

Moderation is the Greatest Quality of Islam (An Analysis of the Current Scenario and Islamic Context)

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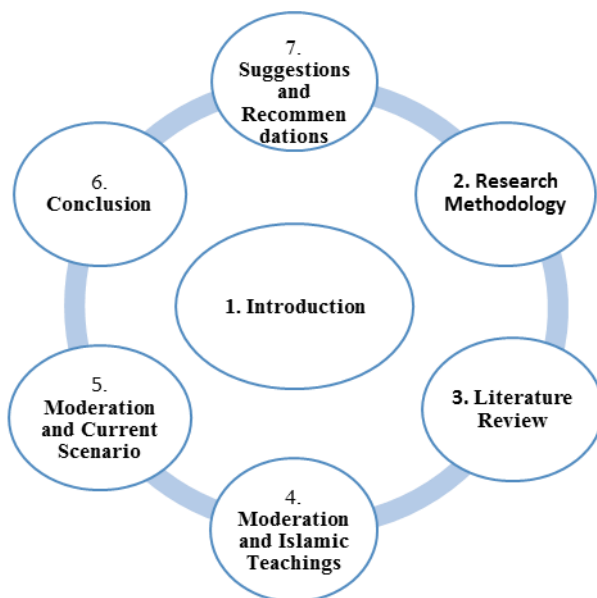
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Abstract

Moderation is a middle way in Islam Since it is a religion of peace and harmony, it does not like extravagance and miserliness but encourages people to adopt the path of moderation for the sake of the survival of humanity. But the situation of the present society is changing radically. Today's man has forgotten the Islamic teachings due to which many immoralities are being created in the society. Such as greed, lies, deception, oppression, intolerance, and injustice, etc, to improve the situation, it is necessary to adopt Islamic teachings and live according to them. Hopefully this article will be very useful because of its specific field.

Keywords: Islamic Teachings, Moderation, Humanity, Quality, Current Scenario



Introduction

Moderation is such a great feature of Islam that every matter and command is seen in it. In all matters and laws in which there is neither excess nor over-sufficiency, that is, neither extremism nor strength, moderation means taking a middle route. Although this is the key characteristic of Islam's faith that separates it from all other religions, the characteristic of the Muslim

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Ummah would undoubtedly be that it is distinguished and free from extremism by justice and moderation.

Almighty Allah says:

“And so we have made you ‘believers’ an upright community so that you may be witnesses over humanity and that the Messenger may be a witness over you”.¹

Islam not only calls for a middle way in all walks of life but also warns against leaning towards one of the extremism. As it is stated in Surah Fatiha

“Guide us along the Straight Path, the Path of those you have blessed—not those you are displeased with, or those who are astray”.²

Islam is the greatest religion of peace, tolerance, harmony, and reverence for humanity is a historical reality. In Islam all human beings deserve dignity without any prejudice, there is no definition of bigotry and extremism in Islam. Islam is the great universal religion that has taught peace and stability and love for humanity in the entire universe. It is Islam's glory and greatness that is introduced to the noble creatures a great idea of peaceful coexistence of religion. It was Islam that built the tower of human grandeur and gave it the manifesto and philosophy of neutrality, moderation, peace, and security upon which the building of Islam was built. The creatures of the whole universe have been taught by Islam that the Lord of the Islamic nation is the Lord of all worlds. In the contemporary era, the message of brotherhood, equality, unity, enlightenment, and moderation needs to be spread to eradicate religious extremism and liberation from sectarianism. Tolerance, peace, harmony, and moderation are needed for proposals for the creation of a moderate society, the establishment of peace in an Islamic society, the stability of the state, and peaceful coexistence. These are the teachings that can be encouraged as a consequence of which sectarianism can be abolished and religious extremism eliminated as well as unity promoted in society.³The Holy Quran says that “And hold firmly to the rope of Allah and do not be divided”.⁴ But the current situation is entirely different, with time, human has become a victim of many issues because he has forgotten Islamic teachings. Today, every human being suffers from lust and greed and has neglected the path of moderation. Much evil has arisen in society because of this greed and lust, and there is an atmosphere of chaos everywhere in society. This article also addresses modesty because it is humanity's greatest quality and it has also been highlighted in the current scenario and Islamic teachings. This paper can be an insightful and beneficial analysis for researchers concerning its particular theme.

Research Methodology

This is a qualitative base research work, in this work many sources were applied to collect the data, such as books, articles, magazines, websites,

dissertations, seminars, and workshops. The primary and secondary sources are used in this research work.

Literature Review

The greatest quality of Islam is moderation, which is an informative topic that is explained in light of the current scenario and Islamic context. For this purpose, several sources were used, which entitled “Political Leniency and Moderation in Islam”, it is an article and its author is “Saud F Alenizi”. This is an informative article and it has a lot of information concerning its specific theme.⁵ Another article is “Perception of politics and job outcomes: the moderating role of Islamic work ethic”, this article has a lot of information regarding its specific subject.⁶ We found one more article on “Islamist moderation in perspective: a comparative analysis of the moderation of Islamist and Western communist parties”, it has a lot of information concerning its specific topic.

Its authors are Suveyda Karakayaa and A. Kadir Yildirim, they have discussed the moderation of Islamist and Western communist parties in detail.⁷ The writer Dr. Yousuf Al Qarzawi writes in his book that where Islam forbids exaggeration, it encourages moderation in every matter. Islam is the only religion that is the center of elevation in all religions, where it has focused its attention on worship and piety. One of the great virtues of Islam is that it has inculcated moderation, justice, tolerance, harmony, and peace and made us a middle and moderate Ummah and it has very important teachings regarding spending a peaceful life for all Ummah. His book name is “Islam Ka Nazariyah Etidal Aur Iskay Ehim Anasir”, this book consists of useful information⁸.

Prof. Dr. Ahmed Bin Yousuf Al Dariwaish elucidates in his book that moderation and middle path are the characteristics of the Muslim Ummah that distinguish it from other nations and peoples. In the present age, intolerance, religious extremism, and sectarianism are growing rapidly in Muslim societies, and the youth, in particular, are prone to misguidance and intellectual dispersal. The catastrophic consequences of this situation are not hidden from any visionary. This book has a lot of information regarding moderation. This book can be useful for scholars and readers.⁹

Moderation and Islamic Teachings

Moderation is the middle path in all matters of life. Islam stresses tolerance and harmony in all facets of life, such as values, worship, behaviors, relationships, thoughts, traditions, transactions, everyday activities, and human desires. The Holy Qur'an has clearly defined the principle of moderation. “And thus We have made you the best of all nations”.¹⁰ It is stated in Surah Al-Furqan and verse 67 that

“They are those who spend neither wastefully nor stingily, but moderately in-between”.¹¹

The characteristic of the Muslim Ummah is that it adopts the path of moderation in all aspects of life, be it character or action. These are people who do not lean towards extremism. They do not neglect to pay attention to the worship of Almighty Allah, nor do they adopt the extremist attitude of those who leave this world and go to live in the mountains. Imam Razi speaks about verse 143 of Surah Baqarah in his commentary. In reality, the real balance is a middle way between the two extremism. Because both sides of excess and extravagance are damaging, therefore, to be moderate is to stay away from a loss, and that is a rational and virtuous attitude.¹²

Almighty Allah says that:

“Do not be so tight-fisted, for you will be blameworthy; nor so open-handed, for you will end up in poverty”.¹³

Hazrat Abdullah bin Amr said,

“The Messenger of Allah, may Allah bless him and grant him peace, said to me, 'O Abdullah, I know that you fast all day and worship all night.' I said, “Yes, O Messenger of Allah.” The Prophet (PBUH) said, “Do not do that." Sometimes fast and sometimes eat, pray at night and go to sleep. Indeed, your body has a right over you, your eyes have a right over you and your wife has a right over you”.¹⁴

On another occasion Hazrat Salman Al-Farsi (may Allah be pleased with him) said,

"Your Lord has the right over you, your body has the right over you, and your family has the right over you, so pay the right of everyone who has the right”.¹⁵

Allah says in Surah An-Nahl to advise human beings that:

“It is upon Allah ‘alone’ to ‘clearly’ show the Straight Way. Other ways are deviant. Had He willed, He would have easily imposed guidance upon all of you”.¹⁶

Islam has taught Muslims moderation in all aspects of their daily lives. They must avoid any kind of extremism that pleases the devil that leads them astray. With this teaching of moderation and balance, Muslims can counter the rising tide of extremism that is a threat to Muslims.¹⁷ Further said that:

“Whoever is moderate, Allah will enrich him, and whoever is extravagant, Allah will make him poor. Whoever humbles himself before Allah, Allah will exalt him, and whoever is arrogant and wrong, Allah will destroy him”.¹⁸

The Holy Prophet (PBUH) stated that:

“I am the most God-fearing and pious among you all, but I fast and I never fast. I also pray and sleep at night. I also have intercourse with wives”.¹⁹

At an event Hazrat Abdullah bin Sarjas narrated that:

“The Holy Prophet (PBUH) said those good manners, delaying one's work for a while, and meditation and moderation are the virtues that are one of the twenty-four components of Prophethood”.²⁰

Moderation is a middle path to live with calm and pleasure in society. Islam itself selects it for mankind so that they would spend calmly lives in society, it is a religion of peace and harmony, and therefore it does not like any kind of injustice and the intolerable environment in society.

Moderation and Current Scenario

Since Islam is a religion of peace, stability, and well-being, it prefers and values moderation in all matters. Moderation is one of the routes to prosperity, and Islam urges Muslims to pursue it. However, in today's world, the condition is shifting, and people have abandoned the path of moderation in favor of desire, greed, and selfishness, which has resulted in many evils such as stealing, robbery, and unbalanced calculation. All of these evils have created intolerance, theft, murder, kidnapping, brutality, and violence in today's man, and he has chosen the difficulties for himself because he has forgotten the Islamic teachings and has rejected moderation. He has turned avaricious, and his avarice has wreaked havoc on society. As a result, the situation has changed. When an individual disregards the teachings of Islam, he faces a slew of problems. Such occurrences can be found in history. We are now struggling with a situation that is causing people to become upset. He is selfish because it is human nature. It has been proved and has always taken those routes, which have resulted in difficulties and troubles. Some circumstances are similar in today's world as well. It is important to accept Islamic teachings, and these teachings must be followed to escape all difficulties and troubles.

Conclusion

Islam is the best religion of harmony, resilience, congruity, and regard for mankind, in Islam, all people merit regard with no segregation, there is no concept of bigotry and fanaticism in Islam. Islam is the extraordinary all-inclusive religion that has shown harmony, peace, and regard for humanity. It is the glory and greatness of Islam that it is Islam that raised the honor of human greatness and gave it the manifesto and philosophy of neutrality, moderation, peace, and security on which the building of Islam is built. Islam has taught the creatures of the entire universe that the Lord of the Islamic nation is the Lord of all the worlds, its greatest greatness and glory is that He is the Most Merciful, the Most Forgiving. Today, for the eradication of religious extremism from the contemporary scenario, liberation from sectarianism, and national unity, it is necessary to spread the message of Islamic brotherhood, equality, unity, enlightenment, and moderation. For the establishment of peace in the current society, the stability of the state, and peaceful coexistence, it is necessary to promote tolerance, forgiveness, harmony, enlightenment, and moderation. These are the teachings on which by doing so, we can get rid of sectarianism and eradicate religious extremism. It is also important to remove sectarian harmony. It is significant that we neither abandon our faith nor not

disturb the faith of others. In any case, the circumstance of society is extraordinary. We have failed to remember the Islamic lessons as well as deserted the way of moderation and received un-Islamic qualities like greed, injustice, intolerance, bigotry, persecution, and oppression, etc., and so on because of which numerous evils have been created in society. With time, unfortunately, we are going towards destruction. Here is a desperate need that we ought to follow the lessons of Islam.

Suggestions and Recommendations

Following are several suggestions and recommendations

- ✓ Since Islamic teachings have been disregarded, we are faced with various challenges. It is an urgent need of the time that we strictly observe the teachings of Islam and live our lives by them.
- ✓ In today's world, an unbalanced atmosphere can be seen everywhere. The primary cause of all of these ills is greed, which has become prominent in today's scenario. As Muslims, we must observe all of Islam's teachings.
- ✓ We should reduce the greed in our lives then we will be able to spend a calm and pleasant life.
- ✓ Islamic scholars must explain everything in the light of Islamic teachings before the public so that non-Islamic problems are avoided.
- ✓ We should teach our young generation all of Islam's teachings so that they would live a righteous life in society.

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