

THE FORUM PUBLICATION – V

*In The Name Of Allah, The Beneficent, The
Merciful*

**THE
GREATEST
NEED
OF
MAN**

SHAMIM A SIDDIQI

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DEDICATION**I****DEDICATE****THIS BOOK TO THOSE INDOMITABLE****SOULS THAT ARE DETERMINED TO****OVERCOME THEIR PHYSICAL URGES****TO MAKE THIS WORLD A BALANCED****AND****HARMONIOUS PLACE;****TO LIVE IN****ABIDING PEACE****WITH JUSTICE****FOR****ALL**

In the Name of Allah, the Compassionate, the Merciful

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In the name of Allah, the Compassionate, the Merciful

PREFACE for the Second Edition

Alhamdulillah, with the favorable blessings of my Lord, I wrote this book in the beginning of the last decade of the 20th century when Communism was dying, the cold war was about to collapse and “mighty Russia was humiliated by the ill-equipped Afghanistan students [Taliban] and the tempo of the concocted Gulf war was building against Iraq. Both Pakistan and the USA were heavily involved in this global upheaval. The man and his irresponsible behavior of greed and lust to occupy the lands of others was the distinct cause of this turmoil. Immediate causes were always there and will be to exploit them for any imperial design by any vested interest. The “Tragedy of 9/11” was one of them and, unfortunately, that still stands today unproven through any Judicial Probe on International level: WHO DID IT AND WHAT FOR?

Since the time I envisioned this book about 20 years ago, two decades, have passed. The world has taken a new turn and human history is standing today, facing another big disaster in its march towards its earmarked destiny with dire consequences. At this juncture:

*** Capitalism is at its death bed as it couldn't solve any of the human problems, rather is accumulating them at an accelerated pace as Communism gave up its false claim as panacea for all evils in Russia and at global level in early nineties of the last century and thereby succumbed to its self-sustained injuries. Frequently the survival of Capitalism needs heavy doses of oxygen for its onward march just for some temporary lease of life. Now it seems that capitalism is going to remain permanently in an oxygen tent as if it is**

breathing its last. Human ingenuity could not and cannot find its “cure” as its very edifice is based on frivolous grounds of greed and reckless behavior of man – the investor, the producer of goods and services and the consumer at large.

*Man’s standard of living is constantly ballooning with ever-increasing cost of goods and services that has broken the backbone of the poor, the needy, the have-nots, the un-employed and the under-employed;

* Unemployment is rampant in every developed, developing and undeveloped country with falling state revenues and low tax returns;

* Governments are short of cash and highly burdened with debt and private capital is too shy to come forward for investment to increase the pace of producing jobs and services. The USA alone is holding more than 3.5 trillion dollars in cash but it is not forthcoming for investment to create jobs, services and thereby increasing purchasing power of common man. Human society badly needs huge investment in private sector as governments are deeply buried in debt and cannot burden their economies any more. This selfish attitude of the money holders is a bad stigma on the forehead of Capitalism. It is bringing its death nearer and nearer.

* Corporate interest on the other hand is looking for the maximization of its profits and gains by hook or by crook. It is busy in outsourcing its business opportunities to lands where labor is cheap, cost of production is low and the margin of profit is great.

* Justice, peace and security have become the rarest things to find in the human abode. The affluent are perpetuating their game of exploitation of the oppressed and the have-nots and have filled the earth with injustices all around. Humanity is lamenting and there is none to take care of it, except tall talks all around.

* Human rights are being violated every now and then everywhere. The “culprits”, the Great Five, are sitting under the

canopy of the UN as permanent members of the Security Council and the teaming millions and millions of people are starving in the under developed countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America with no fresh water, no clean air and no guarantee even to get one squire meal a day, facing death and a suffocated life at every step. Is it not a shameful challenge to “Capitalistic” or the “Socialist” democracies around the world?

* Home industry is suffering from its devastating paralysis and Banks have multiplied its pace due to its continuous chain of Investment in housing industry that was and is not adequately supported by Asset’s Backed Securities. Thus, they ruined their liquidity position. They are starving from cash and need government’s subsidy at frequent intervals to keep their “shutters” open throughout the banking Industry in Europe, Asia and America. It is their own creation and greed to make more and more profit through investing in sub-prime mortgage lending; facing an unending chain of losses.

“These loans were made to customers who did not qualify for standard mortgage loans because of weak credit, insufficient income or an unstable job situation. A sub-prime customer is much riskier because of these factors. Many loans made to these customers were adjustable rate mortgages, which are tied to certain indexes, plus a margin, that increase periodically and raise the mortgage payment. Some customers saw their payments increase by hundreds of dollars, making them unaffordable. Foreclosures reached record levels when homeowners could not make these payments.” The banking industry is suffering alarmingly in its wake due to shortage of cash and liquidity and job losses. [Quote from Banking Industry Problems by Melvin Richardson]

The brief scenario that I have presented above constitutes an unending line of human tragedies. It is due to misuse of his own free will that the Creator and Sustainer endowed man to satisfy his/her urges from the bounties and benedictions created and provided by Him within human self and all along the environment around man for his use the way he likes or prefers as per his freewill. This is the free choice that is given to man as how to act,

live and behave while on earth, feeling always accountable to the Lord of this universe for the manner he/she uses His bounties to satisfy his urges. If it is used correctly as per His Guidance, he/she will be rewarded after death or will be punished if he/she uses these bounties as per his/her whims, desires and caprices. The choice is his and his only and he will be dealt with accordingly.

To understand the complexities of this phenomenon of man's free will, one has to understand the objective of man's creation and his descend on earth as God's vicegerent in a sequence.

1. God first designed and created man in his best fashion with three strong urges and a free will and kept him in paradise for the period known to God alone.
2. God created this universe for man and harnessed it for the use and benefit of man.
3. The Creator, in fact, planned to ascertain from amongst the human race: Who are those individuals who remain obedient to Him for their entire earthly life by exercising their own individual free will and live a life as per Guidance sent to them through God's appointed Messengers in a chain; and those who deny the Messenger and his message and live as per the dictates of their free will and fill the earth with injustices, Zulm (oppression) and Fasa'd (transgression)..

*One who will follow the Creator and Sustainer will lead a life of straight path as designed by the Lord of this cosmos and demonstrated by His Messengers as model and those who deny His authority and the Guidance that comes from Him and follow a life pattern that is designed by man by exercising his freewill as how to live, act and behave on this earth.

*Through exercising his free will, man either lives a life as ordained by God and reaps the harvest of His pleasure after death or lives a secular life on earth – inaugurating clearly, thus, two patterns of life just opposite to each other:

* One pattern that is acceptable to the Creator and Sustainer with eternal pleasure from Him in return: enjoying a contented

life on earth and everlasting abode in His Jannah [Paradise] that has no fear or any sorrow for its habitants.

* The other that He abhors with His eternal displeasure both in this worldly life and the life after death with everlasting torture and punishment in the hellfire.

* These two patterns of life exist on earth since the dawn of human civilization -- one is called Godly System or Theism and the other is called Secularism or Godless creeds and both have been at daggers drawn from the very outset. One is the boon for mankind while the other is a total disaster for the human species.

Poet Iqbal rightly put this entire concept of constant struggle between the forces of Haq and Batil in a couplet:

***“Sateza kaar rahaa hay azal se ta imroz
Chiraaghe mustafawee se sharare bu lahabi”***

[Translation: The forces of Haq and that of Batil have been at daggers drawn from the very inception of human society till today]

- One who follows the Creator and Sustainer is called **Muslim**-obedient to God, leading an Allah-conscious life, feeling always accountable to his/her Lord after death for all of his/her actions and deeds on earth. That makes him a responsible character, very much mindful of his duties and responsibilities to self, family and the society at large in every field of life and discharges his obligation at all counts with total devotion and no negligence in any way. He becomes a boon and blessing for human species. He is loved by all for his benevolent character. He ultimately becomes a true servant of God and His [Abd]. People love them and they establish the Kingdom of God on earth. Prophet David, Solomon and Muhammad Ibne Abdullah of Makkah (May Allah be pleased with them) established it on earth at their respective times. That filled the earth with Barakah and Justice, peace and security all around within the human abode. The Caliphs of Prophet Muhammad [pbuh] carried out its blessings subsequently to major parts of Asia, Africa and Europe. It is the model for mankind.

- And the one who denies His authority and the System of life that He had sent in a chain for the human species to follow on earth is known as secular and paganism. They live by their free will, developed secular systems of life as per their personal whims, desires and caprices, fill the earth with injustices, Zulm and Fasa'd (oppression and transgression). Capitalism is the continuous format of life where capital remains concentrated in the hands of the few and prospers on exploitation of all the other factors of production one way or the other. It has attained its zenith of corruption and exploitation in the last millennium and is now counting its days resting in artificial Oxygen tents throughout the capitalist world. The Corporate life pattern and the System of production and distribution of goods and services of twenty first century is its prime model. It has accumulated in its womb all the evils of capitalistic economy and the humanity is suffering incessantly in its dominant role.

This way of thinking process or behaving where the man uses his free will the way he likes or prefers makes the men and women irresponsible, selfish, reckless, greedy, indulging him/her to run mostly for his/her personal gains, fame and pleasure. Thus, all the man-made systems and Isms developed by such greedy and reckless individuals, groups or the people from the very outset of human society to this age fall in this category and, unfortunately, it is continuing unabated. In the present context of the world when there is no "Kingdom of God" on earth, the secular, God-less creeds or systems of life have made the human life an unbearable absolute torture and filled the human abode with all kinds of injustices in their individual, family and societies that they constitute.

In consequence, both the Systems of life – the God-given and the man-made are at daggers drawn both in theory and practice with no peace and security in any segment of human society.

- Besides these two distinct divisions of the human society, there is a third group that is called "**Muslim in name**" only as they do accept the authority of God but practically ignore Him in practice. They are called the "Traditionalists" or the so-called Muslims, Jews and Christians. All the three believe in the Abrahamic faith but follow only a distorted version of Islam – Obedience to God

and Accountability in Akhirah, for the name sake only.

* It is, therefore, desirable, rather it is incumbent upon those who follow Islam and are obedient to God in every walk of life must come forward and invite the Jews, Christians and the traditional Muslims to enter into Islam in its totality and invite the pagans and the secular world to the fold of their Creator and Sustainer so that all could enjoy His pleasure in this world and in the life Hereafter.

The reader of this book: **“The Greatest Need of Man”** has this paramount obligation on his/her shoulders, especially in the context of present day situation when all man-made Isms have collapsed or are at the verge of total failure and they have to take care of them. They have to present Islam with care and concern to avoid facing the inevitable consequences in both the worlds. **I am sure all will study this Preface and the book with the same mission in mind, God will compensate each of them immensely.**

Before conclusion, I must express my thanks to Salman Mian who has prepared a manuscript of the book afresh from my website: WWW.dawahinamericas.com May Allah bless him immensely.

Shamim A Siddiqi
6 Plant Lane, Westbury, NY-11590
August 4, 2012

In The Name of God, the Beneficent, the Merciful

PREFACE

Human society is becoming more and more problematic day by day. This is man's own creation. How he can come out of his self-made mess is the subject matter of this book. It is within the discretion of man, either to be the finest creature on earth or to be the worst. Both the ways are wide open before him. The choice lies within the domain of individual man and woman. The humble effort which I have made in this book will pinpoint the foremost need of man on earth, and the way of life through which he or she can transform his or her life worthy of a human being. The decision lies with the individual reader.

The issues that I have raised in this book could take volumes of writing in order to do justice in each case. But before me is the busy man, standing at the threshold of the 21st century. He wants everything in a ready-made form, and, if possible, in a capsule. He lives a life of haste and loses interest in reading if the article is lengthy and does not fall in the category of light literature.

I have, therefore, tried to be brief and to the point, avoiding elaborate discussion except where it is essential for easy understanding. The nature of the material contained in this book is philosophical and the addressee is man.

Outwardly, some of the comments in this book may seem very critical of the West, but I had only the good of mankind as a whole at heart when I wrote them in an agonizing mood. Both the people of the East and of the West suffer from moral sickness and are in distress. But the nature of the agonies of each is different. My approach is how both as human beings can have peace of mind, contentment of heart and lead a life of mutual trust and cooperation, not of hate and mistrust. Both need a philosophy of life which can bring them on a single platform of life where 'the lion and the goat,' the 'haves' and the 'have-nots' live together in peace with justice and equality.

This was not possible without diagnosing the causes both

scientifically as well historically. When you dig into human history and analyze the causes of the development of world events, you cannot avoid the taste of past fallacies and the existing shortcomings of human behavior that often becomes so reckless that it exploits and destroys its own species. That is the tragedy which human society has faced through ages and continues to encounter the same with little recession in its malignancy. If the diagnosis is not correct and proper, the treatment will also be ineffective. The reader should, therefore, not mind the bitterness of the truth of our past and the prevalent present, but go into the depth of the problems and look for the solution to make the world an abode of peace. This is the central theme of this book.

Only the material progress is not the solution or the means to obtain peace, as many people may think. Man has to find solace somewhere else. This book provides the help that man needs in his quest for a balanced life.

In writing this book, I feel a profound sense of gratitude for the beloved brothers Dr. Erdogan Gurmen, Dr. S. Zahirul Hassan, Br. Shamsheer A. Baig, Br. Muhammad Umerjee and Dr. Omer Afzal. Their valuable suggestions towards the improvement of this book have made it a challenge to modern man, who is in dire need of peace and a balanced life to lead for the safety of this planet and for overcoming fear and tension. I am grateful to my beloved sons Tariq Adeel Siddiqi and Javed S. Siddiqi for their help and assistance for typing the manuscript and other relevant work on the computer. I am equally thankful to Sister Aishah Pasha of New York Desktop Publishers for the final camera-ready output of this book and designing its elegant cover page.

May God bless each of them magnanimously for their valuable contribution!

New York April 15, 1991.

Shamim A. Siddiqi

INTRODUCTION

SOME FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS

Humanity is confronted with some pertinent fundamental questions. They cannot be ignored. They need proper response. The fate of the entire human race depends in the way they are answered. If they are attended to in a reckless manner, human destiny will be doomed. If they are confronted with a deep sense of responsibility, the world may turn into an abode of peace for mankind. These questions are as follows:

1. Is the Creation of man and the universe aimless?
2. Is man free to do what he likes even at the cost of his fellow men?
3. To what extent is man free? Are there any restrictions on his free will?
4. Are people or nations equally free to do what suits their interest, even if the entire human society is at stake?
5. Among the countless needs of man, which is the greatest? Who can fulfill that need and how precisely?
6. How can man fulfill his greatest need and with what guarantee?
7. Where is the human society heading?

In order to obtain correct answers to these challenging questions we have to ascertain man's position on earth, and then find out his relationship with the universe and to his fellow beings. It will open the way to assess the extent of his "FREE-WILL", which is dominant in each individual with great consequences. The rest of the discussion will rotate on this probe.

CHAPTER –1 MAN’S POSITION ON THIS EARTH

To ascertain man's position on earth, I do not want to go into the controversy created by the protagonists of “evolutionary” and “creation” theories. In fact, they do not oppose each other. They are compatible.

According to scientists' explanation, life on earth developed through evolutionary process millions of years before the appearance of man on earth. In the beginning, the earth was as extremely hot as other planets were. Earth gradually became cooler and cooler. When the upper layer of earth completely cooled down, life began sprouting out of water and mud. Plants, birds and other animals came into existence. Creatures somewhat resembling human beings in form also came into being in this process. Their fossils are now being dug out here and there. Scientists supporting the evolution theory are guessing the age of man from these excavations. They are making constant effort to prove these fossils as the ancestors of present day man whereas man is unique in his creation. He differs from other mammals, the apes and the chimpanzee in many respects. Man distinguishes himself from animals in his power of reasoning, planning and expression. The anatomy of the brain, eyes and ears, the ability of accumulating knowledge, the art of writing, and the force of moral and spiritual values are special to man. Over and above all, he has a free will to do what he likes. He behaves and acts according to his discretion, not according to instincts.

These characteristics are found in no other species. These qualities of the heart and the mind were there in the first man as they are now in today's man. In fact man is a separate, independent, special and a unique entity among all the other creatures of this cosmos. His behavior, his temperament, his lust for power and greed, his desire to possess, his weaknesses and strengths all are the same as they were in the first man. He is thus special specie different from all other creations on earth. Man, as a whole, is the “missing link” in the theory of evolution. The human being represents the finest handicraft of the Creator. When the earth, through evolutionary process, became fit for

human habitation, when the earth could provide what was needed for the sustenance and survival of man, when all the needs and requirements of man till eternity were made available on earth, the Creator, in His infinite mercy, placed man with his companion on this earth in the form of Adam and Eve, with all the qualities of heart and mind, weaknesses and shortcomings, strong physical urges, intellectual and structural superiority which are unique to human beings as we see today.

To substantiate the aforesaid view, human being has no source of knowledge except that of revelations from the Creator Himself. Man's experimental knowledge about his origin is mostly guesswork, just guessing and making wild shots in the dark. The theories about the origin and evolution of man keep changing with each newfound fossil. We have, therefore, no choice but refer to Divine Scriptures, especially the last and the final one. All that it contains is eternal truth. Its every word is compatible with what science has contributed so far to the knowledge of mankind. For what science could not discover so far understanding the nature of this cosmos, the position of man and his inter-relationship with others, etc., man should turn to the last Scripture. What the scientist has come to discover now was already revealed 1400 years ago, and that stands confirmed by the available scientific standard.

For a comparative study of what is described or revealed in the last Scripture and what has so far been discovered through scientific process can be better understood by reading these books, viz. "The Bible, The Qur'an and Science" and "What is the Origin of Man" by Dr. Maurice Bucaille. Both the books are eloquent proof that what is revealed has now been confirmed by scientific discoveries. One who goes through these books will see for himself or herself that the last Scripture stands today as a flawless scientific truth. It confirms that the supreme authority that created this universe and placed man on earth as his or her temporary and transitional abode, and who revealed the Book through His last messenger is one and the same.

In the Scripture, God has laid down the process of the creation of man, the stages through which man passes, the objective of his creation, his shortcomings and weaknesses, his needs and requirements and his position on this earth. I will now quote

some of its Verses in support of what I have discussed above.

“Verily We created man from a product of wet earth. Then placed him as a drop (of seed) in a safe lodging.

Then fashioned We the drop a clot, then fashioned We the clot into a little lump, then fashioned We the little lump with bones then wrapped the bones with flesh, and then produced it as final creation. So blessed be Allah, the Best of Creators!”

(The Qur'an 23: 12-14)

“O Mankind, if you are in doubt concerning the resurrection, then Lo: We have created you from dust, then from a drop of seed, then from a clot, then from a little lump of flesh shapely and shapeless, that We make it clear for you—.”

(The Qur'an. 22: 5)

“(God is He) Who made all things good which He created and He began the creation of man from clay; then He made his seed from a drought of despised fluid. Then He fashioned him and breathed into him of His spirit; and gave him (the power of) hearing, and sight and heart.”

(The Qur'an. 32: 7-9)

“And He it is Who has created man from water.”

(The Qur'an. 25: 54)

“God has created every animal of water. Of them is (a kind) that goes upon its belly and (a kind) that goes upon two legs and (a kind) that goes upon four legs. God creates what He wills. Lo, God is able to do all things.”

(The Qur'an. 24: 45)

These verses tell us that the first human species was created out of wet clay (a mixture of water and dust) by the Supreme Creator in the most perfect shape and form. God then created the earth, the sky and the entire universe for mankind. He made the earth habitable for man through gradual evolutionary process. He endowed man with knowledge of everything in order to make him

excel as His supreme creature. When all that was needed for the procreation of man and woman was arranged and put into this earth, the first couple descended from heaven to earth as His vicegerent, His representative on earth with clear command to follow Him.

“And when thy Lord said unto the angels: Lo! I am about to place a viceroy on my earth, they said: will thou place therein one who will do harm therein and will shed blood, while we hymn Thy praise and sanctify Thee? He said: surely I know that which ye know not.

And He taught Adam the names of all the filings, then showed these to the angels saying: Inform me of the names of these, if ye are truthful.

They (angels) said: Be glorified! We have no knowledge saving that which Thou have taught us. Lo! Thou, only Thou, are Knower, the Wise.”

(The Qur'an. 1: 30-31)

“See ye not how God has made serviceable unto you whatsoever is in the skies and whatsoever is in the earth and has loaded you with His favors both within and without. Yet of mankind is he who disputes concerning God, without knowledge or guidance or a Scripture giving light.”

(The Qur'an. 31:20)

“He it is Who created for you all that is in the earth.”

(The Qur'an. 2:29)

Thus, the first man and woman who came to this earth as His vicegerents were in full knowledge of their position and assignment that was entrusted to them by their Creator. This position of man on earth has the following connotations.

i. Through vicegerency the Creator gave a political position to every man and woman on earth. It automatically carries some authority to live, act and behave as an autonomous being with responsibility to the Creator. As vicegerent, every human being is accountable to the Creator for all his or her actions and deeds on earth.

ii. As vicegerent of the Creator, every man and woman was given a clear-cut assignment that they would remain loyal to Him and consciously try their utmost throughout their lifetime to establish God's authority on earth.

iii. As vicegerent man was given some discretionary power on earth. This special power can be termed as the "FREE-WILL" of man or woman. This is the inherent right of a human being on earth to live the way he or she chooses. Without this discretionary power, or power of Choice, man's life on earth would have been fatalistic, like inanimate objects. There would then have been no question of accountability to the Creator.

iv. This very power of choice, or of discretion, brings us to the fact that man has been put to a test on this earth. Man by his own choice has to select what is good or what is bad. By using the freewill, he/she will have to find out when and in which way one can find the consent and the pleasure of his Creator. After death, he or she has to meet Him eventually, when all will be accountable for their actions and deeds.

v. This concept of vicegerency, the concept of free choice and accountability in the life after death, in fact, is a process of selection. The Creator wants to ascertain the people who by their free choice remain loyal and faithful to Him while living on earth and pass their life in seeking His pleasure. Similarly, He wants to ascertain the people who violate the mandate of vicegerency, create disorder and shed blood on earth as feared by angels when God declared that He wanted to create a vicegerent on the earth, as mentioned earlier. Thus, the Creator wants to populate His heaven - the future world for mankind - with the first category of people and discard the second category as fuel for the hell-fire.

One can deny this status of man on earth by exercising his or her free will. In that case, he or she has to ascertain and tell the world the objective behind the creation of man. If this special position of man is denied, everything then becomes meaningless. When everything in this cosmos has its objective, purpose and utility, why then alone the man - the supreme creation of God - should have no objectivity?

"Lo! In the creation of the heavens and the earth and (in)

difference of night and day are token of His sovereignty for men of understanding, who remember God standing, sitting reclining, and consider the creation of the heaven and the earth (and say): Our Lord! Thou created not (all) this in vain. Glory to Thee! Preserve us from the doom of Fire.”

(The Qur'an. 3:190-191)

“We created not the heaven and the earth and all that is between them in play”

(The Qur'an. 21: 16)

The foregoing discussion establishes man's position on earth. He or she is the vicegerent of the Creator. This is a very responsible status and carries a lot of obligations along with the power of freewill. Man is living on the earth under the constant vigilance of the Creator. He cannot escape from this position. For his or her entire life, he or she is to lead a life loveable to Him, or reap evil consequences here and in the Hereafter by denying His authority. This free choice is open to every man or woman. This position of man on earth is the fait accompli.

CHAPTER – 2 – THE UNIVERSE - IT'S OBJECTIVE

After ascertaining the position of man on earth, it is desirable to understand this universe, its objective and its relationship with man. Though I have already mentioned in the foregoing Chapter that the universe is for mankind, it needs some elaboration, discussing the guiding principles through which man can explore and use it for his benefit.

No scientist on earth so far has been able to explain the objective behind the creation of this awe-inspiring universe. About the universe, the knowledge of science is based mostly on theories, guesswork and hypotheses, which are surrounded with constantly changing assertions. Theories about the universe are changing with every new discovery. It is still beyond the capacity of man, even with the help of all the technology at his disposal, to fathom the vastness of the universe, its foundation, its substance, its origin and process of development, etc. with certainty. The Creator has Himself provided that basic knowledge about the heaven and the earth, thereby saving man from an unending guesswork and living in uncertainty.

“Say (O! Prophet unto the idolaters) Disbelieve ye verily in Him Who created this earth in two days (periods) and ascribe ye into Him rivals? He (and none else) is the Lord of the worlds. He placed there in firm mountains rising above it, and blessed it and measured therein its sustenance in four days (periods) alike for all who ask;

Then turned He to the heaven when it was smoke, and said unto it and unto the earth: Come both of you, willingly or unwillingly. They said: We come, obedient

Then He ordained the seven heavens in two days (periods) and inspired in each heaven its mandate; and We decked the nether heaven with lamps (stars), and rendered it inviolable. That is the measuring of the Mighty, the Knower.”

(The Qur'an. 41:9-12)

And a day in the celestial sphere, in the words of God, is like

50,000 years of earthly days and nights as revealed in the Scripture to give an understanding to humans about the longevity of these evolutionary 'periods,' mentioned in the above quoted verse. This too is just to give an idea to human beings to envision the long time of evolutionary process ordained by the Creator in the creation of the universe and making the earth habitable for man.

“(whereby) the angels and the spirit (Arch angel) ascend unto Him in a day whereof the span is fifty thousand years.”

(The Qur'an. 70: 4)

THE PLANNING IN CREATION

God created this universe and what lies in it in a very well planned manner and assigned behavior and trajectory to each object, which is meticulously obedient. In other words, each object in nature has its prescribed and pre-ordained laws. It has no choice but to fulfill them without any defiance at all.

God has termed it as the Taqdeer (destiny or measure) of all objects of this universe. He then, in His infinite mercy, harnessed the entire universe for the service of man for whom all objects were created. We have no other source to verify the context of this aspect of human life except through the words of the Creator.

“He unto Whom belong the sovereignty of the heavens and earth, He has chosen no son nor has He any partner in sovereignty. He has created each and every thing and then ordained its destiny.”

(The Qur'an 25: 2)

Moses replied (to Pharaoh):

“Our Lord is He Who has given a distinctive form to everything and guided it right.”

(The Qur'an. 20: 25)

“See ye not how God has made serviceable unto you whatever is in the skies and whatsoever is in the earth and has bestowed

you all His favors, visible as well as invisible—.”

(The Qur'an. 31: 20)

“Do you not see that He has made subservient to you all that is in the earth? And He has subjected the boat to the law that she floats over the sea at His bidding, and He holds back the heaven from falling on the earth unless by His leave—.”

(The Qur'an. 22: 65)

“God is He Who has created the heaven and the earth and sent rain water from the sky thereby producing different kinds of fruits to provide you with food, and makes the ship to service unto you that may run upon the sea at His command. It is He Who subdued the rivers for you.

It is He Who subdued the sun and the moon, constant in their courses to be of service unto you the night and the day.

It is He who fulfilled all your requirements: so much so that you cannot count His bounties, if you tried to number them. Lo! Man is very unjust and ingrate.”

(The Qur'an. 14: 32-34)

The above verses confirm that man is the supreme creation of God and the entire universe has been put at his disposal. Everything has its prescribed and predestined laws and principles. This destiny is nothing but the scientific laws that a physicist, a chemist, an astronomer, an explorer, or a discoverer finds out by the dint of his effort and labor.

Scientists in different fields have been and are busy digging out and discovering the hidden laws governing the destiny of animate and inanimate objects as the predestined will of the Creator.

All were created for man and they are waiting in the vastness of nature to be discovered and conquered by him.

THE RESTRICTIONS

However, this process of discovery is not free for all. It is subject

to some discipline. It is open only to men of determination and to those who can make extreme sacrifices of time, energy, talents and resources in that pursuit. The Creator Himself has laid down these conditions. These are a kind of restrictions prescribed by Him. They are only two:

1. The secrets of nature and the laws governing the universe and what it contains are discovered only by those men and women who pursue the course of knowledge, ponder over the chemistry of things, try to understand the laws of nature and synchronize with the overall harmony prevailing in this cosmos as a whole. The Creator has laid down a condition on man in order to get anything that he wants from the earth and heavens.

“God does not change a people's lot unless they themselves first change that which is in their heart (their own characteristics)—.”
(*The Qur'an. 13:11*)

“And that there is nothing for man but what he has striven for.”
(*The Qur'an. 53: 39*)

These are the general principles operative in this universe to achieve anything in this world. Nothing will come automatically or someone can get something without making any effort for it. These principles guide the destiny of man. One who is lethargic, indolent and sitting with folded hands, for him, there is nothing from this world. One has to make yeomanly efforts to get what he wants, irrespective of whether it is food, personal comfort, economic challenges, political objectives or scientific probes in different fields of knowledge.

2. The other dominant restriction laid down in this respect is that man and woman, in spite of all of his or her efforts, will achieve only what the Creator wants to give or disclose or enlighten him or her within the respective fields of pursuit. This predominant principle is the key to the success or failure of human efforts.

This will explain why innumerable people put their best to achieve the objective of their life but meet with little or no success, whereas there are equally many people who with extraordinary efforts are crowned with success. At the same time there are those who get or discover by chance or by inspired

knowledge something very important for mankind. Whether the discovery is by effort or by chance, the will of the Creator controls and guides the ultimate result.

* The discovery of the law of gravitation by Isaac Newton was simply by chance. It is so important that the entire scientific discoveries of the earth and sky are revolving around it. Michael Heart, in his book "The Hundred," has placed Newton in second position only after Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) for guiding the destiny of mankind and creating a lasting influence on human society.

* The discovery of Penicillin by Alexander Fleming in 1929, which brought about a revolution in the field of medicine, was also by chance.

* The Archimedes principle of up-thrust too was discovered by chance.

* The discovery of radium by Madam Curie in 1903 was another addition to the list of discoveries by chance.

* The discovery of America by Columbus that had an enormous impact in molding the history of mankind was also by chance. He was destined for the East but he touched upon the islands in the West just by chance.

The list is quite long. If one could probe into each and every scientific discovery, it would be clear that one way or the other the will of the Creator was there to guide the ultimate revelation. A secular mind may not accept it but the facts will speak for themselves. He cannot provide any other intelligent explanation for the cause of successes or failures except what I have stated above. Truth cannot be concealed or denied.

The last Scripture describes this aspect of human limitations as one of the attributes of the sovereignty of the Creator.

"There is no God save Him, the Alive, the Eternal. Neither slumber nor sleep overtakes Him. Unto Him belongs whatsoever is in the heaven and whatsoever in the earth? Who is he that

intercedes with Him save by His leave? He knows that which is in front of them (people) and that which is behind them (i.e. past and future). Nor shall they (people) encompass anything of His knowledge save what He wills. His throne (sovereignty) includes the heavens and the earth. And He is never weary of preserving them for He is the Sublime, the Supreme.”

(The Qur'an. 2: 255)

The above principles that guide the human destiny resolve the mystery of why man could not and cannot get all that he wants. That is also the reason that explains the fact that in spite of so many strenuous efforts, the universe is still an awe-inspiring secret. Man has yet to go a long way to understand:

- i. What is he, the supreme creation of God?
- ii. What is the universe?
- iii. What are the enormous bounties of the Creator that are still hidden deep under the earth, in the depth of the oceans and high above the skies?

Human efforts will continue to unfold the mysteries of nature and it will be rewarded only to the extent the Creator Himself wants to reveal His creation in His overall strategy controlling the destiny of mankind and the affairs of the cosmos as a whole.

The discussion so far has established the following facts:

1. That man is a vicegerent of the Creator on earth. He has a mandate from the Creator to fulfill in his or her lifetime.
2. That the entire universe was created and harnessed by the Creator for man to explore and use the way he or she likes for the satisfaction of his/her urges and needs.
3. That he has a free will to act at his own discretion and for that he/she is accountable to the Creator for all he or she is doing on earth.

That this earth is a place of selection to ascertain who tries to establish His authority on earth and who denies it by his free will.

5. That he or she will get from this world only what he or she strives for and that only to the extent the Creator has willed for him or her.

6. That everything in this world that man possesses is a **trust** in his hands, and for that he is accountable to the Creator. He/she is its trustee and not master or owner. The Verse quoted below confirms it beyond any shadow of doubt.

“He, it is who has placed you as custodians (Trustee) of the earth and has exalted some of you in rank above others, that He may try you by (the test of) that which He has given you. Lo! Thy Lord is swift in prosecution, and lo! He is Forgiving, Merciful.”

(The Qur'an. 6:165)

This answers the first four questions raised in the introduction. Neither man nor the universe was created in vain. There is a definite purpose behind each. Neither is man the developed or improved variety of apes nor was the universe created by accident or in vain. There is an artistic beauty, a definite planning, continuous regulation and ever-vigilant supervision of the Creator Himself throughout this cosmos. Man's life depends on this universe and its bounties that are destined to support and sustain his or her existence on earth. This is the will of the Creator. The heavens and earth are performing their obligation in complete harmony under compulsion, as they have no other choice, but men or women are free to take the full benefit of each by exercising their freewill, for which they are responsible and accountable to their Creator.

CHAPTER – 3 - MAN’S PHYSICAL URGES AND HIS FREE WILL

From what I have discussed in the previous chapter, it is clear that the heaven and earth and all that it contains have been created for man. Now there arises a fundamental question as to why the Creator harnessed this universe for man? Why has man been given the authority to explore its vastness and what lies in it the way he or she likes, with certain restrictions as explained in the previous chapter? The answer is very simple, but needs a lot of elaboration to make it clear to the reader.

The Creator, while designing and creating man instilled him with three strong urges and a free will to use the bounties of this earth as per his/her free choice. These urges want satisfaction or fulfillment (when their call is supreme in the human body). These are the brute forces of nature. They can also be termed as animal urges and natural instincts. They are common both to human beings and to animals. They, one way or the other, are predominantly found in all animate beings that are pulsating with life. These urges are for:

1. Rest and Sleep.
2. Food and water.
3. Sex.

THE OBJECTIVE BEHIND THESE URGES

These are over-whelming urges in human beings and want fulfillment when they are strongly felt. Now the question arises to why these urges were put in man? Let us ponder over it.

1. THE URGE FOR REST AND SLEEP

Man by nature is weak. He is made of flesh and bones. He is not a robot. After a day's trial, he gets tired and feels exhausted. He needs rest and sleep. If he is extremely exhausted, he will fall asleep even at the gallows. A sound sleep soothes his tired body and mind. After a few hours of sleep, he feels fresh, rejuvenated

and ready to fulfill the obligations of his life again. God is very considerate in this respect. He created day and night for this purpose.

“And He it is Who makes night a covering for you, and sleep as repose, and makes the day a resurrection.”

(The Qur'an. 25 47)

“It is out of His mercy that He has made for you night and day that you may rest therein, and that you may seek of His grace (Provision), and in order that you may be grateful.”

(The Qur'an. 28: 73)

A. THE SCOPE OF THIS URGE

Now, to have a few hours of sleep, man needs a place and a peaceful environment so that he can have rest without disturbance or any interference from outside. It is quite natural for him to see that while sleeping, nobody does any harm either to his person or to his belongings. How will he get this environment? Who will create it for him? Who will provide the indispensable conditions to meet his urge for a few hours of undisturbed sleep?

Man through the ages has developed the concept of a society and state to meet this end. The Institution of government developed to administer and maintain law and order in society. Law enforcing authorities gradually developed regular army and police force to look after this basic need of man. All the people across the world are to feel that an individual should not be disturbed while he is within the four walls of his house and that no outside element or power attacks his home or the land in which he is living or interferes with his privacy. Human society has recognized it as its prime need. This fosters the development of various political and legal institutions to frame laws and to maintain peace not only in the country where he resides but elsewhere in the world too.

The entire race of armaments is to create deterring forces so that no power should even dare to disturb the peace of the world. All the political maneuverings at home and abroad, all human institutions and international efforts to maintain and develop

peace, and keep war away from the human society are nothing but the off-shoots of the human desire to have a peaceful environment for a harmonious growth, and a regular few hours of undisturbed sleep which of course is man's natural urge.

B. THE OTHER WAY AROUND

Let us consider another aspect of this urge, which is very natural. Man in his crudest form can sleep even on bare ground or on rocks if his urge for sleep overpowers him. He needs no formality, no pomp and show, no foam made or water-filled mattresses, or the cozy atmosphere of a bedroom. Man has the choice before him, to get his sleep in an ordinary fashion or burden his life with luxuries and comforts. If the choice is the first, his living will be simple, natural and easy. But if his choice falls in the second category, there is no end to the maximization of his/her comforts. The entire development of the building industry, the total range of furniture and decorations, the ever developing industry to provide personal comforts, all are serving man's desire to live in ease and comfort as much as possible. This has instilled in man an everlasting mania of ever-raising the standard of living. It is becoming costlier day by day, more competitive and chauvinistic in its outcome. In consequence, the cost of living is sky rocketing.

This self-imposed race that continues till one's last breath makes man gradually the slave to his urges. An urge that was put in him by the Creator to soothe his body with the comfort of sleep has become an end of his life. He is loading his life with artificial means of comfort. He is busy day in and day out improving his life's standard that in turn is the main cause of increasing the cost of living. It results in constant demand for higher and higher wages that inflates the cost of production of goods and services, promotes labor turmoil and embitters the life of the 'have-nots.' It makes individuals selfish, greedy and interested in only looking after their personal comforts and luxury. Thus, an urge that was a source of true pleasure and comfort has become a source of burden and legacy of extravagance through the free choice of man himself. The more man is involved in luxury the more he is drifting away from the pleasure of a natural, sound, deep and pleasant sleep.

This materialistic attitude of life has contributed towards hedonistic behavior such as alcoholism. Drug addiction has become a menace and the use of sleeping pills for a few hours sleep has become a need and the fashion of our day-to-day life. What a great calamity it has become for the human society. It is man's own choice, by exercising his own freewill, the way he or she likes. Man is bound to reap the evil consequences of his life-style in this world and in the Hereafter. There is no escape from it unless man brings moderation to his life pattern. Instead of making himself a slave to his physical urge, he has to bring it under his control, if he desires to lead a natural and comfortable life. He has to give up his artificial life-style to meet his urge for sleep in a natural way, in a simple and safe environment

2. THE URGE FOR FOOD

The urge to quench the thirst and fill the stomach to satisfy hunger is very strong in human beings. Man, after a few hours of toil, feels thirsty and, working for some time, feels hungry. While working he dissipates physical and mental energy. The lost energy can be recouped by taking food and water provided for him by the Creator to satisfy this physical urge. The restoration of the lost energy is essential for the maintenance of man's life on earth. His existence depends on how conveniently and regularly he gets his food and pure water.

A. SCOPE OF THIS URGE

The sources of food and water are available in the environment around man. He has to work hard and find out ways and mean to get it. Nothing will reach his mouth automatically. He has to explore and use the natural resources by dint of his physical labor and mental faculties. He works for it sometime singularly and very often collectively.

In most cases he cannot get the desired result acting by himself. People have to help each other, seek cooperation from others, collaborate with many to explore the sources of nature and add utility to objects of nature. This collective effort, in due course of time, has developed into present day collective farming, giant marketing and distributing centers, small, medium and large scale manufacturing plants and industries, inter- continental

institutions of finance, trade, commerce, banking, insurance another innumerable catering services which are constantly busy day in and day out to provide the basic needs of man. Everybody is working, either as an employee or as an employer, to get the means of exchange, the money, to get his stomach filled at least with two square meals a day in order to maintain himself on this earth. The entire economic structure of a society and in the world around has been developed to serve this need of man. Everybody is working for hours to add some economic values to goods and services in the society. In return he or she earns some money, to satisfy his or her natural urge for rest and that of hunger and thirst on the satisfaction of which depends the very existence of man.

Thus, the satisfaction of these urges demands a society in which everyone has the means to earn his livelihood. It naturally demands a system where economic opportunities are equally available to all and sundry. It needs an economic system free of human exploitation and discrimination that favors none. It requires an economic structure where everyone has freedom to move around, choose his profession, vocation or employment. This is the natural outcome of the need that every individual human being should have a free choice to make an effort to earn his livelihood in order to meet his or her urge for food and rest with relative ease. The totalitarian states of Eastern Europe and Russia were a great hindrance in fulfilling this choice of man. That is one of the main causes of their failure.

B. THE OTHER WAY AROUND

Let us analyze the economic urge of man in its natural perspective. Man, in his primitive form basically needs only a glass of water few times a day, a few slices of bread, a few ounces of meat or other protein, and some vegetables for his two regular meals. He has two clear alternatives to satisfy this fundamental need. He can have it, either through rightful means and hard labor or through wrong-doings, fraud and exploitation. Both ways and means are open to him. He has the freedom of choice and power of discretion. No matter which of the means one chooses, he will get his provision only to the extent ordained by the Creator in either of the cases. The choice of means will be

his responsibility for it lies within the domain of his freewill. If he fulfills his urge of hunger and thirst through rightful means, his efforts will be beneficial to the society. He will be rewarded by the Creator in both the worlds. If he resorts to wrongful means like fraud and exploitation, he will fill the society with oppression, selfishness and injustice. In that case both he and the society will suffer.

C. HORRIBLE CONSEQUENCES OF FREE CHOICE

The simple urges for food and rest were given to man to support his existence on earth by using the resources provided by the Creator in his environment but man, when he becomes a slave to his urges, multiplies his wants by leaps and bounds. If the national resources of his country are not sufficient to meet his desires and extravagant needs, he looks to other people and lands for their satisfaction. This opens the door for exploitation of others when the unlimited and unrestrained desires chase limited means available in his national or geographical bounds. Man then tries to usurp the rights and shares of other fellow men. In consequence, powerful nations subjugate poor nations and exploit to the fullest in order to satisfy the demands of their blind urges.

The situation further deteriorates when uneven distribution of wealth in a national boundary restricts the free flow of surplus resources of one country to another where there is shortage. This is the curse of nationalism. I will elaborate this point further in Chapter V.

The world, therefore, presents a very sad picture of its inhabitants. Only a few developed nations are happy, prosperous and affluent. The rest of the world is under-fed, under-nourished or semi-starved. In comparison to the developed countries, the standard of living of under-developed or developing countries is miserably low. This is the direct consequence of centuries of economic exploitation of the East by the West, of the South by the North, and the legacy of restricting the natural resources within the national boundaries by the affluent societies.

This shows that satisfaction of human urges crossed their natural bounds. The urge for personal comforts and luxury in one sector of human society disturbs the equilibrium and the natural distribution of wealth of others when it transgresses its limits. This is nothing but the dire consequences of the choice of man to live through wrongful means and exploitation of the weak by the strong. This is against the law of nature; and hence the entire human race is suffering. No economic device can restore the equilibrium unless man learns to bring his natural urges under his command, avoids extravagances, learns to live within the available means in his surroundings and fairly barter the goods and services with the poor and under-developed countries. This will be possible only when man rids himself of the mania of raising his standard of living at the cost of others and steps down to live a natural, simple life. Otherwise, the economic slavery of the people of Asia, Africa and Latin America will continue indefinitely. The worship of the goddess of human urges will make the very existence of man a horrible holocaust. This is all due to the misuse of man's freewill to meet his physical urges in a reckless and selfish manner.

3. THE URGE FOR SEX

The span of human life on earth is in the close proximity of 70 to 75 years on the average in the most developed nations of the world. Both men and women need replacements to continue the human existence on earth to fight for the cause of righteousness, justice and equality in a sustained process. The struggle for the elimination of evil forces and establishment of truth in its place is the assignment given to man by the Creator. Both men and women have to fulfill this sacred obligation without exception. This is the purpose behind the creation of man and it will continue to remain the same till doomsday. The urge for sex is the natural means to meet that end.

The urge for sex is equally strong in both man and woman. It starts with the onset of puberty and withers away at the fag end of life. This is the vital force that sustains the machinery of procreation. Man not only has to look after his comfort and survival on this earth but also has to continue his species onward to a period known only to the Creator. He has to leave

behind his progeny to fulfill the mission for which he was raised on this earth. This is the responsibility of man on earth as ordained by the Creator.

The childbearing and nursing stages are so painstaking that no woman would have cared for it had the sexual urge not been made so strong, pleasant and persuasive by the Creator. Among all the creatures on earth, perhaps the weakest is the human infant. He cannot survive on earth even for a few hours without love, protection and the affectionate care of the mother. The cause of the continuation of human species is the sexual urge of both man and woman and the cementing force between couple is the sweet baby. The culminating effect of these factors is the emergence of the family, comprising of father, mother and children. The family, the stable home, is the nucleus of the society.

The growth of human society thus owes its origin first to the planning and creation of man in his perfect form, and then his continuation through the sexual urge of man and woman. It has brought the human civilization to the stage where it has now taken a complex shape. Due to intermixing of people, race, colors and languages in the course of a millennium, human society has become deeply complicated and explosive. It has given birth to multiracial nations and ethnic minorities.

In its wake the human society today is facing urgent problems like accommodation, urban planning, environmental ruination, water pollution and shortage and hoards of other issues pertaining to man's habitation on earth. These problems are the direct outcome of human growth on earth through the sexual urge of man and woman.

A. SEX AND ITS OBJECTIVITY

Let us examine the way in which the urge for sex can be properly fulfilled. How it can be legitimately satisfied and meet its objective. Right from the dawn of human civilization till the modern 'enlightened' time, there always have been certain established norms and ethics in each society to guide the sexual relation of man and woman. Human society from the very beginning evolved the Institution of marriage for the legitimate

consummation of man's sexual urge. This is the recognized fashion through which both the sexes meet, build a family and bring up the children within the cordial environment of the home.

The other choice open to man is to satisfy the urge for sex like animals. He can have sex just for the sake of pleasure with no responsibility. This format is a negation of the objective for which the urge in humans was put. However, the choice is open before man and woman. Through marriage, they fulfill their obligation and are obedient to their Creator by their free will. Through adultery, promiscuity, homosexuality and other perverted methods, they select the unnatural path and negate the very object of this urge. The first choice is logical, most natural, healthy and in consonance with human nature. This process maintains the growth and flow of human civilization in its perfect and most harmonious form. It strengthens the family system and cements the bonds of love deeper and deeper. It helps in creating the stable home where there is love, care and the spirit of sacrifice for each and every member of the family. There, the child gets the natural environment that is perfect for the development of character, good behavior and moral standards. It makes the society free from social evils, psychological tensions and contaminated sex-related diseases that are spreading like a plague.

The potent instinct of sex has thus its clear objectivity. It cannot be adjudged by the animal instinct in spite of the fact that it is a physical urge and is common to both. In animals it is conditioned by time and season, where it meets its natural objective and no lust is wasted. There is no choice for animals, and hence no perversion takes place. It is directly meeting its goal towards the continuation of the respective species. Hence, those who compare the human sexual urge with that of an animal are not correct. They are misleading the society by their misconception. How can the animal world, which is growing under strict instinctive laws of nature with no choice, be compared to human beings who are quite distinctive in creation and bear moral obligations to self, family, society and the world at large? The human urge for sex is neither seasonal nor bound by time or place. Man has a free choice to fulfill it the way he or she likes. This is the bounty of the Creator and given especially to human beings. If by free choice, it becomes a free-for-all, having no

moral obligation and no responsibility, men and women then descend to the level of animals. The urge for sex then loses its objective. What a great tragedy it is for mankind!

B. ALARMING CONSEQUENCES OF MISUSE OF SEX INSTINCT

Today we see that most of the people (men and women) in free societies of the world have degraded themselves to a level even lower than the animals. The entire society, its press, radio, TV, streets, parks, beaches, thoroughfares and clubs all are surcharged with the aura of sex. They are busy day in and day out in exploiting and accelerating the instinct of sex, making boys and girls, men and women crazy to have it when and wherever possible. People in general and youth in particular have reached to a state where they are all sex oriented, as if they were born only for this purpose. This is the direct result of the misuse of the power of sex and the free will. The natural choice through The Institution of marriage is gradually withering away. The choice of perverted sexual behavior is rampant and ever growing. This is a challenge against human nature and to the Creator. The horrible consequences of the misuse of the urge for sex are now fast becoming visible everywhere. The devastating spread of AIDS, herpes and other venereal diseases, the disintegration of the family system, the sexual anarchy that we see around us and sex-oriented perverted crimes in great magnitude are some of the fruits that our 'civilized' societies are now harvesting. The future of humanity looks very gloomy and full of dangerous pitfalls. The promotion of "same sex marriages" at State level is the greatest curse of our age. It will destroy the very edifice of human society.

From the above discussion, it is clear that man was endowed with urges for sleep, food and sex for maintenance, survival and continuation of his species on earth. These are strong physical urges and man fulfills their demand as a call from nature. But in fulfilling these urges wantonly, man becomes unbalanced and as such becomes their slave. In consequence, it has burdened human life with miseries, extravagances, oppressions, selfishness, exploitation and horrible diseases. The way these

urges are satisfied by humans, the very objective for which they were put in men or women is lost in oblivion. These natural urges are fulfilled in unnatural ways to the utter destruction of man and his civilization. This is a sheer misuse of free will by his own choice and, therefore, man has to bear the brunt of it in the form of the horrible consequences, which I will deal in the next Chapter.

CHAPTER – 4 – VISUALIZATION OF MAN'S POSITION ON EARTH WITH A FREE WILL AND STRONG URGES

The preceding discussion establishes the following facts about human life on earth.

1. Man is a responsible and an accountable creature on earth.
2. This universe was created for man.
2. Man is imbued with three strong urges that need satisfaction for his existence and continuation of his species on earth.
3. He is given a free will - a free choice - to satisfy those urges the way he or she likes.
4. The exercise of free will or choice is subject to certain restrictions that are prescribed by the Creator Himself.
5. By fulfilling these urges in wrong and unnatural ways, man has become their slave and filled the earth with injustices and innumerable problems all around.
6. Corrective measures are essentially needed to set man on the right path. The Creator and Sustainer of this universe was doing it constantly through His appointed messengers in a continuous chain. Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) was His last and the final messenger on earth.

In a nutshell, the world has been put at the disposal of man for the satisfaction of his dominating urges. With his free will he acts like a monarch. He thinks that he is accountable to none. By virtue of that behavior, he acts and lives like an arbitrator both in his individual as well as collective life. Man has thus made his life very much questionable.

THE IMPACT

1. One can easily visualize that the three urges cover the entire spectrum of human life from birth to death and from cradle to grave. All social, cultural, economic and political aspects of

man's life fall within these domain. All the progress which the human society has made; all the means of production and distribution which human innovations have created and developed; all the means of transportation and communication which human efforts invented rotate around only on one axis i.e., how to serve the demands of his physical urges better and better. The conquest of nature and its use for making the human life more and more comfortable and luxurious will continue till eternity as the pattern of life set by man to meet the demands of his natural urges. How far man will succeed and in what domain of knowledge, depends on the will of the Creator. Man's free will is thus not unfettered. When it becomes a nuisance, disturbs the equilibrium and the harmony of natural life, the laws of limitations come into effect.

The best examples before our eyes are the perverted sexual behaviors and promiscuity that are spreading in the society like a forest fire. About 75 per cent of the married men and women of our society are having sex outside wedlock. More than thirty two million people that are about 10 per cent of the population of America are estimated to be homosexual. The percentage of gay marriages is spreading by leaps and bounds under state patronage. The Creator has inflicted heavy punishment in the form of AIDS not only in America but elsewhere, in Europe, Asia and Africa. Everybody is afraid of it. People have no choice but to change their sexual behavior if they want to save themselves from this menace and learn to live within the bonds of wedlock. The secular mind treats AIDS as a direct consequence of the act of sodomy. It is true that it is preoccupied with only finding out the cure by spending billions of dollars without removing the cause. How foolish man has become! He is devoting energies and resources to find out a cure for the devastating disease without removing the cause. He may never get a permanent and a guaranteed cure without reforming man's attitude towards sex. Man has to bring the urge for sex within the natural bounds otherwise he will not succeed. One who ponders over the laws regulating man and this universe will take it as a logical consequence of the misuse of the sexual urge for a purpose other than what has been given to man. The laws of limitations are operative everywhere in every field of life. Unfortunately, the secular mind has developed the habit of interpreting the outcome on material grounds whereas the moral laws provide a better

understanding of the law of cause and effect, which is nothing, but the improper use of the objects of nature for the purposes other than what they are meant or created for.

2. Man has always two ways open to him for the satisfaction of his urges. One is simple, natural and beneficial to human society. The other is perverted, unnatural and exploitative. At this crossroad man needs guidance to know which way is correct

Man's desire to possess more and more wealth and resources of this world generates exploitation of his own fellow men. He is never contented due to his ever-increasing insatiable greed with what he has. As mentioned earlier, he tries to usurp the rights of others to make and keep his life comfortable in a continuous process. If the resources of his country, by his own standard of living, are not sufficient, he looks with greed and temptation to other people and lands. He tries to subjugate them under his clutches and exploit their resources for himself and for the benefit of his people. This had created colonialism and bloody economic wars. The history of wars of subjugation of one country or people by the others through the ages and the history of the colonial powers of Europe for the last three to four hundred years stand as testimony to this fact.

The nations of Asia, Africa and America have suffered tremendously in the past. These continents were exploited by all means and their economy was ruined by the aggressive colonial powers of Europe. Ultimately, when the exploitation and oppression became intolerable, all the subjugated countries started the struggle for independence in the three continents of Asia, Africa and America. The colonial powers had no choice but to move out of these countries, leaving behind the people to cry in vain and lick their wounds sustained by the brutal exploitation by their masters primarily from Europe. The entire history of colonial powers is full of bloodshed, cruelty, oppression and extreme type of economic exploitation. The European power acquired the highest standard of living and comfort for their people but left their respective colonies and their people poor, economically ruined, politically exploited and morally depressed and deprived, perhaps for a considerably long time.

Unfortunately the game of exploitation is still going on unabated. These so-called underdeveloped and freed countries, the spoils of the colonial powers, wanted to build their shattered economy - but with what? They had no capital and little infrastructure to improve the economy, both in agriculture and industrial sectors. They had nothing except some raw materials or some semi-finished or finished products to export. Here the mockery of exploitation appeared in a different form. It came in the disguise of economic and military aid and loans at exorbitant rates of interest and now on the pretext of Globalization of trade and commerce. The result of this format is horrible. Within a few decades the so-called independent countries were buried in foreign debt up to their neck. This is perhaps the worst type of exploitation. Whatever foreign exchange these poor and underdeveloped countries earn through their hard labor by exporting some raw materials and some semi-finished or finished products is hardly sufficient to pay even the interest on the huge accumulated loans. The poor countries have no choice but to beg for further loans just to pay the interest. These additional loans or rescheduling the payment are negotiated and approved on when the debtor countries agree to enforce the stringent economic measures on their people as dictated by the World Bank and International Monetary Fund. Thus the game of exploitation is still going on unabated under a different name and form. This economic slavery is worse than the political slavery of the past. The debtor nations are moaning and are at the verge of collapse. They are openly advocating for substantial relief, reduction in the rate of interest, and foregoing some of the loans. Their attitude of non-payment may bring in its wake economic wars, bloodshed and miseries to the world as a whole. Both the creditors and debtors will suffer alike, but in different ways.

Both European Union countries and The USA are suffering with depressed economies, increasing rates of unemployment, abnormal budget deficits, and adverse trade balances. As a result, World economy now stands at the threat of constant global depression.

One can well imagine the horrible consequences of the people who resort to wrong means to fulfill the demands of their urges. It is the greed, the lust for power and the desire to possess more

and more economic resources that have filled the human society with hate, jealousies and class struggle. The world clearly is divided into two camps- a camp of 'haves,' that includes the twenty so-called developed countries of the world and the rest are the 'have-nots.' This is not one day's game. This is the logical consequence of the centuries-old game of exploitation that the Western countries have played to fulfill the demand of their urges to live a happy, prosperous and comfortable life beyond their natural means and in unnatural ways. They have been continuously increasing "criminally" their standard of living at the cost of other people and nations. They are eager to maintain their standards in a stubborn fashion. They are bent upon increasing their standards by hook or by crook at the cost of others. Thus, they are pushing the world towards a global crisis with horrible consequences in the near future.

It was the fear of a fall in the standard of living conditions of the American people that prompted President George Bush to dispatch America's best armed forces and fighting equipment to Saudi Arabia, the Red Sea and the Gulf zones in August 1990, to protect the flow of cheap oil to Europe, America and Japan. Bush openly admitted it in his address to Pentagon employees on August 15, 1990. He thus threw the peace and security of the region and that of the world in jeopardy to meet the urge of his national interest. Though there were many options open to get the forceful occupation of Kuwait vacated by Iraq, Mr. Bush and the entire West became blind to their urges. They immorally resorted to concentration of forces in the region, resorted to a bloody war of annihilation and demolished all the moral values that the American people cherish. Future historians will evaluate President George Bush acting like a dictator, intoxicated with the lust for power, emboldened by the failure of Communism, encouraged by the collapse of Russia as a superpower, tempted to have an unhindered flow of cheap oil for the fuel-hungry nations of America, Europe and Japan, occupied the holy land of Saudi Arabia, which was never trodden by any foreign people or forces throughout the known history, for political maneuverings in the heart of the Muslim world. The result may be disastrous for America and its henchmen, as now the punishment comes from the Lord of the universe openly in the shape of enormous budget deficit, unfavorable trade balances, increasing rates of unemployment, outsourcing of job opportunities, and moral

degradation with economic depression all around.

The imposition and introduction of force in getting the dispute between Iraq and Kuwait resolved is likely to open another era of neo--colonialism in the Middle East It shows that man cannot live within his own geographical boundaries, and transgresses again in the post-cold war period to usurp the land or resources of underdeveloped countries to meet the national urge and maintain the high standard of living, come what may. This is due to blind pursuit to fulfill the demand of human urges that have enslaved modern man beyond a sane man's imagination.

3. This is the direct result of the misuse of the free will of a people as a whole in its most brute form. These horrible consequences contribute in drawing the conclusion that man as an individual or a people, when left alone with blind urges to satisfy, commits monstrous crimes against himself and humanity and accelerates the process of self-destruction. He fills the earth with cruelty, bloodshed and disorder. This shows that humans need proper guidance as to how to live in this world justly, how to behave with other people as equals, how to meet the demands of their urges in moderation, and how to make this earth an abode of peace and free from all kinds of exploitation.

The devastating outcome that I have described above is the logical consequence of natural urges when they overwhelm man and make him their slave. It shows that his reckless behavior and irresponsible attitude towards life must be curbed and cured. There must be some form of restrictions to keep the strong urges in moderation. Man, therefore, needs proper guidance as how to bring his urges under control, how to bring moderation in life, how to harness the urges and direct them to serve the objective for which they were endowed in men and women. This is the greatest and the most urgent need of man at this critical juncture of his existence on earth. A corrective measure is essential to redress human sufferings.

Man's need for proper guidance in every walk of life is very clear. We see that when he acts by himself, his personal greed, his desire to possess more and more, the inherent weaknesses of his temperament and shortcomings of his character make him a

slave to his urges. He tries to maximize his personal pleasure and makes every effort to lead a luxurious life of ease and comfort with little or no care for others. Personal comfort and satisfaction of sexual urges remain the only purpose of his or her existence. His whole life rotates directly around three axes, the demand of stomach, a requisite standard of living and the urge for sex. To meet his sexual behavior, he acts like a free bull with sex free-for-all. He fills the society with sexual anarchy, torpedoes the family system and surcharges the environment with all kinds of tensions and temptations. It clearly shows that man needs guidance to inculcate moderation in self, society and the world at large.

4. Now the international scenario has become more complex and alarming both at economic and political fronts. The prolonged occupation of Afghanistan on false and concocted pretexts and drone attacks on innocent Pakistanis to “chase” Taliban are adding only fuel to the fire. These are man-made situations and the culmination points of worst misuse of his freewill. The consequences are likely to be extremely fatal and disastrous for human civilization.

Now the questions arise:

1. Can man by himself chalk out his own blueprint/code of conduct of life?
2. Can man by himself impose some restraints on his natural urges through his free choice and follow them?
3. Is man competent enough to prepare such guidelines for self, family, society and the rest of the mankind?
4. How perfect and final in all respects would be the man-made code of conduct?
5. How completely would it cover the needs of the existing human society and the generations to come till eternity?

These are the natural questions that must be answered in our search for a proper guidance for man in order to bring

moderation in his life. These are the natural questions of this process. When the urgency for guidance is established due to the misuse of the free will of man, it would be natural to start the quest from man himself. He must be given a free trial to frame the guidelines by himself and by his free choice. Then see the results where his effort lands him.

CHAPTER – 5 – THE GREATEST NEED OF MAN

Before launching upon the quest to find out the competence of man to deliver guidance to his species, it is desirable to find out the greatest need of man from among his most indispensable needs. In this respect we have first to discuss the basic needs of man and then discuss why guidance is the greatest need of mankind. The fundamental needs of man are as follows:

1. Food and water
2. Clothing and Shelter
3. Education
4. Medical Aid

Let us discuss the manner in which the above needs are fulfilled today.

THE PROVISION

Food, clothing, Shelter and medical aid are the basic economic needs of man and fall within the purview of man's first two urges for rest and food. The Creator Himself has taken the responsibility of providing livelihood to each and every living creature on this earth. He has not raised man on earth to search and devote his best time for material provisions only. He is not just an economic beast of burden but a moral being too.

“I created the Jinn (spirits) and human beings only that they might worship Me.

I seek no livelihood from them, nor do I ask them they should feed me.

Lo! Allah! He it is that gives livelihood, the Lord of Unbreakable might.”

(The Qur'an. 51: 56-58)

“And Thou gives sustenance to whom Thou chooses without stint.”

(The Qur'an. 3: 27)

“And there is not a beast (living creature) on this earth but the sustenance thereof depends on Allah. He knows its habitation and its repository. All is in a clear record.”

(The Qur'an. 11:6)

“Do not kill your offspring for fear of want: for it is We Who provides him and you as well. Indeed their killing is a heinous crime.”

(The Qur'an 17: 31)

EXPLANATION: This verse also cuts at the very root of the movement of birth control, which has been going on from ancient time to our present age. It was the fear of want that induced people to kill their children or resort to abortion. In our age another plan has been added to these, i.e., contraception.

According to this verse, it is one of the biggest mistake of man to check birth rate as a solution to the want and the scarcity of provisions (and the fear of fall in the standard of living therefore it warns him (man), as if to say, “O man, it is not you who make arrangement for food, but Allah, Who settled you in the land and has been providing for you and will provide for those who will come after you.” History tells us that the food resources have always expanded in proportion to the number of inhabitants of a country: nay, often they have exceeded far more than the needs of the inhabitants. Thus it is a folly on the part of man to interfere with the arrangements of Allah (to maintain a set standard of living).

[The Meanings of The Qur'an Vol. VI, P. 138 by S.A.A.Maudoodi]

“And how many are the creatures that carry not their own provision! Allah provides for them and for you. He is the Hearer and the Knower.”

(The Qur'an 29: 60)

“And We have provided therein Means of subsistence, - for you And for those for whose sustenance Ye are not responsible.

And there is not a thing but its (sources and) treasures (Inexhaustible) are with Us; But We only send down thereof in due and ascertainable measures.”

(The Qur'an. 15: 20-21)

Thus, the provision, which is a commitment from the Creator to arrange for human beings and other living creatures, cannot be termed as the greatest need of man. It appears to be somewhat in contradiction to the present pre-occupations of man for earning his livelihood. Man for the whole of his life remains busy in earning his provision. One may ask that if it is the commitment from the Creator it should come to him automatically. This is another fallacy of our approach and contradicts the three basic principles of man's existence on earth as it has already been discussed earlier in this book

- a. Nothing will come to him on its own accord, i.e., automatically.
- b. Man will get only what he strives for.
- c. He will get only what His Creator wants to give him or what is destined for him.

NATURE'S ARRANGEMENT

The Creator, in His infinite mercy, has arranged for the provision of each and every man and animal of this earth. If you take the world as an economic entity as a whole and the human beings its rightful inhabitants, there will be no scarcity of food on earth. It is man, who, in his self-interest and out of ignorance, has divided the world into more than 198 water-tight national compartments and very often creates an artificial shortage of food. There are regions in the world that have the capacity to develop their resources and turn their lands into granaries for the world. Those who are producing more have the capacity to feed the world with ease and comfort as stated earlier. Contradictory to this natural flow, they are sitting over their production, controlling prices and creating artificial shortages to maintain the tempo of production at home and demand in the world market. They maintain the price structure of their respective countries by subsidizing agricultural products and imposing trade restrictions on imports. Ronald Reagan resorted to this method when he gave cash incentive to farmers to cut down their production of wheat by 30 per cent during his regime as President of America. The

European countries are paying huge subsidies to their farmers to maintain the price level at home and discourage imports of agricultural products. This issue was the bone of contention in the conference of GATT in December 1990 at Brussels. **The scarcity of food and its supply is thus a man - made issue.** It is artificial. It is a human creation and a distinctive disturbing element in the overall distribution of the bounties of the Creator for the earth.

This is due to the misuse of free will by some people or nations. If equal opportunities are made available to all individuals and to all the people of the world to explore and develop the natural resources of different regions of the world with no unnatural or man-made restrictions either on supply or on production, there will be no scarcity of food on earth. The economic means to sustenance will be available to all at ease. The equilibrium set by the Creator will then come into operation. This will be possible only when man gives up his habit of exploitation and resorts to the spirit of cooperation and dedication to the welfare of his fellow beings. In the midst of nationalistic rivalries and worshipping their respective nations like idols, it seems a cry in the wilderness till man disciplines himself to a set of guidelines.

This is not a dream. It would be possible when human society as a whole will believe in one and only one God, foster equality, stand for justice, follow only one way of life and learn to live together on earth with love, cooperation and respect for each other. This is the ultimate destiny of man. He has to attain it if he wants to make the earth an abode of justice, peace and security.

THE OTHER NEEDS OF MAN

The other basic needs, i.e. education and medical aid, are very much linked up with the economic well being of the society and its individuals. These needs are better served in the economically developed societies, whereas they are far below the standard in the underdeveloped communities. The existing pitiable condition of the poor and underdeveloped countries of the world is the legacy of their past exploitation by those nations who were blind to their physical urges, and concentrated the world resources, capital and technical knowhow in their hands

for the fortunate few. The world in its present state of affairs will suffer and bleed until man changes his concept of life and attitude towards his fellow beings as stated above.

The foregoing discussion shows that man's future hinges on the availability of a proper guidance that favors none but benefits all. It also confirms that food, shelter, etc. are not the greatest need of man (not in a biological sense). Guidance to live in moderation is man's greatest need on earth - the guidance that could free his life from all the evil consequences that have enveloped him.

STANDARD OF LIVING

Let us now discuss about the modern man's greatest desire to raise his standard of living. This is the sum total effect of man's slavery to his physical urges. He wants to maximize his personal pleasures and luxuries by raising his standard of living higher and higher in a hilarious crescendo. It has become the barometer to judge the quantum of prosperity of a people or society. The progress of a country is measured by the standard of living. It has become the national target and the ultimate goal of almost all the nations of the world to raise their standard of living through a planned economy and projected economic growth.

Let us see:

1. Is it really a measurement of success?
2. Does the standard of living guarantee the real prosperity and happiness that man seeks out of all of his economic growth or is it simply a mirage?

We see that the western societies which are affluent, low in resources, enjoy a very high standard of living, play in luxury and are busy, day in and day out, in maximizing their personal pleasures and comforts to the brim of their capacities are perhaps the most bewildered people on earth. All kinds of vices have crept into their social, moral and cultural life. They lack peace of mind and pass their life in extreme tension. Neither are their comfortable houses nor their roads safe. The evil forces are

free, but man lives in his home under many locks and alarm systems as if he is in captivity. For married couples, perhaps very few can claim that they are modest, and faithful to each other as husband and wife.

The political field is corrupted and is over-whelmed or influenced by vested interests through hundreds of political action committees. The will, the sovereignty of people is in jeopardy. The capitalist class, the employer, the entrepreneur are busy with only one goal in mind, how to maximize their profits. All the advertising agencies, the radio, the TV, the banking, insurance and other financial institutions are busy serving this end. The employee, the wage earner, has no object before him except to earn the maximum amount of dollars in order to satisfy his physical urges in a manner he or she likes, while being able to pay the bills. He serves only the interest of the bankers, corporate bodies and the capitalistic class of producers of goods and services. It appears that everyone is obsessed and working like a machine with all his physical energies and mental faculties to maximize his personal income in order to maximize his pleasures and comforts. The urges for comfort (sleep), food and sex are his idols and men and women are their slaves. He is just living for them only and for their utmost satisfaction.

This state of affairs is a convincing proof that satisfaction of the basic needs and high standard of living are not the greatest need of man. If the case had been so, the welfare societies of the West would have been the most contented ones. These societies would have been free from all kinds of evils. Man would have attained mental peace by this time. The 'enlightened societies' of the west would have been able to solve the basic problems of man. If the high standard of living, the maximization of personal comforts, the industrial developments, and the excellence in the overall performance of technical knowhow had been anywhere near producing an ideal society for man, his fate would have been quite different than what we see today. He would not have lived under a constant fear of war, tension and economic depression. He would not have been subjected to a lot of economic and political exploitation. This society would have been free from the pressure of human wants.

This is another proof to convince people that economic well-

being is not the greatest need of man. The more he is increasing the standard of his living the more he is drifting away from peace of mind and contentment of heart.

Man, in fact, is standing today in a jungle of problems created by his own attitude towards life. He is surrounded by a life-style that is artificial in nature and unnatural in substance. It appears as if he has lost the guidance altogether, if he ever had any. It shows that in running after his physical urges, he has landed himself in a quagmire. The more he tries to come out of it, the more he finds himself sinking with every effort. He is totally lost in the interwoven trap of his or her animal instincts.

His greatest need, therefore, is a proper guidance to lead him out of the quagmire of lust, greed and unlimited quest for personal pleasure. He or she is in such a desperate position that they run after and follow everyone who claims to show them the light, unaware or not caring that it may sink him or her a few inches more in the filthy tank of his or her life and lust.

Man's condition is thus very pitiable. This is his self-inflicted tragedy. He is following his urges blindly by exercising his own free will. Now by exercising his free will again, he has to find out the right guidance, which he has lost, to pull him out of his existing quagmire, fill his life with equilibrium of moderation in every walk of life and make him the master of his urges. Both men and women are standing at the same footings. Both have to struggle equally in that respect.

Before making any probe elsewhere, man's competence or incompetence must be exposed before his eyes. That would be the best trial of his free will. He, as a free man, deserves it. It would be fair and scientific. It appeals to reason that the choice to deliver guidance to mankind should first be given to man. Justice demands it. If he comes out successful in his trial, that is fine. If his efforts meet failure, the choice will then be logically open to find it out elsewhere. This will also answer the questions that were raised at the end of the previous chapter.

CHAPTER – 6 – THE COMPETENCE OF MAN

Now let us take up the issue of the competence of man to chalk out and deliver guidance to mankind, as pointed out earlier. Let us see what contribution man has made so far in this respect and with what degree of success.

Man has always been in the habit of framing and adopting some form of guidance (code of conduct) by which he can live. It is logically required for an organized society, as man cannot live without it. The primitive societies developed customs and traditions to regulate their relations with each other. In tribal societies, their customs were very strong. Common-will of the tribe and dictates of the tribal chiefs were regulating the affairs of the tribes. With the growth in human societies, kings and monarchs became supreme. Their whims and caprices, their will and personal interests were the laws of the land. In cases where the tribal chiefs and monarchs were benevolent and sincere; the common life was one of ease and comfort. If they were cruel, self-seekers and barbarous, the people used to pass their lives in hardship, oppression and fear.

Human societies thus passed through different stages of man-made laws, irrespective of whether the lawmaker was a tribal chief, a patriarch, a feudal lord or a monarch until it came to the stage of the constitutional era, wherein the people ostensibly became sovereign. They expressed their will to live and be governed by a declared constitution, framed by their elders or elected representatives and adopted by themselves through exercise of their own freewill. Today we are living in an era of constitutionalism, limited or constitutional monarchies, or liberal democracies.

Simultaneously, some fascist regimes or military dictators or the dictatorship of the proletariat, which was in its dying stage [when I wrote this book and now it is dead] are thriving in some parts of the world.

If you look through the panorama of human efforts in the past,

you will find that most of the monarchies or dictatorships were reigns of terror. The personal wishes of the ruler or the tribal chiefs were supreme. Human values were meaningless before their whims and caprices. Oppressive laws were in force everywhere. Both the tribal and feudal societies were symbols of cruelty, bloodshed, physical and mental tortures. Might was right. Each tribal chief or feudal lord was trying to maximize his personal treasure and comfort at the cost of his people and plundering other tribes and lands. Under the Roman Empire, only Romans were the masters and rest of the people were serfs. The poor, the tenants and the labor classes had practically no human rights. Their life, property and honor depended on the will of the higher ups in the society. The game of exploitation was rampant. There was no difference whether it was a tribal society of a primitive time or a feudal society of the middle ages, the well placed, the privileged class was dominating the life of the people according to its will. The history of the Medieval Period of Europe was a curse in the name of humanity. Torture and persecution of a religious cult or group by another, i.e., imposing the will of one sect over others by force was the predominant law of the day. Thus, man by his free will could not deliver peace to the society. It created privileged upper class of socio-economic-political groups, which were set against the teaming millions of common folk whose life was of bondage and servitude. Justice and fair play were rare. All the means and resources, the pleasures and luxuries were for the favored few. The common folks were constantly living in humiliation and from hand to mouth existence. Their life was the life of woes, tears, and turmoil.

While the game of toil and exploitation is still going on in the under-developed societies of the world, present day constitutional modern democracies of the West have gone to other extremes. I have drawn a vivid picture of these societies in the previous chapters. Their 'sacred constitutions' provide guidelines for running their political affairs. These constitutions guarantee human rights and describe people's obligations as citizens of respective states. They define the power and functions of all the three organs of the state; the legislature, the executive and the judiciary. They provide security to human life, property and honor. However, the condition of these constitutional liberal democracies is horrible and bitter. All the classes of the modern societies, the capitalist, the employer and

the entrepreneur are constitutionally protected to maximize their profits or earnings to any extent provided each pays taxes and dues to the state. He can exploit all means to attract the people to his manufactured goods and services. He is free to exploit the three urges of man through any means he deems proper. All the means of communication are serving his cause. An undeclared war of exploitation, guaranteed by a constitution framed by men like him, has opened a world of greed, temptation and hidden or overt persuasion for the common man to fall in the trap by his own agitated, exploited and highly influenced free will.

On the other hand, the individuals taking advantage of constitutionally guaranteed rights and freedom feel free to maximize their personal pleasure and comfort. There is no fear of any interference from any quarter as long as they are paying their income tax, rent and other dues. The constitutional guarantees have given the people the freedom to go astray to any extent they like, and encourage others to do so too. This presents a gloomy picture of the existing 'civilized' man. It shows that man by himself could not and cannot draw the guidelines to live in perfect harmony with nature and his fellow men on earth. His miserable plight in every walk of life is an eloquent proof of his failure to deliver guidance to himself and humanity at large. He and most of the human societies have become unbalanced almost in every walk of life.

This further shows that man's life on earth has been passing from one extreme to another, from a life of servitude to a life of complete personal freedom. Neither was there any peace of mind in the past, nor is there any peace of mind today. Neither in the closed societies of the past nor in the free societies of today could man deliver the guidance to himself or to his species to live a moderate, balanced life. Through the ages man has been running only from one extreme to another.

Let us dwell upon the causes of man's failure:

- Why could he not develop proper guidance for his species to live in peace and harmony with each other?
- Why did both man's individual and collective efforts fail to provide him with a life in which he was not a slave to his

urges?

Why could human ingenuity not frame and visualize a foolproof guidance for man to lead a life of moderation and of justice and favor to none?

Why could the constitutional liberal democracies of today provide only the outward semblance of neutrality, while serving the vested interests, to perpetuate the game of exploitation to unknown limits and setting the individuals totally free to fulfill the needs and urges of life the way they like?

The continuous failure of man has reached a point where he must accept his incompetence to frame or deliver a code of conduct or guidance to his species and declare: "I give up." This is perhaps the best way open to man to save himself and his progenies from destruction, chaos and indescribable moral and spiritual sicknesses.

MAN'S SOURCES OF KNOWLEDGE

Man by nature is weak. By birth he is illiterate and ignorant. He starts picking up knowledge a considerable time after his birth. It comes to him in a gradual process in bits and pieces. This process of acquiring knowledge continues till the last breath of his life. His means of accumulating knowledge are only three.

1. By going through books written by his fellow beings in the past and by his contemporaries.

2. By contacting and exchanging views with people of his time in and around the world or by communication media.

3. By scientific experiments, research, observation through his eyes, by traveling to the four corners of the earth or by looking into the space through space ships, telescopes and observatories.

Along with the above means, his senses of acquiring knowledge endowed to him by the Creator are just six:

1. Seeing
2. Touching
3. Tasting
4. Smelling.
5. Hearing
6. Inspiration

LIMITATIONS OF MAN'S KNOWLEDGE

Man is an individual entity. He is indivisible. Guidance for man must be for all people for all times and for all the regions on the surface of the earth. Guidance must therefore be one and only comprehensive one. It will be a mockery of facts if guidance for whites is separate from that for blacks or guidance for 'haves' is somewhat different than from the 'have-nots.' Let us survey the capacities of man in this respect:

HUMAN LIMITATIONS

Human society is scattered over the entire surface of the earth. It is divided into various regions, different climates and different geographical boundaries. Different languages and dialects are spoken in different places with intricate customs and age-old traditions. Every region has its own history from the primitive ages to modern times. On earth neither has there been nor there is or there will be a person or a group of persons who could or can claim to be the masters of all. No one possesses complete knowledge and understanding of the entire human race as diversified as it is. The following probe will substantiate the point under discussion:

1. LACK OF KNOWLEDGE

Human societies are just a few thousand years old, as projected in the Bible and substantiated by known human history. The advocates of Darwinism calculate the age of man as a few hundred thousand years old. However, the known history of mankind relating only to certain prominent regions of the world such as the Indus valley, Nile valley, Mesopotamia and Babylon is hardly five thousand years old. Thus, the origin and growth of man from primitive to modern age passes through innumerable dark ages and obscure periods. The history of the known period is also the history of kings and their conquests till we reach the modern period. Historically human knowledge is therefore,

incomplete and leaves gigantic gaps in ascertaining past activities through which man has progressed to this age.

2. OBSCURITY ABOUT FUTURE

Man's senses of acquiring knowledge are also quite limited. He is so miserable in this respect that he has no direct means of knowing what is going on behind his back or across the wall in front of him, to say nothing of future happenings. The world is fast changing. There are developments, currents and cross-currents going on in this world, but mostly hidden from our eyes, as we have no control over the development of events, thoughts and inclinations of the individuals at the helm of affairs. Materialistic and ideological rivalries also play a dominant role to keep things hidden from our eyes until they actually happen. Man claims to be the master of his own destiny, but he has become the victim of his own circumstances over which he seems to have no control. A survey of just the last 20 years' developments of world events will confirm our ignorance of the future.

The revolution in Iran, the bloody war between Iran and Iraq, the revolt of Polish laborers for a free trade union and the emergence of solidarity as a force against communism, the episode of the Falkland Islands, the downfall of communism in Russia and Eastern Europe, the end of the cold war between East and West, the demolition of the Berlin wall and the process of unification of the two Germanys, the emergence of Iraq as a mini-superpower of the Middle East, the occupation of Kuwait by the forces of Saddam Hussain, the rushing in of the American and other 'Allied' forces, for the protection of Saudi Kingdom, the liberation of Kuwait and the emergence of new Europe as a common entity, the decay of capitalism, and the ushering of Arab awakening, the fall of Gaddafi, the killing of Osama Bin Laden in the heart of Pakistan military headquarter etc., are just a few glaring examples of man's inability in visualizing his future only a decade ahead. Now the Arab Spring has come out with a great thud along with the fast developing civil war in Syria.

Man is dumbfounded over all these happenings and is just

wandering 'what next' lies in store for him. He has no control over the future at all. The future of mankind is totally unknown. It is always full of pleasant and unpleasant surprises over which man has no control; All man's skill, his technical know-how and the knowledge of the earth, ocean and sky which he has acquired so far are not going to help him to predict his future, or the future developments of world events, or what course human society will be following in the near future or by the turn of the next century or throughout this millennium. All the forecasts of scientists, politicians, economists and sociologists are only their guesswork and estimations with no certainty.

These glorious uncertainties of the future of mankind in fact show the inability of man to frame and deliver guidance for his species. When the future is unpredictable and not known to man, he is incompetent to guide the destiny of mankind. If he does so, he is bound to meet with frustration and land in unthinkable disasters.

3. MAN'S OWN WEAKNESSES

Besides man's shortcomings in acquiring knowledge about himself historically, due to incomplete sources, concocted means, non-availability of materials, lack of sequence in the development of events and his total ignorance about the future, his own human weaknesses are deterring factors in his quest for a perfect and comprehensive code of conduct (guidance) for himself and the human society, for the present and the future.

Man has his own likes and dislikes. The vicissitudes of his moods and temperament, his personal prejudices, his lust for power and greed, his desire to possess, his lopsided thinking and approaches, his vast field of ignorance about his anatomy, his misunderstanding about his own status on the earth, his shallow knowledge about the universe, the earth and the ocean, all demonstrate man's incompetence to deliver a perfect guidance to mankind for all the people, and for all times to come.

4. THE INCOMPETENCE OF MAN

The history of man's offering guidance to mankind is one of bitter

failure. Whenever he tried to do so, he has filled the earth with tyranny, oppression and discrimination between man and man. In the modern age, the parliaments or the Congress or the Senate have done no better than individuals, as the same incompetent men constitute these law-making institutions with their human limitations as surveyed above. It shows that an individual, or a group of people, or a modern parliament or a congress are not competent to chalk out a perfect and comprehensive code of conduct (guidance) for mankind for its balanced and harmonious growth with justice and equity for all and favoritism and malice to none.

The verdict of the Qur'an on the incompetence of man is the most suitable comment to quote here.

* "It is a promise of God. God fails not His promise, but most of mankind knows not. They know only some appearance of the life of the World and are heedless of the Hereafter."

(The Qur'an. 30: 6-7)

* "They will ask thee concerning the Spirit (of inspiration). Say the Spirit comes by command of my Lord, and of knowledge ye have been vouchsafed but little."

(The Qur'an. 17: 85)

* "No soul knows what it will earn tomorrow, and no soul knows in what land it will die. Lo! God is knower and aware."

(The Qur'an. 31: 34)

* "Warfare is ordained for you, though it is hateful unto you but it may happen that you hate a thing that is good for you, and it may happen that you love a thing that is bad for you. God knows, you know not,"

(The Qur'an. 2: 216)

* "Truly man was created very impatient, fretful when evil touches him, and niggardly when good reaches him."

(The Qur'an. 79:19-21)

* "It was We Who created man and we know what wrong suggestions his soul makes to him, or we are nearer to him than

his jugular vein.”

(The Qur'an. 50:16)

In the light of the above verses and the points that I have made so far in this book, it can be stated without any fear of contradiction that any attempt on the part of man, or a group of men, or by a Parliament or a Congress to provide a code of conduct or guidance to mankind will always be an exercise in futility, and will result in more chaos and frustration for human society.

This leads us to the following logical questions:

* Who, then, is competent enough to deliver good to mankind in the form of a perfect code of conduct or guidance which is the greatest need of man on earth as envisaged throughout our discussion in this book?

* Who has the qualification and the competent authority to come to the rescue of man and human society in seeking the guidance that it so desperately needs?

I shall discuss these pertinent and most important questions in the next chapter to enable us to find out where the true guidance lies.

CHAPTER – VII – THE ONLY COMPETENT AUTHORITY

THE PREREQUISITES FOR A COMPETENT AUTHORITY

The criteria and the qualifications that are essential to deliver a comprehensive guidance to man in order that he may lead a well-balanced life of moderation should be fundamental in nature and all-pervasive in scope. This task can be accomplished by one who completely understands man, his weaknesses, his needs and urges, his moods and temperament, his whims and caprices, his likes and dislikes, his past, present and future as a whole, along with the total and complete knowledge of the universe and what it contains. Above all, he favors none. He does not favor whites over blacks or blacks over whites or 'haves' over 'have-nots' or vice-versa. He is equally free from all kinds of racial, linguistic and regional prejudices. He is the absolute sovereign. He is supreme and unique. His authority is final and total over all the objects of nature. His power is indivisible as well as inalienable. Nobody shares his power and none is his partner. Only such an authority can deliver the guidance to mankind. The mightiest rulers, the most learned men, the supreme parliaments, congresses or senates do not fulfill these requisites. By any stretch of the imagination, man or man-made legislatures will cut a very sorry figure if they are judged by the criterion laid down above. They are not even competent to legislate laws for their respective societies. They have added and will add only confusion and chaos for mankind to bear with frustration and mental agony

WHO SUITS THE CRITERIA?

The only authority that ideally suits the criteria is the Creator and the Sustainer alone. He is the Creator of man and the universe. He is not only the Creator but also the Law Giver and the Sustainer of man and the universe. He is the Regulator and is meticulously maintaining this cosmos to run according to its appointed destiny. His authority is supreme and free from any

kind of partisanship. He is alive, eternal and everywhere. He exists by Himself. He is Omnipotent. He is the source of all power. He Himself is the past, the present and the future. Everyone is accountable to Him and He is accountable to none. He controls the destiny of each and every thing. He and only He has the power, the authority and the knowledge to guide the destiny of mankind. He and He alone is competent to deliver guidance to man, to meet his greatest need on earth. Man is His vicegerent and He knows well man's position on earth. He has given man a free will and strong urges for his survival. He knows how to keep the human urges under control and make man the master of his physical animal instincts. He Himself has described the attributes of His sovereignty in the following verses.

“Say: He is Allah, the One! Allah, the eternally Besought of all He baguettes not nor was begotten and there is none comparable unto Him.”

(The Qur'an. 112: 1:4)

“Allah! There is no god save Him. The Alive, the Eternal; Neither slumber nor sleep overtakes Him. Unto Him belongs whatsoever is in the heaven and whatever is in the earth. No one can intercede with Him save by His leave. He knows that which is in front of them and that which is behind them [i.e. the past and the future]. They encompass nothing of this knowledge save what He wills. His throne (sovereignty) includes the heavens the earth. He is never weary of preserving them. He is sublime, the Tremendous.”

(The Qur'an. 2: 255)

NATURE OF MAN

God created man out of clay. He knows that man is hasty and weak in nature. Man becomes happy when good reaches him, becomes fretful when evil touches him. Man runs after those things that are forbidden to him. That is how he makes choices that abuse the privilege of free will. Man possesses a queer mixture of opposite forces or tendencies. He has an inherent knowledge of what is good and what is bad. He has a free will and can choose which path he takes. If he selects the path of righteousness, he gets his salvation. But if he selects to tread

over the wrong path by his own free will, he is doomed for good.

Man realizes his loss or gain only in retrospect and has the habit of repentance when he has wronged. He likes comfort and luxury, but when the situation arises he can endure hardship with determination, courage and forbearance. He is possessive but loves to spend for any cause dear to him. If he follows the path of luxury, he will try to reach its zenith, but if he follows path of sacrifice he goes to the other extent by renouncing the world and becoming a hermit. He has the will, power and discretion to become the cruelest, the most oppressive and the most treacherous creature on earth, acting like an agent of devil. Using the same power of will and discretion, he can render himself to be kind, merciful and beneficial like an angel on earth. Both the forces of good and evil are in the nature of man and he has the free will to shape himself to either category. These conflicting abilities are inherent in his character, something that is imbibed in man by his Creator. God has equipped man with:

“--- A soul and Him who perfected it. And inspired it (with conscience of) what is wrong for it and (what is) right for it. He is indeed successful who causes it to grow. And he is indeed failure who stunts it.”

(The Qur'an. 91; 7-10)

“Had there come upon man (ever) any period of time in which he was a thing unremembered (having no significance)? Lo! We create man from a drop of thickened fluid to test him; so We make him hearing, knowing. Lo! We have shown him the way whether he be grateful or disbelieving.”

(The Qur'an. 76:1-3)

“Have We not made for him (man) a pair of eyes? And a tongue and a pair of lips? And shown him the two paths (of life - the good and the bad).”

(The Qur'an. 90: 8 – 10)

GOD'S COMMITMENT FOR GUIDANCE

It would have been a great injustice on the part of the Creator to

instill in man the contradictory forces of right and wrong doings and leave him alone on earth to grapple with blind and brute urges with a free will at his command. Had it been so, no one could blame man for what he is doing on earth in becoming slave to his urges. Keeping in view this anomalous situation of man and woman, the Creator, in His infinite mercy, gave proper Guidance to the very first couple, Adam and Eve, as how to live on earth. A clear code of conduct was given to them and to their progenies to follow on earth. The Guidance was there with man since the very first day of his existence on earth.

Man's test on earth also started from the very moment of his descent to earth. He was not to make rough shots in darkness but to start his life with a clear-cut mandate. Man was to act as God's vicegerent on earth. He was to struggle according to his urges to survive, but in what direction? He has the free will either to be a blind follower of his urges or to satisfy their demands in a moderate fashion by following His guidance as a moral (reformable) human being. Both options were open to man. The direction was clear. If he follows the lust of his urges blindly, he will fill the earth with disorder, bloodshed and chaos. Through that process he will also destroy his next life after death. If he follows the guidance delivered to him through God's appointed Messengers, he will enjoy peace and prosperity on earth and be rewarded with eternal peace and happiness in the life Hereafter.

This choice is open to man from the beginning to the end of human life on earth. The Creator committed Himself to continue on sending the Guidance through His appointed messengers whenever it was either lost or mutilated through human innovations, so that it would always be available to man till eternity. At no time should man say that he has no Guidance to follow. The arrangement of God is perfect. When Adam was sent down to earth, he had this commitment from the Creator.

God said to Adam, Eve and Satan [devil], when all were driven out of heaven together.

"We said: Go down, all of you from hence; but verily there comes unto you from Me a Guidance and whosoever follows My Guidance, there shall no fear come upon them neither shall they grieve. But they who disbelieve, and deny Our revelations (the Guidance), such are the rightful owners of the Fire. They will

abide therein.”

(The Qur'an. 2: 38-39)

“He said: Go down hence, both of you, one of you a foe unto the other. But if there comes unto you from Me a Guidance, whoso follows My Guidance, he will not go astray nor come grief. But he who turns away from remembrance of Me (My Guidance), his will be a narrow life (a depressed living condition) and I shall bring him blind to the assembly on the Day of Resurrection.”

(The Qur'an. 20: 123- 124)

Since that time Satan [the devil] too declared himself to be the open enemy of man on earth. He openly expressed his determination to the Creator that he would detract man from the path of righteousness. Satan represents the forces of instigation and of allurements that engulf him in the quagmire of his or her physical urges.

“Surely I will take of thy bondsmen an appointed portion surely I will lead them astray and surely I will arouse desires in them and surely I will command them and they will cut the cattle's ears, and surely I will command them and they will change God's creation. Whoso chooses Satan for a patron instead of God is verily a loser and his loss is manifest. He promises them and stirs up desires in them, and promises them only to beguile.”

(The Qur'an. 4: 118 –120)

In fact, satanic forces, throughout human history, have played their part menacingly, alluring men and women to run after their physical urges, even to the point of insanity. In defiance humans have to follow the Guidance from the Creator and defeat all the maneuverings and tactics of the evil forces and their agents.

The Creator, true to His commitment, had been sending his appointed messengers to all people and all the regions. There had been not a single period of human history when there was no guidance for man. The list of messengers of God is voluminous. The most prominent among them were Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses, Jesus and the last, Muhammad (Peace be upon all of them). The Creator revealed the guidance through scriptures. The message of each messenger was the same.

“And verily We have raised in every nation a messenger (proclaiming): Serve God and shun false gods (the forces of evil or Satanic forces.)”

(The Qur'an. 16:36)

Now there arise some very pertinent questions:

1. When God is One, the universe is one and the human being is also an indivisible one, why were so many prophets and messengers of God appointed for the guidance of man?
2. Why did the Creator have to send prophets after prophets in a continuous chain?
3. Was the guidance once sent to man not sufficient for all times?

Without attending to these questions properly, the need and urgency for guidance cannot be understood in its true perspective.

I will try to answer these relevant questions in the next Chapter.

CHAPTER – 8 - MAN'S ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE GUIDANCE

THE TASK OF A MESSENGER OF GOD

When a messenger of God was appointed to this world for the guidance of mankind, he had to fulfill the following three most important tasks of his mission.

1. To deliver the message, i.e., what was revealed to him from the Creator to the people of his time in its exact form and words?
2. To set himself up as a model of the teachings to his addressees, to follow and explain the intricacies and complexities of the message in clear terms.
3. To purify the character of the followers and build a team of dedicated and devoted companions (movement oriented workers) in order to establish the authority of the Creator (The Kingdom of God) on this earth.

This was the common mission of all the messengers of God.

A messenger when appointed by God tries his utmost to fulfill the mission in his lifetime. He recites the revelation to his people, invites them to the fold of their Creator and Sustainer, gives them glad tidings if they accept it, and warns them of the dreadful consequences in both the worlds, here and in the Hereafter, if they reject the message. He teaches the guidance to his followers, purifies their character, and demonstrates his own life as a practical model of the teachings to the people. He organizes his followers into a party of God and they all together struggle towards the propagation of his mission and establishing the Kingdom of God on earth. How far the messenger of God succeeds depends on the response of his people.

THE TRADITION

The vested interests, the people at the helm of the affairs, the tribal or community chiefs, always oppose the messenger of the

time. They are the people who run after their urges, and the satanic forces glorify their materialistic life in high esteem. Due to lust of power, intoxication of worldly gains and personal comforts, they deny the messenger, reject his message and create problems and impediments in his way. They try to stifle the message and thwart its spread. They oppose the guidance that reforms their urges and brings them under control through Divine Guidance. This conflict of interest continues for some time. The people generally remain silent spectators and go for the worldly gains. They neglect the guidance and adore the urges of their physical instincts that appear very attractive and fascinating - a devise of the satanic forces. But in spite of the opposition, the mission spreads. Whoever accepts the message follows the prophet and the guidance becomes a believer, obedient to God. Whoever opposes the prophet becomes a disbeliever, and denies God. When the believers get the upper hand in the society, they try to establish the Kingdom of God on earth in accordance with the guidance brought by the messenger and fill the earth with justice. If the number of believers is small and the opposition is ruthless. God then saves the prophet and his companions and destroys the entire habitation of disbelievers through some natural calamities as if they have never existed on this earth. However, the guidance and the life of the messenger remain the criterion for ascertaining and following the path of righteousness for those who want to lead a balanced and harmonious life.

After the departure of the messenger, his followers uphold the message, continue to call the people to the fold of God, exhort them to follow the Guidance and try to mold the society accordingly. But the vested interests continue their opposition unabated.

It is in the nature of vested interests to deny the guidance whenever it comes from God. It is never received with open arms. People who love their urges and the worldly life are reluctant to bring their desires and caprices under their control and readjust them as ordained by God. But at the same time there are many who respond to the call, enter into the fold of God, accept the messenger as their guide, follow the guidance from their Creator, bring their urges under control and lead a life of moderation and that of righteousness. Both the believers and

the non-believers follow their own way of life, as per their free will, one group trying to overcome the other.

As the time goes on, people start making innovations in guidance, or try to change it or replace it with something that suits their convenience. The resistance from the followers continues for some time but compromises go on increasing and innovations go on replacing the directives from God till the time comes when compromises and human innovations alter composition of the guidance altogether. In this process the guidance is either lost or mutilated beyond recognition.

At that time, as per commitment from the Creator, another messenger appears on the horizon to uphold the struggle for righteousness and **show the updated guidance to mankind**. This explains the reason why the Guidance is lost. The Creator updates the Guidance to suit the growing needs of man and that of the human society, and replace the lost one with a new Book of Guidance by appointing another messenger to mankind. With the appointment of the new messenger, the entire process of acceptance or rejections, denial or compromises, human innovation, mutilations or the loss of guidance again becomes operative in the manner stated above. Hence, as and when it needs replacement, the Creator, keeping His commitment, fulfils the gap by delivering the Guidance through His appointed messengers in more and more perfect and updated form. Thus, the chain of prophets in a systematic and continuous process maintains the link from the first to the last for the guidance of mankind.

When the previous guidance was lost due to human innovations or opposition from their adversaries or the vested interests of the time, God, in his infinite mercy, appointed another Prophet. The life - long struggle of all the Prophets, including Noah, Abraham, Moses, Jesus and Muhammad (Peace Be upon All of Them), who were appointed one after the other in a continuous process, to deliver the Guidance from the Creator to the people of their respective times, is an eloquent proof of what I have stated above.

THE CONTINUITY OF PROPHETHOOD/GUIDANCE

*** ADAM**

Adam was the first man and prophet of God to bring the guidance from the Creator. It clearly showed the way that he and his progenies were to live, act and behave while on earth. However, his sons and daughters, with the growth of time, in pursuit of their urges and the misuse of freewill, lost the guidance. They became oppressive, shed the blood of fellow human beings and caused disorder on earth. The first murder was of Abel by Cain.

*** NOAH**

When the guidance was lost, the Creator appointed Noah for the guidance of mankind. He called humanity back to the fold of God and follow the Guidance from their Creator. The vested interests of the society opposed Noah. Noah continued his mission of calling people to the fold of their Creator and Sustainer for about 950 years but the people, who were slaves to their urges, paid little or no heed to his call. When the opposition was overwhelming and the people became obstinate, God's promised punishment came down. A devastating flood routed out the people totally from surface of the earth. God saved Noah and his followers in an ark that Noah built under His direct command. Noah and his companions rehabilitated the world again in accordance with the fresh guidance from the Creator.

After Noah, HUD, AA'd Saleh, Thamud, Shu'eyb and many others were appointed as the Prophets of God, in succession, to their respective people and time. But the people rejected the prophet and the guidance that they brought one after the other. As a result, all who denied were destroyed through different natural calamities inflicted by God, and the Prophets of the time along with their respective companions were saved by Him in each case, as was done in the case of Noah.

“For, every one of them did We take to task for his sin (sin of denying the prophet and the guidance brought by him); and so, upon some of them We let loose a deadly storm wind; some of

them were overtaken by a (sudden) blast; and some of them We caused to be swallowed by the earth; and some of them We caused to drown. And it was not God who wronged them but it was they who had wronged themselves.”

(The Qur'an. 29: 40)

* ABRAHAM

Then Abraham was appointed as the Prophet of God. He is the common Patriarch of Jews, Christians and Muslims. God tested Abraham in many ways, and he emerged successful each time, to the satisfaction of the Creator. God, therefore, proclaimed Abraham as **the leader of mankind** and promised to raise prophets/messengers from amongst his progenies for the guidance of mankind. Moses, Jesus and Muhammad were the prominent messengers of God in his chronology of prophets after Abraham.

* MOSES / THE TORAH

Moses was the Prophet sent to the children of Israel. Torah was the book of Guidance given to Moses when the previously revealed Scriptures were mutilated or lost. Moses struggled hard with the Pharaohs of Egypt who refused to accept him as the messenger of God and was oppressing the children of Israel. Ultimately, Moses, with the help of God, succeeded and migrated with his people to the desert of Sinai where numerous blessings were showered on them. However, the children of Israel could not establish the Torah till the time of Prophet David and Solomon whose time was one of the best periods of human history. They established God's Kingdom on earth, but unfortunately, Jews do not recognize them even as prophets of God; rather, they have assassinated their character ruthlessly. The Qur'an has corrected the history of the sons of Israel and restored the true status of all of their Prophets, including David and Solomon [pbut]

Unfortunately, after Solomon, the Jews could not hold the kingdom intact and gradually lost it. God appointed many prophets to the children of Israel to help them improve their deteriorating condition. Some of them succeeded, but others

were opposed by the Jews. The Jews and their rabbis made many innovations in the Torah, changed many directives to suit their convenience, and thus the code of conduct (the guidance in the form of the Torah) stood mutilated and innovated. When the Prophet of the time pointed out their shortcomings, and invited them to follow laws brought by Moses (i.e... the Torah), they opposed him. As a result, some of the prophets were tortured and some of them were killed. In this process the original Torah was lost. What was left in it was only the translation with a lot of alterations; compromises and innovations that became an integral part the Torah. The Torah lost its true teachings and the originality of its contents. Jews now mostly follow Talmud.

* JESUS

Jesus was the last Messenger of God to the children of Israel. He himself declared that he had come to find out the lost sheep, the children of Israel. He supplemented the teachings of Torah with his Gospel and exhorted the Jews to be the true followers of God. His eloquent discourses, thought - provoking parables and metaphors, describe the deplorable conditions of Jews of his time. It demonstrates the neglect and the treatment that they were giving to the Torah and its teachings. They had left the guidance from God far behind and were busy day and night in the pursuit of worldly gains to satisfy the demands of their urges. As such, they opposed Jesus tooth and nail and denied his reformist movement altogether. The Jews were not prepared at all to mend their ways, but rather conspired to put him to gallows. Prophet Jesus warned the Jews of the dire consequences of their mischief. In a very forceful address, Jesus criticized the moral degradation of the Jews in these words:

“O Jerusalem, thou that kills the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathers her children under her wings and ye would not Behold your house is left unto you desolate. Verily I say unto you, ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.”

(Matthew - Chapter 23: 37-38)

“And Jesus said unto them. See ye not all these things? Verily I say unto you. There shall not be here one stone upon another that shall not be thrown down.”

(Matthew - Chapter 24: 2)

The eloquent speeches of Jesus had no effect on the Jews. They continued their conspiracies and mischief against Jesus to put him to death. When the Roman officials were taking Prophet Jesus to the Cross, some people, including women, followed him wailing and lamenting. Jesus addressed them and delivered his final and the last warning.

“But Jesus, turning unto them said. Daughters of Jerusalem weep not for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For, behold, the days are coming in which they shall say, Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bear and the peeps which never gave suck. Then shall they begin to say to the mountains, Fall on us; and to the hills. Cover us. For if they do these things in a green tree, what shall be done in the dry?”

(Luke - Chapter 23: 28-31)

However, the Jews utterly failed in their conspiracy and could not crucify Jesus at all. Rather, another man who looked like Jesus at that time was put to death in his place. God, in His infinite mercy, saved and raised Prophet Jesus to heaven. Prophet Jesus was never crucified, or slain or hanged from a tree. For:

“Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared.”

(Hebrews. 5:7)

The word 'heard' had always been taken in the sense of acceptance of prayers in the Bible. Out of many references, only a few are as follows:

“For he hath not despised nor abhorred the affliction of the afflicted; neither hath he hid his face from him; but when he cried unto him, he heard.”

(Psalms. 22:24)

"I sought the Lord, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears."

(Psalms. 34; 4)

"But verily God had heard me; he hath attended to the voice of my prayer."

(Psalms. 66:19)

It shows that Lord God heard [accepted] the prayers of Jesus. God thus saved him from the humiliation of being crucified. He was saved from the conspiracy that was hatched by the Jews and later on distorted by Paul. The Qur'an is now the only Book of God that presents the true version of the life of all the prophets including that of Jesus. It categorically confirms that Jesus was not crucified, but God saved him and raised him to heaven.

"And because of their (the Jews) disbelief and of their speaking against Mary a tremendous calumny; And because of their saying: We slew the Messiah Jesus, son of Mary, Allah's messenger. They slew him not nor crucified, but it appeared so unto them; and lo! Those who disagree concerning it are in doubt thereof; they have no knowledge thereof save pursuit of a conjecture; **they slew him not for certain. But Allah took him (Jesus) up unto Himself. Allah is very Mighty, Wise.**"

(The Qur'an. 4:156 -158)

The Jews, as a punishment from God, were totally annihilated and routed out of Palestine in 70 A.D. by the Romans. About 133,000 people were put to the sword, thousands were made slaves and thousands were sent to work in Egyptian mines and other cities. All the tall and beautiful girls were saved for the army of the conquerors, and the holy city of Jerusalem and the Temple were pulled down to the ground.

(The Meaning of The Qur'an. Vol. VI, P. 129 by S.A.A. Maudoodi)

"On the 10th. of April in the year 70, amid circumstances of unparalleled horror, Jerusalem fell. The temple was burnt and the Jewish state was no more."

(Encyclopedia Britannica Vol. 12 p.1067.1965)

“The dead and the Captured - how many lost their lives during the course of the war? That is a difficult question, though, according to Josephus, the dead numbered many hundreds of thousands. There were also many thousands sold into slavery or condemned to work in the mines. From among the captured, Titus picked seven hundred handsome young men to march in his triumphal procession in Rome and subsequently to be enrolled among the gladiators.”

(A History of the Jews - By Solomon Grayzel. Ch. XI. P.168)

This is a punishment from God, for those who run after their worldly gains and urges and ignore the Divine Guidance. The Jews could not regain power after this episode anywhere in the world for the next 1900 years, till in the year 1948 when the combined diplomatic maneuvering of the Russian and American blocks - the Christian world - politically manipulated for the emergence of a secular-cum-religious State of Israel. The fate of the State of Israel hinges on the support of the strong Jewish media and powerful political lobbies in the U.S.A. and elsewhere in Europe. They have lost the original Torah and now what remains is called the Talmud, the speeches and explanations made by Rabbis. The Old Testament contains stories about Prophets and kings with some glimpses of the teachings of the Torah here and there, and that too in a distorted form.

*** THE BIBLE (NEW TESTAMENT)**

After the departure of Prophet Jesus from this world, what are now ascribed to his teachings are the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. In some of the new editions of the New Testament these teachings are printed in red ink. However, the original Gospel of Jesus is nowhere traceable. Thus what we see is only a translation of what exists in about 64 different versions.

The tragedy of the destruction of the teachings of the Gospel is again a gruesome story hatched by the Jews. Paul, who was a Jew, claimed to have seen Jesus in a dream, and declared himself an apostle of Jesus. He distorted Jesus teachings and introduced the concept of VICARIOUS ATONEMENT and the teaching of the Gospel to gentiles. He pronounced Prophet Jesus as the son of God, which Jesus himself never claimed to

be. The existing Gospels stand testimony to this fact. Paul innovated a lot of doctrines and dogmas and made them the part of the Christian faith. Thus, the teachings of Jesus were lost or mutilated through a lot of innovations in the original text of the Gospel. Now neither the Torah nor the Gospel is available anywhere in their original form. Only translations of distorted verses are sold in the market and promoted as the New Testament by various Christian churches. It is desirable at this stage to deal with some of the predominant doctrines of Christianity, and see how these innovations have brought Christianity to the fold of polytheism in place of monotheism that was the faith and mission of all the prophets of God.

DEIFICATION OF JESUS

Controversies about the nature of Jesus-whether he was God or man or both (God- man), arose decades after the departure of Jesus. Various beliefs were held, beginning from the latter part of the first century, but matters came to a decisive stage early in the fourth century. Eventually, the pagan emperor Constantine, siding with Athanasius, the champion of the deification of Jesus, officially declared that "the Son was the same in essence with the Father, the only begotten of the Father, and very God of very God," in the first ecumenical council of churches called by royal decree in Nicea on May 20th, 325 A.D. Thus, Jesus was made a human-God under the patronage of Constantine.

MARIOLATRY (WORSHIP OF MARY AS A DIVINE BEING)

One of the most outstanding examples of how Babylonian paganism has continued to our day may be seen in the way the Roman church innovated Mary worship to replace the ancient worship of the mother goddess. When the children of Israel fell into apostasy, they too were defiled with this mother goddess worship. As we read in Judges 2:13, "They forsook the Lord, and served Baal and Ashtaroth. "Ashtaroth, or Ashtoreth, was the name by which the goddess was known to the children of Israel. The other name by which the goddess was known among them was "the queen of heaven" (Jer. 44:17-19). The prophet Jeremiah rebuked them for worshiping her, but the Jews rebelled

against his warning.

“The worship of the Great Mother was very popular in the Roman Empire. By the third and fourth centuries, the “church” had departed from the original faith. When this 'falling away' came, much paganism was mixed with Christianity. It was not until the time of Constantine, the early part of the fourth century, that anyone began to look to Mary as a goddess. Even at this period, the church frowned upon such worship. Yet, within just a few years, Mary worship was not only condoned by what is known as the Roman Catholic Church, it became an official doctrine at the Council of Ephesus in 431 A.D.”

(“BABYLONIAN MYSTERY RELIGION”, by Ralph Woodrow, P. 0. Box 124, Riverside. Ca 92502

THE TRINITY

The concept of the Trinity or 'Tri-unity' of God is unbiblical. Jesus never claimed that he was the second person of 'god-head,' composed of three persons each of whom was a god. The verse: “For there are three that bear witness in heaven, the Father, the Word and the Holy Ghost: and those three are one.” (I John 5:7) was found to be a forgery by modern scholars. Therefore, the concept of the Trinity has been removed unceremoniously from most of the new editions of the Bible. The tragedy of mutilation in the original text of the Bible and the innovations that have been made thereto does not end here. Today what is promoted, presented, preached and practiced by the church is somewhat different than what is contained in the Bible. Christianity has been rendered into two different formats. One is as per the dogmas and doctrines innovated by churches, and the other as per the existing Bible. One who studies the present versions of the Bible carefully and compares them with what is propounded by churches will see a gulf of difference between the two. One is contradictory to the other. The reader has to conclude that either of the two is wrong and stands far away from the truth.

The Guidance from the Creator in the form of the Bible was again lost through human innovations and mutilations as discussed above.

Thus, the Guidance that the Creator sent through Prophet Moses and Jesus (PBUT) in the form of the Torah and the Gospel were lost. What remains now out of these Scriptures is in no way sufficient to guide the human affairs and the destiny of mankind. It stands lost due to human innovations.

THE LAST MESSENGER

In the beginning of the sixth century, after the birth of Prophet Jesus, humanity, for all practical purposes, had no Guidance. It was one of the darkest periods of human history. There was no justice or equality anywhere in this world. All human rights were only for the rulers and the common man was living a life of servitude. Man was a slave to his own species. The affluent were slaves to their urges and the masses were victims of ruthless exploitation.

This was the time, when the Creator, as per His commitment and tradition as discussed earlier in this chapter, appointed Muhammad s/o Abdullah of Quraish, a progeny of Prophet Ismail- the eldest son of Abraham • to be the messenger of God. He was born in the city of Makkah in 570 A.D. The last Book of Guidance, the Qur'an, was revealed to him, beginning in the year 610 A.D. and completed in 632 A.D., a period of 23 years. He stayed 13 years in Makkah and then migrated to Madinah, where he stayed for 10 years. After a very hard struggle against the evil forces and the vested interests of his time, he, with the help of God and immense sacrifices of his beloved companions, established the 'Kingdom of God' on earth, in the Arabian Peninsula. Later on it was extended to greater part of the Middle East and Africa through his Caliphs. His entire struggle, from the time he called the people to the fold of their Creator and Sustainer till the time the authority of God was established in its totality, is a model and guide for mankind to follow till eternity. Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) left behind the Guidance, the Qur'an, (intact and in the original words of God) and the model of his own life, recorded in the minutest detail, to serve as a guide in every walk of life. This time the Creator Himself took the responsibility to protect the Guidance from any kind of human manipulation or innovation as prescribed in the Qur'an.

“Lo! We, even We, reveal the Reminder (the Qur'an) and Lo! We

verily are its Guardian.”

(The Qur'an. 15: 9)

THE METHOD OF PRESERVING THE GUIDANCE

The method of preservation of the Qur'an, keeping it free from human innovations, was also unique. The Qur'an, as stated earlier, was revealed in bits and pieces as and when the Guidance was needed to sustain the movement which Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) launched upon to establish the Kingdom of God on earth. Whatever and whenever a portion of the Qur'an (a chapter or verses) was revealed to Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) he used to recite it to his beloved companions forthwith. The Arabs of the time had strong memory. They used to memorize what they heard immediately, and recited the same in their regular prayers five times in a day. Simultaneously, Prophet Muhammad used to dictate it to one of his writers for preserving it in written form. Thus, in the long period of revelation of the last Guidance in 23 years, the memorization of the Qur'an and its preservation in written form were going on at the same time. The day the revelation of the Qur'an was completed and perfected, the establishment of the Kingdom of God on earth was also completed as a practical model of the same. The same day the recording of the Qur'an was also completed. By that time there were thousands of believers (Muslims) who had memorized the Qur'an in full or in part. As such, there was no possibility of its being lost. The Qur'an was available both in written as well as memorized form with individual believers. Thus, the safety and the continuity of the Guidance from the Creator was more than assured in three ways. At present there are hundreds of thousands of believers who have memorized the Qur'an completely, where as there are millions who have memorized from various parts along with millions and millions of copies of the original text of the Qur'an that are available throughout the world. Hence it could neither have been lost nor mutilated by anyone. That is the way God preserved and protected the last Guidance, the Qur'an for mankind till eternity.

Thus, the last Guidance, the Qur'an, though revealed 1400 years ago to guide the affairs of mankind and keep human society well balanced, upright and on the path of righteousness, is available

intact, and free from any human tampering or mutilation. That is the reason Muhammad (PBUH) became the last prophet and the last Messenger of God on earth, and, as such, no prophet was appointed after him. There was and is no need for another Prophet.

Guidance from the Creator is available to mankind in its perfect form and in the original words of God. The Qur'an is now the last and final Guidance to mankind. It is complete, perfect and presents a well-balanced code of conduct both for individuals and human societies to follow in their personal, family as well as collective lives till eternity.

*** THE LAST BOOK OF GUIDANCE**

The last Book of Guidance, the Qur'an, is the most revolutionary Book on earth. It describes the correct status of man on earth and the objective for which both man and the Universe were created. It reveals the guiding principles of the rise and fall of individuals and nations. One who has not studied the Qur'an cannot claim to have the knowledge and understanding of the laws governing the destiny of mankind. Human society is confronted with innumerable problems, but due to century's old prejudices and negative propaganda campaign against the Qur'an, the prejudiced individuals and people are not referring to it for the solution, but rather ignoring it. As discussed earlier in this book, the social, moral, economic and political problems that different societies of the world are facing today in different magnitudes are the direct outcome of man's slavery to his physical urges and an attitude of self-denial towards the Guidance from God. These gigantic global problems cannot be resolved by incompetent men or by their parliaments, Congresses or senates. They will have to refer them to their Creator and Sustainer, whose will is supreme over this universe and seek guidance from the Qur'an, the last Guidance to mankind. If the humans fail to do so, they will continue to grapple in the darkness of "guesswork and estimation," resort only to patchwork here and there and render this world more and more problematic and tense.

CHAPTER – 9 – SOME GLIMPSES FROM THE LAST GUIDANCE

The addressees of the last Guidance, the Qur'an, are individuals and the entire mankind. At the time when human society appears to have lost all the previous guidance and adopted an attitude of neglect towards the only Guidance now available to mankind, it is desirable to produce some of its glimpses for readers to have an idea of what the Qur'an presents to human beings and what the Creator demands from His best creation, man. Some of the glimpses from the Qur'an and its teachings are summarized below.

1. The Qur'an invites the people to the fold of their Creator and Sustainer and forcefully advocates the concept of Oneness of God. God accepts no partners either to His person or to His attributes at all. This was the teaching of all the prophets of God for all times.

2. The Qur'an categorically declares that this world will come to an end one day. When? God alone knows that. On that day all human beings, from Adam to the last man on earth, will be resurrected and gathered together for questioning about their actions and deeds. Those who followed the Guidance will be rewarded with eternal happiness and those who rejected it and ran after their urges will be punished with eternal sorrow and pains, feeling, therefore, always accountable to Him for all his/her actions and deeds on earth.

3. Whatever man possesses - his talents, his energies, his physical strength, his time, his wealth, and all other resources - do not belong to him. They are a trust in his or her hands. **Man is a trustee not master.** He or she has to use them the way God ordains. If he or she uses them the way he or she likes, he or she will misuse them and, therefore, be ready to bear the consequences in this world and in the Hereafter.

4. The Qur'an exhorts people to follow the life of the last Messenger as a guide in every walk of life. He is now the most perfect model to mankind till the Day of Resurrection.

5. Through these beliefs and convictions, the Qur'an prepares a dependable and trustworthy character in each individual who enters into the fold of God and declares that he or she will follow the Guidance contained therein.

These fundamental concepts can be put in a capsule as under:

- The Concept of God, oneness of God – Monotheism.
- The concept of accountability on the Day of Judgment.
- The concept of Trust [The concept of Accountability, in fact, stems out of the concept of Trust - Amanah];
- Believing in Muhammad (PBUH) as the last Prophet and a human being.

The conviction of these beliefs turns every believer into a responsible human being. The structure of the entire society, when it is built on the edifice of such individuals who are ever-conscious of their Creator, feel accountable to Him for their actions and deeds, treat everything they possess as a trust from God and use it only as ordained by Him, changes into a benevolent and the just society - the Kingdom of God. This attitude of life keeps the people (the believers) upright - a basic ingredient without which human society cannot be modeled on the principle of justice, peace, equality and fair play.

6. After creating a dependable character in a believer, the Qur'an defines the status of parents next to God, then sanctity to human life and property. This protects the family from all kinds of encroachments. The code of conduct, which includes the Qur'an and the traditions of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), defines the status of women, their rights and obligations. The rights and responsibilities of husbands are equally prescribed in order to keep the married/family life in balance and harmony with no overlapping on the part of either sex. This further creates an ideal environment for children to grow with love, care and affection from the father and the mother.

7. The Qur'an tells how to earn your livelihood by making

genuine and rightful efforts, without resorting to any wrongful means or resorting to fraud, greed, exploitation, deceit or usurping other's rights. There is no limit to one's rightful earnings. Through lawful and honest means, one can be a multi-billionaire so far as he is fearful of God and fulfills his obligations as His servant to the people and seeks only His pleasure.

8. Out of his earnings, man is free to meet the just and legitimate expenses of himself and his family. He has to avoid extravagance and should not lead a chauvinistic life, the source of many evils prevailing in our society. In this domain, the Qur'an prohibits only a few things: intoxication in any form; fornication or adultery and all that leads to it; gambling in every form and shape; interest in all its forms; and a few items of food like pork, the dead, blood and meat of an animal which is not slaughtered in the name of God. The rest of the things that are clean and good (not otherwise prohibited) are free for man to eat and enjoy.

9. A believer is always conscious of the fact that in his worldly gains, there is a share for the "have-nots," the poor, the needy, the underfed, the destitute and those who are in distress. After meeting the legitimate needs of self and family, a believer is always ready to spend his wealth for the categories of people listed above. It is compulsory for him to pay two and half percent Zakah (a levy) on his accumulated assets/savings each year as an obligation from his Creator.

This maintains a positive flow of wealth from high up to lower down or from 'haves' to 'have-nots.' The Qur'anic Law of Inheritance also helps in keeping that flow in the same direction. It avoids the concentration of wealth in a few hands. This increases the purchasing power of 'have-nots', which in turn keeps the demand of goods and services **constant** at an accelerated pace. It brings the society soon to the stage of **optimum** employment with little fear of inflation or recession, the golden dream of all the economists of the world. Human society can achieve this goal only by following the Qur'an, the last Guidance from the Creator.

This method of transferring funds from 'haves' to 'have-nots' also provides the best Social Security System, with no burden on the

national budget, which has brought to the verge of ruination many welfare states of the West.

10. Sovereignty belongs to God, not to the people or any congress and senate. The Guidance is the code of conduct to be implemented by the legislative and executive branches of government. The judiciary is totally free in protecting the rights of individuals as prescribed in the Qur'an and guaranteed by the traditions of the Prophet. The obligation of each organ of the state is well defined and spelled out in Shariah. The judiciary is strictly independent. Nobody, including the head of state, is above law. Human rights, especially of ethnic and religious minorities are protected and guaranteed as a sacred trust from God. The principle of consultation (consensus) is the barometer of all the political activities. Piety is the criterion of excellence, not nationality, color, race, language or position. The government is the servant of the people and its broad functions include:

- a. Calling the people to the fold of the Creator and Sustainer;
- b. Eradicating evils [the Munkar] from the society and
- c. Establishing the good [Ma'roof] in its place.

11. The Qur'an deprecates transgression, disorder and bloodshed. It stands for justice and equality at home and abroad. It upholds the cause of the oppressed and the have-nots advocates the truth and champions human rights. These are the basic ingredients of the foreign policy of the State, which is based on the Qur'an and the traditions of Prophet Muhammad [pbuh].

This is just a glimpse of the Guidance and what is contained in the Qur'an. It just gives an idea what human society would be if it follows the last Guidance for mankind in its totality.

THE LAST WORDS

In this book I have discussed in detail that human society, as a whole has become a slave to its physical urges. The Guidance

that was delivered by the Torah and the Bible is either lost or mutilated as elaborated earlier. Regarding the Divine Guidance that lies intact in the Qur'an, the attitude of the people, especially those of the West, is of neglect, ignorance and avoidance. There is no reason behind this illogical approach except centuries old misgivings and prejudices against the last Messenger (Muhammad - pbuh) and the last message (the Qur'an) from their Creator. Unfortunately, the negative propaganda is still going on unabated by different missionaries and the secular media. Almost all the secular societies of the world are busy in maneuvering for the personal comfort of individuals, raising their gross national product and increasing the standard of living of their people as paramount objectives of their existence.

In consequence, entire world is suffering in disgrace. In spite of enormous worldly gains, human society is desperately trying to obtain peace of mind, a contented family life, moderate standard of living for every human being, a political system with no favoritism, exploitation or infested with vested interests, and a world order with justice and equity, but so far no success. The way the world is preceding at present does not augur well. In fact, man cannot resolve any of his problems on his own. He has no choice but to give up his obstinacy and turn towards the Creator and the last Guidance, the Qur'an, which holds all promises for mankind but no despondency

Man's greatest need, as discussed earlier in this book, is the Guidance. The Guidance is available in its original form and intact. In following it, as it is in the Qur'an, lies the future of mankind. What we need to do is to give up the prejudices against the Qur'an and Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and hold the last Guidance in right earnest. The blessings of God are waiting for us. But if we hesitate, do not come forward to grasp it, the fate of this great nation, America, appears doomed and no amount of technological superiority or economic development can save it from ruination. The path on which it is fast running is heading towards a deep decline and decay.

Liberal democracy is not a substitute for the Guidance from the Creator. The people of the land are in the grip of moral decadence and only the last Guidance can stop them from further downfall, and will save the country, and this giant nation,

for a positive new role to play in the community of nations in a just and dignified manner. This will enable America to raise its head as a respectful leader of mankind for the reconstruction of human society on the principles of justice, equality and piety. This role is destined for this country, if we follow the last Prophet and the last Guidance. If we fail in this respect and maintain double standards both at home and abroad, none can stop the decay and downfall of this powerful nation. Within a few decades its supremacy will be lost and, according to the tradition of the Creator, some other people will be raised on the earth to lead the destiny of mankind. At that time, America will become a dead chapter of history and its people will have to encounter a worse situation in the life Hereafter.

“Nay, verily. Lo! We created them from what they know. But nay! I swear by the Lord of the rising-places and the setting-places of the planets that We are able to replace them by (others) better than them. And We are not to be outrun.”

(The Qur'an. 70: 39-41)

At the present critical juncture in the world, the people of America and the West as a whole have to look towards the last and final Guidance from their Creator to shape their future destinies, before it becomes too late. It is nobody's property. Any individual or people can have it, adopt it as their way of life and implement it in its totality in their body-politic. They will receive the blessings of their Creator in both the worlds. Time waits for nobody and we have no control over it. Human society has come to the stage where it has to take a big, advanced step towards the Creator, synchronize its free will with the will of its Sustainer and the Law Giver, seek guidance from the Qur'an, and establish the Kingdom of God on earth, as demonstrated by Prophet David, Solomon and Muhammad (pbut).

The world does not belong either to the East or to the West, or to Communism, Capitalism or liberal democracies: It belongs to its Creator and Sustainer Who wants peace and justice to prevail in this world.

The Creator does not like transgression and disorder. That is why there are constant changes in the power politics of the

world. One government is over thrown and another comes to take its place. The tyrants are removed from the tentacles of power and new leaders are given a chance to do justice. The communist parties of Eastern Europe and Russia were tyrants and therefore were overthrown. If the Americans want to remain as a future power of the world, they will have to uphold the ideology of justice and fair play. Only the last Guidance fulfills this condition. Let us follow it and defer the process of decadence to a distant future. Let us follow it and glorify the future of our progenies, and that of mankind. This is the provision from the Creator. For one who follows the Guidance in its totality, the favors of God come from the sky, from inside the earth, and the fear and the distress of the people are changed into peace and prosperity.

“Those who believe and obscure not their belief by wrong doings, there is safety (peace); and they are rightly guided.”
(The Qur'an. 6: 82)

“And I have said: Seek pardon of your Lord. Lo! He was ever Forgiving.

He will let loose the sky for you in plenteous rain. And will help you with wealth and sons, and will assign unto you gardens and will assign unto you rivers.”

(The Qur'an. 71: 10 –12)

THE END