

ABSTRACT

"Ethical values in Islam: Particular reference with Prophet Muhammad's (PBUH) Mission"

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Religion plays a significant role in satisfying our physical as well as spiritual needs: Islam teaches us a code of behaviour and gives us a meaning for our existence. Faith is the source and the basis of Islam. The most important feature of this faith that is reflected on the human soul is the feeling of "Allah sees all my actions, hears all my utterances, and knows everything that I think." Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) ordered us to serve Allah "as if we could see Him" and said, "Allah sees you although you cannot see Him" (Bukhari "Iman" 37, Ibn Maja "Muqaddima" 9). This faith installs a type of auto-control mechanism into humans and accordingly helps them gain a conscience that also demonstrates a sense of responsibility for things they do when no other human being can see them. A human who combines this strong feeling of faith with an active determination will not cause damage to other humans or to their surroundings.

Unfortunately, in contemporary society the religious, moral and ethical values have been declining. The families are falling apart, divorce rate is increasing sharply, substance abuse and, harassment indulgence are common in adolescents and young adults. These factors lead to conflicts, resentment, and loss of self-respect, loneliness, depression, anxiety and a host of psychological symptoms. Despite progress in the behavioural sciences, there remains the question of whether current technique of treatment and prevention of emotional disturbances are effective in making a significant impact on psychiatric problems.

Now a day there is Psychotherapy which is in reality a form of education which directs the patient to recognize his behaviour, to conform with prevailing standards. It helps in motivating the patient to adopt the alternate ways of behaviour. But, the Islamic principles which are based on Qur'an and Hadith are the best form of prevention and treatment of emotional disturbances. Allah says about Qur'an; (... "It is a Guide and a Healing to those who believe ;...) – Al Quran 41: 44.

Moreover, the Quran is very detailed and clearly mentions the significance of good manners, just like it mentions the importance of belief, the importance of worship, and all our daily affairs. The Quran mentions several good acts of ethics repeatedly, for example; dealing with your parents in the best manner, being nice to your relatives and neighbours,

taking care of orphans and the poor, telling the truth and being honest, being sincere in all of your intentions, fulfilling your promises, treating all people fairly

But the Qur'an can be properly understood if one is familiar with the historical context of individual revelations and with the coherent inner thread of the text. Equally important is the knowledge of what the Prophet of Islam (Peace and blessings be upon him), a man of the highest integrity, authority, spirituality, and charisma said, did, or consciously did not do (*Hadith*); for as the receiver of the message he was its born interpreter in case of doubt. In addition the Qur'an specifically demands that Muslims follow Muhammad's (Peace and blessings be upon him) example in matters of faith and ethics.

The Prophet (Peace and blessings be upon him) departed from this world in 632 AD. But he left his everlasting teachings for all mankind. He was a man with a noble mission, which was to serve as a messenger of God to unite humanity on the worship of One God, to teach them the way to be honest and live upright lives based on the commands of Allah and to reveal His preserved message in the form of the Quran for all mankind. His mission began at the age of forty and he departed from this world at the age of sixty-three. During this short period of 23 years of his prophethood, he changed the complete face of the Arabian Peninsula. Before the coming of Islam, the people of the region were in a state of ignorance. The teachings and training of the Prophet brought about such an intellectual awakening in them that they were blossomed into a 'nursery of heroes' (Professor Hitti, *The History of the Arabs*). It was the message of the Prophet that led to this change which was exemplified by the shift from paganism and idolatry to worship of Allah, from tribal quarrels and wars to national solidarity and cohesion, from drunkenness and debauchery to sobriety and piety, from lawlessness and anarchy to disciplined living, from utter moral bankruptcy to the highest standards of moral excellence. Human history has never known such a complete transformation of a people or a place before or since - and all these unbelievable wonders in just 23 years.

He was mainly concerned with teaching and disciplining Muslims to have the best manners and the best personal characteristics. His personal life and behaviour were reflective of his teachings, which were revealed to him by Allah. The prophet Muhammad high standard of manners made him a model for all human beings to follow. The prophet used to emphasize how important good manners are for Muslims. What are the issues that prophet cared most, will be discussed in the proposed paper and how we need most at this time when injustice is on the rise.

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