

“ISLAM, IMAN, IHSAN, MAHABATULLAH: THE HOLISTIC AND INTEGRATED WORLDVIEW OF ISLAM”

Speech by M. Kamal Hassan, 2021

1. CRISES AND PROBLEMS IN MUSLIM SOCIETIES AS A CONSEQUENCE OF SUPERFICIAL, FRAGMENTED, PARTIALISTIC OR FAULTY UNDERSTANDING OR PERCEPTIONS OF ISLAM LEADING TO PARTIAL MANIFESTATIONS OF ISLAM IN MUSLIM SOCIETY:

- ✓ **UNISLAMIC BUT DOMINANT CONCEPTIONS AND
MODELS OF DEVELOPMENT, UNDER-DEVELOPMENT,
LEAST DEVELOPED, MOST DEVELOPED, ADVANCED
SOCIETIES AND COUNTRIES.**
- ✓ **OTHER MISCONCEPTIONS INCLUDE: KNOWLEDGE,
WISDOM, DEVELOPMENT, PROGRESS, MODERNITY,
SUCCESS, HAPPINESS, MODERATE AND
FUNDAMENTALIST MUSLIMS, ISLAMISTS, SHARI`AH,**
- ✓ **Muslim countries in a big mess with captive-minded and
corrupt leaders and ignorant masses.**

2. THE *HADIITH JIBRIIL* SUMS UP THE UNITY, INTEGRATION AND WHOLISM OF THE *DEEN* OF ISLAM:

- a) ***ISLAAM* AS BASIC REQUIREMENT OF BEING A MUSLIM
(AL-MUSLIM) WITH MINIMUM RELIGIOUS OBLIGATIONS;**
- b) ***IIMAAN* AS FUNDAMENTAL FOUNDATION AND
WORLDVIEW OF THE *DEEN* OF ISLAM WHICH SHAPES
THE SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE TRUE
BELIEVERS (*AL-MU`MINUUN*);**

Then he (the man) said, “Inform me about Ihsan.” He (the Messenger of Allah) answered, “It is that you should serve Allah as though you could see Him, for though you cannot see Him yet (know that) He sees you.”

c) **IHSAAN** AS THE HIGHER SPIRITUAL CONSCIOUSNESS AND CONSTANT GOD-AWARENESS OF THE TRUE BELIEVERS OR THE SINCERE SERVANTS OF ALLAH;

Quotation from Hadith of Jibreel A.S. [part 111] - Quran Academy (<https://quranacademy.io>. 12 May 2018)

What is Ihsan?

Ihsan is an extremely comprehensive term that includes all acts of goodness towards others. It encompasses dealing with others in a goodly manner, perfecting something and doing it with excellence in order to please Allah, giving your best to people around you, fulfilling your duty as a good slave to Allah and a good person to His creation and so on and so forth. Doing acts of goodness include using your wealth, knowledge, position and body to do good to others. In short, a person with ihsan does no harm to himself or others through his deeds/words/actions.

Have You Achieved Ihsan?

One of the easiest ways to know if you achieved this high level of ihsan is to assess yourself in your worldly and religious dealings. Examples include (but not limited to):

- Do you always bring Allah into the equation when you talk to people, deal with them, work for them or care for them?
- Do you constantly remind yourself that Allah is watching and therefore, you have to be nothing short of excellent in your dealings?
- Is your heart thinking about pleasing Allah all the time?
- Are you trying to please the people (rather than pleasing Allah)?
- Do we crave to perform acts of worship and find delight while doing so?
- Do you anxiously desire to get closer to Allah?
- Are you careful about not oppressing people through your words/deeds/actions?

How Are People with Ihsan Different From the Rest of the Pack?

In this hadith, our Prophet highlights two levels of ihsan, with one being higher than the other.

The higher one is:

“It is that you should serve Allah as though you could see Him...”

People with ihsan, known as “*muhsineen*”, achieve a very lofty status when they do acts of worship as if they could see Allah. These are known as “*al-mushaahahadah*”, the

personal witnesses. They can feel the presence of Allah in their heart. [Please note, no one can literally see Allah in this life.] Their hearts and minds are vigilant and in tune with every single word they utter in salah because they feel a powerful presence of Allah while performing acts of worship, therefore, they will be shy to do anything that doesn't please Allah.

The lower one is:

If you cannot reach that level of ihsan, then the Prophet says “...*though you cannot see Him, yet (know that) He sees you.*”

This level of ihsan is equally important too, because, when you realize and understand that Allah sees every single thing you and your behavior towards others around you, you will automatically question yourself when you know you're overstepping the line or are violating someone else's rights. These people are known as “*al-murraqabah*” (the level of one who is being watched or observed).

THE SIGNS OF THE HOUR

- d) **AMAARAAT AL-SAA`AH** AS PART OF THE RELIGIOUS KNOWLEDGE OF BELIEVERS, THE ESCHATOLOGY OF ISLAM; TO INSTIL IN THE MIND OF BELIEVERS THAT:

In continuation with the hadith....

He (Jibreel AS) said, “Inform me about the Hour.” He (the Messenger of Allah) said, “About that, the one questioned

knows no more than the questioner.” So he said, “Well, inform me about the signs thereof.” He said, “They are that the slave-girl will give birth to her mistress, that you will see the barefooted, naked, destitute, the herdsmen of the sheep (competing with each other) in raising lofty buildings.” Thereupon the man went off. I waited a while, and then he (the Messenger of Allah) said, “O Umar, do you know who that questioner was?” I replied, “Allah and His Messenger know better.” He said, “That was Jibril (the Angel Gabriel). He came to teach you your religion.””

Inform Me about the Hour

This knowledge is known only to Allah, so anyone claiming to know when it’s going to happen has lied. The purpose of this question was to put an end to people’s constant questioning about when the Day would occur.

So he said, “Well, inform me about the signs thereof.”....

“The slave girl gives birth to her mistress:”

According to Ibn Hajr, there are four opinions to explain this:

1. Al-Khattaabi says Islam will spread and dominate the lands of the disbelievers and take their inhabitants as slaves. A man will have a child through a slave girl, then, the child will be like her master because he/she is the child of the master. An-Nawawi says this is the opinion of the majority of scholars. This opinion is slightly problematic. Ibn Hajr says these things existed during the time of the Prophet (pbuh). Another

interpretation says a woman will give birth to a child who ends up being the king of the land and would later buy his own mother who was a slave out of ignorance or knowingly, to use her as a servant.

2. Slave girls who give birth to the owner's children will be sold by the owners. With excessive selling, the woman's own son will buy her later and realize that it is her mother.
3. A woman gives birth to a child by committing adultery or fornication. Then, the mother is sold until her own child buys her.
4. The children will disobey their mother and end up treating them like a slave, showing disdain. Ibn Hajr prefers this point of view.

“...the barefooted, naked, destitute, the herdsmen of the sheep (competing with each other) in raising lofty buildings...”

Al Qurtubi says:

- The affairs will be turned upside down.
- The Bedouins will take over through force.
- Those not qualified to be in charge will be running the affairs.
- They will be in control of wealth but will not deal with it properly leading to extravagance.
- After having wealth in their hands, their only concern will be to compete in building tall buildings and boast about it.

1. THE LAST HOUR IS NOT TOO FAR AWAY,

2. THE SYMPTOMS OF FITNAH OR AFFLICTIONS ARE PART AND PARCEL OF HUMAN SOCIETY IN THE AAKHIR AL-ZAMAAN.

3. THE NEED TO REMAIN STEADFAST AND CONSISTENT IN IIMAAN.

3.MAHABBATU'LLAAH

3.1.It is a necessary condition of the true Believers: from Obedience to Love.

3.2.It is lacking in the lives of many Muslims and Muslim societies, because of emphasis on Rituals or Mere Obedience.

3.3.It is the opposite of *Hubbu'd-Dunyaa* and *Karahiyyatu'l-Maut* which are the main reasons why Muslims are being oppressed, persecuted, threatened and made targets of global hatred (Islamophobia) and conspiracy of global *KUFR* and *SHIRK*.

عَنْ ثَوْبَانَ قَالَ قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ يُوشِكُ الْأُمَمُ أَنْ تَدَاعَى عَلَيْكُمْ كَمَا تَدَاعَى الْأَكَلَةُ إِلَى قَصْعَتِهَا فَقَالَ قَائِلٌ وَمِنْ قِلَّةِ نَحْنُ يَوْمَئِذٍ قَالَ بَلْ أَنْتُمْ يَوْمَئِذٍ كَثِيرٌ وَلَكِنَّكُمْ غُتَاءٌ كَغُتَاءِ السَّيْلِ وَلَيَنْزَعَنَّ اللَّهُ مِنْ صُدُورِ عَدُوِّكُمْ الْمَهَابَةَ مِنْكُمْ وَلَيَقْذِفَنَّ اللَّهُ فِي قُلُوبِكُمُ الْوَهْنَ فَقَالَ قَائِلٌ يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ وَمَا الْوَهْنُ قَالَ حُبُّ الدُّنْيَا وَكَرَاهِيَةُ الْمَوْتِ

Thawban reported: The Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him, said, “Soon the nations will be summoned to you just like one is invited to a feast.” It was said, “Will we be few in that day?”

The Prophet said, “No, rather, you will be many in that day, but you will be scum like such flowing down a torrent. Allah will remove your esteem from the chests of your enemies and Allah will insert feebleness in your hearts.” It was said, “O Messenger of Allah, what is this feebleness?” The Prophet said, “Love for the worldly life and hatred of death.”
(Source: Sunan Abī Dāwūd 4297)

3.4 HOW TO INCREASE, DEEPEN AND SUSTAIN *MAHABBATULLAAH* in this Age of Post-Truth, Deceit and Moral Relativism?