

## UNIVERSE, HUMANITY AND KNOWLEDGE UNDER THE VIEW OF PHILOSOPHY AND ISLAMIC DOCTRINE

Islamic philosophy is distinguished from all the different currents and numerous philosophical schools that flourished from the earliest times to the present day. Stands out because its magnetic arrow's directed from the noble Qur'an, as a book of absolute truths and universal, and the Hadith - the words and actions of Prophet Muhammad, as the man who stands above the greatest philosophers of all time. Based on these major documents, stem from this philosophy, are perceived the right answers of all questions that have excited the most remarkable human minds, which, while not dispose of the compass, are lost in puzzles and mysteries of the universe.

Since antiquity there were varieties of philosophical schools with their representatives materialists and idealistic who resembled two people, one with blue glasses and the other with pink glasses that squabble among themselves for the color of snow. Freeing from these spectacles of human emotions, Islamic philosophy provides answers to questions related to the subject and its fundamental problem, explains that the universe: space, matter, time, movement are not permanent and indefinite, but have a goal, a beginning and an end and that all creation is the work of Allah (xh.sh.) according to a plan and a certain goal. Even the earth was created for a specific purpose as stated in the Qur'an: "*Have We not made the earth as a bed?*" (Qur'an, 78:6) Even the man was created for a specific purpose: "*And I did not created Jinn and men except to worship Me*". (Qur'an, 51:56)

Thus, Islamic philosophy takes over the responsibility to answer the question "Why did the creation happen?" - before which most known philosophers and scientists get caught. Because of the right explanation of the Creation process gained momentum in the Islamic world the exact sciences as astronomy, chemistry, physics and mathematics and the Muslim world in

medieval darkness resembled with the moon light. Islamic philosophy has not clashed with the science. Islamic philosophy champions Al-Kindi, Al-Farabi, Ibn Sina etc.. were also mathematicians, physicists, astronomers, chemists, etc.. In the Muslim world philosophers and scientists were never sentenced to a cup of poison, like the ancient Socrates or on the stakes, as Giordano Bruno. Islamic philosophers did not fall against the sciences and in defense of their views and theses went up to the first cause of creation and occurrence.

Based on Qur'an and Hadith, the Islamic philosophy did not remain closed and limited to a dome of society. For plowing and spreading Islamic knowledge in Muslim countries, but also in the European world, where this belief spread in Spain, southern Italy and France ect., there was built a wide network of education, from schools of low level up to universities and outlined the philosophical thought of the new orientation. Works of Islamic philosophers were translated into many European languages and studied at European universities. But even studied Islamic philosophy and was based on previous achievements of ancient Greek philosophy, especially Aristotle's idea of the eternity of the absolute idea. But Greek philosophy was born in a country where paganism prevailed and disappeared along with their philosophies because of sharp conflict between religion and philosophy, Islamic philosophy while that originated in a country that experienced the golden time of declaration of belief in one God single and human enlightenment of divine light. Thus Islamic philosophy differs fundamentally from Aristotelism, platonisms, skepticism, agnosticism, materialism, existentialism, etc. phenomenology. Because true knowledge of divine origin and considers that it acquired from the most beautiful part of the human spirit that is part of reality supernatural.

Led by the holy book of Qur'an, Islamic philosophy looks upon man as *Khalif* - Vicegerent of God on Earth, which means that man is the specific reality of the world, the goal and last act of all creation, creation of qualitatively distinct from all other creatures and loaded with a specific mission. Human commitment in completing this mission, without doubt, gives the effect of a

beautiful creature that deserves honorable pleasure of Allah and His reward in both worlds. The most fundamental attribute of human being can not be claimed to be found in the material, the external appearance of this being that is a temporary variable and diverse. The essence of being human lies in the spiritual world as the essence of essence and existence.

Under this perspective, the doctrine and Islamic philosophy groups people into believers and non believers. These two groups live and work in any time at any place. It is understood that the impact and their fate is entirely different. Therefore, soundness or disease of human society begins in the spiritual world. Continuously it is required to the Muslim individual, to be in predisposition to align among the true believers. The primary good and key in the spiritual world is the feeling of trust and love in God, other benefits just follow.

From all institutions, human and Islamic intellectuals Islamic revival process requires the addition of the ranks of Muslim believers, who set up pleasant images, beautiful and acceptable environment for the community where they live. The images that in appearance are regular, non-distorted and non-exaggerated. Today because contemporary opinion is very attentive and sensitive not only to words but also to works of excellence. Muslims everywhere in Europe, Asia, Africa, America and Australia have a holy mission and task to engage in the unfolding of the values of Islam as a religion, but also in science, culture and lifestyle.

If someone once said: “Fortunately I knew Islam before Muslim” this, is a signal that there is still room for more reflection. Humanity today is cleverer than ever before and most will not respond and will not believe in the absurd. Modern man cannot be convinced by the false splendors that someone tries to give values. While the true values, are engraved in the hearts of Islamic philosophy and Islamic believers. But the question that should be asked is: How to display the value of today’s Muslim?

The advice has come From the philosophy of antiquity: “Know thyself” and the Prophet Muhammad (a.s.) was said to

have advised: "Who knows himself knows his Lord." Self is not the mirror image that appears before or conceived by man, but is that invisible reality core that lies within the image. This reality is the most beautiful, Muslim believer beautifies, purifies and refines through worship. Knowing the surface itself does not mean look at the outward appearance, but look in your work, so that it is in line with the divine precepts and counsels order rectification and removal of sins, to merit the determination as the Deputy of God on Earth. No appointment of any title, any position, whether the president or king cannot be equated with the attribute *Khalif* - God's Vicegerent on Earth.

Philosophically reality of being comes from the existence and the only being which stems from the existence is God. In the process of recognizing the truth, man raised this question: Who am I? How am I? Why was I created, and what is the purpose of life? Many other questions sometimes overwhelm the human being.

Again, the man tries through internal voice of conscience or unconscious to find answers. Defining man as Vicegerent of God implies his device of moral virtues, clean, enrich the mind with true knowledge and helpfulness of the service issues for which it was created. In these efforts, the man wins true happiness. This model takes values.

*"Indeed, this Qur'an guides to what is best and gives the glad tidings to believers, who does good deeds, that they will have great reward."* [Qur'an 17:9]

### Islamic philosophy and love for knowledge

Very meaning of the word philosophy means love for knowledge. The main task of any philosophy is to promote the process of obtaining knowledge. Philosophers of the early days had their knowledge on the capacity of their minds, and as intuitive recognition of the reality perceived. Later were established philosophical schools and academies, and were

written books on philosophy that are offered to the readers nowadays. In the course of centuries many schools have flourished currents philosophies with contrasting perspectives on the object they are studying. Controversy and struggle in philosophy is more severe than in any other field of knowledge and philosophers will never agree among themselves.

Philosophical controversy revolves around the problem of knowledge, the tendency to explain the source, authenticity and recognition opportunities. In philosophy this orientation is formulated as the other side of the main problem. In explaining this process Muslim philosophy differs fundamentally from all schools of other philosophical currents. Since in the first step considers the knowledge of this doctrine of divine origin, because the whole universe and everything in it, and men are the creative product of a divine intellect. The absolute truths of this object of study of philosophy are found in the Qur'an as the word of God and in tradition as the word of Prophet Muhammad based on divine revelation.

Quran should not be understood as a book of philosophy, physics, astronomy, chemistry, sociology or history, but as a book that shows the cause of everything that exists. Sciences study special sides of the reality that exists, ie. studying the creature, and Islamic philosophy based on the Qur'an aims to recognize the Creator before creation. Sciences study special sides of matter: how it is built, what does it consists of, how is it transformed, etc., studying the Earth with all its components in time, space, size, moving, etc. part. But all sciences are stuck with the question: Why is the earth created? Which means that they do not find the answer to that existence, which is their object of study. The only knowledge that gives the correct answer to this question lies in the sacred books of the Torah, Zabur, Gospel and the Qur'an.

Existence is thus created source and object of knowledge. And the Creator made sure that the creatures recognized from His Vicegerent on Earth. Unlike all other philosophical currents as agnosticism, skepticism, Hegelianism, Freudianism, or materialism which considers man as a being through which matter recognizes itself or deny or doubt the existence of true

knowledge, the Islamic doctrine considers man as a being with intellect and created for major goal, the recognition of its Creator. Under this view, human orientation towards recognition should not be understood as a process that is not only out of curiosity, of wonder, by the attempt of the struggle for existence, but the first is the divine message that is consistent with the purpose of being human and is expressed in the Qur'an (16:43): **“And We sent not before you (Muhammad) except men to whom We revealed [Our message]. So ask the people of the message if you do not know.”**

Theological doctrines explain that everything that is created is God's work, the absolute and sole object, where the truth lies. The universe is a universal clock invented and created by the divine intellect and the hands of the hour show time and the laws of existence and movement. Recognition of the universe leads to the recognition of the work of God.

Based on these messages, the Islamic doctrine of the process of recognition motivates the mission and responsibility. From this clear conception of the interdependence depends the success in this field. Thus is explained the fact the flourishing of knowledge and advancement of science in the Islamic world, which conditioned the advantages and expansion of Islam in Europe and beyond.

The Muslim world today, leaders and Islamic scholars should realize that the successes or failures originate in their attitude toward learning. Many Muslim scholars in their books express concern about the state of Islam today and receive a chute, an inferiority of the Muslim peoples and the question arises: Why the Muslim world was left behind and why recent centuries are not making progress? What is lost in weakening the Muslim world? Where did we go wrong? Islamic revival, which arises as a problem for solution today will come as an attitude toward education. The knot to be solved is exactly there: what the Qur'an says about knowledge and science should not remain an empty phrase and only beautiful interpretation, but should be made reality.

Certainly the changes in the end of last century in education and science in the Islamic world are very promising. Message of the Qur'an that a Muslim should learn throughout his life was admitted as a duty, but also opportunities, which started to become reality in the most prestigious universities in Islamic countries.

It is important to understand that one must learn throughout his life, because the world of knowledge is not only voluminous and scientific information is moving forward, but also the challenges facing the scientific technological revolution. Today knowledge is doubled every 6-8 years, and modern man has to face this acceleration. Need to learn throughout life for the mere fact of opportunities and capacities that contains the human brain to any normal individual and in every age. More knowledge is always affirmed as strength and perspective goes towards superior people with knowledge. Asking the problem of knowledge as a task for a man in Islamic doctrine should be understood as the superior position of the Islamic Ummah. Superior position not to rule and enslave other nations, but to bring them forward towards development, as in the golden centuries of Islamic boom.

The question is: How long should the Muslim people need to overcome problems facing now? This question is an equation with many unknowns and cannot find solutions in an article in a magazine, by a group of individuals. Solving this equation requires the commitment of leaders of the potential political, scientific, academic, intellectual, all Muslim countries, the unity of thought and action. In the Glorious Qur'an, the hadith of the Prophet (a.s.) in Islamic tradition and history are the modalities, routes and opportunities necessary for Muslims to reach the deserved levels in today's aura of the modern world civilizations.

The cause of the explosive situation in some Islamic countries explains best that the next generation is looking for new avenues to build an advanced vision for the future. But the overcoming of the disadvantages faced by Muslims everywhere today, will come through understanding and implementing the true Islamic message.