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SIGNIFICANCE OF AMANAHA AS ONE OF THE MORAL QUALITIES IN THE LIFE OF THE MUSLIM UMMAH

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Abstract

Amanah (honesty, Arithmetically) is a fundamental moral virtue which is associated with all aspects of human actions, it's fulfillment is a command from Almighty Allah and His messenger. Achieving its understand and the realization of its significance in the contemporary word; However, the concept of Amanah is examine and it is fully understood by the learned and experts from different discipline. This research concentrated on the Qur'anic verses that deals with the concept of Amanah and take about it in various aspects of human life, it also considers different saying of our noble Prophet (S.A.W) that deals with the matter. The research considers the concept of Amanah and its meaning from ideas of specialization. The research find out that, Amanah enable humanity to eliminate ignorance, injustice, cheating, corruption etc. in the society thereby creating peaceful and cool atmosphere in the society. In the process of conducting this research I consulted so many literatures, journals, internet etc. and each that is use is fully acknowledged.

Keywords: Significance, Amanaha, Moral Qualities, Life, Muslim Ummah.

Introduction

In the name of Allah the benevolent and the most merciful. Islam is a complete submission to the will of Allah (S.W.T). its not only the mans religious way of life, however, it also involve his social economic and political way of life.

Amanah is an important to man and the society at large. It is one of the determinant factor to which the society is examine. Amanah is required not only in the religion of Islam but also in other religions, it's an ideal feature of human being as a moral quality to be identifying in him.

Amanah as a moral quality is one of the maor prophetic character, as such it is very important to a Muslim to become trust, because trustworthy will lead and make him to be a good Muslim and a respected personality in the society.

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A trusted person is always simple, patience and gentle, he is not telling lies, is always straight forward and just in all his dealings in the community.
Therefore, Islam is a religion of peace, it command Muslim to become trusted personality in his entire life, becoming a trust wil learn him a reward here in this life and thereafter . a fellow Musslim is a brother to another Muslim, therefore, he is not expected to cheat his/her brothers/sisters.
In order to benefit from one another Islam enjoined us to become good brothers/sisters by saying truth to one another even if it is against us. Allah the exacted said the Qur'an;
" O! you who believed! Eat not up your property among yourselves unjust except… … .." Q4:29

Considering the above verse it shows the realization of a truth and by neglecting it one is going beyond Allah's command.
In Islam Amanah is to do the just in any condition at any moment and not to cheat. Therefore, human being are all expected to be uttering good words and actions not the bad ones and should be carrying out their life activities in accordance with the stipulations of Islamic Shari'ah.
Amanah (Truth) is being accountable to Allah (S.W.T) in all aspects of personal and religious life. Muslim is responsible to develop their abilities and morals in oder to become a proactive member of the society. Among the noble qualities of a muslim in the society is becoming a truth (Amanah) person.

Who is an Amanah (Trust) person?
The term Amanah is A Arabic word that literally means trust, loyalty, trustworthiness, reliability and faithfulness conventionally, it means trusting a person about something and fulfilling or uploading the trust (Amanah). Amanah (trust) is the moral responsibility of fulfilling one's obligations efficiently. Allah the exalted says;

> *"And those who are faithfuly true to their Amanah (trust) all the duties which Allah has ordained, honesty, moral responsibility and trusts) and to their covenants".*

Fulfilling of an Amanah makes one's personal and social life more meaningful.
Defending and preserving Amanah (trust) properly are the nature, character of the prophets messengers and angels and the people who are God fearing (Taqwa).
An Amanah person is the one who says the truth in any condition and at any moment, no cheating and is always saying the truth even if it is against him. Amanah person is the one who is objective in judgement evaluation and also in decision making of all sorts it implies the selected of personal and right promotion. Other aspects and qualities of Amanah person may includes:

a. **Simplicity**: Is an attribute of becoming simple, be extremely easy as quality of an Amanah person. The holy Prophet was known as a simple person through compliance with the teaching of the Qur'an.

The rich, middle class and poverty stricken have all existed in every generation. Allah the exalted has distributed the means of sustaining the life to people according to his infinities wisdom by

giving some morethan others. This distribution been taught to turn to Allah (S.W.T) alone for ther needs. The wealthy have been exhorted to spend their wealth in a good manner.

Islam has not prohibited a person from living in a good life he can afford to do, therefore, the general mindset that the Prophet (S.A.W) has created among the companions with that of absence from luxuries. Indeed almighty Allah had offered to the montains into gold for the Prophet (S.A.W). yet Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W), the life he chooses was one where on many occasions there was nothing available to each in any of his houses. The Prophet (S.A.W), adapted a very simple life himself and also stressed the same for his companions. The lesson of simplicity was do deeply entrenced in the heart of his companions that despite the fact that some of them possessed much wealth, they live a life of simplicity, spending their wealth on themselves and in the avenues of religion while emulating the example of the companions in its totality, which is not an easy task nor we are capable of doing so, and we must always bear in mind the abstinence from luxuries. This will bring some degree of simplicity. The suffering of the consequences of abandoning the simplicity in one's life is becoming fashion conscious. Therefore, as the fashion rapidly keeps on changing, one's expenses will escalate however, the greatest tragedy of following fashion is that such a person will drift and further always from Sunnah of the noble Prophet (S.A.W).

An aspect of extreme concern in the spending of huge amount that are squandered as a result of abandoning simplicity on the occasions especially on the marriage occasions in order to make the occasion a memorable event especially the huge amount spent on fancy frills and lavish arragements. While all Islamic teaching starting from belief to the last aspects of Ibadat are very simple and straight forward. There is no hierarchy of priests, no farfetched abstraction and above there is no compulsion as to the rites and rituals. The Qur'an is been followed directly by translating its dictates in to practice and actions. Almighty Allah said:

> *"and strive hard in Allah's cause as you ought to strive (with sincerity and with all your effort that His name should be superior). He has chosen you (to convey His message of Islamic monotheism to mankind by inviting then to His religion of Islam) and has not laid upon you in religion any hardship……"*

going by the above adomition of the Qur'an it can be seen that Almighty Allah has made everything simple to the Muslim, therefore, Muslim are to bear it at the back of their mind the teaching of this noble verse. In another place He said;

> *"Those who spend (in Allah's cause) in prosperity and in adversity…"*

Seeing the above verse one will find out that Allah the exalted has made it clear to the Muslim that he loves those who do good to others and show the simplicity to others by controlling their anxieties. This and other verses are calling the attention of the Muslim believers to become simple in all dealings and intereactions with others.

In the prophetic tradition one of the forgotten Sunnah of the Prophet (S.A.W) is simplicity, not referring to the simplicity in dress, food or shelter, rather the simplicity in worldly affairs. It's is known fact that the noble Prophet (S.A.W) is a very simple personality who followed routines and those routines are the attribute of what we describe todays as the Sunnah of the Prophet (S.A.W).

The most important level of his simplicity is about the aspect of Ibadah, kindness to others and so on.

In the other place the prophet (S.A.W) was once discussing some worldly matter with his companions, addressed them saying;

"Very simple living is part of faith" reported by Abu Umaimah

Considering the above prophetic tradition one is expected to run a very simple life in order to accomplish his Iman.

a. **Justice:** Justice is a global Islamic Law, as it is the goal for the society of Muslim, it is required both I nthe Qur'an and Sunnah. Justice require the offender to take personal responsibility for his/her action and in most cases compensate the harms and loses of the victim.

In Islamic world view, justice denotes placing things in their rightful place. It also mean giving others equal treatment. In Islam justice is also a oral virtues attributed to human personality. It is close to equality in the sense that it creat state by equilibrium in the distribution of rights and duties, owever, they are not identical some times justice is achieved through in equality like in unequal of wealth (inheritance). The prophet (S.A.W) is quoted saying:

"There are seven categories of people who Allah will shade under His shade on the day when there is no shade except His shade, a just leader… …) (Muslim).

This prophetic saying is to develop a level of Allah's consciousness (Taqwa) I nthe way that one deals with power.

Almighty Allah spoke to his messenger this manner:

"O my slaves, I have forbidden injustice for myself and forbade it also for you, so avoid being unjust to one another…." (Muslim).

Therefore, justice represents moral rectitude and fairness since it means things should be where they belongs.

The Qur'an considers Justice to be a Supreme virtue, where it says:

"Allah (S.W.T) commands justice and fair dealings…."

"O you who believe be upright for Allah, and (be of witness with justice…."

"We send our messengers with clean signs and send down with them the book and measure in order to establish justice among the people…."

Taking the above admonitions in the consideration that Almighty Allah is commanding Muslims to ensure the observance of justice in all their actions they are going to perform. Therefore, one may include that justice is an obligation in Islam and injustice is forbidden.

b. Forgiveness: Islam is the religion of peace and is highly in favour of firgiving the acts and dislike the act of taking revenge many people among us are not becoming satisfied without retaliating or pay back against those people who did something wring to them or any kind of injustice. In Islamic law we are told many things that we should keep in mind

before taking avenge and retaliation. It is expected from every Muslim fellow to forgive and forget whenever he is offended by someone.

The message of forgiveness is often repeated and taught through the Qur'anic injunctions. Allah said:

"O Muhammad (S.A.W) to the believers to forgive those who (harm them and) hope not for the days of Allah (i.e His decompense), that He may recompense……"

Going by the stipulation of this Qur;anic verse. Muslim are expected to forgive one another and the believers are those who forgive other going by the teaching of this noble verse.

In another verses Allah the exalted says:

"The recompense for an evil is an evil like thereof; but whoever forgives and makes reconciliation…."

"Ibrahim (Abraham) said: peace be on you! I will ask forgiveness of my lord for you. Verily, He is to me ever most gracious…"

"…..But forgive and overlook till Allah brings His command. Verily Allah is able to do all things"

Considering the above Qur'anic ijuctions it's clearly stated their that Muslim should forgive one another so that Allah the exalted will overlook their own faults and forgive them.

In the traditions of the prophet (S.A.W) regarding to forgiveness he is quoted to have said:

"On the authority of Anas bin Malik, who said 'I hard the messenger of Allah (S.A.W) saying; the most high said O! Son of Adam as long as you call upon men and ask of me, I shall forgive you for you what you have done and I shall not mind….." (Bukhari).

On following the above saying of the noble Prophet (S.A.W), forgiveness is highly recognized in the sight of Allah.

In another tradition;

"On the authority of ibn Umar reported that the Prophet (S.A.W) said: O people seek repentance from Allah (S.W.T) and seek His forgiveness, verily, I seek repentance of Allah (S.W.T) one hundred times a day…." (Muslim)

Having considering the above tradition it can be seen that forgiveness is very important in Islam and Muslim are expected to forgive the fellow Muslim for it is part of Amanah

c. Patience and Perseverance: Patience and perseverance are among the qualities of an Amanah person that Islam encourage. Allah the exlated said:

"O you who believe! Seek help in patience and as salat (the prayer) truly! Allah is with As-Sabirin (the patient)".

"And certainly, we shall test you with something of fear hunger, losso of wealth, lives and fruits, but give glad tidings to As-Sabirin (The patient).

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"And endure you patient (O Muhammad (S.A.W), your patience is not but from Allah and grieve or over them (polytheist and pagans) and be not distressed because of what they plot".

The above verses and many others in the glorious Qur'an are commanding the Muslim to exercise patient in the time of calamity and hardships etc. and to ensure their patient and endurance in the entire life.

This moral virtue of patient as taught us in the Qur'an comes in a tragic incident shuck us and those that referred it to Allah and endure it Almighty Allah will forgive him of their Sins.

It is narrated on the authority of Anas who said; the Prophet (S.A.W) said:

" The real patient is at the first turn of a calamity" (Bukhari).

In another tradition; Abu Huraira (R.A), reported that the messenger of Allah (S.W.A) said:

"Oh people! Do not wish for an encounter with the enemy. Pray to Allah to grant you safety but when you encounter them show patience".

The above traditions and so many other are giving courage to Muslim on taking patient by their side. The great judgment behind the trials and testy we go through in out difficult time. All the calamities we face and troubles which come to our way are character builders which make us stronger than before. May Almighty Allah gives us the strength to face difficulties with patience.

d. The Reward of an Amanah persons: it refer to a trusting a person about something and fulfilling or upholding the trust. Amanah is a moral responbility of fulfilling one's obligations properly. Is an important aspect in a Muslims life.

Amanah is said to be when a person fulfilled his due obligations to Allah the exalted and then to those around him. Anything that is entrusted upon you becomes a form of Amanah. In the deed we have our Salah, our fast and charity that are rewarded by Almighty Allah when we do them and punished when we ignore them. Allah said:

"Truly, we did offer al-amanah (the trust or moral responsibility or honesty and all the duties which Allah has ordained) to the heavens and earth and the mountain but they declined to bear it and were afraid of it (i.e afraid of Allah's torment). But man bore it…."

"And those who are faithfully true to their Amanat (all the duties which Allah has ordained, honestly, moral responsibility and trust) and to their covenants…"

The above verses are telling us that man is ignorant regarding to what Amanah really is and choose the burden of Amanah by himself.

Anas (R.A) reported that, the Prophet (S.A.W) has never preached to us without saying:

"There is no faith to one who has no Amanah"

The prophet (S.A.W) used to ake due to save from hunger and dishonesty, hunger is the deprivation of this wirld and dishonesty is the distruction of religion.

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Putting one's trust in Allah (S.W.T) the greatest of it is that Allah will suffice him in whatever he seek. Allah the exalted said:

"And He will provide him for (sources) he never could imagine…."

The Prophet (S.A.W) is quoted saying:

"Amanah lead to righteousness and righteousness leads to paradise"

Among the great reward that a Muslim will get from observing Amanah in his life is that one will lastly find himself in the paradise. It is expected to Muslim to ensure smooth and proper observance of it. Therefore, Islam instruct a Muslim fellow to be honest and trains him to be so, the out come is a healthy self and healthy social atmosphere that lead to the happeness of other the individual and group.

Lastly the reward of an Amanah is paradise and recognition in the sight of Allah (S.W.T) as well as special consideration in the society.

Conclusion

The concept of Amanah in Islam is very important and regarded as one of the great moral qualities in the life of Muslim Ummah, it has become a determinant factor to which the society is to be examine, it is required not only in the religion of Islam but also in all the religion of the worlds. It is an ideal future of human being as a moral quality that to be identify him with.

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