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ٱلْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلامُ على سَيِّدْنا مُحَمَّدٍ و على الهِ واَصْحابهِ اَ جْمَعِيْن .

اَمَّا بَعْدُ فأعوذ باالله من الشيطان الرجيم بِسِّمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحُمْنِ الرَّحِيْمِ إِنَّ الدِّيْنَ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ الْاِسۡلَامُ ﴿ (ال عمران ١٩)

وقال الله تعالى: وَمَنْ يَّبْتَغِ غَيْرَ الْإِسْلَامِ دِيْنًا فَلَنْ يُّقْبَلَ مِنْهُ المَانِ ٥٨ وَقَالَ الله تعالى: اَلْيَوُمَ اَكُمَلْتُ لَكُمْ دِيْنَكُمْ وَاَتَّمَمْتُ عَلَيْكُمْ نِعْمَتِى وَرَضِيْتُ لَكُمُ الْإِسْلَامَ دِيْنًا ﴿ لِسَهَ ٢٠ ﴾ وَرَضِيْتُ لَكُمُ الْإِسْلَامَ دِيْنًا ﴿ لِسَهَ ٢٠ ﴾

وقال الله تعالى: وَلَا تَكُونُوا كَالَّذِيْنَ تَفَرَّقُوا وَاخْتَلَفُوا مِنُ بَعْدِ مَا جَاءَهُمُ الْبَيِّنْتُ، وَأُولَٰئِكَ لَهُمْ عَذَابٌ عَظِيْمٌ ﴿ال عمران ١٠٠﴾

وقال الله تعالى: يَاَيُّهَا الَّذِيْنَ اٰمَنُوْا لَا تَتَّخِذُوا الْيَهُوْدَ وَالنَّصِٰرَى اَوْلِيَآءَـ بَغۡضُهُمۡ اَوۡلِيَآءُ بَعۡضٍ وَمَنۡ يَّتَوَلَّهُمۡ مِّنۡكُمۡ فَاِنَّهُ مِنْهُمۡ ﴿ السَّهَ ١٥}

وقال الله تعالى: لَا تَجِدُ قَوْمًا يُّؤْمِنُونَ بِاللهِ وَالْيَوْمِ الْأَخِرِ يُوَآدُوْنَ مِنْ حَآدً الله وَالْيَوْمِ الْأَخِرِ يُوَآدُوْنَ مَنْ حَآدً الله وَرَسُوْلَهُ وَلَوْ كَانُوْا الْبَآءَسُمُ اَوْ اَبْنَآءَسُمُ اَوْ اِخُوانَهُمُ اَوْ عَشِيْرَةُمُمْ الْوَلْئِکَ كَتَبَ فِي قُلُوْمِهِمُ الْإِيْمَانَ وَاَيَّدَسُمْ بِرُوْحٍ مِّنْهُ المِددد٢٧٤ عَشِيْمٌ اللهُ تعالى: صِرَاطَ الَّذِيْنَ اَنْعَمْتَ عَلَيْهِمْ اللهُ عَيْرِ الْمُغَضُوبِ عَلَيْهِمُ وَاللهُ تعالى: صِرَاطَ الَّذِيْنَ اَنْعَمْتَ عَلَيْهِمْ فَيْرِ الْمُغَضُوبِ عَلَيْهِمُ وَلَا الضَّالَيْنَ (الفاحد ٧٤)

صدق الله العظيم

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ على سَيِّدنا مُحَمَّدٍ وَّ على آلِ سَيّدنا مُحَمَّدٍ وبارِكْ وَسَلِّمْ.

My Most Respected Elders, Dear Brothers, Sisters and Esteemed Mothers of this Ummah. Every society is governed by its members. A Muslim society is governed by its Muslim members with regards to the code and conduct of the society.



They are the stake holders, policy makers and beneficiaries and so it is in their control how they steer the society towards success. A man and his wife are the primary contributors of human resource to a society. Alhamdulillah both men as well as women are present here in this gathering and I would like to share my thoughts regarding the social scene today.

# Islam is a Holistic way of Life

Islam is a blessing for mankind. It has a manual ie the Holy Quran and the Seerah of the Prophet that explain in detail a way of life prescribed by our Creator. How we should worship, what we should believe, how we should behave socially, how we should celebrate our joy, and how one must interact in times of happiness and in times of grief. A Muslim must appear as a follower of Islam in all aspects of his existence.

It is essential that his thought process also reflects him as a Muslim, his style of worship, his dealings his conduct and mannerism, all should indicate the Deen of Islam that he is following.

It is so important that a believer portrays his Deen in his appearance and life style because if that is not the case than he will be Muslim only by name. There will be no essence to his existence and in the Court of Allah and His Nabi he will be a null and void part of the Ummah. A man once went to a tattoo artist with the intention of getting a lion tattooed on his back. As soon as the artist pinched his back, the man yelped and asked the artist as to what he was making? The artist explained that he had just started with the lions head. The pain of the prick was so unbearable that the man asked the artist to make a headless lion. The artist then started with the tail of the lion. And once again the man out of intense pain asked him to make a tailless lion. The same happened when the artist tried to make the legs of the lion. The result of



this repeated stopping by the customer was that the tattoo artist packed up his tools, refusing to work.

He said how can I draw a lion if it's features are not reflecting in my drawing? So My Dear Muslim Listeners, Allah has not revealed an Islam that is without a guideline. We are not entitled to call ourselves Muslims minus the traits that a Muslim should have and that are prescribed by Allah! Allah has not left our Deen at our discretion. It is not in our authority to allow any and every custom to seep into our lives, we cannot be inclusive to multi-cultural ideas. It should be clear to us that religious following requires us to comply in completeness to the Quran and the Sunnah rather than borrowing customs and cultures from the west and contaminate our outlook as Muslims and followers of Monotheism.

# The Muslim Ummah has High Self Esteem

Allah has made the Muslim Ummah high in self esteem and dignity. This Ummah was not made to be riddled and ridiculed in this world. This Ummah was created to be a leader for the entire humanity. We are blessed with a complete manual in the form of our Deen. It covers every single aspect of our lives.

Allah has not allowed us the liberty to edit this Deen as per our will and fancy. Allah says in the Quran:

And whoso seeketh as religion other than the Surrender (to Allah) it will not be accepted from him. (Al-Imran85)

Allah has discouraged the followers of Islam from replicating and including traits and trends of other religions into their lives.

### The Decline of the Muslims

The last few decades have seen the Muslims suffer as a secondary community. They lack their own education system



and what is most worrisome is that they are thriving on borrowed customs and trends.

The sad state of affairs is such that the Muslims of today are crippled when it comes to upholding their identity. The Muslims of today are so keen to adapt all western cultures and ideologies and the main reason for this is that the Muslims lack the confidence in their own beliefs and values.

The reality is that our colonial masters have left us with this extreme inferiority complex and we strive hard to replicate any habit of our ex masters, if we are able to appear as them ,this brings us great contentment and relief.

The sad extreme that the Muslims of today have gone to in adapting the trends of West is, that at times there is doubt if they are even in the fold of Islam and have not entered the folds of Kufr.

Nabi وَاللَّهُ عَلَيْكُ has Said:

He who imitates any people (in their actions) is considered to be one of them. (Mishkat)

### Do not follow the Non Believers

One who replicates a group will belong to that group, if any one replicates the behavior of the Kuffar then he will be counted as amongst them. If one replicates celebrations and events of the Non-Believers then on the Day of Judgement he will be raised with that group.

Allah says in the Quran:

O ye who believe! Take not the Jews and the Christians for



friends. They are friends one to another. He among you who taketh them for friends is (one) of them. (Al-Maida 51)

Oh believers do not befriend the Jews and the Christians. If you will than you will be counted as though you are amongst them.

The befriending here means that one becomes so close in adapting their traits and ways that one loses his own identity, one is unable to convey his own individuality to them and is so influenced by them as friends that he is unable to stand up and follow his own religions teachings.

And so Dear brothers and Sisters you must recognize the great loss you will incur if you part with your own ways and befriend the Non-Believers to such a level that your conduct and their practices merge and appear common and one.

### Do not Befriend the Enemies of Allah

Allah بُعْمَاهُ وَتَعَالَيُ says in the Quran:

O ye who believe! Choose not My enemy and your enemy for allies. (Mumtaahina:1)

These are the words of the Quran. It's a pity that our focus is entirely in a different angle which is away from the commandments of Allah and towards the beautifully manipulated words of others that are fabricated to mislead us away from the valuable teachings of Deen.

To reach the climax of your belief,to worship your Creator as He has ordained is the what being "radical"truly is. The word radical means absolute, complete, profound. A truly beautiful word that describes the quality of a believer. Yet this word is now used in a derogatory fashion, all nothing but a misconstrued gesture towards the Muslims, that is so popular that even the so called "Liberal Muslims" are using



it to demean their contemporaries.

My Dear Listeners! It must be clear that as far as belief goes, there is absolutely no allowance or discounting that can be permitted. The Quran explicitly ordains us to enter completely into the folds of Deen.

# يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا ادْخُلُوا فِي السِّلْمِ كَافَّةً

O ye who believe! Come, all of you, into submission (unto Him). (Baqarah:208)

This is a clear message to the Muslims to be cautious in their association with people of other religions. There is no harm in doing business dealings or interacting socially with people of other faiths but when it comes to your Deen, you have to be wary that there should be absolutely no influence of these people over what has been ordained on you by the Quran and the Sunnah

Allah says:

O ye who believe! Take not the Jews and the Christians for friends. They are friends one to another. He among you who taketh them for friends is (one) of them. Lo! Allah guideth not wrongdoing folk. (Maida:51)

### Islam is not Inclusive to Kufr

Islam and Kufr are poles apart . They are completely opposite to each other in their existence. It cannot be that one worships statues and also claims to believe in Monotheism. Similarly it cannot be that one embraces a New Prophet and at the same time upholds that Nabi is the last Messenger of Allah. It is unacceptable that one disbelieves in the five pillars of Islam and claims to be a Muslim.



How can we allow this hypocrisy in our lives?

How can we merge the culture, lifestyle, customs and traditions of other religions and ideologies into our own lives and then claim to be Muslims? It is a totally disjointed equation. Islam is pure; it does not allow mergers and borrowed ideas to penetrate into its teachings.

The West has propagated the concept of Inclusivity in a very conniving fashion. The colonial past that the World has gone through is conflicting to this approach of "Inclusivity" that is now being preached by the West. Clearly it is aiming to rob many of their religious and cultural identity .Freedom of expression is being advertised as a product of immoral life choices, how can this be appealing to the People of Faith?

It is truly a misleading and a false thesis that is being propagated.

## You are not a Fanatic if you follow your religion

It is a requirement that as a follower of Deen, you are devoted to embrace every commandment that it contains. And that does not and should not classify you as an extremist or a bigot. The word of Allah teaches us dignity and the religion that Allah has sent for us teaches us modesty and respectability.

A Muslim man wants to see his mother his sister and his daughter carry themselves with modesty. This is what the teaching of the Quran ordains him to abide by. As a leader of the household the Muslim man should protect himself and his family members from the vices and ways of the Non Believers.

Allah says in the Quran:

يْأَيُّهَا الَّذِيْنَ اٰمَنُوۡا لَا تَتَّخِذُوا الَّذِيْنَ اتَّخَذُوۤا دِيۡنَكُمُ هُزُوًا وَّلَعِبًا



O Ye who believe! Choose not for guardians such of those who received the Scripture before you, and of the disbelievers, as make a jest and sport of your religion. (Maida:57)

Oh Muslims! Be mindful of those who are manipulating you and your Deen, who are guilty of scheming ways that deviate you from the path prescribed to you by Allah and his Nabi to a path that will lead you to become a laughing stock in this world.

Allah says in the Quran:

O ye who believe! Take not the Jews and the Christians for friends. They are friends one to another. He among you who taketh them for friends is (one) of them. (Maida:51)

The disbelieves are One. Their mindset towards you is One. If you befriend them to an extent that they start influencing your Deen than surely you will be counted as though you are amongst them. Allah has said clearly in the Quran that those who are true believers will never allow any friendship or acquaintance that influences their Deen and their Imaan.

Allah says:

لَا تَجِدُ قَوُمًا يُّؤُمِنُونَ بِاللَّهِ وَالْيَوْمِ الْاخِرِ يُوَآدُّوْنَ مَنْ حَآدَّ اللَّهَ وَرَسُولَهُ وَلَوْ كَانُوْا اٰبَآءَهُمُ اَوْ اَبْنَآءَهُمْ اَوْ اِخْوَانَهُمْ اَوْ عَشِيْرَتَهُمْ اُولَٰبِكَ كَتَبَ فِى قُلُوْبِمُ الْإِيْمَانَ وَاَيَّدَهُمْ بِرُوْحٍ مِّنْهُ

Thou wilt not find folk who believe in Allah and the Last Day loving those who oppose Allah and His messenger, even though they be their fathers or their sons or their brethren or their clan. As for such, He hath written faith upon their hearts and hath strengthened them with a



### Spirit from Him (Mujadila:22)

The purest believers are those who have drawn a sharp boundary around themselves and they protect their Imaan with high vigilance. They do not allow anyone not even their own kith and kin to influence them incase that causes them to deviate from the path of Allah.

Allah praises such believers and says that surely they are the ones in whose hearts Allah has secured Imaan and these are the purest type of believers.

## Islam has its own Unique Culture

Allah has revealed Islam to us as a "Complete way of Life". Islam is unique in its identity. It has its own distinct ways and celebrations. The celebrations of our Deen encompass worldly emotional happiness and fulfillment as well as success of the hereafter.

A Muslim is instructed to dress well on both the Eids, Eid ul Adha as well as Eid ul Fitr. The Muslims are advised to partake of good meals on these occasions. These celebrations along with the prescribed rituals that are performed on these days ensure success in the Hereafter along with worldly rejoicing.

Similarly the day of Jummah is like the day of Eid. A few moments in Salah, standing in the Court of Allah confirm glad tidings in the hereafter.

It is narrated in a Hadith that there is a moment in the blessed day of Jummah(Friday) in which Allah confirms acceptance of the Dua of a Believer. Every single Believer has glad tidings of this great opportunity and he should seek from Allah and get his wishes granted with blessing and Rahmat from Allah.

## The Hour of acceptance

Scholars of Quran and Hadith are unanimous in their opinion



about the hour of acceptance as being the time after Asr salah on the day of Jummah (Friday) They are also of the opinion that this time ends close to the time before the Azaan of Maghrib. This is the time when Allah does not refuse the dua of the believers.

### The Weakness of the Muslims

The state of affairs of the Muslims of todays is such that they have no command and control over the education system that is being followed in their society. The environment of the schools, colleges and universities are replicating and adapting from non-Muslim societies. A Muslim child is deprived of a holistic Muslim environment. An environment that supports the teachings of Deen to its fullest. One that allows the students to learn the ropes of Deen in daily routine so that they are engraved and engrained in their lives.

In the absence of a strong foundation the Muslims of today are going through an identity crisis and hence they are mere followers of anything and everything that is thrown their way. Any and every event, occasion and ritual is being blindly followed. Amongst such, some of the more common ones are Valentine's Day, Basant, Friendship day and Birthdays.

## **Background of Valentine's Day**

Valentine's Day has its origin with the idol worshippers of Ancient Rome. Most of the Christian practices have their roots in the ways of the idolaters of Ancient Rome. It is under stood that in those ancient times unmarried girls would write love letters and cast them in a jar. The letters would be drawn out by random young men and this would allow them to a chance of courtship with no obligation of marriage with the lady who had written the letter. This custom went out to become a part of Christianity and somehow attached itself to



the Christian Leader, Saint Valentine.

According to the Webster's family encyclopedia Saint Valentine has no authentic relation to this celebration that has become popular with his name. Islam is extremely straight forward with its ideologies. It leaves no gray areas and anomalies. Adaptation of practices of the Non-believers are seriously forbidden. This includes being a part of any such celebrations. Islam requires its believers to be mindful that indulgence in such affairs will lead to them to get astray from the path prescribed to them and gain the pleasure of Allah.

Allah says in the Quran:

But if they had set up (for worship) aught beside Him, (all) that they did would have been vain. (An-aam:88)

Those who go against the monotheist ideology have gained nothing but the Wrath of Allah. As such anyone who follows the ways of the wrong doers, Allah will not allow them to enter Paradise. The idea that is being used to promote Valentines Day is against the ethics of a Islamic Ideology because a Muslim lady cannot be convinced to celebrate an occasion that originates from shamelessness and immorality.

The West focuses on introducing newer trends into the Eastern and Islamic values. These vices are penetrated slowly in the society and then the acceptability is taken to a level where they become second nature and a harmless norm in the society such that all other fundamental practices, values and customs are ignored and sidelined.

### The most notable Trait of Islamic Culture

The most notable trait of Islamic culture is "Modesty" Nabi





# إِنَّ لِكُلِّ دِينِ خُلُقًا، وَخُلُقُ الْإِسْلَامِ الْحَيَاءُ

Every religion has its distinct characteristic, and the distinct characteristic of Islam is modesty.

The word Haya (modesty) in Arabic comes from the root word "Hayat" which means "Life" and so this clearly is indicative that a Muslim's life should resolve around the approach of 'Modesty". Immorality will only lead to an ultimate loss of a Muslim.

### Refrain from the celebrations of the disbelievers

There is a grave risk that a Muslim puts himself into when he celebrates as the Non Believers. There is a risk of one losing his Iman and so the Quran and the Hadith of Nabi clearly warn against replicating the actions of the disbelievers.

Sadly the youth of today is very influenced by the West and everywhere, whether it be schools, colleges or offices you will find them trying to compete with one another in adapting borrowed western ideas and trends. The media of today is guilty of sensationalizing the emotions of the youth as well as de-railing them off their religion and making them embrace immorality and immodesty.

Furthermore misuse of social media and cellphones has further contributed to the widespread menace of dating, extra marital affairs, promiscuity and shamelessness in our society. Valentines Day celebrations are now an accepted feature in our malls, restaurants and other public venues. It is a common sight to see the young and old, rich and the middle class, all rejoicing in red on the 14th of February.

Allah says in the Quran:

# الشَّيْطْنُ يَعِدُكُمُ الْفَقْرَ وَيَاْمُرُكُمْ بِالْفَحْشَاءِ

The devil promiseth you destitution and enjoineth on you



#### lewdness. (Baqarah: 268)

Oh Muslims of today! Wake, up, wake up and see that the path that you are treading on is completely contradictory to the ruling of your Deen. Be mindful! This seemingly insignificant incorporation of foreign culture can overtime risk you and your children to tread in a totally opposite direction.

A direction that is completely contrary to that prescribed by Allah and the one that his Nabi described as the path to success. Beware and safe guard yourself and your progeny. It could be that you wake up only when its too late and you have reached a point of no return. Maybe you dismiss this entirely as a innocent celebration of love and affection. And if that happens then surely it is a grave loss and the consequences are unimaginable.

### Islam covers love in a bigger spectrum

Islam is very inclusive to the emotion of love. It recognizes the importance of this emotion as being an integral part of a humans nature and existence.

Islam has never discouraged its believers from expressing this emotion of love rather it has laid down guidelines and parameters that are relevant and adhering to its ideology and ethics.

## **Expressing Love in the Islamic way**

Islam ordains its followers to love Allah, love Nabi and then guides the believer to love his parents, his spouse, his children, love the pious and God fearing people.

Islam encourages its followers to display love to the rightful association. This love is to be demonstrated in the form of respect, honor and esteem at all times. This is completely contradictory to the ideology behind Valentines day that is a



once a year celebration of love. This celebration has given a very commercial feel to the emotion of love. One give gifts on a prescribed day and expect gifts in return.

The essence of love which lies in practicing and expressing care for your loved ones is lost. You can feel exceptionally good about yourself after visiting your parents who are in the old age home once a year on Valentines day or Parents Day.

You can walk out of there feeling accomplished and fair towards your relations. Sadly our society today has forgotten the difference between lust and love and today one can be in utmost agony while he is in love only because if that love is beyond the boundaries prescribed and endorsed by the shariah.

Islam has motivated the spouses to celebrate their love every single day to do actions that enhance the fondness and adoration for one another.

Islam guides the children to demonstrate their love for their parents every single day such that the parents respond by lifting their hands in Dua for them. Islam propagates love in all aspects of our lives however within the prescribed boundaries one will come across very convincing justification that rationalize this celebration and portray it as a totally harmless day to exchange gifts and have fun.

This claim is completely unsubstantiated and baseless. The reality is that the origin of a trend is extremely crucial. The West with all its marketing tactics promoting Valentine's day is itself the worst example of a society that upholds the Value and Worth of love.

# **Trends of Today**

It is generally believed that courtship and bonding before marriage guarantees success in the married life. However the surveys and statistics in this regard show a totally different



view and finding. I have seen the results of such a survey that was conducted by a Cairo based company. The result of this worldwide survey show only a 12% success rate of marriages consummated after courtship and the majority 88% is failure of such marriages. The same company has given a success rate of 76% to arranged marriages.

Something to ponder upon. Countries where people have absorbed the most liberal form of courtship are the most pitiable when it comes to their ranking in the success rate of marriage. In fact a great majority of people in these countries fear "Getting Married" and prefer to stay as "Partners" in order to achieve the convenience of stepping out in case the relationship does not work. This shows lack of commitment from the onset and so love in this time and age is only glorified moments surrounded by great looks, gifts, holidays and pleasantries and in case all of of that goes, so does love. The equation of standing through thick and thin no longer comes under the Banner of Love.

A survey conducted in France shows that 10 million women suffer abuse from their husbands or partners and four thousand out of these 10 million die every year because of this abuse. It is critical to understand that our society is being steered in a direction that is totally contradictory to our beliefs.

Allah says in the Quran:

and Satan maketh their works fairseeming unto them. (Namal:24)

## Deceit and deception draped in a beautiful garment

We have to be very alert and mindful what lies under this glamorous package that boasts empowerment,



entertainment and happiness. Alas if only a reality check is taken, we realise that what is being portrayed is completely opposite to the actual scene. The result of these trends is majorly nothing but disaster, broken homes ,loss of value, immorality and shameless behavior, displaced children and loss of virtue and honor.

It has a detrimental impact on the family structure. The root cause of a majority of broken homes and relations lies predominantly in a member guilty of immorality.

### **Abstinence from western customs & traditions**

Alhumdulillah, we are blessed with Imaan. It is important to realize that as Muslims we have our own characteristics and features. We have to be extremely mindful and sensitive to protect our lifestyle from being contaminated by other ideologies. We have to be careful to such an extent that we must refrain from attending gatherings that promote these foriegn ideas.

Nabi مَا اللهُ ال

# مَنْ تَشَبَّهَ بِقَوْمٍ فَهُوَ مِنْهُمْ

He who imitates any people (in their actions) is considered to be one of them. (Mishkat)

# It is Haraam to wish each other on Valentine's Day

As a Muslim you will never appreciate the choices of an alcoholic nor will you pat the back of an adulterer, similarly you are forbidden to wish anyone on Valentine's Day as this is a pagan celebration. A Muslim cannot endorse this as doing so will risk his own belief and faith in the commandments laid by Allah and his Nabi

# Believers should uphold the Shariah

Allah describes the People of Faith as those who refrain



from gatherings that displease Allah. The Quran says:

# وَالَّذِيْنَ لَا يَشْهَدُوْنَ الزُّوْرُ

And those who will not witness vanity. (Furgan:72)

Clearly taking part in celebrations that conflict with our Deen puts our Imaan at a great risk. It is our obligation that we protect our society, our homes, our progeny by highlighting events as "impermissible". This will secure our social practices from contamination.

However the sad reality is that we have put down our defense. We have shown the opposition that we are so gullible and permeable that we have absolutely no control over what enters into our system.

Dear Friends! Our religion Islam is at risk. For the sake of protecting this great religion from extinction we have to revive our energies and our efforts in order to secure our Deen so that it reaches our generations.

Remember you are responsible and answerable for the Imaan of your child .ls Imaan so insignificant that you will allow your child to experiment with it? If so, do you realize what a grave risk you are putting your children AND yourself into?

You are not a guaranteed Muslim only if you have recited the Kalimah. For the Imaan to stay intact a bigger commitment is required. And that involves continuous challenges that one has to take throughout one's life to ensure that the Faith stays secure. In fact Nabi once told his Sahaba that a time will come when people from my Ummah will imitate others. So much so that if they see others commit fornication with their mother, this group from my people will follow suit. And they will even follow the wrong doers into the burrow of a reptile. (Indicating mindless following)

The Sahabah enquired "Oh Prophet of Allah by them do you mean the Jews and the Christians to which



the Prophet رَوَّ replied" who else". Meaning that the Muslims will tread the heel of these nations.

Look around us today, what is the general approach? People who accept foreign ideologies and trends are complimented as being liberal, inclusive and forward thinkers and they see monetary growth and progress faster than those who show resistance to adapting these traits.

One who dares to LOOK and SOUND Muslim faces challenges ranging from acceptability to workability to general association at large.

So clearly the so called Liberal approach of being INCLUSIVE TO DIVERSITY is nothing but hypocritical and counterfeit.

### Islam is liberal and progressive

Islam is anything but Narrow Minded and Intolerant. It is Most Upright and Honorable and it does not compromise on morality and chastity. It also does not give any concessions in its individuality and identity. All doctrines, principles and beliefs regarding every dimension of its existence are well defined in an explicit manner leaving no room for addition, confusion and doubt. At this critical time when our religion is at a risk of infiltration of new ideologies and distractions, we need to remain steadfast to our beliefs so that we can puncture the movement of destabilization.

### **Donot assist Forbidden Activities**

:says مُبُعَامُ وتَعَاثَىٰ Allah

Help not one another unto sin and transgression. (Maida:2)

Remember, the smallest form of contribution towards a transgression is considered a sin. In this case if one invests



in an inventory of Valentine Day supplies like red clothes and red roses than this is also considered as aiding the vice.

The sad reality is that the Muslims of today are focusing on the capital gain from these forbidden activities. This commercial avenue is more appealing to them than the pleasure of their Creator.

Man today is only focused on his worldly gains and is completely overlooking the reality that his participation is towards a movement that will destabilize the Imaan of many, will result in a lot of social vice, profanity and lewdness.

And so My Dear Muslims, Instill in your children the recognition and significance of your own culture and celebrations.

If your children have swayed away than strive to revive the worth of the Commands of Allah in their hearts and minds. Previously if a Muslim wronged he used to feel remorse and guilt. That sentiment is completely lost. Today's Muslim is so casual in doing sin and there is no fear in their heart of the Wrath of Allah that this may cause.

Allah says in the Quran:

# فَمَا آصُبَرَهُمْ عَلَى النَّارِ

How constant are they in their strife to reach the Fire! (Bagarah:175)

Allah says that they are so daring that the punishment of the fire doesn't even give them any worry. How can one be so unperturbed knowingly that one is headed towards hell?

They are unmindful of the grave danger that they are putting their entire household into. The repercussions of allowing sin into ones houses is most definitely going to result in an unfavorable outcome down the road.

It can result in loss of cordiality in relations, loss of love and harmony as well as loss in barakah and peace. How can one be so careless? How can one be so ignorant and daring?



How can you outlay all your blessings? How can you risk losing your spouse's love, sincerity and trust, how you can gamble on the piety and discipline of your children? The wealth and prosperity of your own household? Know well that sin is the robber of peace and prosperity of a household and should not be taken with a grain of salt.

Unfortunately the Muslim of today is unmindful and ignorant of the teachings of Nabi He cannot foresee the jeopardy towards which he is leading his life when he allows himself and his family to drift away from the lifestyle prescribed by the Quran and Sunnah.

It is as though he has laid his whole wealth out in the open and become an easy target and prey.

Our Prophet has taught us a very beautiful dua that we should recite when we are enjoy the blessings bestowed on us by our Creator.

Be it a meal that you are eating or any other comfort that we are enjoying. This dua is a perfect acknowledgment, a way of expressing gratitude towards our Rabb.

# ٱلْحَمْدُلِلَّهِ الَّذِيْ اَطْعَمَناً وَسَقَانَا وَكَفَانَا وَ أَوَانَا وَجَعَلَنَا مِنَ الْمُسْلِمِيْنَ

We must be grateful to Allah for blessing us with Imaan, for bestowing us with celebrations that add value to our afterlife as well as give us happiness in this world. All praise is due to Allah who blessed us with a complete way of life and gave us guidelines for our thoughts, feelings and actions.

### **Our Weakness**

The fault lies in the fact that we have incorporated means of western influence in our homes and lives. The media that makes foreign culture easily accessible for our viewing is at our finger tips. Further the influence that our children take from the school environment cannot be ignored. Therefore it



is correct to say that the transition towards western opinions and morals is not a process that is happening on its own. Rather we are responsible for it to be continually seeping into our system from sources that we have knowingly allowed in our lives.

The truth of the matter is that easy access to information is a convenience that has put us and our children at much risk. The newest trends and traits are available at a click of a button.

The mindset is being eroded bit by bit, very progressively and the focus is primarily on altering the attitude from Islamic Values of modesty, ambitions, attitude, mentality and behavior.

The commercial ideologies are successively implanted and conformity to the western ideologies is demanded. This is successfully done by instilling fear in the youth that non-conformity will result in worldly loss.

Loss in stature, position and most importantly financial gains and so the Muslim child, youth and adult of today is scared to appear Muslim.Let alone being hesitant about Islamic appearance they do not want to even sound Islamic in their opinion.

It has come to this critical position that there is now a serious need to extract our Muslims brethren from this inferiority complex that is crushing their very identity and existence . An indication of the seriousness of the situation can be taken from the fact that a Muslim lady today is reluctant to adorn herself in layers of garments that protect her from lustful gazes and she would rather strip these garments off and dress herself skimply and in accordance to Western Style. Sadly she believes that she has liberated herself. Nabi had foreseen this and had predicted this time and said that a time would come when a women though clothed will be naked and nude.(Muslim)



The Sahaba could not comprehended how that would be possible but because it was said by Nabi they accepted his word. This Hadith has become a reality today. Form fitted ,revealing, torn and skimpy clothes worn today are robbing the wearer of chastity and grace and are simply projecting them as sexual objects and tools of enjoyment and abuse.

# Make a boundary around yourself

Western ideologies and trends have resulted in nothing but a shattering of their own family structure and standing. They are completely lost when it comes to the sanctity of relations. Men and Women are mere objects. No longer is a woman, a mother and daughter or a sister. She is no longer one who needs to be protected and safeguarded from the desires and fantasies of those who see them. So My Dear Muslims wake up! Make a boundary around your lives and do not allow penetration of this curse of modernization into your homes and society.

## The Image of a woman in Islam

Alhumdullilah, Islam has placed the ladies on a very high pedestal. As a sister, a daughter, a mother and a wife all are given their due respect and position in our Deen. Islam has explicitly outlined how every relation is to be valued and nurtured. Contamination of these with western ideas will lead to a crumbling of their beautiful status.

### Do not be Complacent when it comes to your Imaan

My Dear Muslims when it comes to your Imaan, you have to be on guard at all times. There is absolutely no intelligence in leaving your Imaan out in the open. That could result in irreplaceable loss.





Nabi has said that it is the quality of a momin that he does not allow himself to suffer from the same source twice. But what is our state today?

How many times do we hurt ourselves and then knowingly resort to those harmful and un prescribed ways. It is very important to repent on our past folly's and be attentive on each and every stride that we take in life ensuring that it is in accordance with Islam.

Nabi وَاللَّهُ عَلَيْهُ has Said:

## الندم توبة

## Regret is repentance

To repent on your past sins is what Tauba is. Feel remorseful and sorry for any vice committed in the past. Pledge to Allah that you will be more mindful going forward. Promise Him that you will be more intolerant towards external ideas, more sensitive about your Deen and Imaan.

Each one of us are obligated to comply as we all have a standing in the society. InshaAllah with the correct intention from our side and assistance from Allah, we will definitely make a positive impact and be participants and contributors in safeguarding this Deen.

May Allah bless one and all the ability to practice on the guidelines that are received.



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