

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Allah's Knowledge (3) regarding mankind

Muslim character (justice & oppression)

(Human rights in Islam)

(oppression is forbidden by Allah.)

3rd Nov. 2008

Allah the Almighty warned the mankind against

injustice (oppression), as Allah mentioned in many

verses of the Quran about the severe torment of

the oppressors (wrong-doers) in the Hell fire.

This torment is mentioned in the following verses:

- Surat (6) - V. (47)
- Surat (18) - V. (29)
- Surat (25) - V. (19)
- Surat (11) - V. (100 - 101 - 102).

Also Prophet Mohamed (S.A.W) said in regard to injustice (oppression) that Allah the Almighty said:

"O My servants, I have taken it upon Myself to oppress no one, and I have made oppression forbidden for you, so do not oppress one another."

Also Prophet Mohamed said:

Be aware of oppression, for oppression will be a

1. "Darkness on the Day of Resurrection."

2. "Allah would torment those who torment people in the world."

3. "Allah gives respite to the oppressor, but when he seizes him, He (Allah) does not let him escape."

4. It is also reported that Prophet Dawud Peace Upon him said: "O Allah, you know that I

(2) Love You and I Love those who Love You, but how may I endear You to Your servants? Allah said: Remind them of My Favour, My trials and My Anger. O Dawoud, Any of My servants who helped an oppressed person and stood by him in his oppressed state, I'll keep his feet firm on the Day when all feet are shaken."

In another Hadith Qudsi, Allah Almighty said:

"I shall take revenge on the oppressor in this

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life and the next. I shall take revenge on someone who saw a person being oppressed and was able to help him but did not help him."

All these ahadith are clarifying that

1. Allah is forbidding oppression.
2. Oppression in this life will lead to great punishment on the Day of Resurrection (darkness)
3. Allah will torment the oppressors and those whom do not stop them.

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Also, Prophet Mohamed "peace be upon him" said: "Be aware of the supplication of the oppressed for there is no barrier between it and Allah."

This is a proof that Allah is forbidding oppression and He is the One to support the oppressed person, answer his supplication and give him his rights.

∴ It is clear that: oppression is a very critical
in the sight of Allah.

∴ what is the meaning of oppression?

Oppression is transgression of boundaries and transgression upon a soul, its honor, its property or causing harm to another human (without right).

Oppression can be divided into 3 types

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① One who oppresses himself: by disobeying

the commands of Allah and His messenger, i.e.

to live worldly life away from the truth of the

Quran and Sunna so their deeds are bad

deeds and they never feel the real tranquility

security and Peace of the True belief and their

final destination is the Hell Fire, and this is

the real oppression of the self.

② Oppression against Allah The Almighty

(A) By associating others with Allah in

worship as Allah clarified in V.13, Surah 31.

(B) Disbelieving in Allah.

2) The other type of oppression is the one who oppresses others. This occurs by harming them;

Prophet Mohamed said:

1- "He who has done a wrong affecting his brothers honor or anything else, must ask his forgiveness for it today, before.

5) 2- "All of the Muslim is sacred to the Muslim, his blood, his honor and his wealth.

Human rights in Islam

Since Allah is the absolute and the sole master of men and the universe, He is the Lord, the Master, the Sustainer, the Owned and the Allmighty, and since He has given each human dignity and honor ^{accordingly}, i.e. men are the same and no actual distinction can be made among them.

Islam has laid down some universal fundamental rights for humanity as a whole, which are to be observed and respected under any circumstances. These are the rights granted by Allah i.e no one has the right to withdraw them:

Human Rights in Islam:-

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1. The Security of life and property:-

Prophet Mohamed said: Your lives and properties are forbidden to one another till you meet your Lord on the Day of Resurrection.

2. The protection of Honor:-

The Holy Quran Lays down:-

1. You who believe, do not let one (set of) people make fun of another set.

ii. Do not defame one another.

iii. Do not insult by using nickname
iv. ~ ~ backbite or speak bad of one another

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3. Security of private life

The Quran has laid down the injunction:-

- Do not spy on one another.

- Do not enter any houses unless you are

sure of their occupant's consent, as Allah said in the Quran (24:27,28)

4. The security of Personal Freedom:

Islam has laid down that no human can

be imprisoned unless his guilt has

been proven in an open court.

5. Freedom of Expression:

Islam gives the right of freedom of thought

and expression, on the condition that it (freedom)

must be used for the propagation of truth and not

for spreading of evil and wickedness. Also Islam

does not give anybody the right to use abusive

or offensive language in the name of criticism. It

was the practice of the Muslims to enquire from

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The Holy Prophet (S.A.W) whether a certain matter,

a divine injunction had been revealed to him. If he

said that: he had received no divine injunctions

the Muslims freely expressed their opinions on the matter, but still within the frame of the Islamic rules.

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6. Freedom of Association:

Islam has also given people the right to freedom of association and formation of parties and organizations. This right is subject to general rules of Islam (e.g. no mixing between men^{and} women) (man has to be the leader) and so on.

7. Freedom of Conscience and conviction

In Islam, there should be no compulsion in the matter of faith, all people are respected as Allah said in Quran in Surat 60 (7-8)

8. Protection of Religious Sentiments :-

Along with the Freedom of conviction, Islam

has given the right to the individual that his religious sentiments will be given due respect and nothing will be said or done which may interfere with this right.

9- The right to the basic necessities of life:-

(9) Islam has recognized the right of the needy people, that help and assistance will be provided to them. and Allah said in the Quran about the wealthy people that: "And in their wealth, there is acknowledged right for the needy and the destitute (51: 19) -

10. Equally before Law

It is not permissible to oppress any person, whether he is a muslim or not, as Islam gives people the right to absolute and complete equality in the eyes of the Law (story of the coptic child and Umar Ibn Alkhatab).

11. Rules not above the Law:-

A woman belonging to a high and noble family

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was arrested in connection with theft. The case was brought to the prophet (S.A.W) and it was recommended that: she might be spared the punishment of theft. The Prophet (S.A.W) replied "The nations that lived before you, were destroyed by God because they used to punish the poor people and not to punish the noble ones. I swear by Him (Allah) who holds my life that: even if Fatima (the daughter of Mohamed) has committed this crime, I would have amputated her hand"

This is the reality of the justice of the rules of Islam. All are equal before Law, a concept which will frighten every person and stop him from committing any crime

Conclusion: Islam is the religion of justice as its rules treat all people with

equality.

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It is to be made clear that Islam tries to achieve the above mentioned human rights and many other rights, not only by providing certain legal safeguards but mainly by inviting mankind to transcend the lower level of animal life, to be able to go beyond the mere ties fostered by the kinship of blood, racial superiority, and economic privileges. It invites mankind to move on to a plane of existence where, by reason of his inner excellence, man can realize the ideal of the brotherhood of man.

And let's remember this Quranic Rule (5:8)

"O you who believe! stand out firmly for Allah as just witnesses, and let not the enmity and hatred of others make you avoid justice. Be just: that is

nearest to piety and fear Allah. Verily, Allah is well acquainted with what you do." M.S. 3 Nov. 2008