

Draft

America Muslim Ummah and Pakistan

Dr. Muhammad Farooq Khan

National Research and Development Foundation (NRDF)

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National Research and Development Foundation (NRDF)

25, Siyal Flats, Abdara Chowk, Main Jamrud Road, Peshawar, NWFP

Phone: 00-92-91-844585, 5703091, Fax: 91-852176, E-mail: nrdf@psh.paknet.com.pk

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FOREWORD

The World War-II split the world into two different blocks. One block was led by USA while the other was headed by Soviet Union. This division resulted in a conflict between the two countries in the various sectors like politics economy, media, military, science and technology. This conflict could not come to an end for many decades till USA emerged as the sole leader of the world after the dismemberment of Soviet Union. USA introduced the concept of the New World Order in order to cope with the new responsibilities and give a longer lasting sustenance to its power. This situation injected a fear into the Muslim world in general and Pakistanis in specific that USA would aim at the Muslim community. The situation in Afghanistan, Kashmir, Palestine, Bosnia and the atrocities inflicted upon the Muslims all over the World were tendered as a justification for their claim. Some religious factions started expressing their doubts regarding the reliability of USA as a trustworthy friend of Pakistan despite comprehensive assistance provided to it in Afghan war. They had an opinion that USA was such a monstrous evil that intended to play havoc with the Muslim world due to its lethal combination with Jews, Hindus and Christians.

This discussion is at its peak nowadays in the background of Iraq issue and it is openly expressed that some intense efforts must be made to check the onslaught lunched by USA against Muslims. Everywhere people attribute prospective American attack on Iraq to its desire for occupation on Iraqi oil fields. Some people take it as an opening episode of the series of crusades and thus consider it essential to fight against America and the west.

On the other side masses in non-Muslim countries are also being vocal against war. They call upon their respective governments not to go for salvation through war, which would certainly give boost to hatred. Is it true that USA is a staunch enemy of Muslims? Should we believe it blindly or chalk out our future line of action after making an impartial analysis of the situation? These are the issues the Muslims all over the world are faced with.

Dr. Muhammad Farooq Khan, an eminent intellectual and an author of several books has tried to deal with all such issues in his logical, unique and impressive style. This enterprise indicates several new dimensions. This booklet primarily tends to inculcate a rational approach among Muslims so that the prospects for a peaceful coexistence with the West are seen in the near future and a world of peace and love may be created within this globe of ours.

National Research and development Foundation, an institution that has been rendering services for the last ten years to ensure the participation of religious institutions in the process of development, is conducting a research project regarding an effort to view the social problems in the light of Islamic teaching and find solutions to them. This project is at the last stage of its completion and will soon be available in the form of booklets.

National Research and Development Formulation is thankful to Dr. Muhammad Farooq Khan who wrote this booklet in order to inculcate a new thinking among Muslims in their larger interest. It is hoped that this booklet would not only promote new vision on peace but would also serve as the stepping-stone in the highway to awareness and prosperity.

Tahseen-ullah Khan
Chief Co-ordinator

Chapter 1

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE TOPIC

The study of USA is very important in the context of Muslim world and Pakistan. This huge country with four different time zones simultaneously is the most powerful, developed and rich state of the world today. It has retained this status for the last several decades and it has no apparent rival after the dismemberment of Soviet Union. This joint power of the six big nations of the world viz. U.K, France, Germany, Japan, Russia and China cannot even equalize it. It has the lion's share in the world trade. It has no parallel in industry, science and technology. No country can compare it in the manufacture of weaponry. It expresses serious concern over global issue and has a dominating role in U.N.O. Obviously every country tries to maintain cordial relations with it.

One must know its history, democratic system, values, culture, and institutions, way of life and dimensions of thought in a comprehensive manner before forming an opinion about the American point of view and its substantial role and devising a strategy accordingly. This approach would surely be in the interest of Muslims and better for the world peace.

Presently the Muslim world has three different kinds of attitude. Firstly, U.S.A is the axis of evil that has its evil desires against Muslims. It intends to keep the Muslims economically and politically weak and dependent upon itself. It conspires with Europe and Israel against Muslims. It has a key role in the policy making in the whole Muslim world including Pakistan. Acquiring and losing power by every Muslim ruler is just at the discretion of U.S.A. The mutual conflicts in the Muslim world are also because of American conspiracy. Hence, it is obligatory upon Muslims to counter American plans and develop awareness among them about the American hostility against them. That is why Muslims politics and approach must focus on anti. U.S sentiments.

The second group of people thinks that since America is a super power and no one can check its onward rush, it would be a suicidal attempt to oppose it. It is, therefore, advisable to survive as an ally of U.S.A. We may convey our desires to it but can't assert. One must not offend U.S.A as it is not affordable to face economic and political instability and the existing rule may be put athwart due to the massive opposition.

The third group emphasize upon improvising the condition of Pakistan and its people instead of attaching undue importance to U.S factor. No plot against Pakistan would gain success if it manage to keep its people satisfied through political freedom, economic prosperity and acquisition of technology. This way would not give room to U.S.A for intervention. In fact the Muslims in Pakistan should avoid any such situation that may encourage U.S.A for encroachment on their freedom. The working relationship with U.S. must be maintained, keeping a reasonable distance while avoiding any sort of extremity in relations with it. Pakistan should device a strategy on every issue keeping in view its principled and practical aspects. Malaysia is the only example among the Muslim countries following this path to some extent.

Every Pakistani has a keen interest in politics and the climax of a political discussion everywhere reaches at the focal point of U.S.A. It is, therefore essential to understand American system and its values so as to develop moderation and objectivity in one's thinking.

Chapter 2

PRIMARY FACTS AND CHRONOLOGY

The total area of U.S.A is 9.4 million square kilometers, which is twelve times greater than of Pakistan. Its per capita income is forty thousand dollars per annum. It has fifty states and one federal district. Its total population is two hundred and seventy million. It has Atlantic Ocean on one side and Pacific Ocean on the other side. Canada, a friend of U.S.A is situated in north while in South lies a poor country Mexico. Apparently, a ground military attack on U.S.A is out of question.

America has a unique history. It is, in fact a new country discovered five hundred years ago where the European settlers started pouring in since 17th century. The import of African slaves also started in the same period. Although United Kingdom had declared North America as its territory in 1497, their advent in this area began almost after a century. This huge country with its rich natural resources tempted various people to try their luck. Since some of these people had come from a developed country; they established political institutions as well along with economic uplift. The real power rested with the elected bodies though the apparent rule was in the hands of U.K. A variety in the religious and cultural life of those people was witnessed right from the beginning because they belonged to different areas and diverse religious creeds and had realized the need of peaceful co-existence.

The government of United Kingdom started consolidating its rule in this area by levying taxes and sending troops. This created resentment among American people and they protested against these steps. The legislative assemblies of several American states declared these taxes as illegal.

In 1773 the tax on the product of tea was reviewed and its business was handed over solely to East India Company. This step-invited protest on a large level and the American labours dressed as Red Indians, threw 342 Cartons of tea in sea near Boston in December 1773. This incident is commonly known as Boston tea party.

In April 1775 thirteen states entered into a federation and George Washington was appointed as Commander-in-Chief of American armed forces. Thus a war irrupted between U.K and the newly born state. The formal declaration for freedom was made on 4th July 1776. This war continued for five years in which France supported the American forces as well. This war claimed thousands of lives on both sides. However, a debate over the system of government continued throughout the country during this period. It was borne in the minds of the people and the leadership from the very beginning that their survival and the promised development are possible just through democracy. Hence, the democratic culture assumed the status of a basic value in this state. Gradually more states kept pouring in this federation.

In the meanwhile, the conflict between the Northern and Southern states kept mounting upwards. Slavery was the main cause of dispute. The Southern states decided to quit the federation at the time of Lincoln's accession to the office of President and war broke out between the two rival groups of states in April 1861. This war lingered on during the next four years and fate, ultimately sided with the northern states. Resultantly all southern stats once again became a part of the federation. There was a huge loss of human lives in this war. The restructuring of the

country began after this fatal war. Slavery was abolished and several immigrants got settled in U.S.A, which caused an enormous increase in population. These immigrants contributed a lot in the industrial development of the country. In 1898, a war broke out between America and Spain on the issue of Cuba that ended with the American victory. During the first four years of the First World War, America remained impartial though it had a soft corner for the allied powers. Germany, suspecting American ships to be carrying ammunition for the allied forces, perished them. America thus declared to side with the allied forces and thus played its role in the destruction of Germany in the last year. After this war, U.S acted warmly in the formation of League of Nations, the first international body.

The country remained stricken by serious economic setback during the period between 1929-1933. This period is known as “Great Depression”. However, President Roosevelt managed to control the situation through firm legal financial steps.

On 7th September 1941, Japan launched a massive attack on Pearl Harbor, an American seaport. Consequently America declared war against Japan, Germany and Italy respectively. U.S succeeded in preparing atomic bomb in 1945 and the first bomb was exploded on Heroshima according to the commandment of President Truman. This attack killed almost 80,000 people and 100000 were seriously wounded. Three days later, the same havoc was played with Nagasaki and five days later Japan surrendered.

America and Russia got entangled in the Cold war immediately after Second World War as Russia had extended its area of influence up to Eastern Europe and several countries of Asia. In order to counter this situation U.S entered into numerous defense treaties including NATO.

In 1950, U.S sent its troops, under the command of General Macarthur to South Korea for its defense against Korean aggression. This force had almost conquered whole of North Korea when one million Chinese army near River Yalo that flows between the borders of China and North Korea devastated it. General Macarthur wrote a letter to congressmen condemning President Truman for not permitting attack on China. This letter resulted in the dismissal of Macarthur from his office. U.S adopted a careful foreign policy some years after that. For instance America did not support France when the communist forces in Indo-China confronted it in 1954. In 1956, there was a revolt against the communist regime in Hungry but U.S abstained from playing its part. When Britain, France and Israel captured Suez Canal, U.S just restricted itself to a mere threat of economic embargo on these countries but avoided a direct confrontation with them. However, it signed several defense treaties with them like SEATO and CENTO in the years to come.

In August 1964, President Johnson decided to go for the redressal of South Vietnam from the domination of communist North Vietnam. America dispatched almost 550000 soldiers to the war front who remained indulged in the war for nine years. This war received a tax of almost 68000 American soldiers while a large number of soldiers were seriously wounded. Almost 10,000 planes were crashed and American economy received a serious blow. President Nixon ultimately decided to step out of this lost war.

America faced another setback during the regime of President Carter when king of Iran was dethroned through a massive revolution led by religious leaders in 1979. American diplomats were made hostages by the new government on 3rd November 1979. President Carter failed to get

these diplomats released despite all his efforts including military action. These hostages were released by Iran itself on 20th January 1981 when President Regan was sworn in.

Noor Muhammad Tarakai toppled President Sardar Daud's rule in 1978 through a communist revolution, which ensued a civil war in Afghanistan and the Islamists, captured a large part of the rural area of the country. Russian troops invaded Afghanistan on 25th December 1979. America started providing weaponry, financial assistance and supplies to the anti-communist Islamic militants. This aid amounted to almost two billion dollars granted during next nine years. Almost an aid of same amount was provided by Saudi Arabia while China, Iran and Egypt also granted aid to anti-communist forces. From 1986 onwards, U.S provided stinger missiles to Mujahidin that changed the colour of the battle. USSR suffered seriously as it lost hundreds of its warplanes and received a death toll of almost 35000 soldiers, Consequently Russian army had to quit Afghanistan on 10th February 1989. This war gave a fatal blow to USSR while it proved to be an exemplary success for U.S.A as it gave a disastrous defeat to Russia without having lost even a single soldier.

Iraq made an unlawful conquest Kuwait on August 2, 1990. U.N.O condemned it and a joint force was established comprising of twenty eight countries headed by U.S.A. Iraq was warned to quit Kuwait by 16th January, 1991 failing it had to face the military action.

Iraq refused to accept the resolution and received heavy bombardment for five weeks. After this period, ground attack was launched against Iraq, which continued for four days. Iraqi Army vacated Kuwait in a haste. Even they stepped out of some areas of Southern Iraq. Iraqi death toll was almost two hundred thousand military and civilian personals where American loss was not even worth mentioning. American forces were deployed in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia for prevention from any Iraqi aggression in future and their expenses had to be paid by these two countries. Prior to this Iraq had attacked Iran in September 1980, which continued till August 1988. This war claimed four hundred thousand Iraqi lives whereas six hundred thousand Iranians were also killed. The two countries and other Arab countries sustained a huge economic loss.

Bosnia, a Muslim majority province of Yugoslavia, declared independence after the dismemberment of the country in December 1991. The neighboring Christian state of Serbia waged war against Bosnia. Bosnia had to face a difficult situation, as 30% of its population was comprised of Serbs. Bosnia defended itself successfully during the first three years. A joint European Army launched air raids on Serbia under the command of NATO on the insistence of U.S., which forced Serbia to negotiate. America mediated the parleys and the conflicting parties reached "Dayton peace plan" and Bosnia emerged as an independent Muslim state. Several Serb leaders were tried in the international court as war criminals. Bosnia was also granted an aid of six billion dollars by U.S.A and European nations to rebuild it.

Another Muslim majority province of Kosovo was situated near Bosnia. NATO bombarded Serbian forces to protect it from orthodox Christian Serbia and thus one more Muslim country emerged on the world map within Europe.

America got itself entangled with Usama Bin Laden, a descendent of an influential Saudi family who had been in Afghanistan between 1980 and 1990, Bin Laden turned against U.S and Saudi Governments when American forces stayed in Saudi Arabia on its request even after the Gulf war. After 1990 he trained his companions for four years during his stay in Sudan and went back

to Afghanistan in 1996 he simultaneously declared war against U.S.A. He managed to train several Arabs and non-Arabs in different camps. On 23rd February 1980, All groups associated with “Al-Qaida” announced war against America and its allies and issued a “Fatwa” (verdict) that it was obligatory upon every Muslim to kill every military or civilian citizen of these countries. In 1998, hundreds of people were killed in the blasts in American embassies in Kenya and Tanzania. U.S accused Al-Qaida of these blasts and demanded the culprits to be handed to it by the Taliban government of Afghanistan. U.N.O also passed the resolution with the similar contents. The attack on a ship named “Cole” on a Yemeni harbour was also attributed to Al-Qaida. But the biggest disaster took place on September 11, 2001 when 19 Arab highjakers collided two kidnapped airplanes with world trade center in a suicidal attempt and turned this huge fabric to ashes killing almost 4000 people. A third hijacked plane collided with Pentagon, the defense headquarters of U.S. and the fourth crashed as a result of skirmish between the passengers and the hijackers. Obviously, Al-Qaida and Bin Laden were declared as the “chief suspects” and U.S issued ultimatum to Taliban to hand over the suspects to them. To it failing, U.S would attack Afghanistan. U.N.O. passed a resolution of the same nature but Taliban refused to comply with it. Resultantly, America opened war against Taliban with the support of its allies and the Northern alliance in Afghanistan on 7th October. Taliban government was put to end within two months and Hamid karzai was made head of the interim government on 20 December as per “Bonn” Agreement”. American and its allied troops are still present in Afghanistan.

Chapter 3

SOME IMPORTANT SOCIAL ASPECTS

Individual's freedom:

American culture stresses a lot on individual's personal likes, dislikes and achievements. This way, it is entirely different from other societies of the world. The people came here from the heterogeneous corners of the world and had their respective ambitions before them. They irrespectively belonged to middle class and thus any sort of class distinction was unknown to this society. This is why, Americans have a friendly nature. They rate an individual on the basis of his personal achievements and not because of his wealth or family name.

This social value carries such a worth that no one can interfere in others' matters. Any one can enjoy his personal freedom in every way if he abides by law and does not promote violence. This individuality breeds the sense of competition and everyone desires to do something extraordinary. This is why American society is a paradise for all legally valid immigrants,

Democratic values:

No one can imagine a free life without the true democratic culture, which runs in the veins of American society. This society had no imperial history, rather it had witnessed a democratic culture right in its infancy. They had sincere experimentation of democracy and knew its worth. The press there is free and cruel at the same time in similar context. The T.V. Channels are free from the state control. Undoubtedly the people have their prejudices about the matters over which they have a national consensus yet they are not out of a democratic process. The individual's opinion is respected and no party leader enjoys veto power within his political party. Thus, while individually a man lives with full liberty, the collective life bases itself on democracy.

Religious trends:

Religion is a strong value in the American society unlike other developed societies of the world. These people keep themselves attached with church and other religious centers and perform welfare services even in the distant corners of the world. Many people make religious service an ambition for their lives. They show interest in other religions of the world and like to exchange views on this subject. In other words, all citizens in the U.S.A whether Muslims, Christians, Jews, Hindus etc. enjoy religious freedom to the maximum level.

Moral values:

American people are identified by their truthfulness, honesty and justice inside their society. They disapprove strongly the practices of lying, misrelating and adulteration. They respect law and never hesitate to support and back truth. The real worth is attached to hard work and nepotism is non-existent. They believe in logic and tolerance and avoid any thing irrational. They have a culture of self-accountability.

It is borne in the mind of every American that he/she has to contribute something to the society. Hence, there are numerous institutions for the poor and the sick. Many organizations work for the promotion of good values like the restoration of a family system or preservation of wild life,

art and literature. Some people are even educating people to avoid any sexual relation prior to marriage in order to protect themselves from the hazard of Aids.

The American society is a blend of contrast in terms of sexual relations. However, unlike other European societies, it is not absolutely a free sex society, though mixed gatherings and nightclub life is a routine matter. Kissing by the roadside is not appreciated. The relationships of boy friend and girl friend is taken special care of like the bond of marriage though it has no legal and documentary status. Single mothers are commonly seen in the society. It is not that easy to develop sexual relations. Homosexuality is allowed in the society, however, the ratio of such people in the society is not large. They believe any imposition upon them to be against the individual's freedom.

Secularism is another American value but it has a contrasting feature from that of practiced in Europe. Every religion is respected and tolerated here. For example Muslim women are not encouraged to use veils in France while this practice is respected in U.S, considering it an emblem individual's freedom.

The concept of a welfare state:

There is another contrast in the American society as this richest country of the world displays several spectacles of poverty mostly through its Red Indian and black citizens. In the capital, Washington D.C almost 15000 people out of 600000 are shelterless and sleep on footpaths. In fact, American concept of a welfare state is different from that of Europe. The European welfare states take the responsibility of an individual from cradle to grave but have to levy huge taxes in order to meet the expenses. Mostly these taxes exceed up to 50% of the income. Since the real welfare states like Scandinavian countries are so small and free from the danger of any aggression from outside and they don't have to play any part in the international dispute, it becomes convenient for them to meet the requirements of a welfare state. On the contrary, Americans believe that the concept of a complete welfare state is against the spirit of market economy, as it requires imposition of so much taxes on the individual that it damages the freedom and the sense of competition among people. This is why taxes are comparatively less than Europe. Most of the states levy either income or wealth tax. Education for the first twelve years is free for every citizen. For the higher education, one has to pay. Americans have detached the state from society in terms of the responsibilities of welfare. A large number of N.G.Os perform the welfare services like provision of education, food and residence for the needy. They also provide assistance in the fields of health and medication to all people including illegal settlers.

America's democratic system:

Unlike British democracy Americans practice direct democracy as they have introduced presidential form of government. It is interesting to note that there are a lot of things quite opposite to Britain. In U.K traffic flows left on the road while it is on right side in U.S. The Britain's have kilometers to measure the distance and Americans determine it through miles, The electric potential is measured as 220 volts in U.K which is different from that of U.S. British people don't get mixed up easily while Americans like to raise hue and cry and enjoy life though fun and humour. It seem as if Americans have deliberately reverted some British values.

Two or three party system:

Since long two party system is in vogue in U.S.A. The Republican Party and the Democratic Party are the two main parties of the country. At times a third party emerges to create ripples on the surface like the Green party, which has not yet been able to establish itself.

The two party systems took a lot of time to establish in America. The Republican party believes in American culture, American values and American dominance. It emphasizes on domestic values and religion. This party keeps American interests ahead of everything in foreign relations. On the other side, the Democratic Party has a sympathetic view about human rights, women, minorities, labour class and immigrants. However, it is difficult to draw a clear line of demarcation between the two. Each party has three further groups within it in terms of thought viz liberal, moderate and conservative. These contrasting shades, at times, make the situation interesting, as there is hardly a difference between the thoughts of a conservative democrat and a liberal Republican. The moderates from both the parties are almost alike.

The real structure of these parties exists at the state level while it is quite loose at national level and just works at the time of the presidential elections.

Each voter is allowed to show himself associated with either of the parties in the voters' list or to remain impartial. He/she may change his affiliation at any moment but their association enables them to vote in each matter of his party.

Selection of Candidates:

The concept of party dictatorship does not exist in U.S.A. The party candidates are all chosen by the members. In case there is more than one person desirous for the party ticket, the members will poll their votes in favor of their candidate after having studied their programmes through their respective campaigns. Such elections are called "Primaries". The winning contestant is declared as the party candidate for an office. Thus the central executive or central party ticket committee is not entitled to take any such decision at their own.

State assembly and its powers:

There is a misconception among people outside America that all powers rest with the president, congress and the senate. In fact, the American federation has limited powers whereas all powers pertaining with common man rest with a state. The state governor and the state assembly are directly elected. The governor enjoys normal administrative powers and the state assembly legislates and approves the state budget.

Federal Congress:

This body comprises of two parts viz House of Representatives and Senate. This combination is known as congress but at times the House of Representatives alone is also called as congress. Its members are elected on the basis of the ratio of population. At present this number is 400. Every state elects two senators each and the figure of 100 is never changed for the members of Senate. The duration for House of Representatives is two years whereas Senate works for the six years. One third of the total population of senators gets retired after a period of two years and the whole state is their constituency. The short duration of the House of Representatives has the logic that the member should remain intact with his voters so he has to spend three to four days in

Washington and for rest of the week he has to remain in his constituency. Obviously the job of a member is not easy.

The members of Senate enjoy the tenure of six years so that they should go for legislation without any pressure. However, they too, have to remain in touch with their electoral college and they have to maintain office in their constituency as well besides those they have in Washington. They appoint the staff for these offices but the government pays the staff.

Every member is free to vote according to his will and conscience irrespective of his party affiliations. He may quit a party to assume an independent status but it happens quite seldom and during the last decade just one member of the ruling party has decided to sit on independent benches.

Presidential elections:

The procedure for presidential elections in America is quite interesting. The candidates for the ticket of every major party contest first of all for the selection of a joint candidate. This selection is made in two ways. One way is called caucus, which has granted fame to the state of Iowa. All members of a party from a smaller unit vote for their choiced candidate. The candidates securing the lowest votes keep dropping in every round and finally just two candidates remain in the contest and one of them wins at the end. This process is completed simultaneously. When the result of all caucuses is received the decision of the winner is announced. However, the final candidate is decided through the majority of the delegates' votes from National Nominating Convention. Nowadays the tradition of caucus is unknown in most of the states.

The "delegates" through "Primaries" finally select the presidential candidate for a party. The number of the delegates is conditioned with the ratio of population. Every state holds elections for the delegates at official level and the members of a party cast their votes to elect them. The delegates having been elected from all states decide the final candidate in a national convention though it is just a formal declaration. At the next stage each party selects Electoral College for every state whose number is equal to the number of senators and members of the House of Representatives. These people are considered to be the most faithful member of the party. The presidential elections are held every four years in U.S. on the 1st of November. The candidate securing maximum votes in state bags the whole electoral college of the state.

The president is elected on the basis of the majority of the Electoral College members from all states and not on the basis of the majority of the general votes. The elections of President George Bush in year 2000 is an example of the same process.

The members of the electoral college cast their votes a few days after the general elections but the country in general elections determines the number of the electoral college members for every party and the unofficial results are known immediately.

Apparently, the Electoral College seems to be unnecessary but the Americans consider it necessary for two reasons. First that it is an emblem of the power and importance of every state and thus not even a small state can be ignored. Second is that no third party can succeed in this structure though it might effect the position of either of the two major parties.

The importance of political values in presidential elections:

It is obvious through the blue print of the electoral system of U.S.A. that it may collapse very soon if the politicians turn corrupt. For instance, a party can get some of its people registered in the opponent party so as to elect a weak candidate through “Primaries”. Furthermore, the members can cross the floor and the only restriction is laid upon them by their conscience. It is interesting to note that a member may vote against the presidential candidate of his party openly registering his protest and he is not expelled from his party on this basis as no such system exists in U.S. Obviously, the structure of the electoral system sustains simply because the politicians respect the political ethics.

Media and politics:

American media are primarily commercial but they have their respective styles of analyzing the things according to their approaches. They perform the task of accountability through their investigative reporting. The political statements don't get room in the media. The media has the legal right to get the required information from every department, which makes any kind of concealment practically impossible. The corruption thus becomes out of question. A journalist who had disclosed that a political party had installed detective devices in the headquarters of the opposite political party brought the Watergate scandal on the surface. As a result president Nixon had to quit White House.

Judiciary and democracy:

It is interesting to note that the judges in every American state are elected or their appointment is endorsed by the public vote. Hence a judge can be removed from his office in case he fails to maintain his repute as a just and competent person.

A federal judge is nominated by the president but his nomination has to be endorsed by the committee comprised of the members from both the houses. Both the parties have almost equal representative in the committee based on the number of their seats in the parliament and thus a judge has to seek a consensus before his appointment. The judge of a federal court never retires unless he himself surrenders his post but there is no way to put him out of his office other than impeachment. His honesty, therefore, remains above board.

Elections and the use of money:

The American elections cost a lot as every congressman spends four to ten million dollars on his election. A candidate for senate spends six to twenty million dollars while a presidential candidate spends four hundred to six hundred million dollars.

It is an interesting fact that an account is maintained for all these expenses. An individual can contribute a certain amount for the election campaign of a candidate where as there is no upper limit for the institutions who contribute for their candidates publicly so that their interests should be watched in case of the candidate's success.

The candidates consume a lot of time in collecting funds through different programmes. It is a process that gives awareness about the heterogeneous thoughts to the candidate. These funds are properly put to audit, which prevents any chance of embezzlement.

This amount is mainly spent on publicity apart from other expenses.

Powers of the President and Congress and the National Budget:

The decision-making, in American democracy is a complex system, as it requires the approval of the President, Senate and House of Representatives so that no individual or no single institution may bulldoze the majority, For example, federal budget is presented in the month of March before both the houses of congress. Each part of the budget is discussed by the committees comprised of different members. The presidential representatives plead their case before every committee but normally there is hardly a consensus. Hence, a final committee comprising of some members of these committees is constituted that tries to reach a consensus through an understanding. The budget is mostly approved in the month of October, as each member has to play his respective role in elections that usually take place in November. However, there is no deadline for the final approval of the budget and the expenses may be met through the amount allocated in the previous budget in case of delay.

This is the general way to deal with all issues except those pertaining with emergency. Obviously, it is the best display of the American stress on dialogue.

Committee system:

Several committees are constituted in both the houses, which conduct their meetings throughout the year. Most of the decisions are taken by there committees before they are presented before a house.

The committees on defense and foreign relations are considered to be the most important committees.

Lobbying system:

Lobbying system is an interesting aspect of American democracy. There are almost 17000 offices of different lobbyists in Washington.

In fact different sections of society wish for a favourable legislation. For this purpose they hire different lobbying firms to convince the members of the houses to legislate in their favour. These firms watch the different bills presented in the house for legislation and do there best to get the results in their favour. At times these firms used to tempt the members through different offers but a legislation made in this regard almost ten year ago countered its way.

Think tanks:

There are numerous impartial or partial institutions that conduct research reports to be prepared by the experts in different fields. These experts hold mutual discussions and get their findings printed and consequently presented for the public consultation. Some of these institutions are not funded by the government while some work with the help of the interest that is received through the amount allocated for this purpose by some renound industrialist or trader. Since these institutions work free of any pressure under the supervision of experts, the congressmen attach due weightage to their reports at the time of legislation.

Chapter 4

AMERICA AS A SUPER POWER

America is an unprecedented super power of the world today. The second world war subsided the countries like Britain, France, Germany and Japan previously known as big powers and this role was assumed by U.S.A and U.S.S.R. America sustained no serious loss in the war and thus became a super power. U.S.S.R. assumed the title on account of its huge land, resources and above all million of dedicated communist workers to run the government machinery and keep the integrity of the country intact. Owing to their conflicting economic approaches, both the countries had a rivalry with each other. This rivalry was further intensified due to Russian policy of expansionism and its desire to bring communist revolution in the world under its own leadership. America took it as a justification to counter the Russian threat to whole independent world. This cold war lingered on for forty years till the dismemberment of the Soviet Union. The factors that led to the American success and Soviet defeat would be discussed indirectly here, as the subject requires a detailed discussion.

Super powers' psychology:

A super power always has a psychological desire to retain its dominance as a super power at every cost.

This is a world of struggle. Every nation and every individual endeavors to survive in a position of dominance as the fittest always survives. Hence those who excel others by virtue of struggle and try to retain their status are fully justified.

The factors that maintain a super power and those that led to its downfall:

History has witnessed rise and fall of several nations. A nation having reached the zenith of fame in past might have drowned in the river of oblivion today. There are several main factors that strike a nation with rise or fall suddenly or gradually.

General ethics:

There are some basic qualities that guarantee the integrity and solidarity of a nation. Such qualities, if attained in sublimity can bless a nation with the noblest position. The very first quality is a conviction with one's land and ideology with a proud and bold association with the society. The second quality is equality among human beings and the existence of a democratic culture, which brings confidence and sense of participation among its inhabitants. Third quality is education and excellence in science and technology, fourth justice and honesty and fifth one is merit. Sixth quality is hard work and respect for it. The eighth quality is the healthy spirit of serving the oppressed class, ninth is wisdom and promotion of dialogue in the society whereas the tenth quality is the overall patience in the nation.

All these qualities are well integrated and the absence of anyone of these can weaken the society and nations. Among all these qualities, the most striking one is the democratic culture. In the absence of this quality the different aspects of a society are weakened. The fall of the old monarchies in history reveals that that they were not accountable to anyone and had no threat to their thrones due to there hierarchal system. Hence their absolute status, their corruption and

their lack of concern towards the affairs of the state lessened the inhabitant's love for the country and its law, which resulted in the total chaos.

The dismemberment of the Soviet rule in the recent past was also due to lack of a democratic culture. The country made a tremendous progress in the beginning under the ideological banner of communism. Later the corruption, centralization of power in a few hands, lack of accountability and dishonesty infused. Disappointment among masses and the state became so hollow from inside that it could not sustain even a small blow of Afghan crisis. On the other side, American suffered greater loss in Vietnam but it did not affect the country in a greater magnitude.

Democracy has such a sustainable strength that a democratic country may lose its status of a super power due to some temporary phenomenon but it never collapses absolutely. For example Germany, Japan, Italy, France and Britain had undergone a major setback in the Second World War but they can still be rated big powers. The gross national product of each of these countries is greater than that of the whole Muslim world.

Science and technology:

It is necessary to excel in science and technology through a remarkable success in the fields of agriculture, industry, physics and defense etc. in order to attain and sustain the status of a super power. Obviously, it is a vital issue for a super power to gain and apply the most advanced information in every field. There is no doubt that all super powers do their best to do that.

It was technology that enabled British, French, Portuguese and Dutch forces to bring a huge area of the Muslim world and Afro Asian countries in the 17th and 18th centuries under their subjugation that continued till the mid of 19th century. The same granted an edge to the British over Sirajuddaula, Sultan Tipu and the freedom fighters in 1857. This difference was the decisive factor in the war between the Sikhs and Syed Ahmed Shaheed.

It was the same technology that benefited America in its war against USSR in Afghanistan when the Americans managed to end the Soviet supremacy in the air combat by hitting Russian helicopters with the help of stinger missiles. The British defeated Argentina in Falkland and the Americans devastated the Taliban through the power of technology.

It is noteworthy that the traitors like Mir Jaffer and Mir Sadiq were born among the Muslims and not among the advanced nations. Obviously such traitors side with the dominating forces seeing their edge in the field of the technology and betray their own nation. Thus, a nation desirous of acquiring a noble and strong position must excel in science and technology.

Natural Factors and the advancement of time:

Some natural factors and the onward progress of time also play their role in the rise and fall of different nations.

Some countries may become super powers by virtue of their large population, big area and rich resources. U.S.A, USSR and China are the best examples of this phenomenon. Such a country may not continue to be a super power due to some reasons but it does not collapse absolutely.

Similarly, the deep-rooted democracy in the Western countries generated awareness among them to cease keeping the other nations under their slavery. The slave nations also started developing a liking for democracy and consequently become free.

The western governments abstain from interfering in the internal matters while dealing with other countries mainly because of the fear of their own public opinion. Now, an ordinary country may keep its solidarity intact by benefiting itself from the values of the democratic countries. Mostly, a western country finds it obligatory to seek the support of the rest of the world nations launching attack against any other country.

The computer and internet have opened the gateway to success in technology for the whole developing world and have ended the time gap for the acquisition of technology. These are the natural factors that give boost to the weak nations. Now it is up to them whether they make the best advantage of such opportunities.

The right strategy:

It is essential that a country must have an awareness of the global issues in order to guard itself or otherwise to remain super power. Such a strategy is necessary during war and peace both. The different forms of strategy are devised to act and contract for a successful dominance over each other. These may include the spying missions as everything advantageous for the country has an edge over every moral principle. Bribery may be a serious crime domestically but it might be used as a weapon to trap the opponents. All NGOs do accord full co-operation to their governments in the western democratic countries during a crises. For example the whole western media was vocal in favour of their governments against communism during the cold war. They staunchly supported late President Zia-ul-Haq of Pakistan despite his military status. Very few give a counter opinion on American media after the incident of 11th September. Thus, the national interest always has a consensus and wins the top priority.

The country with a better strategy has always won a battle. Germany would have been a super power today, had it not started the two world wars. Similar is the case of Japan. Britain saved its power very wisely by granting freedom to its colonies after the second world war when it realized its loose grip over them due to its small population.

China has made a remarkable progress in foreign policy. It has a policy not to indulge itself in any international dispute so as to save its power. This is why it has never tried to capture Taiwan. It did not help Pakistan during the war of 1971, the Siachin dispute in 1984 and the kargil war in 1999. Infact, it always tries to avoid any confrontation with U.S.A and its allies.

China took a wise step by allowing capitalism to prosper in its main cities when it found communism to be a hurdle in the way of its economic progress. This is why China remained secure from any hazard when there was a strong wave of retaliation against communism in the whole communist world including Russia. The communist party of China retained its strong hold over the government but managed to control any insurgence by granting more economic freedom to its masses. The old leadership has stepped down allowing space wisely for the young leadership in November 2002.

In order to maintain their bargaining power, the super powers grant aid and loans to win over their worst enemies. America grants aid to all the underdeveloped countries so as to keep the contact and use it accordingly. The super powers learn a lesson from their failures. America committed just one blunder in Vietnam and the monument of the Vietnam war is witnessed by the Americans every day in bulk. This monument in Washington bears the names of all 68000 soldiers with their details who had been killed during this war. On the contrary, Pakistanis as nation never commemorate the fall of East Pakistan and observe 16th December as we are always bent to forget our failures. The proTaliban forces have not analysed the defeat of Taliban seriously. The great nations always remember their failures and learn a lesson from them.

American requirements to remain a super power:

It is clear through the above discussion that America fulfills all requirements to be a super power. It has proved its role in all international disputes as inevitable. It has provided all necessary raw materials to itself. Its oil reservoirs are safe and within next twenty years a new technology may rule out the utility of oil which will put an end to the golden era of the oil producing Arab countries. Furthermore, it has strong democratic culture, the justice is readily available to all its citizens, there is no war on religious freedoms, has an upper hand in technology and best minds of the world are available to it for analyzing situation and planning best strategic suiting to its requirements in various fields.

Can America fall from its position as a super power?

America may not deserve its present status if it lacks in moral principles, democratic values, justice, science and technology, sane diplomacy in international relations and balance. If it goes against the general will of the world or makes a big blunder in international conflicts, then it may slowly loosen its grip on the world.

Chances of other countries to become super powers:

At the moment Germany, France, Russia and China are in a position to challenge American supremacy in various fields. For this purpose they may act together through forming a block.

Chapter 5

AMERICA - A FRIEND OR FOE

There is a general discussion among the different corners of the Muslim world whether U.S.A is an enemy of the whole Muslim world or a friend to them or it keeps its working relationship with the individual Muslim countries.

Those who consider America to be an enemy to the Muslim world and Islam take it to be an extension of the same imperial and colonial power that has been at war with Muslims through crusades and ultimately captured Asia and Africa in the guise of European colonialism. This is why America has been backing up Israel for the last fifty years. It established its military bases in Saudi Arabia and all gulf countries after the 1990 gulf war and put the Taliban regime to end under the pretext of their support for Al-Quaida. Now it is after Iraq and next targets would probably be countries like Syria, Pakistan and Iran.

The other group that talks of friendship repudates the above theory and believes that the two parties have been friendly with each other too after the crusades and the Christian nations have been at war with one another as well. The control over Asia and Africa has been mainly due to technology and the British, French, Portuguese and Dutch forces have been fighting with one another through great combats. The two world wars were also basically between the two nations of Europe which population is dominantly Christians. Many Muslim countries including Pakistan are the biggest recipient of U.S aid. The Muslim countries like Kosovo and Bosnia were liberated because of U.S. Similarly, it has granted tremendous freedom to its Muslim population and that is why Islam is fast spreading in U.S.A.

The third group supporting the idea of a working relationship does not believe any permanent relationship in international relations. They think that America has kept working relationship with rest of the countries just to maintain its own status as a super power. The factors like religion, colour and race are not taken serious by it. Communism has been its chief enemy during the last fifty years, which was propagated by white Russia and Eastern Europe. America never indulged itself in anti-American revolution that took place in countries like Iraq, Syria, Libya and Iran. It has warm relations with several Buddhist countries like Japan, South Korea, Taiwan and Thailand. It played its role in eliminating the white rule in African countries like Zimbabwe and South Africa. It did not side with Christian group, in their disputes in Aritria, Somalia, Southern Sudan and Biafra while it has cordial relations with many Muslim countries like Indonesia, Bangladesh, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Turkey, Jordan and Morocco.

Since all the three points of view quoted above are logical, it seems proper to concentrate on some of the factors particularly pertaining with the current situation.

Traditional Muslim- Christian conflict:

It seems appropriate to have a glance at the history of the past Fourteen hundred years in order to understand the American steps in the context of Muslim Christian conflict.

- ❖ Out of the territory captured by Muslims during the first 600 years most of the land is under the Muslim control today except India, Spain and Palestine. The Muslim rule in Spain came to an end due to their internal conflicts. The Muslim rulers in the sub-

continent were not particularly interested in the propagation of Islam. Palestine and particularly Jerusalem has been a center of conflict. Muslims took over the control of Jerusalem in year 640 and retained it till 1096. The next 100 years were in the favor of Christians. Between 1096 and 1271 almost eight huge combats were fought between Muslims and Christian who ultimately gave success to Muslims. Muslims ruled over this area for a further period of 700 years until Britain captured it when the Ottoman Turks sided with Germany in the world war 1. It remained under British control for next thirty years. After their departure its two halves were captured by Jordan and Israel respectively. Jerusalem remained in Jordanian custody till Israel took it over in 1967 and it is under its control since then.

Hence, the conflict between the Crescent and the Cross plus the David Star has been in progress in this area only. Now it is necessary to analyze the current situation where America is at war with Muslim nations.

1. The issue of Taliban and Al-Quaida:

The anti-American group has the following arguments in their favour:

- ❖ The Al-Quaida is not indulged in the incident of September 11 as it lacks in the expertise and technology required for such actions.
- ❖ This incident has benefited the Jews the most. Further, four thousand Jew employees at WTC were absent from their duties on 11th September, which is clear enough to prove that they were responsible for attack.
- ❖ Mullah Umar offered Bin Laden to be tried in Afghanistan but it was turned down.
- ❖ The Americans brutally killed almost thirty thousand people and transformed hundreds of buildings into rubble during their attack on Afghanistan.
- ❖ America had eyes on the control of Asian oil and hence it attacked Afghanistan for establishing its basis over there.

The Americans on the other side have the following arguments.

- ❖ Al-Quaida is the only organization that had declared war against America in 1996 and 1998 and its members have confessed their crimes after their attacks on U.S. embassies in Tanzania and Kenya and consequently they have been punished for them. All nineteen hijackers involved in the incident of 11th Sep. were identified as Arabs, who had acquired the flying training within America exploiting the norms of civil liberties and individual freedom. Bin Laden and others have accepted the responsibility of 9/11 attacks through audio and videotapes. They have been involved in other explosions like that in Bali (Indonesia). We wanted them to be tried in U.S.A.
- ❖ The Jewish involvement is merely a concocted story. Some Jews might have been away from their duty as it was their festive day. This attack took 49 Israeli lives as well who were all Jews.
- ❖ Jews took no benefit from the incident as all stupid actions go in favour of the opponents. It is not an argument at all as the American support for Israel has not depended on such incidents.
- ❖ The offer by Taliban to try Bin Laden was merely a joke as he has been their financier for the last several years.

- ❖ The death toll in Afghanistan during the attack was not more than five thousand, which was not desired, but loss is an essential ingredient of war.
- ❖ America would never have lost its interest in Afghanistan after 1988 if it had an intension to usurp oil pipelines. If it was the motive, it could have been achieved staying through other means.

2. Palestine problem:

Undoubtedly this is main issue that caused hatred among Muslim world against U.S. The anti-U.S. group has the following arguments in their favour:

- ❖ Britain and America are responsible for the bloodshed in the Middle East through their steps of establishing the state of Israel and protecting it respectively.
- ❖ America has always supported the unlawful acts of Israel and its continuous policy of terroring Muslim population and committing heinous crimes against it.
- ❖ Israel breathes through American aid but U.S. has never seriously pressurised or persuaded it for the establishment of the state of Palestine and establishment of peace in Middle East.

The Americans have to the following arguments to counter it:

- ❖ Israel was established not merely due to the British efforts. The Ottoman Turks and Arabs contributed equally towards it. Britain would never have attacked Turkey, if it had not sided with Germany in the world war 1. If the Hashmite Arabs had not supported the British, Palestine could never have been captured by them. The population of Israel could never have been increased if Egypt and Morocco had not allowed their Jew settlers to leave.
- ❖ Countries like Russia, China, India and several others have also accorded their support to Israel.
- ❖ The Jewish community in U.S. comprising of almost 5.2 million people is united for the support of Israel and no U.S. government can annoy them as they are rich, organized and skilled. On the other side the Muslims and Arabs residing in America are disunited and have no little say in the American government.
- ❖ The Arabs world itself is divided on this issue. Half of Palestine uptill 1967 was under the control of Jordan whiles the other half was controlled by Egypt. If these two countries had established a Palestinian state, it would have been recognized by us.
- ❖ The Arabs never showed far sightedness and rejected several U.N. resolutions on Palestine. If they had accepted 1984 resolution, Israel would have been one third of the present size and Palestine would have been an independent state today.
- ❖ Palestinians committed a blunder by rejecting the Clinton plan in year 2000, which guaranteed the two third part of the Western Bank, half of Jerusalem including Aqsa mosque and whole Gaza to be part of Palestine. Israel had accepted the plan.
- ❖ Israel is the only democratic state in the whole Middle East and thus we support it.

3. Iraq Issue:

After the elimination of Taliban rule, America has set a new target in the guise of Saddam Hussain. The American point of view concerning Iraq is as under:

- ❖ Iraq possesses destructive weapons including chemical weapons, which have been used by it domestically and during Iran- Iraq war. Saddam is an irresponsible dictator who attacked Kuwait in the past and may threaten the world peace by preparing more weaponry. Hence regime must be put to an end.

The counter opinion is as under:

- ❖ In fact America has an eye on Iraqi oil otherwise Iraq had massacred Kurds in 1988 and had attacked Kuwait in 1990, which was the justified moment to dethrone Saddam.
- ❖ American's attack against Iraq would cause huge reaction in the Muslim world as it overlooks the chemical, biological and atomic weapons possessed by Israel and itself.
- ❖ After the Afghan war the attack on Iraq would give an impression that America wants to solve every issue through war. It would be viewed as an international terrorist, which would give boost to an atmosphere of harassment ultimately harmful for itself.

Comments:

Now that the Iraq war is over (05-05-03), America can prove its point of view and its sincerity if it finds weapons of mass destruction in a credible and verifiable way. If it establishes a demonstrative regime in Iraq as soon as possible and if it does not spend a penny from the Iraqi Oil for itself under any pretext. If it succeeds in the above three goals, then it may gain credibility in the Muslim world. But if it starts using Iraqi oil for compensation of its war expenses, then it would breed reaction in the Muslim world and invite criticism from public opinion in the west. Mankind through a gradual progress has identified itself with peace and any step against it would be looked down upon.

4. Pakistan's complaints to America:

The Pakistani intellectuals believe to be the following complaints as just.

- ❖ Pakistan had joined the American camp from the very beginning but America never helped Pakistan in real terms. The Kashmir issue, the wars of 1965 and 1971 and the post-Soviet situation in Afghanistan portray the American negligence towards Pakistan.

The Americans point of view concerning these complaints are:

- ❖ Pakistan joined American camp at its own will. We had made it clear that we can't neglect a big country like India.
- ❖ We have always supported Pakistan's stand on Kashmir issue by accepting Kashmir as a disputed territory. We believe that this issue must be resolved through dialogue.
- ❖ We had provided weaponry to Pakistan just to protect itself against communist threat. We stopped the supply of spare parts to it when it used this weaponry against India in 1965.

- ❖ The separation of East Pakistan was an outcome of the blunders and political imbalance shown by Pakistan itself. Moreover, 94% of the Bengali population wanted a separate homeland for themselves. We could never overlook this being a democratic country. However we checked Indra Gandhi's plans to dismember West Pakistan.
- ❖ We had never concealed our intentions to withdraw from Afghanistan after Soviet pull out. The civil war among the mujahideen organizations was not due to us as they were created by Pakistan and it was its obligation to control them.
- ❖ We have positively appreciated Pakistan's friendship. Pakistan is one of the four countries that have been granted maximum American aid during the previous 50 years. Every main Pakistani project has been directly or indirectly funded by U.S. Most of the loans have been granted just at the interest rate of 1% An aid of billions of dollars is other than that.

Comments:

We are an emotional nation who takes international relations as love affair rather than business. We believe the Americans to be always conspiring against us. We try to find out American hand behind every change in our country.

We can only break the shackles of dependence if we come out of the above-mentioned mentality.

Different opinion about terrorism:

Terrorism has not been defined unanimously. Americans believe every militant action by a private organization or a group against common people as terrorism. It means that a specific militant action against military installations is not terrorism. This is why Americans do not label "Hizb-ul-Mujahidin" an indigenous organization in Kashmir as a terrorist organization while "Lashkar-e-Tayyeba", which is not based in Kashmir is considered otherwise as these people target civilians as well. Such organizations repute the charge of terrorism and claim themselves to be struggling for a noble cause which is the independence of Kashmir. Several countries consider their struggle to be just. Pakistan considers their struggle as the true freedom struggle. Most of Arab countries approve the actions of Hamas in Palestine.

America and the European countries are determined to eradicate such terrorism, while these organizations are committed to continue their struggle. Who is on the right path? America or the militant organizations. If none, what could be the just way?

As long as the real factors behind the establishment of these organizations are not identified, terrorism would not end even if curbed for the time being. The main reasons, in fact are poverty, dictatorship and the denial of right of self-determination to the Muslims in Kashmir and Palestine. It is obligatory upon America (as sole super power) to play its role in solving the Kashmir and middle east dispute which in turn will greatly contribute in building its image in Muslim countries particularly amongst its masses.

Whatsoever the motive may be but killing of innocent people can never be justified. Such actions prove to be emotive and breed reaction. It is a historically proven fact that a struggle based on peace; non-violence and national unity can meet its ultimate end. If Kashmiris and Palestinians

get united at their respective places and launch a peaceful movement, they can get freedom within a few years without any external assistance.

Suicidal squads do harm their own nation as the most talented and determined people from every nation are picked for such purpose while the people dying from the other side are just commoners. Japan committed a blunder by striking its planes against the rival ships during the world war 2 as they faced acute shortage of pilots later on.

The Muslims should not be bothered about the American attitude and should just try to unite themselves and realize the path of wisdom that leads to a better future. It would be discussed later.

Chapter 6

REQUIREMENTS FOR WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH U.S.A.

In the previous chapter the arguments about the relationship between America and the Muslim world have been discussed. There is one point of view that America intends to maintain working relationship with the Muslim countries provided that its position as a super power is not challenged. This point of view is based on the following arguments:

- ❖ Any nation or country on the top would like to retain its status as super power.
- ❖ An equal number of fights have taken place among Christian powers to those fights between Muslims and Christians during the last one thousand years. This shows that religion is not the only factor of war.
- ❖ The forced change of religion is no more a trend for the last three to four hundred years. When British overtook India, they did not attach importance to “Shudders” who had accepted Christianity and put them to work as sweepers.
- ❖ American history fails to present even single evidence when it had sided with a Christian nation as a priority if it was not strategically important for it. Even in the case of Israel it is not the religion but the domestic realities that force America to support it.
- ❖ America intervenes only when it expects some strategic gains. For example, it did not get itself indulged in Iran-Iraq war but interned in Kuwait-Iraq war for its benefit. In the same way the establishment of Bosnia and Kosovo (both Muslim states) was in its interest and thus it played its role.
- ❖ America has neither absolute power nor it is a land of supermen. Its system and people do reflect several weaknesses and the Americans know that world can't be enslaved even through their most advanced technology.
- ❖ Technology can be acquired by anyone through hard work and determination.
- ❖ America puts no restriction on the propagation of Islam by the Muslims who preach and practice Islam freely. This is why thousands people embrace Islam every year in America.
- ❖ International relations are just like a business deal now, which can sustain through common interests and trade. Each country thinks in terms of its own benefits.
- ❖ Now it is difficult to slave a nation with such a big population, as even the regional borders with the common race on the both sides cannot be neglected.

What should be our attitude?

If it is true that America wants to maintain working relationship with Muslim countries, then what should be their response. Definitely it should receive a positive response. The Muslim countries should think that how best they can benefit from this relation and in what ways. If accept the rule of co-existence and try to solve the unresolved issues through a sincere dialogue there is no way that they will not be listened the good working relations with U.S.A. could have the following benefit for Muslims.

- ❖ They can learn and acquire technology from America.
- ❖ They can strengthen their economic condition by developing trade with her.
- ❖ They can learn better values from each other through this interaction.
- ❖ They can get an opportunity to preach Islam and present a picture of moderate and human friendly Islam before them.
- ❖ They can win more American support in international disputes.

The requirements of working relationship:

Following could be the guiding principles in maintaining working relationship with U.S.A., western and other non-Muslim countries:

- ❖ Every Muslim country should develop and promote a democratic culture in their respective countries.
- ❖ They must have a desire and commitment to develop a healthy competition which can take place in a democratic culture.
- ❖ They should have a trend of dialogue and tolerance instead of showing emotional behavior.
- ❖ They must keep the doors of negotiations open for the whole world.
- ❖ They must follow all international treaties in their true spirit and should not indulge in any sort of armed conflict.

There would be some situations where they shall have to differ with America. But such a situation must be tackled with a graceful and logical way. If a culture of dialogue and justice within the country is also promoted then there will greater chances for assertion.

Chapter 7

IF AMERICAS IS AN ADVERSARY

It might be a wrong assumption that America wants to have working relationship with Muslim countries. It is possible that America has plans to keep the Muslim community dominated economically, militarily and politically. It may have an eye on their resources and the dream has been materialized by its actions against Afghanistan and Iraq. Next might be the turn of Iran and Pakistan respectively. There could be a plan to teach a lesson to them if they refuse to submit.

These apprehensions must be given a serious thought so that any difficult situation could be averted with wisdom and grace.

It will only be possible if we have a democratic government in the country, the masses are educated, have a good reputation as peace loving country in the world and have influential sections in America or other powerful countries are on our side.

American power and its importance:

It is an established fact that there is no parallel to America in power and technology in different fields. It's unique geographical location; population and free culture have given boost to its progress and power.

Power has great significance in this world right from the beginning. There have been hardly such periods when justice ruled instead of power within and outside a country. Internationally, those countries talk of justice that has no personal interest in a conflict. It is not simply America, even the chieftains of a small village in our country have veto power like the five big ones at the international level. Obviously, power is an established principle in this world at present. Hence a country desirous of being influential has to gain maximum power. The term power include advancement in economic, media, education and all other sectors.

Misery yet duality of the Muslim world:

It is a fact that the Muslim world today is at the worst level of mismanagement, disunity and injustice. The gross national income of all muslim countries (including oil producing countries) is less than that of even a single developed country. They have weak institutions, low literacy rate and poor health facilities. Pakistan is the only country that possesses nuclear technology but muslims are overall dependent upon others in the field of defense. It is a fact that the western countries have double standards which they are maintaining with the support of Muslim rulers. They prefer democracy for themselves but support tyrants and dictators in Muslim countries. Elections are held in Iran but the power rests with the unselected forces. Army is the real force in Turkey. The situation of Pakistan is in front of everyone. Arab countries exercise worst forms of dictatorship and imperialism. The concept of accountability is non-existent in muslim world. The oil of the Arab countries is considered to be the personal property of their rulers. For example thirty six thousand members of the Saudi royal family can travel free of cost throughout the world. Similar is the situation in other Arab countries. Except some rich countries, most of the muslim countries can't facilitate their public even with the basic necessities of life. Unfortunately, it is mainly because of wrong priorities and not due to just shortage of funds.

The Muslim countries have paid no attention towards the industrial development. Scientists are available in these countries in a smaller number and there has hardly been any invention by Muslims during the last one hundred years. Their dependence upon the developed countries in this field and their exploitation is, therefore understandable.

Corruption, bribery, nepotism and luxury are the general culture in the Muslim world. The rich allocate very little amount of their wealth for the poor but the priorities are very strange. For example the rich rulers of Emirates build huge mosques in Pakistan and Bangladesh while they should have invested this money for industry as mosques are anyway constructed by the inhabitants of every locality out of their own resources.

The general public also sets his priorities in a very strange manner. They love to spend money on marriage and funeral or any other moment instead of utilizing it for their own welfare.

There are the occasions when extreme level of selfishness, insensitivity and irresponsibility is demonstrated in critical moments. Most of the Muslim countries except Pakistan have such a weak defense that they can be overtaken by any power at any time.

Muslim countries have inconsistent and shortsighted policies on key domestic and international issues including on Palestine and Kashmir. The differences of Palestinians with Jordan and Syria are well known to the world. The Arab countries are ignorant to Palestinians except utilizing this issue for exploitation of its masses. Palestinians themselves are divided into several factions.

It is a strange thing to note that Pakistani people and government is in favour of Iraq and Palestine while both the countries have always sided with India on Kashmir.

Hence, it can be stated that in the prevalence of the above situation the survival of Muslims is a miracle and their loud claims and wishes concerning development are nothing more than an illusion.

Slogans, fake claims, wrong steps and useless wars:

The rulers, political leaders, intellectuals, Journalists, religious leaders and others from the Muslim world have generally an emotional and oratory style. They are in a habit of exaggerating things instead of analyzing them realistically. Moreover, they are not ready to accept their mistakes.

The leaders generally transform the inward desires of its masses into false claims and thus frequently misguide them. The claims to defeat America after Russia and to wave the green flag on the red fort of Delhi are generally heard. President Nasir of Egypt claimed in 1967 to throw Israel in the Mediterranean but received a worst defeat in just three days after that statement was issued. Same happened with Saddam Hussain. Such false claims are generally made by the Muslim leaders to win public favour.

Every leader of the Muslim world displays a selfish approach and can do anything to prolong his rule. Therefore, the alternative leadership does not emerge. There is no democracy, no spirit of collective sacrifice and no concept of public welfare. During the last fifty years, Muslim countries have undergone several civil war and mutual combats, claiming a huge death toll. The

disputes between Malaysia and Indonesia, Saudi Arabia and Egypt (in Yemen), Syria and Akhvan-ul-Muslimoon, Saddam and his opponents, and the skirmishes in Algeria, Tunisia and Morocco have played havoc in the Muslim world. Such rivalries has cost them hundred thousands lives.

The blunders committed by the Pakistani governments evoked a sense of deprivation among Bengalis of East Pakistan. Eventually country sustained a serious setback when East Pakistan became Bangladesh after a fatal civil war. The two opponents factions within the army of Indonesia remained at war with each other. Consequently, a dictator Sohartu usurped the rule and remained in power for more than thirty-five years.

The Afghans have always been fighting with one another within their country. The communists became powerful due to the policies of king Zahir Shah. Sardar Daud promoted it further but his government was toppled in 1977 through a communist revolution. Finally Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan but retreated after seven years. The civil war continued for four years even after its departure.

The useless Iran-Iraq war in 1980 received a tax of at least one million human lives on both sides and the whole world played the role of spectators.

Iraq captured Kuwait in 1990 under the pretext of a dispute. The whole world appealed Iraq to quit Kuwait but every thing just fell flat. Eventually Iraq had to withdraw as a result of American military action that killed hundreds of thousands people. The economy of the whole Arab world sustained major setback. Sadam rendered a weak argument in support of this illogical invasion. It is said that Iraq took this step after the “go ahead” signal given by U.S.A. Even such an encouragement on the part of U.S cannot be taken as a justification for invasion into a brotherly Muslim country.

Another aspect of this story teaches Muslims a lesson worth learning. The conquest of Kuwait by Saddam Hussain was celebrated in Pakistan at the level of masses as if Iraq had captured Israel. People started naming their newborn kids after Saddam Hussain. The then Chief of Army staff General Aslam Beg also issued statements in favour of Iraq.

It can be said safely that Muslim have lost their lives in wars and conflicts initiated by there own rulers instead of by their outside enemies. Still they betray ourselves by labeling their miseries as others conspiracy. They need to peep in themselves and identify the real problem instead of blaming others.

The real line of action:

Having born in mined the three shortcomings mentioned above, it becomes crystal clear that the deliverance lies in the following six points.

1. Getting a respite for peace.
2. Adopting a democratic culture.
3. Determining a remarkable progress in science and technology as the top priority.
4. Avoiding emotionalism

5. Bothering about self rather than others in order to rectify the situation at home.
6. Making a graceful struggle to win the world opinion.

It is in larger interest of Muslims to take a decision that they would try their level best to resolve all their outstanding issues with other nations in a peaceful manner. This will allow them a peaceful environment and time to develop themselves. This in turn will also help them to find out reasonable and respectable solutions to the issues of Kashmir, Iraq, Palestine and Afghanistan. A comprehensive discussion on Kashmir is included in another book, which suggests a practical and honorable solution through the internal autonomy for Kashmiris. Saddam Hussain could have averted American attack by restoring democracy in the country sans his own role. Similarly, the rival factions in Afghanistan can eliminate the justification for American troops in their country through an amicable mutual settlement.

The Palestine issue is complicated but the most practicable solution has been suggested by former American president Clinton that was acceptable to Israeli Labour party but Liquid party (in power now) rejects it. If the Palestinian leadership declares its acceptance, the situation may take a positive turn.

The Muslim countries may become at par with the west within next fifty to hundred years if they, create an environment of peace for themselves while going on development. The west has followed the same path during its golden period. For example, East Timor a Portugese colony declared independence in 1974 but Indonesia captured it. The U.N.O. passed a resolution against the Indonesian step but the independence was restored to East Timor when Jakarta had undergone internal crises. The West managed it under the supervision of U.N.O. after twenty five years.

Secondly, Muslims must adopt real and true democratic culture within and outside their geographical boundaries. This will bread a spirit of healthy competition among their masses and the Muslim countries may drift closer to one another like the European countries. This factor must be realized seriously.

Thirdly, all Muslim countries must give first priority to the acquisition of expertise in science and technology, which is superior to all wealth. The acquisition of the modern technology has become accessible for everyone due to computer and internet. This destination can be reached if they concentrate on it seriously.

Fourthly, emotionalism must be avoided and a moderate policy should be followed. Emotional attitude leads to extremism that proves fatal in the end. The Muslims under the fit of same emotionalism have committed crucial blunders during the past three hundred years.

Chapter 8

WHAT TO DO NOW!

It is very interesting that the basic principles of strategy for Muslims remains the same whether America remains a working partner or an enemy to us. They have to gain a respite for peace, develop in democracy and technology and avoid emotionalism.

This is the only way to live gracefully, independently and honorably. Muslims across the world can only expect a working relationship with the rest of the world at equal level if they vow to be developed and prosperous.

Here an important factor is worth discussing. Will the West allow them to prosper?

It must be admitted that opportunities are always open to everyone. These can be availed by virtue of wisdom. The solution to a problem benefits both the sides. The resolution of Kashmir issue will redress the sufferings of both Pakistan and India. In this connection the example of China is before them focused its energies on development and it has always tried to avoid any international dispute and acquisition of a firm grip on science and technology. The Chinese kept themselves away from Indo-Pak dispute, Afghan issue and others. They have even adopted the policy of tolerance with Taiwan. They tackled the problem with America in an amicable manner when they targeted an American spy plane within the space limits of their country.

Hence, Muslims should have to show tolerance when we precede on the way to peace despite the provocative attitude of other powers.

It must be remembered that America can not entangle itself with any other democratic country that gives due weightage to human rights and peaceful co-existence as any such attempt would be disapproved by its public opinion and complex politics of the world. Their public can be convinced through a dialogue only.

It may expected that a time will come when no super power will be able to crush a weaker nation as the mankind will have reached the zenith of its civilization. Any such attempt will be resisted by the public opinion within that country. It would lead to the advent of a new era of peaceful co-existence where co-operation would only be accorded for constructive and positive purpose while there would be a big “NO” to everything wrong and negative.