

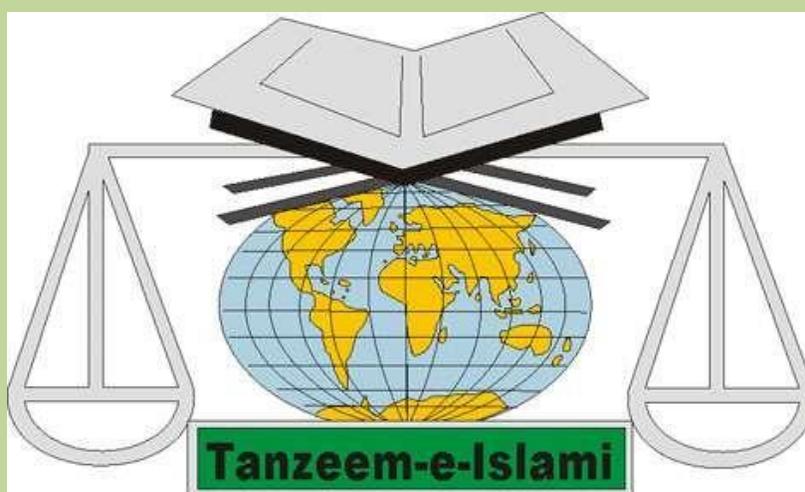
TANZEEM E ISLAMI



Striving for the Law of Allah, on the Land of Allah

PERSPECTIVE

The official online newsletter of Tanzeem e Islami
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'PERSPECTIVE' is a trend-setting newsletter issued by Tanzeem e Islami that focuses on a candid commentary on the current national and international issues, in the light of the Qur'an and the Sunnah.
A blend that gives Muslims an insight into the events of the past, those happenings at present and the Signs of things to come...

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Patron: Hafiz Aakif Saeed
Chief Editor: Dr. Absar Ahmad
Editor: Raza ul Haq

From the Qur'an:

“And how many a generation before them did We destroy who were greater than them in [striking] power and had explored throughout the lands. Is there any place of escape?”

“Indeed in that is a reminder for whoever has a heart or who listens while he is present [in mind].”

(*Surah Qaf, Verses: 36 & 37*)

Selected Hadith:

The Messenger of Allah (SAAW) is reported to have said:

“This matter [Islam] will keep spreading as far as the night and day reach, until Allah will not leave a house made of mud or hair, but will make this religion enter it, while bringing might to a mighty person [a believer] and humiliation to a disgraced person [who rejects Islam]; might with which Allah elevates Islam [and its people], and disgrace with which Allah humiliates disbelief [and its people].”

(*Musnad Imam Ahmad*)

EDITORIAL

All praise is due to Allah (SWT), and peace & blessing on his noble Messengers (AS), in particular, on the last of them all the blessed Prophet Muhammad (SAAW).

By the time that the two-week period of the current issue of Perspective approaches its end, many events would have come to pass. The nation would have celebrated the 70th Independence Day of Pakistan, the Panamagate Scandal would probably have taken its final shape and the international threats to Pakistan would have become clearer. Our focus, however, remains on the larger picture – a worldview, if you will, as the fulcrum of this editorial.

The Muslim world is passing through a critical period. It is suffering from the onslaught of western powers, former colonialists and new Islamophobes. It is faced with internal ills, rivalries and conflicts. Is it not strange that in spite of having the light of divine guidance and a glorious past, the Muslims are passing through crisis after crisis?

They and they alone have the concept of only “one God”, a clear objective of life, a very clear concept of everlasting life in the Hereafter. Yet they are acting as a directionless people. They had developed a glorious civilization, united the whole world and promoted peace, thus elevating humanity to the highest ever moral and material heights. That, however, is a story of centuries ago! The Muslim world today needs to rediscover their roots and reinvigorate their spirit.

Is it not extremely painful that they are doling out billions of dollars to satisfy the ever-increasing greed of the “big powers”, with India being the latest addition to the Israeli-Western nexus? The Muslim world, nonetheless, is grateful to certain Muslim countries for providing refuge to almost three millions victims of the Syrian war. In this regard, the European Community’s role has not only been pitiable but outright hypocritical. The EU promised an aid of 3 billion dollars for the refugees fleeing war-torn Syria, but have not even spent a tenth of its commitment.

Our country and Turkey appear to be in the forefront for helping the poor, deprived, marginalized and exploited peoples. Having said that, the Muslim Ummah must first set its own house in order and only then try to fulfil its designated responsibility of guiding the people of the world towards Allah (SWT) and introducing them to a responsible, principled and peaceful moral life and conduct. The Muslim Ummah is capable of playing this constructive and most sought after role as it did in the glorious past under the guidance Islamic principles taught by Allah (SWT) and His messenger (SAAW).

The intelligentsia of our countries can certainly play this role to unite humankind on divine principles and put an end to moral depravation, debilitating materialism and ever-increasing conflicts and wars. This might be the only viable option left to save the entire planet from, what otherwise appears to be, an ominous global catastrophe in the offing. Nevertheless, we ought to bring our houses in order as a primary goal and then embark upon questioning the ethical, moral and legal stance taken by the entire West regarding “Moslems”.

Let us make a resolve to renew our faith in Almighty Allah (SWT), His messenger (SAAW) and their teachings. Verily the mercy and help of Allah (SWT) is very close to the believers. He has assured us in the following words:

“As regards the people who strive for Our cause, certainly We show Our (chosen) paths to them”. **Ref: Verse (29:69)**

Let us pray to Allah (SWT) the Exalted to bless us with faith, wisdom, courage and resources to fulfil this great responsibility so that the world may witness a new dawn of peace, prosperity and tranquility. **Aameen!**

Signing off...

Dr. Absar Ahmad (Chief Editor)

Press Release issued by Tanzeem e Islami

Date: July 14, 2017

Lahore (PR): “The success of the freedom movement in Occupied Kashmir is firmly and conclusively linked with the establishment of the Islamic System of Social Justice in Pakistan.”

This was stated by the Ameer of Tanzeem e Islami, Hafiz Aakif Saeed, during the Khitab e Jumu'ah at the Qur'an Academy, Lahore.

The Ameer noted that the energetic and freedom loving masses of Indian Occupied Kashmir were all chanting the same slogan – **“Pakistan se Rishta Kya: La Illaha Ill Allah”** (*The relation with Pakistan is: “There is no deity, except Allah SWT”*).

He added that this slogan had given immense momentum and inspiration to the freedom movement in Occupied Kashmir, but duly added that if this slogan continued to be raised in a one-sided fashion (by the Kashmiris alone and not implemented in practice by Pakistan), achieving freedom from the Indian occupation forces would remain an unfulfilled dream of the freedom fighters of Kashmir.

The Ameer stressed upon the need and importance for Pakistan to become a practical model of the slogan **“La Illaha Ill Allah”** by implementing the entire system that went along with it.

The Ameer stated that once the real fruits of the System of Islam started to become visible to all, the freedom movement in Indian Occupied Kashmir would gain such massive momentum that India would not be able to stifle it even by deploying its entire military machine in Kashmir.

Hence, the real task for us to do was to establish the Islamic System of Social Justice in Pakistan that would ensure an unbreakable spirit in the movement of freedom and its vanguards in Indian Occupied Kashmir.

The Ameer concluded by stating that in such a case, India would be unsuccessful in its aim of enslaving the people of Occupied Kashmir even by committing the worst imaginable brutalities and atrocities there!

Date: July 07, 2017

Lahore (PR): “Forces of the world that are vehement enemies of Islam are tightening the noose on our country in their plan of the encirclement of Pakistan.”

This was stated by the Ameer of Tanzeem e Islami, Hafiz Aakif Saeed, during the Khitab e Jumu'ah at the Qur'an Academy, Lahore.

The Ameer noted that the Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi, arrived in Israel to a rousing and unprecedented welcome merely days after he had made a state visit to Washington and spread rancor and venom against Pakistan. The Prime Minister of Israel, Benjamin Netanyahu, greeted him with the words, “We have had been waiting for this visit for 70 years!”

The Ameer further said that according to media reports, the Indian Prime Minister had sought assistance from Israel in order to quash the freedom movement in Occupied Kashmir, which the Israeli PM had accepted and assured his Indian counterpart of full Israeli support towards that end. The Ameer remarked that India was already ‘rewriting history’ by using unparalleled brutality and extreme oppression in Occupied Kashmir and after Modi’s visit to Israel, the situation in Kashmir would only get worse.

While commenting on the visit by a senior U.S. delegation to Pakistan led by the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Armed Services (SASC), Senator John McCain, the Ameer said that after completing his visit to Pakistan, Senator McCain had gone to Afghanistan where he had threatened Pakistan by saying that Pakistan must change its ‘attitude’ or else we would change our ‘attitude’ towards Pakistan.

The Ameer concluded by advising the ruling elite of Pakistan to take the threat made by Senator McCain seriously and stabilize our country by resolving the rampant issues of political volatility and economic chaos, so that all energies could be directed towards combating the enemy by being united and thus resilient.



Plain truths about the economy

Every so often someone promises to turn Pakistan into an Asian Tiger. It is not a bad ambition but it hasn't happened yet. Not just that, we don't seem to be moving forward much. All the more reason for an honest examination because knowing where one is starting from is just as important as knowing where one wants to go. With the help of some illustrative numbers one can establish three points. The Pakistani economy is existing at a low level; it is in relative decline; and too many of its citizens are struggling at or below subsistence level. Getting from here to Asian Tiger status would require something beyond more of the same.

First, the state of the economy. The Federal Bureau of Statistics website shows that in 2015 per capita income in current prices was Rs153,620 per year or about Rs13,000 per month (in round numbers) which is also the current minimum wage. This means that if Pakistan's total yearly income was divided equally among its citizens, each person would get Rs13,000 per month a household of four would have around Rs50,000 a month to live on. Add up essential household expenditures and it is obvious this is a survival-level allocation implying that the Pakistani economy in aggregate is a survival-level economy for its citizens. Easily available data allows for comparisons with Malaysia, an Asian Tiger cub, and South Korea, an Asian Tiger. Adjusting for purchasing power, the respective yearly income per person in the two countries is five and seven times that of Pakistan. In other words, instead of Rs50,000 a Pakistani household of four would require Rs2.5 lakh (Rs250,000) or Rs3.5 lakh (Rs350,000) per month to attain the average standard of living in Malaysia or South Korea. That is the difference between a survival economy and a prospering one. No wonder people would like to leave Pakistan to work in Malaysia but none would want to migrate in the other direction. To achieve the status of an Asian Tiger like South Korea, Pakistan's income per person needs to multiply seven times. How long would that take? Even if the economic rate of growth increases from the existing level to 7pc and is sustained year after year, it would take over 25 years to reach where South Korea is today. Getting there in 15 years would require a growth rate of 12pc which is way beyond anything Pakistan has ever achieved.

Second, while the Pakistani economy is growing, it is declining relative to most other developing economies. In 1990, India's per capita income was 40pc lower than that of Pakistan; by 2009 it had drawn level; today, it is around 20pc higher. China's per capita income in 1990 was 50pc less than Pakistan's; today it is 200pc higher. At these relative rates, Pakistan will soon be relegated to the status of an also-ran.

Third, if incomes were equally shared and every individual received a monthly amount of Rs13,000, the reality of the survival economy would be inescapable. It is masked by the illusion of opulence created by a highly unequal income distribution, so unequal that half the total national income goes to just the richest 20pc of households. A recent news report discussing salaries of bank CEOs revealed that Rs50 lakhs (Rs5 million) per month was not an outlier. With some individuals living at first-world elite levels, it follows there must be others living below the average in order to keep the total income constant. In fact, the majority of individuals in Pakistan have monthly allocations well below the survival level of Rs13,000. Given the extreme inequality, independent estimates suggest that over half the individuals in the country could be classified as vulnerable in the sense that any unforeseen expense can plunge them into poverty. Thus not only is the Pakistani economy a low-level economy in the aggregate, the majority lives at well below an acceptable survival income, in fact in various degrees of deprivation.

How do individuals exist at this level of deprivation? By being poorly educated, in fragile health, increasingly indebted, and overworked because of dependence on multiple jobs. Care to follow the story of someone earning the minimum monthly wage of Rs13,000 and you will appreciate the real state of the Pakistani economy. Given this human capital, how do its leaders propose to turn Pakistan into an Asian Tiger in our lifetimes? Understanding our existing predicament raises the real question: how did Pakistan get left behind in this impoverished state? Obviously, it is not Pakistan's fault nothing says this was fated but that of those occupying the driver's seat all these years. How come China and India starting behind have overtaken the Pakistani economy and moved far ahead all in a matter of a few decades? Or how a small country like South Korea became so prosperous with limited natural resources? How come Malaysia has leveraged its strategic location and managed its ethnic diversity while Pakistan has not? As we move into the election cycle we should be asking political parties some tough questions about their visions and development plans. We should not be fobbed off with easy answers.

Corruption is not a good enough reason; it exists everywhere and the sizes of scams are in fact much greater in India. Overpopulation is also an unconvincing explanation given that both China and India are six times more populous. We should also not be distracted by the promise of CPEC. Even if it comes off perfectly it will add at best another 2.5pc to the rate of growth of national income without any accompanying reforms of a fundamental nature. Pakistan's predicament is clearly related to some very poor policy choices, badly misplaced priorities, the curse of debt cum *riba* and shockingly abysmal governance. We can infer some of these from the comparative experience of China which trailed us less than three decades back and is now so far ahead that we look upon it as a savior. Such an exploration, with all its pros and cons, is a subject that needs to be researched in depth.

Adapted from an article in daily, DAWN