

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

### Live Notes

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Future Leaders**

**Keele University**

## **The Philosophy of Minhaj-ul-Quran and Its Application to Modern Times**

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**...He manifested his grandeur through his final chosen messenger – Quran**

**Quran: ...Every moment his glory manifests anew**

**Indeed, every following hour, is better for you than the preceding one – Quran**

**This second verse is in the praise of the prophet.**

**Allah has given the same attribute to himself and his messenger.**

**For Allah, his attributes are evolving, the manifestations of these evolve – the same attributes of the prophet are also evolving.**

**The whole of His life, every passing moment is better, (positive evolution) – everything gets better as time passes.**

**Allah SWT has said his attributes undergo positive evolution, this is also stated of the Prophet**

**We can understand from this that Allah's attributes and his prophets are not static, and are changing positively, their manifestations are increasing, changing direction.**

**Hadith narrated by H. Ali (ra):**

**Prophet SAW said, he whose two days are equal is a loser –**

**This makes us understand what Allah wants from us**

**When Allah speaks of His attributes, His are positively evolving, this applies to the prophet's attributes, and then from the hadith, we can see that this idea/concept is also emphasised in the life of a believer**

**This shows that Allah, his prophets, the Awliya support evolution/advancement**

**Islam is not a static, stagnant concept – it is about evolution, progression positive movement**

**The hadith suggests that a believer is full of energy, his actions display this, and his days improve. This shows, that rigidity is outside the fundamental concept of Islam**

**We often witness this rigidity in modern times. Similarly this applies for sluggishness**

**So, Allah SWT is in favour of changing conditions, moral and spiritual evolution**

**When someone becomes rigid and stagnant, and religious discourse and beliefs, how is it possible then that Allah (who loves moral and spiritual evolution) would still, love a man who is stuck in a mind-set of rigidity?**

**Those who are evolving/developing themselves and are moving forward, Allah loves them.**

**The origin of the universe is the glory of Allah, (- to build argument)**

**Everything has its origin in the attributes of Allah SWT. Professions are based on certain attributes of Allah**

**When manifestation of attributes are ever changing, this isn't just linked with Allah, rather this has effect on attributes of Allah, therefore whatever is under those attributes is also affected.**

**Technological advances, medical advances (evolution) fall under any one attribute of Allah; - Allah himself says that manifestations of his attributes change in positive manner**

**Therefore the advances we see today, all starts from presence of Allah almighty, and we are witnessing it today**

**Change has happened, on the attribute which is related to the characteristics in this world. Therefore whatever advances we see today is the will of Allah. Allah and his prophet are in favour of change**

**Golden age (780-1350) Islam was at its peak because the civilisation was educated, cultured, prosperous etc., in comparison to other civilisations – this is because they understood evolution and were living according to this concept, and therefore, Allah SWT helped them to achieve such great things – this is because they were going in line with evolution, which Allah likes**

**Montgomery Watt: Praised the Golden era and the culture of the golden age – Spanish students in the institutes of Arab scholars**

**- Arab Spain was principle source of European enlightenment**

**Phillip K Hitti: Again praises the social structure and academic culture in Muslim world – mentions Baghdad, surprised at the engineering of the city, compares this to London and Paris, where streets were poorly serviced.**

**University of Oxford was lagging behind Muslim unis.**

**As soon as Muslims changed direction, we lost our trajectory and downfall occurred.**

**Hadith: “If someone treads a path in pursuit of knowledge, Allah makes him tread path to Paradise, and Angels lower the wings...”**

**If this referred to religious knowledge only, the best of that knowledge was given in the Suhba of Prophet SAW – then why did he send sahaba to China to gain knowledge? – Because there was other knowledge that we needed to gain**

**We have lost this, and have turned away from accepting and advancing with evolution which Allah favours. If we begin to live with evolution of the time, then all the blessings of the Prophet will return, and the Muslim nation will rise. We need to return to evolution and scientific development, new technology, new trends, etc.**

**To propagate Islam, we need to devise new methods to do so – this is evolution which Allah and his messenger love.**

**The evolution that occurs in the skies, on the attributes of Allah, and the effects of which we witness in this world is...**

**We can see that new-borns are also developing in terms of intelligence, in comparison to new-borns decades before them.**

**This is the reason even Islam has faced downfall, because scholars haven't evolved according to demands of time. They are stuck in past.**

**What separates MQI and HSI from them?**

**We need to understand why Ahl al Sunnah cannot achieve while extremists have achieved – they changed w/the times whereas we were stuck in past.**

**When HSI started recording lectures, everyone was against it – but he had that futuristic approach, because he is reviver of the time and that is s/one who believes in evol. And development.**

**Look at the scholars, and if you see them advancing w/soc., know they are beginning to go the right way, o/w their interests don't coincide w/Allah and His messenger – they want s/thing else, Allah wants s/th else.**

**The world has changed, so the way of giving messg must change.**

**Message of love, tasawwuf etc. is same, but way to propagate must change – this is demand of change that starts in skies and we see its effects in this world.**

**that's why, the way Khilafah and bai'ah worked before, it doesn't work that way today, but by changing the way we did this, MQI became great org. that was able to pass on the message.**

**In the 80's when all the scholars criticised Shaykh ul Islam for making vids, today, they sit on TV all day.**

**This is the diff. between revivers who can see what is happening and bring the deen to the future and those stuck in the past, unwilling to change, rigid.**

**When HSI established MQI, the Jami'ah he founded is now a faculty of a great Uni in Pakistan.**

**Back then, HSI said: I won't make madrasah (traditional method)**

**Back then, all the scholars of the time said: this institution won't work, we have madaris, religious institutions, we bring them for free... and you will run Uni and charge, nobody wants to pay for knowledge of deen.**

**HSI said: maybe in the past, but I will teach them deen and show them how to live w/respect – they won't study on charity, but live on their own feet, never losing their self-respect.**

**HSI was the first to move in this direction, by teaching for fee.**

**When Afghan wars were over, a big name from there - when Afghan mujahideen were still considered heroes - visited HSI and said: I've brought many heroes w/me, so accommodate them.**

**HSI refused – they will become terrorist masters of future, nobody else could see this, but where everyone else's thinking ends, the reviver's starts.**

**This is why in Pak., after years, they come on TV and say Dr. Tahir ul Qadri was right.**

**Just saying that doesn't make you a leader – we need to know when you were right, we know Dr. Qadri was always right.**

**If HSI is always right, what are you doing in power? Leave the seat for s/o else.**

**HSI has always been vigilant, talking about changes to come decades later,**

**And that is how he wanted to develop MQI and its members – our leader is futuristic, he wouldn't be happy if we became backwards.**

**We have to modernise ourselves and propagate the messg in modern manner.**

**If you don't do this, you won't remain relevant to the times, and will be unable to fulfil the demands of Allah and His messenger SAW.**

**When HSI thought about change, he started an org...**

**Thousands of years ago, Islam and Modern Sciences were both taught in Madaris.**

**E.g. Imam Ja'far is teacher of great scholars and founder of scientists.**

**Both were taught together before colonisation.**

**When Indian Sub-Continent was colonised, British ed. sys. Was intro'd, the scholars of the time became rigid, refused evolution and dev.**

**They stopped others from learning English and adopting new tech.**

**This was biggest disaster in History of Islam.**

**Same happened around a millennia ago, when printing press was invented, the scholars against modern tech. said this is work of Satan.**

**They became more and more rigid and backwards, destroying dev. of Islamic soc.**

**Same happened in India w/modern tech. and English lang. and modern techniques.**

**They refused, thus putting nail on the coffin of Islamic advancement/civ in India.**

**Then, Madaris (ltd. To religious Ed.) Went out of ed. sys. Of India, and Hindus went into modern institutes, and Muslims refused.**

**As a result, India advanced but, when Pak was made, they ended up in uneducated and corrupt hands.**

**Because of our support of modernism and evol,**

**Because of this, traditional 'scholars' feel uncomfortable in HSI presence.**

**This is also present in his politics.**

**This is why he is reviver, and nobody else can claim that.**

**HSI said: I will revive that old type of madrasah in the form of modern institutions – that was the founding of Minhaj University Lahore.**

**This is what our centres are doing, and if they aren't, then they aren't doing their jobs as they should be.**

**We need to return to this track according to the vision of H.S.I.**

**In the 80's, HSI refused to establish madrasah.**

**Then, they were not under global inspection...**

**He said, up to a certain extent, everyone must have same ed., after that, they can learn Islam on Uni Level.**

**Therefore, we produced PHD in Hadith, Aqidah, Islamic sciences....**

**This is a new era created by H.S.I and MQI. He has taken the seat of Islam out of the clutches of backward people and towards modern ppl grounded in trad. Knowledge.**

**Others follow later.**

**MQI started Al-Hidayah, others start copying, and we are pioneers in this age.**

**Our responsibilities, as scholars, members etc. of MQI:**

**MQI is a revivalist org. of din of prophet SAW.**

**By joining, we are all working for this cause – to establish and revive Islam, and spread love and peace.**

**It's not only scholars and saints that are 'chosen': whoever strives for Islam is chosen, regardless of their level or profession.**

**As long as they work hard for it, they are all considered 'chosen' – if Allah doesn't want you to work for Islam, you can't – it is a pious cause for which you were chosen.**

**If you are a part of the MQI organisation, you are a chosen one and Allah has chosen you for this great cause.**

**This reminds me of a beautiful story from the Quran. The angels voiced their concern: You have raised him above us and made him your khalifa.**

**Allah chose Adam to be His khalifa; this was His decision as he had a great trust of Adam. Thus He said: You (angels) do not know what I know. Give the names of these things. The angels did not know and Allah was proven right (by Adam giving the names).**

**When we have been chosen for this great purpose, we have to prove Allah right by making ourselves worthy of this. If we are too weak to do so, we must become strong in doing so. If Allah has chosen us, we have to prove ourselves. We are all the chosen ones of Allah. This is a responsibility upon each shoulder.**

**It is necessary to be vigilant and responsible to be successful. The Quran teaches and guides us:**

**Allah has chosen us for the cause**

**Has guided us so that we do not lose the way.**

**In Surah al-Kahf, there is a discussion between Musa (as) and Khidr (as). When they (Musa and Yusha Bin Nun) were assigned to see Sayyiduna Khidr (as).**

**Li-fataahu = a young person at heart**

**When Musa (as) spoke to Yusha bin Nun:**

**I will keep walking until I reach my destination – the walking itself is a destination – even for years.**

**It means that whosoever works for this cause has to be young at heart. They have to stay solid until they get their destination. There is no end to it until they reach their destination.**

**When Musa (as) met Khidr (as), Khidr said: You have to make one commitment with me if you want to stay with me – You can't ask me about what I do.**

**There was a beautiful boat which they rode in. Khidr made a hole in the boat. Musa (as) asked about it but Khidr told him not to. Khidr explained that there is a king on the other bank of the river steals boats in a good condition so I made a hole in it.**

**A spiritual meaning is that Khidr (as) made a hole to connect the inside of the boat to the outwardly of the boat. Don't compete with each other. You have to be sharing and caring. You have to compete with other organisations. You have to remove the idea of departmental success. Be good in communication. If you think you can't do justice to any position or office, (as done by Musa who said: I am not articulate – he was not shy about his weakness, didn't try to hide it – so you raise my brother along with me) raise your brother along with you.**

**The Sharia remained that of Musa (as) and not his brother Harun (as). Honesty would save you in the sight of Allah and prevents downfall of the organisation. How would you be able to remove that guilt in your heart if you hid your weakness and caused the organisation's downfall?**

**Once you have taken an office, share ideas with each other, speak with each other. We are all part of the same train. You are all going to arrive at the station at the same time. So be calm, quiet, honest and decent with each other.**

We have to live by modern era. We should be teaching in English more. Anyone with a weakness in this can go and learn it. We have to come up with all new ideas. We can also learn new trends and ideas from other organisations too. Adopt new ideas from society. Work for it and be successful.

The Hereafter belongs to Mu'minin and Muslimin, the sincere and righteous people. All the people who believe in all the major elements of Islam will be successful in the Hereafter anyway. The Hereafter and Paradise is a gift to Muslims by the Shafa`ah of the Prophet (s). It is only because of that and this is a gift to the Muslim. Now what gift are you going to give to the Prophet (s)? Exchanging gifts increases love. Have you ever thought what that gift could be? We have to put this world at the feet of the Rasul (s). This world's technology and our lives. Only then would this be an exchange of gifts.

We have been praying, eating together and must have learnt a lot from each other and our elders. We pray this stays with us. Next year, every single one of you must bring one more person along with you. The Muslim is the one who likes for his brother what he likes for himself.

Whatever branch of MQI you belong to, are visionary, stay calm and sincere, and don't worry about becoming a Shaykh. The right view is to become a good human being. When the Sufis start achieving that cycle, the highest rank of spirituality is called 'Ubudiyyat. Karamaat are not the highest ranks of tasawwuf. This is half way. They become so humble that nobody even respects them – this means that they have gained spiritually.

**Inner self journey = illuminating yourself**

**The outer self-journey is to create an identity.**

If you are a doctor, make sure people know you as a good "Muslim" doctor. When you become a representative of Islam in any profession. Be one, among MQI friends and elsewhere, such as at work. If your tongue is clean among MQI people, it should be the same elsewhere too. The doors of the Almighty will open. May Allah help us with what we have talked about, Amin!

I thank Dr Zahid, Sister Khadija and all of the brothers and sisters. I pray for all of the organisers one by one, may Allah help you with your worldly and spiritual lives!