Security and Privacy in The Teaching of Islam and Globalization

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Spread of ICT (Information and Communication Technology) has both positive and negative consequences on people of different walks of life at different levels. Technology is continuously changing and a common person is being too able the use of the technology. With this much advancements, we are facing now some real social, ethical and religious problems. According to Monshipouri (2002.p.106), it is also true that globalization has diffused certain effects and values.

Much is being written these days on globalization and its effects as well as and challenges of globalization. Yet much more is needed to be written to cover various aspects.

Individual liberty is no doubt very important and is a basic human right. But the person (individual) or society who are facing the problems how we can give them their privacy and security? Islam as a religion as a divine code of life has sufficient solution of these problems and can ensure security and privacy. Some of them will be considered and explained in this paper. The need is to understand the true impact of ICT, so that everybody gathers benefits that yield healthy society.

Some Meaning of Security and Privacy

SECURITY:
The word security has different shades of meanings for the different people. We see this word, hear this word feel this word every where. Real security, security check, security watch, security clearance, why all this focus on the security. Because every person needs to be secure. Security is the condition of being protected against danger or loss.

According to Webster (1993.p.p.2053,4) Se-cu-ri-ty means, "safe, secure freedom from danger or freedom from fear, anxiety."(1)
Simposon writes (1989.p.p.853-4) security means
The condition of being secure.
The condition of being protected or not exposed to danger.(2)
So security is the condition of protected against danger or loss. In the general sense, security is a concept similar to safety.

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PRIVACY

According to Webster, (1993, p.1804-5), privacy means, Isolation, Seclusion or freedom from unauthorized oversight or observation (protected by law in the enjoyment_), secrecy etc. so what is right to privacy? It is the ability of an individual or group to keep their lives and personal affairs out of public view and their reach. (3)

Globalization and its Effects on the Security and Privacy of the Individual.

This is the age of globalization and it indicates that the world today is more interconnected than before. Globalization is a multifaceted phenomenon. The term Globalization is a controversial term and has been defined in several different ways. The word globalization can imply different meaning for different people across the globe.

According to Majidi (2005, p.1), there is not yet any single definition about globalization and there is no consensus about it among the scholars. According to Walsh am (2001, p.18), The term globalization has achieved the unusual status, in a relatively short time, of becoming fashionable in academic debates in the social science, in business world and to some extent in the popular media. However, even a cursory examination of these sources would demonstrate that the term is highly ambiguous, and that it masks a wide variety of opinions on what is happening in the world." (4)

Every century has had its own version of globalization. However globalization of this age is very different fro many of its earlier incarnation. The primary reason for this is the Internet. The internet has over powered all geographic barriers and restrictions. IT has turned the world into a big place. There is not difference between a person sitting in Pakistan, Nigeria or UK. A lot of literature has been written on the good and bad effect of globalization.

In fact the IT revolution of last decade as so which has facilitated towards the empowerment and enhancement of persons ability on the one end and has led to the destructive and irresponsible towards the society at large to dangerous level.

Here we will discuss only a few effects being on individual's privacy and security.

Due to the mobile phones/ cameras privacy of the people is effecting. Vulgar and pornographic messages and nude pictures are being sent to

the ladies. Due to the remote excess soft wares, hackers are hacking and interfering into the others lives.

In countries such as Pakistan some public net cafes and public places are equipped with spy cameras and without permission notorious peoples are loading pictures and video of the other on YouTube, especially teenagers are loading useless, sexy and vulgar programs. Parents are very disturbed mentally after seeing their children pictures on the Internet.

According to Islamic belief sexy and nude sites are forbidden. This is a great sin to watch them. I want to see a religious, I want to hear recitation of Holy Quran sitting with the parents or children, but I cannot do that because nude pictures are displaying on the same page. This is against my (individual) rights, I don't want to see them, but I have no authority to remove or hide them. I have no privacy, and I am being effected badly.

There are lot of hidden information on the Internet, it is ok, if anybody need to know about the, he can excess those information. But nude and naked sights or pictures should not be open on the net. Although the dominant western culture, but it is against the about one and half billions Muslims faith. If we want to give honour and equal human rights to everyone, we have to create such an atmosphere accepted for all human being.

The electronic and print media are at the service of those attempting to bulldozing local culture and values. Woman bodies have also been commercialized and one sees photographs of semi-naked women in every commercial advertisement evoking strong reaction from traditional elements. Due to this changing culture we are facing problems in our homes regarding our children's education.

What does Islam Says About Individual Privacy?

According to Islamic teachings everyone is responsible show his every motion of life. Bukarhi (19997, vol,5, p35), Prophet Muhammad said "Everyone of you is incharge and you will be asked about your duties."(5)

Islam gives complete freedom to a person to enjoy his life. But Islam as an ideology stops one self from doing any wrong thing even in the privacy. Though you are alone you cannot commit any sin, because according to Islamic belief there is not hidden place before God. Prophet

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Jesus advised to a man, "If you want to commit sin, go beyond the land of god."(6)

So if you do any wrong thing in the privacy, the system cannot punish you unless there are any eyewitnesses. This all belongs to individual privacy. Now let see what Islam talks about one's privacy (Quran 49.12). "O you, who have believed much me. [negative] suspicion. Indeed, assumption are a sin. And spy not on each other behind their backs."

Spying or enquiring too curiously into other peoples affairs, means either idle curiosity, and is therefore futile, or suspicious carried a stage further which almost to sin.

According to Quranic commandment (24.27), we are not allowed to enter other people's houses until we are sure of their affection and regard for our self. "in other words, we should make sure that our entry in the house is not disagreeable to the inmates and we are sure of a welcome. Maudoudi (2005, p349), describes that the only exception to the general rule is that no permission is needed in case of an emergency or a calamity like theft, fire, etc. one can go for help without permission by such cases.

Unannounced entry sometimes violated the privacy of the people and their women folk.

Everybody has a right to privacy in his own house and no one is entitle to force his entry unannounced and without permission of the inners, it is also declared s a common right according to which it is forbidden to peer into a house, glance from outside, or even read the other persons letter (Abu Daud. Book,8, no.1480), without ones permission. The rules and regulations were enforced by Holy Prophet in the Arabic society. Abu Daud (1999, book 41, no,5155) Huzail bin Shurahbil (companion of Holy Prophet) has reported that a man came to see the Holy Prophet and sought permission for entry while standing just at the front of the door. The Prophet said to him "Stand aside; the object of the commandment for seeking permission is to prevent casting of looks inside the house."

Whenever the Holy Prophet himself went to see somebody, he would stand aside, to the right or left of the door and seek permission. According to Muslim (1996, vol,v, p146); the Holy Prophet reported to have said " if someone peeps into your house, it will be no sin, if you injure his eye with a piece of stone.(7)

In another Tradition of Abu Daud, (1999, book, 8, no, 5153), Holy Prophet said, "The inmates of a house, who injure the eye of the man peeping into their house; are not liable to any punishment."

In another Tradition of Abdullah bin Abbas Abu Daud Reported (1999, book, 8, no, 1480), Holy Prophet said, "Whoever glances through the letter of his brother without his permission, glances into fire,"(8) to maintain ones privacy Islam prohibited (Quran,24.58), to the children, servants and others to enter into the ones bedroom specifically three times (dawn, afternoon and nighttime). According to Mawwdoodi (2005,p393)violation of one's privacy by another person irrespective of whether he is a child, male, female and servant, are not allowed by Allah. Further more a person is prohibited at three times i.e. dawn, afternoon and nighttime to go another's house.

The command to seek permission also applies to enter in the house of one's own sister or mother. According to Ibn Jarir (Tibri,37) Ata bin Yasir reported;

"A person asked to the Holy Prophet (SAW); Sir should I seek permission to Enter my mothers house also? He asked three times. The Prophet (SAW) replied that he should. The man stated that " there was nobody beside him to look after her" and asked "whether it was necessary to get permission every time he wanted to go in." The Holy Prophet (SAW) replied; Yes; would you like that you should see your mother in a naked state."(9)

(Quran 24.28) Then, if you do not find anyone therein, do not enter until you have been given permission, and if you are told to go back, you should go back. This is a purer way for you; and Allah has full knowledge of what you do.

In view of the aforesaid verse of the Holy Quran nobody should mind, if entry is refused, because everybody has a right to refuse due to his privacy. According to Bukhari, (1997,p146), the Holy Prophet enjoined that permission should be asked thrice at the most. If there is no reply even at the third call, one should come back.

According to the Arab custom of the pre-Islamic days, people would entry each others house freely without permission just by pronouncity, 'good morning' or 'good evening'. This unannounced entry sometimes violated the privacy of the peoples and there women folk.

Apart from that the next verse gives some more details…

(24.29) There is, however, no harm if you enter houses, which are not dwelling places, but contain something useful for you; Allah knows that you Disclose and what you conceal.

"House which are not dwelling place" are the shops, hotels, Inns, guesthouses, banks and offices, etc. Which are generally open to all people."(10)

CONCLUSION:

This paper has highlighted that in this period of Globalization with the advancement of IT, a person has become so powerful, and some persons are badly effecting to the others. And they don't bother about others privacy, which is a basic human right. We discussed some problems confronting the society due to ICT advancement and irresponsible roll of some peoples.

Islam as a religion of the Creature can ensure security and peace by providing general principles for life and by providing detailed laws. There is need to develop and sought to improvement some codes of ethics to control and modify the individuals negative roll effecting the society. So there should become a global society having equal human rights.

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