Speech

incident, Dhananjay first Balakrishnan, a graduate from Indian Institute of Technology, Madras (IIT-M), in his Governor's Prize acceptance speech during the 61st convocation of the institute, called for action against the ongoing genocidal war by Israel on Palestine. "There is a mass genocide going on in Palestine, people are dying in mass numbers and there is no end in sight. Why should we be bothered, you ask? Because Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) as a field in itself has historically been used to advance the ulterior motives of the imperial powers such as Israel," said Balakrishnan. He went on to say: "As engineering students, we work hard to get top-level jobs at tech giants which offer very lucrative pay and great benefits. However, these tech giants control various aspects of our lives today as you know better than anyone. Many of these prestigious companies are directly or indirectly implicated in the war against Palestine by providing the state of Israel technology, technology that's used to kill."

2. Student Protests at Jantar Mantar, Delhi

In another incident, many civil rights organisations, student collectives and political factions held protests at Jantar Mantar in New Delhi rallying in support of Palestine and denouncing the ongoing genocidal war in the region. Around 500 people participated in the protests which included speeches, artistic performances, and a strong display of support for the Palestinian cause. Priyamvada from the Revolutionary Workers' Party of India (RWPI) addressed the gathering, condemning what she described as the ongoing massacre of Palestinians by Zionist Israel. Priyamvada criticised the Modi government for its arms trade with Israel, accusing it of complicity in the genocide. "The Palestinian struggle is not just seven-eight months old but seveneight decades old, and the Modi government is involved in this genocide by trading arms with

the Zionists," Keshaw from the Disha Students' Organization elaborated on the historical context of the conflict, describing Israel as a "settler colonial state" that has displaced Palestinians for decades. He condemned the ongoing bombardment of Gaza, targeting hospitals and residential areas, and the blockade that has turned Gaza into an "open prison."

Asim Khan, National President of the Fraternity Movement, added, "Our stance on Palestine is clear: Palestinian resistance is a legitimate and necessary response to the long-standing historical and structural violence inflicted upon them. We stand in support of the Palestinian cause and stand with the revolutionaries who exhibit unwavering commitment to resisting oppression,"

3. University Students Demand cut-off of ties with Tel Aviv University

Students of Ashoka University in Sonipat, Haryana demanded cut-off of ties with Tel Aviv University over complicity in Gaza genocide. The elected student body formally sent a petition to the Vice Chancellor. Within ten days, the petition had been signed by 442 students, 105 alumni, and 39 faculty members. The statement in the petition expressed deep concern over the ongoing Israeli onslaught on Gaza and sought the university to cut all ties with Tel Aviv University, which has strong ties to Israel's military and weapons producers, and has crowdfunded for "care" packages for its soldiers. "Ashoka University and India are not isolated from the genocide we are witnessing. India is the world's top importer of Israeli weapons. The settler-coloniser tactics of oppression, violence, and land grabbing practised by the Zionist State in Palestine as well as the technology they use find direct parallels in the actions of the Indian government in Kashmir," a student from the university added.

As the situation worsens in Gaza, it is becoming evident by the day that the Indian public sentiment is with Palestine irrespective of caste, region, religion, gender etc. It will be interesting to see whether the Government accepts these voices or turns on deaf ears like it has done in a lot of recent issues.

CONTINUATION OF...... ENDING OF WOMEN RAPE CULTURE

by male guardian is also important, especially during long distances. Coeducation systems and free mixing must be discouraged strongly. In the worst case, if there is inevitability of encounter with opposite gender, people should limit their interactions and strictly try to be professional and not become intimate. In Islam there exist strict moral codes for opposite gender interaction, those should be followed. One of the long-term solutions to rape is early marriage. Even though people may find it strange, it may serve as a solution to the current situation and threat from an Islamic standpoint. When a person is mature enough for marriage and they show willingness, all possible means should be channelled for them to get married, so that they may not fall into this unlawful act.

Women must learn martial arts, keep pepper spray and small knives in their bags for self-defence. They should always keep their GPS on and send their location to their friends and guardians, in case when going out alone. Women who truly care and stand for the cause of women must set up psychological counselling centres where victims are helped mentally to come out of the trauma, under Islamic Guidance. Awareness must be spread to educate boys and to install virtue in them, specially in schools. Proper moral and religious education must be given to boys and girls. Both must be taught about the importance of Purdah, modesty and honour. A Hadith of our Beloved Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم):

On the authority of Abu Sa'eed al-Khudree (may Allah be pleased with him) who said:

I heard the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) say, "Whosoever of you sees an evil, let him change it with his hand; and if he is not able to do so, then [let him change it] with his tongue; and if he is not able to do so, then with his heart — and that is the weakest of faith." [Muslim]



MODESTY



Prophet Muhammad said, "Every religion has a distinctive characteristic, and the distinctive characteristic of Islam is modesty.". "Modesty is part of faith and faith will be in paradise."

What is Modesty?

The literary meaning of modesty is the quality of not being too proud or confident about yourself or your abilities. The word modesty comes from the Latin word modestus which means 'keeping within measure'. The attribute that protects from the act that is disliked in the sight of Allah Almighty and His creation is called 'modesty'.

Modesty in Islam

Islam and modesty have a similar relation which the soul bears to the body. The Prophet of Islam has said, "Undoubtedly, modesty and faith are connected together so when one gets away, the other one is also taken away." Islam is the only religion that promotes modesty. Islamic teachings develop the attribute of modesty existing in human nature and then adorn it with wisdom thus beautifying the human traits.

The Qur'an lays down the principle of law of modesty in chapter 24, verses 30-31 – Modesty is enjoined both upon Muslim men and women.

"Say to the believing man that they should lower their gaze and guard their modesty, that will make for greater purity for them, and Allah is well acquainted with all that they do." (Qur'an 24:30)

"And say to the believing women that they should lower their gaze and guard their modesty, and that they should not display their beauty and ornaments except what must ordinarily appear thereof, that they should draw their veils over their bosoms and not display their beauty except to their husbands..." (Qur'an 24:31)

Consequences of Modesty and Immodesty

Modesty brings goodness. It is from faith. A faithful person will surely be modest

also. The more one has faith the more he will become modest. Modesty is a way to enter paradise. It is one of the reasons for avoiding evil acts. When a person is modest, he stays safe from disgrace and when he loses his modesty, he keeps on doing even a cheap and filthy work impudently. Therefore, Prophet Muhammad said, "When you do not have modesty, do whatever you want." (Bukhari). If the manners and habits of men spoil, society starts spoiling, but when immodesty spreads amongst women, generations are destroyed. Therefore, Islam urges both to become modest and modesty has been declared to be the basis of all ethics.

Modesty of Prophet Muhammad ## and his Companions

The Beloved prophet Muhammad was more modest than an unmarried purdahobserving girl.

When Umm-e-Khallad, whose son was martyred in a battle, reached the court of the Prophet wearing Niqab in order to get information about her son, someone surprisingly said, You are observing purdah even at this time! She replied, "I have definitely lost my son, but not modesty."

Abu Ubaid was one of the nobles of Quraish and had a reputation among his tribesmen for modesty and bravery.

Uthman is remembered as a pious, gentle, and kind man, known for his modesty and shyness, and admired for his generosity.

Modesty in Clothes and Behaviour

Islam guides on modest clothing and gives the concept of sitr. Dressing modestly is a trait of the believing men and women. The dress of Muslim men must cover the area from the navel to the knee, while women should cover their entire body, except for the face and hands. The area that must not be uncovered in the presence of any person, except the spouse is called sitr. A dress must be loose and not tightly fitted to reveal the curves of the body. It should be thick to cover the overall appearance

and should not be transparent, so that the colour of skin or the shape of the body is apparent. The dress should not be like what the opposite gender wears. The dress of a Muslim must not imitate or emulate that of another nation. Every Muslim should look up his attire under the guidance of the Qur'an. Even though most of these rules apply post puberty, we have a responsibility to create awareness in our children about their bodies as soon as they become conscious of their clothing or actions. Children should be made aware that wearing certain types of clothes or acting in a certain way in front of the opposite gender is unacceptable.

SAHIR FAREED

The people who promote mixed-gatherings, dresses not covering sitr, so-called open-mindedness and complete freedom of doing whatever one wants by considering them to be a step towards innovation and progress, are actually backward, illiterate and immodest. They have lost the faith and are going far from Islam back to the period of Jahiliyyah.

Attacks on Modesty

The enemies of Islam are seen attacking the modesty of Muslims. It is not hidden from anyone that attacks are being made on modesty in the society in the name of dramas, films, advertisements, morning shows, vulgar novels, etc. The media is rapidly promoting immodesty amongst children and elders. The internet has proven to be the fastest in promoting immodesty.

Final Message

Children observe their parents and adopt their attributes and habits. So, one must act upon the requirements of modesty himself to get a modest and pious generation. As Muslims, we must interpret everything in the light of the Quran and Sunnah, thus, our dress and actions must follow the Islamic conventions. Break the shackles of modern education – think with our heart's eye! Let Allah be our sole guide. Let's be close to Allah, attain modesty and inculcate it in our new generation from childhood.

Sealed



Nectar

The Battle of Badr Part-05

SAFIUR RAHMAN MUBARAKPURI

He continued to call out to his Lord, stretching forth his hands and facing Al-Qiblah, until his cloak fell off his shoulders. Then Abu Bakr came, picked up the cloak, and put it back on his shoulders and said: "O Prophet of Allâh, you have cried out enough to your Lord. He will surely fulfill what He has promised you."

Immediate was the response from Allâh, Who sent down angels from the heavens for the help and assistance of the Prophet [pbuh] and his companions. The Noble Qur'ân observes:

"Verily, I am with you, so keep firm those who have believed. I will cast terror into the hearts of those who have disbelieved." [Al-Qur'an 8:12] Allâh, the All- Mighty, also inspired another message to His Messenger, saying: "I will help you with a thousand of the angels each behind the other (following one another) in succession." [Al- Qur'an 8:9]

The Prophet [pbuh], in his trellis, dozed off a little and then raised his head joyfully crying: "O Abu Bakr, glad tidings are there for you: Allâh's victory has approached, by Allâh, I can see Gabriel on his mare in the thick of a sandstorm." He then jumped out crying: "Their multitude will be put to flight, and they will show their backs." [Al-Qur'an 54:45]

At the instance of Gabriel, the Prophet [pbuh] took a handful of gravel, cast it at the enemy and said: "Confusion seize their faces!" As he flung the dust, a violent sandstorm blew like furnace blast into the eyes of the enemies. With respect to this, Allâh says: "And you (i.e. Muhammad [pbuh]) threw not when you did throw but Allâh threw." [Al- Qur'an 8:17]

Only then did he give clear orders to launch

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a counter- attack. He was commanding the army, inspiring confidence among his men and exhorting them to fight manfully for the sake of their Lord, reciting the Words of Allâh: "And be quick for forgiveness from your Lord, and for Paradise as wide as are the heavens and the earth." [Al- Qur'an 3:133]

The spirit he infused into his men was clearly witnessed by the valour of 'Umair, a lad of sixteen, who flung away some dates he was eating crying out: "These (the dates) are holding me back from Paradise." So, saying he plunged into the thick of the battle and died fighting bravely. Unique deeds of valour, deep devotion and full obedience to the Prophet [pbuh] were exhibited in the process of the battle. The army of the faithfuls was borne forward by the power of enthusiasm which the half-hearted warriors of Makkah miserably lacked. A large number of the polytheists were killed, and the others began to waver. No wonder! The standard- bearers of Truth were given immediate help, and supernatural agencies (the angels), were sent to their assistance by their Lord to help them defeat the forces of evil.

The records of Hadith speak eloquently of the fact that the angels did appear on that day and fought on the side of the Muslims. Ibn 'Abbas said: "While on that day a Muslim was chasing a disbeliever and he heard over him the swashing of a whip and the voice of the rider saying: 'Go ahead Haizum'. He glanced at the polytheist who had (now) fallen down on his back. The Helper came to the Messenger of Allâh [pbuh] and related that event to him. The Prophet [pbuh] replied: 'You have told the truth. This was the help from the third heaven." [Sahih Muslim 2/93]

One of the Helpers captured 'Abbas bin 'Abdul Muttalib, who said: "O Messenger of

Allâh, by Allâh this man did not capture me. I was captured by a man who was bald and had the most handsome face, and who was riding a piebald horse, I cannot see him here among the people." The Helper interrupted: "I captured him, O Messenger of Allâh." The Prophet [pbuh] replied: "Be quiet, Allâh the All- Mighty strengthened you with the help of a noble angel."

Iblîs, the archsatan, in the guise of Suraqah bin Malik bin Ju'sham Al- Mudlaji, on seeing angels working in favour of the Muslims, and Quraish rapidly losing ground on the battlefield, made a quick retreat despite the polytheists' pleas to stay on. He ran off and plunged into the sea. The ranks of Quraish began to give way and their numbers added nothing but confusion. The Muslims followed eagerly their retreating steps, slaying or taking captive all that fell within their reach. Retreat soon turned into ignominious rout; and they flied in haste, casting away their armour, abandoned beasts of burden, camp and equipage.

The great tyrant Abu Jahl, however, on seeing the adverse course of the battle, tried to stop the tidal wave of the Islamic victory by nerving the polytheists and encouraging them by all means available and adjuring them by Al- Lat and 'Uzza and all symbols of paganism to stand firm in place and retaliate against the Muslims, but to no avail. Their morale had already been drastically reduced to zero, and their lines broken down. He then began to realize the reality of his arrogance and haughtiness. None remained around him except a gang of doomed polytheists whose resistance was also quelled by an Islamic irresistible storm of true devotionbased valour and Islam- orientated pursuit of martyrdom. Abu Jahl was deserted and left by himself on his horse waiting for death at the hand of two courageous lads of the Helpers.



