

Elements Of Islamic Civilization In The Context Of Ancient Civilizations

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Abstract:

Islamic civilization is widespread of quality faith and civic supported by full of the knowledge of Quran and the practical examples which are offered by the last prophet Muhammad. The early Muslim caliphates (empires), set about to contributed to the building of Islamic civilization according to the era of prophet Muhammad. After the regime of caliphs in world, such major racial and ethnic groups as the Arabs, Persians, Africans, Indians, Malays and Chinese etc. in addition to numerous smaller units embraced Islam and create classical Islamic civilization. Islamic civilization (distinguished from other civilizations) is the strength of the foundation which may be synonymous to other civilization is based on a unity of God which stands completely against any racial or ethnic discrimination. The foundation stones of concept of civilization are Islamic believes. Islam also provides detailed guidance about relations with other nations and civilizations. In Islamic civilization, sovereignty belongs to Allah only. Its essential purpose is setting up a collective justice, equality and brotherhood. Therefore, the Islamic State will avail all the means thereby, virtue and welfare along with all its utilities, to attain the required purpose Islam bases. The splendor of the Islamic civilization, which was headed by Muslims at one time, must be returned to the Muslims again for further expansion. The present civilization is ever more challenging and a certain portion of it has destroyed the truth about humanity and turned humans into animals with a mind. The article discloses core information about the charactericks of the Islamic concept of civilization.

Key Words: Islam, civilization, cultural, western civilization.

Introduction

Many civilized and uncivilized civilizations have passed away in the world and some are emerging from the womb of the present. The principles of Islamic civilization and the Islamic way of living a collective and individual lifestyle are different from all these civilizations. But keep in mind that the Muslim world is facing many social, cultural, and cultural problems in the present age. The researchers and intellectuals of the time believed about the oldest civilizations that neither culture can dominate nor subjugate the present

civilization. . But the era of revolution gradually not only erased the name and mark of all these civilizations from the world, but the believers of this civilization also played a central role in destroying the civilization. And this nation's internal conflict, disagreement and distance from its principles and ideals has provided an opportunity for other civilizations to dominate over it.

As many civilizations and societies existed before Islam, Islamic teachings not only fought against all these civilizations, but also put aside the

government and power, the source of civilization, and started civilization and civilization in the world on the basis of pure religion. In modern times, due to the internal differences of the Muslim world and the internal conflict of the Muslim societies, and due to not following the teachings and good deeds of their Prophet, the Western civilization has greatly affected the Islamic civilization. There is a lot of difference between these two civilizations because the foundation of Islamic civilization consists of features such as monotheism, human unity, peace and harmony, human honor, women's rights, individual and collective system of religion and world. While the main characteristics of Western civilization are atheism, life system based on reason, mixed society, materialism and patriotism, class and ethnic differences, freedom of women, freedom of expression and democratic life system. There is no denying the fact that today the Western civilization has established its dominance over the world in general and the Muslim world in particular. Due to the invasion of the Western civilization, Muslim researchers today also hold different thoughts and opinions. There are three types of theories in this regard. They are found in the Muslim world.

1. Western civilization and life system is disbelief. Therefore, the best thing is to avoid it completely.
2. Western civilization and culture should be accepted because in worldly development we can be equal to the West only when we adopt their traditions and values as the Western people did.
3. The good things of Western civilization and values should be accepted and the bad things should be rejected.

Keeping the above ideas in front, in this paper, the elements of Islamic civilization will be reviewed and the characteristics of Islamic civilization will be distinguished from ancient civilizations.

Literal meaning of civilization:

Civilization is the form of the chapter Tafel, the substance of which is Hizb.

Different people have mentioned the term definitions of civilization. Below are some definitions.

The collective tendencies of a nation, a collective thinking, establish a new cultural map. In fact, thought is the reality of actions. That particular thought, thought, theory, belief on the basis of which action comes into existence. They say.¹

In the English language, the word "culture" is used for civilization. The word civilization or culture as a term also started to be used at the beginning of the nineteenth century. Despite spending a century on mentioning the definition of civilization as a term, the experts of this knowledge did not seem to agree on its definition until 1990. This is The reason is that different researchers have mentioned definitions according to their thoughts and concerns. As Taylor mentions .

Cultureis that complex whole which include knowledge, belief, art, morals, law , custom and any other capabilities and habits acquired by man as a member of society.²

The word "civilization" is used in the English language for civilization. Kroeber writes.

¹ Mufti, Ahmed, Introduction to the West and Modern Philosophy, Faisalabad, Islamia School, 2014, p. 17

² Avruch,k,culture and conflict resolution,Washington Dc, united stae institute of peace press,1998,p6

A civilization is a way of thinking, a set of beliefs or a way of life it is a spatio-temporal continuum and Long term dynamic structure.³

Origin and Evolution of Civilizations:

The ideas of different researchers about the beginning of civilization come forward. A group of archaeologists have gone to the point that man was uncivilized in the beginning. When he took up the profession of agriculture. After that civilization came into existence. Because before agriculture, man used to live an uncivilized life and the man of that era used to live in different forests and in the mountains. Therefore, those who hold this point of view have called crescent fertility as the first civilization. As Imad Al Hasan Farooqi writes.

Historians believe that the beginning of civilization in the world could only be at that time. When man took up the profession of agriculture. Before that, for ten thousand years, man lived by simply hunting or gathering food. At that time, there were different civilizations of people. But a vast system like civilization did not and could not come into existence. The main reason for this was that the food available naturally in any place was limited to a certain extent.⁴

Therefore, the people of this point of view call the crescent fertility civilization as the first civilization.

Ancient Civilizations:

Regarding the evolution of civilizations, the two groups mentioned above agree that since the human being started living a civilized life, then the Hamiri civilization is one of the oldest

civilizations. But experts disagree on the number of oldest civilizations.

Archaeologists also disagree on the ancient civilizations. This is the reason why some famous ancient civilizations are briefly mentioned below.

1. Sumerian Civilization (3000 BC)

Around 3,000 BC, while one of the many city-states in the Sumerian region, the city of Ar became powerful enough to subdue its own Porus city-states and establish an extensive Sumerian government. The formal political history of the Sumerian civilization begins. This history continued for about two and a half thousand years with the rise and fall of various dynasties and nations ruling the Sumerian region. . In the 6th century BC (39 BC), the Iranian Hanamenshi Empire reached its end with the victory of Cyrus the Great, the founder of the Persian Empire, over the Babylonian Empire. After this, the region lost its central position and was divided between the Iranian, then the Greek, and then the Iranian and Roman empires. It became a province.⁵

2. Egyptian Civilization (3000 BC)

Egyptian civilization is one of the oldest civilizations in the world. Egyptian civilization is a mixture of different nations. As Imad Al Hasan Farooqi writes.

The Egyptian nation is said to be the amalgamation of various nations, especially the Libyan (North African), the Semitic people of Western Asia and the Nubian people of Sudan. Then in the second half of the fourth (4000) BC, a Semitic nation crossed the Red Sea. (mostly people living along the Persian Gulf on the east coast of Arabia) entered southern Egypt through

³ Kroeber, A.L and Kluckhohn, culture a critical review of concepts. (Peabody museum of American archaeology, Harvard university, 1973, vol.47, No.1, p27

⁴ Farooqi, Imad Hasan, Islamic Civilization and Civilization, Lahore, Institute of Islamic Culture p.4

⁵ Farooqi, p. 19

peaceful trade and migration and gradually expanded their sphere of influence to the banks of the Nile in northern Egypt. Eastern Arabs mostly from Oman. These Semitic people who came from the region were culturally influenced by the Sumerian and Babylonian civilization for a period of time as well.⁶

Hittite Civilization:

There was even a multitude of tribes belonging to the Aryan race, who lived in their original homeland near the Caspian Sea until the middle of the third (3000) millennium BC.⁷

4 Phoenician Civilization:

Compared to the Hittites, who emerged as a strong empire like other major powers of Western Asia during this period. The Phoenician civilization is a reflection of a unique situation. It consisted of a short strip of land ten miles long and ten miles wide. Behind which it used to cut off the walls of Lebanon from inner Syria.⁸

5. Greek Civilization:

Greek civilization is one of the oldest civilizations in the world. Greek civilization which today is considered as an example of knowledge and wisdom. But this was also a barbaric nation. But on the basis of knowledge and wisdom, their name is alive today. As Imad Al Hasan Farooqi writes.

Before the sixteenth century BC, Greece was a semi-barbarian country. The people of Aryan race who came to Greece around 2000 BC. They were so ignorant of civilization. As many local people as there were.⁹

Introduction to Islamic Civilization:

The question is, what is Islamic civilization? The simple answer is that Islam is the experience of living a practical life according to principles. This is called civilization. The distinguishing feature of Islamic civilization is that it is a civilization that has come into existence purely on the basis of divine revelation. This is the reason why a researcher has mentioned the definition of Islamic civilization like this.

Islamic civilization means those Islamic beliefs. By believing in them, a person is called a Muslim and adopts a certain way of thinking. In Islamic beliefs, it is necessary to believe in one God, to believe in His angels, His books and the life of the hereafter.¹⁰

Compositional Elements of Islamic Civilization:

Civilization refers to an action or action or the result of civilized and integrated life or the name of a developed state among human societies. Civilization is not only the name of values and ideas. Rather, there are many types included in civilization. This is the reason that before mentioning the structural elements of Islamic civilization, according to different researchers, what are the elements and factors of absolute civilization.

Elements of civilization

1. urban society 2. religion
3. literature 4. administration system
5. specialization 6. social classes.
7. tool making 8. education system
9. Implementation of various laws 10. Protection from hunger

⁶ Farooqi, p. 22

⁷ Farooqi, p 48

⁸ Farooqi, p 49

⁹ Farooqi, p 41

¹⁰ Bhatti, Muhammad Arshad Khan, Study of Islamic Civilization, Lahore, Isbah-ul-Adab Publishers, p.24

11. Innovation and learning 12. Economic stability

Dr. Khalid Alvi has included the following three things in Islamic civilization.

(a) The highest intellectual level and standard that can be produced in any era of Islamic government.

(2) Historically, the achievement that Islam received in the field of literature, science and art.

(3) The way of life of Muslims, religious practice, use of language and social customs have a special connection.¹¹

It is necessary for any civilization to determine the basics of its cultural life or in other words, a lover of another civilization can ask on what principles Islamic civilization is based on. And what are the principles of Islamic civilization? From which Islamic civilization is composed. This is the question that we will try to answer below. In this context, it should be remembered that the three main elements of Islamic civilization are synthesis. See their brief explanation.

I. Ideological element of Islamic civilization:

In the principles of most civilized civilizations of the world, the involvement of religion and belief is an essential element. The system of thought of Islamic civilization consists of such beliefs which are the reality of the universe. To turn away from them is contrary to reason and vision. Beliefs in Islam are actually the ideological element of Islamic civilization. Beliefs mean that the people of Islamic civilization must have faith in Allah, His Messenger, the inspired books, and the Hereafter. The Oneness of Allah, the Most High,

has no partner, and Allah is the Creator and Owner of everything.

The basis of the ideological elements of Islamic civilization is divine revelation. And revelation is from Allah. Divine revelation is a source of guidance that is beyond human thought. The law of divine revelation is eternal, unalterable and unchangeable.

The ideological elements of Islamic civilization are based on such a revelation, which is free from sensual desires and pure. said

And they do not speak out of (their) desire.¹²

Islamic civilization is a complete religion. In which guidance is found from beliefs and worship to affairs and comprehensive guidance about all aspects of life as well as a system of life.

When Islam came, Islam rejected the corrupt ideas and religions of the previous civilization and laid the foundation of a civilization in the world that was free from the immoral life system of pre-humanity. The Holy Prophet said about these corrupt ideas.

Indeed, Allah Almighty has put an end to the arrogance of Jahiliyyah and racial pride. Now man is either a pious person, a believer or a sinner, a wretch. All people are descendants of Adam and Adam was created from dust.¹³

Biological Element of Islamic Civilization:

The biological factor includes the genes, race, language, customs, customs, family, individuals, special skills and construction, and the abilities and skills that a person inherits from generation to generation. Race has a lot to do with civilized

¹¹ Alvi, Dr. Khalid, Social System of Islam, Lahore, Al Faisal Publishers, 2005, p. 124

¹² Star 3-4:

¹³ Tirmidhi. Muhammad bin Isa, Al-Sunan al-Kubri, Beirut, Dar al-Fikr, 1994, 498/5, number 3982

and uncivilized cultures of the world. While Islam exhorts pure race, it rejects racial pride and national lineage among social groups and individuals. As Hindu civilization is very ancient. But Hindus have a caste system. The whole Hindu civilization is wrapped up in the division of Brahmin, Kshatriya, Shudra and country. But there is no such concept in Islamic civilization. There is no room for caste in bodies. Quran says:

O people! We created you from male and female and We (divided) you into (large) nations and tribes so that you may recognize one another. Indeed, in the sight of Allah, the most honorable among you is the one who is most pious among you.¹⁴

Language is very important in the biological element of Islamic civilization. Because through language, the beliefs, worships, conditions, history, literature and those things that have been lost can be traced. Language is considered an integral part of civilization. The first evolution of Islamic civilization was through the Arabic language. Is. And the main literature of Islam is all in Arabic language. But Islam is against linguistic differences and discrimination among people.

The purpose of mentioning the above quote is that the creation of culture is the responsibility of man. But the establishment of civilized and civil life in Islam is impossible without religion and religion. From the above quote, Darwin's theory of evolution is invalid. That in the beginning man was a monkey. If man was a monkey, there would be a mention of monkeys in one or the other book. Civilization is born by man, but in Islamic civilization, man was given a law in the form of the Holy Quran to create his own civilization. In which the followers

of Islamic civilization have been ordered to adapt their civilization according to Quranic teachings.

Geographical element of Islamic civilization:

The geographical element includes the location of the civilization, the area, the environment of the area, special places, the structure of the earth and the earth's conditions, as well as the earth's minerals and resources. Thinkers believe that human personality, character, lifestyle, thoughts Geographical conditions have a great influence on thoughts. Also, the geographical factor has an important role in the civilization and evolution of civilization.

In mentioning the limits and limitations of the geographical map of Islamic civilization, the researchers of Islam have different ideas. One group limits the Islamic civilization to the state of the Prophet. But the correct point about the geographical map of Islamic civilization is theoretical. In the geographical map of Islamic civilization, there is every place and place where the spread and sovereignty of Islam has been established. This is the reason that the message of Islam is in the name of humanity. And you did not come as a prophet to any region.

Unity and Equality:

Islam has given its followers a complete system of thought. Islamic faith is a faith that gathers people to a center and a unity.

The first mental effect of this belief on man is that it subjects the whole world to a centralized and unified system, and man feels a connection and legal unity among its scattered components. Then, thanks to this belief, one can build a complete life and form an opinion about the universe with wisdom and insight.¹⁵

¹⁴ Al-Hujrat: 13

¹⁵ Nadvi, Islam's Effects and Favors on Civilization and Civilization, p. 24

Equality is an essential value of Islamic civilization. In this regard, the era of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) is one of the bright days of human history. Equality also means that the rule of justice was established on earth. The Holy Prophet said:

If Fatimah, the daughter of Muhammad (PBUH) steals, her hands will also be cut off.¹⁶

Research Findings:

1. Every nation or society of the world has some traditions. These traditions, customs, ideas and values are called civilization.

2. Before the Islamic civilization, many civilizations in the world had gone through the rise and fall. The Arabs themselves had their own civilization. On the other hand, there were civilized civilizations and power like Rome and Iran. Islam not only influenced these civilizations, but Islamic civilization prevailed over these civilizations.

3. Islamic civilization did not take any influence from previous civilizations. Rather, it was based purely on divine teachings.

4. Islamic civilization gave its followers a code of life in the form of Quran and Sunnah. Whose teachings are eternal? This is the reason why the changes of time have been unable to change the traditions of Islamic civilization, because a perfect law in the form of the Qur'an and the Sunnah is and will remain with the Muslim Ummah.

5. In the theoretical foundations of Islamic civilization, the belief of monotheism, mission, and the hereafter have been declared as integral parts. Along with geographical factors, the foundation of Islamic civilization was laid on

the basis of equality, respect for humanity, justice and brotherhood.

Recommendations:

- a. Muslim researchers should answer the objections raised by the West on Islamic civilization in a research way.
- b. Instead of Western lifestyle and values, the Muslim Ummah should follow the rules and regulations of Islamic civilization.
- c. It is recommended to include Islamic civilization as a permanent subject in universities.

¹⁶ Bukhari, Muhammad bin Ismail, Sahih al-Bukhari, Kitab al-Maghazi, Beirut, Dar Ahya al-Tarath, 4: 1566, Volume: 4053