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Editorial:

Through this platform, we aim to engage the brightest minds of Pakistan, those who can bring pride to the Muslim community and the global Muslim Ummah. Since Pakistan's creation in 1947, and especially after the passing of our founding leader, Muhammad Ali Jinnah, the way our country and its people have been treated is a cause for concern. However, what is even more alarming is the lack of lasting achievements over the years. For every step forward, we seem to take two steps back. Once respected globally, our nation now struggles to maintain its standing, and too often, we find ourselves bowing our heads in shame.

The root of this decline lies in the fact that, despite gaining independence, we have not embraced true freedom. Instead of celebrating our strengths, we are overly influenced by others, blindly imitating without applying our intellect. This mindset has deprived our nation of intellectual growth over the past 75 years. The deterioration of our education system, the weakening of the Muslim family structure, the commercialization and bias of the media, and the failure of the media to present the truth these are **all symptoms of a deeper problem:** disconnect from our Islamic teachings.

The fragmentation of Pakistan's educational system is one example of this disconnection. With more than a dozen different streams operating simultaneously, our youth are divided into multiple distinct classes, creating a widening gap. As Allama Iqbal lamented:

)"I left the school and the monastery heartbroken,

Neither life, nor love, nor knowledge, nor insight."(

Similarly, the family laws practiced among Muslims in Pakistan often fail to align with Islamic teachings, influenced instead by foreign ideologies. In Islam, the family unit is sacred and central to societal life, providing a dignified position for both men and women. However, centuries-long efforts by Orientalists to weaken the Islamic family structure have culminated in the global promotion of concepts like "gender equality" (feminism). This movement, imposed on Pakistan through international organizations and NGOs, has created social unrest, yet the ruling class and religious leaders seem unaware of its potentially dangerous consequences. The rise of issues like sexual deviance, LGBTQ rights, and similar slogans is just one aspect of this challenge. The greater threat is the potential collapse of our family system, much like what has occurred in the West.

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In Islam, marriage is the foundation of the family, and the love, compassion, and mercy between spouses create a prosperous society. Such a society is blessed with divine mercy, and the earth offers all its treasures to it. "وَمِنْ ءَايْتِهِ ۦۤ أَنَ خَلَقَ لَكُم مِّنَ أَنْفُسِكُمۡ أَزْوُجًا لِّتَسْكُنُوۤاْ إِلَيْهَا وَجَعَلَ

And one of His signs is that He created for you spouses from among yourselves so that you may find comfort in them. And He has placed between you compassion and mercy. Surely in this are signs for people who reflect

Our journal: The Journal of Arts, Sociology, and Humanities (The JASH), builds on 30 years of experience in publishing The Journal of Agriculture, Plant, and Sciences (JAPS). Through this journal, we aim to promote in-depth research and critical thinking in the fields of art, sociology, and humanities. We also seek to address the pressing societal issues that have long been neglected, using thoughtful discussions to find practical solutions.

We call on intellectuals and scholars to address these societal issues alongside advancements in science and technology. By doing so, we can contribute to strengthening the moral, cultural, and ideological foundations of our society.

In this issue, we present research and recommendations regarding Pakistan's education system, with a focus on the profound impact that teachers' ideologies and roles have on their students. We have also examined media practices, exploring how the media, when it chooses, can guide the public by presenting an accurate picture of reality, as well as how it manipulates society through various techniques. Although the research was conducted prior to October 2023, its findings remain relevant to both national and international media today. Additionally, we include a comprehensive study on the medical and sociological impacts of HIV, exploring its treatment, prevention, and broader effects on society. Another article focuses on the moral and religious dimensions of this disease, providing further insight into the issue.

Moreover, this issue features a detailed exploration of one of Islam's greatest virtues: seeking and granting forgiveness. This study highlights how Islam guides individuals toward achieving high moral standards and the positive effects this has on both society and individuals.

A unique feature of our journal is our ongoing effort to bring the profound and timeless poetry of Allama Iqbal to the public, especially the younger generation. We believe it is our duty to share and preserve Iqbal's philosophy, and in this issue, we have included an extensive study on Iqbal's philosophy of art. Though our efforts may be small, we hope to contribute our light to the world.

Through this platform, we seek to inspire critical thinking and thoughtful research that will strengthen the intellectual and moral fabric of our society. We look forward to the contributions of our readers and researchers in advancing these important discussions.



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Some Sociological Aspects of AIDS in the West and its Islamic Approach for Prevention

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Abstract

AIDS is the most devastating ailment at the global level. Since there is neither any cure nor immunization available till now, it has spread all over the globe, especially in the Western countries and the USA. The treatment modalities like ART therapy significantly reduce morbidity and mortality but the global disease burden is a serious concern. The present article takes into a brief account of its incidence in the developed countries of the world. Some of its sociological aspects have also been discussed. The age of puberty in Western countries has decreased during the last few decades. Similarly, the birth and abortion rate in developed countries has also shown an increasing trend. Since there is no cure, some Islamic teachings have been discussed for its prevention highlighting the educational and moral training of human beings as given in Quran and Hadith.

Keywords: AIDS, HIV incidence in the USA, social aspects, Islamic control measures, Kuwait conference.

Introduction:

AIDS is an abbreviation of Acquired Immuno-Deficiency Syndrome. It is caused by a virus (HIV) to be detected only by electron microscopy. It results in widespread destruction of the immune system and the body suffers a serious deficit in its means of self-defense leading to an increasing inability to resist all forms of infections. Once an individual is infected, the AIDS

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virus spreads inside certain cells of the body very rapidly. Infection goes through various stages; the most important is the dormant incubation stage, which lasts from a few months to some years. During this period the virus grows and attacks the host body's immune system, dilapidating it progressively.

AIDS is transmitted from one person to another through secretion from the reproductive organs of both man and woman. It is also spread through body fluids in case of blood transfusions or through needles, injection spikes in drug addicts, and through cuts during hair cut by the infected blades, etc. Infection of unborn babies does not exceed 10%; however, contaminated vaginal fluid accounts for 30% of cases during birth, while in 60% of pregnancies, babies are not infected by their mothers. However, it has been observed that the baby's lactation and the associated pressure on the thin mucus membrane inside the mouth, can produce infection especially if the nipples are cracked or bleeding. Before studying some other aspects of AIDS and its Islamic approach to control and eradicate, it seems pertinent to know some sociological factors associated with its spread in USA and some other Western countries and to have considerate overview of the economic burden imposed on health care system.

Literature Review:

There is no cure for HIV infection and currently available treatment modalities can only help in management of disease requiring lifelong administration of drugs. These treatments can reduce morbidity accompanying HIV and they may increase life expectancy and decrease transmission, but adverse effects and drug resistance are challenging in management of disease. Health experts came up with the idea of cART (combination Antiretroviral Therapy) for long-lasting viral suppression but when the patients are exposed to these treatments for decades drug resistance, drug-drug interactions, comorbidities, social status, and cost become a serious concern (T Cihlar and T Fordyce, March, 2016).



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Ines Moranguinho et.al recently presented a comprehensive review of cART treatment, available drugs, resistance pathways, and promising new compounds and concluded that if we want to eradicate HIV from the world by 2030 we need to do progressive research and studies to develop effective remedies for HIV (*Int. J. Mol. Sci.* 2023).

According to UNAIDS estimation of HIV in 2023 more than 39 million people are living with HIV and a study conducted in 2018 revealed that incidence and prevalence of Sexually Transmitted Infections in the USA alone are 26.2% and 67.6% respectively in young individuals aged 15-24 years (Sexually Transmitted Infections Among US Women and Men: Prevalence and Incidence Estimates, Journal of ASTDA 2018).

American Sexually Transmitted Disease Association estimated the cost of managing Lifelong HIV ranging from four hundred and twenty thousand (420,000) to one million (1,000,000) dollars per patient (Estimated Lifetime HIV–Related Medical Costs in the United States Bingham, (Adrienna; Shrestha, Ram K, Khurana, Nidhi, Jacobson, U Farnham, Paul, 2021).

Thomas Ward et.al performed a systematic review in the USA and calculated the state cost of managing HIV Infection to be approximately 2800 dollars per patient per month Estimating HIV Management and Comorbidity Costs Among Aging HIV Patients in the United States: A Systematic Review: (T.Ward, M.Math, D.Sugrue, O.Hayward,) Mc Ewan, Sarah-Jane Anderson, PhD, Sara Lopes, Yogesh Punekar, A.Oglesby)

The Journal of Immunodeficiency Syndrome reported that the cost of treatment for new HIV cases is estimated as 36.4 billion dollars in 2002 in the United States of America that is inclusive of direct medical costs and productivity losses. (Hutchinson, Angela, Farnham, Paul, Hazel, Ekwueme, Donatus, D. Rio, Carlos, Kamimoto, Laurie, Kellerman, Scott, 2006)

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The "Lancet" published alarming results after analyzing the data from public health surveillance system and concluded that the epidemiology of HIV is evolving over time. (F Patrick S Sullivan, · A Satcher, Johnson, M· Elizabeth, S. Pembleton, R Stephenson, A. C Justice, · K N Althoff, 2021)

The global burden of disease that solely accounts to HIV infection is estimated to be extremely high and the health care providers insist on preventive approach rather than expensive management of disease.

Some sociological factors associated with AIDS in the USA: The following data shows the differences in HIV by gender ¹

Table 2.1 Differences in HIV diagnosis by gender.

Diagnosis by Gender	N=37,981 (100%)
(Among people aged 13 and older)	N-37,901 (100%)
Men	30,006 (79%)
Women	6,981 (18%)
Transgender women	869 (2%)
Transgender men	59 (<1%)
88Additional gender identity	66 (<1%)

It is evident that men continue to be heavily affected by HIV, accounting for 79% of HIV diagnoses in 2022.

Table 2.2 shows people aged 13 to 34 years accounted for more than half (56%) of new HIV diagnosis in 2022. This table indicates the involvement of young people in their early age in sex. The AIDS virus keeps on growing for years together and shows its effects during the later age.

Table 2.2 Differences in HIV diagnosis by age, 2022

Diagnosis by Age	N=37,981 (100%)
13 to 24	7,099 (19%)
25 to 34	14,160 (37%)
35 to 44	8,367 (22%)

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45 to 54	4,576 (12%)
55 to 64	3,886 (7%)
65 and older	893 (2)

Table 2.3 shows the presence of racial and ethnic differences in HIV diagnoses persist.

Table 2.3: Differences in new HIV diagnosis by race/ethnicity

Diagnosis by Race/Ethnicity (Among people aged 13 and older)	N=37,981 (100%)
(Hispanic/Latino people can be of any	
race)	
Black/African American	14,553 (39%)
Hispanic/Latino	12,167 (32%)
White	9,112 (24%)
Multiracial	1,056 (3%)
Asian	795 (2%)
American Indian/Alaska Native	215 (1%)
Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander	83 (<1%)

It is evident that racial and ethnic differences in new HIV diagnoses persist. It may be seen that the disparities among race and ethnicity are due to discrimination, poverty, and barricades to health facilities continue to fuel these discrepancies. However, the least incidents also tend to indicate some differences due to cultural/religious beliefs among these people.

Islamic Approach to the Prevention of AIDS: After going through the deplorable condition of Western Society in the hands of HIV/ AIDS and many other social problems emanating from the free sex, an honest and right-thinking individual would be interested to know about the prevention of such hazards confronting the life of billions of human beings throughout the globe.



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Though there is no suitable cure available for AIDS, nor any substantial immunization methods, the most effective technique of prevention in today's permissive society is the teaching and training of individuals. The only way is to avoid indulging in promiscuous sexual relations. Further, it is essential to promote certain moral principles that would lead to the necessary balance of health, and stability in the life of people. Such measures represent the cornerstone of the Islamic approach to the prevention and control of AIDS, being discussed hereunder²

1-Faith-Based Education: Islam builds the lives of their followers in the faith of Allah and following His Guidance. Many Commandments of the Holy Quran emphasize the relation between success, health, and prosperity in this life and the Hereafter^{3,4}. Further Quran has on various occasions cautioned against enticement and following one's banal desires^{5, 6}. Similarly, the Quran has referred to many commendable examples of the strength of character giving instances of the Prophet who showed resistance against the temptation of the flesh and conserved their moral integrity⁷. In this connection, some Ahadith as reported in Tirmidhi ^{15, 16} are very pertinent about protecting the parts of the body in between the jaws and legs^{8,9}. It has also been narrated in (Bukhari ¹⁰⁾ Further Sahih Muslim¹¹ has narrated "0 young men, those among you who can support a wife should marry, for it restrains eyes from casting (evil glances). And preserves one from immodesty; but those who cannot should devote themselves to fasting for it is a means of controlling sexual desire.¹²"

In addition to these teachings, Islam, being a code of life, has given many measures essential for the prevention of different venereal diseases including the AIDS virus. These are marriage, proscription of sexual promiscuity, and deterrence. These are being discussed as follows:

- **a. Marriage:** Marriage is the most encouraging and effective means to protect an individual especially young people from indulging in illegitimate sexual activity that leads to infection of many venereal diseases, particularly AIDS. Holy Prophet, therefore, instructed the young people to get married at their earliest. (Sahih Muslim) (Bukhari)
- **b. Marriage** provides physical, emotional, psychological and spiritual companionship. Islam, unlike other religions, is a strong promoter of marriage and considers it a religious obligation. As

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such, it is a moral protection as well as a social need. Quran in many verses has commanded Muslims to marry ^{13, 14, and 15}

- **c**. In Islam, polygamy has been allowed as a security measure in situations that carry the threat of unlawful or illicit means for sexual relations¹⁶.
- d. Similarly, Islam has specified a sequence of hygienic measures and guidelines aimed at ensuring the well-being and preservation of the institution of marriage, such as forbidding sex with one's wife during menses¹⁷---The status and wisdom of these directives become evident when the modern science of medicine has pointed out the spread of AIDS through illicit sexual relations and sodomy.

II. Proscribing Promiscuity: It includes many reformative instructions like:

- Controlling sexual urges¹⁸;
- Avoiding the lewd gaze of both sexes, which leads to arousal of sexual urge and thus unlawful contact and use of proper dress and avoiding showing the hidden beauty. Further, strict segregation of the sexes and forbidding meeting of both genders in seclusion. Still further not to invade the privacy of each member of the family and/or society without permission¹⁹
- Forbidding all provocative activities including pornography, dancing/singing, films, etc. 20;
- Prohibition of all kinds of intoxicants²¹
- **III. Effective Deterrence**: In case teaching and training fail and other preventive methods prove ineffective in stamping permissiveness in some societies, resort must be made to punishment, as deterrence to others. However, Islamic punishment must be prescribed under very strict conditions of proof as detailed in Surah Al Noor and other verses of the Holy Quran.
- **IV. Problems Due to AIDS:** In the following, we shall be discussing many problems arising due to AIDS in Western society as well as in Muslim countries. It may, however, be made clear that these are mainly based on the recommendations made in the Seminar held in Kuwait³.

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- **a. Marriage of an AIDS individual**: The question of marriage involving AIDS carriers is frequently asked. It has been reported that since marriage is the best way of protection against the spread of AIDS, it must therefore, follow that it should not in any way be allowed to become a means of transmitting the syndrome.
- Anyone (he or she) knowing a carrier of the AIDS virus MUST NOT enter a marriage relationship with a healthy person without disclosing to them the facts of their situation in advance. It is because transmitting the disease is felonious and hiding the fact of being a carrier would be deceitful. Both acts are offensive from the Islamic viewpoint.
- In a further situation, should an infected couple be allowed to marry? It has been said that such infected couples should be allowed to marry whether they use a condom. However, since the risk of passing the virus from the mother to her baby is high, such couples should take extra precautions to prevent conception.
- Islamic law specifies that sexual union is an essential condition for the validity of marriage. For either spouse to refrain from such activity without a reason is an offense. However, if one of the spouses is an AIDS patient, the other can refuse sex, since this has been medically established to be the major factor in the transmission of the AIDS virus. If the healthy spouse agrees to sex, then suitable precautions must be taken to reduce the risk of infection and conception.
- Whether a wife gets a divorce from her infected AIDS husband? There are very lively discussions /arguments by different Fuqaha (Muslim Jurists), keeping in view the two most important aspects of marital life.
- i) Firstly, since man's sexual capability is vital for the stability and continuity of marriage, which is severely hampered in those infected with the AIDS virus. This is further made worse by the need to use a condom on every occasion, although the use of a condom is permissible with the wife's consent, if she does not give consent, it could constitute a basis for divorce.
- **ii)** Secondly, the use of a condom, during sex to prevent transmission of the AIDS virus prevents childbearing, which is a main purpose of marriage. This again could constitute a basis for divorce.



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• Ibn al Qayyam, a renowned scholar, pointed out that termination of marriage can take place because of any defect that incurs the dissatisfaction of the other spouse and does not realize the basic aims of intimacy and love between the married couple. Accordingly, the objecting spouse must be given the choice to annul the marriage. This opinion was also attributed to Ibn Az Zuhri, who said "Marriage can be annulled for incurable illness."

V. The Rights of Healthy Spouse to Separation or Divorce:

- From the arguments so far, either spouse has the right to ask for separation from another who is an AIDS carrier. This is because the disease is contagious and transmitted chiefly by sexual intercourse. This remains true whether the infection occurs before or after the marriage.
- In case the wife is the carrier, the couple is separated, and the wife does not receive the entitlement of a divorced wife. The husband has the right to fully reclaim of dowry he had paid or its equivalent if the marriage had already been effectuated.
- If the husband is the carrier, the couple may divorce and the wife receives her deferred dowry and the "mutaa'h or compensation, due to a divorce.
- If deception or fraud is committed by the infected spouse by not disclosing his or her ailment, the culprit would be liable to punishment.

VI. Abortion among AIDS sufferers: Scientists have not yet agreed on whether AIDS can be diagnosed in the fetus during the first 4 months following conception. However, if medical science can diagnose it at the earlier stages of pregnancy, there could be justification for aborting the fetus during the period allowed by Islamic law. This remains to be the case in light of our knowledge that there is no effective cure for AIDS, but this must change if such a cure is available. As such, abortion may in general be recommended on grounds of the mother's health. However, Islam encourages procreation and attaches value and respect to children from the moment of conception. This is proved by the concession to pregnant women not to fast during Ramadan. Thus, unborn babies, including those conceived out of wedlock, must not be harmed in any way. Islamic law has stipulated specific punishment for killing or causing an unborn baby

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to die or to come to harm. In this connection, Muslim Fuqaha has discussed this issue very thoroughly as discussed hereunder:

- If a mother's life is endangered because of gestation, a fetus is aborted regardless of age; If the mother is not in danger, it would be unlawful to abort the baby after 120 days of conception, the age of ensoulment to develop into a full human being. It may be interesting to note that stages of fetal development are also given in (Surah Al Muminoon: 12-14)²². It is clear from these verses that "the human being begins life in the mother's womb as a germ for 40 days. The germ turns into a clot during the following 40 days and the clot into a lump of flesh during the next 40 days. Then an Angel is sent to blow the spirit into it and note down its means of living, its life span, its actions, and its fate, whether good or bad²³"
- The Hanbali school of Islamic law is of the opinion that 40 days is the critical point at which a fetus is fully formed, and do not allow abortion after that age.
- Some scholars, however, disallow abortion once fertilization takes place in the womb. Muhammad Abu Hamid Al Ghazali (12th-century scholar) differentiates between the withdrawal method (coitus interrupts) and abortion by contraception by saying that the former is done against a being that is already in existence. This existence, he adds, begins with the fertilized egg ready to continue life, and to destroy the egg would be a crime. As the egg develops further, the offense becomes proportionately greater. He compares the withdrawal method of contraception to withdrawing from a contractual agreement before signing which would constitute a breach of contract.
- Some Hanafi scholars do not allow abortion once fertilization has taken place. They also agree that a fertilized egg is an entity already bound for life.
- The Malaki School agrees that once sperm unites with the egg in the womb, it cannot be destroyed even before the 40-day period. Accordingly, they consider abortion at any later time as murder.

Thus, we find that Islamic law scholars and health experts are in agreement over the fact that fertilization of a mother's egg indicates life and that life must be regarded as sacred.

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• Some experts call the earlier stage of fetal development the 'animal life' stage and that after 40 days threshold as the 'the human life' stage.

VII. Some Important Questions: There are two important questions:

First, are we allowed to abort an AIDS-infected fetus? The popular opinion seems to favor the view that abortion within the first 120 days is permissible. If the infection is confirmed after 120 days, the baby cannot be aborted. This would be comparable to a deformed baby who should not be deprived of treatment or whose life must not be deliberately terminated.

The second question is should a baby be aborted for the sake of the mother when she is an AIDS sufferer? If the baby's continued existence in the mother's womb threatens her life, the baby may be sacrificed for the sake of the mother, because the baby's chances of life are much less than that of the mother. However, if the mother's life is not under threat, but the pregnancy would reduce the incubation period of the virus, the baby should not be aborted, because the mother's plight can be sustained with better health care.

The third question is should an AIDS patient mother nurse her baby? Muslim jurists agree that nursing mothers must be free from all infectious and contagious diseases. Medical research has established that the AIDS virus is not transmitted by bodily contact or through air, so it does not spread to other members of the family, for it is mainly transmitted during sexual intercourse. Medical research has also established that transmission of AIDS virus through the mother's milk is extremely rare since the probability of the virus being found in human milk, saliva, sweat, and urine is very small indeed. The risk would only be eminent if the nipples are cut or cracked resulting in bleeding, and, hence, blood being taken in through the mouth with the milk by the baby.

It would, therefore, be inappropriate to deprive the mother and her baby of the obvious physiological, emotional, and psychological advantages of breastfeeding and proper nursing³¹, based on a negligible risk against which precautions can easily be taken. It is important, however, that the mother does not feed her baby if her nipples are cracked or bleeding. Generally, Islamic teachings recommend that AIDS victims are to be treated as ordinary

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members of the family and society to ease their sufferings. This is also the advice of modern international health bodies.

VIII. Recommendations of the Seminar³: It would be interesting to read the recommendations of the seminar.

- **a. Isolation of AIDS patients:** Available medical evidence shows that infection with the AIDS virus does not occur by any of the following means:
 - **i.** Living with carriers of the virus.
 - **ii.** Physical contact.
- **iii.** Breathing, insects biting, shared eating and drinking.
- **iv.** Shared toilets.
- **v.** Swimming pools, seats, utensils, or any other form of normal daily contact.

The virus is chiefly transmitted by one of the following means:

- **i.** All forms of sexual intercourse.
- **ii.** Transmission of blood or its derivatives.
- **iii.** Shared use of infected hypodermic needles or syringes as in the case of drug users.
- **iv.** From an infected mother to her child.

Accordingly, isolation of AIDS patients among students, employees, or other social groups is not called for.

- **b. Abortion for an AIDS-infected mother:** The fetus being a living entity, is sacred and need not be violated by abortion except for urgent medical reasons
- **c. Nursing by AIDS-infected mothers of their healthy babies**: There is no harm in nursing the baby by an infected mother. However, the virus can be transmitted through milk if the breast's nipples are broken/cracked or bleeding. The mother should take all precautions to minimize the risk of infection. The mother may refrain from feeding the baby if a suitable alternative is available.



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- **d. Option of Separation:** The seminar upheld the view that a healthy spouse has the option of separation or divorce from an AIDS-infected one since the AIDS virus is chiefly transmitted through sexual intercourse.
- **e. Refusal of sexual intercourse:** A healthy spouse has the right to refuse sexual intercourse with an AIDS-infected one, as a logical consequence of the above.
- **f. Care of infected person:** AIDS cannot be classified as a terminal disease until the stage when its symptoms become fully manifested, and the patient is no longer able to live a normal life and shows signs of deterioration of life.

IX. General Recommendation:

- The participants of the seminar counseled all official and public bodies/ organizations to raise public awareness of the threat of AIDS; how it can be transmitted and the means of protection against it as the promotion of virtue, public decency, and lawful sexual behavior and morality are the natural preventive measures.
- The introduction of Islamic education at all levels of school education ensures that pupils develop healthy and balanced views of their role and responsibility in society and prevents the spread of behavioral diseases such as AIDS.
- Early marriage must be encouraged to protect young people against permissiveness and sexual aberration.
- Regardless of how a person contacts AIDS, everyone has the same right to the necessary medical treatment. Doctors are under obligation to give proper treatment, taking all measures to protect themselves and others against infection.
- The Seminar called for the execution of Islamic laws as an effective safeguard against the spread of such disease which threatens the individual and society.
- The mass media have a vital part to play in raising public awareness of the threat of AIDS and the means of protection against it. The media must, therefore, assume a responsible and

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constructive role by promoting virtues and morality and abstaining from the portrayal, in any form whatsoever, of indecent, morally degrading, and sexually corrupt material.

- Official bodies must deliver, at the most extensive possible measure, all information necessary for the early diagnosis of AIDS to enable the initial detection of the infection so that essential steps can be taken to prevent the spread of the disease.
- The seminar requests to all the responsible members of society all over the world to consolidate their efforts and join the Muslim community in endorsing virtues and fighting all forms of sexual recklessness and extra marital sex.

Conclusion:

Verily, it is said that "prevention is better than cure" but when cure is not an option, prevention is the only choice. We must adopt a preventive approach against all sexually transmitted diseases including HIV-AIDS to get rid of the global disease burden and reduce human suffering. The best moral principles and ethical practices instructed by Islam could be the savior if implemented in the society by authorized bodies. Building a social construct on foundations laid down by Islamic law could lead us to create a better world with healthier populations. The devastating social impact imposed by HIV-AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases could be eliminated only by restraining Extra-marital affairs and promoting legitimate relationships through the institution of marriage. Countries and nations must endorse ethical guidelines for the wellbeing of people and implement protocols to develop healthy and prosperous economies.

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The Essence of Art in Iqbal's Thought

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Abstract

Fine Arts are a vital means of expressing a nation's worldview, its aspirations, and its higher goals. They encompass five primary forms: music, painting, poetry, singing, and dance. This article, through an extensive review of literature and narrative analysis of both primary and secondary sources on Iqbal's philosophy of art and literature, delves into Iqbal's conceptions of art. It further explores how these ideas can remain relevant in contemporary times, Iqbal's views on art are intricately connected to his philosophy of Khudi (selfhood). For him, art is a powerful medium of expression, and any form of art that lacks self-awareness and self-reflection is undesirable. In Iqbal's philosophy, art that distances individuals from their true selves cannot be considered creative or valuable. Throughout his Persian and Urdu poetry, Igbal examines various forms of art, highlighting both their positive and negative aspects. His rationale is rooted in his philosophy of Khudi, where he distinguishes between acceptable and unacceptable forms of art based on their impact on one's personality and self. Art that strengthens the self is beneficial, while art that weakens or sedates the self is harmful and should not be pursued, according to Igbal. He believes that such superficial art fails to touch the depths of personality and instead fosters chaos and confusion within individuals and society. Iabal also notes that throughout history, the arts have been intertwined with various religions. He emphasizes that the finest expressions of art, like architecture, should embody both beauty and greatness (Dilbari and Qahiri). Iqbal's philosophy of Khudi can guide us in finding direction within the arts. helping us to create works that reflect the unique values of our culture and civilization as Muslims.

Keywords: Music, spirituality, Iqbal, art, painting, drama, muslim architecture

Art holds special significance in Pakistan, where it is expressed in various forms. Over time, significant changes have been observed in artistic trends, particularly in film and music, both of

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which have become inseparable from technology. While Iqbal appreciated drama as an art form, it was not one of his primary interests. In Iqbal's view, an actor loses their identity by portraying someone else, which he saw as a denial of the self. For Iqbal, this act of self-forgetfulness and adopting a fictitious role was an insult to humanity. As a result, such rhetoric did not flourish for long in Islamic society, where personal integrity and self-identity hold a central place. Iqbal believed that media, including dramas, films, talk shows, and morning shows, often present narratives detached from reality, with individuals disguising themselves and denying their true personalities. According to Iqbal's philosophy of Khudi (selfhood), this denial of one's identity is a form of falsehood and deception, and individuals should never compromise their Khudi and personality.

Iqbal viewed art as a means to be powerful, purposeful, and connected to creative and developmental pursuits. He believed that all forms of art should serve a higher objective and contribute to society. He was strongly opposed to the notion of "art for art's sake," arguing that when nations are weak, they tend to engage in purposeless artistic endeavors, imitating others without originality or value. Iqbal regarded art as a natural requirement of the human soul, believing that a person cannot be complete without an understanding or appreciation of art. Nature has endowed humanity with the capacity to create and appreciate beauty, and this is an intrinsic need, not something imposed by society. For Iqbal, the artist possesses a divine attribute, and through this divine spontaneity, they create works that are later recognized as skillful. He associated originality with inspiration, believing that true art is inspired and divinely guided. Iqbal's opposition to imitation led him to reject major schools of thought in art, as he believed that art must be original and in service of Khudi. In his poem Theatre, Iqbal criticizes acting, suggesting that when a person loses their sense of self, art ceases to be creative. Thus, he considered drama to be a lower form of art, as it relies more on intellect than emotion and lacks sincerity, which is crucial for self-development. This form of art, according to Iqbal, does not engage with the depths of one's personality but instead creates a superficial external atmosphere.

The Journal of Arts, Sociology and Humanities

Volume 2, number 2, October 2024

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Since the beginning of time, fine arts have been closely linked to religion. The finest examples of architecture combine both beauty and majesty, as seen in temples that blend aesthetic grace with grandeur. Stone carving, idol carving, and painting have long been associated with religious expressions, embodying the subtle concepts of art within the spiritual and cultural frameworks of society. Iqbal believed that art, when rooted in these deeper elements, could contribute to the growth of the self and, ultimately, the well-being of humanity.

In Bandgi Nama, Iqbal eloquently discusses the fine arts of music and painting, referring to all such arts that lead to despair as a form of death. For the first time, he offers a detailed critique of the arts produced by people bound in the chains of slavery. He states, "What can I tell about the arts of slavery? The arts of slavery are death; there is no revolution in their songs." Iqbal describes the face of a slave as being as dark as their heart, and similarly, the song of a slave is as lifeless as their nature. The spirit of the slave's heart has been extinguished. He believes that the music created under the conditions of slavery impacts society as a whole.

Iqbal further explains that this pitiful, melancholic symphony and the songs of slaves weaken him, fill him with a sense of frustration, and cause him to develop a disdain for the world. These songs steal the warmth from the heart and replace it with grief. According to Iqbal, poetry should not be static or confined to local themes; instead, its essence should lie in its charm, capable of elevating the spirit rather than depressing it. His critique highlights how art produced in conditions of subjugation loses its vitality and creative force, affecting both the individual and society.

Research questions

- 1. What are Iqbal's conceptions of art?
- 2. How are Igbal's conceptions of art relevant to the current state of affairs in Pakistan?

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Research Methodology

This article employs a historical and documentary analysis method. Using Iqbal's articles and essays, conclusions were drawn objectively. Both primary sources, including Iqbal's poetry and prose, as well as secondary sources such as articles and books relevant to Iqbal's conceptions of art and literature, were consulted for a comprehensive understanding of his views.

Iqbal's View on Art

Iqbal opposed the idea of imitation in art, emphasizing that excellence cannot be achieved by merely replicating the things found in nature. According to him, the real achievement of humanity lies in creating what nature itself could not. Since man is a higher, more conscious being than nature, he should not only take inspiration from it but also transcend its limitations by presenting beauty beyond what nature offers. Iqbal held that an artist should not mimic nature but should complete and complement it, utilizing human creativity and intelligence to enhance it(1). Dr. Yusuf Hussain Khan, in Rooh-e-Iqbal, echoes this sentiment, stating that the artist's or poet's purpose is not to imitate nature but to express its inner reality. Nature, being formless, is given shape by the artist, and only through the heart and soul of the artist does nature's true essence come to life. (2)

Iqbal's Objectives for Art

Many Western schools of thought focus on art as a means to create beautiful forms that provide joy and pleasure. However, Iqbal viewed the objectives of art differently. To him, art was a noble pursuit, and its purpose extended beyond mere pleasure. (3) Art, in Iqbal's philosophy, must be linked to higher knowledge and consciousness. He uses the metaphor of Gabriel, the bearer of divine knowledge, to emphasize that art should communicate deeper truths. After visiting the Cordoba Mosque, Iqbal found himself inspired by its grandeur, symbolizing the greatness of God, the honor and potential of humanity, and the power of human achievement. Thus, for Iqbal,

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art should not only entertain but also provide knowledge, evoke higher emotions, and inspire action, motivating individuals toward self-improvement and societal development.

In the preface of Murqa Chaghatai, Iqbal has explained the concept of art in detail. Givning a chance to the visible to develop the invisible and to establish a relationship with regards to nature, which in the language of science is called compatibility or harmony, is in fact equivalent to admitting that nature has dominated the human spirit. The secret of human strength is to resist the impulses of nature and not to leave oneself at their mercy. What exists must be resisted so that what does not exist can be created. Doing so is health and life, anything else is decay and leads to death. Man is immortal. The artist that competes life is beneficial to humanity. Creation is one of the attributes of God. A creative individual's soul time and eternity are reflected. The modern era's artist gets inspiration from nature. However, nature is just "is" and its function is to obstruct our quest for what we do for it "What should be" and that which the artist finds in the depths of his being. (6)

Igbal's Critique of Modern Art Forms

Iqbal was critical of certain modern art forms, such as theater, music, and cinema, particularly when they conflicted with his concept of Khudi (selfhood). He believed that theater and acting, which involved impersonation, were detrimental to personal growth. For Iqbal, self-discipline and self-development were vital, and art forms that encouraged individuals to act as someone else compromised their Khudi. Dr. Syed Abdullah, in *Taif Iqbal*, asserts that Iqbal was not entirely opposed to music or theater, but he was critical of how they often promoted physical pleasure or imitated reality, neglecting the deeper spiritual and intellectual potential of art. Iqbal's issue with these art forms was not with the medium itself but with how they were used in ways that diminished self-awareness. (4)

Dr. Syed Abdullah, Taif Iqbal explains, Iqbal deliberately did not like this title for himself, perhaps because his taste or his imagination did not like to be called a playwright. According to the concept of aesthetics, he considers it imitation after imitation. From this perspective, he is not

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compatible to drama and also doesn't appreciate it much. He has written against cinema and theater also. Despecite this, due to his own artistic nature, he was the playwright himself. If he liked to be called a dramatist, he would be a dramatist like Goethe. His poetry not only contain allegorical content, but often in many of his poems, which can be said to be a slightly alteration drama, for example, Iblis Ki Majlis Shuri. There is quality of drama in his poems. Drama is a great art and its effects are far-reaching. We can say in a sense Iqbal also wrote plays. (5)

Iqbal's Appreciation of Arts

Javed Iqbal notes that his father had a fondness for listening to songs and played the sitar in his youth. Whenever Faqir Jamal Din played the gong, he would invite Javed to join him. Although Iqbal was not a painter, he appreciated the art and encouraged his son Javed Iqbal's interest in painting by ordering art books from England, France, and Italy (25). Painting, photography, and calligraphy, if done thoughtfully, have the potential for a bright future. Iqbal admired the calligraphy of Parveen Raqam and expressed a desire for all his books to be written by her.

Iqbal also valued the short story format, recognizing that narrating events is an effective way to convey meaning. The Quran presents accounts of earlier nations as stories, and Iqbal's work Javed Nama is written in the form of a drama, reflecting an essential part of Muslim Eastern literature. Iqbal, alongside his mentor Rumi, traverses various celestial bodies, seeking to understand and solve the issues facing the East, particularly the colonial oppression of the West and the decline of the dispersed Muslim Ummah. Justice Javed Iqbal translated Javed Nama into Urdu prose, aspiring to present it as a drama. This work is considered a modern Miraj Nama in Persian, and although there are many translations and commentaries in Urdu, a simple and engaging explanation of the ideas within Javed Nama is necessary for accessibility. This cosmic journey should resonate with the heart rather than merely the mind, as it addresses deeper

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existential concerns. Similarly, Masnavi Maulana Rum follows this narrative style, and Asrar-e-Khudi and Ramuz-e-Bikhudi utilize fables and stories to convey their messages.

While Iqbal critiqued certain forms of art, he greatly appreciated others, especially poetry and architecture. Among the arts, poetry held a central place in Iqbal's creative expression. He believed that poetry, when purposeful and infused with a higher mission, could elevate the human spirit and connect individuals to God. Poetry, in his view, was not an escape from the world but a tool to uplift humanity. He writes that poetry is something that creates charm in the many difficulties and trials of human life and not the ideas of degradation and obsolescence. (7) In addition to poetry, Iqbal was also deeply inspired by architecture, particularly Islamic structures like the Cordoba Mosque. The magnificence of Islamic architecture symbolized for Iqbal the cultural and spiritual strength of the Muslim Ummah, reflecting his deep respect for the values and heritage of Islamic civilization, which can be seen continuously in his poetry and philosophy of life. (9)

Iqbal's Call for Purposeful Art

The artistis according to their tendency is so deeply impressed by a simple everyday incident that it becomes his inspiration. There have been experts who discovered new rhythms while perceiving colors and letters. Similarly, there are legends in the fields of painting and sculpture who created colors and structures by listening to music. This demonstrates that art, like life, is essentially one, even if it manifests differently in artistic and terminological forms. Likewise, the manifestations of national personality may differ, but their underlying reality remains the same. Iqbal has consistently appreciated such arts. He values energy, whether found within oneself or in others, in the world of nature or in the world of humanity. According to Iqbal, like the phenomena of life, the artist is not confined by logic; he seeks the harmony of his passion rather than that of logic. He controls reality through his passion; therefore, for him, the spirit of reality itself resides in passion.

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Iqbal consistently emphasized that art must be purposeful. He rejected the idea of "art for art's sake" and criticized any form of art or literature that disconnected man from his higher purpose and relation to God. For Iqbal, art should contribute to the attainment of life's highest goals, particularly the cultivation of the self (Khudi). In his view, art should embody strength and power, protect the self, and guide individuals toward a meaningful existence (8). His poetry, infused with philosophical depth and moral purpose, exemplifies this approach to art. He believed that creative expression should not be a passive activity but a powerful force that motivates individuals and societies to reach their full potential.

Translation: Beauty is sorcery without power. Beauty is prophetic with power. Passion has amalgamated both; passion has created another world within a world.

Iqbal explains that if beauty exists without the power to protect itself, it is merely flirtation and not beauty in the true sense. True beauty is that which possesses both grace and power. He compares this to a messenger who, even if he has a profound message, will be ineffective without the power to implement it. Iqbal argues that the combination of beauty and power is essential for the message to be heard and respected. Likewise, for true beauty to exist, it must have glory along with its charm.

Through ishq (passion), these two qualities—beauty (dilbari) and power (qahiri)—are blended together in harmony, creating a world within a world. This fusion is essential for positive outcomes, as neither beauty nor power alone can lead to lasting results. Whether in science or art, the amalgamation of both creates a balanced and meaningful existence.

Iqbal further elaborates on what art should be, stating that the art which is self-aware and contributes to self-development will find its own path. He writes:

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In Zarb-e-Kaleem, Iqbal clarifies that true literature and art should serve life and be subject to the development of khudi (selfhood). He advises:

Iqbal praised Arab poetry, urging Muslims to adopt this style in their own literary and artistic endeavors. He emphasized that art should nourish the soul, have depth of thought, and be courageous in facing challenges. He conveyed to Muslims that their art should reflect the style and richness of Arab poetry, Art should be such that nurtures the soul of man, it has the depth of thought and the courage to face the situation, and Iqbal has also given the thought to Muslims that they should follow the style of Arab poetry. (18)

For Iqbal, art is vital for human society only when it reflects reality and holds the potential to spark revolution and reform in the life of nations. He never supported art that lulls people into complacency. Instead, Iqbal advocated for revolutionary art—art that embodies the struggles of life and possesses the capability to solve them. In Iqbal's opinion, poets and artists should possess a passion that leads the nation toward development rather than degradation. They should lay the foundation of their art in a way that reminds Muslims of their glorious past and fosters the transformation that is the essence of being a Muslim. According to Iqbal, the main purpose of the artist is to serve life. Through his poetry, he has authentically represented life, especially highlighting its element of freedom.

Iqbal's Perspective on the Architecture of Free Men (Dar Fun-e-Tameer Mardan Azad)

Iqbal believed that free nations have a duty to create art and architecture that reflect the true spirit of freedom. In this context, he praised the Masjid *Quwat al-Islam*, stating that it embodies



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the essence of freedom. He admired how the stones are joined in such a way that an entire era is encapsulated in a single moment. In contrast, he showed little enthusiasm for the Mosque of Paris. In *Bandagi Nama*, while discussing the arts, Iqbal advised avoiding ideas that lack revolutionary potential, emphasizing that true art must inspire real change.

Translation: Death is hidden in the arts of slaves; what should I say about the magic of slavery? The symphony of a slave's life is devoid of life's warmth, it strikes like a flood against the wall of life (and the wall does not survive).

In *Bandagi Nama*, under the section *Dar Fun e Tameer Mardan Azad*, Allama Iqbal delves into the aesthetic spirit of Muslim architecture and the concept of architecture as a reflection of free people. He draws attention to the buildings constructed by figures such as Qutbuddin Aibak and Sher Shah Suri. Specifically, Iqbal praises the achievements of Qutbuddin Aibak, alluding to the Quwatul Islam Mosque in Delhi, which exemplifies beauty and grandeur.

Iqbal reflects on the spirit behind such architectural masterpieces, expressing:

Translation: They (the builders of these edifices) have revealed themselves through these constructions, thus expressing their inner selves. They have joined stone to stone in such a way

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that an era has been enclosed in a single moment. Such buildings are constructed that time has no effect on them. Seeing these edifices strengthens your resolve and transports you into another realm. The design leads you to the designer and reveals the conscience of the creator. Masculine courage and elevated nature—these two precious gems are hidden within the heart of these stones.

In this verse, Iqbal emphasizes how the architectural achievements of free men are more than just physical structures; they encapsulate an era and transcend time, revealing the spirit and will of their creators.

In the following stanza, Iqbal also pays homage to the Taj Mahal, describing it as a unique gem. He highlights its beauty and durability, noting that a moment spent observing this structure leaves a lasting impression, making it more enduring than eternity itself. According to Iqbal, the Taj Mahal is not just a symbol of power or strength, but a masterpiece born of passionate love. He writes:

Translation: The passion of men has revealed its own secrets, stringing stones together with the tips of their eyelashes. The love of men is pure and colorful like paradise. It brings forth songs from stone and brick. The passion of men is the measure of beauty's worth; it both unveils and veils beauty. The courage of their love transcends the heavens and goes beyond the world of logic and reason.

Here, Iqbal explores the idea that passionate love, not mere power or strength, is what truly creates timeless masterpieces. The love that inspired the creation of the Taj Mahal is described as transcendent, defying time and space, and revealing feats that are indelible against the erosion of time.

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In this poetic discourse, Iqbal praises the architectural wonders of free men, highlighting how they reflect not only technical prowess but also profound passion and higher purpose, making them enduring symbols of human spirit and creativity.

Iqbal's views on Music and Song

Iqbal argued that passion in music and the arts is essential, and he admonished enslaved nations, saying that their songs lack revolutionary fervor and movement, being devoid of true passion.

Translation: If a song has no meaning, it is dead. Its flame is the flame of an extinguished fire. The secret of meaning was revealed by Pir Rumi, upon whose shrine my thoughts bow in prostration.

For Iqbal, the distinction between an acceptable song (*Surud-e-Halal*) and a forbidden song (*Surud-e-Haram*) lies in whether or not it promotes the development and awareness of Khudi (the self). He viewed song as neutral, similar to knowledge and other forces of nature. Different types of music evoke different emotions and impressions, so music cannot be universally classified as either permissible or forbidden.

Surud-e-Halal is the kind of song that not only creates temporary excitement in the heart but also leaves a lasting impact, bringing true solace to life. Although temporary relief from grief or fear can be achieved through external means (like a sip of wine), Iqbal emphasized that true peace—permanent and deep—comes only from the maturity of faith. This kind of faith is strengthened in many ways, one of which is through Surud-e-Halal. A song of this nature frees a person from fear and grief.

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In Bandagi Nama, Iqbal has told the slave nations that there is no instrumental and rythm in your song, its rythm is like that of a widow's cries and your poetry does not have the warmth and movement of life, it is very far from artistic skill.

According to Dr. Farman Fatehpuri, Iqbal's perspective on music is deeply rooted in his khudi philosophy. He believes that Iqbal sees both the beauty and ugliness of music and rhythm through this lens. Iqbal sees the beauty and ugliness of music and rhythm in the light of his khudi-philosophy. According to him, the true musician is the one whose conscience is pure and whose music scatters life on the face of the audience (19).

Iqbal expressed his hope for the birth of individuals within the nation whose songs could create this kind of lasting, life-affirming attraction in people's hearts. (12)

Religion of slaves (Mazhab e Ghulaman)

In this section, Iqbal maps out the religious life of those oppressed by slavery and subjugation. According to Iqbal, the religious life of a slave is stripped of vitality and dynamism. He highlights a stark difference between passionate love (Ishq) and religion in the lives of the enslaved. The most significant aspect is that the subjugated sell their religion and knowledge at cheap prices. Even though they may utter the name of Allah, their true Qibla is the power of their worldly rulers, before whom they bow in submission.

Iqbal explains that these rulers maintain control by creating divisions among people, sowing seeds of hatred in their hearts. These enslaved individuals become captives to their rulers' favor, to the point where their eyes and ears refuse to see or hear anything against them. They blindly follow their false leaders, closing their eyes to the truth.

Regarding the religion of slave nations, Iqbal states that they lack any real religion, self-awareness, or art. Instead, they are like living corpses, disconnected from their true selves. He reminds Muslims of their past greatness, noting that in earlier times, Muslim art was a complete

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reflection of reality and demonstrated a quest for truth in every aspect. However, Iqbal asserts that the religion of slaves can never remain pure, as slavery turns them into flatterers, conspirators, and worshippers of the rising sun. Expecting true religious freedom under such conditions is futile.

This critique is tied to Iqbal's larger philosophical framework, where Khudi (selfhood) and independence are central to achieving true spiritual and intellectual freedom. Without self-realization, Iqbal believes, the enslaved cannot experience the fullness of religious life.

The Evolution of Islamic Architecture and Art

During the Umayyad era, Abdul Malik bin Marwan built the Dome of the Rock (*Qubat al-Sakhra*), a great masterpiece of Islamic architecture. At the beginning of the Islamic movement, architecture became the art that gained popularity. Although Roman contributions were very prominent before this, Muslims added vastness and purpose to it. This artistic expression began with mosques, primarily aimed at establishing social ties and facilitating congregational prayers. Muslims introduced new methods in mosque construction, including large courtyards for ablution, minarets, and domes, which were impressive for their time. Later, this art progressed further, incorporating arrangements for cold and hot water in baths and installing fountains in resting places. When Muslims went to Spain, they introduced this art to the West, with Qasr al-Hamra, the palaces of Cordoba and Granada, and the Great Mosque of Cordoba standing as masterpieces of this tradition. Today, numerous examples of this art can be found in India and the Ottoman Empire. (21)

Art is not merely an expression of thoughts; it encapsulates all the feelings and emotions tied to the struggles and realities of human beings. Wherever Muslims traveled, they were inspired by local musicality and adopted it, without attempting to create a distinct Islamic music but rather maintaining previous traditions. (22) The arts should aim to eliminate all negative emotions within individuals, allowing them to perceive reality more clearly.

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Muslims have presented art in such a way that it helps individuals understand the greatness of God and His majesty. Many artworks inspire awe, prompting a deep recognition of the humility of human beings before their Creator. The antiquities of old times reflect the nature of past societies, and even today, we encounter similar challenges. With this in mind, we must promote behaviors in arts and literature that create positive change for future generations and reflect a high civilization.

Iqbal has always encouraged arts that create profound transformations in individuals, channeling human emotions into positive energy and goal-oriented behavior while eliminating negativity. A true artist transcends mere ritualism or atheism, achieving a perfection in art that enables the human soul to transcend internal struggles and attain the gnosis of God. In the present age, Islamic architecture remains at the forefront, surpassing other art forms.

Iqbal consistently advocated for arts that provoke profound transformations in individuals, channeling human emotions into positive energy and purposeful behavior while eliminating negativity. A true artist transcends ritualistic religion or atheism, creating a perfection in art that leads the human soul to a deeper understanding of God. In the contemporary age, Islamic architecture remains at the forefront, surpassing other art forms.

Another important art is painting. As far as the art of painting is concerned, there was forbidden among Muslims to make pictures of living beings because this form led to idolatry and Islam did not want humanity to go towards disbelief and evil. Therefore, instead of making idols, Islam suggested bringing out their meaning and essence. For examples the interesting illustrations of the God's universe and beautiful buildings. Allegorical depictions of different scenes and interesting plants in the palaces of the kings and images of inanimate objects. Although some kings also got painted pictures of humans and animals in their courts, scholars of any era never appreciated them. Book painting was also common in Islamic civilization and it became a part of Islamic civilization with respect to Iranian civilization. In book painting, pictures were also made along with the book text for explanation, for example, Kulliyat e Saadi, Shah Nama Ferdowsi,

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Qasas al-Anbiyyah and books about medical field this method was adopted. The third important art was calligraphy. In this art, words were organized with a special composition of words that created beauty in a work of art. Due to its connection with the Quran, this art was very popular among Muslims. Great calligraphers used to present the Quranic verses in a beautiful way. Due to the prohibition of making pictures of living beings, people used to express themselves through calligraphy. In Roman civilization, the walls were decorated with pictures of animals, Muslims set the tradition to decorate the walls with calligraphy. (23)

The State of Arts in Pakistan

Pakistan is an independent country with a rich cultural heritage, including the traditions of stone carving and idol-making. Calligraphy is also prominent, enhancing the beauty of tall buildings with domes and intricate arches in mosques. However, there is a noticeable lack of unique work in stone carving that features Quranic verses. Aside from tombs and a few government buildings, a clear imitation of European styles is evident in public houses and grand structures. As an Islamic nation, it is essential to prioritize this aspect of artistic expression. *Mahfil-e-Sama'* holds particular significance in the traditions of the Chishti Mashaikhs of the subcontinent. Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti was himself a talented poet, and gatherings at his *khanqah* included *Qawwali*, which the Chishti Sufis identified as acceptable music.

According to Khalifa Abdul Hakim, if someone looks at our painting art, they will not see the perspective of the nation, its wishes and aspirations anywhere. Painting could not get much development in Islamic civilization. When attention was paid to painting here in modern times, it was mostly a blind imitation of the western schools. There has come a period in western painting which our painters have started imitating. A western critic looked at these pictures of our painters and said that it is a successful or unsuccessful imitation of various schools of west. The fact of the matter is that when the nation does not realize its Khudi and art does not mirror its specific aspirations and worldview, till then painting cannot become a representer of life (20).

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Unfortunately, the Pakistani drama industry often promotes shallow and misleading ideas. Non-issues dominate discussions, and there is a lack of relevant, creative themes and well-crafted scripts. Sometimes, vices and social taboos are glorified and normalized. However, some recent Turkish dramas have inspired the spirit of jihad in the new generation, indicating a potential for change. There is a pressing need for dramas that reflect purpose, ethics, and civics. If dramas were produced with these values, their future could also be bright, promoting our culture and traditions. If these works of performing art contain moral lessons and address social issues, there is hope for improvement in society. In cinema, heroes and heroines should address global problems through their roles.

Iqbal has written against mimicry, not against the play itself. He links genuine talent with a sense of self, life, and the universe, emphasizing that the practical expression of life should manifest in the arts. In this realm, our clothing, music, design, and calligraphy all hold significant importance. However, today's music often serves merely as a backdrop for dancing and singing. Islam has never banned fine arts; instead, it has placed constraints on the human spirit to prevent emotional excesses that lead to imbalance and intemperance.

Iqbal critiques the artwork of those who lack creativity and imagination, suggesting that such works reflect uncertainty. An uncertain individual does not know their identity and seeks beauty externally, whereas, as a creative being, this beauty should emanate from within. He considers impersonation to be akin to death. Conversely, true artists enhance the beauty of nature through their skill, revealing its secrets and facilitating new inventions and discoveries. They breathe new life into the human heart, showcasing scenes that the naked eye cannot perceive.

In today's age, the mental stress, chaos, indecency, and the commodification of honor and reputation promoted in the name of art pose a significant threat to our civilization, culture, religion, and society. We are accountable for the destruction that has been set forth. Art possesses its own identity and does not require external validation. If we address these issues, the outcomes could be positive.

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Pakistan is rich in intelligence, but there is a pressing need to correct our worldview. We must abandon imitations and invent our own art, focusing on issues that drive us toward progress. Rather than mimic the West, we should promote our own Islamic art. Iqbal's ideas can help clarify our vision and play an important role in society. If the performing arts are presented within the context of Iqbal's thought, the results could be transformative. His concepts of art offer significant guidance to painters, calligraphers, singers, and musicians in Pakistan. The art industry could greatly benefit from this research, as Iqbal encourages the abandonment of the arts associated with slave nations.

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Diversionary Media Strategies and utilization techniques

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Abstract

In today's world, the media is a very incredible and powerful tool of disseminating information. Media is also referred to as the fourth pillar of democracy. This study explored how techniques and strategies affect the news and information, illustrated through examples and a case study, that media is influencing and shaping the world. These tactics of the media are not only misleading the general public due to lack of information, but also influencing the policymakers, and important decisions are also being influenced. This bias is prevailing in the media organizations, including the journalists, media owners, and management as well. Both traditional media and social media platforms are engaging in the practice of this biased and perception building. The public's lack of media literacy further hinders their ability to recognize stereotypes and harmful narratives, which in turn shapes public opinion and political discourse.

Keywords: Diversionary Media, Strategies, Diversionary, Distracting, Biased, Media Manipulation, Conflict, Dispute, Biased

Introduction:

In today's media-saturated world, the power of spreading information is undeniable. News outlets hold the ability to share public opinion, influence policy decisions, and even ignite conflicts. Therefore, it is now being called the fourth pillar of democracy, after the legislature,

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judiciary, and administration as it can not only inform but also mislead. It possesses the power to elevate certain issues while downplaying others, to portray individuals and groups in favorable or unfavorable lights, and to instill particular ideologies, thus educating people's minds.

However, the reliability of media in reporting news has come under question. There have been concerns regarding bias in daily news and the absence of a platform that provides people with fair and balanced news. The lack of media literacy adds to the power of media, where the viewers can be fooled because of their inability to decode media messages, and the media can hide the real issue. Hence, the media stands tall and continues to be influential.

With such an influx of information, where media represents all aspects of individual and collective life, it has become a part of our daily lives. People believe what they see in the media as facts and something of importance. Therefore, the questions then arise are: is the content that people are consuming accurate? Appropriate? Culturally favorable? Is it of our national interest? Is it enabling people or creating chaos? But people do not have the capability or the time to think or answer these questions. Media plays a significant role in human psychology, where it employs various tools to shape thought processes and public opinion. This article employs content analysis to examine the recent Israel-Palestine conflict as portrayed in international media. A primary concern is the potential for biased reporting and diversionary tactics, Research investigation revolves around three pivotal questions The article explores how, over the past few decades, science has given us a great deal of knowledge about the psychology of humans. The majority of people, however, do not have access to this data. The ordinary public is never exposed to more than a small portion of knowledge. All of this data is accessible to the ruling class, who are free to do with it as they like. It has been noted that ignorance facilitates the powerful to take control of social order. These media manipulation strategies aim to make the world into whatever the most powerful people on the planet want it to be. They restrict everyone's freedom and capacity for critical thinking.

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Research Questions:

- 1. What are the techniques and strategies of media?
- 2. How are utilization techniques used in diversionary media strategies to distract the audience?
- 3. Does "The New York Times" newspaper manipulate the news reporting to mask the intensity of the Israel-Palestine issue?

Objectives:

The objective of this article is to identify the different strategies used by media to divert attention, examine the specific tactics employed within these diversionary strategies and understand how these strategies impact public perception and awareness through a case study.

Problem Statement:

Media is often regarded as a reliable source of information; it is equally skilled at diverting attention of the audience from critical issues and highlighting why and how the media manipulates and distracts the public from pressing concerns. By understanding these strategies, people can become more aware of the potential impact of media and can work towards media literacy for an informed society.

Techniques & Strategies of Diversionary Media

Strategies and techniques can be subtle or overt, but their underlying goal is to maintain control and influence. The most commonly used diversionary strategy in media is used to divert the attention of masses from imperative issues, and these changes are determined by the economic or political elites that are the most important aspect of social

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control. Noam Chomsky, identified several techniques used by media outlets to achieve these goals. One of the technique was called the "flooding" technique, which involved overwhelming the public by creating constant disturbances with irrelevant information. Another tactic is the "problem-reaction-solution" strategy. Media outlets may create a problem or crisis, generate a public reaction, and then present a pre-determined solution that benefits a particular group or interest. This strategy can be used to manipulate public opinion and justify certain policies or actions. One more strategy that media uses is called the "problem-reaction-solution". This strategy involves creating a problem, generating a public reaction, and then presenting a solution that benefits a particular group or interest. Furthermore, the **gradual strategy** is about gradually introducing people to an idea that they would not have typically accepted, so that it is less noticed by the people. Involves introducing controversial ideas or changes gradually over time to make them more acceptable to the public. By presenting these changes as inevitable or necessary, media outlets can secure public acceptance at the time for future application. **Deferring** involves convincing the public that short-term sacrifices or negative consequences will lead to long-term benefits. **Normalization** encompasses the use of Normalization, where a certain idea or perspective is shown repeatedly and made to seem normal till it becomes acceptable. **Ignorance** is also one of the tools whose core objective of this strategy is to keep people misinformed. It involves giving people limited information and over-emphasizing certain useless information that limits their ability to make informed decisions and challenge dominant narratives. **Emotional manipulation** is another powerful tool used by media outlets in advertising. In this case, the masses are treated as children who are being introduced to ideas and have no power. Media plays with their emotional side and implants ideas, thoughts, perspectives and certain behaviors that they want the public to show. To keep the general population in a state of denial and irrelevance. Making the public uninformed about the technology and techniques used to regulate and enslave them, "Maintaining the public in a state of mediocrity and ignorance". The "Self-blame Strengthen" technique makes individuals feel responsible for their own problem instead of blaming the society. Media narratives encourage the public to assume that being ignorant, vulgar, and uneducated is acceptable. Letting individuals to bear

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responsibility for their suffering due to a lack in intellect, skills, or efforts. Instead of fighting back against any economic system, individuals experience blame, resulting in depression, one of whose consequences are to impair their ability to work comes in "Self-blame Strengthen" technique. (Chomsky, 10 strategies of manipulation" by the media)

Media Bias and Objectivity

Journalists often uphold their ethical standard of 'objectivity,' and believe that their own prejudices, demands from sponsors and the owners of media do not affect their job, but the journalistic standard of objectivity is not the same as reality. It is divided into three components: "D-personalization," which states that media persons should not be overly expressive with their own judgment, views, or beliefs, "Balance" which consists of representing the point of view of both sides of a controversy without giving preference to one side; and "accuracy," which mandates that journalists correctly quote individuals and relay facts from sources.

However, research suggests that these principles are not always adhered to. Robert Parry, author of Fooling America, defines a well-funded plan in the United States to establish a conservative press. This includes everything from national radio talk shows to hundreds of attack journals, newspapers, blogs, newsletters, and appropriate opinion columns, as well as national cable television networks that promote challenging conservative values and ideologies, documentary makers that excel in subtle character assassination, and Mega-Buck publishing houses.

Many conservative groups produce their own magazines or television programs. Journalists from the mass media are hired to work with corporate-funded think tanks and public relations agencies. Conservative student newspapers and television programs, such as Milton Friedman's series Free to choose, which aired on the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS), were funded. Even public broadcasting services, such as PBS, have faced criticism because it received too much funding from oil companies to sponsor its services. (Beder)

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These examples highlight the potential for media bias to be influenced by various factors, including funding sources, political affiliations, and personal beliefs. While journalists strive for objectivity, it is essential to critically analyze media content and consider the potential biases that may be present.

Rebecca Restani conducted research in which Twitter was taken as a tool of diversionary media strategy about the dispute of land between Bolivia and Chile that goes back to British decolonization. Considering Twitter as the most efficient, up-to-date source of information that has a direct link with its followers. Bolivia registered a case in the International Court of Justice appealing negotiations of access to the Pacific Ocean. In Bolivia, when the presidential popularity rating was going down, the land dispute was used as a tool to distract attention of people away from the domestic issues and raise popular approval, also known as the "rally-round-the-flag" effects widely discussed over the years. Content analysis was then conducted in order to find out the results. The number of tweets about the land conflict was compared to the overall statistic of tweets and the intensity of mentions of other foreign concerns in each consumer. (Restani, Rebecca, 2019)

Social Media as tool of Manipulation

Social media has also diverted the power of mainstream media into the hands of politicians. The dependence on Twitter by US President Donald Trump is remarkable, but the fundamental ramifications for agenda setting remain ambiguous. By managing U.S. President Trump as a case study, this article presents the evidence that his handling of Twitter deflects critical media (ABC News and The New York) from issues that may be detrimental to him. As the media coverage of the Mullar investigation case drew attention, Trump's tweets on irrelevant topics became more frequent. President Trump's tweets suspiciously draw attention away from the investigation. He barred the media from conferring on subjects that he finds treacherous for him. (Stephan Lewandowsky)

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In recent years, deceptive content in internet news and social media has had a major impact on our culture. Svitlana Volkova and Jin Yea Jang conducted this research in 2018 through studying psycholinguistic messages: normative roots and connotations derived from various forms of misleading news ranging from strategic manipulation to propaganda and fabrications. In order to achieve a better understanding of the intention of the writer behind digital misinformation, experimental research was performed with data from (a) reported cases of misinformation in news summaries, (b) propaganda, hoax, and disinformation news accounts, and (c) social media news to ensure the accuracy of our conclusions and generalizations throughout realms.

Diversionary strategy is considered brilliant as well as beneficial in information control to the extent that in nearly all human discussion, an argument is barely a successful idea of deterring a conflicting debate. Leaving an argument to die or changing the subject usually works much better than choosing a dispute and having someone's back. It's also possible that the aim of reasoning in humans is primarily to win disputes rather than to resolve them by finding facts. This strategy further gains an advantage in lowering animosity in contrast to pondering on the same argument.

The Chinese government has long been accused of employing as many as 2 million people to secretly incorporate massive amounts of anonymous and ambiguous writings into the grid of legitimate social media posts, as if they were the authentic thoughts of common people. The individuals employed for this reason are formally referred to as "Internet commentators." (Gary King, Jennifer Pan, Margaret E. Roberts, April 9, 2017)

The concept of bogus news built up popularity after the 2016 US presidential election, but arguments lacked a simple conceptualization and used the label in various ways to identify different aspects. Rachel R. Mourão & Craig T. Robertson presented this paper in 2019, in which they evaluated fake news as genre blending, fusing the aspects of conventional news with attributes that are pointless to objective reporting, such as fabrication, sensationalism, clickbait, and prejudice. The fundamental objective of the research was to examine the features from fifty

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websites tagged as "fake" news during the 2016 election as well as how they anticipated the outcomes of social media. Content analysis was conducted in order to generate the conclusion about the stories, classified as fake news, and related social media activities. The findings suggest that these sites are more engrossed in the prejudice veil of connotation than in creating falsities out of thin air. Repeated fabrications in the content were noticed, but most of the time the articles were generally true but partisan, it was also the content that brought the most attention to social media. To put it another way, the findings indicate that during the campaign, resentment towards the Democratic candidate, whereas no support for Trumph, was the agenda behind the sensational, partisan, and fake content. The majority of the material examined did not contain blatant lies but rather a mix of genres mixing reporting, entertainment, and viewpoint.

This analysis has a number of implications. First, it was discovered that exaggeration and sensationalism are not compensated for social media interaction, putting to rest concerns that brilliant, made-up tales are appealing to more views than factual information. In other words, headings like "The Pope stuns the world by endorsing Donald Trump" are definitely rare exceptions instead of the norm. Second, the connection among the power of bigotry and social media results in curvilinear; the reason being, it rises at a moderate level of bigotry, but as stories get more biased, it loses the power. This tells that, putting a layer of bigotry, the most effective tactic used by fake news outlets, is interpretation of true events. (Rachel R. Mourão, Craig T. Robertson, 2019).

Media Bias in Specific Conflicts

Media bias is like a spiral; it repeatedly moves in the same broad direction; it is not random. Some could argue that the public has at least some influence over the media's agenda. Although there may be heightened audience interest in connected news items in the instance of the Palestine-Israel conflict. Readers expect to discover stories with reputable and reliable information. Even in the case of keen public demand that shapes an agenda-setting framework,

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such public-interest tales should be closely evaluated, as they will even more affect the public's perception of problem salience. (Caballero, 2010)

According to War without Mercy, slogans, songs, propaganda, disinformation, secret papers, Hollywood films, the mainstream media, and quotations from troops, officials, and politicians were all utilized to affect the perception of the Japanese people in the United States. (Kitano, May 25, 1986.) The subject of inadequacies in media coverage of the Israeli-Palestinian issue has been discussed for many years by the public, conflict-related interest organizations, and various governments. For example, the panelists of the United Nations' Public Forum Supporting Middle East Peace in 2003 addressed the media coverage of the crisis and declared it as prejudiced, knowing that media coverage has a significant impact on public opinion. The significance of the appropriate language used in reporting, as well as the vocabulary usage by the news sources and the formation of stories, was also part of the agenda. (McTigue)

For many years, there has been a problem with media coverage of the Israeli-Palestinian crisis. Experts have observed the journalists' prejudices in how they report on the particular issue. They also condemn the media's indifference to Palestinian culture, particularly when discussing it. (SCHWEITZER, 2011) One feature of the coverage is that the reports are frequently insufficiently detailed to properly describe difficulties. It means that certain portions of the story may be unavailable to the audience, who are sometimes hesitant to conduct more research and prefer to wait for knowledge to come without effort. One of the aims of the article is to find out more about this. The purpose of this analysis is to look at how western students perceive Israeli and Palestinian broadcasts.

Content Analysis of biased reporting of "The New York Times' regarding Israel-Palestine Issue: In order to analyze the diversionary media strategies by using orientalist critical discourse analysis, an old yet still enduring issue has been taken as a case study. One of the longest conflicts in contemporary history is the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The consequences of its daily occurrences extend well beyond the parties involved, attracting the attention of millions of

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people in various areas of the world. It is also incredibly violent, featuring murder, assassination, injury, home demolition, and incarceration on a regular basis. Foreign media has a long history of being biased in favor of the opposition. It will go to considerable measures to undermine the governing authority under the cover of journalistic freedom. (Zain)

Orientalism in Western Media:

According to the studies, there is an obvious orientalist prejudice in conventional US media coverage on Palestine. It is always in the favor of Israel and strongly biased. (Mearsheimer, John J., and Stephen M. Walt., 2007). In British coverage of the war, the Israeli perspective is depicted as the 'us' stance in the binary opposites system, whereas Palestinians are discursively depicted as 'them' or 'other,' especially in articles where Palestinian perspectives are omitted from the narrative. The abstraction of the current issue between Israel and Palestine's complicated history, as well as the reality that it may be rewritten by particular powers at specific times, are the signs of orientalist thinking. (Sabido)

Chomsky analyzes the sensitization of news concerning violence in Israel and Palestine in his chapter "Middle East Terrorism and the American Ideological System," frequently quoting the New York Times and condemning its uncritical respect for Israelis and unjustified demonetization of Palestinians. "Palestinians carry out terrorism, and Israelis respond, possibly too violently. The fact is frequently quite different in the actual world." (Chomsky, Middle East Terrorism and the American Ideological System. Essay, 2001)

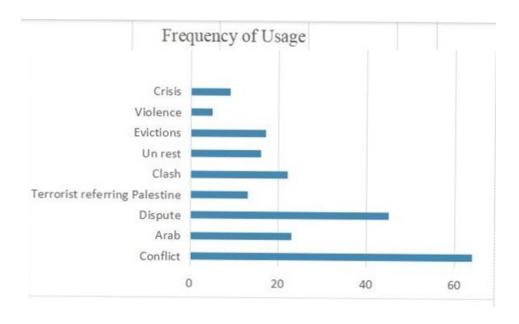
Edward Wadie Said, a public intellectual, was concerned with the way the West represents the East in literature and the intellectual mindset. His book "Orientalism" discusses mainly the distinctions made by Western intellectuals to identify the East as a different entity. Edward Said (1978/2003) argues" that the idea of representation is a theoretical one. The Orient is the stage on which the East is confined. On this stage will appear figures whose role is to present the larger

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whole form." He also investigates the differences between presence and re-presence. He argues that the East should be studied by its own intellectuals for the fact they are more aware of their community than an outsider (Orientalism, 1978). Edward Said demonstrates that "in any instance of at least written language, there is no such thing as a delivered presence, but a re-presence or representation."

Orientalism is an ideological framework that has been used in this study. This framework is used for studying prejudice in mainly Arab, Muslim countries, for example, Palestine. (Edward).

Orientalism therefore contributes to the development of a framework for analyzing bias in news coverage, which might include diversionary strategies like biased reporting, DE contextualization, and rhetorical devices. Other studies of systemic bias have used similar frameworks and found them to be valuable analytical tools. John Dower's book War without Mercy examines how Japanese people were treated and perceived throughout WWII. (Dower, 1986)



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The diversionary media strategies mainly prejudice against Palestine in "The New York Times "of May, 2021

Literature Review:

Noam Chomsky identifies some strategies to understand the techniques used by Divisionary media, which are very effective and demanding. Diversionary Strategy is used to divert the attention of masses from imperative issues and these changes are determined by the economic or political elites and that is the most important aspect of social control by using the flood or flooding technique to create constant disturbances and irrelevant details. Keeping the public's focus distracted away from real social issues and captivated by trivial matters. Chomsky further explains about the "problem-reaction-solution." technique. It introduces a dilemma, or a "situation," in order to elicit a response from the audience, so this is the first of the steps you can take.

Journalists characterize their ethical standard of 'objectivity,' and believe that their own prejudices, demands from sponsors and the owners of media do not affect their job, but the journalistic standard of objectivity, on the other hand, is not the same as reality.it is divided into three components. "Depersonalization" states that media person should not be overly expressive with their own judgments, views or beliefs." Balance" consists of presenting the point of view of representatives on both sides of a controversy without giving preference to one side. "Accuracy", which mandates that journalist correctly quote individuals and relay 'facts' from sources.

Robert Parry, author of Fooling America, defines a well-funded plan in the United States to establish a conservative press, Which includes everything from national radio talk shows to hundreds of attack journals, newspapers, blogs, newsletters, and appropriate opinion columns, as well as national cable television networks that promote challenging conservative values and ideologies, documentary makers that excel in subtle character assassination, and Mega-Buck publishing houses' slick character assassination.

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The majority of conservative groups produce their own magazines or television programs. Journalists from the mass media were hired to work with corporate-funded think tanks and public relations agencies. Conservative student newspapers and television programs, such as Milton Friedman's series Free to choose, which aired on the Public Broadcasting Service, were funded (PBS). PBS was dubbed the Petroleum Broadcasting Service because it received too much funding from oil companies to sponsor its services. (Beder)

Rebecca Restani conducted a research, in which Twitter was taken as a tool of diversionary media strategy about the dispute of land between Bolivia and Chile goes back to British decolonization. Considering Twitter as the most efficient, up-to-date source of information which has a direct link with its followers. Bolivia registered a case in the International Court of Justice appealing negotiations of access to the Pacific Ocean. In Bolivia when the presidential popularity rating was going down, the land dispute was quelled as a tool to distract attention of people away from the domestic issues and raise popular approval, also known as the "rally-round-the flag" effects widely discussed over the years. Content analysis has been conducted in order to find out the results. The number of tweets about the land conflict is compared to the overall statistic of tweets and the intensity of mentions of other foreign concerns in each consumer. (Restani, Rebecca, 2019)

Social media has diverted the power of mainstream media into the hands of politicians. The dependence of Twitter by US President Donald Trump is remarkable, but the fundamental ramifications for agenda setting remain ambiguous, by managing U. S President Trump as a case study, this research presents the evidence that his handling of Twitter deflects critical media, (ABC News and The New York) from issues that may be detrimental to him. As the media coverage of Mullar investigation case draws attention, Trump's tweets on irrelevant topics become more frequent. President Trump's tweets will auspiciously draw attention away from the investigation. He has barred the media from conferring on subjects that he finds treacherous for him. (Stephan Lewandowsky)

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In recent years, deceptive content in internet news and social media has had a major impact on our culture. Svitlana Volkova, Jin Yea Jang conducted this research in 2018 through studying psycholinguistic messages: normative roots and connotations derived from various forms of misleading news ranging from strategic manipulation to propaganda and fabrications, in order to achieve a better understanding of the intention of writer behind digital misinformation. Eexperimental research was performed with data from (a) reported cases of misinformation in news summaries, (b) propaganda, hoax, and disinformation news accounts, and (c) social media news to ensure the accuracy of our conclusions and generalizability throughout realms.

At first, they compared the lexical indicators of biasness, syntactic and stylistic cues, and connotations through disinformation styles such as misinformation, hoaxes and propaganda, as well as deceptive strategies such as falsification or misleading. Later, these observations were used to create machine learning and deep learning predictive models to identify deception techniques and forms of misleading news. Results of this study states that, unlike previous researches being done on deception detection, content having biased language indicators, normative foundations, and connotations rresults in stronger anticipating behaviour of deception strategies in association to syntax and stylistic signs. Hereafter, it's easier to identify falsification strategy as compared to misleading strategy whereas it is difficult to predict disinformation than hoaxes or propaganda. (Svitlana Volkova, Jin Yea Jang, 2018, April)

The diversionary strategy is considered brilliant as well as beneficial in information control to the extent that in nearly all human discussion, an argument is barely a successful idea of deterring a conflicting debate. Leaving an argument to die, or changing the subject, usually works much better than choosing a dispute and having someone's back. It's also possible that the aim of reasoning in humans is primarily to win disputes rather than to resolve them by finding facts. This strategy further gains an advantage in lowering animosity as contrasted to pondering on the same argument.

The Chinese government has long been alleged of employing as much as 2 million people to secretly incorporate massive amounts of absolutely anonymous and other ambiguous writings

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into the grid of legitimate social media posts, as if they were the authentic thoughts of common people. The individuals employed for this reason are formally referred to as "Internet commentators." (Gary King, Jennifer Pan, Margaret E. Roberts, April 9, 2017)

Conclusion

The research delves into the broader impact of media bias on public perceptions, political decision-making, and international relations. By exploring the underlying factors that contribute to such biases within media organizations, the study highlighted the importance of promoting ethical journalism. One of the most prevalent diversionary strategies used by the media is distraction, shifting public attention away from crucial issues to trivial matters. This technique is evident in the over-coverage of insignificant topics, which obscures important issues, particularly in the context of the Israel-Palestine conflict.

The analysis of linguistic features and the use of negative and violent rhetoric revealed a consistent bias against Palestinians in media reporting, reinforcing harmful stereotypes and presenting a skewed narrative. These findings underscored the significant role of media in shaping public opinion and influencing political discourse. The persistent presence of Orientalist prejudice in prominent international media outlets highlights the need for ongoing critical scrutiny and accountability to ensure fair and balanced reporting. Without such measures, media bias will continue to distort reality and perpetuate one-sided narratives.

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Forgiveness in Islam: A Pathway to Positive Religious Coping

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Abstract

Forgiveness, as a religious coping mechanism, plays a pivotal role in the Islamic tradition, providing a framework for emotional and spiritual resilience. This paper explores the concept of forgiveness within Islamic teachings, examining its significance as a tool for managing interpersonal conflict and personal suffering. Drawing on Quranic verses, Hadith literature, and contemporary scholarly interpretations, the study highlights how forgiveness is not only a moral virtue but also a strategic response to adversity. The article analyses the religious texts and theological discourses to elucidate the mechanisms through which forgiveness operates in Islamic contexts. Key findings reveal that forgiveness in Islam is intricately linked to concepts of mercy, divine justice, and social harmony. By integrating forgiveness into religious practice, individuals are able to mitigate stress, enhance social relationships, and achieve spiritual tranquillity. The paper concludes that forgiveness serves as a profound coping strategy, aligning personal well-being with broader religious and ethical principles. These insights contribute to a deeper understanding of how religious practices can support psychological health and interpersonal harmony.

Keywords: forgiveness, positive religious coping, Islam.

Introduction

The intersection of religion and health is a fascinating area of study for researchers. The health system has historically overlooked the spiritual aspect of individuals, leading to a significant gap between health practices and religious beliefs. However, there has been a shift in this paradigm as researchers and healthcare professionals increasingly recognize the importance of considering



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the religious and spiritual dimensions in health. There has been a surge in research focusing on how religion and spirituality can impact both physical and mental health, contributing to a substantial body of evidence suggesting their significant role in influencing an individual's overall well-being and health status.

In 1997, Kenneth Pargament's *The Psychology of Religion and Coping* explored how religious involvement aids coping. He defined religion as a "search for significance related to the sacred" and defined coping as a "search for significance in times of stress" (Pargament & Raiya, 2007). and involves religious methods to understand and handle negative events (Pargament, 1996). Religious coping can be positive or negative (Pargament et al., 1998). Positive coping includes fostering a relationship with a transcendent force, maintaining a benevolent worldview, and reinterpreting stressors positively (Pargament et al., 2011). Pargament et al. (2004) identified religious forgiveness as a positive coping strategy, helping individuals move from anger and hurt to peace through religious solace.

Forgiveness is defined as "willfully giving up resentment despite considerable injustice and responding with beneficence" (Baskin & Enright, 2004) and as "a suite of prosocial changes in motivations towards an offender" (McCullough et al., 2007). These changes involve reducing desires for revenge, negative affect, and avoidance (McCullough et al., 2001). Forgiveness helps overcome anger and thoughts of revenge (Amanze & Carson, 2020; McCullough et al., 1998; Miceli & Castelfranchijtsb, 2011). It promotes healing, empathy, and reconciliation, enhancing emotional well-being and harmonious relationships. Religious-based forgiveness interventions strengthen faith and provide spiritual resilience (Keshavarzi et al., 2020). They help victims avoid blaming perpetrators, focus on their own well-being, and reduce maladaptive behaviors (Exline et al., 2003; Lundahl et al., 2008).

Studies on religion and forgiveness

Forgiveness is strongly linked to religion and spirituality (Choe et al., 2020). Research consistently shows a significant connection between forgiveness and religion, with major world

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religions promoting forgiveness (Rye, 2005). Religious literature often highlights forgiveness as beneficial for emotional healing and spiritual growth (Luskin et al., 2005). Researchers have investigated whether spiritual connections with the sacred and humanity are crucial for coping with disruptions to one's view of self, others, or the world (Brown, 2010; Krajca, 2015). The study found that spiritual and social support were key to participants' genuine emotional forgiveness of major transgressions, as these connections provided both courage and new perspectives on painful events. Studies reveal that religious individuals tend to show higher levels of forgiveness and seek it more actively than non-religious individuals (Toussaint & Williams, 2008), which may explain their positive attitudes towards forgiveness (Matuszewski & Moroń, 2022). Strong religious faith is positively related to a tendency to forgive others (Edwards et al., 2002; Fox & Thomas, 2008). This connection is due to religious teachings that emphasize compassion and forgiveness.

Practicing forgiveness not only demonstrates commitment to one's faith but also fosters inner peace and spiritual growth, enhancing the sense of fulfillment and connection within a faith community. This relationship is evident in both trait forgiveness and attitudes towards forgiveness (Macaskill, 2007; Witvliet et al., 2008). Islam is a comprehensive way of life that influences behavior, relationships, and governance. Seeking forgiveness from Allah is a positive coping mechanism linked to lower anxiety, depression, and increased mindfulness (Awaad et al., 2021). *Tawbah* and *istighfar* have been shown to improve mental health in college students (Uyun et al., 2019) and Muslim patients with anxiety and depression (Saged et al., 2022). Practicing forgiveness also helps manage stress and enhances psychosocial well-being (Fatimah et al., 2023; Long et al., 2020).

Positive psychology underscores the importance of embedding a forgiving attitude due to its beneficial effects on mental health, relationships, physical health, and overall well-being. Similarly, Islamic teachings advocate for continuous forgiveness, exemplified by Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), who demonstrated that forgiveness and prayer for others lead to divine blessings. Both positive psychology and Islam thus emphasize the value of forgiveness (Warsah, 2020). Studies conducted from an Islamic perspective on forgiveness, involving couples, have

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shown a positive correlation between satisfaction and forgiveness Hamidi, Makwand, & Hosseini, 2010). Interpersonal forgiveness is linked to lower depression and revenge, while revenge is also tied to lower psychological well-being. Islamic forgiveness attitudes enhance the effect of devotional practices on forgiveness, leading to more forgiveness and less revenge. These findings suggest that forgiveness can improve psychological outcomes for Muslim war survivors and that belief in Islam's forgiving nature supports this process (Scull, 2015). A study explored what aspects of religiosity/spirituality (R/S) were important to forgiveness, as a better understanding of the role of R/S was needed. R/S connections provided guidance and compassionate support that was essential to forgiveness of a major transgression (Heacock, 2017).

Concept of forgiveness in Islam

In Islam, forgiveness is central to spiritual beliefs and practices. Muslims seek strength and solace through forgiveness from God, pardoning others, and embracing Allah's blessings. Key Arabic terms for forgiveness include *tawbah* (repentance), *ghafara* (absolution), *afw* (pardon), *safhu* (ignoring the wrong), and *samah* (generosity) (Ibn Manzur, 2003, as cited in Abu-Nimer & Nasser, 2013; Wehr, 1976, as cited in Abu-Nimer & Nasser, 2013). *Istighfaar* (seeking forgiveness) and *tawbah* (repentance) are often used interchangeably but have distinct meanings when combined. *Istighfaar* seeks protection from past actions, while *tawbah* involves turning back to Allah and seeking refuge from future consequences (Al-Munajjid, 1998).

One's life is shaped by relationships on three levels: with Allah, with others, and with oneself. The relationship with Allah is fundamental, offering guidance, strength, and shaping one's moral compass and sense of purpose. This connection influences how one navigates life's challenges and perceives the world. Relationships with others—familial, friendly, or professional—provide support, companionship, and contribute to one's sense of belonging, values, and behavior. Lastly, the relationship with oneself, encompassing self-esteem, self-awareness, and self-care, is crucial for resilience, authenticity, and inner harmony. Thus, "The Forgiveness Triad," as established by the Human Development Study Group (Enright, 1996), identifies three key

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components: forgiving others, receiving forgiveness, and self-forgiveness. These will be discussed below in the light of Islam.

Seeking forgiveness from Allah

Divine forgiveness is linked to psychological well-being, enhancing subjective well-being and reducing anxiety (Fincham, 2022; Fincham & May, 2019; Krause & Hill, 2018). High levels of divine forgiveness are associated with better psychosocial health and improved psychological functioning (Long et al., 2020a; Krause & Ellison, 2003). It mediates the relationship between daily spiritual experiences and life engagement (Lyons et al., 2011). Conversely, doubts about receiving divine forgiveness can lead to psychological distress. Escher (2013) found that faith in God's capacity to forgive fosters forgiveness towards others and oneself.

A Muslim's faith can weaken during challenges and temptations, leading to spiritual struggles and susceptibility to Satan's temptations (6:43). Such struggles may involve neglecting Allah's commandments, committing forbidden actions, or rejecting Tawheed (Ibn Taymīyah, 2001). These moments often lead believers to seek Allah's guidance and forgiveness, though sometimes they may turn away. The awareness of Allah's watchful gaze varies, with some being mindful and others becoming heedless. Satan exploits the psychology of sin by preying on human imperfection, encouraging sins to create a barrier between individuals and Allah. This can lead to feelings of hopelessness and despair, making one believe perfection is unattainable. Unlike angels, who are sinless, humans are not created perfect and are prone to sin. Muslims are advised against giving up or succumbing to despair, as they are inherently imperfect (Quran 2:30). They should remember Allah's Mercy and resist Satan's tactics (Quran 24:21), avoiding feelings of abandonment or hopelessness.

Islam acknowledges human fallibility and the inevitability of mistakes, emphasizing that humans are inherently imperfect and reflect Allah's Names and Attributes. This acceptance of imperfection does not condone sin or justify sinful behavior but encourages hope through repentance and seeking Allah's forgiveness. The Prophet said, "By the One in Whose Hand my soul is! If you do not commit sins, Allah would replace you with a people who would

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commit sins and seek forgiveness from Allah; and Allah will certainly forgive them.". Allah does not love sin but values those who repent sincerely. Adam (as) sinned in *Jannah* (Paradise) but distinguished himself by turning to Allah for forgiveness immediately (Quran 7:23). His act of repentance reflects humility and a genuine desire to correct his mistake.

In moments of weakness, individuals are reminded of Allah's encompassing mercy (Quran 5:39). Allah assures that He accepts repentance and forgives all sins (Quran 39:53). This verse offers hope to sinners, encouraging them not to despair of Allah's mercy. The Prophet highlighted that Allah's mercy surpasses His Wrath.² Despairing of Allah's mercy, seen as a major sin (Al-Munajjid, 2016) equating to disbelief (Quran 12:87) and going astray (Quran 15:56), reflecting a denial of His forgiveness and omnipotence. Allah encourages forgiveness in many places in the Quran (11:2-3, 24:31, 40:55, 46:2, 47:19, 66:8). The mercy of Allah has been bestowed upon His servants and they have been encompassed with His kindness. He is Forbearing and does not punish or destroy immediately; rather, He grants respite and encourages seeking of forgiveness (Quran 39:53, 5:74, 20:82, 3:135, 4:110). Except for one chapter, every Quranic chapter highlights Allah's attributes of Ar-Rahmaan (the Gracious) and Ar-Raheem (the Most-Merciful). This underscores Islam's focus on compassion and benevolence. Allah is consistently depicted as merciful and forgiving, not wrathful. Names related to His Mercy include Al-Ghaffaar (the Forgiver), *Al-Karim* (the Generous), *Al-Ghafoor* (the All-Forgiving), Al-Halim (the Forbearing), *Al-Afuww* (the Supreme Pardoner), and *Ar-Ra'oof* (the Compassionate). Muslims are reminded of Allah's Mercy when encouraged to seek forgiveness (Quran 9:104). A Hadith³ reveals that Allah rejoices at the repentance of believers, highlighting His grace and compassion. This divine quality reassures believers of Allah's acceptance and joy in their repentance, reinforcing the importance of seeking forgiveness. It instills hope and encourages spiritual growth, reflecting the compassionate nature of Islam.

¹ Riyad as-Salihin 1871, In-book reference: Book 19, Hadith 3, https://sunnah.com/rivadussalihin:1871

² Rivad as-Salihin 419, In-book reference: Introduction, Hadith 419, https://sunnah.com/riyadussalihin:419

³ Riyad as-Salihin 15, In-book reference: Introduction, Hadith 15, https://sunnah.com/riyadussalihin:15

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The Quran also offers numerous examples of various Prophets who sought Allah's forgiveness. For instance, it mentions Adam (as) seeking forgiveness in 7:23, Musa (as) in 7:151, and Yunus (as) in 21:87. These instances serve as powerful reminders for believers to seek forgiveness and guidance from Allah. Moreover, the Prophet himself serves as a role model for Muslims, as they are encouraged to emulate his actions. It is known that he would engage in repentance a hundred times a day,⁴ illustrating his unwavering commitment to seeking forgiveness and spiritual improvement. Additionally, the Quran instructs the Prophet that upon achieving victory, he should praise Allah and seek His forgiveness (Quran 110:1-3). This guidance emphasizes the importance of expressing gratitude and seeking forgiveness, even in moments of triumph and success. The gateway of repentance is accessible to the believers, until the sun rises from the west.⁵ and until one reaches the pangs of death.⁶ When individuals sincerely repent and turn to Allah, they are assured in the Quran that their sins will be expiated, offering them the opportunity to attain salvation (Quran 66:8). This divine promise provides solace and hope to those who seek forgiveness, reassuring them of the mercy and compassion of Allah. The Quran's affirmation of the expiation of sins and the admittance into Jannah serves as a source of encouragement for believers, inspiring them to seek repentance and strive for spiritual growth. said: "Every son of Adam commits sin, and the best of those who commit sin are those who repent." Through His mercy towards humanity, Allah has opened the gate of repentance, commanding individuals to turn to Him each time they are overwhelmed by sin. Without this mercy, people would endure significant hardship and lack the motivation to draw closer to their Lord, losing all hope of His forgiveness and pardon. Repentance becomes essential as a result of human shortcomings and failings.

Forgiving others

Human beings are not infallible and may fall short in their dealings with others. As individuals hope for forgiveness for their own wrongdoings, they are encouraged to pardon others and overlook their transgressions to avoid seeking restitution on the Day of Resurrection, when good

⁴ Muslim 4/2076, Hisn al-Muslim 249, https://sunnah.com/hisn;249

⁵ *Mishkat al-Masabih* 2329 In-book reference: Book 9, *Hadith* 103, https://sunnah.com/mishkat:2329

⁶ Sunan Ibn Majah 4253 In-book reference: Book 37, Hadith 154, https://sunnah.com/ibnmajah:4253

⁷ Sunan Ibn Majah 4251, In-book reference: Book 37, Hadith 152, https://sunnah.com/ibnmajah:4251

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deeds will be most crucial. Allah encourages forgiving others in several places in the Quran (3:134, 4:149, 16:126, 42:43, 57:21 and 64:14). The Islamic philosophy of *Tasaamuh*, rooted in 'turning the other cheek,' emphasizes forgiveness and understanding even in adversity. It encourages empathy, compassion, and letting go of resentment, promoting a culture of mutual respect and harmony. *Tasaamuh* fosters peaceful coexistence and strengthens social bonds, leading to a more inclusive and understanding society.

The Quran, Hadith, and Seerah emphasize the importance of forgiveness, inspiring Muslims to practice this virtue. Allah promises a lofty status for those who forgive others (Quran 42:40). The Ahadith also inform that Allah increases the honour⁸ and status of the one who forgives and forgives their sins.⁹ The Prophet said: 'Someone who does not show mercy will not be shown mercy.'¹⁰ The Prophet exemplified the virtue of forgiveness by never seeking personal revenge and always responding to adversity with dignity and restraint. Despite enduring mockery, abuse, and persecution from the Quraysh, he consistently chose forbearance over retaliation. A study indicated that R/S role models provided participants with an example they could follow on their path forward to a forgiveness disposition. Stories of how the Prophet Mohammed had forgiven guided participants as he inspired them to forgiveness, in addition to helping them shape their identity as a person who gives and receives forgiveness (Heacock, 2017). Some examples of forgiveness from the Quran, the Hadith, and the Seerah are listed below:

Incident of Taif: During the Makkan period of Islam, the Prophet journeyed to Taif to propagate the message of Islam. His message was met with hostility, and he was pelted with stones and expelled from the city. The angel of the mountain was dispatched by Allah to potentially punish the people of Taif. However, the Prophet interceded, requesting their forgiveness despite the ill-treatment he endured (Al-Mubarakpuri, 2002) and showed remarkable resilience in the face of adversity. This act of intercession by the Prophet serves as a profound

⁸ *Sahih Muslim* 2588, In-book reference: Book 45, *Hadith* 90, USC-MSA web (English) reference: Book 32, *Hadith* 6264, https://sunnah.com/muslim:2588

⁹ Sunan Ibn Majah 2693 In-book reference: Book 21, Hadith 79, https://sunnah.com/ibnmajah:2693

¹⁰ *Al-Adab Al-Mufrad* 95 In-book reference: Book 5, *Hadith* 12, https://sunnah.com/adab:95

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example of mercy and forgiveness, illustrating his unwavering commitment to the principles of Islam.

Conquest of Makkah: Another powerful example of the Prophet's forgiving nature is his forgiveness towards many enemies who had persecuted him and his followers. Despite having the authority for revenge, he chose compassion and mercy. This included Hind and Wahshi, who were responsible for killing his beloved uncle Hamza bin Abdul Muttalib (ra) at the Battle of Uhud (Al-Mubarakpuri, 2002). Additionally, the Prophet forgave his archenemy Abu Sufyan, granting amnesty and safety to those who sought refuge in his house, and also forgave 'Ikrimah bin Abu Jahl. This remarkable forgiveness not only demonstrated the Prophet's exceptional mercy but also set a powerful example for his followers (Al-Mubarakpuri, 2002). His forgiving nature was crucial in the acceptance and spread of Islam.

Story of Yusuf (as): The Quran promotes forgiveness towards others and within one's own family. This emphasis is exemplified in the story of Yusuf (as), where the magnitude of injustice and wrongdoing committed by his own kin is vividly portrayed. Despite the conspiracy to harm him, Yusuf (as) refrains from blaming his brothers, even when he gains authority, opting instead to attribute the wrongdoing to Satan (12:100). This narrative serves as a powerful reminder of the virtue of forgiveness, especially within the family unit, and underscores the Quran's teachings on compassion and understanding.

Incident of Aisha (ra) and the slander: When Mistah ibn Uthathah engaged in gossip during the slander incident (*al-ifk*), and Allah revealed confirming the innocence of 'Aishah (ra), Abu Bakr, who had been supporting Mistah due to their familial relationship and his financial need, declared that he would no longer provide any support to Mistah after his remarks about 'Aishah (ra). Allah revealed verse 22 from Surah Noor, encouraging Abu Bakr (ra) to pardon and overlook so Allah could forgive in return.¹¹ Abu Bakr (ra) responded by continuing to provide Mistah with the expenditure which he used to give him before, as he sought Allah's forgiveness.

¹¹ *Sahih al-Bukhari* 4757 In-book reference: Book 65, *Hadith* 279, USC-MSA web (English) reference: Vol. 6, Book 60, *Hadith* 281, https://sunnah.com/bukhari:4757

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The numerous examples of forgiveness in the Quran, Hadith, and Seerah offer profound lessons for believers, highlighting the power of pardoning others. These teachings emphasize the importance of forgiveness in fostering compassion, understanding, and reconciliation within the Muslim community. Forgiveness is a means of healing and moving forward, rather than endorsing wrongdoing. It helps release the burden of pain and prevents emotional pain and bitterness that can impact well-being and peace of mind. Forgiveness benefits both the victim and the forgiver, addressing persistent resentment that can lead to depression and anxiety (Enright & Fitzgibbons, 2000).

Self-forgiveness

Self-forgiveness can be defined as "a process acknowledging and working through one's responsibility for one's perceived transgression, but then releasing self-condemnation with its associated emotional, cognitive, and behavioural consequences" (Woodyatt & Wenzel, 2020). Self-forgiveness was strongly correlated with enhanced psychosocial well-being (Davis, et. al., 2015; Cornish, Woodyatt, Morris, Conroy and Townsdin, 2018; Long, Chen, Potts, Hanson & VanderWeele, 2020b). There are three components of the self-forgiveness process: (1) accepting the right amount of responsibility, (2) repentance and making apologies/amends, and (3) releasing unhelpful negative thoughts and emotions (Exline, Wilt, Stauner, Harriott, & Saritoprak, 2017). These three concepts all pertain to the notion of forgiveness in Islam.

A conscience is a blessing from Allah, prompting remorse and acceptance of responsibility for wrongdoing, which is the first step in self-forgiveness. While humans are prone to mistakes, forgiving oneself is often more challenging than forgiving others. In such instances, Muslims are reminded not to despair of Allah's Mercy (Quran 39:53-55) and emphasizes that the best sinners are those who repent often. Repentance offers a clean slate and is essential for self-forgiveness. Succumbing to self-blame and despair can lead to negativity and hinder growth, playing into Satan's hands. Recognizing human fallibility and seeking forgiveness helps open doors to self-

¹² Related by *At-Tirmidhi* and *Ibn Majah* with a strong chain of narrators. Book 16, *Hadith* 41, English translation: Book 16, *Hadith* 1520, https://sunnah.com/bulugh/16/41

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improvement and inner peace. The Quran emphasizes self-compassion and understanding that everyone errs, which aids in alleviating guilt and promotes healing and spiritual renewal.

Harboring doubts about Allah's mercy and feeling abandoned can harm well-being and lead to poorer mental health (Pargament et al., 1998; Manning-Walsh, 2005). Negative religious coping predicts lower life satisfaction (Hebert et al., 2009). Embracing repentance strengthens one's connection with Allah, fostering humility and gratitude. The Quran and Hadith emphasize that redemption is always possible, with the Prophet stating, "He who repents of a sin is like him who has committed no sin." Thus, self-forgiveness reflects resilience and aligns with Quranic and Sunnah teachings.

The Process of Asking for Forgiveness

Seeking forgiveness is a very simple process in Islam. It emphasizes the importance of acknowledging one's mistakes and seeking reconciliation with both the divine and fellow human beings. The act of seeking forgiveness, known as *istighfar*, involves expressing remorse for wrongdoing and actively striving to avoid repeating the same transgressions. This process is deeply rooted in the belief in the mercy and compassion of Allah, and it serves as a means of spiritual purification and growth. Furthermore, seeking forgiveness is not only a personal endeavour but also a communal one, as it fosters a sense of accountability and empathy within the Muslim community. The criteria for sincere repentance are as follows:

1. **Feeling remorse for past actions:** The feeling of emptiness when sinning is seen as a blessing, representing the innate realization and the need to return to Allah. It makes mankind realize that nothing satisfies the heart except Allah. The sense of guilt guides them back to Allah. Seeking forgiveness must be preceded by regret. Regret is considered repentance. ¹⁴ If this regret is genuine, the individual will renounce the wrongdoing and make a firm resolution not to repeat it. In this way, their repentance will be thorough and will meet all the required criteria mentioned below. Regret can be experienced upon real-

¹³ *Mishkat al-Masabih* 2363, In-book reference: Book 9, *Hadith* 136, https://sunnah.com/mishkat:2363

¹⁴ Sunan Ibn Majah 4252, In-book reference: Book 37, Hadith 153, https://sunnah.com/ibnmajah:4252

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izing one's ignorance about Allah (Quran 4:17-18), remembering Allah after heedlessness (Quran 3:133-136), Fear of Allah's plan after having felt secure from it (Quran 23:55-61), hoping for Allah's mercy after despairing (Quran 39:53-55) (Al-Munajjid, 2023).

- 2. Renouncing the sin and committing to not repeat the offense: Making a firm resolution to abandon the sin or wrongdoing and committing to never repeating it again is a significant step towards self-improvement and personal growth. This decision reflects a strong determination to rectify past mistakes and move forward with integrity. It requires introspection and self-discipline to recognize the harmful behaviour and take proactive steps to eliminate it from one's life. By consciously acknowledging the wrongdoing and pledging to steer clear of it in the future, one demonstrates a genuine desire for positive change and moral development.
- 3. **Seeking forgiveness from the one who was wronged:** Seeking forgiveness from the individual who was harmed, or restoring their rights (Al-Munajjid, 2023), is essential.
 - Acknowledging and taking responsibility for our actions is crucial. If direct reparation isn't possible, alternative forms of restitution can be considered. For example, publicly expressing remorse or making charitable donations on behalf of the harmed individual can demonstrate a commitment to amends and contribute positively. The goal is to ensure that harm is acknowledged and offset with meaningful acts of kindness and restitution.
- 4. **Turning to Allah and verbally seeking forgiveness:** Muslims are reminded to abstain from sin and refrain from committing them. However, when a sin is committed, it is crucial to seek repentance. Islam provides many avenues for seeking forgiveness and repentance. Allah also allows a respite of six hours after a bad deed is committed. ¹⁵ If the individual sincerely regrets and seeks Allah's forgiveness, then the angel does not record the bad deed; otherwise, it is documented as a transgression.

¹⁵ *Al-Mu'jam al-Kabīr* 7765. Grade: *Hasan* (fair) according to Al-Albani

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Additionally, there are various acts of kindness also result in forgiveness from Allah. This is exemplified in the Hadith of the prostitute who offered water to a thirsty dog and was subsequently forgiven¹⁶, as well as in the case of the man who forgave the debts of the poor in the hope of Allah's forgiveness, and Allah forgave him. 17 After every obligatory salah, which a Muslim is expected to perform five times a day, they are encouraged to seek Allah's forgiveness who would seek forgiveness from Allah thrice after each prayer. 18 as taught by the Prophet There are many duas of the Prophets seeking forgiveness in the Quran (Quran 7:23, 7:151, and 21:87). Furthermore, the Prophet taught a number of duas for seeking forgiveness including the Dua which is known as Sayyidul istighfar (superior way of asking for forgiveness from Allah). 19 Shaykh al-Islam Ibn Taymiyyah outlined ten ways in which punishment for a sin is lifted: repentance, praying for forgiveness, performing good deeds, supplications of other Muslims for a Muslim (such as during a funeral prayer), acts of charity done on behalf of the deceased, the intercession of the Prophet on the Day of Resurrection, expiation of sins through calamities, the torment, squeezing, and terror that occurs in the grave, the horrors, distress, and hardship of the Day of Resurrection, and the mercy and forgiveness of Allah.²⁰

Ramadan is a significant month for Muslims, focusing on introspection, prayer, and deepening faith. It encourages acts of kindness, self-discipline, and empathy. Fasting during Ramadan offers physical and spiritual purification, helping individuals reflect on their actions and seek forgiveness. A Hadith reports that anyone who fasts during Ramadan with sincere faith and in anticipation of Allah's reward will have their previous sins forgiven.²¹ Muslims are also encouraged to recite a particular dua seeking Allah's forgiveness in the last ten days of

¹⁶ Sahih al-Bukhari 3321, In-book reference: Book 59, *Hadith* 127, USC-MSA web (English) reference: Vol. 4, Book 54, *Hadith* 538, https://sunnah.com/bukhari:3321

¹⁷ Sahih al-Bukhari 3480, In-book reference: Book 60, Hadith 147 USC-MSA web (English) reference: Vol. 4, Book 55, Hadith 687, https://sunnah.com/bukhari:3480

¹⁸ Riyad as-Salihin 1415, In-book reference: Book 15, Hadith 8, https://sunnah.com/rivadussalihin:1415

¹⁹ *Sahih al-Bukhari* 6306, In-book reference: Book 80, *Hadith* 3, USC-MSA web (English) reference: Vol. 8, Book 75, *Hadith* 318, https://sunnah.com/bukhari:6306

²⁰ *Majmoo' Fataawa* Ibn Taymiyah, vol. 7, p. 487-501.

²¹ Sahih al-Bukhari 38, In-book reference: Book 2, *Hadith* 31 USC-MSA web (English) reference: Vol. 1, Book 2, *Hadith* 38, https://sunnah.com/bukhari:38

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Ramadan.²² Whoever prays *Qiyamul Layl* (night prayer) during Ramadan with faith and hoping for reward, will also be forgiven his past sins.²³

- 5. **Following up the evil deeds with good ones:** The Quran states that Allah will turn sins into good deeds for those who repent, believe, and act righteously (25:70). This reflects redemption and the transformative power of sincere remorse and virtuous behavior, offering hope and encouragement for forgiveness and a righteous life. It highlights Allah's mercy and the importance of spiritual transformation, guiding the faithful in their spiritual and moral growth.
- 6. **Repenting before death approaches a person (Quran 4:17-18):** Repenting before death is a profound, personal experience involving reflection, introspection, and reconciliation. It allows individuals to confront their actions, seek forgiveness, and make amends, leading to peace and closure. This process, whether seeking forgiveness from others or finding inner peace, is significant in the final stages of life.

Reciprocating the Wrongdoing

The reciprocation of the wrong that has been perpetrated may be carried out in any of the following ways:

- 1. Harboring resentment and retaliating with further harm is not conducive to resolution and is thus impermissible. This approach risks shifting from being the wronged party to becoming the wrongdoer, perpetuating a cycle of negativity and conflict.
- 2. The second option, under *Qisas* (2:178) or seeking revenge (Quran 42:41), is permissible but forgiveness is preferred (Quran 42:40). It involves retaliating with equivalent harm, reflecting Islamic principles of proportional retribution. While it acknowledges varying levels of faith and tolerance, this approach is discouraged due to the risk of escalating harm beyond the original injury.
- 3. The third option is to forgive and move on without actively mending the situation. This may be necessary when significant harm has been inflicted, and there is concern about

²² Riyad as-Salihin 1195, In-book reference: Book 8, Hadith 205, https://sunnah.com/riyadussalihin:1195

²³ Sunan an-Nasa'i 1602, In-book reference: Book 20, Hadith 5, https://sunnah.com/nasai:1602

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recurrence. Islam emphasizes kindness, forgiveness, and faith in people's inherent goodness as key aspects of commendable character. However, it is crucial to note that being overly trusting and allowing oneself to be exploited is not advisable as advised by the Prophet in a Hadith.²⁴

- 4. The fourth and highly encouraged option is to forgive and forget, mending the relationship completely. The Quran advises repelling evil with good (Quran 41:34) and promises rewards for those who forgive and reconcile (Quran 42:40). Reconciliation reflects Ishaan, the Islamic concept of striving for excellence in good deeds. The Prophet exemplified this forgiveness, as did Abu Bakr (ra) with Mistah, following Allah's guidance to forgive in order to be forgiven.
- 5. Shariah promotes forgiveness but recognizes that some offenses may be too severe for human forgiveness, especially when significant harm is done. While forgiveness is encouraged, it is not compulsory for the oppressed, highlighting the importance of accountability and justice. Belief in ultimate justice on the Day of Judgment is central to Islamic ethics, where all actions will be evaluated. For offenses beyond human forgiveness, Allah's wisdom and justice will prevail. This belief deters heinous acts and reassures the wronged that their grievances will be addressed, shaping the moral fabric of Islam.

Psychological and Physical Benefits of forgiveness

Forgiveness, as advocated by religious beliefs, is not only morally commendable but also beneficial for overall well-being. Research links forgiveness to improvements in mental and physical health (Lutjen, Silton & Flannelly, 2012; Toussaint, Worthington & Williams, 2015). Studies show that forgiveness, including its phases of admission, apology, and acceptance, positively impacts mental and physical health (Kulcsár, 2006; Akhtar & Barlow, 2018). It reduces depression, anxiety, stress, and anger, while enhancing life satisfaction, happiness, and psychological well-being (López et al., 2021; Ho et al., 2024). Forgiveness, along with

²⁴ Sahih al-Bukhari 6133, In-book reference: Book 78, *Hadith* 160, USC-MSA web (English) reference: Vol. 8, Book 73, *Hadith* 154, https://sunnah.com/bukhari:6133

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religiosity, predicts life satisfaction and hope (Ayten & Karagöz, 2021; Amini et al., 2020). Research on religious individual's shows that forgiveness enhances positive emotions and improves relationships with wrongdoers (Kidwell, Wade & Blaedel, 2011). Studies show that forgiveness benefits health, improving psychological well-being, reducing negative emotions, and enhancing both mental and physical health (Rasmussen et al., 2019; Webb et al., 2013; Chen et al., 2019; Worthington & VanderWeele, 2019; Worthington & Sandage, 2016; Worthington, Griffin, & Provencher, 2018). An unwillingness to forgive can worsen physical and psychological issues (Jones Ross et al., 2017). Research links forgiveness to lower blood pressure and better cardiovascular recovery (Friedberg et al., 2007) and shows that increased forgiveness correlates with reduced stress and improved mental health (Toussaint et al., 2016). fMRI studies also associate forgiveness with positive emotional states (Ricciardi et al., 2013).

Benefits of forgiveness from an Islamic perspective

Repentance offers profound benefits for both this life and the Hereafter (Quran 66:8). It purifies the heart, promises forgiveness for past mistakes, and enhances good deeds. In this world, repentance provides inner peace, spiritual cleansing, and a renewed sense of purpose. It also demonstrates sincerity and commitment to self-improvement. In the Hereafter, repentance leads to divine mercy and spiritual elevation, absolving past misdeeds and amplifying positive actions. Overall, repentance facilitates spiritual growth and a more purposeful existence. Repentance rewards individuals with a fulfilling life marked by faith, contentment, peace of mind (Quran 11:3), and increased sustenance (Quran 11:52). Seeking Allah's forgiveness relieves distress, alleviates anxiety, and provides unexpected blessings. Forgiveness helps avoid sin by steering clear of tempting environments and influences. It also supports engaging in righteous deeds and adhering to obedience (Quran 20:82), deepening faith and realigning with Islamic teachings. Ultimately, repentance purifies the soul and seeks divine mercy, emphasizing humility and accountability in spiritual growth. Transgression is seen as a means of purification and is rewarded by Allah. Believers benefit from both good and adversity, remaining grateful and

²⁵ Riyad as-Salihin 1873, In-book reference: Book 19, Hadith 5, https://sunnah.com/riyadussalihin:1873

²⁶ Sunan Ibn Majah 3984, In-book reference: Book 36, Hadith 59, https://sunnah.com/ibnmajah:3984

²⁷ *Jami* at-*Tirmidhi* 2395, In-book reference: Book 36, *Hadith* 93, https://sunnah.com/tirmidhi:2395

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patient.²⁸ Forgiveness and reconciliation are linked to *Taqwa* (Quran 2:237), which encompasses righteousness, piety, and God-consciousness. Forgiving others and seeking reconciliation reflect deep moral and spiritual awareness, aligning with Taqwa and nurturing a virtuous life. Such forgiveness and purity of heart are traits of the people of Paradise.²⁹

Conclusion

The study explored forgiveness as a form of positive religious coping in clinical settings. Islamic teachings offer effective means to reduce distress, providing pathways for seeking and granting forgiveness, which fosters spiritual and emotional relief. Key advantages of Islamic forgiveness include letting go of resentment, improving relationships, resolving conflicts, reducing stress, and enhancing psychological resilience. Forgiveness in Islam also aligns with spiritual goals, deepening purpose and fulfilment. It provides moral and ethical guidelines beneficial in counselling, helping individuals develop self-awareness and empathy. Incorporating these principles into therapeutic practices can offer a holistic approach to mental and emotional well-being.

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²⁸ *Sahih Muslim* 2999, In-book reference: Book 55, *Hadith* 82 USC-MSA web (English) reference: Book 42, *Hadith* 7138, https://sunnah.com/muslim:2999

²⁹ *Musnad Ahmad* 12697. Source: *Sahih* (authentic) according to Al-Arna'ut.

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What Makes Teachers Effective: Perception Of Students Of Private Secondary School of Karachi

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ABSTRACT

Effective teaching is one of the significant factors that can facilitate student's learning outcomes. This study explored the perceptions of male and female students about teacher effectiveness in selected secondary schools in Karachi. The study is qualitative exploratory, and data was collected through semi-structured questions during in-depth individual interviews of twenty-two students, ten males, and twelve females, studying in grade 10 in four private secondary schools in Karachi. The researcher organised the generated data for analysis through coding. The five emergent themes determined the perceptions of both male and female participants about teacher effectiveness in teacher-student relationships, instructional strategies, equality and justice, teacher personality, and discipline and control. The results also indicated no significant variations in differences in gender perceptions within the themes. This suggests that while preferences may differ, effective teaching relies on qualities valued by everyone. The study concluded with implications for school administrators, principals, and teachers to include students' voice and their needs for teachers equipped with desired traits for their students' high academic achievement and well-developed personalities.

Keywords: Effective Teaching, Secondary School Students, Students' Perceptions, Teacher Effectiveness, Teacher Quality.

Introduction

Education is a process of growth, and teachers are the most critical component of any education system that grooms the personality of students and prepares them to play their role in society (Hyun & Sajjad, 2018). Various research shows that students' learning is greatly affected by teachers' performance, as

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teaching effectiveness is neither a static construct nor merely dependent on extensive experience in teaching. Effective teachers have a significant impact on students' academic achievement (Rockoff, 2004).

Students have their own unique and individual perspectives about teacher effectiveness. Two students may give very different opinions of the same teacher regarding his/her teaching effectiveness. Individuals, including students, have preferences in various aspects of life, such as food, clothing, and activities. Similarly, students have preferences for certain traits in their instructors, which influence their evaluations of teaching effectiveness. First impressions and evolving relationships between students and instructors shape students' opinions. A study of 195 teachers over 13 years found that, despite individual differences in teaching effectiveness, teachers' effectiveness remained consistent over time (Marsh, 2007). Another study by Lavin et al. (2012) identified expertise in content, communication skills, and class preparedness as the most important traits for good teaching, while rank, attire, and research record were rated least important. However, opinions varied widely, with each trait appearing in both the top and bottom rankings among different students.

According to the study conducted by McIntyre and Battle (1998), females give more importance to teachers' personality traits than male students. This is supported by Lavin et al. (2012), who conclude that females prefer organization, preparedness, and personal characteristics of effective teachers, whereas males emphasize qualifications and experience.

There are different opinions of what constitutes effective teaching and as primary stakeholders, the students' voices cannot be under-estimated. However, the reliability and validity of how students rate their teachers are not fully recognized, as according to Maulana et al. (2014), students reflect their expectations while evaluating their teachers. In contrast, Brok et al. (2005) posit that evaluation by secondary students of their teacher behavior has an adequate level of reliability and validity and is predictive for research on evaluating teachers. Supporting students' voices, Zimmerman et. al (1992) suggests that students' ratings may need to be more precise when they judge teachers for their knowledge and planning. However, he argues the student evaluation can be considered when they evaluate the classroom teaching strategies and the content knowledge of the teachers. The journey of being an effective teacher is multidimensional, with constant new developments. There are different opinions about what constitutes effective teaching. Students are the main stakeholders, and so their opinions need to be included in the academic literature related to teacher effectiveness.

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Grade 10 is a crucial year as the students appear for their respective board exams and depend upon how effectively the teachers prepare them. The study aims to provide unique information to assist school administrators and principals in hiring teachers according to their students' needs. Research measuring effective teaching practices and teacher quality has also included measurements of student preferences for classroom learning environments and experiences, as well as assessments of student goals, motivation, self-esteem, and self-efficacy (Sutcliff, 2011).

There are limited studies that have examined secondary school students' perceptions of teaching effectiveness in Pakistan. Punjab's public school teachers are evaluated by their principals on a generalized Performance Evaluation Report (PER), and probably not a valid measure of teacher quality. Research by Akram (2019) employed students' ratings for measuring teacher effectiveness set by evaluation standards by the Ministry of Education (2017) Pakistan to provide another valid and reliable tool for of measuring teacher effectiveness and students' performance.

The purpose of the current study is to investigate the perception of students of grade 10 studying in four private secondary schools in Karachi in an attempt to fill a small segment of the gap. The study also offers foundations to teachers to revise their preferences of the characteristics of effective teaching through the lens of their students' perspectives and bring significant improvement in their personality as well learning and personality development of their students.

Research Questions

The following research question guided the study:

What are the characteristics of an effective teacher in the opinion of male and female students of grade 10 studying in private secondary schools in Karachi?

Literature Review

There are various qualities that make teachers effective and all individuals have their opinions and preferences. The effect of teaching is the manifestation of mutual interactions between personal and environmental factors (Kyriakides & Creemers, 2009). However, the most dominant among all factors, according to Hanushek et al. (1998), "even if teachers were randomly distributed among schools and all of the between-school variation in achievement were to result from other school inputs, differences in teacher quality would swamp all other school inputs" (1998, pp. 30–31). Self-development is part of the

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teaching process, which requires effective interpersonal communication skills to leave a positive impact on student learning outcomes (Frymier & Houser, 2000), and that students academic, cognitive, and affective outcomes are influenced by their teachers' demeanor (van de Grift et al., 2014) and her personality (Kim et al., 2019).

Students' perception of effective teachers is also influenced by their own paradigm, such as students like teachers who teach according to their learning style (Lavin et al., 2012) and students' academic learning results more than external observations of teachers (Maulana et al., 2014). In the context of Pakistan, a study correlating students' perceptions of teacher effectiveness and student achievement (Akram et al., 2017) found a positive relationship between teacher effectiveness indicators and student achievement in English and mathematics.

Universally, there are various parameters to evaluate teacher performance, such as classroom observation and self-assessment (Keane & Labhrainn, 2005). The relation between the students' low performances may be directly proportional to the poor performance of the teachers largely due to students' dependence on them (Stronge, 2013). Van de Grift et al.(2014) concluded that teaching-learning strategies are one of the few skills that teachers find challenging to master.

Many studies conducted on the evaluation of teachers by the students have also analyzed for student biases based on their gender. There are mixed responses to such studies. Findings of many studies conclude that female students give a better rating to their teachers than their counterparts (Lavin et al., 2012), whereas Sutcliff (2011) found there was no substantial difference in the perceptions of males and females. However, findings by Lavin et al. (2012) reveal that the perception of female students is different from male students regarding teaching effectiveness. Females value certain traits more than males, such as the professionalism of the teachers, their prompt feedback, coming prepared to the class, well-organized presentations, timely feedback, class preparedness, organized presentation, responsive, well-dressed, high academic standards, out-of-class accessibility, respect, enthusiasm, clear presentations, concise explanations, encouraging, fair, and engaging. On the other hand, males rated high for relaxed demeanor, educational credentials, established research record, sense of humor, experienced lecturer, and work experience.

Government educational institutes in Pakistan use the Performance Evaluation Report (PER) to evaluate teacher performance, whereas the Annual Confidential Report (ACR) is the only primary means of

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assessing secondary school teachers' performance which does not serve the purpose (Zia, 1994). The Ministry of Education (2009) has developed national professional standards for teaching, which are based on the characteristics of effective teaching and help teachers identify their professional needs. However, few studies have been conducted in Pakistan to investigate these standards from the perspective of secondary students and if there are differences in their opinions and needs based on gender.

Methodology

A qualitative exploratory approach has been employed for the purpose of the current study to investigate the similarities and differences in the perceptions of secondary students of grade 10 studying in private schools in Karachi regarding teacher effectiveness.

Ethical consideration was given due importance following the ten principles from the guidelines of nine different research associations for social sciences (Bell & Bryman, 2007). These include safety, respect, full consent, privacy, confidentiality, anonymity, no exaggeration of aims and objectives, declaration of any conflict of interest, transparent communication with participants, and no bias in the representation of primary data findings.

Participants

A purposive sample of 22 participants consisting of 10 males and 12 females from four private secondary schools in Karachi was used to interview individual students. It is important to recognize and select individuals or groups who have sufficient knowledge about or have experienced a phenomenon of interest (Cresswell & Plano Clark, 2011). All participants names have been changed to ensure privacy.

Data Collection

The students' responses were collected through 45-minute individual semi-structured interviews to capture their experiences, activities, behavior, perceptions, feelings, thoughts, and intentions (Elias & Merriam, 2005).

Data Analysis

The primary data were analyzed through the coding method consisting of words and phrases (Saldana, 2013), which assisted in formulating the themes and finding the relationship between apparently different concepts (Creswell, 2015; Saldana, 2013). The results are presented and discussed based on coding and themes derived from the codes.

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Findings

A review of the responses did not indicate any extreme difference between high and low values of factors between male and female students. In most instances, there were slight variations as presented under each theme.

Student-Teacher Relationships

Results indicate that a strong relationship between teachers and students is the most dominant factor for both genders. However, girls are more sensitive about relationships as they consider teachers as mentors who guide them. Eight girls and four boys mentioned social issues in school like bullying and making fun of students by their peers. Resultantly, they feel as humiliated as other students making them feel embarrassed and lose their confidence. Both males and females perceive that an effective teacher promptly intervenes, takes charge of the situation, and controls the bullies. Such a teacher is emphatic and cognizant of students' family issues as well as their moral guidance in the school environment, as Tania (name changed to protect privacy) noted:

We do have issues both at home and in school. Then there are lots of issues where boys harass girls as well as girls harassing other girls. The school does not have cameras, and we don't know what is happening. We need teachers. We can't share such things with our parents.

Ashraf was a victim of bullying but found one of his teachers as a saviour:

I can only talk to one of my teachers, who is very non-threatening and friendly. I feel comfortable talking to him about boys who bully me and about some other boys. I think an effective teacher knows how to relate to his students.

Both male and female respondents prefer teachers who are friendly and encouraging and maintain an environment where students can share their ideas. Good relation also means that effective teachers reward students for their efforts, as Hamid opined:

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We need motivation every day. When they motivate us to work hard, we do and get good grades they appreciate us and reward us when we get good grades, like a treat to give us early off to play.

Both male and female respondents were also consistent in their response that effective teachers maintain an environment of calmness and joy for the students with their quiet demeanor and jolliness. Muhammad defined such a teacher:

She should be jolly and not always dull and boring. The class feels calm and not rowdiness.

Most males and females also associated good relationships with teachers respecting students and avoiding vulgar language, as Huzaifa commented:

They should respect students and use suitable language. They should avoid abusive words.

Instructional Strategies

Students took the opportunity to state their preferences in terms of the strategies effective teachers use. Most of the responses dealt specifically with teaching and learning styles, as respondent Alia simply remarked:

An effective teacher has a unique teaching method. He/ she is able to satisfy all students.

Results indicated high levels of concern amongst both boys and girls about the teacher's ability to relate the content matter to daily life versus theoretical knowledge and engage students through a variety of strategies and activities. Alia and Huzaifa responded:

Teachers should not be bookish but teach with real-life examples. They should use many different strategies and design activities that engage students in practical learning. An effective teacher knows that all students are different.

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While girls mostly referred to PowerPoint and WhatsApp, male respondents admired teachers who are able to create experiences through the use of technology that engages and appeals in multiple ways. Haroon elaborated:

They use visuals like PowerPoint presentations, videos, website links to subject resources, online classes, WhatsApp groups, YouTube, etc.

Instructional strategies also include sports when it comes to male respondents, whereas none of the females talked about physical activities. Boys place high value on play as Muhammad exclaimed:

They should entertain and play games with the students and give them free time to play any physical game. It sort of gets boring as well. We can't always study.

All participants also agreed that teacher effectiveness includes their availability beyond classroom teaching. Female respondents were more sensitive towards the issue and complained about teachers who do not give time after class or school. Students also consider a teacher as effective when s/he provides extra information beyond books. Maria voiced:

They should be available when we need them. Some teachers have extra responsibilities in school, and they can't give us quality time in class, and they have no time after the period.

Ahmed complained:

One of our teachers is always tired when we ask her for help. If teachers are always busy, how can we approach them when we need help beyond the classroom?

Respondents also perceive that effective teachers are experts in many ways, as Huzaifa was more concerned from the exam perspective:

They not only have in-depth knowledge but also have command over their subject and experience to teach students according to the board's requirements. They help us solve past papers and provide prompt feedback for improvement.

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Personality

Besides internal personality traits, girls were also focused on how effective teachers look as well as how they carry themselves, whereas most boys focused on teachers' good sense of humor. Rumaisa declared:

....Whether male or female, they should have an aesthetic sense of dressing and not repeat the dresses too often. I like cleanliness and even hairdo. They have a graceful personality not only by wearing good dress but the way they walk and carry themselves.

Ahsan enjoyed learning from teachers who are fun:

I think teachers with a good sense of humor make learning an interesting activity. I don't like teachers who are too serious, as if they are bored and tired of teaching us!

Both genders consider the personality of an effective teacher as a role model. Dania and Harith commented,

An effective teacher demonstrates himself as a role model and guides students to the Islamic way of life. Teachers should practice what they say so students want to copy them.

Both genders consider a teacher to be an effective teacher when she holds him/ herself in high self-esteem as well as respects the students. Shahid responded:

Effective teachers value themselves and respect their students. They encourage students by being there whenever they need help instead of labeling them as inattentive or careless!

Both genders endorsed the use of good language and criticized teachers who used abusive language or slang words. Parvez comments voiced by three male and two female respondents:

A teacher should not use vulgar and offensive language and jokes. I have heard teachers hitting students, even in grade 10. I don't like teachers who use slang words like البے، تو I don't like when they use abusive (گالی). I don't like when they use abusive (البے، تو

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Equality and Fairness

Results show that both male and female respondents feel strongly about equality and fairness in the class. Maria noted:

Though a particular student is not weak, due to discrimination and favoritism, s/he is discouraged, and this affects the studies.

Female respondents believe that favoritism is tied in with gender bias as well by insulting boys while ignoring the misbehavior of girls. Tania was emphatic:

A teacher should not insult boys in the class and ignore whatever girls do.

Bias is also favoring students who get good grades, as Haroon complained:

A teacher should not discriminate and categorize students into nerds and students they think are weak. Students lose confidence when the teacher labels them.

Another form of discrimination was lamented by both genders when teachers divide students into front and backbenchers and make their own perceptions about them. Muhammad observed:

Teachers' behavior is good with frontbenchers. They think frontbenchers are more studious while backbenchers are not good, which is not true.

Females are more sensitive to self-esteem and respect boys as well. Effective teachers are fair in their treatment, as Irum commented:

When a student asks a question, she answers with love and does not make fun of her or him by using words such as short, old, dumb, etc.

Shahid felt effective teachers are not gender biased nor discourage outliers.

One of my teachers is non-responsive to me due to my out-of-the-box thinking. He is biased and explains to girls and is strict with boys.

All respondents agreed that an effective teacher is fair and unbiased.

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Classroom Discipline & Self-Control

Effective teachers maintain discipline. Though both are very concerned about classroom discipline, male respondents admitted their rowdiness but laid more stress on maintaining a learning environment: Pervez acknowledged:

Disciplining students makes a teacher effective as it is very important. However, boys are naughty and don't pay attention, whereas girls are hard-working and quiet. Boys make a lot of distractions, whereas girls ask questions which help us gain more information.

Respondents from both genders agreed that effective teachers are firm and friendly and set clear rules and expectations, or else they lose their control. Huzaifa commented:

When teachers don't set rules nor let the students know what is expected of them, then there is chaos. When the teacher enters the classroom, students are talking and then rush to open their bags and books. Much time is wasted then.

Female respondents were more conscious of teachers maintaining their own self-discipline, as Dania remarked:

A teacher knows when to respond and should know how to ignore students who purposely disrupt the class. An effective teacher is also able to accept mistakes and laugh at her/ himself.

Both males and females rejected the teacher's aggressive behavior under any circumstances, as Faria noted:

Though she is good most of the time, an effective teacher is not aggressive when students misbehave, nor does she lose her temper and start screaming. She should remain calm and calm down the students as well.

Discussion

Findings reveal that the responses of both male and female participants were based on their personal experiences and expectations from the teachers. When the researcher posed the research

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question, the first opinion of both male and female respondents was about the teacher's relationship with their students. To them, an effective teacher is first a friendly communicator and only then s/he can impress students with her/ his intellectual persona. Research supports that students value their relationships with their teachers more than their scholarly and professional qualities (Tischler & Vialle, 2009). Teachers often ignore their tone and body language which may be unknowingly threatening but result in creating a distance between the teacher and students. However, analysis of their further responses unraveled other complex aspects of interpersonal relationships as elements of personal, intellectual, and professional began to combine. A negative manifestation of ineffective learning is a relationship without mutual respect.

Students lack interest in studies, as Van de Grift et al. (2014) confirm that students' academic, cognitive, and affective outcomes are influenced by their teachers' disposition and leave a marked impact on student's overall personality and academic results. The strong perception of interpersonal relationships indicates that teacher training programs should incorporate emotional intelligence and educate teachers on the importance of understanding their own feelings and developing a rapport with their students. Teachers often undermine the power of negative emotions and words, which can drastically affect their relationships with students. Students' emotions are significantly affected when teachers use foul language, show unnecessary anger, and use them as a control mechanism. Research on student-teacher relationships recommends training in personality development to be made a part of the teaching process as teachers' interpersonal communication skills leave a huge impact on student learning outcomes (Frymier & Houser, 2000). Students look up to their teachers for their personal mentoring as well as guide in developing positive social behavior. There are many studies that now focus on the mental and emotional well-being of students for students, and it is important that teachers provide support during these years in matters other than academics as well (Kidger et al., 2009).

Regarding instructional strategies, all male and female respondents perceive them as one of the major parameters to determine teacher effectiveness. The ability to relate the content matter to daily life is the most significant skill of effective teachers, as perceived by both male and female

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respondents. Dewey has stressed providing meaningful experiences to the students that relate to their lived world instead of the alien world of adults (Dewey, 1986). It is vital for teachers to go beyond theoretical academic material under the pressure of completing the syllabus and depriving students of practical as well as cross-curricular integration. Information technology is a fast-emerging tool that has stirred students into using it for academic purposes. Teachers who make use of it within and beyond classrooms are considered effective by both male and female respondents. Male respondents were more enthusiastic about using technology in a variety of ways, especially connecting with teachers beyond classrooms. Preference should be given to the dynamic participation of students in a technology-friendly environment where they can collaborate and share knowledge (Montrieux et al., 2015). It is important for teachers to apply a variety of teaching strategies, as respondent students believe that effective teachers address the needs of every student. In a study on teaching skills of student-teacher, Van de Helms and Maulana (2014) confirm that teaching-learning strategies are one of the few skills that teachers find challenging to master.

A teacher's personality is one of the most influential factors that make them effective. Student respondents perceived the personality from many angles. The student respondents considered fairness and equality as an important trait of effective teachers. Whereas the findings revealed that female respondents perceive inequality in more than one way, male respondents talked about teacher's favoritism and biases toward high achievers. Ybarra (2012) endorse that females consider teachers to have bias more frequently than their counterparts. It is important for teachers to be non-judgmental and fair, as students have a considerable sense of perceived fairness and equality. It is a common observation that students frequently judge teachers according to their perceptions and often use the words such as 'fair and unfair'. They are highly affected by their perceived as well as actual partiality and often lose interest in their studies.

Another dominant theme of teacher effectiveness revealed from the findings was classroom discipline and self-control. Both male and female respondents value the teacher's control over the classroom ambiance by setting clear rules and expectations without being aggressive. Female respondents find effectiveness is also about maintaining self- control in a non-threatening

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environment. However, female respondents consider it an effective strategy to not only maintain one's persona but also to take charge of one's response to anger provoked by a classroom situation. Studies also suggest that maintaining discipline in classrooms has multiple challenges. Wolhuter and Steyn (2003) categorized student discipline as factors related to the learner, teacher, school, and home. This is confirmed by Barbetta et al. (2005), who assert that discipline problems should not deprive the child of education. Discipline, from this perspective, is based on a belief that guidelines for proper conduct are necessary for students to perform their daily activities in school. As such, effective teachers should manage themselves and consciously monitor their self-control by not being unnecessarily provoked by student misbehavior, as it affects their relationship with other students as well.

Findings supported by data revealed that both male and female students have a very clear perception of the characteristics of effective teachers. Results do not indicate any extreme difference between high and low values of factors between male and female students in most of the instances. Females were found to be more perceptive as they expressed the finer details of a character more than their counterparts. All twenty-two respondents expressed quite similar ideas about teacher effectiveness with variations in how specific they were in their definition, how they experienced the same characteristic in a different way, differences in their expectations in similar situations, and how coherently they were able to express their opinions. The results are supported by a study that concluded that despite some gender-based differences, both groups agree on the key factors that contribute to effective teaching, indicating universal traits that appeal to all students (Lavin et al., 2012). This suggests that while preferences differ, effective teaching relies on qualities valued by everyone.

Implications and Conclusions

Many insights are achieved from this study, which is pertinent for school heads and teachers to consider during the teacher selection and teaching process. Effective teaching is about more than focusing on the transmission of information to help students achieve good grades in standardized systems of examination. The data gathered from both the male and female students have given

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insights by which this research has contributed to exploring various dimensions of the qualities of effective teachers. The study also helped to understand the expectations of students from their teachers, which, if fulfilled, will not only enhance motivation but will help in better academic outcomes as well as personality development.

The study is also an attempt to fill a small gap in scholarly literature in Pakistan. The researcher found numerous studies on the topic in Western literature but few in this context. However, the findings cannot be generalized due to a small sample of four schools and twenty-two participants and the study being specific to students of grade 10 in private schools only. Further research is required with a large sample size at all levels of schooling in both the public and private sectors in Pakistan, employing a mixed methodology.

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اخلاقی انحطاط ،ہم جنسیت پر مبنی رویے اور عذاب الٰہی: قوم لوط کے تناظر میں میں شگفتہ عمر شگفتہ عمر ہیومن رائٹس لاء، ریسرچ ڈائریکٹر ویمن ایڈ ٹرسٹ پاکستان (shagufta.omar@iiu.edu.pk)

Abstract

The source of Islamic teachings lies in morality, and the violation of moral values leads to chaos and disorder in any society. When this chaos reaches an extreme, it makes the disbelievers, the arrogant, and the disobedient deserving of God's punishment. Allah has repeatedly mentioned in the Qur'an the destruction of past nations as a warning to the Ummah of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) about the consequences of moral decay until the Day of Judgment. Among these nations, the people of Lot were punished severely for their extreme immorality, including homosexuality. Like other nations that were punished, the people of Lot not only rejected Prophet Lot's message and warnings, but they also caused him mental anguish and threatened to exile him from the land.

Allah specifically mentions in Surah Al-A'raf, Surah Hud, Surah Ash-Shu'ara, Surah An-Naml, Surah Yunus, and others, the rebuke of the people of Lot for their immoral acts. He records their responses to Prophet Lot, and details their ultimate fate, where they were destroyed by marked stones as a punishment. This highlights God's established practice that only the Prophet and those who believed in him were saved, while even Lot's wife, who remained loyal to her people's beliefs, was condemned to the punishment.

In this context, modern times have seen a resurgence of moral deviation, particularly in the form of homosexuality and same-sex marriages, which have now spread to two-thirds of the world. Efforts to normalize these practices began in the 17th and 18th centuries and, after going through various stages, homosexuality and same-sex marriages were recognized by the United Nations in 2011 as fundamental human rights for men and women. By 2015, all major UN agencies and 96 member states had declared their support for these practices. As a result of these institutional efforts, not only have homosexuality and same-sex marriages been granted legal and moral protection, but speaking out against or taking actions against them is now considered condemnable and punishable.

According to various research institutions, by 2018, same-sex marriages had been legally recognized in 25 major Western countries, including the United States. This paper will discuss

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the immoral actions of the people of Lot, their consequences, and the global trend of advancing these actions in modern times, including legislation and potential outcomes.

خُلا صہ:

اسلامی تعلیمات کا سرچشمہ اخلاقیات میں مضمر ہے اور اخلاقی صفات کا پامال ہونا کسی بھی معاشرے میں فساد اور انتشار کا باعث بنتا ہے اور جب یہ فساد حد سےبڑھ جائے تو منکرین، متکبرین اور نافرمانوں کو اللہ کے عذاب کا مستحق بنا دیتا ہے۔اللہ تعالیٰنے قرآن حکیم میں گزشتہ عذاب زدہ اقوام کا بصراحت تکرار کے ساتھ بیان فرمایا جس کا مقصد رسول اللہ کی امت کو قیامت تک ان تمام اخلاقی بگاڑ کے انجام سے باخبر کرنا تماء قوم لوط کو منجملہ اور خرابیوں کے انتہائی درجے کی فحاشی، ہم جنس پرستی کی سزا میں دردناک انجام سے دوچار کیا گیا۔ ہر عذاب زدہ قوم کی طرح اس قوم نےبھی نہ صرف حضرت لوط کو زمنی اذیتوں سے دوچار کرتے ہوئے ان کی تنبیہات کو درخورد اعتنا نہ سمجما بلکہ اس کے برعکس خود حضرت لوط کو ذہنی اذیتوں سے دوچار کرتے ہوئے ملک بدر کرنے کی دھمکیاں دیں۔ اللہ تعالیٰنے خصوصاً سورۃ الاعراف، سورہ ہود، سورہ شعراء، سورہ نمل، سورہ یونس و دیگر میں قوم لوط کو ان کے فحش کاموں پر ملامت کی، ان کے حضرت لوط کو دیے گئے جوابات کو نقل کیا اور ان کے انجام کی تفصیل بتاتے ہوئےان پر نشان زد پتھروں کے عذاب کا ذکر کرتے ہوئے اپنی سنت کا تذکرہ کیا کہ محض نبی اور ان پر ایمان ہلانے والے ہی اس انجام سے بچائے گئے حتیٰکہ حضرت لوط کی بیوی اپنی قوم کے دین پر قائم رہی اور مستحق عذاب ٹھہری۔

اس تناظر میں، عصر حاضر میں اخلاقی ہے راہ روی کی جو شکلیں بھر پور طریقے سے سامنے آئی ہیں ان میں ہم جنس پرستی اور ہم جنس شادیاں ہیں جو دو تہائی دنیا کو اپنی لپیٹ میں لے چکی ہیں۔ اس ضمن میں انفرادی اور اجتماعی کوششوں کے تحت، جن کا آغاز ۱۷ویں اور ۱۵ویں صدی میں ہوا، مختلف مراحل سے گزرتے ہوئے ہم جنس پرستی اور ہم جنس شادیوں کو اقوام متحدہ کے تحت ۲۰۱۱ء میں مردوں اور خواتین کے لیے ایک بنیادی انسانی حق کے طور پر تسلیم کر لیا گیا۔ اور ۲۰۱۵ء تک اقوام متحدہ کی تمام بڑی ایجنسیاں اور ۹۶ممبر ممالک اس کی حمایت کا اعلان کر چکے ہیں۔ ان تمام ادارہ جاتی کوششوں کے نتیجے میں ہم جنس پرستی اور پھر ہم جنس شادیوں کو نہ صرف قانونی اور اخلاقی تحفظ حاصل ہو چکا ہے بلکہ اس کے خلاف آواز بلند کرنے یا کسی بھی اقدامات کو قابل مذمت اور موجب سزا قرار دیا جا رہا ہے۔ مختلف تحقیقی اداروں کے مطابق ۲۰۱۸ء تک ۲۵ اہم مغربی ممالک بشمول امریکہ میں ہم جنس شادیاں قانونی طور پر تسلیم کی جا چکی ہیں۔ زیر نظر مقالے میں قوم مغربی ممالک بشمول امریکہ میں ہم جنس شادیاں قانونی طور پر تسلیم کی جا چکی ہیں۔ زیر نظر مقالے میں قوم مغربی ممالک بشمول امریکہ میں ہم جنس شادیاں قانونی طور پر تسلیم کی جا چکی ہیں۔ زیر نظر مقالے میں قوم لوط کے حوالے سے فحاشی و بد کرداری کے اعمال، اس کے نتائج اور عصر حاضر میں ان اعمال کی طرف پیش قدمی

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کے عالمی رجحان، قانون سازی اور ممکنہ نتائج کو زیر بحث لایا جائے گا۔

اسلام اور اخلاقي تعليمات

اسلام کی تعلیمات کا سرچشمہ اخلاقیات میں مضمر ہے چنانچہ احکام اسلامی میں کسی چیز کی ممانعت میں جو علّت بنیادی حیثیت رکھتی ہے وہ اخلاقی قدر کا پامال ہونا ہے۔ جس معاملے میں کسی اخلاقی قدر کی پامالی شامل ہو جائے وہ روح اسلام کے مطابق جواز و استحباب کے دائرے سے نکل کر شجر ممنوعہ میں داخل ہو جائے گا۔ اللہ تعالیٰنے قرآن کریم میں چنیدہ اقوام اور افراد کے تاریخی حالات بیان کرتے ہوئے فرمانبرداروں پر اپنے انعامات کا ذکر اور منکرین اور نافرمانوں پر اپنے عذاب کا ذکر فرمایا ہے، اور اس کا ایک مقصد بتایا کہ ہم ان کے انجام سے سبق حاصل کرتے ہوئے اللہ کی فرمانبرداری اختیار کریں اور۔ ان اسبابِعذاب سے بچیں۔

عذابِالهي كا قاعدم:

لوگوں کے ظلم یعنی احکاماتِالہٰی سے بغاوت عذابِالہٰی کی وجہ بن جاتی ہے۔

َ اَلَمْ يَاْتِهِمْ بَبَاُ الَّذِيْنَ مِنْ قَبْلِهِمْ قَوْمِ نُوْحٍ وَّ عَادٍ وَّ نَمُوْدَ ۚ وَ قَوْمِ اِبْلِهِيْمَ وَ اَصْحٰبِ مَدْيَنَ وَ الْمُؤْتَفِكٰتِ ۖ-اَتَتْهُمْ رُسُلُهُمْ ۚ بِالْبَيِّنٰتِ ۚ-فَمَا كَانَ اللّٰهُ لِيَظْلِمَهُمْ وَ لٰـكِنْكَانُو ۚ ا اَنْفُسَهُمْ يَظْلِمُوْنُ ۖ 30

کیا ان لوگوں کو اپنے پیش رؤوں کی تاریخ نہیں پہنچی، نوح کی قوم، عاد، ثمود، ابراہیم کی قوم اور مدین کے لوگ اور وہ بستیاں جنہیں الٹ دیا گیا(قوم لوط)۔ ان کے رسول ان کے پاس کھلی کھلی نشانیاں لے کر آئے پھر یہ اللہ کا کام نہ تھا کہ ان پر ظلم کرتا مگر وہ اپنے اوپر ظلم کرنے والے تھے۔ عذاب الٰہی کے اس قاعدہ کو سورہ ہود میں یوں بیان کیا گیا:

وَمَا كَانَ رَبُّكَ لِيُهْلِكَ الْقُرٰى بِظُلْم وَّاَهْلُهَا مُصْلِحُوْنَ³¹

اور۔ تیرا رب ایسا نہیں ہے کہ بستیوں کو ظلم سے تباہ کردے حالانکہ اس کے باشندے نیک عمل کرنے والے ہوں۔

اس قاعدہ کو ملحوظ رکھتے ہوئے اللہ تعالیٰ نے جہاں کسی قوم کو مبتلائے عذاب کرنے کا ذکر فرمایل ہے، وہاں اس کا جرم بھی ساتھ ساتھ بیان کر دیا ہے تاکہ معلوم ہو جائے کہ یہ ان کے شامت اعمال ہی کا نتیجہ ہے۔عذاب الٰہی کے اسباب میں کفر اور شرک کے ساتھ جتنے بھی عمل بیان کیے گئے ان کی بنیاد اخلاقی انحطاط ہی تھا۔ اللہ کے احکامات سے بغاوت، غیر منصف معاشرے، ظلم و تعدی، نااہل حکمران، فحاشی، ناپ تول میں کمی یعنی

۷۰ · ۹ التور ۱۹ · ۵۰

³¹ هود ۱۱۷ :۱۱۷

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اجتماعی دهوکه دهی، لوٹ مار و دیگر۔

قوم لوط کا تعارف اور ان کے جرائم:

قوم لوط پر عذاب کا قرآن کریم میں متعدد مقامات پر صریحاً ذکر کیا گیا ہے جو کہ ایک فاسق و فاجر اور بدترین کافر قوم تھی، جن کے جرائم میں ان کی فحش حرکات، مسافروں، راہ گیروں کو لوٹنا اور اس گھناؤنے جرم، گناہ کا ارتکاب تھا کہ وہ لڑکوں کے ساتھ بدفعلی کرتے اور فطری تقاضائے بشریت کے برخلاف عورتوں سے کوئی تعلق قائم نہ کرنا چاہتے تھے۔ حضرت لوط نے اس قوم کو خدائے وحدہ لا شریک کی عبادت کے لیے دعوت دی اور انہیں حرام، فحش منکرات اور قبیح افعال سے روکا تو وہ اپنی گمراہی اور سرکشی میں مزید ہٹ دھرم اور جری ہو گئے۔ اس کے نتیجے میں اللہ تعالیٰ نے اس قوم پر ایسل عذاب بھیجا جو دنیا والوں کے لیے مثال و عبرت ہوا۔

حضرت لوط، حضرت ابراہیم کے بھتیجے تھے جو ان کےساتھ عراق سے نکلے اور کچھ عرصہ تک فلسطین اور مصر میں پھرتے ہوئے دعوت و تبلیغ کا تجربہ حاصل کرتے رہے۔ پھر پیغمبری کے منصب پر سرفراز ہوئے اور اس بگڑی ہوئی قوم کی اصلاح پر مامور ہوئے۔ امام ابن کثیر کے مطابق حضر ت لوط سرزمین غورزعر کے شہر سدوم میں آ بسے تھے جو انتہائی سر سبز و شاداب علاقہ تھا۔ ان کی والدہ کا تعلق یہاں سے تھا اور یہاں ان کی زمین اور خاندان تھا۔

سید ابو الاعلیٰمودودیؒ تفہیم القرآن میں لکھتے ہیں کہ اس قوم کا علاقہ عراق و فلسطین کے درمیان واقعہ ہے جسے آج کل شرق اردنTransJordan کہا جاتا ہے (اس میں سدوم، عمورہ اور دیگر شہر شامل تھے) ۔ بائیبل میں اس کا نام سدوم بتایا گیا ہے جو بحیرہ مردار کے قریب تھا اور اب اس میں غرق ہو چکا ہے۔ تلمود میں لکھا ہے کہ سدوم کے علاوہ اس کے چار بڑے بڑے شہر تھے جن کے درمیان میلوں تک باغ ہی باغ تھے۔ مگر آج اس قوم کا نام و نشان دنیا سے بالکل ناپید ہو چکا ہے۔ صرف وہ علاقہ جسے بحیرہ مردار یا بحر لوط کہا جاتا ہے، اس کی یادگار کےطور پر باقی ہے۔ بحیرہ مردار یا بحیرہ لوط سطح سمندر سے 1425 فٹ نیچے ہے اور اس میں نمکہ کی مقدار اتنی زیادہ ہے کہ وہاں زندگی کے آثار معدوم ہیں۔ اس کے اردگرد گندھک، تارکول اور قدرتی گیس کے ذخائر بجلی گرنے اور زلزے کا لاوہ پھٹ پڑنے کے آثار دکھاتے ہیں۔ توراۃ اور بائیبل میں حضرتلوط ؑ کی قوم، جس کا صدر مقام صدوم (sodom) تھا اور عمورہ (Gomarrah)، پر عذاب کا بھی بیان ہے اور قوم لوط ً کے عمل کو قابل سزا جرم بھی قرار دیا گیا ہے۔ ³³

قوم لوط کی بے حیائی پر مبنی انتہائی قبیح عمل کا تذکرہ قرآن میں متعدد مقامات پر کیا گیا ہے:

وَ لُوْطًا اِذْ قَالَ لِقَوْمِهِ ۚ اَتَاٰتُوْنَ الْفَاحِشَةَ مَا سَبَقَكُمْ بِهَا مِنْ اَحَـدٍ مِّنَ الْعٰلَمِيْنُ اِتَّكُمْ لَتَـاْتُوْنَ الرِّجَـالَ

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شَهْوَةً مِّنْ دُوْنِ النِّسَآءِٰ-بَلْ اَنْتُمْ قَوْمٌ مُّسْرِفُونَ ۗ34

اور لوط کو ہم نے پیغمبر بنا کر بھیجا، پھر یاد کرو جب اس نے اپنی قوم سے کہا "کیا تم ایسے بے حیا ہو گئے ہو کہ وہ فحش کام کرتے ہو جو تم سے پہلے دنیا میں کسی نے نہیں کیا، تم عورتوں کو چھوڑ کر مَردوں سے اپنی خواہش پوری کرتے ہو۔حقیقت یہ ہے کہ تم بالکل ہی حد سے گزر جانے الے لوگ ہو۔

اَتَاْتُوْنَ الدُّكْرَانَ مِنَ الْعٰلَمِيْنَ۔ وَ تَذَرُوْنَ مَا خَلَقَ لَكُمْ رَبُّكُمْ مِّنْ اَرْوَاجِكُمْ-بَلْ اَنْتُمْ قَوْمُ عٰدُوْنَ ۔ قَالُوْا لَبِنْ لَّمْ تَنْتَهِ يٰلُوْطُ لَتَكُوْنَنَّ مِنَ الْمُخْرَجِيْنَ۔³⁵

کیا تم(دنیا کی مخلوق میں سے) مَردوں کے پاس جاتے ہو اور تمہاری بیویوں میں تمہارے رب نے تمہارے لیے جو کچھ پیدا کیا ہے اسے چھوڑ دیتے ہو؟ بلکہ تم لوگ تو حد سے ہی گزر گئے ہو۔ انہوں نے کہا اے لوطً! اگر تو باز نہ آیا تو جو لوگ ہماری بستیوں سے نکالے گئے ہیں ان میں تو بھی شامل ہو کر رہے گا۔

وَ لُوْطًا اِذْ قَالَ لِقَوْمِهٖ ۚ اِتَّكُمْ لَتَاْتُوْنَ الْفَاحِشَةُ -مَا سَبَقَكُمْ بِهَا مِنْ اَحَدٍ مِّنَ الْعَلَمِيْنَ۔ اَبِتَكُمْ لَتَاْتُوْنَ الرِّجَالَ وَ تَقْطَعُوْنَ السَّبِيْلَ وَ تَاْتُوْنَ فِىْ نَادِيْكُمُ الْمُنْكَرِّ-فَمَا كَانَ جَوَابَ قَوْمِهٖ ۚ اِلَّا اَنْ قَالُوا انْتِنَا بِعَذَابِ اللَّهِ اِنْ كُنْتَ مِنَ الصَّدِقِيْنَ ـ 36

اور ہم نے لوط کو بھیجا جب کہ اس نے اپنی قوم سے کہا: "تم وہ فحش کام کرتے ہو جو تم سے پہلے دنیا والوں میں سے کسی نے نہیں کیا ہے۔ کیا تمہارا حال یہ ہے کہ مردوں کے پاس جاتے ہو، اور رہزنی کرتے ہو اور اپنی مجلسوں میں برے کام کرتے ہو؟

وَ لُوْطًا اِذْ قَالَ لِقَوْمِهٖ ۚ اَتَاْتُوْنَ الْفَاحِشَةَ وَ اَنْتُمْ ثُبْصِرُوْن ۚ اَبِتَّكُمْ لَتَاْتُوْنَ الرِّجَـالَ شَـهْوَةً مِّنْ دُوْنِ النِّسَآءِۚ-بَلْ اَنْتُمْ قَوْمٌ تَجْهَلُوْنَ ِ³⁷

اور لوطً کو ہم نے بھیجا۔ یاد کرو وہ وقت جب اس نے اپنی قوم سے کہا: ''کیا تم آنکھوں دیکھتے بدکاری کرتے ہو؟ کیا تمہارا یہی چلن ہے کہ عورتوں کو چھوڑ کر مَردوں کے پاس شہوت رانۍ کے لیے جاتے ہو، حقیقت یہ ہے کہ تم لوگ سخت جہالت کا کام کرتے ہو۔

حضرت لوطً نے جب اپنی قوم کو اللہ وحدۂ لاشریک پر ایمان لانے اور ان فحش حرکات سے باز آنے کی تاکید کی تو انہوں نے نہ صرف آپ کی دعوت کو اس طرح ٹھکرایا کہ پوری قوم میں سے ایک آدمی بھی ایمان لانے کے لیے آمادہ نہ ہوا۔ بلکہ انتہائی درجہ کی بدکاریوں میں مشغول رہے اور انہیں نازیبا کلمات سے ذہنی اذیت دیتے رہے۔ قرآن مجید نے متعدد مقامات پر قوم لوط کا اپنے پیغمبر کی دعوت پر رد عمل بیان کیا ہے۔ مثلاً سورۃ الشعراء، سورۃ

³⁴ الاعراف٧: ٨٠ ٨٠

³⁵ الشعراء ۲۶: ۱۶۵ ـ ۱۶۷

³⁶ العنكُبوت ٢٩ ـ ٢٨ ـ ٢٩

النمل ٢٧: ۵۵

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النمل، سورۃ الاعراف و دیگر۔

فَمَا كَانَ جَوَابَ قَوْمِهِ ۚ اِلَّا ۚ اَنْ قَالُوْ ۚ ا اَخْرِجُوْ ۚ ا اٰلَ لُوْطٍ مِّنْ قَرْيَتِكُمْ ۚ -اِنَّهُمْ اُنَاسٌ يَّنَطَهَّرُوْنَ۔ ³⁸ مگر اس كى قوم كا جواب اس كے سوا كچھ نہ تھا كہ انہوں نے كہا" نكال دو لوط كے گھر والـوں كو اپنى بستى سے، يہ بڑے پاک باز بنتے ہيں"۔

قَالُوْا لَبِنْ لَّمْ تَنْتَهِ يٰلُوْطُ لَتَكُوْنَنَّ مِنَ الْمُخْرَجِيْنَ۔³⁹

انہوں نے کہا" اے لوط! اگر تو باز نہ آیا تو جو لوگ ہماری بستیوں سے نکالے گئے ہیں ان میں تـو بھی شامل ہو کر رہے گا"۔

حضرت لوطً کی قوم پر عذاب کا فیصلہ اور اس کا نقشہ:

حضرت لوطً کی قوم کے اپنے نبی کے ساتھ طرز عمل اور اپنے اعمال بد پر ڈھٹائی سے قائم رہنے کے نتیجے میں اللہ تعالیٰ نے اس قوم پر عذاب کا فیصلہ کر لیا اور اتمام حجت کے لیے اپنے فرشتوں کو بھیجا جو پہلے حضرت ابراہیم کے پاس گئے ۔ انہیں حضرت اسحاق کی خوشخبری سنائی اور ساتھ ہی حضرت لوط کی قوم پر عذاب الٰہی کے فیصلے سے بھی باخبر کیا۔ جب یہ فرشتے خوبصورت لڑکوں کی شکل میں حضرت لوط کے گھر پہنچے تو ان مہمانوں کے ساتھ قوم کے طرز عمل، حضرت لوط کا بدستور اپنی قوم کو سمجھانے اور ان کی اپنے عمل قبیح کی کوشش پر اصرار نے ان پر حجت تمام کر دی۔ اور فرشتوں نے حضرت لوط کو رات کے حصے میں اپنے خاندان کو لے کر بستی چھوڑنے کی تاکید کی تاکہ قوم پر آنے والے عذاب سے دور نکل جائیں جو علی الصبح ہونے پر وارد ہونا تھا۔ اللہ تعالیٰ نے اس عذاب کا نقشہ قرآن مجید میں متعدد مقامات پرکھینچا ہے۔

وَ اَمْطَرْنَا عَلَيْهِمْ مَّطَرًا -فَانْظُرْ كَيْفَ كَانَ عَاقِبَةُ الْمُجْرِمِيْنَ ـ⁴⁰

اور۔ اس قوم پر برسائی ایک بارش، پھر دیکھو کہ ان مجرموں کا کیا انجام ہوا۔

(بارش سے یہاں مراد پانی کی بارش نہیں بلکہ پتھروں کی بارش ہے جیسا کہ دوسرے مقامات پر قرآن مجید میں بیان ہوا ہے)۔

فَلَمَّا جَــآءَ اَمْرُنَـا جَعَلْنَـا عَالِيَهَـا سَـافِلَهَا وَ اَمْطَرْنَـا عَلَيْهَـا حِجَــارَةً مِّنْ سِـجِّيْلٍ ۚ مَّنْضُوْدٍ ـ مُّسَوَّمَةً عِنْدَ رَبِّكً - وَ مَا هِيَ مِنَ الظَّلِمِيْنَ بِبَعِيْدٍ ـ ⁴¹

پھر جب ہمارے فیصلے کا وقت آ پہنچا تو ہم نے اس بستی کو تل پٹ کر دیا اور اس پر پکی ہوئی مٹی کے پتھر برسائے جن میں سے ہر پتھر تیرے رب کے ہاں نشان زد تھا اور ظالموں سے یہ سزا کچھ دور نہیں ہے۔

لَعَمْرُكَ اِنَّهُمْ لَفِىْ سَكْرَتِهِمْ يَعْمَهُوْنُ فَاَخَذَتْهُمُ الصَّيْحَةُ مُشْرِقِيْنْ فَجَعَلْنَا عَالِيَهَا سَافِلَهَا

- النمل ۲۷: ۵۶
- 3 الشعراء ۲۶: ۱۶۷
 - 40 الاع أف ٧: ٨۴
- 4 هود آ ۱ : ۸۳ ۸۳ ۸۳

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وَ اَمْطَرْنَا عَلَيْهِمْ حِجَارَةً مِّنْ سِجِّيْلٍْ إِنَّ فِىْ ذٰلِكَ لَاٰيٰتٍ لِّلْمُتَوَسِّمِيْنُ ⁴²

تیری جان کی قسم اے نبی! اس وقت ان پر ایک نشہ سا چڑھا ہوا تھا جس میں وہ آپے سے باہر ہوئے جاتے تھے۔ آخر کار پو پھٹتے ہی ان کو ایک زبردست دھماکے نے آ لیا۔ اور ہم نے اس بستی کو تل پٹ کر کے رکھ دیا اور ان پر پکی ہوئی مٹی کے پتھروں کی بارش برسا دی۔ اس واقعے میں بڑی نشانیاں ہیں ان لوگوں کے لیے جو صاحب فراست ہیں۔

وَ اَمْطَرْنَا عَلَيْهِمْ مَّطَرًأْ-فَسَآءَ مَطَرُ الْمُنْدَرِيْنُ اِنَّ فِىْ ذٰلِكَ لَاٰيَةً-وَ مَا كَانَ اَكْثَـرُهُمْ مُّؤْمِنِيْنُ وَ اِنَّ رَبَّكَ لَهُوَ الْعَزِيْزُ الرَّحِيْمُ⁴³

اورد ان پر برسائی ایک بارش، بڑی ہی بُری بارش تھی جو ان ڈرائے جانے والوں پر نازل ہوئی۔ یقیناً اس میں ایک نشانی ہے، مگر ان میں سے اکثر ماننے والے نہیں ہیں۔ اور حقیقت یہ ہے کہ تیرا رب زبردست بھی ہے اور رحیم بھی۔

عذاب الٰہی کے حوالے سے اللہ تعالیٰ کی سنت یہ بھی رہی ہے کہ صرف انبیاء اور ان کے ساتھ ایمان لانے والوں کو ہی اس عذاب سے بچایا گیا ۔ حتیٰ کہ نبی وقت کے بیوی بچے یا کسی اور اہل خانہ کو بھی عذاب سے نجات نہ ملی۔ حضرت نوح کی قوم پر جب عذاب آیا تھا اس وقت بھی پہلے ان کی بیوی حکم الٰہی کے مطابق پیچھے رہ جانے والوں میں تھی اور پھر ان کا بیٹا کنعان عذاب الٰہی سے بے پرواہ ہو کر حضرت نوح کے ساتھ کشتی میں سوار نہ ہونے پر موجوں کی نذر کر دیا گیا۔ اور حضرت نوح کو یہ باور کرایا گیا کہ وہ تیرے اہل میں سے نہیں تھا کیونکہ وہ ایمان نہیں لایا تھا۔ یعنی ایمان ہی وہ قدر مشترک ہے جو درحقیقت مومنوں کے باہم تعلق میں فیصلہ کن حیثیت رکھتی ہے۔

حضرت لوطً کے عرصہ دراز ایمان کی دعوت اور فحش حرکات سے باز رکھنے کی کوششوں کے باوجود ان کی قوم کا ایک فرد بھی ایمان نہ لایا تو اللہ تعالیٰ نے فرمایا کہ اس عذاب سے ہم صرف لوطً اور اس کے گھر والوں کو بچائیں گے۔ مگر سنتِ الٰہی کے تحت لوطً کی بیوی بھی عذاب کی مستحق قرار پائی۔ کیوں کہ وہ بھی اپنی قوم کے دین پر تھی اور حضرت لوطً کے پاس آنے والے مہمانوں کے بارےمیں اپنی قوم کے لیے جاسوسی کرتی تھی۔

چنانچہ حضرت لوطً کو اپنے گھر والوں کے ساتھ بطریق احسن اس بستی سے نکال کر ایک پاکیزہ زندگی عطا فرمائی گئی، جس کا تذکرہ سورۃ الاعراف، ہود، الحجر، الشعراء، النمل، العنکبوت، الصافات اورالقمر میں کیا گیا ہے۔ امام ابن کثیر ؓ کے مطابق حضرت لوطً جب اپنی بستی سے نکلے تو ان کے ساتھ صرف ان کی دو صاحبزادیاں تھیں۔ ⁴⁴

حضرت لوطً کی بیوی کے پیچھے رہ جانے اور عذاب الٰہی کا مستحق قرار دیے جانے کا تذکرہ صراحتاً ہر جگہ قـوم لوطً کے حالات اور انجام کے ضمن میں کیا گیا ہے۔

فَٱنْجَيْنٰهُ وَ اَهْلَهُ ۚ اِلَّا امْرَاَتَهُ ـَّ كَانَتْ مِنَ الْغُبِرِيْنَ⁴⁵

⁴² الحجر ۱۵: ۷۲ م

⁴⁵ الشعراء ۲۶: ۱۷۵_۱۷۸

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⁴⁵ الاع اف٧: ٨٣

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آخر کار ہم نے لوط اور اس کے گھر والوں کو بجز اس کی بیوی کے جو پیچھے رہ جانے والوں میں تھی، بچا کر نکال دیا۔

سورہ ہود میں ذکر ہے کہ فرشتوں نے اپنی آمد کا مقصد بتاتے ہوئے کہا:

فرشتوں نے اس سے کہا کہ 'اے لوط اُ ہم تیرے رب کے بھیجے ہوئے فرشتے ہیں، یہ لوگ تیرا کچھ نہ بگاڑ سکیں گے۔ پس تو کچھ رات رہے اپنے اہل و عیال کو لے کر نکل جا۔ اور دیکھو تم میں سے کوئی شخص پیچھے پلٹ کر نہ دیکھے۔ مگر تیری بیوی(ساتھ نہیں جائے گی) کیوں کہ اس پر بھی وہی گزرنے والا ہے جو ان لوگوں پر گزرنل ہے۔ ان کی تباہی کے لیے صبح کا وقت مقرر ہے اور صبح ہوتے اب دیر ہی کتنی ہے' سورۃ الحجر میں بھی لوط کی بیوی کے لیے اس فیصلے کا مقدر ہونا بتایا گیا ہے:

اِلَّا امْرَاَتَهُ قَدَّرْنَا ۖ -اِنَّهَا لَمِنَ الْغُيرِيْنَـ⁴⁷ـ

سوائے اس کی بیوی کے جس کے لیے(اللہ فرماتا ہے کہ) ہم نے مقدر کر دیا ہے کہ وہ پیچھے رہ جانے والوں میں شامل رہے گی۔

اسی حقیقت کو پھر سورۃ النمل، العنکبوت، الصافات و دیگر میں بھی دہرایا گیا ہے جس سے بدکرداروں کےساتھ دلی تعلق کو ایک مستوجب عذاب عمل ٹھہرایا گیا ہے۔

حضرت نوح اور حضرت لوط کی بیویوں کے مستحق عذاب الٰہی ہو جانے کی وجہ بتاتے ہوئے تمام افراد کو اس بات پر متنبہ کرنا مطلوب ہے کہ کسی نیک بندے کی رفاقت یا تعلق، حتیٰ کہ انبیاء کے ساتھ رشتہ داری بھی انکار الٰہی اور قبیح اعمال کے باعث عذاب سے نہ بچا سکے گی۔

اللہ تعالیٰ نے اس کی بہت خوبصورت وضاحت سورۃ التحریم میں فرمائی ہے:

ضَرَبَ اللَّهُ مَثَلًا لِّلَّذِيْنَ كَفَرُوا امْرَاَتَ نُـوْحٍ وَّ امْـرَاَتَ لُـوْطٍ . كَانَتَـا تَحْتَ عَبْـدَيْنِ مِنْ عِبَادِنَـا صَـالِحَيْنِ فَحَانَتُهُمَا فَلَمْ يُغْنِيَا عَنْهُمَا مِنَ اللَّه شَيْــًّا وَّ قَيْلَ ادْخُلَا النَّارَ مَعَ الدِّخليْنُ⁴⁸

اللہ کافروں کے معاملے میں نوح ؑ اور لوط ؑ کی بیویوں کو بطور مثال پیش کرتا ہے۔ وہ ہمارے دو صالح بندوں کی زوجیت میں تھیں مگر انہوں نے اپنے ان شوہروں سے خیانت کی اور وہ اللہ کے مقابلے میں ان کے کچھ بھی کام نہ آ سکے۔ دونوں سے کہہ دیا گیا کہ جاؤ آگ میں جانے والوں کے ساتھ تم بھی چلی جاؤ۔

⁴⁶ مود۱۱: ۸۱

⁴⁷ الحجر ١٥: ٩٠

⁴ التحريم ۶۶: ۱۰

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امام ابن کثیر اور سید ابو الاعلیٰمودودی دونوں نے لکھا ہے کہ یہ خیانت اس معنی میں نہیں تھی کہ وہ بدکاری کی مرتکب ہوئیں۔ کیونکہ ایسا ہرگز نہیں ہو سکتا کہ کسی نبی کی بیوی فاحشہ ہو بلکہ خیانت اس معنی میں ہے کہ انہوں نے ایمان کی راہ میں حضرت نوح اور حضرت لوط کا ساتھ نہ دیا، بلکہ ان کے مقابلے میں دشمنانِ دین کا ساتھ دیتی رہیں۔ 49

قرآن کریم اس بات کی وضاحت کرتا ہے کہ تمام عذاب زدہ اقوام کے جرائم اور انجام بیان کرنے کا مقصد رسول اللہ کی امت کو اور قیامت تک ان کی آنے والی نسلوں کو ان تمام اخلاقی بگاڑ کے انجام سے باخبر کرنا تھا۔ قوم لوط پر عذاب الٰہی کے نزول کا سبب ہم جنس پرستی تھا جس کے لیے اللہ تعالیٰنے فرمایا کہ اس قبیح فعل کا ارتکاب اس سے پہلے کسی قوم نے نہیں کیا۔ لیکن انسانی فطرت سے اغماض برتتے ہوئے شیطانی ترغیبات کے نتیجے میں دنیا نے پھر اس دائرے میں قدم بڑھائے۔ انفرادی اور اجتماعی بدکاری

ہم جنس پرستی اور ہم جنس شادیوں کا تاریخی پس منظر:

مغربی ذرائع کے مطابق ہم جنس تعلقات تمام قدیم تہذیبوں میں پائے جاتے تھے جن میں یونان،
روم، فلرس،۔ جاپلن،۔ چین لور۔ یورپی۔ لور۔ لمریکی۔ نوآبلدیلتی۔ مقلمی۔ آبلدیلں۔ شلمل۔ کی۔ جاتی۔ رہیں۔۔ مغربی۔ ذرلئع۔ لبلاغ
یونان اور اس کے بعد کی تمام تہذیبوں میں ہم جنس پرستی کی موجودگی کو اس کے جواز اور
ہر معاشرے میں اسے تسلیم کرنے اور روا رکھے جانے کے حوالے سے کرتے ہیں۔ مگر اس تاریخی
پس منظر میں قدیم ترین شاندار تہذیب میسوپوٹیمیا کا ذکر نہیں کرتے جو ۲۰۰۰ ۔ ۲۰۰۰ قبل
مسیح کے دوران سمیرین، اسیرین، اکیڈین اور بابیلونینن تہذیبوں کے مختلف ادوار پر مشتمل تھی۔ جہاں تقریباً
مسیح کے دوران سمیرین اسیرین، اکیڈین اور بابیلونینن تہذیبوں کے مختلف ادوار پر مشتمل تھی۔ جہاں تقریباً
حضرت ابراہیم نے فلسطین کو اپنا مسکن بنایا اور حضرت لوط کو شرق اردن (سدوم، عمورا اور دیگر شہروں) کے
حضرت ابراہیم نے فلسطین کو اپنا مسکن بنایا اور حضرت لوط کو شرق اردن (سدوم، عمورا اور دیگر شہروں) کے
علاقے میں آباد کیا اور یہیں وہ قوم بستی تھی جو دیگر غیر اخلاقی ہے راہ رویوں کے ساتھ ہم جنس پرستی میں
مبتلا تھی۔ انہیں اللہ تعالی نے بار بار تنبیہ کی اور پھر ان کے باز نہ آنے پران پرایسا عذاب بھیجا کی ان کا نام و
مبتلا تھی۔ انہیں اللہ تعالی نے بار بار تنبیہ کی اور پھر ان کے باز نہ آنے پران پرایسا عذاب بھیجا کی ان کا نام و

توراۃ اور بائیبل میں حضرتلوطاً کی قوم، جس کا صدر مقام صدوم (sodom) تھا اور عمورہ (Gomarrah) پر عذاب کا بھی بیان ہے اور قوم لوط کے عمل کو قابل سزا جرم بھی قرار دیا گیا ہے۔ مغرب کی جدید تاریخ کو دیکھا جائے تو قرون وسطی (Dark ages/Middle ages) نشاۃ

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Volume 2, number 2, October 2024

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ثانی□ (Renaissance) اور روشن خیالی (Enlightenment era) کے تمام ادوار میں ہم جنس پر ستی سے متعلق یہودیت اور عیسائیت کے تحت ان قوانین کا طلاق ہوتا تھا اور حضرتلوطاً کی عذاب زدہ بستی سدوم کے نام کی مناسبت سے Sodomy Laws کے تحت ہم جنس تعلق پر سزائے موت تھی۔ 50 18 ویں اور 1 9ویں صدی میں ہم جنس پرستی پر مبنی روپّے حتی کہ مردوں اور عورتوں کا لباس و دیگر۔ امور میں مشاہت اخ کرنا بھی قابل سزا اور معاشرتی طور پر ناپسندیدہ سمجھا جاتا تھا۔ 51 لیکن انقلاب فرانس کے بعد کیتھولک ممالک میں سدومیت (ہم جنس پرستی) کے خلاف قوانین کا خاتمہ کر دیا گیا۔ 1791میں فرانس وہ پہلی ریاست تھی جس نے ان قوانین کا خاتمہ کیا⁵²۔ بعد ازاں رفتہ رفتہ دیگر پورپی ممالک میں ان قوانین کا خاتمہ ہونے لگا۔ اگرچہ یہ عمل تقریباً ڈیڑھ صدی پر مشتمل تھا کیونکہ انگلینڈ ، جرمنی اور دیگر کئی ممالک میں 19ویں صدی کے اختتام تک ہم جنس پرستی پر سزائے موت، قید اور دیگر سزائیں موجود رہیں۔ 20ویں صدی کے وسط میں gays کی اجتماعی انجمن سازی ، مزاحمتی تحریکوں اور قوانین کی منسوخی کے مطالبات کے نتیجے میں امریکہ اور مختلف یورپی ممالک میں Gay Rights کے نام سے قانونی اور معاشرتی تحفظ کی جدوجہد شروع ہوگئی.⁵³ مغرب کے مخصوص پس منظر میں 20ویں صدی کے وسط میں جب آزادی اور مساوات کی تحریک نے زور یکڑا تو 1960سے1970کی دہائی میں پہلے امریکہ میں جنسی انقلاب وقوع پذیر ہوا جو جلد ہی دیگر 'ترقی یافتہ' اقوام میں پھیل گیا۔ اس تحریک و انقلاب نے مرد اور عورت کے درمیان شادی، ازواج کے درمیان جنسی تعلق ، خاندانی ڈھانچے اور۔ اس سے متعلق رویّوں کے حوالے سے قائم شدہ روایتی تصورات کو چیلنج کیا۔ نتیجہ ؓ 'محض شادی کے اندر جنسی تعلقات'، 'یک زوجیت کارشتہ' و دیگر غیر مطلوب روپے قرار دیئے گئے۔ اور شادی سے پہلے اور بعد 'آزادانہ جنسی تعلقات (free Sex)'، 'ہم جنسیت (homosexuality)'، 'فحش نگاری (pornography)'، 'مانع حمل ذرائع (contraceptives' اسقاط حمل (abortion)' کو فلسفیانہ، سائنسی اور قانونی بنیادی فراہم کی گئیں۔⁵⁴

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⁵⁰ Leviticus (احبار 20:13)۔ 'اگر کوئی مرد کسی مرد کے ساتھ جنسی تعلق رکھتا ہے جیسا کہ ایک عورت کے ساتھ کرتا ہے تو دونوں نے وہ کام کیا ہے جو قابل نفرت ہے۔ انہیں موت کے گھاٹ اتار دیا جائے گا۔ ان کا خون ان کے اپنے سر پر ہو گا۔' 51۔ بائبل کی کتاب استثناء (22:5) میں کراس ڈریسنگ کو ایک مکروہ فعل کے طور پر بیان کیا گیا ہے، جس میں کہا گیا ہے: 'عورت کو مردوں کا لباس نہیں پہننا چاہیے، کیونکہ رب تمہارا خدا ہر اس شخص سے نفرت کرتا ہے جو اسا کہ تا ہے۔'

Jean-François Mignot, Decriminalization of homosexuality since the 18th century, April 29, 2024, https://www.niussp.org/gender-issues/decriminalization-of-homosexuality-since-the-18th-century/

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خواتین میں ان حقوق کی جدوجہد کی مؤثر کوششوں کے نتیجے میں اس تحریک نے اقوام متحدہ کے پلیٹ فارم سے خواتین کے حقوق کی عالمی تحریک میں نفوذ حاصل کیا اور خواتین کے لیے بنیادی حقوق تعلیم، صحت، ملازمت کے مواقع، تشددکا خاتمہ اور دیگر کے ساتھ، خواتین کی چوتھی عالمی کانفرنس منعقدہ بیجنگ میں 1994، میں 1994، میں 1994 میں 1994 میں 1994 میں 1994 میں جنس پرستی اور دیگر جنسی حقوق پر مطالبات کو شامل کر لیا گیا۔

ہم جنس پرستی اور ہم جنس شادیوں کے جواز کیلئے نئی اصطلاحات کا وضع کیا حانا:

بیسویں صدی کی آخری دہائی میں ہم جنس پرستی کو جبلت اور طبیعیت کا میلان قرار دیتے ہوئے ایک عمل کے بجائے ایک رویّۃ قرار دیا گیا اور اس کے لئے جنسی رجحان ((Sexual Orientation کی اصطلاح وضع کی گئی۔ نفسیاتی ماہرین نے جنسی رجحان کی تعریف اس طرح کی کہ 'یہ ایک پائیدار جذباتی ، رومانوی یا جنسی کشش کا نام ہے جوعورتوں کے مابین، مردوں کے مابین، مردوں اورعورتوں کی طرف یا اپنی جنس مخالف کی طرف ہو سکتی ہے'۔ 56

بعد ازاں 'کسی بھی طرف ایسا میلان نہ ہونا (asexual)' بھی جنسی رجحان کی ایک جہت قرار پائی اور۔ 'جانوروں اور دیگر اشیاء' کی طرف بھی ایسے رجحان کی نشاندہی کی گئی۔

ان تمام گمراہ کن رویّوں کو عصر حاضر میں LGBTQ کا نام دے دیا گیا ہے۔ ہم جنس پرست افراد جو پہلے صرف homosexuals کہلاتے تھے، ان کی وسیع نمائندگی کیلئے پہلے LGB، پھر LGBT، LGBT، اور LGBTIQ کی اصطلاحات استعمال کی جانے لگیں۔ LGBT کی اصطلاح اور صرد کے تعلق)، Gays (مرد اور مرد کے تعلق)، Bi-Sexual (دونوں جنس سے تعلق رکھنے والے) اور عورت کے تعلق)، Transgender (اپنے شخصی میلان کی بنا پر مرد یا عورت کی جنس کواختیار کرنے والا فرد جو اپنی پیدائشی طور پر اعلان کردہ جنس سے غیر مطمئن ہو) کا مخفف ہے۔اس میں Inter sex (جنسی ابہام یعنی جنسی طور پر غیر متعین صفات کے ساتھ پیدا ہونے والا فرد) کا اضافہ بعد میں کیا گیا اور پھر Q کا اضافہ کے کوئی فرد ابھی اپنی جنس کے بارے مطمئن نہیں ہے اور ابھی کسی نتیجے پر نہیں پہنچا ہے۔

⁵⁵ Joke Swiebel, Open Edition Journals, Sextant, *Recognizing Gender and Sexuality at the United Nations*, 2015, pp. 25-41, https://doi.org/10.4000/sextant.2989

⁵⁶ American Psychological Association, *Understanding sexual orientation and homosexuality,* https://www.apa.org/topics/lgbtq/orientation

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خواتین کے حقوق کے پس منظر میں جنس (sex) اور صنف (gender) میں تفریق کے مباحث میں جنس کو کسی فرد کی پیدائش کے وقت حیاتیاتی (Biological) قرار دیا گیا اور صنف (Gender) کو ایک کیفیت یا رویّے کا نام دیا گیا جو ایک فرد خود اپنے بارےمیں محسوس کرتا ہے یا معاشرہ اس سے کسی خاص کردار کی توقع رکھتا ہے۔⁵⁷

اس تفریق کو جنسی رویّوں کے ساتھ ملا کر جنسی رجحان (Sexual Orientation) کے ساتھ صنفی شناخت (Gender Expression) اور صنفی اظہار(Gender Expression) کی اصطلاحات بھی سامنے آئیں جس کا مجموعہ SOGIE ہے (Transgender افراد کو نہ صرف سماجاً اور قانوناً تسلیم Setf-Perceived Gender Identity) فرنے بلکہ سائنسی اور میڈیکل بنیادوں پر ان کی Self-Perceived Gender Identity کے مطابق مرد سے عورت اور عورت سے مرد بننے کیلئے تمام سہولیات فراہم کر دیں۔

چنانچہ ان تمام اجتماعی کوششوں کے نتیجے میں ہم جنس پرستی اورد پھر ہم جنس شادیوں کو نہ صرف قانونی اور اخلاقی تحفظ حاصل ہو چکا ہے بلکہ اس کے خلاف کسی قسم کے اقدامات یا رویّوں کو قابل مذمت اورد موجب سزا قرار دیا گیا۔ مزید برآں اقوام متحدہ کی جانب سے متعدد بار تمام ممالک کو ہدایت کی گئی ہے کہ وہ اپنے ممالک میں ہم جنس پرستی کے خلاف موجود قوانین کی تنسیخ کریں، نیز اس عزم کا اظہار کیا گیا ہے کہ تمام ممالک کو آخر کار ہم جنس پرستی اور شادی کےحق میں قانون سازی اور دیگر اقدامات اپنانے ہوں گے۔ کیونکہ اقوام متحدہ حقوق انسانی کے عالمی منشور برائے انسانی حقوق میں اپنی پے درپے کوششوں سے اس عمل کو اضافی طور پر ایک بنیادی انسانی حق کے

طور پر شامل کر چکا ہے اور بیشتر ممالک اس کی توثیق کر چکے ہیں۔ 69

ہم جنس پرستی اور ہم جنس شادی کیلئے قوانین کی تدوین اور نفاذ کیلئے اختیار کردہ طریقے اورعددی صورتحال :

⁵⁷ Acronyms, Initialisms and Abbreviations Dictionary, Vol. 1. Part 1. Gale Research Co., 1985, ISBN 978-0-8103-0683-7, Factsheet five, Issues 32-36, Mike Gunderloy, 1989

⁵⁸ SOGIE TERMS DESK AID *Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Expression*, https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/policies/external/

⁵⁹ Jill Dougherty (June 17, 2011). "U.N. council passes gay rights resolution". CNN. Retrieved September 20, 2018.

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چند ایسے ممالک ہیں جن کے آئین کے تحت ہم جنس پرست جوڑوں کو قانونی تحفظ حاصل ہے اور۔ ان کے خلاف کسی طور پر امتیاز نہیں برتا جا سکتا۔ 60 جرمنی کے ایک اہم تحقیقی ادارے کے 30 ممالک سروے کے نتائج کی روشنی میں آبادی کے 9 سے 10 فیصد افراد ہم جنس روپوں میں ملوث پائے جاتے ہیں۔⁶¹ دیگر ممالک نے مساوات اوع انسانی حقوق کی آڑ میں اپنے قوانین کو مرتب کرتے ہوئے اس تحفظ کی راہ نکالی۔ تاریخی تناظر میں دیکھا جا سکتا ہے کہ 20ویں صدی کے وسط سے ہم جنس پرستی کی تحریک اجتماعی طور پر مضبوط ہوتے ہوئے اور بتدریج پیش قدمی کرتے ہوئے اکیسویں صدی کے آغاز میں ہم جنس شادی **ک**ے **آغاز پرمنتج ہوئی**. نیدر لینڈ سے ۲۰۰۶ء میں آغاز کے بعد سے ۲۰۱۸ء کے اعداد و شمار کے مطابق ۲۵ ممالک میں قانونی تحفظ حاصل ہو چکا تھا۔ پیو ریسرچ سینٹر کے تحت جون ۲۰۲۴ تک ۳۰ ممالک میں ہم جنس شادی کو قانونی طور پر تسلیم کر کے مختلف معاشروں میں رائج کر دیا گیا ہے۔ ان ممالک میں برطانیہ، ویلز، امریکہ ، آسٹریلیا، جرمنی، فرانس، نیوزی لینڈ، فن لینڈ، مالٹا، کینیڈا، سیین، ڈنمارک، برازیل، ساوتھ افریقہ، بلجیئم، ناروے، سویڈن ، میکسیکو، ارجنٹینا، آسٹریا، سویٹرز لینڈ و دیگر شامل ہیں۔ اس حوالے سے اعداد و شمار کی تفاہ انٹرنیٹ پر دیکھی جا سکتی ہے۔⁶² گزشتہ دو دہائیوں میں اس سلسلے میں غیرمعمولی قوانین، پالیسز، رویے، اصطلاحات اور اقدامات دنیا کے منظر نامے پر ابھرے ہیں۔ مخالف جنس کے ساتھ فطری اورروایتی طریقہ زوجیت کے برخلاف ہم جنس تعلقات و شادی کو ایک عموم کے طور پر دنیا میں نافذ کرنے کیلئے ہمہ جہتی طریقے اختیار کئے جار ہے ہیں۔ ان رویوں اور طرز عمل کو 'انسانی حقوق' 'شہری حقوق'، 'خواتین کے حقوق'، 'انسانی مساوات' اور 'شادی میں مساوات' کے اصولوں اور قوانین کے لبادے میں آگے بڑھایا گیا۔ اعلی عدالتوں کے ذریعہ شادی کے قوانین میں تبدیلیاں کی گئیں اور ہم جنس پرستی کو جرائم اور سزا کے دائرے سے باہر نکالا گیا۔ فلسفیانہ بنیادوں اور قانونی کوششوں کے ساتھ ساتھ افراد کی ذہن سازی کیلئے نصابی اور غیر نصابی سرگرمیوں، فلم، ڈرامہ، ناولز کہ بچوں کے کارٹون پروگرام اور۔ کرداروں کو بھی استعمال کیا جا رہا ہے۔ ⁶³

ہم جنس پرستی، ہم جنس شادی اور مختلف ممالک کے قوانین:

63 Papa pig Cartoon is an example Films and dramas examples

⁶⁰ UCLA, Carla Denly | June 27, 2016, *LGBT rights and protections are scarce in constitutions around the world*, at:http://newsroom.ucla.edu/releases/lgbt-rights-and-protections-are-scarce-in-constitutions-around-the-world-uclastudy-finds. last accessed on 24.01.2019

⁶¹ Statista, LGBTQ+ worldwide - Statistics & Facts https://www.statista.com/aboutus/our-research-commitment

⁶² PEW Research Centre, Same-Sex Marriage Around the World, Fact Sheet, June 28, 2024, https://www.pewresearch.org/religion/fact-sheet/gay-marriage-around-the-world/

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ہم جنس شادی کے مطالبات کے نتیجے میں بہت سے ممالک میں "دائمی رفاقت کے قوانین" (Partnership acts (Partnership acts) منظور کئے گئے۔ جس کا مطلب ہے کہ جس طرح مخالف جنس کے افراد (Heterosexuals) رشتہ ازدواج میں منسلک ہو کر ایک جوڑے کی شکل میں رہتے اور مختلف سماجی، معاشی اور تمدنی حقوق سے بہرہ مند ہوتے ہیں اسی طرح ہم جنسیت پر حامل افراد بھی پارٹنر کی حیثیت سے خود کو رجسٹر کروا کر ملک کے سماجی، معاشی اور تمدنی حقوق حاصل کر سکتے ہیں۔ ہم جنس شادی کو قانوناً تسلیم کئے جانے کے ساتھ خاندانی زندگی سے متعلق دیگر امور جیسا کہ خاندان یا گھرانے میں بچوں کی موجودگی کو ممکن بنانا تھا۔ چنانچہ ہم جنسیت پر حامل شادی شدہ جوڑوں کیلئے بچوں کو گود لینے(Adoption کی موجودگی کو ممکن بنانا تھا۔ چنانچہ ہم جنسیت پر حامل شادی شدہ جوڑوں کیلئے بچوں کو گود لینے(کی اجازت کا ملنا ہی مکمل کامیابی تسلیم کیا گیا۔ 44 بعد ازاں (IVF) Invitro Fertilization (IVF) (کرائے پر رحم مادر کے حصول کے ذریعے) تولیدی عمل میں نر اور مادہ خلیوں) کا ملاپ اور Surrogacy (کرائے پر رحم مادر کے حصول کے ذریعے) تولیدی عمل کو بھی اولاد کے حصول کا ذریعے بنایا جا رہا ہے۔ مغرب میں چونکہ ان طریقوں میں قانونی جواز کو اصل سمجھا جاتا ہے اور ان کے جائز یا ناجائز ہونے، نسب کی فکر اور رحم کے رشتوں کی حرمت جیسے اصوا پنے معاشروں کے ساتہ تمام دنیا میں پھیلانے پر اصرارے۔

ان تمام کوششوں اور اقدامات کے باوجود شادی میں برابری کی کوششیں کوتمام ممالک یا انسانوں کے نزدیک مکمل پذیرائی حاصل نہیں ہو سکی ہے۔ ایشیا، افریقہ اور لاطینی امریکہ کے بیشتر حصوں میں اب بھی ہم جنس شادیوں پر پابندی کے قوانین موجود ہیں۔ تقریباً 70 ممالک میں ہم جنس تعلقات کو جرم قرار دینے کا سلسلہ جاری ہے۔ دنیا LGBTIQ قبولیت کے حوالے سے پولرائزڈ ہے۔ مذہبی مزاحمت اور ہم جنس شادی کی تحریک پر وبائی امراض کے دریافت اور غیر دریافت شدہ اثرات کے بسبب بہت سے ممالک میں مخالفت ابھی مضبوط ہے۔

⁶⁴ Nancy Tresil, *The Fight for Legal Recognition of Same-Sex Parenting Rights in The Fight for Legal Recognition of Same-Sex Parenting Rights in The United States*, The Graduate Center, City University of New York, 9-2017, <u>AcademicWorks@cuny.edu/</u> Helen M. Alvare, *Same-Sex Marriage and the "Reconceiving" of Children*, Case Western Reserve Law Review, 2014, Volume 64 Issue 3 Article 7/ Aparna Hyanki, *ADOPTION BY SAME-SEX COUPLES: STILL A TABOO?* International Journal of Novel Research and Development IJNRD, © 2024 IJNRD | Volume 9, Issue 4 April 2024 ISSN: 2456-4184 | IJNRD.ORG

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انحراف کی ایک اور شکل ٹرانس جینڈرازم اسی تحریک کا شاخسانہ ہے۔ اس سے مراد ہے اس صنفی شناخت کا احساس جو پیدائش کے وقت تفویض کردہ جنس سے مطابقت نہیں رکھتا۔ یوں ٹرانس جینڈر مرد اور ٹرانس جینڈرعورت کی اصطلاح وجود میں آئی۔ 65 باقاعدہ طور پراس اصطلاح کا استعمال 1960۔ 1965میں شروع ہوا۔ 66 یہاں جینڈریعنٹ صنف اور سیکس یعنی جنس کو دو مختلف چیزوں کے طور پر لیا گیا ہے۔ اس تعریف کے مطابق اگر کسی فرد کے رجحانات اس کی پیدائشی اور حقیقی جنس یعنی سیکس سے مختلف ہیں تو اسے یہ حق حاصل ہے کہ وہ اپنے رجحانات کی بنیاد پر اپنے آپ کو اسی طرح ظاہر کرے اور شناختی دستاویزات پر اسی طرح لکھوائے(اسلام میں اس کا کوئی تصور نہیں ہے۔ جرمنی کے تحقیقی ادارے کے تحت 2023 میں کیے گئے ایک عالمی سروے میں، 30 ممالک کے تین فیصد جواب دہندگان نے خود کو ٹرانس جینڈر، غیر بائنری/غیر موافق/جنسی سیال، یا کسی اور طریقے سے شناخت کیا۔

مالک جن میں ہم جنس پرستی یا ہم جنس شادی کی اجازت ہے

اب تک، دنیا کے 33 ممالک ہم جنس شادیوں کو تسلیم کرتے ہیں، اور 34 دیگر ہم جنس جوڑوں کے لیے شراکت داری کی کچھ شناخت فراہم کرتے ہیں۔ افریقہ میں، ہم جنس شادیاں اور سول یونینز صرف جنوبی افریقہ، اورچند فرانسیسی جزائرمیں قانونی ہیں۔ میکسیکو میں، کچھ دائرہ اختیار ہم جنس پرست جوڑوں کو شا کرنے کی اجازت دیتے ہیں، جبکہ دوسرے نہیں کرتے۔ ⁶⁷ ان میں سے بیشتر ممالک میں ٹرانسجینڈرزکو بھی سماجی اور قانونی حقوق حاصل ہیں اور وہ اپنی جنس اور نام بغیر کسی طبی مداخلت کے تبدیل کر سکتے ہیں۔

ممالک جن میں ہم جنس پرستی یا ہم جنس شادی کی اجازت نہیں ہے

ایک مشترکہ LGBTI حقوق ویب سائٹ کے مطابق 2019 میں 73 ممالک میں ہم جنس پرست سرگرمیاں غیر قانونی تھیں، جن کا تعلق زیادہ تر مشرق وسطی، افریقہ اور ایشیا سے تھا۔ 68 2023 میں ایسے ممالک 64 رہ گئے جن کے قوانین ہم جنس پرستی کو جرم قرار دیتے ہیں۔ ہم جنس پرست تعلقات کو مجرم قرار

 $^{^{65}}$ اس کا تذکرہ اصطلاحات کے ضمن میں کیا جا چکا ہے

⁶⁶ Dictionary.com,*Transgenderism Definition and Meaning*, https://www.dictionary.com/browse/transgenderism

⁶⁷ BBC News. Homosexuality: *The countries where it is illegal to be gay*, 31 March 2023, https://www.bbc.com/news/world-43822234/

⁶⁸ Equaldex, Homo Sexual Activity, http://www.equaldex.com/, last accessed on 24.01.2019

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دینے والے بہت سے قوانین نوآبادیاتی دور سے شروع ہوتے ہیں۔ اور بہت سی جگہوں پر، ان قوانین کو توڑنے پر طویل قید یا موت کی سزا ہو سکتی ہے۔ دولت مشترکہ کے 53 ممالک میں سے (سابق برطانوی کالونیوں کی تنظیم) 29 ممالک ہم جنس پرستی کو جرم قرار دیتے ہیں۔ اگرچہ اصل برطانوی قوانین صرف مردوں پر لاگو ہوتے ہیں، لیکن آج ہم جنس پرستی کو جرم قرار دینے والے ممالک میں خواتین کے ساتھ جنسی تعلق رکھنے والی خواتین کے لیے بمی سزائیں ہیں۔⁶⁹

مسلم ممالک کی قانونی صورتحال:

مسلم ممالک میں مجموعی طور پر ہم جنسیت اور ہم جنس شادی غیر قانونی ہے ان ممالک میں الجیریا، مصر ،
لیبیا، مراکش، سوڈان، تیونس، موریطانیہ ، لبنان، عمان، فلسطین، اردن ، شام، یمن، قطر،
سعودی عرب، کویت ، متحدہ عرب امارات، بحرین ، ایران ، عراق، برونائی، انڈونیشیا ، ملائیشیا،
بنگلہ دیش ، افغانستان، ترکی اور پاکستان نمایاں ہیں۔ ان تمام ممالک کے فوجداری قوانین کے تحت ہم جنس
تعلقات قابل سزا جرم ہے۔ یہ سزائیں عموماً ایک سے دس سال یا عمر قید تک بھی ہو سکتی ہیں۔ اس کے ساتھ
مالی جرمانہ یا کوڑوں کی سزا بھی کچھ ممالک میں موجود ہے اور موت کی سزا بھی موجود ہے۔ انڈونیشیا میں
جنس پرستی پر کوئی سزا موجود نہیں ہے۔ جنوبی سوڈان وہ واحد ملک ہے جہاں آئین میں ہم جنس شادی پر پابند
ی ہے۔ البتہ انڈونیشیا اور ترکی میں LGBT حقوق کو محدود طور پر تسلیم کیا گیا ہے لیکن ہم جنس
شادی غیر قانونی ہے۔ جن ممالک میں ہم جنسیت کی قانونی سزا "سزائے موت"ہے ان میں ایران، سوڈان،
سعودی عرب، یمن ، شام، عراق اور صومالیہ اور نائیجریا کے کچھ علاقے شامل ہیں۔ اگرچہ موریطانیہ، افغانستان ،
سعودی عرب، یمن ، شام، عراق اور صومالیہ اور نائیجریا کے کچھ علاقے شامل ہیں۔ اگرچہ موریطانیہ، افغانستان ،
سام عمل درآمد نہیں ہوا ہے۔ ⁷⁰ پاکستان کے فوجداری قانون کے مطابق بھی غیر فطری جنسی تعلقات جرم تصور کیا
عمل درآمد نہیں ہوا ہے۔ ⁷⁰ پاکستان کے فوجداری قانون کے مطابق بھی غیر فطری جنسی تعلقات جرم تصور کیا

اردن، ترکی ، انڈونیشیا، شام اور ایران میں ٹرانسجینڈرزکو قانونی طور پر طبی سرجری کے ساتھ تبدیلی جنس اجازت دی گئی ہے۔ دیگر مسلم ممالک میں ٹرانسجینڈرز کو کسی قسم کی قانونی حیثیت حاصل نہیں ہے۔

⁶⁹ BBC News, *Homosexuality: The countries where it is illegal to be gay*, 31 March 2023, https://www.bbc.com/news/world-43822234

⁷⁰ World Economic Forum, *This is the state of LGBTI rights around the world in 2018, at:* https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2018/06/lgbti-rights-around-the-world-in-2018/. last accessed on 24.01.2019

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خلاصہ مقالہ

LGBT حقوق کی جدوجہد ، ان کا حصول اور ہم جنس شادی کے قانونی نفاذ کے پھیلاؤ سے دنیا کے طول و عرض میں افراد اورممالک اس کی زد میں آتے جارہے ہیں۔ عالمی رویّوں کےاثرات پاکستان میں گزشتہ دہائی سے نسبتاً مربوط کوششوں میں منتج ہو رہے تھے۔ گزشتہ چند سالوں میں مخصوص پس منظر رکھنے والی۔ فعالیت پسند خواتین نے خواتین کے عالمی دن کے حوالے سے 'عورت مارچ' میں ان سلوگنز کو برسرعام اور میڈیا میں انتہائی جرأت کے ساتھ پیش کیا۔ ہمارے معاشرے میں خنثیٰ (انٹر سیکس) اورخواجہ سرا(بنیادی طور پر مرد) افراد کو درپیش مسائل کو اجاگر کرنے اور ان کے حقوق کے تحفظ کی جدوجہد کے لئے تنظیم سازی شرو ہوئی اور۔ ان تمام افراد کو ٹرانس جینڈر کا عنوان دے دیا گیا۔ پاکستان میں 2018ء میں منظور اور۔ نافذ ہونے والے Transgender Persons (Protection) Actکے ذریعے سے اہامات پیدا کر کے اس ایجنڈے کو پاکستان کے مسلم معاشرے میں آگے بڑھانے کی کوشش کی گئی۔ بہت سی تنظیمیں ٹرانس جینڈر زکے نام پر قائم ہوئیں جن کے اندر انٹرسیکس افراد کے علاوہ ہم جنس پرست اور زیادہ ایسے لوگ ہیں جو اپنے آپ کو ٹرانس (اپنی فطری جنس سے غیر مطمئن ہو کردوسری جنس اضتیار کرنے والے) کہتے ہیں اور اس وقت ملک میں کام کرنے والی بہت سی تنظیمیں ٹرانس جینڈر رائٹس کے نام سے ہی کام کر ںہی ہیں۔ بیسیوں ایسی تنظیمیں ہیں جوکھلم کھلا ایل جی بی ٹی کے نام سے کام کرتی ہیں، اور انہیں میڈیا پر بھی اظہار خیال کا موقع ملنے لگا جو سوشل میڈیا کے دور میں ان کے لئے زیادہ سو مند ہؤا۔ حالانکہ ہم جنسیت کے حوالے سے اسلام کا موقف بہت واضح ہے یعنی سختی سے مذمّت ، احتیاطی تدابیر کا اختیار کیا جانا اور۔ ارتکاب پرسزائیں تجویز کی گئی ہیں۔

زیر نظر مقالے میں متعلقہ گناہوں سے متعلق قرآن و سنت اور بعد ازاں فقہی آراء کی روشنی میں تجویز شدہ سزاؤں اور ان کی شرائط پیش کرنے کی تو گنجائش نہیں ہے البتہ غوروفکر کے لیے چند اہم نکات پیش کیے جا رہے ہیں۔کیا ظلم و ستم پر مبنی رویوں، معاشرتی عدم توازن و عدم عدل و انصاف، و دیگر رویّوں کے ساتھ یہ قبیح جرم موجودہ عذاب الٰہی کا موجب تو نہیں ہے؟

قرآنی حکم کے مطابق کھلے اور۔ چھپے فحش افعال سے بچنے کے حکم پر ہم انفرادی اور مجموعی طورپر کس طرح عمل پیرا ہیں؟

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کیا سنت الٰہی کے مطابق ایسے فتنے جن سے صرف مبتلا افراد ہی مامون نہیں رہیں گے، ہمارے اندر امر بالمعروف و نہی عن المنکر کے فریضہ کی ادائیگی کے لیے اضطراب پیدا نہیں کر رہا؟

کیا میڈیا کا ان موضوعات کو حسین بنا کر پیش کیا جانا ہمارے معاشرے کو مزید بے راہ روی کی طرف لے جانے کا ذریعہ نہیں بن رہا؟

کیا ہم اپنی قوم خصوصاً نوجوان نسل کے سامنے حیا اور ایمان کے باہم تعلق کا اظہار و یقین پیدا کرنے میں کامیاب ہوں گے؟

کیا ہم انہیں مقاصد نکاح، خاندان کی بنیادوں اور معاشرتی اقدار کا علم نہیں دیں گے؟

کیا ہم اپنے معاشرے، اپنی نسل کو ان فتنوں سے بچانے کے لیے کوئی احتیاطی تدابیر اختیار کرنے کا عزم مصمم کریں گے؟

اگر ہم احکام الٰہی کی مخالفت کرتے ہوئے یا اسے برداشت کرتے ہوئے ان نکات پر غور نہیں کریں گے تو اللہ کے اس فرمان کو یاد رکھیں:

وَيٰقَوْمِ لَا يَجْرِمَنَّكُمْ شِقَاقِى ۚ اَنْ يُّصِيْبَكُمْ مِّثْلُ مَاۤ اَصَابَ قَوْمَ نُوْحٍ اَوْ قَوْمَ هُوْدٍ اَوْ قَوْمَ طُلِحٍث وَمَا قَوْمُ لُوْطٍ مِّنْكُمْ بِبَعِيْدٍ 71

اور اے قوم! میری مخالفت تم سے کوئی ایسا کام نہ کروا دے کہ جیسی مصیبت نوح کی قوم یا ہود کی قوم یا صالح کی قوم پر واقع ہو۔اور لوط کی قوم (کا زمانہ) تو تم سے کچھ دور نہیں۔ ہود ۸۹:۱۱

The Journal of Arts, Sociology and Humanities

Volume 2, number 2, October 2024

The Journal of Arts Sociology and Humanities (THE JASH) thejash.org.pk, principal@thjash.org.pk

> پا کستان میں تعلیمی اصلاحات - چند تجاویز عبدالرحمن عابد سابق اے ایس پی آفیسر abidjs@gmail.com

Abstract

The primary goal of education is the character building of the new generation. Since the establishment of Pakistan, numerous efforts have been made for educational policies and reforms in our country. However, unfortunately, the desired results of these efforts are not visible in the new generation.

Had the new generation been acquainted with proper education, by now our students? Good human beings, better Muslims, and patriotic Pakistanis contributing to the nation's progress. Always seen respecting their parents, teachers, and elders. Exhibiting patience and tolerance in their behavior. Filled with a sense of responsibility and respect for the law.lessed with mental peace. Possessing leadership qualities .Leading Pakistan as an exemplary Islamic state on the world stage.

Unfortunately, none of these attributes are visible in our country today. While there are many reasons for this decline, the biggest reason is our flawed educational system. Hence, there is an urgent need for the country's leadership and education experts to come together and pave the way for a revolutionary change in the field of education. A long-term educational policy should be formulated, one that yields far-reaching results. Furthermore, to implement this policy effectively, a strategic plan should be devised to help us achieve our goals. For this purpose, comprehensive short-term and long-term educational reforms will be necessary.

خلاصہ

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تعلیم کا اصل مقصد نئی نسل کی کردارسازی ہے- قیامِ پاکستان سے لے کر اب تك ہمارے ملك میں تعلیمی پالیسی اور تعلیمی اصلاحات کے لئے متعدد کوششیں کی جا چکی ہیں لیکن بدقسمتی یہ ہے ان کاوشوں کے خاطر خواہ -نتائج نئی نسل میں دکھائی نہیں دے رہے ہیں

اگر نئی نسل صحیح تعلیم سے روشناس ہوتی تو اب تك ہمارے طلباءایك اچھا انسان- ایك بہتر مسلمان اور ایك محبِّ --وطن پاکستانی کی حیثیت سے ملکی ترقّی میں اپنا کردار ادا کر رہے ہوتے

- -وہ ہر وقت اپنے والدین- اساتذہ اور بڑوں کا ادب کرتے دکھائی دیتے
- -اُن میں صبر اور برداشت کا مادہ بدرجہ اتم موجود ہوتا جو ان کے رویے میں جھلك رہا ہوتا
 - -وہ احساسِ ذمہ داری اور قانون کے احترام کے جذبے سے سرشار ہوتے
 - -وہ ذہنی سکون کی دولت سے مالا مال ہوتے
 - وہ قائدانہ صلاحیتوں کے مالك ہوتے -
 - -وہ پاکستان کو ایك مثالی اسلامی ریاست بنا کردنیا بھر کی قیادت کر رہے ہوتے ۔

لیکن بدقسمتی سے ہمیں اپنے ملك میں ایسی کوئی چیز دکھائی نہیں دیتی- اگرچہ اس تنزّلی کے بہت سے اسباب ہیں تاہم اس کا سب سے بڑل سبب ہمارا غلط تعلیمی نظام ہے- چنانچہ اس امر کی شدید ضرورت ہے کہ ہمارے اربابِ اقتدار اور پاکستان کے ماہرینِ تعلیم سر جوڑ کر بیٹمیں اور تعلیم کےمیدان میں ایك انقلاب برپا کرنے کے لئے راہ ہموار کریں- ایك ایسی طویل المیعاد تعلیمی پالیسی مرتّب کی جائے جو دُور رس نتائج کی حامل ہو- اور پھر اُس کو عملی جامہ پہنانے کے لئے ایسی منصوبہ بندی کی جائے جو ہمیں اپنی منزل تك پہنچا دے- اِس مقصد کے لئے -قلیل المیعاد اور طویل المیعاد دونوں قسم کی جامع تعلیمی اصلاحات درکار ہوں گی

تعليمى پاليسى

ہم جانتے ہیں کہ پاکستان برِّصغیر کے مسلمانوں کی عظیم قربانیوں کے بعد وجود میں آیا۔ تحریك پاکستان کا مقصدیہ تھا کہ مسلمانوں کے لئے ایك علیحدہ ملك حاصل کیا جائے جس میں مسلمان اپنی زندگی اسلامی شریعت یعنی قران و سنّت کے مطابق بسر کر سکیں۔ چنانچہ ٤-٥ صوبے جن کے رہنے والے مختلف مزاج کے مالك ہیں۔ جو مختلف زبانیں بولتے ہیں۔ جن کی تہذیب و ثقافت ایك دوسرے سے مختلف ہے اور جن کا طرززندگی بھی بالكل الگ ہے اِن سب صوبوں کو ملا کر ایك ملك پاکستان کا قیام عمل میں آیا۔ آخر کیوں؟ محض اس لئے کہ ان کے درمیان صرف اور صرف ایك قدرِمشترك ہے اور وہ یہ ہے کہ وہ سب مسلمان ہیں اور اللہ اور رسول پر یقین رکھتے ہیں۔ اگر یہ قدرمشترك نكال دی جائے تو ایك علیحدہ مملکت ۔ پاکستان۔ کے نہ تو قیام کا کوئی جواز تھا اور نہ ہی

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اس کے وجود کا کوئی جواز ہے- یاد رہے کہ اسلام میں کسی قسم کی جغرافیائی- لسانی اور ثقافتی بنیاد پر امتیاز کی گنجائش نہیں ہے- اسلام ان تمام حدود و قیود سے ماوراء ہے- اسی لئے ایك مسلمان سب سے پہلے مسلمان ہے -پھر کچھ اور

اس پس منظر میں ہماری اوّلین قیادت کی سب سے بڑی ذمہ داری یہ تھی کہ وہ ملك کو ایسی راہ پر ڈال دیتے کہ ہماری زندگی کے تمام شعبوں میں بتدریج اسلامی شریعت کے قوانین نافذ ہو جاتے۔ قیام پاکستان کا یہ مقصد قائد اعظم محمد علی جناح اور دیگر قائدین کے ذہن میں بالکل واضح تھا۔ بدقسمتی سے ہمارا نوزائدہ وطن بہت جلد اِس بے لوث قیادت سے محروم ہو گیا۔ نئی قیادت اپنے اکابرین کے راستے پر نہ چل سکی۔چنانچہ قیام پاکستان کے ۔اصل مقصد یعنی اسلامی شریعت کے نفاذ کی جانب کوئی پیش رفت نہ ہو سکی

اربابِ اقتدار جو کہ تعلیمی پالیسی تشکیل دینے کے ذمّہ دار تھے اُن کے اپنے ذہن میں اِسلامی تعلیمات کا صحیح تصور نہیں تھا۔ اِس کا نتیجہ یہ ہؤا کہ آج ستّر برس سے زائد گزر جانے کے بعد بھی ہم یہ فیصلہ نہیں کر پائے ہیں کہ ہم پہلے پاکستانی ہیں اور۔ پھر مسلمان یا ہم پہلے مسلمان ہیں اور۔ پھر پاکستانی۔ نسلی تعصبات ہمیں صوبائی خودمختاری کی جانب گھسیٹ لے گئے۔ایک واحد ملک چار پانچ صوبوں میں بٹ گیا اور۔ اب اِن صوبوں کے مزید ٹکڑے – ہونے جا رہے ہیں۔اِس صورتِ حال کی ذمہ دار ہماری غلط تعلیمی پالیسیاں ہیں

تعلیمی پالیسی کے اُہداف

- -:ایك مسلم قوم کی حیثیت سے ہماری تعلیمی پالیسی کے اُہداف یہ ہونے چاہئیں
- ۱- ہر طالبعلم کے ذہن میں یہ اِحساس اُجاگر کیا جائے کہ وہ سب سے پہلے ایك مسلمان اور پھر ایك پاکستانی ہے۔
 - ۲- ہر طالبعلم کو ایك سچا اور پكا مسلمان اور ایك مُحِبّ وطن پاکستانی بنایا جائے۔
- ٣- طلبہ کے ذہن میں یہ بات واضح کر دی جائے کہ اسلامی شریعت کے نفاذ میں ہی پوری انسانیت کی بھلائی ہے۔
 - ٤- انسانی اَخلاق کی تعلیم کے ذریعے اُن میں اَخلاقی اَقدار کو فروغ دیا جائے۔
- ٥- اُن میں ایسی قائدانہ صلاحیتیں پیدا کی جائیں کہ وہ اپنے اسلاف کے نقشِ قدم پر چل کر پو*ری* دنیا کی امامت کر سکیں۔
 - ٦- أن كے دلوں میں والدین- اساتذہ اور بزرگوں كے احترام اور ان كى فرمانبردارى كا جذبہ پیدا كیا جائے۔
 - ۷- اُنہیں چھوٹوں سے پیار اور محبت کا رویّہ سکھایا جائے۔
- ۸- اُن میں ریاست کے قانون کا احترام کرنے اور اس پر برضا و رغبت کسی سزا کے خوف کے بغیر عمل کرنے
 کی عادت پختہ کی جائے۔

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۹- اُنکی زندگی خَوفِ خُدا-تقوی اور پرہیزگاری کا مرقع ہو اور لالچ اور خودغرضی سے پاك ہو۔ عُمدہ اَخلاق کی مدد
 سے وہ اپنی زندگی شریعت کے مطابق بسر کرنے والے بن جائیں۔

۱۰- اُن کی تربیت اس طرح کی جائے کہ وہ ایك وسیع القلب انسان کی حیثیت سے پروان چڑھیں اور۔ اُن میں صبر اور۔

برداشت کا مادّہ بدرجہ اتم موجود ہو۔

تعلیمی منصوبہ بندی

بلا شبہ مندرجہ بالا مقاصد کا حصول ایک پُر خلوص طویل المیعاد مُلك گیر منصوبہ بندی کا متقاضی ہے۔وفاقی حکومت کی یہ اوّلین ذمہ داری ہے کہ وہ صوبائی حکومتوں کو اعتماد میں لیکر تعلیمی اصلاحات کو حتمی شکل دے اور پھر وفاقی اور صوبائی حکومتیں مل کر اِس نئے نظامِ تعلیم کو بلا کم و کاست عملی طور پر نافذ کریں۔

نیا نصاب تعلیم

ہمارے ملك كوہر سطح پر ايك ايسے نئے نصابِ تعليم كى ضرورت ہے جس كے ذريعہ ہم قيامِ پاكستان كے مقاصد حاصل كر سكيں۔ اسلام كے بنيادى نظريات اس نصاب كا لازمى جزو ہونے چاہئيں اور ان نظريات كى جھلك سكول- كالج اور يونيورسٹى كى ہر سطح پر پڑھائے جانيوالے تمام مضامين ميں نظر آنى چاہئے۔ خواہ يہ مضامين فزكس- كيمسٹرى-رياضى يا طِبّ ہوں يا اسلاميات-عربى- تاريخ يا فلسفہ ہوں۔ پورے نصاب ميں اس بات كو يقينى بنايا جائے كہ ابتداء ہى سے طالبعلم كے ذہن ميں يہ بات بالكل واضح ہو جائے كہ انسان كو اس دنيا ميں كس لئے بھيجا گيا -ہے ۔قران كے مطابق انسانى تاريخ كيا ہے اور اس دنيا كے بعد انسان كى نئى زندگى كيسے شروع ہونيوالى ہے

نصابِ تعلیم اور اسلام کے بنیادی نظریات

ہمارے نظامِ تعلیم کی کامیابی کا دارومدار صرف اس امر پر ہے کہ ہمارے نصابِ تعلیم میں اسلام کے بنیادی نظریات سمو دئے جائیں۔ یہ اُسی صورت میں ممکن ہے کہ جن حضرات کے کندھوں پر یہ ذمہ داری ہو وہ سچے اور پکے مسلمان ہوں۔ شریعت پر پوری طرح عمل پیرا ہوں اور ان میں ایسی قابلیت اور صلاحیت موجود ہو کہ وہ اسلام کے بنیادی نظریات کو تمام مضامین میں سمو سکیں۔ یہ کام کیسے انجام پائے گا اس کو ذرا تفصیل سے سمجھنا ہو گا۔ مثلاً آپ نے ریاضی کی کتاب میں ایک طالبعلم کو ۹۰ ڈگری کے زاوئیےکا تصور دینا ہے۔ آپ یہ کام دو طریقوں سے دکر سکتے ہیں

ایک طریقہ یہ ہے کہ آپ کتاب میں ایک لڑکی کی تصویر دکھائیں جو مِنی سکرٹ پہن کر زمین پر سندھی کھڑی ہو۔ اس کے بعد طالبعلم کو بتایا جائے کہ اس لڑکی کی (ننگی) ٹانگ اور۔ پاؤں کے درمیان ۹۰ ڈگری کا زاویہ بن رہا ہے۔

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دوسرا طریقہ یہ ہے کہ آپ کتاب میں ایك لڑکے کي تصویر دکھائیں جو قومی لباس میں ملبوس نماز کے دوران رُکوع کی صحیح حالت میں ہو- اس کے بعد طالبعلم کو بتایا جائے کہ اس لڑکے کي دونوں ٹانگوں اور۔ کمر کے درمیان ۹۰ ڈگری کا زاویہ

بن رہا ہے۔

ایک اور مثال لیجئے: ایک استاد کیمسٹری کی لَیب میں اپنے طلبہ کو پانی بننے کا فارمولا سمجھا رہا ہے۔ وہ کہتا ہے کہ ہائیڈروجن اور آکسیجن کو ۱:۲ کی نسبت سے ملایا جائے تو پانی بن جاتا ہے۔

دوسرا استاد کہتا ہے کہ الّلہ تعالی نے ہائیڈروجن اور آکسیجن میں یہ خاصیت رکھی ہے کہ جب انکو ۱:۲ کی نسبت سے ملایا جائے تو الّلہ تعالی انکویانی میں تبدیل کر دیتے ہیں۔

ان دونوں مثالوں پر غور کریں۔ پہلا طریقہ اختیار کر نے سے آپ کے طلبہ ایک خاص سمت میں جا رہے ہیں جبکہ دوسرا طریقہ اختیار کر نے سے آپ کے طلبہ بالکل اسکی مخالف سمت میں جا رہے ہونگے- دونوں کی تربیت ایک -دوسرے سے بالکل مختلف ہو گی اور دونوں مختلف منزل پر پہنچ کر دَم لینگے

یہ ہے وہ تبدیلی جو ہمارے نصابِ تعلیم کی سمت درست کر پائے گی ۔ یہ عظیم کام انجام دینے کے بعدتمام مضامین اسلامی بن جائینگے اور اسلامی شریعت کے تقاضوں کو پورا کریں گے۔ اس کے بعد اسلامیات اور اخلاقیات کو علیحدہ مضمون کے طور پر پڑھانے کی ضرورت نہیں رہے گی۔ اگرچہ یہ اتنا آسان کام نہیں ہے لیکن اس کی ابتداء تو بہر حال کرنا ہی ہو گی۔

یکساں نظام تعلیم اور یکساں نصاب تعلیم

جب تك نصابِ تعليم كو اسلامى شريعت كے مطابق ڈھالنے كا اہم كام شروع ہو كر تكميل پذير نہيں ہوتا اس وقت تك ہميں كچھ فورى اقدامات كرنا ہونگے۔ ان ميں ايك اہم قدم تمام تعليمى ادروں ميں يكسال نظامِ تعليم اور يكسال نطاب تعليم كا نفاذ ہے۔

برطانوی سامراج کے اختتام پر قیامِ پاکستان کے وقت ہمیں دو مختلف نظامِ تعلیم ورثہ میں ملےجو اب بھی ہمارے -:ملك میں ساتھ ساتھ رائج ہیں

-۱- جدید علوم جو ہمارے سکول-کالج اور۔ یونیورسٹی میں پڑھائے جاتے ہیں

-۲- دینی علوم جو ہمارے دینی مدارِس میں پڑھائے جاتے ہیں

اسلام میں دین اور۔ دنیا الگ الگ نہیں ہیں- اسی طرح عبادات اور معاملات بھی علیحدہ علیحدہ نہیں ہیں-انگریز۔ نے برّ صغیر میں پوری منصوبہ بندی کر کے دو الگ الگ نظام تعلیم رائج کئے اور۔ اسطرح وہ مسلمانوں میں تفرقہ پیدا

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کر کے انہیں دو طبقوں میں تقسیم کرنے میں کامیاب ہو گیا- ایك دینی طبقہ اور ایك دنیاوی طبقہ- دُکھ اس بات کا ہے کہ آزادی حاصل کرنے کے بعد بھی ہم اور ہمارے قائدین انگریز کی اس چال کو سمجھ نہ پائے- ہم نے ان دو طبقوں کو قریب لا کر ایك قوم بنانے کی بجائے اس طبقاتی کشمکش کو اور ہَوا دی اور اسطرح جدید علوم حاصل کرنیوالے طلبہ اور دینی مدارس کے طلبہ کے درمیان ایك خلیج حائل ہو گئی جو مسلسل وسیع ہوتی جا ری ہے- نہ صرف یہ بلکہ ہم نے ان دونوں طبقوں کوبھی مزید طبقات میں تقسیم کر کے رکھ دیا- گورنمنٹ سکول-پرائیویٹ سکول-ماڈل سکول-انگلش میڈیم-اُردو میڈیم اور دینی مدارس میں حنفی مسلك-بریلوی مسلك-شافعی مسلك اور نہ جانے کیا کیا- ہماری قومی تعلیم انہیں چکروں میں گم ہو کر رہ گئی- اتنے مختلف اور متضاد طبقات جب عملی زندگی میں داخل ہونگے تو قومی یکجہتی کہاں باقی رہے گی؟

اس گھمبیر مسئلے کا صرف ایک ہی حل ہے اور وہ ہے ایک ایسا یکسال نظامِ تعلیم اور یکسال نصابِ تعلیم جس میں اسلام کے بنیادی نظریات پوری طرح سمو دئے گئے ہوں۔ جب ہم ایسا کرنے میں کامیاب ہو جائینگے تو دنیا کے دوسرے ممالک کی طرح ہمارے تمام تعلیمی ادروں میں ایک ہی نصابِ تعلیم رائج ہو گاجو ہمارے طلبہ کی تمام دینی و دنیاوی ضروریات پوری کرے گا- ہمارے ہر تعلیمی ادارے سے فارغ ہونیوالا طالبعلم پہلے ایک سچا اور پکا مسلمان اور پھر ایک مُحِبِّ وطن پاکستانی ہوگا- اسکی انفرادی اور اجتماعی زندگی اسلامی شریعت کا پَیکر ہوگی- وہ پہلے اپنے ملک کی ترقی میں اور پھر پوری انسانیت کی ترقی میں اپنا اہم کردار ادا کرے گا

-ظاہر ہے کہ اس کام کے لئے ایك طویل مدت اور منصوبہ بندی دركار ہے

فورى اقدامات

پاکستان میں یکساں نظامِ تعلیم نافذ کرنا ایک بہت بڑا کام ہے۔ اس کیلئے سکول-کالج اور یونیورسٹی میں ہر سطح پر پڑھائے جانیوالے تمام مضامین کا نصاب از سرِ نَو اِس طرح مرتب کرنا ہو گا کہ اسلام کے بنیادی نظریات ہر مضمون میں سمو دئے جائیں۔ یہ نظریات دینی مدارس کے نصاب میں بھی شامل کرنے کی ضرورت ہے۔ اس کام کیلئے کافی محنت اور۔ وقت در کار ہے۔

اپنے نظامِ تعلیم کو اس راہ پہ ڈالنے کیلئے ایک فوری قدم اٹھانا ہو گا- وہ یہ کہ فی الحال ہم اپنے تمام تعلیمی اداروں میں موجودہ نصاب کو جاری رکھتے ہوئے کچھ مضامین کا اضافہ کر دیں- اس کے لئے ہمیں دو کام کرنا -:ہونگے

۱- تمام سکول-کالج اور یونیورسٹی کے طلبہ کیلئے ہر سطح پر کچھ دینی مضامین لازمی قرار دے دئے جائیں۔

۲- اسی طرح تمام دینی مدارس کے نصاب میں بھی کچھ جدید مضامین شامل کرکے انہیں لازمی قرار دے دیا جائے۔

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یہ بات یقین سے کہی جا سکتی ہے کہ ایسا کرنے سے ان دونوں گروہوں کے طلبہ کے درمیان حائل خلیج کم ہونی شروع ہو جائیگی- انگلش میڈیم سکول اور یونیورسٹی کے فارغ التحصیل اور دینی مدارس کے فارغ التحصیل دونوں میں ایک دوسرے کی لئے برداشت اور مل جل کر رہنے کا جذبہ پیدا ہو گا اور ہمارے معاشرے میں طبقاتی کشمکش بتدریج کم ہونا شروع ہو جائے گی۔یقین جانیں یہ ایک بہت بڑا انقلاب ہو گا جس سے پورے نصاب کو اسلامی خطوط پر مرتب کرنے میں بڑی مدد ملے گی۔

اضافی دینی مضامین برائے سکول-کالج اور یونیورسٹی

۱- عربی زبان

اللہ تعالی نے انسانیت کی ہدایت کیلئے اپنی آخری کتاب عربی زبان میں نازل فرمائی۔ قُرانِ کریم کی حقیقی روح کو سمجھنے کیلئے عربی زبان سیکھنا ایك لازمی امر ہے۔ لہذا انگریزی کے ساتھ ساتھ عربی زبان (گرامر اور ترجمہ) پہلی جماعت ہی سے لازمی قرار دیجائے۔ عربی کے بارے میں عام تاثر یہ ہے کہ یہ ایك مشکل زبان ہے۔ یہ درست نہیں ہے۔ حقیقت یہ ہے کہ عربی دنیا کی تمام زبانوں میں ایك نہایت آسان اور ضابطوں کی پابند زبان ہے۔ ذخیرہ الفاظ میں یہ دنیا بھر میں اوّل نمبر پر ہے۔ الفاظ کی ادائیگی اور گرامر کے قواعد کی پابندی میں یہ اپنا ثانی نہیں رکھتی۔ اردو زبان کے اسّی فیصد الفاظ عربی سے لئے گئے ہیں۔لہذا پاکستانیوں کیلئے عربی سیکھنا کوئی بڑا مسئلہ نہیں ہے۔

۲- قران اور حدیث

قران اور حدیث سے انتخاب پہلی جماعت ہی سے نصاب کا لازمی جزو بنایا جائے۔

۳- اسلام کے بنیادی نظریات

انسان کی تخلیق کے بارے میں اسلام کے بنیادی نظریات-بنی نوعِ انسان کیلئے اللہ کی طرف سے انبیاء کے ذریعے بھیجی جانیوالی ہدایت اور رہنمائی- صحیح اور غلط کا تصوّر-امر بالمعروف و نہی عن المنکر-قیامت کا تصوّر وغیرہ یہ وہ موضوعات ہیں جو طلبہ کو ہر سطح پر اس انداز۔ سے پڑھائے جائیں کہ ان کے ذہنوں میں اسلام کی صحیح تصویر نقش ہوتی چلی جائے اور اسلام کی غلط اور بگڑی ہوئی تصویر مٹ جائے۔

٤- اسلامى أخلاقيات

اسلام کے دئے گئے اَخلاقِ حَسَنہ جو آج کے دَور میں ہماری روزمرّہ زندگی کی لئے ضروری ہیں ان کو نصاب کا لازمی -جزو بنایا جائے

٥- اسلامي تاريخ اور ثقافت

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اسلامی تاریخ اور اسلامی تہذیب و ثقافت بطور مضمون ہر سطح پر لازمی ہو- ان موضوعات پر کتابیں اس طرح تصنیف کی جائیں کہ طلبہ اپنے مسلمان ہونے پر فخر کر سکیں اور دنیا کو آگاہ کر سکیں کہ ان کے اَسلاف (مسلمان سائنسدانوں اور فلسفیوں)نے ماضی میں کس طرح سوئے ہوئے یورپ کو جگا کر جہالت کے اندھیروں سے نکالا اور علم کی روشنی سے منوّر کر کے جدید سائنسی ترقی کی داغ بیل ڈالی- علامہ اقبال کے فلسفے اور شاعری سے انتخاب کو نصاب کا لازمی جزو بنایل جائے۔

٦- اسلامي فقم

مسلمان ہونے کے ناطے ہمارے طلبہ کو اسلامی فقہ سے روشناس کرانا بہت ضروری ہے۔اس کیلئے ضروری ہے کہ -منتخب فقہی مسائل ہر سطح پر نصاب میں شامل کئے جائیں

۷- شخصیت کی نشو و نما

طلبہ کی شخصیت کی نشو و نما کو نصاب کا لازمی جزو بنایا جائے۔ اس مقصد کے لئے انہیں صفائی اور۔ پاکیزگی۔ کھانا پکانا - ہر قسم کے آداب- اندازِگفتگو۔ قوتِ فیصلہ اور پیچیدہ مسائل کو حل کرنے کی اہلیت جیسے ہنر سکھائے جائیں۔

اضافی جدید مضامین برائے دینی مدارس

۱- انگریزی زبان

دینی مدارس میں ایك پرائمری پاس طالب علم كو نَو سال كے عرصے میں درسِ نِظامی كا كورس مكمل كرایا جاتا ہے۔ اس پورے نصاب میں انگریزی كا كہیں ذكر تك نہیں ہے۔ یہی وجہ ہے كہ دونوں طبقوں میں دُوری اور منافرت بڑھتی جا رہی ہے۔ اس لئے جہاں جدید تعلیم میں عربی كو لازمی قرار دینا ضروری ہے وہاں دینی مدارس كے نصاب میں بھی ہر سطح پر انگریزی كو لازمی مضمون كی حیثیت دینا ضروری ہے۔ اس سے دونوں طبقوں كو قریب لانے میں مدد ملے گی۔

۲- ریاضی

ابتدائی ریاضی کو دینی مدارس کے پہلے تین سالوں کے نصاب کا لازمی حصہ بنایا جائے۔

۳- اکنامکس

-جدید اکنامکس کا تعارف بھی ان طلبہ کیلئے نہایت ضروری ہے- سال ٤-٥ اور۔ ٦ اس کیلئے مناسب ہو گا

3- اسلام کے بنیادی نظریات

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اگرچہ دینی مدارس کے طلبہ قران-حدیث اور فقہ پر دسترس تو حاصل کر لیتے ہیں لیکن اس کے باوجود وہ اس امر سے ناواقف رہ جاتے ہیں کہ اسلام کے بنیادی نظریات سے آج کے دور میں رہنمائی کیسے حاصل کرنی ہے۔ اس سلسلہ میں ان کی ذہنی تربیت بہت ضروری ہے۔ اسلام امن و آشتی کا جو پیغام پوری انسانیت کو دیتا ہے اسے واضح کیا جائے۔ جہاد اور قتال کا فرق واضح کر کے انہیں بتایا جائے کہ اسلام ہمیشہ محبت اور پیار سے لوگوں کو اپنا گرویدہ بناتا ہے جبکہ شدت پسندی اور دہشت گردی سے ہمیشہ اسے نقصان ہی ہؤا ہے خواہ یہ شدت پسندی فقہی مسلك میں ہی کیوں نہ ہو۔ یہ تعلیمات طلبہ کو سال ٤-٥ اور ٦ میں دی جا سكتی ہیں۔ علامہ اقبال کے فلسفے اور شاعری سے انتخاب کو نصاب کا لازمی جزو بنایا جائے۔

٥- کمپيوٹر

طلبہ کو پہلے سال سے ہی کمپیوٹر کا استعمال سکھایا جائے اور ہر شعبے میں کمپیوٹر کے استعمال کی حوصلہ افزائی کی جائے۔

٦- شخصیت کی نشو و نما

طلبہ کی شخصیت کی نشو و نما کو نصاب کا لازمی جزو بنایا جائے۔ اس مقصد کے لئے انہیں صفائی اور۔ پاکیزگی۔ کھانا پکانا - ہر قسم کے آداب- اندازِگفتگو۔ قوتِ فیصلہ اور پیچیدہ مسائل کو حل کرنے کی اہلیت جیسے ہنر سکھائے جائیں۔

٧- جديد علوم ميں دلچسيي

جدید علوم میں طلبہ کی دلچسپی کی حوصلہ افزائی کی جائے- فارغ اوقات میں انہیں میٹرئ-ایف اے اور بی اے کے امتحانات دلوائے جائیں تا کہ آگے چل کر وہ ایم اے- ایم فِل اور پی-ایچ-ڈی کر کے اچھا روزگار حاصل کر سکیں۔

-امید ہے کہ یہ پہلا قدم دونوں طبقوں میں دُوری کم کر نے میں بہت حد تك ممد و معاون ثابت ہو گا

ایك غلط فهمی

یہاں ایک غلط فہمی کا ازالہ ضروری ہے۔ بعض لوگ یہ سمجھتے ہیں کہ موجودہ نصاب میں کچھ مضامین کا اضافہ کرنے سے طالبِ علم پر بوجھ پڑ جائیگا جس کا وہ متحمل نہیں ہو سکے گا - لیکن یہ ایک خام خیالی ہے اور ایک اچھے اقدام سے بچنے کامحض ایک بہانہ ہے- تجربہ سے یہ بات ثابت ہے کہ ایک اوسط درجے کی ذہانت کا مالک

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طالبعلم ان اضافی مضامین کا بڑی آسانی سے احاطہ کر سکتا ہے- نہ صرف یہ بلکہ اگر وہ تھوڑی سی محنت کر لے تو وہ بورڈ اور یونیورسٹی میں پوزیشن بھی لے سکتا ہے۔

یہ تجربہ سب سے پہلے ۱۹٦۰ میں مدرسہ جامع العلوم ملتان اور شاہ ولی اللہ اورینٹل کالج حیدرآباد میں کیا گیا جہاں مندرجہ بالا نصاب اب بھی رائج ہے۔یہ دونوں تعلیمی ادارے آج بھی قومی خدمت میں اپنا کردار ادا کر رہے ہیں۔ ان سے فارغ التحصیل طلبہ زندگی کے ہر شعبے (سول سروس-میڈیکل-انجنئیرنگ-تدریسس-کاروبار)میں اپنی پیشہ وارانہ ذمہ داریاں بڑی کامیابی سے انجام دے رہے ہیں۔ یہ لوگ ہر جگہ اپنی صداقت-دیانت-محنت-خلوص اور لگن کی بناء پر نمایاں نظر آتے ہیں۔ دوسرا تجربہ گورنمنٹ سیکٹر میں ۲۰۰۲ میں کیا گیا جب وفاقی وزارت مذہبی امور نے حاجی کیمپ اسلام آباد اور حاجی کیمپ سکھر میں دو دینی مدرسوں کا آغاز کیا۔ یہ دونوں ادارے بھی مندرجہ بالا خطوط پر کامیابی سے چل رہے ہیں۔

اساتذہ کی تربیت

کسی بھی نظامِ تعلیم کی کامیابی کے لئے ایمان دار-مخلص-محنتی اور تربیت یافتہ اساتذہ کی ایک ٹیم کا وجود نہایت ضروری ہے- بد قسمتی سے ہمارے ملك میں اس پہلو کو مسلسل نظرانداز کیا جا رہا ہے- جہاں ہمارے اساتذہ خاص طور سے ابتدائی تعلیم دینے والے اساتذہ کو معاشرے میں ایک با عزت مقام دینے کی ضرورت ہے وہاں ان کو مناسب تربیت کے مواقع فراہم کرنا بھی ایک نہایت ضروری امر ہے- اساتذہ کو اس بات پہ آمادہ کیا جائے اور انہیں اس قابل بنایا جائے کہ وہ نئی نسل کی صحیح خطوط پر تربیت کرنے میں اپنا کردار ادا کر سکیں- اساتذہ کی پوری زندگی اپنے طلبہ کیلئے ایک نمونہ ہونی چاہئے-ان کی گفتار اور ان کا کردار ایسا ہو جو ان کے طلبہ کی صحیح رہنمائی کر سکے- اس کے لئے اساتذہ کو اپنی شخصیت ایسی بنانا ہوگی کہ وہ اعلی کردار کے مالک ہوں اور انکے اندر اخلاقی اقدار کُوٹ کُوٹ کر بھری ہوئی ہوں- اس اہم پہلو پر توجُہ دئے بغیر کوئی بھی تعلیمی پالیسی کامیاب نہیں ہو سکتی۔

اساتذہ کی تربیت کے لئے ایک جامع نظام ترتیب دیا جائے۔ اس مقصد کیلئے بے غرض۔ پُرخلوص اور اچھی شہرت کے مالک ریٹائرڈ معلمین کی خدمات حاصل کی جائیں۔ امید ہے کہ ان میں سے بہت سے لوگ یہ خدمات رضاکارانہ طور پر انجام دینے کیلئے تیار ہو جائینگے۔ تربیتی پروگراموں کیلئے مناسب بجٹ فراہم کرنا ہوگا۔ اساتذہ کی تربیت کے پروگرام کا آغاز اسلام آباد سے کیا جائے۔ بعد ازاں صوبائی حکومتیں انہی خطوط پر اپنے پروگرام تربیت دیں۔ ماہرینِ تعلیم اور تجربہ کار اساتذہ پر مشتمل مختلف ٹیمیں تشکیل دی جائیں اور۔ اساتذہ کی تربیت ۔ کی ذمہ داری مندر جہ ذیل اداروں کو تفویض کی جائے۔

Federal Directorate of Education,	۱- سرکاری سکول اور۔
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Islamabad	كالج
Private Educational Institutions	۲- پرائیویٹ سکول اور۔
Regulating Authority (PEIRA)	كالج
Higher Education Commission (HEC)	۳- یونیورسٹیاں

یہ ٹیمیں اسلام آباد کے تمام تعلیمی اداروں کا دَورہ کریں اور۔ ان میں اساتذہ کی تربیت کے لئے سیمنار اور۔ ورکشاپ منعقد کریں۔ ان سرگرمیوں کا بنیادی مقصد یہ ہونا چاہئے کہ اساتذہ کو متحرك کر کے ان میں یہ قابلیت پیدا کر دی جائے کہ وہ اپنے طلبہ کو عملی زندگی کے لئے اس طور پر تیار کریں کہ ان کے ذہن میں اسلام کا صحیح تصور اجاگر ہو اور وہ اپنی تعلیم مکمل کرنے کی بعد اعلی اخلاقی اقدار کے مالك بن كر زندگی کے تمام شعبوں میں اپنی قائدانہ صلاحیتیں بروئے کار لا سکیں۔ یہ سیمنار اور ورکشاپ تسلسل اور باقاعدگی کے ساتھ منعقد ہونے چاہئیں اور ان میں تمام اساتذہ کی شرکت کو یقینی بنایا جائے۔

عمل درآمد

حکومت سے مندرجہ بالا سفارشات کی منظوری کے بعد ان پر عمل درآمد کو یقینی بنانے کیلئےنگرانی کا ایک جامع اور مؤثِّر نظام وضع کرنا ہو گا- جو لوگ اس راہ میں جو بھی رکاوٹ ہو۔ اسے دور کیا جائے- صرف اسی صورت میں -تعلیم کے میدان تبدیلی لا کر ہم نیا پاکستان بنا سکتے ہیں

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ترکهانان دا مُنڈا اور میانوالی

تحریر: محمد خان نیازی آف چٹہ وٹہ

ایک عرصہ تک اغیار میانوالی والوں کو طعنہ دیتے رہے کہ پورے ہندوستان میں انگریزوں کو پروانۂ شمع ِ ناموسِ رسالت غازی علم دینؒ شہید کو تختہ دار کے سپرد کرنے کی ہمت میانوالی جیل کو جیل کے علاوہ کسی دوسرے مقام پر نہ ہوئی۔ انگریزوں کا پھانسی کے لیے میانوالی جیل کو منتخب کرنے کی "رموزِ مملکت خویش خسرواں دانند" کے مصداق کئی وجہات ہو سکتی ہیں مگر اتنا ضرور کہوں گا؛

مرا طعنہ مزن اے مدعی، طرز ادائیم بیں

 1 منم رندے خراباتی سر بازار می رقصم

"اے ظاہربین مدعی! مجھے طعنہ مت دے، میری طرزِ ادا دیکھ مَیں تو عشـق کے شـراب خـانے کا رند ہوں۔اس لیے سرِبازار رقص کرتا ہوں ۔ "

اس کی تفصیل یوں ہے کہ یہ تو ایک اعزاز تھا جس کے لیے ربِ کـریم نے پـورے بـر صـغیر میں میانوالی کی میں زمین کو چن لیا۔ آج میں نوجوان نسـل کـو اُس زمـانے کے اہلیـانِ میـانوالی کی طرزِ ادا ،اُن کے سـرِ بـازار رقصِ بِسـمِل، ذہـنی اضـطراب، پیچ و تـاب، دلِ بیتـاب اور جیـل کی دیواروں اور دروازوں سے سر پٹکتے ہوئے انسانوں کے سیلاب کی کہانی اجمالاً بتانا چاہتـا ہوں کہ تاریخ کے ریکارڈ کی درستگی کے لیے نہایت اہم امرہے۔

1923ء میں ہسپتال روڈ لاہور کے ایک کتب فروش را جپال نے سرورِ کائنات ا کی ذاتِ اقدس پر ایک گستاخانہ کتاب شائع کردی۔ مسلمانوں کے جذبات انتہائی مجروج ہوئے مگر انہوں نے پہلے پہل قانونی چارہ جوئی کا راستہ ا پنایا ۔مقدمہ سُست روی سے چلتا رہا۔ ماتحت عدالت نے اُسے دو سال قیداور ایک ہزار روپے جرمانہ کی سزا سنائی لیکن ہائی کورٹ لاہور کے جسٹس شادی لال کی عدالت سے وہ بری ہو گیا۔ ہندووں نے خوشی کے شادیانے بجائے ۔ مسلمانوں کے سینوں پرسانپ لوٹ گئے اور حکومتِ وقت سے مایوس ہو کرمسلمانوں کے صبر کا پیمانہ چَھلکنے لگا۔ کہ ستمبر 1927ءکو ایک مسلمان خدا بخش نے راجپال پر قاتلانہ حملہ کیا مگر وہ بچ گیا۔ حملہ آور کو فوراً سات سال قید کی سزا سنا دی گئی۔ اس سے اگلے مہینے ایک اور سرفروش عبد العزیز نے را جپال کو قتل کرنے کی کوشش کی جونا کام رہی اور عبد العزیز کو چـودہ سـال کی سزائے قید ملی۔ ساتھ ہی راجپال کو سرکاری سیکیورٹی فـراہم کـر دی گئی مگر تـا بہ کَـے۔ سزائے قید ملی۔ ساتھ ہی راجپال کو سرکاری سیکیورٹی فـراہم کـر دی گئی مگـر تـا بہ کَـے۔

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آجل اُس گستاخ کے سر پر غازی علم دینؒ کی صورت نمودار ہوئی اور 6 اپریل 1929ء کو غازیؒ کے ہاتھوں واصلِ جہنم ہوا ۔ راتوں رات غازی علم دینؒ کا ستار ویستان بھر کے مسلمانوں کا ہیرو بن کر اُبھرا۔ ہندوؤں کا غصّہ بھی دیدنی تھا۔ گیا اور وہ ہندوستان بھر کے مسلمانوں کا ہیرو بن کر اُبھرا۔ ہندوؤں کا غصّہ بھی دیدنی تھا۔ معاملہ عدالت میں گیا۔ انگریز ماضی قریب میں تحریکِ خلافت کے دوران میں مسلمانوں اور ہندوؤں کے اتحاد و اتفاق سے خائف تھے سو اُنہوں نے دونوں قوموں کے اختلاف کی خلیج کو وسیع کرنے اور ہندوؤں کی ہمدردی حاصل کرنے کے لئے اس مقدمے کو سُرعت سے چلا کر اگلے ہی مہینے اس کو موت کی سزا سنادی۔ لاہور ہائی کورٹ نے اسی سال اپنے جولائی کے فیصلہ میں اس سزا کو برقرار رکھا ۔ غآزی کے اس اقبالی بیان کے باوجود کہ " میں نے کسی انسان ان کو قتل کرنے کا جرم نہیں کیا" (گویا ازجہال ایک شیطان تھی، سزا بحال رہی اور رحم کی کو قتل کرنے کا جرم نہیں مگر انگریز سرکار سزا پر تلی ہوئی تھی، سزا بحال رہی اور رحم کی ایپل بھی خارج ہو گئی۔غازی علم دینؒ 4 اکتوبر 1929ء کو میانوالی کا مہمان بنا اور ستائیس دنوں بعد 31 اکتوبر 1929ء کو شہادت کے مرتبے پر فائز ہو گیا ۔تقریباً تیرہ دن اُس کا جسد خاکی امانتا میانوالی کی مٹی کو افتخار بخشتا رہا اور اگلے دن علی الصبح لاہور پہنچایا گیا۔ 2

اُس زمانے میں ٹی وی تھا، نہ ریڈیو اور نہ ہی اخبار گاؤں گاؤں پہنچتے تھے۔ سوائے اس کے کہ صدرمقام ہونے کی وجہ سے چند اخبارات کی کاپیاں میانوالی شہر میں ضرور پہنچتی تھیں مگر یہ خبر پورے ضلع میں جنگل کی آگ کی طرح پھیل گئی ۔ لوگوں کے ٹھٹھ کے ٹھٹھ روزانہ جیل کے باہر جمع ہو جاتے تھے جو اُس زمانے میں شہر سے دُور "ذخیرہ" نامی جنگل میں واقع تھی ۔ جوں جوں خبر دُور دراز کے دیہات تک پھیلتی گئی توں توں مسلمانوں کا مذہبی جنون انتہاؤں کو چھُونے لگا ۔ میانوالی کے لوگوں کا اس کڑے وقت میں کوئی لیڈر تھا اور نہ ہی پیشوا۔ تحریک کے ایک وفد نے اس زمانے کے بزرگ مولوی اکبر علی جن کے نام کی مسجدآج بھی موجود ہے، سے فتویٰ لینے کا فیصلہ کیا کہ آیا جیل توڑ کر غازیؒ کو رہائی دلانا دینی لحاظ سے جائز ہے ؟۔ مولوی مزید برآن اگر اس کوشش میں جانیں چلی جائیں تو کیا یہ شہادت کی موت ہوگی اور اگر وہ نہ صاحب نے فرمایا ، "اگر غازی علم دین اس بات کی اجازت دے تو شہادت ہوگی اور اگر وہ نہ

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مانے تو یہ بلوہ ہوگا"۔ اُس کے رشتہ داروں نے ملاقات پـر میـانوالی کے لوگـوں کے جـذبات غـازَی تک پہنچائے۔ اُس نے جو کچھ کہلا بھیجا ، اس کا مفہُوم کچھ یوں تھا "میں میانوالی کے لوگوں کے جذبے کو سلام کرتا ہوں ، مجھے شہادت قبول ہے مگر ایسی رہائی منظور نہیں"۔3

لوگوں کا غصّہ اس جواب سے کسی حد تک ٹھنڈا ہوا مگر اس کو چھُڑانے کی اپنی سی کوششوں میں کمی نہ آسکی۔ شہرِمیانوالی ان دنوں سیاسی سرگرمیوں کا محـور بن چکا تھا۔ اسی سال 1929ء کے جولائی میں معرُوف ہندو حریّت پسند بھگت سنگھ نےمیانوالی جیل میں تاریخی بھوُک ہڑتال کردی تھی جس کے بارے میں کہا جاتا ہے 14 1دن تک جاری رہی تھی۔ وہ انتہائی لاغر ہو گیا تھا مگر کچھ کھانے پینے کو تیار نہ ہوتاتھا۔ جیل حکام ہروقت زبر دستی اُسے کچھ کھلانے کی کوشش میں مصروف رہتے تھے۔ اسی وجہ سے پورے برصغیر کے خصوصاً ہندو پریس کی مرکزِ نگاہ میانوالی جیل تھی ۔ چار اکتوبر 1929ء کو غازیؒ بھی میانوالی جیل میں رونق افروز ہوتا ہے ۔ اسے سیکیورٹی وارڈ (بیرک) 6 کی کو ٹھڑی (چکی) نمبر 10 الاٹ ہوتی ہے اور اگلے دن پانچ اکتوبر 1929ء کو بھگت سنگھ اپنے باپ کِشن سنگھ کے کہنے پر اور کانگریسی قرار داد کے نتیجے میں اپنی طویل بھوک ہڑتال ختم کر دینے پر آمادہ ہو جاتا ہے جو اُس نے جیل میں دیسی اور انگریز قیدیوں کے درمیان امتیاز کی وجہ سے کے رکھی تھی ۔ میانوالی جیل اب مسلمان پریس کے ذریعے پورے برصغیر کے مسلمانوں کی توجہ کا مرکز بن جاتی ہے۔ 4

اہلیان میانوالی اس کو اپنی عزت و انا کا مسئلہ بنا لیتے ہیں اور جیل کے باہر مسلسل نعرے بازی اور ہنگامہ آرائی جاری رکھتے ہیں ۔ اس کا اندازہ اس بات سے لگائیں کہ جیل کے ریکار ڈ کے ر جسٹرنمبر2اور ایڈیشن 1457 میں جس صفحےپر غازیؒ کا نام درج ہے اُسے دو دفعہ کاٹ کر تیسری مرتبہ صحیح طور پر لکھا جاسکا گویا لکھنے والے کے ہاتھ میں قلم لرزہ بر اندام تھا۔ آخری دنوں میں جب بلیک وارنٹ موصول ہوا تو میانوالی کے نامعلوم جیالے نے اپنے کیر یئر کا خطرہ مول لیتے ہوئے بلیک وارنٹ متعلقہ جگہ سے نکال کر گم کر دیا ۔قانونی نکتۂ نظر سے بلیک وارنٹ کے سزا نہیں دی جاسکتی تھی۔ایسل کرنے والوں کو یہ معلوم تھا کہ بلیک وارنٹ کے بغیر پھانسی کی سزا نہیں دی جاسکتی تھی۔ایسل کرنے والوں کو یہ معلوم تھا کہ اس طرح پھانسی کی سزا روکی تو نہیں جا سکتی مگر مسلمانوں کے تمام شہروں میں پُدر زور احتجاج کے باعث سزا معطل کرنے کی کوششوں کو چند دن مزید مل سکتے تھے ۔ اس واردات پر باقاعدہ انکوائری ہوئی لیکن ساتھ ہی نیا بلیک وارنٹ لاہور سے منگوانے کے لیےلکھا گیا۔اس طرح چند دن کے لیے سزا میں تاخیر ہوگئی اور شاید یہی مقصود بھی ہوگا۔ ⁴

اس زمانے میں میانوالی میں خط پڑھنے والے بھی دس میـل کے دائـرے میں کـوئی ایـک آدھ ہی ملتا تھامگر دینی و قومی شعور اپنی بلنـدیوں کـو چھُـو رہاتھـا ۔ اکبّر چھـدروخیل ، بھـریہ غـریب

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جیسے شاعرموجوُد تھے جو اَن پڑھ ضرور تھےمگر دینی ومِلی شعُور سے کامِل آشنا تھے۔ بھریم َغریب تو ان چند جانبازوں میں شامل تھا جنہیں جیل حملے اور بلـوہ کـرنے کے الـزام میں سـزا بھی ہوئی تھی۔ ان لوگوں نے اپنی ماں بولی میں غازی کے لیے جب واریں لکھیں تو لوگ دیـوانہ وار پُرنم آنکھوں سے جیـل کی مضبوط دیـواروں سےیوں ٹکـراتے تھے جیسے مـرزا انیس نے اپنے مرثیے میں دریائے فرات کی موجوں کاذکر کیا تھا کہ

"ساحل سے سر پٹکتی تھیں مو جیں فرات کی "۔5

ان شاعروں کی نظموں کا اثر اتنا زیادہ اور دوُر رَس تھا کہ آج تـک ہمیں بھی بـڑے بزرگـوں سے سُنے ہوئے ان واروں کے کئی مصرعے از بر ہو گئے ، مثلاً،

> مبارک ڈیو یارو، علم دین شہادت پائی نک رَکھ سَٹس مسلمانان دا چُھرے نال گسُتاخ دی رَت وَہائی۔⁶

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اً ستر اعلات کے لیے اطلاع دہندہ کا دستخط یام میں یا نشان انگر فعا: وتا میا ہے اور انہ آئی اطلاع کی کے دستنظ بطور تصدیق جو چی ہے۔ معمد انتظام کا میں میں میں انتظام انگر فعا: وتا میا ہے اور انتہ آئی اطلاع کی کے دستنظ بطور تصدیق جو چی جی ا
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کئی مہینوں سے علامہ اقبالؒ کا یہ مصرعہ بھی زبان زد عام ہو کر میانوالی میں بھی پہنچا تھـا کہ "اَسیں گَلاں کردے رہ گئے تے ترکھاناں دا مُنڈا بازی لے گیا" ⁻۔ اس کا عجیب و غریب نتیجہ یہ بھی نکلاکہ میانوالی کی دستکار اور ہنر مند برادری نے جنہیں عرف عام میں "کمی برادری" کہا جاتا رہا ہے اس تحریک کو مذہب اور بـرادری کی شـرابوں کی آمـیزش سے دو آتشہ کـر دیـا ۔ شـاید اسی لیے بھریہؔ غریب ، مستری غلام رسول، نور دین ترکھان ، شیرن نہاریا جیسے نام مقدموں میں اور دیگر مقاماتِ آہ و فغاں پر نمایاں نظر آتے ہیں۔ 1960ء کی دہائی میں میرے بابا®نے بھی مجھے ایسے ہی ایک مجاہد سے جو میانوالی ریلوے اسٹیشن کے باہر تھڑے پیر بیٹھ کی جےوُتے مرمت کیا کرتا تھا، سے یـوری عقیـدت سے ملوایا تھا۔ اُس نے اپـنے چہرے اور جسـم کے دیگـرـ حصوں پر پولیس سے مڈ بھیڑ کے دوران لگنے والے زخموں کے نشان بڑے فخر سے دکھائے تھے ۔ وہ غاؓزی کے صدقے لگنے والے ان نشانات کو اپنا توشۂ آخـرت سـمجھتا تھا اور مـیرے بابـا ان زخموں کے نشانات کی زیارت کو ثواب خیال کـرتے تھے ۔ مـیرے اُس وقت کے ننھے سے ذہن یـر جو اثر اس ملاقات نے کیا وہ آپ نے اس مضمون میں محسوس کیا ہوگا۔ جملہ معترضہ سہی لیکن اسے یہاں درج کرنا افادیّت سے خالی نہیں ہو گا۔ میرے ایک ہم کار افسار ایک جملہ باڑے دُکھ سے ادا کیا کرتے تھے کہ " جس ملک میں غیر ہنر مند آدمی ایک ہنرمنـد، دسـتکار، ٹیکنیکـل اور با عمل شخص کو حقارت سے 'کمی' کہ کر مخاطب کرتا ہو وہ ملک کیا خاک ترقی کرے گــا " ۔ اللہ تعالیٰ کا شُکر ہے کہ یہ روپے اب تیزی سے بـدل رہے ہیں ۔اس کـا ہرگـز یہ مطلب نہیں کہ میانوالی کی باقی اقوام نیازی پٹھان، اعوان ،سیّد، قریشی، بلوچ ،مغل اور خٹک جیسی برادریاں کسی سے پیچھے رہیں بلکہ یک جان ہو کر مزاحمت کی زنجیر استبول بن گئیں کیونکہ؛ محبت چۇں تمام افتد ، رقابت از مياں خيزد،

بہ طوفِ شعلہ ئی ، پروانہ بہ پروانہ می سازد"⁹

(محبت جب کمال کے درجے پر پہنچ جاتی ہے تـو درمیـان سے رقـابت اُٹھ جایـا کـرتی ہے ، دیکھـا نہیں کہ شمع کے گرد طواف کرتے ہوئے ایک پروانہ دوسرے پـروانے کے ہاتھوں میں ہاتھ ڈالے ہوتـا ہے) ۔

محمد اکبر خان خنکی خیل ہوں یا ملک عطا محمد خان، اہلیان میانوالی نے غازیؒ کے مہمانوں کے لیے اپنے گھروں کے دروازے کھول دیئے ۔اُس زمانے میں ایک آدھ سرائے کے علاوہ کوئی ہوٹل تو تھے نہیں اس لیے لوگوں نے لاہور والوں کو اپنی بانہوں میں لے کر سینوں سے لگا لیا۔ جیل سے فرار کرانے کی پیشکش ہو یا میانوالی والوں کی جیل توڑ کر نکالنے کی کاوشیں ، پل پل

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کی خبریں غازیؒ تک جیل میں پہنچ ںہی تھیں ۔اسی کا نتیجہ تھـا کہ غـازیؒ نے پھانسـی سے قبـل جیل ملاقاتوں کے دوران میں اپنے عزیز و اقارب کو جو وصیتیں کیں اُس میں اور باتوں کے علاوہ یہ جملے بھی شامل ہیں ۔

" اس دنیا سے رخصت ہونے کے بعد یہیں مجھے غسل دینا اور میانوالی میں میری نماز جنازہ پڑھانا تا کہ یہاں کے لوگوں کی دعاؤں سے بھی مجھے فائدہ پہنچے۔میانوالی کے لوگ سچے پکے مسلمان اور عاشق رسول \Box ہیں ۔ ان میں سے ہر شخص نے میر \Box ملاقاتیوں ، لواحقین، رشتہ دار وں سے مثالی سلوک کیا ہے ۔ انہوں نے میری خدمت اور احوال پُرسی میں کوئی کسر نہیں چھوڑی۔ خدا اس شہر پر رحمتیں نازل کرے \Box

پورے برصغیر کے مسلمانوں کا احتجاج صدا بصحرا ثابت ہوا۔ پہلی جنگِ عظیم کے فاتح برطانوی حکام گورنرڈی مونٹ مورنسی کی قیادت میں پوری رعونت سے اس مسئلے کو ڈیل کر رے تھے۔ وہ جنہوں نے 1849ء میں سکھوں سے پنجاب چھینے کے بعد تقریباً ایک صدی تک مسلمانوں کے تمام تر مطالبوں اور احتجاجوں کے علی الرغم بادشاہی مسجد کو فوجی چھاونی بنائے رکھا اُن کے لیے دوُر افتادہ میانوالی کے لوگوں کے بھر پور احتجاج کےوبھی Seven Sisters بنائے رکھا اُن کے لیے دوُر افتادہ میانوالی کے فول کے سیڑھیاں کہتے ہیں) کی چیخ و پکار سے زیادہ امینوالی کی زبان میں اِن پرندوں کے غول کے سیڑھیاں کہتے ہیں) کی چیخ و پکار سے زیادہ امیت نہ دی اور غازیؓ کو 31 اکتوبر 1929ء کو پھانسی کی سزا دے دی۔پولیس کی بھاری نفری جیل کے باہر اور اندر تعینات کی گئی تھی جس کی قیادت سینئر ضلعی انگریز افسران کےرہے تھے۔ پھانسی والے دن جیل کے باہر گھمسان کارن پڑا ۔ہزاروں لوگوں کے پرزور احتجاج پےر میّت کو باہر جیل کی ڈیوڑھی میں لانا پڑا تاکہ مظاہرین کے جوش و خروش کو کچھ کم کیا جاسکے مگر اب لوگوں کو دیدار میّت سے تسلی نہ ہوتی تھی۔ میّت کے حصول کا مطالبہ زور پکٹر گیا۔ مقامی حکام کو میّت حوالے کے احکامات بالکیل بھی نہیں دیے گئے تھے ۔ اس لیےجھگڑا طویل ہو گیا ۔ زبردست لاٹھی چارج اور شدید پتھراؤ کا تبادلہ ہوا ۔ ایک انگریز افسر کے ابہ لہان کردیا گیا اورسینکڑوں مظاہرین بھی زخمی ہوئے۔ مقدمے قائم ہوئے اور حکام جیل کے اندر جوبی سمت لاوارث قیدیوں کے قبرستان میں امانتاً غازیؓ کو دفنانے میں کا میاب ہو گئے 11۔

تیرہ دنوں کی مسلسل شورشوں، جلسوں جلوسوں اور مذاکرات کے بعدمیّت میانوالی ریلوے اسٹیشن سے روانہ ہوئی تو میانوالی کی گیریہ وزاری دیدنی تھی،ہر آنکھ نم تھی اور ہر دِل افسیردہ تھا۔ محکوموں کی بے بسی، نالہ و فریاد اور آہوں میں ڈھل کیر اشک رواں کی وہ صورت اختیار کرگئی تھی جو آج غزہ کے مسلمانوں پر اسیرائیلی ظلم و بربیریّت دیکھ کیر اُمتِ مسلمہ کی ہے۔ میانوالی نے اپنا حق ادا کر دیا تھا۔ یہاں کے نمائندے لاہور تک میّت علامہ اقبالؓ،

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يوسـف خـان

میاں امیرالدین اور لواحقین غازیؓ کے حوالے کر کے اور چھ لاکھ نفوس والے اجتمـاع جنـازہ میں شرکت کی سعادت حاصِل کرکے دل گرفتہ گھروں کو لوٹ آئے۔ یہ بات سو فیصد صحیح ہے کہ اصل بازی تو ضرُور ' تر کھاناں دامُنڈا' لے گیا مگـر کـوئی کسَـرا ہلیـانِ میـانوالی نے بھی نہ چھوڑی تھی کہ مقابلہ تو دل ناتواں نے خوُب کیا ۔

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> عورت حلیف یا حریف تبصرہ کتاب ڈاکٹر اسماء منظور

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ہیڈ آف ویمن ایکسیلنس سینٹر کراچی یونیورسٹی

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زیرِ نظر کتاب ''عورت حلیف یا حریف'' ڈاکٹر محمد آفتاب خان کی تحریر کردہ ہے۔ انہوں نے دینِ اسلام اور معاشرے کے مختلف سماجی اور عا ئلی پہلووں پر ان کی تحریریں موجود ہیں۔ ان کی تمام تحریروں کے جائزوں میں ایک بنیادی بات یہ ہے کہ اسلامی معاشرے کو دورِ حاضر میں جن سماجی اور دینی مسائل کا سامنا ہے ڈاکٹر صاحب ان تمام مسائل کا مطالعہ قرآن و حدیث کی روشنی میں پیش کرتے ہیں۔ مغرب کے اُبھرتے ہوئے ایجنڈے کا جواب ان کی تحریروں میں پایا جاتا ہے۔

۔ زیرِ مطالعہ کتاب ''عورت حلیف یا حریف'' کردار کو تاریخی زاویہ، عقلی دلائل اور دینی پیرائے میں بیان کیا گیا ہے جس کا بنیادی نقطہ نظر یہ ہے کہ مغربی روایات ہمارے اسلامی معاشرے کی اقدار کو ٹھیس پہنچاں ہیں ۔ مسلم معاشرے میں بڑھتی ہوئی مرد و زن کی کشمکش کو اسلامی احکامات کی روشنی میں مثالی معاشرےاور خاندانی نظام کی اہمیت کو مثبت پیرائے میں بیان کیا گیا ہے ۔ اسی کے ساتھ ساتھ اس کتاب میں تاریخ میں عورت کے مقام کو مختلف مذاہب

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کے نظریات سے تقابل کیا گیا ہے کہ جو مغرب آج عورت کے حقوق کا خود کو علمبردار کہلواتا ہے ان کی مذہبی تعلیمات کا اگر بغور مطالعہ کیا جائے تو ان سے معلوم ہوتا ہے کہ آغاز میں وہ عورت کے وجود کو تسلیم کرنے تک کے منکر تھے۔ تاہم جب مختلف سماجی انقلاب برپا ہوئے تو انہی حالات کے تناظر میں مغربی معاشرے میں عورت نے سماجی ضروریات کے تحت خود کو متعارف کروایا

اس کتاب میں صنف لطیف کی اہمیت دین ِ اسلام، عیسائیت اور یہودی تعلیمات کا موازنہ کیا گیا ہے۔ عیسائیت اور یہودیت میں الہامی تعلیمات کو مسخ بھی کیا گیا اور ان الہامی کُتب میں عورت کے کردار کو منفی انداز سے پیش کیا گیا تھا۔ اس کے برعکس اسلام نے عورت کو چودہ سو سال پہلے وہ امتیاز عطا کیا ہے کہ ترقی یافتہ قومیں ترقی کی معراج پہ پہنچنے کے باوجود بھی اس میعار کو نہیں ، یاسکی ہیں

پچھلی چار دہائیوں سے مسلم ممالک میں عورتوں کے مقام و مرتبے اور اسلام کے عائلی نظام و خاندانی نظام سے متعلق بحث زور و شور سے جاری ہے، مگر افسوس کا مقام ہے کہ مسلم ممالک میں بھی خواتین کے بارے میں اسلام کے اصلی چہرے کی تصویر ہرگز نہیں ،بلکہ وہ افراتط و تفر یط کا شکار ہیں۔مسلم ممالک میں ایک گروہ خواتین کے حقوق اور آزادی کی جد وجہد میں اس حد تک چلا گیا کہ وہ تمام سماجی سرگرمیوں میں خواتین کی شرکت کو ضروری قرار دے رہا ہے یہاں تک کہ خواتین کو ٹریفک پولیس میں بھی شامل کیا جارہا ہے۔ دوسرا گروہ خواتین کو گھر کی چار دیواری کے اندر مقید رکھنا چاہتا ہے۔ اسلام ہمیں اعتدال کی راہ دکھاتا ہے۔

اس کتاب میں یہ بھی کہا گیا ہے کہ دین اسلام کے ابتدائی دور میں بھی خواتین سماجی طور پر بہت فعال تھیں اور اپنی مذہبی حدود میں رہ کر کام کیا کرتی

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تھیں۔ تاریخ میں مسلم خواتین کے زخمیوں کا علاج اور مںم پٹی کرنے کی کئی مثالیں موجود ہیں ۔ دور جدید میں عورتوں کی آزادی، مساوات اور برابری سے متعلق جو سوالات اٹھاۓ گئے ہیں وہ انیسویں صدی کے صنعتی انقلاب کا شاخسانہ ہیں۔ پہلی اور دوسری جنگ عظیم کے بعد صورتحال مزید ابتر ہوتی چلی گئی اور سب سے زیادہ نقصان خاندانی نظام کو پہنچا۔ خواتین کو کام کے لیے شہروں میں موجود صنعتوں کی طرف آنا پڑا تاکہ وہ اپنے خاندان کی معاشی استحکام میں مدد کر سکیں۔ جنگوں کے نتیجے میں ہزاروں مرد جسمانی معذوریوں کا شکار ہوئے اور ذہنی امراض میں مبتلا بھی ہوئے۔ صنعت کاروں کو عورت کی صورت میں کم تنخواہ پر زیادہ کام کرنے والی افرادی قوت میسر آ گئی۔ خواتین دفتروں اور کارخانوں میں مردوں کے شانہ بشانہ کام کرنے لگیں لیکن مرد و زن کے اس آزادانہ اختلاط نے نئے مسائل کو جنم دیا جن میں غیر شادی شدہ مائیں، ناجائز اور ایڈز جیسی بیماریوں کا پھیلاؤ بھی شامل ہے۔

چرچ کے رویے نے اس صورتحال میں مزید جلتی پر تیل کا کام کیا۔ سائنس اور مذہب کے مابین اختلاف کی وجہ سے چرچ کا مقام و مرتبہ پہلے جیسا نہ رہا۔ نوجوانوں کو جب چرچ سے رہنمائی نہ ملی تو ان کا اعتماد مذہب پہ سے اٹھتا چلا گیا۔ چرچ خود بھی آزادانہ جنسی تعلقات اور تجرد جیسے معاملات پہ دو حصوں میں تقسیم ہو چکا تھا۔ تجرد کی تحریک مردوں کو آ ختہ کاری پر آ مادہ کر رہی تھی۔ کتاب کے مطابق انیسویں صدی تک جنسی معاملات میں اسی طرح کا رویہ دیکھنے میں آیا مگر پھر اس غیر انسانی رویے کے خلاف آوازیں اٹھیں جو شخصی آزادی کے حق میں تھیں۔ کا فلسفہ عام ہوا اور چرچ کے غیراخلاقی نظریات اور ظالمانہ نظام کے خلاف تحریک عام ہوئی جس نے انقلاب فرانس کی راہ ہموار کی اور بالآخر دور جدید کی ترقی پسند روشن) . چرچ کو ویٹیکن شہر کی چار دیواری میں محدود ہونے پہ مجبور کر دیا اور چرچ نے دنیاوی معاملات سے اپنے آپ کو الگ میں محدود ہونے پہ مجبور کر دیا اور چرچ نے دنیاوی معاملات سے اپنے آپ کو الگ

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ہوئے حالانکہ وہ مغربی طاقتوں سے آزادی حاصل کر نے میں کامیاب رہے تھے لیکن ذہنی غلامی سے پوری طرح نجات حاصل نہ کر سکے۔ مسلم قائدین بھی اسلامی تعلیمات اور نبی کریم صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم کے اسوہ کو نظر انداز کر کے آگے بڑھ رہے تھے۔ اس کیفیت پہ۔ علا مہ اقبال نے یو ں تبصرہ کیا ہے کہ

ع۔مغرب ز تو بیگا نہ مشرق ہمہ افسانہ ۔۔۔۔۔۔ وقت است کہہ درعالم نقش دگر انگیزی

زیر نظر کتاب میں ڈاکٹر آفتاب نے کرسچن چرچ کے اس یقین کا منطقی اور تنقیدی جائزہ پیش کیا ہے کہ عورت گناہ کی جڑ ہے۔ عورت کو گناہ کی اصل وجہ سمجھ کر اس کو حقارت سے دیکھا جاتا ہے اور کسی ذمہ داری کا اہل نہیں سمجھا جاتا۔ اس کتاب میں ڈاکٹر آفتاب نے یہ واضح کیا ہے کہ عورت ومرد کا تعلق ہمہ جہت ہے۔ عورت ماں ہے 'بیوی ہے 'بہن ہے بیٹی ہے' یہ تعلق باہمی محبت ایک دوسرے کی دیکھ بھال اور دونوں کے اشتراک سے عبارت ہے۔ عورت اور مرد کے کردار کو صحیح طور پر سمجھنے کے لیے علم کی ضرورت ہے۔ ماں کے لیے عزت، بیوی کے لیے علم کی ضرورت ہے۔ ماں کے لیے عزت، بیوی کے لیے اچھا سلوک پسندیدہ ہے۔

مصنف نے اس موضوع سےمتعلق اٹھنے والے سوالات کے جامع جوابات دیے ہیں اس لحاظ سے یہ کتاب ایک شاہکار ہے جس میں عورت کے وقار کے حوالے سے گفتگو کی گئی ہے۔ مصنف نے سائنسی طریقے سے موضوع کا تجزیہ کیا ہے اور نتائج اخذ کیے ہیں۔ کتاب کے مضامین پہ سرسری نظر ڈالیں تو بہت سے اہم موضوعات اپنے اندر سمیٹے ہوئے ہے اور ایسا معلوم ہوتا ہے کہ مصنف نے عورت سے متعلق شکوک و سے متعلق ہر موضوع کا احاطہ کیا ہے۔ مستشرقین نے اسلام سے متعلق شکوک و شبہات کو کچھ مسلم مردوں اور خواتین نے بھی اٹھایا اور مسلم ممالک میں فیمینسٹ تحریکیں برپا کیں۔ عیسائیوں اور یہودیوں نے ا عورت کے گناہگار ہونے اور حقیر سمجھے جانے کا فلسفہ بے انتہا ہوشیاری سے اسلام کے کھاتے میں ڈال

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دیا حالانکہ قرآن نے واضح طور پر بیان کیا ہے کہ حضرت آدم اور حوا **دونوں** سے لغز ش ہوئی *اور دونوں ا*للہ کے حکم کی خلاف ورزی کر بیٹھے۔ لیکن جب **دونوں** نے توبہ کی تو **دونوں** کی قبول ہوئی اور معافی مل گئی اس کے بعد اللہ نے زمین پہ اتارا۔ اسلام بنیادی طور پر خواتین کی عظمت کا علمبردار ہے۔ اسی نقطہ نظر کو اس کتاب میں بیان کیا گیا ہے جس میں عورت کے مقام کی اہمیت ' خاندانی نظام کی بنیاد سے منسلک کی گئی ہے اور اس میں حضرت محمد 🛘 کی عائلی زندگی، اَزواج کے ساتھ ِان کے حُسن سلوک کو مثالوں کے ساتھ بیان کیا گیا ہے کہ عہدِ قدیم کی عورت نبی آخرالزماں 🛘 کی تعلیمات میں بے انتہا عزت و عظمت کی بنیاد تھی جو مشرقی عورت آج آزادی کی بات کرتی ہے و ہ اخلاقی و انسانی روایات میں اسلام کئی صدیوں پہلے نواز چکا ہے اور ان ہی کو اساس بناتے ہوئے عورت مسلم اُمہ کی تعمیر کرسکتی ہے۔ اس کتاب میں دور حاضر میں بڑھتی ہوئی مرد و عورت کی صنفی کشمکش کو بیان کیا گیا ہے کہ صنفی برتری سے زیادہ یہ دین مساوات اور برابری کی تلقین کرتا ہے جس کے پیش نظر مسلم معاشرے میں ازدواجی زندگی کی اہمیت کے بنیادی اجزاء کو بیان کیا گیا ہے جیسا کہ نکاح کی اہمیت و افادیت اور اس کے تحت بڑھتے خاندانی نظام جو اسلامی معاشرے کی بنیادی اساس ہیں ان کو اللہ سبحانۂ و تعالیٰ کے ارشادات اور سُنتِ نبوی∏ کی روشنی میں بیان کیا گیا ہے۔

اسی طرح اس کتاب میں مغرب کے اُسی نقطہ نظر کی نفی کی گئی ہے جو اس بات کا دعویدار ہے کہ اسلام عورت کے حقوق کا استحصال کرتا ہے اِسی نقطہ نظر کو ڈاکٹر محمد آفتاب خے بائبل اور قرآنِ مجید میں عورتوں کے کردار سے متعلق تقابلی جاءزہ کے ساتھ بیان کیا کہ مشرقی مسلم خواتین مغرب کی جنسی تفریق کے پروپیگنڈے سے نکل کر قرآنِ مجید سے استفادہ کرکے دینی و

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دنیاوی مراحل طے کرسکتی ہے۔ اس کے علاوہ اسلام میں علم کے حصول کی فضیلت کو مختلف اُمہات المومنین کی مثالوں کے ساتھ واضح کیا گیا ہے۔ اسی تناظر کو علامہ محمد اقبال نے اپنی منظوم میں آزادیئ نسواں کے نقطہ نظر سے بیان کرکے مغرب کے اعتراضات و غلط فہمیوں کو اپنی تحریروں کے ذریعے دور کرنے کی کوشش کی ہے تاکہ اسلام اور عورت کا ایک مثبت کردار اُبھر کر سامنے آسکے

ع اس راز کوعورت کی بصیرت ہی کرے فاش ۔۔۔۔۔۔ مجبور ہیں معزور ہین مردان خرد مند

۔ مجموعی طور پر یہ کتاب دورِ حاضر کے اُبھرتے سماجی مسائل کے خاتمے کے لیے اہم کردار ادا کرسکتی ہے کہ ہ جو این جی اوز اور مغربی نقطہ نظر اسلامی روایات کو ٹھیس پہنچا ہی ہیں اور مسلم عورت کو آزادی کے لبادہ میں جن غیر اخلاقی معاملات سے آشنا کروایا جاہا ہے ۔یہ ان نظریات کو تاریخی اور اسلامی دلائل سے اریخ میں امہات المومنین اور مومنات کے کردار کو بیان کرکے یہ وضاحت کی جاسکتی ہے کہ جس آزادی کی بات آج م ساوات مردوزن کے حامی کر ہے ہیں وہ اسلام چودہ صدی قبل ہی مہیا کرچکا ہے اور آج عورت کے کردار کو جو ایک حریف بناکر پیش کیا جاہا ہے وہ اصل میں اسلامی عقائد اور روایات میں کردار "حلیف "کی حیثیت سے بیان کیا گیا ہے کہ وہی عورت جو تاریخ میں حلیف تھی وہ مثالی کردار کی مانند تھی شاید مغرب آج اس مثالی کردار کو حلیف کے بجا ئے حریف بناکر معدوم کر ہا ہے۔

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