A Comparative Review of Non-Islamic Effects on the Islamic Culture and Civilization

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Abstract:

The Islamic culture and its civilization are not only significant but also unique if we compare them with other cultures and civilizations of this world, because of its rules, thoughts and system.The personality of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) is a great symbol for human beings to learn good deeds and procedures of life.It has the cultural aspect too, which covers the ideological, mental and practical matters simultaneously.Such combination is hardly present in any other civilization or culture of the global world.The morality, good conduct, prevention from sinful acts, spending a pleasant life, brotherhood, equality, justice in society, simplicity, cleanliness, peace and harmony and basic rights etc have been introduced through the Islamic teachings to the society.The Islamic teachings promote the Islamic culture among the people to identify the best way of life here and hereafter too.Which is not possible without the religion, because there is a great association between religion and culture.Simply we can say that the religion affects all the ways of life that revolve in the society.However, the western concept highlights the religion everyone's personal matter, which does not affect the civilization and culture.Due to various technological equipments/advance devices, the non-Islamic thoughts are spreading in the Muslim society rapidly, and produces a miserable condition for Muslim Ummah that dilute the Islamic civilization and culture.Initially, the Islamic economy, politics and trade were getting affected, but now it is gradually spending towards the psyche of Muslims.This change in thoughts is disturbing and weakens the roots of Islamic culture.The aim of this draft is to highlight the Islamic culture and civilization in detail and the factors from other societies that influence the Islamic culture.

Keywords: Islamic culture and civilization, Morality, |Good conduct, Prevention from
sinful acts, Non-Islamic effects

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1.Introduction:

The word culture is used in its real meaning to rectify the thoughts and habits of human beings.In reality, the culture is a reflection of civilized life.The different affairs of society depend on culture and its civilization, such as the modification of customs & traditions, social matters, economic issues and political affairs etc.We can say that the culture is a compilation of different words, for instance, intellectual development, cultivation, purification, education, cleanness and improvement.Each nation is recognized from its culture and civilization.The culture moves from one race (elders) in another race (younger).Islamic culture is different than other non-Islamic culture.We can easily recognize the differences between them.The Islamic culture is a reflection of Islamic teachings and the instructions had been given regarding it by the Holy Prophet (PBUH) fourteen centuries ago.Hadrat Muhammad (PBUH) founded the best society in pagan Arabia, in which the Islamic culture was implemented, which base was on equality, brotherhood, justice, harmony, tranquility and peace.The aim of this draft is to highlight the Islamic culture and civilization and those effects, which came from the non-Islamic culture and which made the reasons for effecting the Islamic culture.There are some sections of this draft, which have been explained to make clear the aim of this article.In first and second parts, the introduction and literature review have been elucidated, whereas, the third, fourth and fifth parts of this draft are consisted on research methodology, analysis of the problem and suggestions and recommendations and in last, the conclusion has been given.

2.Literature Review:

This draft is very important for its title.Therefore, many literatures (materials) have been studied regarding this paper.As well as, the language of the summary of this draft is simple and easy.Which has been made it understandable and simple for researchers and readers."Islam and the West (Specific Study of Dr ghazi's Thoughts)", it is an article.Its writers are dr.Abdul Qadir Bazdar and Muhammad Anas Hassan.This is a useful article regarding this draft.The different issues have been discussed in it.Which made it more valuable for getting information (1)."Amadul Hassan Azad Faroqi" is a famous writer in the world of writing.He has written the book on "Islamic Culture and Civilization", which is a hot and important topic regarding the contemporary period.He has used easy

language in his book and has discussed all the issues and matters in a deep way (2)."Islamic Culture and Civilization" is another eminent book for its title."Moulana Qari Muhammad Tayyab" has written this book.The writer has used a very soft way of language, which has been made it very easy and simple for researchers and readers.It can be said that every matter has been discussed deeply in this book, which increases its quality for readers (3)."Muhammad Sohail Bhatti", is a writer of book entitled "Political & Cultural History of Islam".This is a well-known and informative book.In which, the Islamic culture and politics have been elucidated in detail.Moreover, the writer has used easy way for writing.Due to which, this book has made an interesting book for its readers (4).Amadul Hassan Azad Faroqi is a famous writer.He has described different cultures in his book, such as Sumairi, Misri, Unani, Irani, Rumi,Sasani and Bazantini etc.This book is a collection of knowledge.It is consisted of eleven chapters and each chapter has been explained in detail (5).The above material shows that a lot of resources in the form of books, research papers, newspapers and dissertations are available in different libraries.Which can be used in making this article.Whereas, there is no any kind of research paper, book or newspaper on the theme of "the review of non-Islamic effects on the Islamic culture and civilization", this research work will be an important work in specific scenario regarding its title.

3.Research Methodology:

The base of this study is on descriptive research.Different methods have been used to collect the materials, as; books, journals, magazines, research articles, research dissertation, newspapers, questioners and different reports.As well as, the different links of websites have also been studied to make this draft.The different libraries as, SBBWU, Peshawar, University of Peshawar, Archive library Peshawar and the University of Karachi have been visited to collect the materials.According to need, the primary and secondary both sources have been used to explain the summary of this paper.

4.Analysis of the Problem:

The review of non-Islamic effects on the Islamic culture and civilization is the most important theme for its valuable points.Therefore, all the outlines of this paper have been explained in an easy and simple way of writing.For this purpose, all the materials were gathered from different sources, such as libraries, books, articles, newspapers and the

internet etc.The purpose of this article is to review the non-Islamic effects on the Islamic culture and civilization.The explainable points of this draft are given below:

4.1.The Western Culture:

This is a reality that the western culture is different than Islamic culture.The western people like the artificial glamour of this world and they spend their lives in it.They have not any concept regarding the punishment and reward in hereafter life.They believe that the worldly life is a real life, which has been made for them and as well as, it is a gift.Therefore, they want to enjoy everything of this world, which is present in this globe.Consequently, they have adopted sinful activities as drinking bear, committing sexual intercourse without marriage, having several girlfriends and boyfriends etc.They go to club to perform the dance.They do not give respect to their elders (old age people), they admit them in old houses, Where nobody cares for them (6).

The moral ethics such as; justice, equality, brotherhood, honour, simplicity, cleanliness, peace, harmony and basic rights of women etc are not promoted in the western societies.People spend their lives like machine.The women are not given respect as a mother, sister, wife and daughter.She is considered a show piece and performs dance in front of several people to gratify them.The concept of haraam (unlawful) and halal (lawful) is not present in the west, consequently the gambling, interest, robbery and illegal sexual intercourse etc, such evil acts are encouraged in the western societies on the name of business.This is the west, in which the immoral ethics are appreciated and people want to spend their lives according to these immoral activities.Which is called the modernism, in the language of the west (7).

4.2.**The Culture of Pagan Arabia:**

If, we turn the pages of history before the advent of Islam, then many incidences come before us.In the days of ignorance, the pagan Arab spent their lives like animals, they did not know about the civilized life.They considered a woman less than insects.She was deprived of her basic rights, as marital, social, economic and political etc.After the birth of a girl, she was buried alive in the dust (8).A man was considered superior to a woman in society, she was a source only to give birth to the children.A man had several wives more than hundred at a time, whereas, a woman had no right to select a life partner.She was not given any part from inheritance.The ownership of wealth or inheritance was

given only to a man, in the sight of ignorant Arab, he was deserved for it, because, he took a part in battles and lifted the weapons to save the lives of his clan (9).

The murder, inequality, injustice, the trade of interest, riba, illegal sexual intercourse and robbery were common in dark age.They had awful behaviour with slaves.They worshipped idols.They kept three hundred and sixty idols in Khana-e- Kabah (The hose of Allah (SWT)).They did not give respect to elders (old age people).Humanity was overwhelmed.The life of a human was not expensive and on a little mistake, a person was killed.The wealth, blood and honour were not saved of anyone, before the dawn of Islam.This was an ignorant society of Arab.On which, the pagan Arab felt proud (10).

4.3.The Islamic Culture and Civilization:

Islam is a religion of peace and harmony.Allah (SWT) chose this religion for human beings and the Holy Prophet (PBUH) was sent as the last messenger of Allah (SWT) to this world.He preached to people regarding the Islamic teachings and founded the best culture, which was depended on Islamic teachings.this was a great work for humanity, which was done by Hadrat Muhammad (PBUH) in the period of dark ages (Jahiliya).The Islamic culture is different from other cultures.Its base is on specific principles, which completion is necessary to set an Islamic and peaceful environment in the society.The first principle of the Islamic culture is that Allah (SWT) is alone, He made this entire world for human beings and He sent many messengers to this world, among which, Muhammad (PBUH) is the last messenger of Allah (SWT).That will believe in them, he will be entered in Islam and he will be recognized as a Muslim.All system of this world is in the hand of Allah (SWT).He is alone and no one is supported Him.He is a lord of all the living and non-living things, which are present in this world, skies and hereafter.Islam is the best religion and Quran is the best book for the Muslim communities, because these both are the real things, which call the people towards the right path (righteousness).Islamic teachings remove all the differences of colour, caste and race and give equal position to everyone.In Islam, there is no superiority on the base of wealth or status, if it is then it is only on the base of virtuous (11).Allah (SWT) says that "The believers indeed are brothers" (12).Another place the Holy Quran states that " Surely the noblest among you in the sight of God is the most god-fearing of you" (13).The best man or woman is that from whose hand and tongue other are save.Here a hadith is quoted that

"Abu Musa Al-Ash'ari (may Allah be pleased with him) reported: "I asked the Messenger of Allah (SWT) "Who is the most excellent among the Muslims? "He said, "One from whose tongue and hands the other Muslims are secure" (14).Therefore the immoral things such as, back bite, dishonesty, insincerity and injustice etc are not allowed in Islam, because these things produce the unbalance environment in society.Allah says in surah Al-Maidah that "Be just; that is nearer to righteousness"(15).It is proved from the mentioned verse that Allah (SWT) likes the act of justice, therefore, He revealed the verse regarding it.One another place it is mentioned in the Holy Quran that "Indeed, Allah orders justice and good conduct"(16).Muhammad (PBUH) advised to Muslims that they live like brothers in society, this proves that brotherhood is one the most important rule of the Islamic culture, without it the creation of peaceful environment will not be possible.The Holy Prophet (PBUH) explained that the blood, honour and wealth of a Muslim is prohibited for another Muslim.It is a duty of every Muslim that he should protect the blood, wealth, life and honour of other Muslims.Because, they all are brothers with each other.Islam is the first religion of this world, which teaches about the rights of humanity, justice and equality, whereas, the concept like that, is not present in other religions.Hadrat Muhammad (PBUH) said in his last sermon fourteen centuries ago that "O people verily, your blood and your property, and your honours are sacrosanct to you until the (Day) you meet your Lord, as sacrosanct as this present day, in this present month, in this present place".He further said "O people! Verily, your wives have a right over you, and you have a right over them".He continued his address and explained "O people! Believers are but brethren.And it is not lawful for a man to take the property of his brother if not with full agreement on his part", moreover, he advised that "O people! Verily, your Lord is One, and your ancestor is also one, all of you are the descendents of Adam, and Adam was made of clay.The most respectable of you in the sight of God is the one who is most fearful of God.No Arab has any excellence over a non-Arab if not by the fear of God".Lastly the Holy Prophet (PBUH) said "O people! Hear and obey even if a Negro with mutilated nose is appointed your commander, this so long as he applies among you the prescriptions of God." "Your slaves, your slaves! Feed them as you eat.Dress them as you put on.If they commit a fault that you don't want to pardon, then sell these slaves of God, but do not torture them"(17).From the above words it proved

that Islam is a peaceful religion and it does not open any kind of door for cruelty and brutality, rather, it teaches the lesson of harmony and peace.When we talk about the society then we cannot ignore the cleanliness.Because, cleanliness is necessary for healthy life, whether it is related to the cleanliness of body, house or society.The simplicity is a sign of faith (Emaan).We can say that both are the basic principles of the Islamic culture.The Quran says that "Allah loves those who turn to Him constantly and He loves those who keep themselves pure and clean"(18).Islam likes the simplicity and cleanliness and advises to Muslims for applying them in every aspect of life.Whether it should be in clothes, eating food, getting marriage, or construction of buildings.In simple words, the simplicity is a soul of Islamic culture, consequently, Islam gives importance it, because, it plays a vital role to make the environment peaceful and healthy (19).These all are the characteristics of an Islamic culture and its civilization, which have been told us fourteen centuries ago to spend a peaceful and clean life in the society.

4.4.Non-Islamic Effects on the Islamic Culture:

When, we analyze the contemporary arena then several facts open before us regarding the un Islamic activities, which have come from the western culture.Now, these activities are affecting the Islamic culture and spreading rapidly like a dangerous disease in society.The technological equipment and advanced devices, like media and internet, are playing a vital role in producing a miserable condition among Muslims that dilute the Islamic civilization and culture (20) At first, the Islamic economy, politics and trade were getting affected, but now it is gradually spending towards the psyche of Muslims.Islamic teachings advise helping the needy, poor, helpless, unable and ill people and encourage the rotation of money between people.While the welfare activities are not considered important in the western world, that is why, they could not succeed to maintain the moral ethics such as the brotherhood, equality, honour, peace, harmony, simplicity and justice in society.Consequently, they follow this concept that the money should be secure in some hands.Whereas, Islam teaches concerning the rotation of money in society so that this money could be used for helping others.These uncivilized activities of the western world are getting harm the Islamic culture, especially in the following ways such as the economically, socially, politically, educationally and ethically etc and they have been succeeded enough in its intentions (21).Especially those Muslims who have gotten the

education from the west, they prefer the modernism and want to change the Islamic culture and civilization according to the western thoughts.They like to call themselves modern, this thought produces the immoral activities and unbalance environment in Islamic society.

5.Conclusion:

Islam is a true religion, which has been selected by Allah (SWT) for human beings.Islam teaches a right way of spending life and the Islamic culture provides the peaceful, balanced and nonviolent atmosphere to live.If we hold strongly the Quran and follow the teachings of it, then no one can misguide us from the path of Allah (SWT).Therefore if we want to save the Islamic culture from non-Islamic activities, then we should pursue the Islamic teachings and should spend our lives regarding them.

6.Suggestions and Recommendations:

The some points are given below in the form of suggestions and recommendations:

6.1.Social Aspects:

I.We are Muslims, therefore we should not ignore the Islamic teaching.

II.We should maintain the Islamic environment in our houses.

III.We should make clear this concept in our mind that the worldly life will finish very soon, and after death another life will start, which will depend on our good and bad actions.We have to answer regarding our worldly life activities.

IV.We should spend our lives according to the golden rules of Islamic teachings

V.We should follow the moral ethics to make the environment peaceful.

6.2.Physical Aspects:

I.The Islamic ethics should teach in schools, colleges and Universities.

II.All the non-Islamic sources, which are affecting the Islamic culture, should be banned.

III.The government should pay a vital role to create an Islamic environment in country.

IV.The Government should banned over the immoral business, such as gambling, interest and wine taking and selling etc.

V.The Government should provide easy way to get the justice in society.

VI.The Government should give scholarship to support needy, poor, unable, old age, orphans and widowers etc.

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