Remittances Review August 2024, Volume:9,No:4,pp.3282-3293

ISSN:2059-6588(Print) | ISSN2059-6596(Online)

Received: 20 July 2024, Accepted: 28 August 2024

DOI: https://doi.org/10.33282/rr.vx9i2.181

Political Decline of the Muslims and the Role of Youth in Reforming Society (in the Light of Islamic Teachings)

¹Dr. Irfan Ullah, ²Dr. Sajid Mehmood, ³Dr. Muhammad Ayaz Khan, ⁴Dr. Abad ur Rahman, ⁵Dr Haseen Bano

- 1. Associate Professor, Department of Islamic Studies & Research, University of Science & Technology, Bannu Email: drirfankhan661@gmail.com
- 2. Assistant Professor, Department of Islamic & Religious Studies, Hazara University, Mansehra Email: sajibzbi@gmail.com
- 3. Assistant professor, Department of Islamic Studies, The Agriculture University, Peshawar Email: muhammad.ayaz@aup.edu.pk
- 4. Assistant Professor, Department of Islamic Studies, University of Chitral Email. abbadrn@gmail.com
- 5. Assistant Professor, Preston University Karachi and IOBM. Email. b_haseen@yahoo.com

Abstract

Today the Islamic countries are rich in natural resources, but cannot make progress. The Non-Muslim especially western countries have made progress in every field, on this account they are ruling over the Muslims. The main cause of their rise is that they are united and have acquired modern science and technology. The past history of the Muslims has been very bright as compare to their present plight. It was due to the acceptance upon the teachings of Islam, but now they want to follow the life of European countries, due to which they are declining rapidly. So, it is the need of the day & essential for youth to get education (religious as well as modern science and technology) shun ignorance, avoid atheism and prejudiced attitude & must promote the moral and ethical values and must correct their beliefs. Only in this way we (Muslims) can conquer the whole world. In this article, the political decline of the Muslims and the role of youth in reforming society in the light of Islamic teachings have been discussed in a scholarly manner.

Remittances Review August 2024,

Volume:9,No:4,pp.3282-3293

ISSN:2059-6588(Print) | ISSN2059-6596(Online)

Keywords: Natural resources, modern science, European countries, prejudiced attitude, political domination.

Introduction:

Before knowing about the causes of the decline of the Muslims, it is important to identify the main causes due to which the Arabs who were living in the desert, became the owner of the kingdom of Qaisar-o-Kisra. Surely, it was due to Islam, as before Islam the Arabs had not got such glorious status which they got after Islam. In general, it has been observed that wherever Muslims live with non-Muslims in the world, Muslims will lag behind in every way. Although there are many awareness movements in different parts of the world, they have not yet been able to turn the decline of Muslims into a rise. The real advancement of the Muslims was due to the emergence of Islam in the real, Arabian Peninsula, which united the different sects of Arabia into one nation. It turned their barbaric life into a civilized life and softened their hard hearts and turned them away from idolatry and prostrated them before Allah. It was as Islam pulled out their first souls and put new ones into them. This internal transformation gave them the power to reach the extremes of knowledge and wealth and to become the masters of half the world in just a short span of fifty years. And if there were no clashes and battles between them, they would have conquered the whole world. The basic cause of rise of Muslims was Islam which now a days we ignored and there are some other cause of decline which will be discussed in this paper.

Literature Review

Abul Hassan Ali Nadvi's book Islami Dunya par Musalmano k Urooj wa Zawal k Asarat (انسانی) is very important in which the effects of both the rise and fall of the Muslim on the world have been described. Allama Shakib Arsalan in his book Reasons for the Fall of the Ummah (اسباب زوال امت) has described the reasons for the decline of the Muslims and has recorded the circumstances of his time.

Rise and **Fall** of Yugoslavia by Richard West. In this book Mr. Richard discusses the history of Yugoslavia or Rise and Fall.

The J curve: A new way to understand why nations **rise** and **fall**. In this book, Mr. J Curve has told the stories of the rise and fall of the whole world, whether Muslim or non-Muslim.

Causes of political domination

Eight things are essential for political domination. They are the following,

1: Manpower

Manpower plays an important role in the development and political domination of a country, because it is often seen that those countries got success which have a lot of manpower. Due to a large manpower, Wars will be easier to fight and the second important thing is that it indicates the excess of labor.

2: Education

It is clear like the daylight that educated nations have ruled on the world. Now due to the modern science and technology, European countries are ruling on other countries.

3: Unity

The history of the world is witness that those nations ruled which have unity among the people. We know that unity is strength; it is one of the essential components of a strong nation. Great things can be achieved if there is unity among the people.

4: Industry

Industry plays an important role in the development of a country, because the present era is the era of industry, China is an example, which is growing very fast due to its industry.

5: Agriculture

Agriculture plays an important role in the development of economy and political domination is based on economic development.

6: Physical strength

If a nation has a lot of manpower, modern education, industries and unity but not physical strength then it cannot get political domination. So, for the development of a nation physical strength is essential.

7: Mineral Resources

The importance of mineral resources cannot be denied in today's modern era. A nation will be wealthier, if it has more mineral resources. So, for economic development, it is essential to search mineral resources.

8: Moral and spiritual strength

If a nation has moral and spiritual strength along with the above mentioned qualities, then the entire universe will be in their feet. If looked at the history of Arabs, then we cannot see any cause of political domination, they have no proper education, they have no unity, and they fight each other on minor issues, there are no industries and no agriculture. Regarding agriculture Allah says:

رَبَّنَا إِنِّي أَسْكَنْتُ مِنْ ذُرِّيَّتِي بِوَادٍ غَيْرِ ذِي زَرْع
1

"Our Lord, I have settled some of my offspring in a valley of no vegetation". And Arabs were immoral because they buried their live daughters, but due to Islam they conquered the super powers like Iran and Rome. The main cause of the decline of Muslims is due to disobedience of Islam.

Causes of Decline and its solution

It is necessary to know the main causes of decline, because if the young generation knows all the mistakes of our ancestors, which caused their downfall and avoid them, then our society will become a right and peaceful society. The main causes of decline are the following,

1: Opposing the orders of Allah:

Those who opposed the orders of Allah and followed a way other than that of the prophet's teachings, so Allah destroyed them, Allah says:

"And when We decide to destroy a town (population), We (first) send a definite order to those among them who lead a life of luxury. Then, they transgress therein, so the word becomes justified against it, and We destroy it completely".

And those who will adopt the orders of Allah and follow the sunnah of prophet Muhammad then Allah will grant them succession in this world, Allah says:

"Allah has promised those among you who believe, and do righteous good deeds, that He will certainly grant them succession to (the present rulers) in the land, as He granted it to those before them, and that He will grant them the authority to practice their religion, which He has chosen for them. And He will surely give them in exchange a safe security after their fear; they worship Me and do not associate anything (in worship) with Me. But whoever disbelieved after this, they are the Fasiqun (disobedient to Allah)".

The prophet also says about them in these words:

Remittances Review August 2024, August 2024, Volume:9,No:4,pp.3282-3293 Volume:9,No:4,pp.3282-3293 ISSN:2059-6588(Print) | ISSN2059-6596(Online) عن أبي العالية عن أبي بن كعب قال قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه و سلم : بشر هذه الأمة بالسناء والرفعة والنصر والتمكين في الأرض فمن عمل منهم عمل الآخرة للدنيا لم يكن له في الآخرة نصيب

"Give glad tidings to this nation about progress, victory and empowerment in the ground, but those who work for this world has no share in the Hereafter".

So it is the responsibility of youth to adopt the orders of Allah and say it to others. I.e. enjoining Al-Ma'ruf and forbidding Al-Munkar.

2: Friendship with your religious and national enemies:

Islam forbids the Muslims to take friendship with their religious and national enemies and says that they are the friends of each other and never become your friends. And if any amongst Muslims take them as friends then he will be one of them, Allah says:

"O you who believe! Take not the Jews and the Christians as friends; they are but friends of each other. And if any amongst you takes them as friends, then surely he is one of them. Verily, Allah guides not those people who are the Zalimeen".

3: Illiteracy:

Knowledge is power. Without proper knowledge any nation can never develop, but Islamic world (Muslim) is not taking interest in their religious and modern science and technology, so it is the main cause of their decline. Quran stresses in obtaining knowledge and mention that a person who knows and those who know not is not equal in the eyes of Allah, Allah says: هَلْ مَا اللَّهُ عَلَمُونَ وَالَّذِينَ لَا يَعْلَمُونَ وَاللَّهِ عَلَمُونَ وَاللَّهِ عَلَمُونَ وَاللَّهُ عَلَمُ وَلَا لَهُ عَلَمُونَ وَاللَّهُ عَلَمُ وَلَا لَا يَعْلَمُونَ وَاللَّهُ عَلَيْهُ وَلَا لَا عَلَيْهُ وَلَا لَا عَلَيْهُ وَلَى وَاللَّهُ عَلَمُ وَلَا لَا عَلَيْهُ وَلَا لَا عَلَيْهُ وَلَا لَا عَلَيْهُ وَلَا لَا عَلَيْهُ وَلَ وَاللَّهُ عَلَيْهُ وَلَ وَاللَّهُ عَلَمُ وَلَا لَا عَلَيْهُ وَلَا لَا عَلَيْهُ وَلَا لَا عَلَيْهُ وَلَا لَا عَلَيْهُ وَلَ وَاللَّهُ عَلَيْهُ وَلَا لَا عَلَيْهُ وَلَا عَلَيْهُ وَلَا لَا عَلَيْهُ وَلَا لَا عَلَيْهُ وَلَا لَا عَلَيْهُ وَلَى اللَّهُ وَلَا لَا عَلَا عَلَيْهُ وَلَا لَا عَلَا عَلَا عَلَا عَلَا عَلَا عَلَيْهُ وَلَا لَا عَلَا عَلَا عَلَى عَلَيْهُ وَلَا لَا عَلَا عَلَا عَلَا عَلَا عَلَا عَلَا عَلَا عَلَا عَا عَلَا عَلَا

"Allah bears witness that none has the right to be worshipped but He, and the angels, and those having knowledge (also give this witness); (He always) maintains His creation in Justice". Due to two things (Islam and knowledge) Allah will exalt human beings in this world, it is said:

"Allah will exalt in degree those of you who believe, and those who have been granted knowledge. And Allah is Well-Acquainted with what you do".

The Holy prophet also gives very importance in seeking knowledge, He says that seeking knowledge is obligatory on every Muslim, it is narrated:

"Seeking knowledge is the duty upon every Muslim".

4: Immorality:

One of the main causes of Muslims decline is lack of good manners. Islam stresses on good manners because "manners make the man". Due to the good manners of the Holy prophet most of Non-Muslims became Muslim. Allah says:

"And you are of a great moral character".

But nowadays Muslims do not follow His prophet's this quality. So it is essential for Muslims, especially the youth to have good manners, if they have good manners then they will know their responsibility and will give rights to others.

5: Conservatism

One of the main causes of Muslims decline is conservatism. Although Islam stresses on science, observation and experiments and directs the human being to use all the things in the universe and find new conclusions, but some of the conservative elements consider Islam and modern science and technology as opponent to each other, due to which the Muslim youth became deprived, although Allah says:

قُلْ مَنْ حَرَّمَ زِينَةَ اللَّهِ الَّتِي أَخْرَجَ لِعِبَادِهِ وَالطَّيِّبَاتِ مِنَ الرِّزْقِ قُلْ هِيَ لِلَّذِينَ آمَنُوا فِي الْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا خَالِصَةً يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ "Say (O Muhammad): "Who forbade God's finery which He has produced for His servants, and the delights of livelihood?" Say, "They are for those who believe, in this present world, but exclusively theirs on the Day of Resurrection". It is also said that:

"But seek, with that (wealth) which Allah has bestowed on you, the home of the Hereafter, and forget not your portion of lawful enjoyment in this world, and do good as Allah has been good to you, and seek not mischief in the land. Verily, Allah likes not the Mufsidin (mischief-

makers)". So the youth should take interest in obtaining modern science in the light of Quran and sunnah.

6: Correctness in beliefs

Islam has some specific beliefs. It is necessary for a Muslim to know and accept all the beliefs of Islam. If he accepts all the beliefs then he will be the rightful of Allah's help, and it is necessary for a Muslim to know the reason of his creation and then according to it he should live in this world. Allah says: وَمَا خَلَقْتُ الْجِنَّ وَالْإِنْسَ إِلَّا لِيَعْبُدُونِ [13]

"And I (Allah) created not the jinns and man kinds except that they should worship Me (Alone)". Worship is that thing due to which fear of Allah is produced in hearts, which can cause brotherhood.

7: Enjoining Al-Ma'ruf and forbidding Al-Munkar:

One of the main features of ummat Muhammadiya is, they will enjoin the people towards Al-Ma'ruf (good deeds) and will forbid from Al-Munkar (bad deeds). Allah says:

"The believers, men and women, are friends of one another, they enjoin Al-Ma'ruf and forbid from Al-Munkar, they perform As-Salat and give the Zakat, and obey Allah and His Messenger. Allah is All-Mighty, All-Wise". It is also said:

"Let there arise out of you a group of people inviting to all that is good, enjoining Al-Ma'ruf and forbidding Al-Munkar. And it is they who are the successful". It is also said:

"You are the best of peoples ever raised up for mankind; you enjoin Al-Ma'ruf and forbid Al-Munkar, and you believe in Allah". If the Muslims youth adopt these verses only then our society will become a right and peaceful.

8: Correction of your deeds

Nowadays every person sees mistakes of others and qualities of yourselves, but no one want to see the qualities of others and mistakes of yourselves. Allah says:

"Enjoin you Al-Birr (piety) on the people and you forget (to practice it) yourselves".

So it is necessary for the young general to correct their own deeds first and then try to correct their relatives and friends deeds.

9: Prohibiting of disruption:

One of the main features of Islam is that it prohibits the people (Muslims) from disruption and stresses on unity, Allah says:

"And hold fast, all of you together, to the Rope of Allah (Qur'an), and be not divided among yourselves". It is also said:

"And obey Allah and His Messenger, and do not dispute (with one another) lest you lose courage and your strength departs, and be patient. Surely, Allah is with those who are the patient". So it is the responsibility of young generation to reform the misunderstanding among the Muslims and unite them.

10: Providing force and power:

Muslims are ordered to not take friendship with the enemies of Islam, deal strictly with them and continue fighting against them until they become weak and there remains no religion other than Islam, Allah says:

"And fight them until there is no more fitnah (disbelief and polytheism i.e worshipping others besides Allah) and the religion (worship) will all be for Allah Alone (in the whole of the world "

If they neither accept Islam nor leave the enmity against Islam and Muslims then about them Allah says:

"Then kill the Mushrikin wherever, you find them, and capture them and besiege them and lie in wait for them in every ambush".

So it is necessary to provide all kinds of force against the enemies of Islam. Allah says: وَأَعِدُوا لَهُمْ مَا اسْتَطَعْتُمْ مِنْ قُوَّةٍ وَمِنْ رِبَاطِ الْخَيْلِ تُرْهِبُونَ بِهِ عَدُوَّ اللَّهِ وَعَدُوَّكُمْ وَآخَرِينَ مِنْ دُونِهِمْ لَا تَعْلَمُونَهُمُ اللَّهُ يَعْلَمُهُمْ وَمَا تُنْفَقُوا مِنْ شَيْءٍ فِي سَيِلِ اللَّه يُوَفَّ إِلَيْكُمْ وَأَنْتُمْ لَا تُظْلَمُونَ 22

"Prepare against them whatever force you can, and the trained horses whereby you frighten Allah's enemy and your own enemy and others besides them whom you do not know. Allah knows them. Whatever thing you spend in the way of Allah, it will be paid to you in full, and you shall not be wronged".

In this verse it is not mentioned that how many force is provided. So in the present age all things that are used in fighting i.e. Atomic bomb, all kinds of bullet and rifle, tanks etc.

11: Politeness with all human being especially prisoners:

Allah has created all the human being including Muslims and non-Muslims much superior as compare to other creatures, because they are given the power of speaking and to distinguish between right and wrong. Therefore all human being belonging to any country, nation or race, speaking any language, rich or poor and belonging to any religion are equal and worth of respect.

"And indeed We have honored the children of Adam and We have carried them on land and sea, and provided them with At-Tayyibat(the lawful good things) and We have preferred them to many of those whom We have created with a marked preferment".

Islam orders the Muslims to fight against its enemies and deal strictly with them in the War, but when they became prisoners then deal gently and kindly with them, Allah says:

"And they give food, in spite of their love for it (or for the love of Him) to the Miskin(needy) the orphan and the captive,(saying) we feed you seeking Allah's countenance only, we wish for no reward, nor thanks from you".

The Holy Prophet dealt gently with the prisoners of Badr, it is narrated:

حَدَّثَنَا عَبْدُ اللَّهِ بْنُ مُحَمَّدٍ، حَدَّثَنَا ابْنُ عُيَيْنَةَ، عَنْ عَمْرٍو، سَمِعَ جَابِرَ بْنَ عَبْدِ اللَّهِ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَهُمَا، قَالَ: لَمَّا كَانَ يَوْمَ بَدْرٍ أَتِيَ بِأُسَارَى، وَأْتِيَ بِالعَبَّاسِ وَلَمْ يَكُنْ عَلَيْهِ ثَوْبٌ، «فَنَظَرَ النَّبِيُّ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ لَهُ قَمِيصًا، فَوَجَدُوا قَمِيصَ عَبْدِ اللَّهِ بْنِ أَبْيَ يَقْدُرُ عَلَيْهِ، فَكَسَاهُ النَّبِيُّ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ إِيَّاهُ²⁵

"When it was the day (of the battle) of Badr, prisoners of war were brought including Al-Abbas who did not had a body covering. The prophet looked for a shirt for him; it was found that the shirt of Abdullah bin Ubai would do, so the prophet let him wear it" .It is also narrated:

عَنْ أَبِي مُوسَى الأَشْعَرِيِّ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ عَنِ النَّبِيِّ صلى الله عليه وسلم قَالَ: أَطْعِمُوا الْجَائِعَ وَعُودُوا الْمَرِيضَ وَفُكُّوا الْعَانِيَ 6 'Give food to the hungry, pay a visit to the sick and release the one in captivity (by paying his ransom)".

12: Protection of human basic rights

It is the responsibility of government to protect the basic rights of human, but if we take care of other's rights i.e we pay other's rights then our society will become peaceful, human basic rights are the following,

- 1: Protection of life
- 2: Protection of property
- 3: Protection of family
- 4: Protection of honor
- 5: Protection of religion
- 6: Protection of wisdom (that materials will be prohibited which impact human's wisdom)

13: Looking at the history of ancestors

If we look at the history of Muslims then we will see both the rise and fall, those who adopted the orders of Allah and follow the way of Prophet Muhammad then Allah granted them success and those who did not follow the orders of Allah then they faced large difficulties in their life, so it is the responsibility of the young generation to know about their ancestors history and follow their good qualities due to which they achieved, and avoided their bad deeds due to which they became failure.

14: Carefulness in the selection of rulers

The main cause of our decline is the lack of honest and sincere rulers, the history of the companions and the successors is very bright because their rulers were honest, sincere and the ability to rule, and now we are facing numerous problems in our religious as well as worldly manners due to the dishonest and sincere less rulers, so it is the responsibility of the young

generation to select those persons in the future who are honest, sincere and have the ability to govern.

15: National identity

Every nation has their own identity and they proud of them, but Muslims want to follow European civilization, and that is the main cause of our decline. Muslims have their own distinctive religion, traditions, culture and civilization, language, politics and economic system, so it is the responsibility of young generation to adopt their own life style.

16: Internal unity among Muslims:

Islamic worlds (Muslim countries) have large number of natural resources as compare to Non-Muslims countries but there is lack of unity among the Muslims, due to which Jews and Christians rule on them, Islam stresses on unity. Allah says:

"And hold fast to the rope of God, altogether, and do not become divided. And remember God's blessings upon you; how you were enemies, and He reconciled your hearts, and by His grace you became brethren. And you were on the brink of a pit of fire, and He saved you from it. God thus clarifies His revelations for you, so that you may be guided". It is also said:

"And obey God and His Messenger, and do not dispute, lest you falter and lose your courage. And be steadfast. God is with the steadfast".

The Holy prophet made a society among the Mahajir and Ansar, based on Islamic brotherhood, and their honorable appellation mention in Quran in these words:

"And the foremost to embrace Islam of the Muhajirin and the Ansar and also those who followed them exactly, Allah is well-pleased with them as they are well-pleased with Him. He has prepared for them Paradise, to dwell therein forever. That is the supreme success".

But when two persons quarreled in case of expelling water from the well, Mahajir called Mahajirin for help and Ansari called Ansar for help, the Holy prophet reached and said:

"You raised the slogan of jahiliyat, although I m present among you".

When these appellations used for fighting between two groups then these are called the slogan of jahiliyat. Now look in your own society most of your people are Muslims but due to difference in language we cannot unite. So it is the responsibility of young generation to leave all the opposition among Punjabi, Pakhtun, Sindhi and Balochi and unite them. If the Muslims become unite then the rights of the entire Islamic world will be preserved, all discrimination and oppression will be ended, and a great political, social and economic power will be arised.

17: Avoiding Prejudice, bigotry, materialism and atheism

If we required a righteous society then we should follow our religious and national symbols, and we not ashamed on them but should be proud, because the successful nations have their own identity. If Japanese in modern times, do not feel ashamed on their thousands year old traditions and worshiping their kings, and If the European nations proud on their Christian rituals, so Muslims fell ashamed why?. In short, all the nations of the world adopted their nationality, religion, rituals, habits and morals and ancient heritage etc and When a Muslim call to words Quran or to words Islamic way of life then he is said to be conservative why?. Islam does not allow rejecting new inventions, so it is the responsibility of young generation to seek the modern knowledge along with their religious and national traditions.

Summary:

If the youth correct themselves first and then unite the Muslims against the enemies of Islam and prepare them for getting religious education and modern science and technology, if they get modern science then they will rule on other nations, and by getting religious knowledge they will be able to know their responsibility and to pay rights to others As a result our society will become peaceful.

References

- ¹: Surah Ibrahim 14:37
- ²: Surah Bani Israel 17: 16
- ³ :Surah An-Nur 24:55
- ⁴: Al-Shaibani, Ahmad bin hambal, Musnad Ahmad,(muassasat al-Risala,1421H/2001AD),

V.5, P.134, Chapter: Narration of Abul Aliyah, Hadith: 21220

- ⁵: Surah Maidah 5:51
- ⁶: Surah Az- Zumar 39:9
- ⁷: Surah Ale 'Imran 3:18
- 8 : Surah Al-Mujadilah 58:11
- ⁹: Ibn Majah, Abu Abdullah Muhammad bin Yazeed, Sunan ibne Majah, book of sunnah, chapter: The virtue of scholars, and encouragement to seek knowledge, Hadith: 224.
- ¹⁰: Surah Al-Qalam 68:4
- ¹¹: Surah Al-A'raf 7:32
- ¹²: Surah Al- Qasas 28:77
- ¹³: Surah Adh-Dhariyat 51:56
- ¹⁴: Surah At-Tauba 9:71
- ¹⁵: Surah Ale 'Imran 3:104
- ¹⁶: Surah Ale 'Imran 3:110
- ¹⁷: Surah Al-Bagarah 2:44
- ¹⁸: Surah Ale 'Imran 3: 103
- ¹⁹: Surah Al- Anfal 8:46
- ²⁰: Surah Al-Anfal 8:39
- ²¹: Surah At-Taubah 9:5
- ²²: Surah Al- Anfal 8:60
- ²³:Surah Bani Israeel 17:70

²⁴: Surah Ad-Dahr 76:8,9

²⁵: Al-Bukhari, Muhammad bin Ismael, Sahih Al-Bukhari, book: Al-Jihad, chapter: providing the prisoners of war with clothes, Hadith: 3008.

²⁶: Sahih Al-Bukhari, Book: foods, chapter: Statement of Allah: "O you who believe, eat of the lawful things that we have provided you with...", Hadith:5373.

²⁷: Surah Ale 'Imran 3:103

 $^{^{28}}$: Suran Al-Anfal 8:46

²⁹: Surah At- Taubah 9: 100

³⁰: Ibn Kathir, Ismael bin Umar, Tafseer ibn kathir, (Dar tayyab al-Nashr al-Tauzi',1420H/1999AD), P90,V2.