

THE WAY TO DELIVER THE ISLAMIC CALL

The Muslims have not lagged behind in leading the world because of their adherence to their religion. On the contrary, their regression commenced the day they abandoned their adherence to Allah ﷻ import D:\NL\NLGRAPHS\SWT.TIF * mergeformatﷻﷻ; allowing and tolerating foreign civilizations to enter their countries and western concepts to occupy their minds. It started the day they gave up the intellectual leadership in Islam, i.e, when they slackened in bearing the call or "Da'wa" for Islam, and misapplied its laws. Therefore, Muslims must resume the Islamic way of life if they are to have the opportunity of revival. On the other hand, Muslims will not be able to resume this Islamic way of life unless they offer the Islamic Da'wa through delivering Islam as an intellectual leadership. This can only be done if an Islamic state is established, and in turn carries the message of Islam and conveys it to the world.

It should be made clear that the Islamic message is delivered because only Islam can improve the world righteously. In other words, true revival can not be achieved, either for Muslims or others, without Islam.

This Da'wa should be conveyed to the world as an intellectual leadership, that is as an ideology from which systems of life emanate and upon which all thoughts are built. From such thoughts, all concepts that influence one's view point of life will spring forth.

The Islamic Da'wa should proceed following the example of Allah's messenger ﷻ import D:\NL\NLGRAPHS\PBUH.TIF * mergeformatﷻﷻ without any deviation from his method in its general and specific ideas. Also, no regard should be given to the difference in time because the essence and substance of things do not, and will not, change with time or place. In fact, only the means and forms of things differ from time to time or place to place.

Delivering the Islamic Da'wa, therefore, demands knowledge, frankness, courage, strength, thought, and a confrontation with all that contradicts the Islamic idea and method. This is done to disclose the falsehood of 'non-Islam' irrespective of the situation and consequences. This, of course, does not mean to be rude or arrogant, but to convey the Islamic ideas as they were revealed.

Delivering the Islamic Da'wa also demands absolute sovereignty for the Islamic ideology, regardless of whether the public agrees or disagrees, or whether it accords or not to the people's customs. The deliverer of the Da'wa, does not flatter or coax the people. He is not courteous to the authorities, cares not for the people's traditions. He adheres only to the ideology.

The followers of other ideologies are not asked to adhere to their ideologies, but they are invited, without compulsion, to embrace Islam. The Da'wa requires that sovereignty be for Islam alone ; Allah ﷻ says in Qur'an (9:33):(tom) "It is He who sent His messenger with guidance and religion of truth to prevail over all religions even though the idolaters may detest it ".

The Messenger of Allah ﷺ came to his world with his message openly challenging the whole world, believing in the truth he invited to, declaring an intellectual war against the society, irrespective of the people's traditions and customs, their religions and doctrines, rulers and masses. He paid no attention to anything other than the message of Islam. He began by discrediting the gods of "Quraysh". Then, he challenged them in their doctrines whilst alone and isolated, with no helper and no weapon except his deep faith in Allah ﷻ. He did not care for the Arab customs, traditions, religions and doctrines.

In like manner, the deliverer of the Islamic Da'wa has to challenge the corrupted customs and traditions, erroneous thoughts and concepts, wrong public opinions, even if he has to struggle against them. He has to face the other creeds and religions, even if he is exposed to the fanaticism of their followers, and the hostility of those who stick to their misguidance.

Delivering the Islamic Da'wa constitutes a move towards the complete implementation of the Islamic laws. The Messenger of Allah did not accept the request of Banu Thaqif's representative to allow them to retain their idol "Al-lat" for three years before demolishing it. He did not also exempt them from prayer. These were two conditions they put forward for embracing Islam. He even refused to leave their idol for two years and then for one month, as they subsequently bargained. He rejected that firmly and decisively, without hesitation or leniency: people have either to believe or not. He, however, accepted their request not to make them demolish their idol by their own hands. Instead, he asked two of the companions to demolish it. Here, the application of Islam demands demolishing the idol of "Banu Thaqif". However, how to demolish it and the means of doing that is not connected to the creed or "aqeeda" of Islam, and hence, the Messenger of Allah accepted that request.

Delivering the Islamic Da'wa necessitates that all of its actions are done for a specific aim. The deliverer should always be aware of this aim and work to achieve it. Therefore, he would not be satisfied by thought without action, which would deem the Da'wa to be a theoretical fanciful philosophy. Likewise, he would not be satisfied with thought and action devoid of an aim like a spiral motion which ends in despair. Instead, he insists to accompany thought with action and makes them work together in pursuit of a specific aim. The Messenger of Allah bore the message of Islam in "Mekkah". However, when he saw that the community there would not make Islam as the system for the society to work with, he prepared the society of "Al-Madinah". There he established the state, implemented Islam, delivered its message and prepared the Ummah (nation) to convey it after him. Therefore, the delivery of the Islamic

Da'wa, in the situation where there is no Islamic state present, should include in the call for Islam the resumption of the Islamic way of life, i.e, the call for re-establishing the Islamic state which implements Islam and delivers its message to the world. Thus, the Da'wa is transferred from a call within the nation to a call delivered to the world by the state, and from a local call to a universal one.

The call to Islam should encompass correcting the creed, strengthening the relationship with Allah ﷻ and providing solutions for people's problems so that the Da'wa stays alive in all aspects of life's affairs. The Messenger of Allah would recite to the people of Mekkah the following verses :(tom)

(111:1) "Perish the hands of Abu Lahab and perish him ".

(69:1-2) "This is verily the word of an honorable messenger ;it is not the words of a poet; little it is you believe ".

(83:1) "Woe to those who deal in fraud ".

While in Al-Madinah, he recited to them : (tom)

(2:110) "Establish prayer and practice regular charity ".

(9:41) "Go ye forth lightly or heavily ;and strive and struggle with your property and yourselves in the cause of Allah ".

Accordingly, the deliverer of the Islamic Da'wa should convey to the people the systems by which they have to solve their worldly affairs. The secret of the success of the Islamic Da'wa is that it is dynamic and able to deal with man as a man, and initiates in him a comprehensive change.

It is impossible for the deliverer to carry the responsibility and discharge his duty unless the motivation towards perfection is planted within himself. He must search continuously for the truth to purify his belief from any alien thoughts. He has to carry out his duty as an obligation from Allah ﷻ, performing it rejoicing and anticipating the satisfaction of Allah ﷻ. He must not look for any worldly reward or expect praise from people. He must ask for nothing except the pleasure of Allah

Souhail Elhouar ﷻ Souhail Elhouar