

The role of Muslim Youth in promoting the noble teachings of pure Mohammedan Islam

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Victory of the Islamic Revolution under Imam Khomeini's leadership on February 11, 1979 is stated as one of the most momentous events of the 20th century. The world witnessed the emergence of Imam Khomeini, one of the most influential personalities in the Islamic world. Although he arose in Iran, but his character made him an infra-national figure. Due to his particular devotion towards religion, the Islamic movement made a persistent progress and expanded in the South East and Middle East states following the victory of the Islamic revolution in Iran. [1]

To develop better understanding, the topic under discussion is being split into two subtopics:

1. Pure Mohammedan Islam and its Noble Teachings
2. Role of Muslim Youth

PURE MOHAMMEDAN ISLAM [1]

The dissertation of academic discussions that were formed following the success of revolution, called into question some of the previous religious practices, which had been entirely, detached from politics. It also made best use of several terminologies from other political disciplines and interacted with several systems in order to enhance the functions of Shia school of thought.

The Islamic revolution also intended to enhance people's power and wanted to relieve them from the undesired state to an acceptable situation by employing changes in key faculties and institutions.

Roje Garodi, a French Muslim scholar, describes the Islamic revolution in Iran as under:

"Verily, the Islamic revolution led by Imam Khomeini does not have any precedent in the past. The various social revolutions that took place in various parts of the world over past course of time intended to change just certain political system. Most of these revolutions were stemmed from poverty and economic problems. The national revolutions were also

mostly triggered by anger of nations from the exploiters and plunderers. The Islamic Revolution of Iran included all these reasons, but it also carried new concepts and meanings as well. These new concepts not only forced out the government of exploiters, but also presented a particular worldview and revolutionized the theory of confrontation between religion and science." [١]

According to some experts and researchers, the Islamic Revolution was one of the major factors that influenced the awareness of the Muslims and enhanced the Islamic activities in different Muslim societies. Imam Khomeini, who revived the political Islam and called it as a pure Mohammedan Islam, *harmonized between politics and religion and brought Islam back in the heart of society and politics*. As a result, he revived abandoned literature and culture of Islam such as martyrdom, struggle for Allah, resistance and combat against tyranny. The Islamic Revolution Iran is an amazing phenomenon in the modern World that intended to revive the Islam's dignity among the Muslim World.

Characteristics of the Pure Mohammedan Islam:

The Islamic revolution presents a comprehensive and multi-dimensional system in areas of religion, politics, economy society and culture. It will also further raise awareness among the oppressed and the deprived and creates suitable ground for self-awareness and self-reliance, self-confidence and the Islamic awakening. Islamic revolution also emphasizes the significance of freedom movements, including Islamic and anti-colonial struggle as new players in international system. It also insists on freedom ideals, social justice, and negation of the external powers and necessity of dynamic management to handle the political and social changes.

The characteristics of the Islamic revolution which has become the core noble teachings of Pure Mohammedan Islam are:

١. Freedom and people backed religious system
٢. Strength of Unity
٣. Law and justice
٤. Self-reliance
٥. Independent identity (Neither East nor West)

Therefore, this pure Mohammedan Islam has been constant target of the propaganda of western and evil powers. Due to its non-dependence on super powers, the pure Islam revived by revolution could overcome the strong military powers with the power of faith.

This, all, happened despite the fact that Iran was under all kinds of pressures by foes and had suffered from shortages.

Moreover, this pure Islam after its implementation has gained great achievements on domestic and international arena. It has also revived Islam's theme and motivated Islamic movement in different parts of the Islamic world. The pure Islam fulfilled the Imam's ideals as it removed sectarian and ethnic tensions and instead raised awareness among the Muslims across the Islamic world.

THE ROLE OF MUSLIM YOUTH IN PROMOTION OF PURE MOHAMMEDAN ISLAM

The second part requires discussions in two subsections;

- ١- One related to importance of Muslim youth and its influential role in Muslim Ummah
- ٢- Second: the use of this natural supremacy of youth in promotion of Pure Mohammedan Islam

Importance of youth and over all influence in a society

Former is required to be discussed so as to establish that, duty of promotion of Pure Mohammedan Islam can be assigned to youth. Before going more inside, it is pertinent to mention that Muslim youth has unfortunately got segmented:

- ١- Motivated and capable Muslim youth
- ٢- Unmotivated and incapable Muslim youth

If only capable segment is discussed, it means duty has not been discharged. Therefore, discussion shall be focused more on segment that is usually not been debated i.e. unmotivated and incapable Muslim youth.

Modern social sciences experts consider "Youth" as back bone to a nation. In their opinion youth can change the future of any society with their wellbeing and courageous behavior. The reason behind is that; youth is not a shaped content of a nation but one that is being shaped and, if it would have been formed or shaped, in a way wanted, it can bring the desired change. That's why in today's world both spiritual and satanic powers keep their eyes on this segment of society. Keeping the vital role of youth in view; satanic powers successfully tried to indulge the Muslim youth, of this era, in

activities which are not useful to them as well as Muslim nation. As plan-B, these evil powers have also confined the Muslim youth within their individual lives.

One can easily find a young Muslim man in this modern world chooses to spend his days doing drugs and playing video games. A young Muslim man spends his nights partying and living it up. More and more young men of this era are sitting at home, in front of their televisions/laptops playing games and surfing social media portals all day, instead of bettering themselves or going to work. They have no vision and if they do have dreams they do not have the drive to make any attempt at achieving them.

This is an intentional effort to snatch the natural potential of this energetic segment of society by deviating its energies from divinely assigned duties to somewhere of no use.

How to make Muslim youth realize:

First one must get control of whatever explained above i.e. the deviation, the satanic trap. This is the responsibility of those who are torch bearer of Pure Mohammedan Islam or in other words those who have been guided by the grace of Allah. If someone reads Imam's Khomeini's life he can get the solution of this problem. There are three factors those must be adhered while realizing the Muslim youth its responsibilities.

١. Social Life
٢. Recreation / Entertainment
٣. Motivation
٤. Awareness and awakening

Let's explain each one by one. Because, each listed as later can only be achieved in result of its former. The first thing that can be taken as kickoff is to socialize Muslim youth. The trap, as mentioned earlier, used by enemy are of two kinds ١- by tampering the youth with introduction of evil means ٢- by cutting them off from Muslim community.

Introduction of Facebook kind of stuff to the extent of addiction is one the examples. Other one is to keep youth so much busy in their educational life by creating fake competition and introducing a versioned form of syllabus/curriculum that refreshes in every month and person passing an exam is ready to take another version of that very subject. The example of this system is more observed in modern subjects like Information Technology where technology is being introduced in series and in step by step manner to trap the population in an infinite destination. Such a young man cannot make himself available for his family, friends and other social circles. All social life has been confined within the consoles of social portals.

This fact had been judged by Imam-e-Ummat. Imam wanted that a young man must be a social person and he should also be entertainment lover. These two factors listed above must not be ignored as per Imam's view. Imam did not neglect social gatherings with friends, and considered a social gathering to be the source of a type of help and training of the mind and preparation of it. Hujjatul Islam Ja'far Subhani says one day, he (Imam) himself said:

“During my youth, no Thursday or Friday would pass except that we would arrange social gatherings with friends. We would leave Qom and mostly head towards Jamkaran. When it snowed or rained, we busied ourselves with social programs in my room and when we would hear the sounds of the mu'adhin, all of us used to stand for prayers.” [۱]

This social life and gathering is what either has completely been eradicated from lives of our youth or has been corrupted by introducing evil means.

The other thing that has been taken away from a young man, of this era, is recreation/entertainment. As said above modern educational system has grasped completely the life of a young man by eliminating the time of recreation and entertainment. Now there is no space for any recreation and entertainment in a young man's life. Imam was against this kind of study system.

Zahra Mustafavi (Imam's daughter), while remembering her old days, says; when Imam would see that I was busy studying on holidays, he would say:

“You will not get anywhere, because at the time of recreation, you must be at leisure.”

He used to emphasize this to my son. This narration is the promise of Imam himself, which in my presence he repeatedly told my son:

“I did not substitute one hour of recreation for studies, nor one hour of studies for recreation.”

He set aside time for specific things. Imam advised my son to set aside time for recreation.

“If you don't have recreation, you cannot prepare yourself for studying.” [۱]

Now come to third factor i.e. Motivation. Basiji (i.e. Mobilized) is one that has been motivated. This motivation can only be fed to someone who enjoys a social life system. Such socialized young man can become the part of informed and enlightened youth that is capable to promote Mohammedan Islam. If this, as primarily, would have not been done nothing can be brought out of this natural potential. How this visionary change and transformation can be brought? Answer is simple; just by motivating. This can be done by teaching the responsibilities to the targeted youth. This motivation will change the insight of youth that is right now doing nothing or not doing anything valuable for society.

So it must be said loud and clear; O youth! You can allow yourselves to stay your course and do nothing or you can rise above what the cynics around you expect and go get educated, enlightened and awakened. Let the older and the coming generation know that, you have intelligence and skills. Show yourself what you are made of. You might be surprised at how proud of yourself you become with even the smallest of accomplishments. Nothing can happen if you do not try. Circumstances cannot be improved overnight, either way, but at least if you make an effort, then you have begun your journey to your dreams.

Youth must be told, how important its contribution is for Islamic Ummah. That's what Imam Khomeini used to do. Hujjatul Islam Masih Burujurdi (Imam's grandson) writes;

It was at the end of the Iranian year ۱۳۶۷AHS, the beginning of Sha'ban, that I went to see the Imam. The Mafatih was in his hand and he wanted to read the specific supplications for the month of Sha'ban. When I went to kiss his hand and get permission to leave, he said: "Whatever work you want to do, do it in your youth. In old age, you will only sleep and moan." [۴]

Imam Bahauddini az A'zaaye bayte describes;

Sometimes when we went to see the Imam, we asked him: "If it's possible please give us advice." Usually Imam would give us this advice:

"As much as possible, serve the people in every way (and) perform all acts of worship in your youth. Know the value of youth because once you reach my age, you will not be able to do anything. Like me who cannot do anything." [۴]

Why these three basics prerequisites must be exercised and why these were so much confessed by Imam-e-Rahil Formula is very simple; a socialized person will be available for recreation. Recreation will allow a socialized to think out of the box. Thinking out the box will be a base to get him motivated. A motivated youth will choose its own way. A

motivated is one who has awakened. He will then be educated about the noble teachings of pure Mohammedan Islam. That awakened and motivated will be a kind of young man who will be able to listen, analyze and understand this sentence of *vali-e-amar-e-muslameen* (Ayatollah Ali Khamenei):

"Humanity has passed through the days of all materialistic schools of thought, including Marxism, liberal democracy and secular nationalism, and it is at the beginning of a new era whose greatest sign is the attention of nations to Allah the Exalted, their cries for divine assistance and their reliance on divine revelations." [٦]

Such capable youth is also named as pious youth by Imam Khamenei. His Eminence has all the hopes with this segment of youth. His Eminence said:

"In spite of all the obstructionism by the enemies and to their disbelief, the pious youth of this country have achieved advances which can be instructive to the youth of all Islamic nations." [٦]

"Previously, if somebody spoke about the victory of the pious youth of Hezbollah over the Zionist army or about the humiliation of the Egyptian taught and the amazing developments in North Africa, many people would not believe him, just as the resistance, victory and progress of the Islamic Republic was not believable to certain people. But God's overwhelming power revealed itself in these victories and amazing developments." [٦]

"The awakening of the youth throughout the world of Islam has increased hope of a general awakening among Muslim nations." [٦]

This pious youth is driving force of Islamic Ummah therefore the responsibility of promotion Pure Mohammedan Islam must be put on the shoulders of this segment of society. How pious youth could be torch bearer is also explained by Ayatollah Khamenei:

*"The enemy is hatching plots. By staying vigilant and by making use of the experiences of others, Muslim nations - particularly, **the youth of the Islamic Ummah who are the driving force behind Islamic Awakening** - must not allow the network of global autocracy to hijack their revolutions and create deviations on their current and future paths." [7]*

USE OF NATURAL SUPREMACY OF YOUTH IN PROMOTION OF PURE MOHAMMEDAN ISLAM

Now the second subtopic can easily be understood that why responsibility of promotion of Pure Mohammedan Islam lies with Muslim youth. Now the question is how this role can be defined after knowing the importance of youth. This is the conclusion of this essay.

Merging the above two sub topics i.e. Mohammedan Islam and Youth's Importance, one can easily determine what is needed to be done. In one line, it can be defined as, whatever the core characteristics the Pure Mohammedan Islam has defined, should be promoted in a society by Muslim youth. Let's rewrite those core teachings of Pure Mohammedan Islam.

١. Freedom and people backed religious system
٢. Strength of Unity
٣. Law and justice
٤. Self-reliance
٥. Independent identity (Neither East nor West)

A pious Muslim youth knows very well that all systems imposed on this earth have failed badly. Therefore Muslims must have freedom to practice and exercise what has been blessed to them by Allah. Islam is the only sociopolitical system that should be implemented and this what youth can preach to Ummah. The impure versions of Islam, with no law & order and Justice as their core values, have actually been manufactured by enemies of Islam. Therefore these versions have always been supported by arrogant powers of this world. These manufactured versions of Islam have no relation with Pure Mohammedan Islam. Youth must give courage to nation that, by implementing inbuilt law and justice of Quran and Sunnah, by holding up the rope of unity with self-reliance and

independent identity; Ummah will get the freedom from paw of these arrogant and evil powers. Soon dreams will come true.

This is what concluded by His Eminence (Ayatollah Ali Khamenei) described the prospects of the Islamic Ummah as very bright. Referring to the human, material and spiritual capacities of the world of Islam, he stressed:

*"In spite of their differences, all Muslim nations are in the tent of call to God. By Allah's favor, **Muslim youth** will see the Islamic Ummah's era of glory and power and they will hand down this glory and power to future generations of the Islamic Ummah."*[٦]

All praises to Allah

References:

[١] e-magazine Cultural center of Islamic Republic of Iran – Karachi News view Number : ٥٦٠٣٢٨

[٢] Faslnameye Hawze, No. ٣٢

[٣] Bardashthayi az Seereye Imam Khomeini, Vol ١, Pg. ٦٠

[٤] Bardashthayi az Seereye Imam Khomeini, Vol ١, Pg. ٥٦

[٥] Bardashthayi az Seereye Imam Khomeini, Vol ١, Pg. ٣٣١

[٦] From the speech of vali-e-amr-e-muslameen Ayatollah Ali Khamenei in the "Islamic Awakening and Youth Conference" January, ٢٠١٢.

Note:

Methodology proposed is writer's own point of view.