Chapter VII

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A) Humanism in Islam

In Islam Humanism is given importance for goodness, humans moral codes are bound to the freedom of choice and the active assumption of responsibilities that ensue from such codes. This understanding of human purpose and potential reflected in a pervasive Quranic concepts, that moral codes where the subject of this activity, the human being, is referred to as the belief, the moral codes. This Quranic concepts provides the spiritual basis for understanding moral action in Islam. In these concepts, each individual as well as societies are responsible for the realization of a just and moral social order in harmony with God's will. In Islam, one's moral act is inseparable to a right relationship with God.

"Those who, if we establish them in the land, will keep up prayer and pay the poor-rate and enjoin good and forbid evil. And Allah is end of affairs"1
This attempt to externalise the goodness and piety is very significant in Islam. It means that religious piety serves its true end when it is calculated to transform the human world. To flee from the social order, and take up the solitary life is no virtue in Islam. To be sure a Muslim stands in the presence of God as an individual, but he is never isolated from other man. The distress which vexes is not his own only; it is that of his brethren as well; the salvation for which he longs can be attained when he paves the way for the salvation of his fellow believers, nay, that of entire humanity; the values, standards, and tasks which he, in his religious devotion, learns to recognize as an inescapable necessity, are seen to be duties not for him only but for all men.2

Islam taught all men are equal, whatever be their colour, language, race, or nationality. Islam addresses itself to the conscience of humanity and condemns all false barriers of race, status and wealth. There can be no denying the reality of such barriers have been always present and be present till today.
Prophet Mohammad Said “All Creatures of God from the family of God and he is the best loved of God who loveth best His creatures. O lord ! Lord of my life and of everything in the universe ! I affirm that all human beings are brothers to one another. Respect God and be affectionate to the family of God.”

Your slaves are your brethren, Allah has placed them under your control; so whoever has his brother under his control, he should feed him from what he eats and should give him clothes to wear from what he wears; and do not impose on them a task which should overpower them; and if you do impose on them such a task, them help them in the doing of it.

Islam itself means liberation, this liberation means all sorts of human kind, whether it is economical or social bondage of human kind. Slavery such as may occupy the development of humanity or may not allow it to follow the way of virtue and good. It means human’s freedom from dictators who enslave him by force or power, make him do what is wrong and deprive him of his dignity, honour,
property or life. Islam liberates human from such practice by telling him that all authority vests in God and God alone; He alone is the real sovereign. All men are his subjects and as such He alone controls their destinies, none of them having the power to cause any benefit or avert any distress from his own self-independent of the Divine will. All men shall be presented before him on the day of Judgement to account for their performance in this life. Thus Islam brings to man freedom from fear or oppression inflicted on him by men like himself and who, in reality, are as helpless as he is and who are no less subject to the will of God almighty than he himself is.

The Modern world is suffering with desire of wealth inequality of human being, unfaithful and immoral behaviours of humankind. Islamic concepts of charity, liberation of slave and equality are to solve the present problems of human being. Islam imposes these concepts on human being for the well being of all even liberation of slave concept is advocated fourteen hundred years ago, but till today this problem is not solved. These Islamic concepts are
most necessary for the modern world to carry towards peace, harmony and equality of human being.

B) Secularism and Islam

Islamic concepts advised to show kindness and love on humankind as well as animal, and make justice with every human kind and animal. In India Muslims are adopted some cultural practices of Hindus, and Hindus adopted Muslims cultural practices, but these practices does not break the law of Islam.

The modern world need Secularism which provides humanity and peace, because Modern world suffering with conflict of cultural and caste systems of world. Where as Islam has restricted on Idol worship, but Muslim have to preserve Islam and its principles and give importance to other aspects of Islam viz, charity, Justice and Equality and perform our secularism with these aspects.

Islam says that Adam and Hawa are first Man and woman in this world, Christianity agree with this principle, but Hinduism says that Manu was the first person of this world and other religions mention other names as the first
person according to their religious belief. If we are believers of Islam or real believer of Hinduism or any other religion, ultimately we all are children of same parents. Here the modern world needs real believers of religion, whether Islam or any other religion, but we are not following the reality of religion and we are only talking about religion's concepts but not following the practice of religion and fighting unnecessarily in the name of religion. The Modern World needs peace and harmony, to provide these, all human beings should believe and follow the reality of religions and good qualities of religions and develop secularism with these qualities and create, peace and harmony in the world. Today it is estimated that about one third of the Muslims are minorities in the countries they live in. Under normal circumstances, where the majority of the population in a given country are Muslims, it is the duty of Muslims to endeavour to establish Islam in their lives at individual and collective levels, at society and state levels. However, as minority, the best option for a Muslim community, in the opinion of leading Islamic scholars of today, would be to work towards the establishment of a secular democratic
government that will respect human rights and guarantee security and freedom of expression and belief.  

Prophet Muhammad said "Mankind is a fold, every member of which shall be a keeper or shepherd unto every other, and be accountable for the welfare of the entire fold. O Lord : Lord of my life and of everything in Universe! I affirm that all human beings are brothers unto one another. All creature of God from the family of God; and he is the best loved of God who loves best His creatures. Respect the ways of God and be affectionate to the family of God." You will find all believers in God as firm and united together in ties of love and kindness as the limbs of a body. If one part of it gets pain, all other part feel afflicted in sympathy." "Whoever loves another for the sake of God, in reality has expressed his love for God. God says: If you wish to receive graciousness from Me, Show graciousness to those whom I have created. Treat kindly the dwellers of the earth and God with treat you kindly. He who, for the sake of God, has loved another human being, that person verily has extolled the glory of God." These teachings of Prophet Mohammad shows Islam's University of human kind, Unity of Humanity and love other
for the sake of God. These teachings direct human kind to love each other for sake of God, all creature are created by God for the humankind, all human kind have a equal right to enjoy it and all humankind is a family of God. It shows Islam's attitude towards secularism.

Quran says: O ye messengers, eat of the good things and do good. Surely I am knower of what you do. And surely this your community is one community, and I am your Lord, so keep your duty to Me. But they become divided into sects, each party rejoicing in that which was with them."9 Further Quran reveal the message of unity, that which every Muslim is, duty bond to fulfill to the best of his ability and says" "Mankind is a single nation"10 and in form us "O mankind, surely we have created you from a male and female, and made you tribes and families that you may know each other. Surely the noblest of you with Allah is the most dutiful of you. Surely Allah is knowing, Aware."11 As a result, we are commanded "And hold ye fast, all of you, to the rope of Allah and break not loose from it."12
Islam does not permit additions or amendments, to Islamic law, the conflict between theory and practice was already there and most of the Islamic law were largely substituted by the cultural and social practice of particular place and age. The modern world need today unity not only on the territory but also human being, without much difference of opinion and conflict. Religion should place emphasis on devotion to God, purity, and faithful way of life, but it is left on human kind whatever he may choose as per his well being.
References:

1. The Quran 22:41


3. Hadith


6. Bases of Islamic culture, P.16-17

7. Ibid. Pp. 6-17

8. Ibid. Pp. 20-21

9. The Quran (23:51-53)

10. The Quran (2:213)

11. The Quran (49:13)

12. The Quran (3:103)