

Study Of World Religions (A Special Review Of Quranic Teachings)

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Abstract

This research paper named the study of world religions is to present a special study of the Qur'anic teachings that when man was born, he was completely unfamiliar with the concept of religion, and the origin of religion was from phenomenology. The worship of the earth began first and they started calling her Mother Earth. Umhathi system of society was prevalent and women had superiority over men. After that, when the importance of men increased, the Amhathi system was replaced by Abui system. A change in the concept of divinity took place. As the importance of the heavenly father increased in comparison with Mother Earth, the worship of the sun and the moon began. If we look at the history of the nations, it is known that the sun was considered the supreme deity in most of the nations of the world. Therefore, the gods Osiris and Horus of Egypt, Shams of Babylon, Ashur of the Assyrians were all the sun. The people of Greece, Etruria, Germany, Britain and Scandinavia worshiped the sun. In India from the Vedic period. Since then, "Sun worship" has been done and in Japan, King Mikado was considered the incarnation of the sun started, the time of sowing and reaping was determined by the rotation of the sun, and then solarism began to rise. Man has been a holder of such scattered ideas, which was given a final destination by the last inspired book, the Holy Quran, which will be described in this article.

Keywords: Religions, Quranic, Teachings, World, Comparative, Study of Text, Scriptures.

INTRODUCTION:

The study of religious scholars refers to a critical and fair evaluation of the basic beliefs, rituals and customs of different religions in such a way that the value, merits and demerits of each religion are fully illuminated. The main objective of the study

of religions is to make an unbiased comparison and impartial comparison of the teachings of popular religions and well-known religions found in the world. In addition, the virtues of all religions should be acknowledged with an open heart, the basic beliefs, worships and customs.

During the study of religions, if the merits of a religion come to light, then it should be appreciated without hesitation. In addition, if there is any flaw, it should be rejected with arguments and evidence so that access to the truth is possible. The excellence of the religion of Islam should be proved with rational arguments and its truthfulness with historical evidence so that the new generation and the educated class will consciously believe in it, accept it with the dignity of the president, and as a result, they will become the desired favorites in their lives. Through the study of religions, the truth and authenticity of Islamic beliefs compared to other religions, the safety and security of Islamic sources compared to the holy books of other religions, and being safe from errors and additions become clear. Rather, the simplicity of Islamic Shariat compared to other shariats and harmony with nature will be revealed.

Islam has the power of spiritual, intellectual, material, collective and political influence that no other religion has. Studying the world religions from all these aspects is extremely useful. With this, they can not only compete with the Orientalists and the Arabs intellectually, but by coming into a position to take action, they can dominate Islam over all the world religions and all thoughts and ideas, and then this intellectual dominance will lead to military dominance. The study of religions is of primary importance for a researcher and practitioner of religion. Through this, the researcher and claimant gets to know the psychology, history, culture and belief of the addressed nations. By highlighting the weaknesses in their beliefs and Shariat, it paves the way for reflection and research.

DEFINITION OF RELIGION:

Religion literally means way or path¹. The root of the English word religion is the Latin word religio, which means prohibition or restriction. Religion is defined in the Oxford dictionary as follows.

"The belief in and worship of a superhuman controlling power, especially a personal God or gods".²

Sir EB Taylor defined religion in these words:

"Religion means the belief in spiritual beings."³

These definitions of religion appear vague and unclear.

Religion is defined in the National English Urdu Dictionary in these words:

(h) the act of recognizing a supernatural power as the authority for obedience, respect and worship; This feeling or spiritual attitude of those who recognize this kind of sovereign power and its expression in their life and conduct; the act of performing auspicious customs or actions; A particular system of belief in and worship of a single and absolute God or one or more deities.

This definition of religion is more comprehensive than the previous definitions but it also does not fully cover religion.

If we consider the Holy Qur'an, the word religion does not appear in it, but instead, the words religion, nation, path, path, Shariat and guidance are used. These words are common in the meaning of path, method and guidance. . We get guidance about religion from several verses of the Holy Qur'an. For example, in Surah Inam:

Say, ``I have guided my Lord to a straight path.

"Say that indeed my Lord has guided me to the straight path. To the nation of the leader of religion, Ibrahim Hanif, and he (Sayyidna Ibrahim) was not of the polytheists."

Imam Raghbi writes in the interpretation of the word Millat:

"Al-Mulat al-Kaldin is the name of the law of Allah Almighty to worship on the tongue of the Prophets let it be brought to the side of Allah."⁴

"Mullat is synonymous with religion and it is the name of the method of Allah Ta'ala which He has

prescribed for His servants through the language of the Prophets, peace be upon them, so that the servants can get close to Allah Ta'ala."⁵

Similarly, in Surah Maida he said:

We have made for each of you a law and a method.

"We have prescribed for each of you a law and a religion."⁶

Imam Raghīb writes under the word 'Sharia':

"Al-Shari'a follows the clear path and the metaphor of this for the path of God."

"Sharia means the clear path and it refers to the divine way."⁷

Therefore, we can say that religion, nation, religion and Shariat are different names of the same thing. In the light of the above and other Quranic verses, we can define religion as follows:

"Religion is a collection of commands and instructions based on revelation which Allah Ta'ala revealed gradually through His prophets and messengers for the guidance and guidance of humanity and by following which we can be leaders in the test of this world and the hereafter."

- **RELIGION IS A NATURAL NECESSITY:**

By promoting, the ideas of atheism and secularism, the West tried to prove that religion is an obstacle to progress and a large section of us Muslims also seem to be influenced by their propaganda. Although religion is a natural, need of man. There are many reasons for it, some of which are:

- It is an indisputable fact that any thing or machine in the world is useful as long as it is operated according to the instruction manual issued by its maker. Man is a creature that A sane person, irrespective of his religion, believes that there must be a Being who created the universe and runs its system.

This has been described in the Holy Quran in these words:

"Ask them whose is the earth and all that is in it, if you know. Soon they will say that it is for Allah. Say, then, do you not receive admonition? Say, Lord of the seven heavens and the Great Throne." Who is it? Soon they will say, "Allah, say, are you not afraid?"⁸

Therefore, when Allah is our creator and owner, we should live our lives according to the instruction manual sent by Him, i.e. religion.

- When the creator of the universe sent man to the earth, he subjugated all the things of the universe for him. Therefore, the sun and the moon, the earth and the sky, mountains and rivers, air and water, light and heat, animals and plants, everything is at the service of man. All these things are for the fulfillment of the physical needs of man, while to fulfill the spiritual needs of man, God Almighty sent the Prophets and Messengers, who through divine revelation provided the material for the satisfaction of the soul, as the Qur'an. Allah says in the Majeed:

"Only with the remembrance of Allah do you secure the hearts"⁹

- Allah Almighty made man the Ashraf al-Makhluqat. If man makes the purpose of his life merely to provide food, drink, clothes and shelter and to raise children, then animals also do this work created under a special purpose and that purpose can be known to us only through religion. So in the Holy Qur'an:

"And We created the jinn and mankind only for Our worship."¹⁰

From this blessed verse, it is known that a person's twenty-four hours of life should be spent in worship, that is, a person should do everything

according to the way described by Allah and His Messenger, and this is possible only through religion.

❖ **ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT OF RELIGION:**

There are two theories about the beginning of religion: one is the evolutionary theory and the other is the religious theory.

❖ **EVOLUTIONARY THEORY:**

According to this theory, when man was born, he was completely unfamiliar with the concept of religion and the origin of religion was from phenomenology first of all, the worship of the earth began and it was called Mother Earth. Compared to the man, the woman had superiority and superiority. After that, when the importance of the man increased, the Amhati system was replaced by the Abui system. A change in the concept of divinity took place and the importance of the heavenly father increased compared to the mother earth. In this series, the worship of the sun and the moon began. If we look at the history of the nations, it is known that the sun was considered the supreme deity in most of the nations of the world. Therefore, the gods of Egypt, Osiris and Horus, The Sun of Babylon, Assyria of the Assyrians were all the sun. The people of Greece, Etruria, Germany, Britain and Scandinavia worshiped the sun. In India, since the Vedic period, "Surya Puja" has been worshiped and in Japan, King Mikado, Kobi was believed to be the incarnation of the sun. When man started farming life, determined the time of sowing and harvesting by the rotation of the sun, then the sun worshipers. The worship of the Moon became less than that of the Sun.

The planets were worshiped by various nations. In Babylon, the worship of the stars was strong. Like the sun and the moon, each star had a god and was recognized as having a soul, but the most important of them were the "pole stars", because it was the central point of the sky. Brahma of the

Hindus is also associated with the pole star. In some nations, mountains have been worshiped because of their auspiciousness and benefits, because they believed that mountains caused rain and the rivers come out of the mountains and make the land fertile, some mountains were considered sacred in different nations of the world, for example Kailash Parbat among the Hindus and Mount Zion among the Jews in the giants of different nations, there is a mention of a sacred mountain that was the abode of gods, such as Samird of the Hindus, Khursak Kara of the Babylonians, Quin Luen of the Chinese, Olympus of the Greeks and Albers of the Iranians, etc.

The concept of a sacred tree is also associated with the sacred mountain. For example, the Som of the Hindus, the Hosem of the Iranians, the Tree of Life (or the Tree of Life) of the Jews. The Babylonians worshiped an imitation of the "Heavenly Tree" which was called Asherah. Also in the Nordic nation. The sacred tree was worshiped and this ritual is still carried on among Christians in the form of the "Christmas tree".

Among the four elements, fire has been worshiped the most. This worship was practiced when man discovered fire. Since it is difficult to regain fire after it is extinguished, people did not allow fire to be extinguished as far as possible fire was considered the representative of the sun on earth. Similarly, some nations worshiped volcanic mountains. The Persians have been fire worshipers since ancient times. Every city in Greece used to have a big bonfire. Here the fire was lit day and night. It was the same practice in Italy, where the goddess of fire was called Vesta. The famous civilizations of ancient times were born in the river valleys, there flourished, the Nile River in Egypt, the Tigris and Euphrates in Iraq, the Indus, and the Ganges and Yamuna in India, and the valleys of Huanghu in China were a special center of civilization in ancient times. In some cases, these rivers have also been worshiped. To make the rivers happy, people

have sacrificed and sometimes living people were sacrificed to the waves of the river.

Sexual desire is a natural requirement. It had two purposes. First, to obtain pleasure, secondly, reproduction, and in view of this importance, sexual organs were worshiped in Egypt, Iraq, India, Greece and Rome, etc. Animal worship in every region of the world. Animalism started with the fear of animals. Later, the belief that the souls of men roam around in animal forms became a common practice. In this context, composite gods were born. Some incarnations of Ganesha and Vishnu are similar in Hinduism.

When the human race developed as a collective, man gave birth to more than family life to tribal life and more than tribal life to the kingdom, then the practice of bigotry and kingship started, for example Pharaoh and Nimrod etc.

❖ RELIGIOUS THEORY:

According to this theory, religion began when Allah sent Adam (peace be upon him) to the earth, and after that a series of prophets (peace be upon him) continued to show people the knowledge of their Lord and their real destination, Paradise. He was performing the duty of guidance. He made clear to the people both the halal and haram and good and bad paths. Those who responded to his invitation were blessed with prosperity in this world and the hereafter, and those who followed the path of disobedience, rebellion and disobedience were promised a humiliating and painful punishment.

We said, 'Beware of it all, for if guidance comes to you from me, then whoever follows my guidance, then there is no fear for them, nor for them.

They grieve and those who disbelieved and lied about Our verses, those are the companions of the Fire, they will abide therein.

"We said, all of you, get down from here, so when a guidance comes to you from me, those

who follow My guidance will have no fear, nor will they grieve. And those who reject it and deny Our revelations, they shall enter the Fire where they shall abide forever."¹¹

In the beginning, all people were steadfast in the Sharia and religion revealed by Allah and did not transgress the limits set by Him, but with the passage of time Satan led them astray from the straight path. Some of them remained on the straight path and the rest they went astray. This fact

"And all the people were one nation, and then they differed."¹²

The difference means that in later times not all people could stick to the straight path. Various types of evils arose in them and they associated various phenomena of the universe with God. They started worshiping stones, trees, animals, fire, sun, moon and stars. They made images and idols of good people. They started worshiping. People went and settled in different parts of the world and different nations came into being. These nations invented their own laws and rituals. These ignorant rituals came to be considered as religion.

In these situations, Allah, the Most High, sent His Jalil-ul-Qadr Prophets, who stopped people from ignorant rituals, idolatry and polytheism and called them to the Oneness of Allah. He gave the good news of Paradise to those who obeyed and the promise of Hell to those who rebelled. It was narrated that these prophets were sent to all nations.

And if there is a void in it

"And no ummah has passed in which no one who intimidated has come."¹³

Maulana Syed Abul Ala Maududi writes in his explanation:

"It has been said in several places in the Holy Qur'an that there has not been a nation in the world that Allah Almighty did not send a prophet

to guide. In this regard, two things should be understood so that there is no misunderstanding. The first is that the preaching of a prophet is enough for wherever it can reach. It is not necessary that each village and each nation should be different only prophets should be sent. Secondly, as long as the call of a prophet, the signs of guidance and the footprints of his guidance are preserved, there is no need for a new prophet. It is not necessary that a separate prophet for each generation and each generation be sent."¹⁴

The study of the Bible also shows that the religion of man was monotheism in the beginning. Now Western researchers have also been forced to abandon the evolutionary point of view and accept the Qur'anic point of view. Therefore, Professor Schmitt wrote:

"The old evolutionary religion has now become completely useless in the whole field of knowledge of human nations and tribes. The happy chain of evolutionary links which this religion willingly produced has now been torn to pieces and the new historical Trends have picked it up and thrown it away."¹⁵

From Sayyidna Adam (peace be upon him) to Sayyidna Isa (peace be upon him), all the prophets who were sent were for a particular nation and a particular region. It is in the Holy Qur'an:

"Indeed, We sent Noah to his people."¹⁶

"To the people of Aad came their brother Hud."¹⁷

And to the people of Thamud he sent their brother Saleh.¹⁸

And his brother Shoaib came to Madin.¹⁹

It is said about Jesus (peace be upon him):

"He was a messenger to the Bani Israel."²⁰

The Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) was sent as a prophet to the whole world. This series of prophethood and

messaging has been completed with the sending of his Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). There will be no prophet until the Day of Judgment.

"And We have sent you as a bearer of glad tidings and a warner to all people."²¹

And the book that was revealed to you (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) is for the guidance of the whole world.

"This (Qur'an) is an admonition for all the worlds."²²

All the books revealed before it have been distorted and they do not exist in their original form, but the Holy Qur'an is the only book that exists in its original form because Allah Ta'ala has taken the responsibility of protecting it.

Verily, We have sent down the remembrance, and We have preserved it.

"Surely We have sent down this Qur'an and We are its guardians."²³

Therefore, it is now necessary for every person, regardless of any region or religion of the world, to believe in the prophethood and message of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and the last book revealed to him, namely, the Holy Qur'an. .

❖ A BRIEF INTRODUCTION TO RELIGIONS:

We can divide the religions found in the world into two major groups: Semitic religions and non-Semitic religions.

• SEMITIC RELIGIONS:

According to the Bible, the name of one of the sons of Prophet Noah (peace be upon him) was Sam and his descendants were called Sami. So Sami religions are the religions that developed among Jews, Arabs and Assyrians, etc. Assamese religions include Judaism, Christianity and Islam. All are prophetic religions and believe in divine

instructions that God sent down to earth through prophets.

- **NON-SEMITIC RELIGIONS:**

Non-Semitic religions can be further divided into two sub-categories: Aryan religions and non-Aryan religions.

- **ARYAN RELIGIONS:**

Aryans are the religions that originated in the Aryan nation. Aryans are those nations who were very powerful and spoke Indo-European languages. They spread from Iran to North India between 2000 and 1500 BC.

Aryan religions can be further divided into two categories: first Vedic and second non-Vedic. Vedic religion is commonly referred to as Hinduism and Brahmanism, while non-Vedic religions include Sikhism, Buddhism and Jainism etc. Almost all Aryan religions do not have the concept of prophets.

Zoroastrianism is an Aryan but non-Vedic religion unrelated to Hinduism and claims to be a prophetic religion.

- **NON-ARYAN RELIGIONS:**

Non-Aryan religions originated in different places. Confucianism and Taoism developed in China while Shintoism flourished in Japan. Many such non-Aryan religions do not have the concept of God. They are called ethical systems rather than formal religions. systems) would be more appropriate.

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CONCLUSION:

Objective study of religion and religious issues is an indispensable requirement of modern man. The study and comparison of religions is indeed a very difficult task. A man can do little justice to the beliefs and opinions that he believes in. When the followers of one religion criticize another religion, they look for its dark side and either do not try to see the bright side or try to hide it deliberately. All the benefits of studying religions in this way are lost and the religion itself is not benefited by this misguided method. The need and importance of the study of the world's religions has become less and less in this era of chaos, division and weakness of Muslims.

By examining the study of the world's religions from the Qur'an, it has been understood that

Religion and religion have an inseparable relationship with human life. This relationship is so deep that even by denying it, he cannot get rid of it. When the relationship between religion and humanity is like this, it should also be studied seriously. But man has become so diseased that he has often become careless in this matter and feels no need to research religion. Due to this lack of seriousness, many well-known scholars in the matter of religion without thinking accept unreal things as reality on the basis of pre-established ideas. . Therefore, in matters of religion man should be sensitive as he is in other matters of life.

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⁹ Al-Qur'an Al-Kareem ,Al Raad 13, 28

¹⁰ Al-Qur'an Al-Kareem ,Al-Zariyat 51, 56

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