

*ALLMA IQBAL AND QAZI NAZRUL'S
CONTRIBUTION TO MUSLIM DIGNITY.
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Abstract

Qazi Nazrul Islam (1899 - 1976) was the great Muslim poet of Bengal. His contributions in the fields of sub-continent politics, Bangla literature, culture and the Muslim renaissance in South-Asian sub continent were substantive, deep and unique.

His literary activities were spread over a period of about twenty-five years from 1917 to 1942. ⁽¹⁾ His writings had great robustness and boldness. At childhood, Nazrul Islam lost his father and had little support to survive from poverty in the early part of the twentieth century. At the age of eight Nazrul passed the lower Primary examination from the 'maktab' ⁽²⁾ (religious institute). His knowledge of Muslim heritage and respect for Islam was deepened and strengthened following his employment as 'khadim' ⁽³⁾ or attendant at a 'dargah' of 'Haji Pahelwan' after his religious education. Later on he cultivated poetry while he was at Naushera (N.W.F.P.) and Karachi as sepoy of British Bengal 49th Regiment during First World War. It is reported by Azharuddin Khan in his book 'Bangla Sahitye Nazrul' (1997) that one 'Moulavi' (religious cleric) from present Pakistan's Punjab, employed in the Bengal Regiment, recited Diwan-i-Hafiz to Nazrul. Nazrul learnt Persian from the Moulavi as well to educate himself on Hafiz and gained sufficient knowledge of ghazal. Nazrul's literary career infact blossomed at Karachi, though he started writing poems at his birth place Churulia in Bengal (Now in India).

Also, Dr. Muhammad Iqbal is a great thinker of the Muslim world. He holds a very prominent place among the whole line of the Muslims philosophers, though his place is unique in so far as the current century is concerned, for there is hardly any contemporary Muslim thinker who can match with him. This amply accounts for the high and prestigious position he enjoys, not only among the Muslims of the Sub-continent, but throughout the world of Islam. He is not only a great Muslim thinker, but also one of the most notable philosophers in the world today, because very few philosophers have exercised so deep and vast an impact on their

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complete education to mankind. Religion of Islam is not dependent on the prayers, but it spreads on the whole life from the Birth till death, from cradle to grave, to live like the Prophet, a life there is a complete guidelines for social living.

In this respect The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) was provided practical and theoretical guidance for living a compatible life and to politely behave with each other. It was created to make our society a better place to live. We must act upon and sacrifice and do welfare with others. If we want to live and create peace and harmony, we must act upon all the teachings of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H), "May Allah bless us all to follow the Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) and His teachings, Ameen"!

CONCLUSION:

The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) was not an ordinary man, a mortal, but a mortal nonetheless. At the theological level, this means Muslims do not believe in the re-incarnation or the second coming. At the practical level, that too has significance. While Muslims duly and properly praise the Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H). Perfection is after all solely the attribute of Allah. It is purportedly said, rather than what he actually said. The only authentic ones are those recorded in the holy Quran. At the personal level, the fact is that The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) is a mortal means that his exemplary qualities are within the capability of every one of us to follow. That is the beauty of our Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H). He forbade what would be considered today as a personality cult. Had the Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) not done so, every Muslim home would be adorned with his portrait, cities named after him, and statues erected in his honor. For added measure, Muslims would be sporting amulets bearing his name or likeness for protection and good luck charms. May the blessings of Allah be upon him, his Family, and his Companions, Ameen. The tradition of recording his actions and sayings (*Seerah*) began long after his death. Bukhari, whose collections of *Hadith* were deemed most authentic, was not even born till about 200 years after the prophet's decease.

on the ground with the followers, all were hungry for several days. It was cold weather, cold wind was blowing, with all others; The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) had stone fastened on his stomach. All the followers present at that time, the *Ansaars*, the immigrants took part in the digging of trench. They all fetched sand and said that we accepted you as our Prophet and we would fight against the enemies. The followers involved in digging the trench and brought sand and bricks. The stomach of The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) became dusty by fetching bricks and sand.

During digging a strong cliff came in the way the followers could not break it. The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) held the shovel and struck it. The cliff /stone broke into pieces in one stroke.

The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) had advised in all matters and walks of life to the followers. The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) gave practical examples in all matters. When Prophet was working the followers felt proud to be with The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) on the same activity.

The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) formed a society which was replicable and an exemplary for others, The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) provided example of sacrifice.

When having thirsty in one of the expeditions The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) was drinking water as he was very thirsty after a hard work. He was given water and same time a voice was heard for drinking water. The water was sent to him, the drop of water was close to the mouth of this soldier. When it was close to the mouth and throat was ready to accept a drop. The drop was offered to some other, who was close by and asking water, what an example of sacrifice. There is no another example in the world for such sacrifice. When offering water to others said, "I cannot see the trouble of my brothers. Give them first and then give water to me".

There were two brothers in a battle and when water provider reached with water to this first brother. He said, "Give it to my other brother, but when in a hurry, he reached to him, he died. When returned to the first thirsty soldier he was also dead, they both died by preferring on each other. This is an example of sacrifice. They preferred others on their own need for water.

The readers: The Islam is a universal religion. The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) was sent to tell the mankind about the dooms day and the day of resurrection. The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) appeared with a

The best achievements of the personality of The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) included ones who always spoke truth, loved others, loved his neighbors, he was merciful to others.

The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) was brought up in an environment that no one was as pure and dignified, in his childhood, as equal to the Prophet.

The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) always fulfilled the promises and used to say, "By not fulfilling promise one becomes a traitor." It creates a social evil in the society. The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) always kept the promises. According to *Abdullah Abi Al Himad Radhi Allah anhu* (May Allah Be Pleased with Them). "Before accepting Islam, I had to pay something to The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) and I promised to come back within few minutes." When I went home and forget it, the third day, I remembered that I had promised to The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) to go back to him. He would wait for me. When I went back at the promised place The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) was there waiting for me for three days at the same place. The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) said, "I have been waiting for you here for three days".

The world did not see a person so steadfast and truthful in his words and promise that for three days stayed at the same place waiting for the person who promised to return with no time. There is no one who would wait for three days and would not scold the traitor.

In spite of being the leader involved with others in all matters and work of life. In the construction of '*Nabvi Mosque*' there were date trees, The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) told to cut them down and then order to make bricks and himself involved to make bricks, with the other followers. The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) fetched the bricks for the construction of the Mosque.

"It is not the burden of the dates; it is the best burden, Oh, Allah, in fact the reward is at the end. So have mercy on me and all the *Ansaars*, and immigrants, and the followers of The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) recited this verse.

Translation: "If we sit down and the Holy Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) worked alone, that this act would be bad for us".

During the battle of *Ahzab*, when the trench was dug, The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) himself held the shovel in his hands and struck it

The teachings of The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) are promoting peace and harmony in the society. The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) has preached all the matters that are needed for a person to become true and complete human being. He becomes a respectable part of the society.

The personality of The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) is full of blessings. The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) himself first acted upon the things than taught. The things forbidden and the things advised to follow are the part and parcel of the character of the Prophet.

The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) preached about good deeds and acts that he practiced and advised to speak truth, never told lie, The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) was called the *Sadiq* (the true) even the enemies accepted The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) as a true person.

The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) preached to be good and cautious to the neighbors. He always believed in making relationships. He preached to endure the pressure, to forgive others. He gave the best examples of forgiveness.

There is no example in the world equal to Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H). He condemned the love of the world and its things. In spite of being king of the two worlds he lived a life of simplicity. He has advised to pray God. He ordered the prayers and thankfulness to Allah. He practiced all this himself.

The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) advised to be sympathetic to the poor and practiced himself to look after the poor. He always treated the slaves with kindness. The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) as a social leader and pioneer of the most civilized society founded in *Madina* always treated the servants kindly. There is no example of other person for being kind, sympathetic to poor, slaves, servants, and the needy as the Holy Prophet, was in the world.

In short it can be summarized that The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) took part in each and every activity that happens around him.

When it was said that The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) you are a beloved of the God and yours sins have been forgiven you need not to pray whole night the Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) replied, that "I am thankful to God".

Hadith No. 2578) That he is not a well wisher of the humanity. It has been proclaimed the one who overspends is a selfish. This practice has destroyed the nations before you. It encouraged them to kill each other and the importance of Hiram over *Halal* and destroyed them. (It creates no distinctions among Hiram over *Halal*).

It is forbidden to destroy things. According to *Abu Hurrera Radhi Allah anhu* (May Allah Be Pleased with him). The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) said, "Three things are liked and three things are disliked.

The things that are liked:

1. Pray to God only,
2. Trust fully on God,
3. Do not shake your faith

The things that are disliked:

1. The delaying in doing work.
2. Ask too many questions.
3. Destroys the property.

The Aman Nori in the *Sharah* Muslim wrote the reason for forbidden destroying of property is equal to creating a confrontation in society. God dislikes the one who destroys property. When one destroys his property than he would find means and methods to get hold of others property.

Telling lie is another social evil, the liar has been cursed. In economic and trade it is the biggest form of destroying business. Telling lies in the business destroys its foundations. The level of the things decreases. Therefore, it is forbidden to tell lies in the business discourse. It is said that the true person, the trader is from among the Prophet, the truthful persons and the Martyrs would be among the Prophets at the domes day. By this incentive if people, the traders and others promote and speak truth in the trade, the society shall be on progress and would developed.

The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) has taken into consideration the welfare and development of the society there is no comparison in other religions. The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) was sent as the Blessing to the entire world and the mankind.

The personality of prophet is a blessing for all the nations, the entire world. The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) provided guidelines for the Muslims and non Muslims. All the things that are harmful for the society are forbidden. These are slowly taking the society towards the evil.

1. Who makes liquor?
2. Who takes it? Or uses it,
3. Who shifts it or transport it,
4. One who operates the business of liquor?
5. The one who drinks,
6. The provider of liquor,
7. The sellers of liquor,
8. The one who takes or make money,
9. The buyer of liquor,
10. The one who supports the business.

The drinking is the origin of all social evils. The drinker becomes prone to all social ills/evils/crimes. The peace and prosperity of society is disturbed. Therefore, to remove all the evils from the society and to save all the inhabitants from crime and other conflicts The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) as a social leader has forbidden drinking. The drinking actually breeds crime therefore, drinking has been condemn and forbidden. Human being can remain healthy and prosperous by avoiding drinking liquor.

The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) has forbidden hoarding very strictly that it creates an uneven society; it creates hunger, and starvation. The Muslim who is involved in hoarding of food items, "God may make him poor and leper". To keep the social harmony in the society The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) has forbidden hoardings⁽²⁴⁾. (*Idrees Kandahlvi Seerate-e-Mustafah*)

The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) has forbidden the eating of the food and taking away someone's luggage unlawfully. Taking someone's things without permission is Hiram. The Quran proclaimed it very clearly "Do not eat and snatch someone's items without permission. Don't take him to the authorities to capture his property". (*Surah Baqra verse. 188*)

In this Surah it is forbidden to capture other's property by exploiting them. Over spending is forbidden. Over spending is declared as unlawful it creates an evil in the society it deprived the beggars. It creates economic and social disparity in the society. The over spender is the brother of devil.⁽²⁵⁾ He who overspends is follower of devil and creates unrest in society. (*Idrees Kandahlvi Seerate-e-Mustafah*)

It is condemned, as it destroys the sympathy from society. Human beings become selfish and greedy. It is said that he who overspends, forgets the welfare of society but becomes a source of exploitation. (*Sahi Muslim*)

(P.B.U.H) with the authority. It was said for that matter that if anyone takes some portion from the *Zakat*. The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) said, "He shall be punished on the Day of Judgment". "The same things shall be put on the neck of the person who takes it away". "The things shall speak out in their own languages". It may be a camel or sheep or a goat or cow etc. The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) then raised his hands to the extent that everyone saw the white hairs under his arms and said, "Oh Allah I have preached your words".⁽¹⁹⁾ (*Surah Baqra v. 188*)

The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) also forbade the usury. Taking interest on the loan or money given to someone. It eats the society like ants. It makes it empty and the wealth concentrates in the hands of few persons. It deprives the hundreds and thousands and sometimes millions. It makes the society dependent on few. The Holy Quran has forbidden this business very strongly. The Holy Quran has declared this type of business a heinous crime against the society and the humanity. The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) said, "Be afraid of the wrath of God and forbid the act of usury and taking of interest on the money given to someone in need". Be aware of the wrath of God. It is said that if you cannot forgive the interest than get ready for the battle between God (his prophet) and the usurper (one who takes an interest). If you do not follow the teaching than get ready for a battle with prophet and God.⁽²⁰⁾ It is said, "If you repent, than only get/take the principal amount". "Do not exploit others and you shall not be exploited". (*Surah tul-Nabi verse 27*)

The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) made it clearer, that, "a person who takes one.⁽²¹⁾ Dirham of interest is equal having a rape of 36 times". (*Sahi Muslim*)

In Islam drinking and gambling is forbidden very strongly. It is warned, "Be aware of these evils, the devil wants to create conflict and confrontation.⁽²²⁾ To create enmity among you by drinking and gambling, so keep away and be aware" (*Surat Maith verse 90, 91*) The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) proclaimed. "If someone buy any **commodity / food items** than he should not sell it to others before taking its custody.

About drinking, The Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) has cursed on⁽²³⁾ ten persons. It is said, according to *Hazrat Unis Radhi Allah anHu* (May Allah Be Pleased with him). (*Sikawa Sharif Tirmizi Wa Bin Maja, translation as Mazahir Huq, Jaded Sharh Shikwa.*)