

Search of Truth, Series-14

THE REALITY OF ISLAM



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In the name of God, the most Merciful, the most Beneficent

THE REALITY OF ISLAM

Most of the religions in the world are named after either specific person (normally founder of that religion) or the people among whom the religion has emerged or practiced. For instance Christianity assumed its name as it is related with Prophet Christ. Similarly Buddhism derived its name from Lord Buddha and Zoroastrianism from its originator Zoroaster. Judaism gained its nomenclature as it has emerged in a tribe called Judah. Same is the case with several other religions. Contrary to this practice Islam does not get its name from any person or tribe but Islam derives its name from the qualities the word Islam signifies. The name itself makes it clear that this religion is not a brainchild of any person nor is it limited to any tribe or group of people.

'Islam' is an Arabic word meaning, obedience, surrender or submission (of the self). The name 'Islam' is given to this religion because it implies obeying and practicing the dictates of Allah. 'Peace', 'safety', 'security' and 'asylum' are the other meanings attached to the word 'Islam'.

Man can achieve peace in real sense when he completely submits himself to the will of Allah and leads his life as per the prescribed code of conduct. Through such kind of life only peace

of mind can be achieved and peace in its real sense can be established in the society also.

We observe that each and every object in this universe is governed by certain rule or law. The moon and the stars are bound by a wonderful natural regulation which can never be violated. The earth is moving with a specific speed. It never, even slightly, deviates from the speed, route and time specified for its motion. Water, air, heat and light are governed by a certain rule. The flora and fauna in this universe take birth, live, grow and perish as per the stipulated rule of universal law. If we observe human life, we easily understand that human life is also governed by the natural law. In accordance with the nature's rule only man breathes here, eats food and drinks water and is benefitted by heat, light and other natural resources. His heart-beats, blood circulation, respiration all work as per nature's orders. His limbs- legs, hands and his vital organs- brains, lungs, nervous system - everything follows the rule and discharge duties allotted to each of them.

This magnanimous rule and regulations under which the biggest planets of the universe to the smallest particle of this earth are governed is designed by a Supreme Ruler. The whole universe and everything in the universe follow His rule. Therefore the religion of the entire universe is 'Islam', which means obedience to the God and following His directive principles. The sun, the moon and the stars – all take instructions from Him. The earth, water, air and light all take only His orders.

Trees, mountains and animals and (biologically) all human beings including those who do not recognize God, those who

do not believe in Him, those who worship others (instead of their creator) or those who attribute partners to the creator--all are working according to the divine natural rule. Those who do not believe or those who worship others are also Muslims as far as nature's rule is concerned. This is true because their birth, growth, life and death are destined by nature's law. The religion of every inch and each hair of their body is Islam; because everything comes into existence, grows and decays as per the God's design. The tongue of man is also a Muslim, but unfortunately man is misguided and uses his tongue to utter thoughts of polytheism (shirk) or denial (kufr). The head of man is also a Muslim. It is man who by force bows the head down before others. The human heart, where due to ignorance man nurtures love for others, is a Muslim in reality because it functions as per nature's scheme.

On the one side the position of man on the earth is the same as the position of other (living or non-living) things as all are governed by wonderful natural laws. On the other side man has wisdom, ability to think, to understand and to decide a course of action in a certain issue. He has liberty to accept or reject an idea or a thought. He may like or dislike a thing or a practice. Regarding system of life either he himself frames a set of rules or follows rules framed by some others. In this respect man is given freedom to act as per his wish, liberty to generate, promote and practice views of his choice. He may lead his life as per his own fancy where as this liberty is not given to other (non-human) things whether it is animals or others.

There is another kind of man who recognises his creator and sustainer and follows the code of conduct prescribed by the creator in those

aspects too where he has freedom to act as per his choices, whims and fancies. Such type of man is a complete Muslim; his Islam is complete as his life assumes a shape of real Islam. Now he has become a Muslim knowingly and voluntarily as he has been a Muslim (follower of natural laws) in those aspects of life in which he has no freedom at all (e.g. birth, growth, death etc.) Thus he is a follower of Allah (God) at both the aspects – compulsory and optional. Now he has attained real knowledge and he has gained maturity because he succeeded in getting the real concept of God. His wisdom and opinion are quite correct as he willingly and after a serious contemplation accepted to become the follower of his creator who made him capable of thinking and arriving at true conclusion. What he speaks is only truth as his tongue follows the directives of its creator (God) and it is God who gave him power of speech. Consequently such a man's life is full of truth as he has become obedient to the law of his lord in both cases viz. voluntary and involuntary. He has moved closer to the whole universe as he is a devotee and worshipper of the same Lord whom the rest of the things in the universe do. Now he has become a representative (vicegerent) of Allah on this earth. The entire universe is his and he is God's real slave.

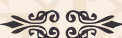
In contrast to the above referred man there is another kind of man who took birth as a Muslim as far as the involuntary or compulsory state of affairs is concerned, but he does not explore his ability to ponder over realities and recognize his creator. Such a man refuses to opt for his Lord's rule to follow in the state of affairs where he is given freedom and option. This person is a rebellion; he is a 'kafir'. 'Kufr' is

basically an Arabic word meaning 'to hide' or 'to cover'. Such a person is called kafir because he foolishly hides the natural reality or truth. Biologically his body takes birth as an obedient entity and naturally its a Muslim. Every part of his body functions in accordance with the natural law. The world around him too functions as per Islam but he has refused to accept the truth. He fails to see the very natural law functioning throughout the universe including his own self. He begins to think against it and tries to act against it.

'Kufr' is a type of ignorance. In other words ignorance about truth results into refusal or 'kufr'. What else can be a bigger ignorance than one's not knowing his creator? It is unjust to extract work from a thing in such a way which is contrary to its nature. All the things and objects we find in this universe are under the control of the creator of the universe. They all function as per His law and therefore their nature is 'Islam', meaning to obey the rule of God.

Unfortunately the person who indulges in kufr tries to extract work from the objects in this universe against their nature and thereby does a great harm. He promotes love for others and fears others in his heart. He adores 'others' other than his creator. He sets all his senses and body-organs to work against nature and paves ways for the destruction. What else could be a bigger injustice than this? Who else could be a bigger perpetrator of injustice than the one who always does injustice throughout his life on everything and everybody including his own self?

(extracted from the book entitled "Islam Dharm")



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