CAUSES AND FACTORS OF ISLAMOPHOBIA:
STRATEGIES TO OVERCOME

1. Nighat Akram
Assistant professor, Department of Islamic Studies, University of Poonch, Rawalakot, AJK.
Email: nighatakram@upr.edu.pk
ORCIDID:
https://orcid.org/0000-0003-4728-1850

2. Abdul Rehman kaloi
Assistant Professor Department of the Comparative Religion &Islamic Culture University of Sindh, Jamshoro, Pakistan.
Email**:** abdrehman@usindh.edu.pk
ORCID ID:
https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4397-9306

3. Hafiz Sibghatullah Bhutto
Assistant professor department of comparative religion and Islamic culture university of Sindh Jamshoro. Email: sibghat_bhutto@usindh.edu.pk
ORCID ID: https://orcid.org/0000-0001-9503-6425

CAUSES AND FACTORS OF ISLAMOPHOBIA: STRATEGIES TO OVERCOME

Nighat Akram, Abdul Rehman kaloi, Hafiz Sibghatullah Bhutto

ABSTRACT:

Phobia as per Merriam-Webster dictionary is an unexplained and illogical fear of something. It is very difficult to know the reasons and the roots of this fear, but this agitation does exist in minds. During past few decades, a terror that had hit the world is Islamophobia: the (unreasonable fear of Islam and Muslims). The main source of spreading this fear in the world is media. Islam is the religion that is less preached and taught in the west. Many people around the world never had any contact with Muslims and Islam. They only take Islam the way their media had portrayed it in front of them. Without having any basic knowledge of Islam that Islam is the religion of Peace, love, and care. They (the effected minds) think that Islam is based on cruelty, suicide bombing, and violating human rights. This wrong and negative perception of Islam had led the term Islamophobia in western society and in new generation of Muslims too. After 9 September 2001, every incident of target killing, bombing and terrorism is linked with Islam without knowing the facts. Many studies have been conducted against Islam, but none have been conducted to protect and secure Islam and to erase islamophobia from west. If Muslims want to have their sacred position back in the world, they need to follow the guidance by Allah and His Messenger (PBUH). The Muslims scholars should put more efforts to bring the positivity of Islam in front of all mankind.

KEYWORDS: Phobia, Muslims, Islam, society, Peace, mankind

INTRODUCTION:

"Islamophobia" is a combination of two words, Islam, and Phobia. Islam refers to monotheistic religion or belief which states that Mohammed is the prophet of Allah (Rasulullah). Phobia is an extreme and irrational fear of a thing" [1]

Elkassem says that "A phobia is illogical fear of different phenomena. The phenomena include a particular object, situation, or behavior. It is very difficult to determine the significant factors that are affecting the people or group of people" [2]

Over the mankind history, the phobia may affect individuals but there has been no phobia which had affected the world. Unfortunately, now there is a phobia that is affecting the whole world and because of this phobia the people of all religion have created intrinsic war in their minds which is Islamophobia.

"Islamophobia is any distinction, exclusion, or restriction towards, or preference against, Muslims (or those perceived to be Muslims) that has the purpose or effect of nullifying or impairing the recognition, enjoyment or exercise, on an equal footing, of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural or any other field of

---

[1] (Alshammari, Dalal. 2013." Islamophobia". International Journal ofHumanities and Sosial Science Vol. 3 No.15)

[2] S Elkassem et al., "Growing up Muslim: The impact of Islamophobia on children in a Canadian community," *Journal of Muslim Mental Health*, pp. 3-18, 2018.

public life".[3] (3)

Although fear and hatred of Muslims is as old as Islam itself, the term "Islamophobia" is a relatively recent neologism that is used to "draw attention to a normalized prejudice and unjustified discrimination against Muslims."[4]

"The term has been popularized because of the resurgence in the post-Cold War and post-9/11 United States of the phenomenon it describes"[5]

According to the 1997 report by the Runnymede Trust's Commission on British Muslims and Islamophobia, hereafter referred to as the Runnymede Trust report, "Islamophobia includes discrimination against Muslims in employment practices, the provision of health care and education; exclusion of Muslims from government, politics, and employment (including management and positions of responsibility); violence toward Muslims including physical assaults, verbal abuse and vandalizing of property; and prejudice against Muslims in the media and in "everyday conversation"[6]

HISTORICAL FACTORS:

There is the possibility that "Islamophobia is an entirely new and contemporary phenomenon, relevant only to the here and now and quite

---

[3] H Bazian, "Islamophobia: An Introduction to the Academic Field, Methods, and Approaches," *In Islamophobia and Psychiatry*, pp. 19-31, 2019

[4] Peter Gottschalk and Gabriel Greenberg, Islamophobia: Making Muslims the Enemy (Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield Publishers, Inc., 2008), 11

[5] The Runnymede Trust Commission on British Muslims and Islamophobia, Islamophobia: A Challenge for Us All (Great Britain: 1997), 11

[6] Ibid.

independent of...the past's historical manifestations and contexts."[7]

"This approach is generally rejected; nearly all the works reviewed above agree upon the importance of historically contextualizing Islamophobia rather than viewing it as an isolated contemporary phenomenon."[8] (8) Writers of latest works also verify this assessment. For example, Anas Al-Sheikh-Ali, one of the sponsors to John Esposito and Ibrahim Kalin's 2010 collection on Islamophobia, states that "it is clear that historical Islamophobia is informing contemporary Islamophobia."[9]

 "Islamophobia, including the perception of Muslims as the "other" and the perceived superiority of the West, should be seen as emerging from not only the contemporary context of perceived civilizational clash, but also from other factors including European colonialism" [10]

whether or not one accept as true between Islam and west a clash of civilization is unavoidable, it looks that Europe's initial encounter can be

---

[7] Chris Allen, Islamophobia (Burlington, VT: Ashgate Publishing Company, 2010), 15

[8] SunainaMaira, "Islamophobia and the War on Terror: Youth, Citizenship, and Dissent," in Islamophobia: The Challenge of Pluralism in the 21st Century, eds. John L. Esposito and Ibrahim Kalin (New York: Oxford University Press, 2010), 109-110, 122.

[9] Anas Al-Sheikh-Ali, "Islamophobic Discourse Masquerading as Art and Literature: Combating Myth through Progressive Education" in Islamophobia: The Challenge of Pluralism in the 21st Century, eds. John L. Esposito and Ibrahim Kalin (New York: Oxford University Press, 2010), 147.

[10] 1 Maira, "War on Terror," 109-110, 122

classified as a clash which left psychological marks. Jane l. Smith, authors of work on Islam in America, states

"Centuries of encounter between Islam and Western Christianity, including the endemic growth and spread of the frontiers of Christian territory, as well as the long, drawn-out battles and skirmishes of the Crusades, left on both sides a legacy of misunderstanding, fear, prejudice, and, in some cases, hatred" [11]

In year 1492, Christian conquered Islamic Spain by destroying the Jews and Arabs. The Jewish and Arab was forced to accept Christianity. The Christians are the one who introduced the term "Others "in the Europe. The Arabs and Jews were considered by the Christian as the people with the wrong faith and religion. These two groups were considered as the people with no God and were treated badly even as equivalent to the animals. Historically the Christian in Spain had made the huge expulsion of Jews and Arabs. This act was the show of power and creation of differences between humanity.

"Through the end of the Crusades in the fifteenth century and the beginning of the colonial period in the late fifteenth and early sixteenth century, the period of European ascendancy continued. Technological advances during this period meant that the Europeans were able to finally oust the Arabs and Turks from their territory altogether. In addition, Europe began to expand outward, looking to dominate not only the Middle East, but the whole world"[12]

---

[11] Jane I. Smith, Islam in America, 2nd ed. (New York: Columbia University Press, 2010),

[12] Ba-Yunus and Kone, Muslims in the United States, 110.

9/11 event:

Since the attack on the World Trade Center in 2001, the Islamophobia had increased at a global level. "The involvement of Muslims in that terrorist attack at World Trade Center was associated with the Islam religion to destroy the peaceful image of Islam in all over the world" [13]

However, in the history of the world there have been many attacks and crimes happened all over the world, but the terrorists have never been associated with their religion and the respect of the religion was maintained across the globe. But the9/11 event had been used to increase and promote the Islamophobia across the globe.

"The ISIS had made the situation more worse as the Islam was portrayed as the religion of violence" the misunderstanding of Islam has portrayed that the disciples of Islam has spread the Islam by destroying the followers of other religions "The people of different Western countries even categorized the Islam and the Muslims as an alien and the religion of bloodshed which triggers the intolerance level of the people of different religions. The Muslims are treated badly in every field, they are considered as separate nation and even most of the time they are not included in the strategic planning even at government level"[14]

---

[13] N.S Bacchus, "Resisting Islamophobia: Muslims Seeking American Integration Through Spiritual Growth, Community Organizing and Political Activism," American Journal of Islamic Social Sciences, vol. 36, no. 4, pp. 1-26, 2019

[14] P Waikar, "Reading Islamophobia in Hindutva: An Analysis of NarendraModi'sPoliticalDiscourse," Islamophobia Studies Journal, vol. 4, no. 2, pp. 161-180, 2018

Causes And Factors of Islamophobia: Strategies to Overcome

The Muslims have been facing lots of problems in different Western countries. "They are facing problems not only at their Islamic centers but also at different social and public places. The problem is that the world has been using the terrorist attacks, 9/11 event, ISIS violence and Islamophobia interchangeably" [15]

CAIR expresses with "cautious optimism that America may be witnessing a leveling-off of the post-9/11 backlash against Americans of the Islamic faith. Yet the increase of incidents at Muslim institutions (such as mosques) rose from "221 cases in 2006 to 564 cases in 2007 to 721 cases in 2008," representing a "28 percent increase from 2007 to 2008. There was a similar increase of reported discrimination in schools: 118 reported in 2007 and 153 reported in 2008 -- this is an increase of thirty-one percent" [16]

The Islamophobia and media contribution have been restricting the voice of Muslims against violations against them. In all over the world it is known that the Muslims are badly treated in some countries which are under control of non-Muslims. Like Kashmir, Palestine and Burma, the Muslims are badly captured and are not given basic human rights for livings. But these practices are not properly acknowledged, and non-satisfactory actions have been taken by the promoters of peace. On the other hand, if something bad happens with non-Muslims by the Muslims in the response of their inhuman treatment then they are highlighted as the

[15] C.M Dorroll, *Teaching Islamic Studies in the Age of ISIS, Islamophobia, and the Internet*.: Indiana University Press, 2019

[16] F Hafez, "Unwanted Identities: The 'Religion Line'and Global Islamophobia," *Development*, pp. 1-11, 2020.

terrorists and related to the Islam directly to humiliate the true and peaceful teachings of Islam. "The Muslims are treated badly in every field; they are considered as separate nation and even most of the time they are not included in the strategic planning even at government level" [17]

TERRORISM, VIOLENCE, AND ISLAMOPHOBIA:

Terrorism and violence both had lifted the negative perceptions of lslam and Islamophobia. In fact, it has become a belief across the globe that Islam is the religion which has been nurturing extremism and terrorism in all over the world. The mosques and Islamic centers are considered as the places of terror and trainers of terrorists which are teaching the Muslims about the terrorism and in fact now the Muslims who are more practicing Islam have been considered to practice more terrorism in the public places. "The Muslim men who have beard as per the Islamic standards and the Muslim women who have been wearing hijab are considered as terrorist or considered to have been taking trainings for violence. Teachers wearing hijab are not appointed in Germany" [18]

Even if an event of violence or terrorism takes place in any part of the world, the detectives probably consider the practicing Muslims as the suspects. Therefore, the Islamophobia has been creating problems for the practicing Muslims across the world. This is the reason many Muslims are moving towards self-generated concept called modern Islam or moderate Islam.

"The modern Muslims or moderate Muslims are not practicing Muslims

[17] Council on American-Islamic Relations, Muslim Civil Rights, 4

[18] C.M Dorroll, Teaching Islamic Studies in the Age of ISIS, Islamophobia, and the Internet.: Indiana University Press, 2019.

rather they are simply the believers of Islamic basic beliefs, but they are not the true followers of the principles of Islam [19]

This practice has been ignoring the true understanding of Islam and the people are not following the practicing Muslims and true teachings of Islam. Now even the residents of Islamic countries are not reading and following the Quran because they do not like to be called as extremist. Because the word extremist Muslims has been used interchangeably for the terrorist so in short, they do not want to be called as terrorist. The Islamophobia is not only creating fear for the people, but it has been bringing the violence and threat against the Muslims which are directly and indirectly destroying the society and the culture.

Consequences:

"The promoters of Islamophobia must have realized the limitless consequences which can destroy societies across the world. On the other hand, this has changed the mindset of Muslims who are not appreciating to practice the true teachings of Islam as they have also started believing that if they completely follow the true teachings of Islam, they become violent and terrorist and may start corruption across the world. The above discussed two consequences of Islamophobia have changed the beliefs of the people of other religion but also changed the beliefs of Muslims. The most disturbing significant problem for the people of the whole world is

---

[19] L Markowitz and L Puchner, "Structural ignorance of Christian privilege," International Journal of Qualitative Studies in Education, vol. 31, no. 10, pp. 877-894, 2018.

that they have been stayed at distance from the Holy Quran"[20]

وَمَنْ يَعْشُ عَنْ ذِكْرِ الرَّحْمَنِ نُقَيِّضْ لَهُ شَيْطَانًا فَهُوَ لَهُ قَرِينٌ [21]

The book which is only the responsible for promoting brotherhood in all over the world, claims that the Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) is the last messenger of Allah.

The teachings of the last prophet and the teachings of Holy Quran are the only authentic sources which can bring equality and brotherhood in all over the world.

The people of today's world have been kept away from the most authentic source of guidance so how can the people be guided to harmonies the brotherhood in all over the world. The most problematic issue for the whole world is that the people who acted naturally across the world did not believe in Islamophobia, therefore they started campaigns for the Muslims to bring the true image of Islam in front of them so that they can decide their decision about Islam and Islamophobia.

They have arranged many debates across the world about the link of Islam with terrorism and the people are free to decide the consequences of debate and can decide the true understanding on their free will.

---

[20] B.M Weber, "Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa and the Middle East," *Hijab martyrdom, headscarf debates: Rethinking violence, secularism, and Islam in Germany*, vol. 32, no. 1, pp. 102-115, 2012.

[21] Surah Az-Zukhruf. verse 36

Unfortunately, the people who participated in the debates from Muslims side were unable to portray the true picture of Islam because they do not have sufficient knowledge to defend their case. They could not defend by putting the right and valuable evidences in front of the people and the majority of people could not be convinced and it resulted the gesture of Islamophobia started getting worse.

STRATEGIES TO OVERCOME:

1. **Understand and learn the true teachings of Quran**

Now the time is to clarify about true and real teaching of Islam although it is challenging, as west has polluted the people`s mind and led then in wrong way. "They have utilized the media, the power and the cultural differences to promote the Islamophobia and destroyed the peaceful image of the Muslim" [22]

Before try to promote the teachings of Islam to other Muslims, we have to understand the real theme of Islam. The Muslims need to understand the holy Quran with detailed understanding and with true spiritual context. No doubt, the holy Quran is the words of Allah and by understanding and practicing the words of Allah, the Muslims can become strong preachers of Islam and the character of every Muslims will show the reflection of the last prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H). Once, if every Muslim becomes the reflection of the last prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) by following the Quran, then he or she can spread the message of Islam in the world with

---

[22] Tracing a Narrative of Muslim Self-Aftermath of 9/11 in Monica Ali's Brick Lane: Islamophobia in the West. Aziz, A.S. 1, 2018, Insaniyat: Journal of Islam and Humanities, Vol. 3, pp. 81-93.

his or her strong character and with the powerful penetration of Islamic principles in the hearts and the minds of the other people.

The holy Quran is the words of Allah, the person who is practicing peace and follow the Quran then the Quran will pure his or her heart with the true meanings of Islam and Allah will directly guide him or her. Allah says in the Quran that the Muslim who is practicing the holy Quran will be blessed a light of truth and under this light he or her can see the clear picture of every situation and can make difference between right and wrong.

The man practicing on the Quran, will be blessed a good character and he will be attracted by other people, and Allah will bless the words of that man and people will be starting to listen him and can understand the light and guidance which that person is carrying.

It is true that no one can establish peace without following in the footsteps of the last prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H). The teachings of the last prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) are the benchmark and standard for the mankind. No one can attain peace without following in the footsteps of the last prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H).

No one can understand the footsteps of the last prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) without understanding the holy Quran. The last prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) established the standards by following the holy Quran. The Quran is the guidance of the last prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) and the last prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) established the practical guidance of the holy book.

This is the example to be followed to attain peace for the whole mankind. Now, it is high time for Muslims to spread the campaigns against Islamophobia and the Muslims do not need to create any additional science to spread Islam.

The Muslims do not require to create new things, they just need to follow the footsteps of the last prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) and they can gradually observe that their personalities would start to become a reflection of the last prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) and can easily establish a peaceful life in front of the non-Muslims.

"The foundations of Islamophobia did not initiate by the non-Muslims, but the foundations of Islamophobia started by the Muslims because they have forgotten the teachings of Quran and they do not like to implement Quran in their lives and finally had led the base for Islamophobia and allowed the non-Muslims to promote Islamophobia. Not only allowed but, unfortunately, also promoted them to portray the negative picture of Islam"[23]

2. Understand about true preaching of Islam

The preaching Islam does not mean to enforce others to accept Islam. In fact, Islam is not the religion which enforces others to accept Islam but Islam desires that others should accept Islam. The Muslims must understand the way of the last prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H).They do not need to do some magic in fact they just implement the teaching of the last prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) and the holy Quran on themselves and they will start noticing that the people of other cultures will start getting attachment with them and they will be ready to listen and implement the principles of Quran.

Basically, the people of other civilizations are not ready to read the holy

[23] Tracing a Narrative of Muslim Self-Aftermath of 9/11 in Monica Ali's Brick Lane: Islamophobia in the West. Aziz, A.S. 1, 2018, Insaniyat: Journal of Islam and Humanities, Vol. 3, pp. 81-93

Quran because when they see and observe the follower of Islam who are not actually the true follower of the last prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H). They get afraid and they start hating the Muslims because they see on media which is the misleading the whole mankind.

"The media is not independent in fact they are also dependent on the government policy makers and the governmental officials who are also dependent on the mass of the people. There are the groups of influential people who enforce the governmental officials to influence the media to portray the wrong and negative perception about Islam on the media" [24]

So, when the Muslims becomes stronger in their believes and they get together in one page to support their officials to present the true picture in the media then the media have to represent those officials in front of the mass and then they can show the right understanding of Islam. Then the people can be exposed to the neutral exposure of the debate and can easily judge who is right and who is wrong. The natural and social people from any civilization are very simple and open minded they are still waiting for the platform of neutral debate, and they are waiting for the right sessions supported by the evidences which are generally acceptable. Once the mass of Muslims support their officials by practicing the true teachings of holy Quran then the whole world would appreciate the true representation of Islam.

---

[24] Media representation of Muslims and Islam from 2000 to 2015: A meta-analysis. Ahmed, S and Matthes, J. 3, 2017, International Communication Gazette, Vol. 79, pp. 219-244

3. Introduce brotherhood to the whole mankind

This is true that the brotherhood can only be possible by the implementation of Quran, and this had been proved scientifically with practice by the last prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) and his companions. The introduction and the practice of brotherhood across the different cultures are very important. The earth is created by Allah and has sent the holy books to practice the brotherhood because we all are the offspring of prophet Adam (A.S). A person whether Muslim or non-Muslim, is a mankind and human and deserve respect and honour. Every person is respectable and has been blessed a unique characteristics and qualities to be respected by other humans.

The media has played its strong influence in not only in Western media to portray the misrepresentation of Islam and Muslims who are the second largest population in the world. The Muslims practicing Islam have been witnessing the isolation in different cultures. The Western cultures are not only isolating the practicing Muslims but the Eastern cultures also isolating the practicing Muslims.

4. Understand the culture of West

The people of developed countries are very simple, and their mind-sets are against terrorism and violence. [25] The Western people have developed wrong and negative perception about the peaceful religion because they

---

[25] Islamophobia and the Social Cohesion Agenda. Laverick, W and Joyce, P. 2019, In Racial and Religious Hate Crime, pp. 177-246

are influenced by the repetition of the polluted media.[26]

Before 9/11 the Western people had not practiced any violence against Muslims but now, they have even started reacting shameful incidents by targeting the Islamic centres, Muslim communities and particularly Muslim women wearing the hijab [27]

The developed countries like U.S., Germany, Canada, Sweden, and Netherlands have planning of destructing Islamic centres, have been reported during the occasions of famous and special prayers.[28]The people of these countries are most civilized across the world. So even these civilized people have been polluted with hate, terror and violent behaviour because of continuous threat and violence presentation in the media and the polluted speeches of the government administration and officials. The Muslims cannot cause harm to the non-Muslims. The prophets of Christians and Jews are also our prophets the Muslims do respect their prophets because they are also our prophets. The Muslims cannot cause harm to the holy books of Christians and Jews because their books are also our books and we respect those books as Quran.

---

[26] Resisting Islamophobia: Muslims Seeking American Integration Through Spiritual Growth, Community Organizing and Political Activism. Bacchus, N.S. 4, 2019, American Journal of Islamic Social Sciences, Vol. 36, pp. 1-26.

[27] Tracing a Narrative of Muslim Self-Aftermath of 9/11 in Monica Ali's Brick Lane: Islamophobia in the West. Aziz, A.S. 1, 2018, Insaniyat: Journal of Islam and Humanities, Vol. 3, pp. 81-93

[28] Global media, Islamophobia and its impact on conflict resolution. Haque, F and Hossain, M. K. 2014, Dhaka: Institute of Hazrat Mohamamad (SAW

No one can ever find the destruction caused by Muslims to the non-Muslims over the period of years. Yes, one or few events could have happened by the non-practicing Muslims but never ever the media of Muslims world ever misrepresent the religions and the followers of the other religions.

5. Effective ways to convey the message of Islam

The today's world is the scientific world, and the people now only understand the scientific language. The media is the significant source of changing the mind-sets of the people. Now it is time to understand the extreme level of Islamophobia in all over the world. [29]

The Muslims must get together and develop creative and scientific ways to present the true picture of Islam. If the Muslims do not take necessary steps to present the true picture of Islam, then the Islamophobia will destroy the Muslims in the different parts of the world.[30]

The media must be utilized to present the true picture of Islam and the Muslims who are true practicing Muslims must be given preferences to present the actual image of Islam in front of the whole world.[31]

If the necessary steps will have been taken soon then the general public of

---

[29] Growing up Muslim: The impact of Islamophobia on children in a canadian community. Elkassem, S, et al., et al. 2018, Journal of Muslim Mental Health, pp. 3-18

[30] Islamophobia and the Social Cohesion Agenda. Laverick, W and Joyce, P. 2019, In Racial and Religious Hate Crime, pp. 177-246.

[31] Islamophobia, shame, and the collapse of Muslim identities. Sadek, N. 3, 2017, International Journal of Applied Psychoanalytic Studies, Vol. 14, pp. 200-221.

Western culture will get influenced by the Muslims and may start to understand that the Islamophobia is the self-created concept by the Western government officials and may become closer to the Muslims and may establish brotherhood across different parts of the world.

6. Not to be offended

No doubt that anything that is associated to Islam has been disrespected by the non-Muslims. The mosques, religious places, men with beard and women with hijab are the main targets in all over the world. Even now the people are causing harm to the people who only recite "Kalima" [32]

The people who are Muslims but keep themselves separated from Islamic representations are basically got frightened from the effects caused by Islamophobia. Most of the people whether from Islamic cultures or Western cultures get separated from the violence and terrorism and want to live with peace. The people must understand that the response of violence should not be the violence. The Muslims must understand that if they respond to the destruction by creating more damage, violence and terrorism then they are at fault. This would cause more corruption in the land. Islam does not allow this; Islam allows to kill those who comes to fight with Muslims in the battle field. Islam does not allow causing harm to the innocent people. In fact, Islam says that if one person kills anybody then this act is equal to kill the whole humanity. In Quran it is clearly written that the person who commits killing anybody and does not repent will be thrown into the hell for infinity time.

---

[32] The use of terminology in reporting Islam: A comparative analysis. Hassan, I. 2017, International Journal of English Linguistics

7. Avoid violence

The Muslims have to avoid violence and remain calm because this is clear that if violence created by Muslims have been covered by media more than 400 percent more than the coverage of violence created by non-Muslims. There is a high alert situation for the Muslims in all over the world. The general public of any society has become afraid of Muslims and Islam, and they are ready to accept the negative perception against Muslims that they are causing damage to the earth, and they are the killers of innocent people. So, they are ready to defend them and them ever ready to attack Muslims [33]

The presence of Muslim men and women in any public places are causing threats, because their presence is the sign of danger and terrorism, and the people want to save them from any violence and destructions. The people are not only getting isolated from Muslim men and women to avoid any activity of terrorism and violence but now have started reacting by causing damage to the Muslims. The countries with the population of non-Muslims have become united and get together to react against Muslims. Now, if they find any sign of violence then they react so severely against Muslims without knowing the facts and figures. The practicing Muslims are now suspicious in any culture and have been considered as the sign of destruction without any prove or symptoms. Therefore, the Muslims must avoid any sort of violence and mishaps because they would be culprit for

---

[33] Structural ignorance of Christian privilege. Markowitz, L and Puchner, L. 10, 2018, International Journal of Qualitative Studies in Education, Vol. 31, pp. 877-894.

any harm in the society.

8. Stop discouraging non-Muslims

The world hates Muslims and directly they hate Islam. This has happened because of many significant factors but one the significant factors is that the Muslims are discouraging non-Muslims. Yes, they hate non-Muslims by saying that they are "Kafir" but in fact this is not the practice of Islam. Islam has come to literate the mankind not to exploit and discourage the mankind. Yes, the Muslims have to follow the footsteps of last prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H). The last prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) did not discourage anybody but spread the message of Islam with continuous struggle. Even in the event of "Taif" the people threw stones on last prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) but he asked Allah for their forgiveness and hope for the best. So Muslims need to follow his "Sunnah"and have to spread the message of Islam with continuous efforts. There are enough historical evidences that Muslims have been living peacefully with their non-Muslim fellows in both Muslim predominated and non-Muslim predominated areas.[34]

The non-Muslims are known as the people of ignorance, and they are not to be killed because of their ignorance but they are supposed to be conveyed the message of true religion again and again. The Muslims must arrange the platform to spread the message of Islam in every part of the

---

[34] "The Conduct of Muslims With Their Non-Muslim Fellows In Predominant Muslim Regions: A Historical Perspective." Bhutto, Sanaullah, Saifullah Bhutto, and Abdul Rahman Kaloi, *Habibia Islamicus (The International Journal of Arabic and Islamic Research)* 3.2 (2019): 21-28.

world, but this activity should be started once the Muslims are trained Muslims and practicing the rules of Islam and Quran.

The method of spreading the message has been told by Allah. Allah says that call the people to Islam by saying this that come to common terms between Muslims and non-Muslims and that term is that we do not worship but Allah. We do not associate any partner to Allah, and we do not consider anybody as carrying the characteristics of Allah Almighty.

Once the concept of Allah "Tawhid" is clear to the mankind they 99.9 percent work would have been done and the people will start fearing from Allah and will start obeying His commandments and the whole mankind will become brother and peace will be achieved.

9. Stop discouraging non practicing Muslims

This is very important factor; the practicing Muslims are not on the right track if they are practicing Islam, but they are also discouraging the non-practicing Muslims then it means they are not taking the blessings of true understanding of holy Quran.

The last prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) always appreciated the person who strived to follow the commandments of Allah. We are the followers of the last prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) and we should follow the footsteps and we also encourage the non-practicing Muslims by allowing them to understand more about the Quran.

The non-practicing Muslims do not want to be called fundamentalist or extremist Muslims because they have been influenced by the media that most of the extremist Muslims have become violent and terror for the innocent people.

Yes, it true that most of the preachers of Islam who have been promoted to present the true understanding of Islam are not the true representatives of holy Quran and have led the Muslims to misunderstanding the true essence

of the holy Quran. In fact, the person who follows the Quran has soft heart and is always ready to respect others and their point of view. He deals with patience and practice patience at every aspect of life.

The people of Pakistan do not feel safe among the practicing Muslims. The people do not trust on extremist Muslims and even avoid the companies of these people because they think the hearts of these people are polluted with violence and terror. The presence of men with beard and women with hijab are considered suspicious and distrust in the societies and culture of Pakistan.

The media has been associating crimes with the practicing Muslims and portraying the negative perception of suspicious and distrust in the societies and culture of Pakistan.

So, while spreading Islam or the understanding of Islam in this society is very difficult. Actually, now the Muslims should understand that the only words are useless. The people notice the behaviour of the people. So, the polite and soft behaviour will help a lot in spreading the true message of the holy Quran,

10. Exposure to the neutral debate platform

The Muslims world should get together to arrange international conferences to expose the Western culture to the platform where the people come to understand the true understanding about the Islam. This will help in minimizing Islamophobia.

This should be understood that the general public from every culture has got their hearts polluted by Islamophobia because they are already open to the biased media. So, if the people from Western culture are invited for open dialogue, then they will attend with biased mind. So, in order to make them convinced is the harder task for the Muslims world. The Muslims speakers must follow the scientific methods and finding to

convince them with detailed research.

The Muslims have to follow the Quran with scientific methods and derive different methods to convince non-Muslims. In fact, if the Muslims pay attention to the Quran closely with scientific tools, then they can extract different scientific ways to convince the general public with strong evidences.

The international conferences will allow the general public to participate in open debate and open question and answer session to create better understanding of Islam and collectively put effort to minimize the Islamophobia to promote brotherhood to the whole mankind and can reduce the increasing rate of violence, threat, terrorism and destruction.

The international conference does not include media, because the media can only represent the biased information and restrict the audience to know and to put questions for better understanding.

The international conferences allow gathering more people and exposing them to the expert speakers with direct interaction which is free from any bias and the public is allowed to develop opinion based on the judgments of evidences presented in the sessions.

Furthermore, the people who want to learn and want to ask more would be provided more opportunities for open discussion with the experts so that the people who would learn more and more and can put their views directly in front of the experts.

11. Use media to promote the situation of biased media

The media is the key factor to promote the message of Islam. The limitation of international conferences is that few people can have access to these conferences. The media can approach anybody at his place across the globe.

The best way is to make videos of international conferences and put them

on the media so that people who do not come to the conference would see the sessions on the media.

TV and the YouTube are the better media to broadcast the conferences across different parts of the world. The benefit of YouTube is that it is accessible anybody anywhere and anytime.

The Muslims world should get together to make continuous effort to promote the true understanding of the Islam. The films and drama industries must work to promote the true essence of Islam by making new films and dramas with strong script to put counter effect against Islamophobia.

The journals should be created on Islam more and more and the Muslims scientists are invited from different parts of the world to do scientific research and get them published more and more so that the print media would play its part to promote Islam more and more.

The magazines and radio must include articles and programs to promote the true understanding of the Quran which will be useful to counter the Islamophobia.

The researchers must do scientific studies to tell the world that how the Western world has been using media to portray the negative perception of Islam and promoting Islamophobia without targeting anybody.

12. Make effective dramas and films to present the true picture of Muslims

The writers, directors and producers have been making films in the world to present the negative perception of the Muslims in their films. They use the films and dramas to promote Islamophobia by presenting the characters of Muslims as violent and terror.

Even in Pakistan the writers, directors and producers are making films and dramas based on entertainment which are causing the youth of the

population deviated from concentrating on Quran. On the other hand, they are also making films and dramas to promote Islamophobia.

There are few movies in Pakistan which also based on promoting Islamophobia in Pakistan. They portray the characters of "Mullas" as fundamentalists and extremists. The films and dramas are continuously portraying the image of extremists Muslims as causing threats to innocent people.

So, the Muslims are portraying the negative image of the preachers of Islam to misguide the people of the society and Allah clearly mentioned in the Quran that those people who want to bring changes in the right path of Islam will be destroyed in this world and hereafter as well.

The Muslims have to promote their bright history in media by making films and dramas on Muslims history. The general public should know the bright histories of Muslims. They should also know how the Muslims were able to rule the world.

13. Promoting best presenters of Islam to explain the true picture of Islam

The preaching Islam is not the enforcement, but it is an invitation to the mankind. In fact, the presenters of Islam should follow the styles of the last prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H).

The prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) taught by Allah how to make arguments with the non-believers. In Quran Allah asked the prophet to do conversations with the non-believers so that they use their own senses to decide what is right and what is wrong?

The Jews in Medina asked the prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) that if you were the true prophet of God like prophet Musa (A.S) the show us the miracles like him and then Allah asked prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) to ask them had they accepted the message of prophet Musa (A.S)?

So that is the tactics how to deal with the non-Muslims and their questions. This can be done by the Muslims who understand the methods of Quran. Who has been continuously following the footsteps of prophet Musa (A.S) and prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H).

Basically, the people of other civilizations are not reading and analyzing the holy Quran because when they see the followers of Islam who are not the true reflection of the last prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H). They do not get convinced and do not pay close attention to the invitation to Islam.