

HISTORY AND IMPORTANCE OF HOLY QURAN [SESSION 9]

LEGAL SOURCES OF THINKING

Quran:

The Holy Quran is the only word of Allah which is in its **original form** and therefore rendered to be as **living**. It is not the only word of Allah but since it is not tampered therefore it is a source of guidance and basis for all other legal sources of Islam (Sunnah, Ijma and Qiyas). It is stated in the Quran: ***"O believers! Obey Allah (QURAN) and obey the Messenger (SUNNAH) and those in authority among you (IJMA). Should you disagree on anything, then refer it to Allah and His Messenger (QIYAS), if you truly believe in Allah and the Last Day. This is the best and fairest resolution."***

It is a **source of guidance** for humanity in all aspects of life from **religious to secular and from individual to communal**

Following of the laws mentioned in the Quran will lead to living a **righteous life**

Verses of the Quran deal with different matters of life such as **morality, spirituality, theft, inheritance, worshipping Allah, Belief in hereafter, contracts etc.**

Allah has mentioned in the Holy Quran ***"so judge between them which Allah has revealed"*** which is a direct command to follow the Holy Quran. The Quran talks about **Religious beliefs, Religious practices and the Islamic laws**

The Holy Quran talks about BELIEF in the following verse ***"Righteousness is not that you turn your faces towards the east or the west, but righteousness is to believe in Allah, the Last Day, the Angels, the Book and the Prophets, to spend out of your wealth..... and being regular in Prayers and Zakat....."***

It also enforces upon the believers to follow the **RELIGIOUS PRACTICES** of Islam when it says ***"O you who believe! Fasting has been prescribed unto you"*** Similar to this there are other verses enforcing the religious obligations of a believer

The Holy Quran talks about LAWS where it sets out rules for **Punishments** where it says ***"As for male and female thieves, cut off their hands for what they have done—a deterrent from Allah. And Allah is Almighty, All-Wise"***. and similarly it says that if someone is killed ***"O you who have believed! Prescribed for you is legal retribution for those murdered – the free for the free, the slave for the slave, and the female for the female..."***. Moreover, it sets out laws and rules regarding the fair treatment of women. It

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also talks about the laws relating to inheritance where it says that male should get a portion equal to two of the female.

In essence Quran is the **fundamental book** of guidance for the humanity and a code of life till the day of Judgement. It is therefore important for the believers to take guidance from it in matters of life

Sunnah/Ahadith:

Quran is the primary authority which forms the basis for other sources of legal thinking in Islam. Allah says in the Holy Quran ***"O you who have believed, obey Allah (Quran) and Obey the Messenger (Sunnah) and those charged with authority amongst you (Ijma) and if you differ amongst yourselves refer it to Allah and His Messenger"*** This verse clarifies the importance of the teachings of the Prophet ﷺ and therefore makes it as a primary source of legal thinking in Islam

The Quran says in different places to believe in the words of the Holy Prophet ﷺ as it says ***"So take what the Messenger gives you and refrain from what he prohibits you from"*** Allah made the Holy Prophet ﷺ as the role model for the entire mankind and guides the mankind to follow the footsteps of the Messenger. It says that Allah did a great favor on the believers by sending down Holy Prophet ﷺ and at another place it says ***"Whoever disobeys Allah and His Messenger is on the wrong path"***. At another place the Quran states, ***"The Messenger of God is an excellent role model for those of you who put your hope in God and the Last Day, and remember Allah (SWT) a lot."***

The Sunnah of the Prophet is the best complement to the Holy Quran because of three primary reasons: The Quran is silent at some places, it needs more explanation in other and sometimes the meaning of the verse is restricted

The Quran says ***"Cut off the hand of the Thief"*** but nowhere does it mention which hand to cut and on how much of a theft the hand needs to be cut off. This is explained by the Ahadith where it states ***"The hand through which the theft occurred should be cut off for a theft of quarter of dinar or more"***

The Quran states that it is mandatory for believers to pray but did not tell them how to pray and this is explained by the Ahadith of the Prophet where it states ***"Pray as you see me praying"*** and ***"No prayer is complete without reciting the first chapter of the Quran"***

Regarding inheritance, the Quran says ***"It is enjoined upon you, when death approaches any one of you and he leaves some wealth, that he must bequeath for the parents and the nearest of kin in the"***



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approved manner, being an obligation on the God-fearing. There is no condition given whether a Non-Muslim can inherit from a Muslim which has been cleared by the Ahadith of the Prophet that ***“A Muslim may not inherit from a Non-Muslim nor a Non-Muslim inherit from a Muslim”***.

At another place the Quran tells the Muslims to pay their Zakat regularly but it does not tell the property on which Zakat is applicable and the Ahadith of the Prophet ﷺ clears it when it says ***“No Zakat is applicable on a property unless a year passes on it”***

Regarding Fasting, the Quran says ***“You may eat and drink until you see the white thread of light distinct from the black thread”***. The companions of the Holy Prophet were not sure as to what the white thread and black thread meant so the **Holy Prophet explained** that white thread refers to time of dawn and black thread refers to night time.

Moreover, with regards to Hajj, the Quran says ***“Pilgrimage to this House is a duty owed to God by all people who are able to undertake it.”*** As to the rituals of Hajj, the Holy Prophet ﷺ performed them on his first pilgrimage and showed the Muslims how to perform the Hajj


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