

The Roots of Western Rage against Muslim Polity in Europe: An Analytical study

Muhammad Yasin*, Dr. Ali Akbar Al-Azhari **

Abstract:

The West seems generally hostile against the Muslims in their presentation of Islam and their depiction of the image of Muslims is not based on the reality. Currently this behavior is observed by the writers cum bloggers like Robert Bruce Spencer and Pamela Geller, who are banned in many countries like England and Pakistan due to their extremist approach towards Muslims. They are consistently beating the drum about 'Islamism'. Ironically the Public intellectuals like Bernard Lewis, who was the most cherished and affluent Orientalist and historian of Islam and Middle East, interpreted Islam to the west for more than sixty years, suggested the superpower 'to hit them between the eyes with a big stick.' However, Edward Said and some other intellectuals have directly challenged colonialism and discussed the 'the great culture of resistance that emerged in response to (western) imperialism'. They have tried to bridge up the cleavage between the Colonialist and the colonized people. The central concern around which the study revolves is to dig out the deep rooted motives causing the said resentment among the westerns. Consequently, in this paper I will strive hard to find out the roots of western rage against the Muslim polity in the world especially in Europe.

Key words: Muslim Image in the West, western leading intellectuals, Western Rage, deep rooted motives of the west.

Introduction

Today the Muslims have been painted as hate mongers among the living nations of the world. One can easily notice a diabolic image of the Muslim polity on the western horizon drawn by the western theorists. On the other hand, religious stagnation, though they do not own it, combined with political vested interest has further deteriorated the picture from all the corners. This is not the dilemma of laypersons but the ruling class is also echoing the same sentiments. While addressing to a joint session of Congress and the nation, George W Bush, then president of the United States of America in 2001 posed a counter question to the masses pointing towards Muslims 'why do they hate us'⁽¹⁾. In like manner, the Sitting president of the states Mr. Donald Trump in 2018 re-voiced the same resentment with slight different words as 'I think they hate us'.⁽²⁾ The need of the hour is to disclose the mystery of hate working in the sub-conscious of the theorists, think tanks and speculators of the west predominantly developed by erroneous interpretations of the scriptures of first water regarding Muslim polity. Unfortunately, centuries old prejudices, I think, have been promoted by the print

* PhD Scholar, Department of Islamic Studies, Lahore Garrison University, Lahore

** Associate Professor, Department of Islamic Studies, Lahore Garrison University, Lahore

and electronic media with jaundiced eye. A lot of work has been penned to signify the sensitivity of the topic with huge cultural production of literature from film to pop fiction. Surprisingly photography and paintings in the line with their esthetic touches boldly reflect their ulterior motives.

Ironically the Public intellectuals like Bernard Lewis, who was the most cherished and affluent Orientalist and historian of Islam and Middle East,⁽³⁾ interpreted Islam to the west for more than sixty years, suggested the superpower 'to hit them between the eyes with a big stick.'⁽⁴⁾ Notwithstanding the fact, I am convinced that some other public minds like Edward Said who directly challenged colonialism and talked about 'the great culture of resistance that emerged in response to (western) imperialism'⁽⁵⁾, have tried to bridge up the cleavage between the Colonialist and the colonized people.

A cursory glance at the contemporary adventures sought by the Europe in the name of 'freedom of speech' urges a neutral reader to review the policies and standards framed by the said nations only for their Muslim minorities in special and for the Muslim majority states in general.

Rift between Occident and Islam:

The strained relations between the Muslims and the west can be viewed through long record of history. It begins from 'the capture by Muslims...the Byzantine empire like Syria, Palestine and Egypt...the rise of the Turks...all have combined together to engender, foster, and leave behind a legacy of bitterness, hatred and enmity in the hearts of the peoples of west against Islam and its Prophet.'⁽⁶⁾ From 11th to 13th century, Christians made many attempts to re-confiscate sacred lands of Muslims and fought crusade wars. Its impact lasted for many centuries and built rage in minds of Christians up till now. This agitation was also displayed by 28 years old Australian citizen named Brenton Tarrant in 2 mosques of New Zealand. On 15th March, 2019 he did massacre of 51 people and injured 40 people.⁽⁷⁾ He also committed the live streaming of this inhumane and brutal act to show his hatred against Muslims to whole world. He highlighted the acrimony of Western world by jotting phrases about crusade wars on his gun against Islam. Actually he emblemized the exasperation of whole Christian community against polity of Muslims.

Clash between Occident and Islam is varying swiftly due to difference of civilizations. Western culture has also been promoted through main stream media as well as social media. Their media through T.V shows, movies, dramas etc; is also showing the negative image of Islam to the world. Nakoula Basseley produced an anti-Islamic movie named "Innocence of Muslims".⁽⁸⁾ It was made to offend Muslims. On the other side movie named "The Reluctant Fundamentalist" which was directed by Mira Nair showed the real and bad treatment of Europeans with

Muslim after 9/11 attack. Many movies like these paved the way to arouse the rage of Western people against Muslim community in Europe. Due to which their native people looked at Muslim polity with skepticism who lived elbow to elbow with each other for centuries. Hence such stereotype attitude imparts everlasting psychological, social and emotional impacts on mind of viewer. Whenever any terrorist activity happens anywhere in the world, they always associate that with Islam. But when any Non-Muslim commits terror act, they don't relate that with their religion due to extreme hatred against Islam. The annals of history witness that when Hitler killed many people, West did not affiliate that act with his religion. If any Muslim was involved in such kind of thing, then whole Europe would have blamed Islamic religion due to their biasness.

Islamophobia:

It is a panic against Islam and Muslim identity showing things like Holy Quran, Mosque, Veil and prayer etc. Western countries are creating negative cognition of Islam to keep the people away from it. As Islam is the second largest religion after Christianity in the world. So Non-Muslims of West are intimidated of supremacy of Islam. As in the past Muslims ruled over the world. They are also frightened with increasing population of Muslims particularly in European countries and delineate the Islam as religion of vehemence. But it is not reality because Islam is religion of pacification and affection. They did not portray the veridical picture of Islam. In all practices (social, spiritual and political) of Islam there is no evidence of negativity. In the contemporary era escalation of Islamophobia is propagating in western countries where Muslims are in minorities. They present Islam as menace to whole world. They consider Islam intimidation to custom, community and distinctiveness of Europe which is fake tag set by the west to Muslim Polity. The countries like Germany, France, Norway, Netherland, Italy, Sweden, Poland, Finland, Czech, U.K and U.S.A etc. all contributed much to intensify the acerbity of Islam. In Myanmar majority of population belongs to Buddhism and only two percent are Muslims. They did not nationalize the Rohingya Muslims whose ancestors had been living there for hundreds years. But Myanmar government claimed that Muslims of its country are illegal and illegitimate immigrants of Bangladesh. It is also the gesture to show the world the negative picture of Islam to world. Although Muslims of Myanmar are not hurting the Buddhism religion, however, they are considering them as threat to Buddhism. So that Buddhist people are hurting and killing the Muslims of their country.

Moreover, United States of America and other anti-Islamic countries cater many millions to many associations which are initiating Islamophobia. Existence of the country named Israel is consequence of such kind of support from anti-Islamic countries. Israel came into being on the basis of pure anti-Islamic thought. Jews

and Christians preached the thoughts of Islamophobia to create countries like Israel. Anti-Islamic thought in Israel has been extended gradually in whole world. They intentionally declared the Palestine as terrorist to degrade the Islam. When they did any action against Palestine, they called it as defensive approach to bring peace in area. They labeled them terrorists and declared that it was vital to do action against Muslims to keep pacification in that area. The main foundation in these views is only to rule over the Muslims. According to modern research it is declared that Islam is the fastest growing religion of the world which is main threat to all religions other than Muslims. They want to carry out genocide of Muslims so that Muslims become less in number. If Muslims are in great number then it will definitely be intimidation to the so-called stake holders of the world and all other religions of world. Some countries are following strategy of genocide in Asia as Israel did in Palestine. India is also following the same strategy in Kashmir as they are exterminating Muslims in Kashmir because Muslims in Kashmir are in majority. Their planning is to reduce the Muslims' strength in Kashmir by doing same exercise which is done by Israel in Palestine. When Muslims retaliate for their defense whether they are of Palestine or of Kashmir, the Non-Muslims label them extremist. Israel in fact came into being by support of USA.⁽⁹⁾ Main purpose of building Israel is to enhance the population of Jews. As USA's majority of population is based on Jewish religion, they want to make one more country to give the strength to their religion. So they became successful in their intention by making one more country purely on the foundation of Jews religion. For this purpose they gave all kind of support to Israel whether it was moral, social, financial, regional, psychological, emotional or educational etc.

In many Western countries scarf is banned because they correlate scarf with radical Islam. The students or teachers who wear scarf are not allowed to enter in Christian college of Australia. Many veil wearing women of France were also punished in public.⁽¹⁰⁾ In his first speech at United Nation on 27th September 2019, Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan also centralized his speech on Islamophobia and Kashmir Issues.⁽¹¹⁾ He gave very powerful message to the world about clear stance of Islam that all leaders of Non-Muslim countries started thinking on it. Even president of most powerful country of the world United States of America, Donald Trump started conversation on this topic after Imran Khan's meeting with Donald Trump and his speech in United Nation. He told the world that there is no radical Islam in the world and there is only one Islam that is of Hazrat Muhammad (SAW). After highlighting this issue, Non-Muslims have become more frightened about Islam. Leaders of all Non-Muslim countries have kept their eyes on Muslim leaders. Tayyab Urdagan of Turkey, Mahatir Muhammad of Malaysia and Imran Khan of Pakistan are so much active in this regard. After blasphemous act of

French President Macron, Tayyab Urdgan of Turkey boycotted the European products in his country. This brought a great shock to economy of products making countries of West which were exported to Muslim countries. These kinds of activities are unbearable for European countries. All above mentioned events and factors are responsible for creating Islamophobia and rampage against Islam in West.

Superstitious attitude of West towards Islam:

Islam provides a revolutionary aspect of life to his followers. Maxime Rodinson, a great western historian, comments that 'Islam has always fascinated the western world. Most often it has represented a threat, but occasionally it has served as a model'⁽¹²⁾. The fact is that Islam confers the complete convention of life, but Europeans misunderstand Islam. In every sunnah of Hazrat Muhammad (SAW), there is great betterment from health perspective as well as from worship point of view. Prayer is a source of exercise as well as worship. Charity is mode of creating balance between poor and rich. Fasting is necessary to remain healthy. Pilgrimage is platform of brotherhood and harmony. But Non-Muslims of West relate all these practices with terrorism and wrong beliefs. One of many reasons for showing superstitious dealing is due to the fact that European countries have become developed and advanced in many fields like information technology, physical and social sciences etc. They also have thought that due to their advancement they are ruling over the world. If Islam is promoted in the world, then their domination will also be affected. As Ottomon Empire ruled over the world and that was established by Muslims. Turkish people were founder of Ottomon Empire and Turkish people were Muslims. As Muslims were ruling over the world and Non-Muslims were subordinates to Muslims. After Hazrat Muhammad (SAW), religion Islam was led by 4 caliphs named Hazrat Abu Bakar Siddique (R.A), Hazrat Usman (R.A), Hazrat Umar (R.A) and Hazrat Ali (R.A). But after Christian and Jew's religion, there were not leaders like Caliphs of Islam who continued preaching their religion. All Caliphs of Muslims practiced the sunnah of Hazrat Muhammad (SAW) very well. It was also threat for the Non-Muslims that Islam was creating leaders constantly who led their religion very well and practised the same teachings as were taught by Hazrat Muhammad (SAW). As Islam came after Christians and Jews and its population was growing rapidly. The main cause of expanding population of Islam is only that Islam gives complete code of life in every field of life. The person who deeply studies the Quran, Hadith, and about life of Hazrat Muhammad (SAW), he converts to Islam swiftly due to which Non-Muslims named Islam religion of magic. They blamed that they converted the people to Islam only with the help of magic. As in Arabs, many people of that era called Hazrat Muhammad (SAW) the magician.

Islam and Orient civilization:

The Muslims who are inhabitants of West find much distance between their religion and religions of Non-Muslims in West. As Muslims of Europe are in minorities and they practise their religion with hardships due to West's prejudice against Muslims. While in countries where Muslims are in majority, Non-Muslims don't face such kind of things. They practise their religion freely. Culture of any society is made by people of that country. According to Islamic teachings Islamic society is peaceful and it does not propagate agitation. Muslims of West do not trigger turbulence but they are scandalized by wrong propaganda initiated by Europeans. They show wrong picture of Islamic culture in their media, due to which Western kids have become biased for Islam at the outset. Conversion of some famous western celebrities is also affecting the culture of Orient. That is also mode of cultivating rage. World's famous boxer named Cassius Clay who was born as Christian but after conversion to Islam he had changed his name to Muhammad Ali.⁽¹³⁾ World's heavy weight champion Mike Tyson also converted to Islam. Most famous NBA player Ferdinand Lewis Alcindor Jr. also changed his religion to Islam and re-named as Kareem Abdul Jabbar, Prestigious celebrity Michael Jackson's sister Janet Jackson who was actress changed his religion to Islam. American comedians David Chappelle also converted to Islam after getting inspiration from his brother. Notable actor named Omer Epps changed his religion to Islam too. Prominent Hip Hop rapper Snoop Dogg also converted to Islam. Conspicuous actor and rapper Ice Cube also changed his religion into Islam.⁽¹⁴⁾ All mentioned celebrities changed their religion due to inspirations they got from Islamic culture and Islamic teachings. After spending most period of their life they are able to comprehend that Islam's culture is much better than civilization of West. If any lay person of Non-Muslim religion converted to Islam, it will cause impact in his particular social circle. But if any well-known person of any field changes his religion, his effect will be much greater than any street person. Because they got millions of fans following and his conversion message will be imparted to minds of millions. In this way, the full stereotyped Non-Muslim tries become more fearful and in this frightening situation his rage against Muslim becomes more multiplied.

Muslims spot in reciprocation of awe:

Some western thinkers are blatantly trying to prove various hypotheses about how the Muslims are the very cause of tension among the different communities of the world. Ironically, the cold war between the two super powers of the world now has diverted its direction towards Islam on international level⁽¹⁵⁾. If any Muslim is misguided and he has done any ruthless act, then whole Muslim religion must not be condemned and any individual activity must not be associated with whole religion. Bernard Lewis, a cherished and influential orientalist, maintains that

'most Muslims are not fundamentalists, and most fundamentalists are not terrorists, but most present-day terrorists are Muslims.'⁽¹⁶⁾ Notwithstanding the fact, such analyses merely added fuel to the fire. Furthermore, Meghnad Desai claims that 'the Catholics are tolerant and can never be fundamentalists'⁽¹⁷⁾. On the contrary there are many extremists and fascists in Christians, Jews, Hindus, Buddhism and other Non-Muslim religions. When non-Muslim carried out terrorist attack in mosque of New Zealand, Muslims did not rebuke the religion of that individual. If any terrorist activity is done in Europe, the Europeans reprimand blindly Islam without any investigation. In retaliation, many Western people start targeting Muslims which must not be done only for the sake of revenge. The person who assaults in response to vengeance, he must be called convict whether he is Muslim or Non-Muslim. Santiago Matamorosa who runs an organization named White Knight which is renowned for massacre of Muslims.⁽¹⁸⁾ It must be censured for its brutal act. A young Muslim girl in England was beaten by bat of baseball and that was cruel action done by Non-Muslims. A Muslim driver in London was badly treated by people and reproached him as propagandist of 9/11 attack.⁽¹⁹⁾ Many mosques in Europe have been defaced with rude advertisements. Ladies who wear Muslim dress are assaulted and treated cruelly in streets. A mosque was invaded by young people in Poland where Muslims are in small number. A young man named Dane was confined because he wanted to bombard the mosque. In Holland separate classes have been conducted for Muslims due to biasness against Islam. In England, a teacher put off the scarf of a student under compulsion. Muslims are being kicked in U.K. Many Non-Muslims also throw spit on Muslims to show disgust against Islam. In Australia, many incidents also reported against Muslims. Mosques in USA, U.K, Norway, Poland, Denmark, France, Russia, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Italy, Burma, India, Switzerland etc. were spotted with terrorism. Due to USA's campaign against Muslims, this biasness has been scattered throughout the Europe.

Misleading speculation of Islam set by the West:

As America is a super power, so America affects the whole world. Their economy is much stronger than all other countries of world. The image of any country which is set by America is adopted by other countries too. America always calls Islam the radical Islam. In fact there is one and only one Islam in the world and there are not many types of Islam under the sun. After attack of 9/11, America's malice against Muslims intensified. They always quote the incident of world trade center in U.S.A to degrade the Muslims. The disparity between culture of Muslims and Western has been hyperbolized. Islam came into being after Christians. That is also the reason that they consider their religion superior to Islam. After many victories by

Muslims in the different places of world, then Non-Muslims started to call the Islam “the religion of aggression”. Islam’s image which is established depends on culture and politics. Muslims are trying to re-achieve their dominance. This is also the situation which is unbearable for the Non-Muslims. That is why America always presents the Islam as religion of fascism, extremism and aggression etc. The main threat to them is that if Muslims regain their power then America’s dominance will be in danger. Middle East Islamic countries are rich in term of wealth and oil refineries and West’s attitude towards them is lenient. But West and America are aggressive towards the Muslim countries which are weaker or poorer and show different attitude towards them. America has been sending his army to Afghanistan for many years to rule over it. But America has not succeeded yet due to strong determination of Muslim Pathans. America has been imposing ban on Iran’s atomic programs and after banning they always claim they are doing this for just sake of peace in area. But it is not the fact. Recently America assassinated the most powerful man of the Iran named Qassem Soleimani.⁽²⁰⁾ Iran also showed rage against America by bombing on USA’s base in connection for taking vengeance against America. Due to which, situation was more intense in the world. If two countries in the world are going through clashes, other countries in the world become concerned. Because If two atomic powerful countries in the world fight, then there will be complete destruction in the world. When America bombarded in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, then Japan was completely deteriorated and effects of bombing is still there.⁽²¹⁾

Cultural distinctiveness has strong impact on the way in which clash is dealt. If custom’s distance is great, then conflict will also be great. They also create the image that Islam suppresses the women and it does not give equal rights to women. They think that only west gives independence to women. According to them, they only give same opportunity to women as of men to work in every field of life. It is also wrong conception of Islam set by Orient. Islam is not biased against women. It also gives equal rights to women; many commandments are set by Islam for women in every perspective of life. Islam lays emphasis that women always wear Hijab because in Hijab they always feel protected. No one will easily be seduced if women are fully covered. So there is great strategy set by Islam for women to wear Hijab. But west also correlates the Hijab with terrorism and extremism. This is also the wrong picture set by Orient. They also fancy that Islam promotes terrorism. They relate Jihad with Terrorism. While the purpose of Jihad is to eradicate bad things in the world, fight for cause of goodness and fight against tyranny. During colonization period in sub-continent, British who were Christians and Jews ruled over the people of sub-continent in which Muslims were their subordinate. It was also the source of biasness against Muslims. They fictionalize

that they are only born to rule over the Muslims and Muslims are inferior to them. Muslims do not promote such kind of things and they do not consider anyone inferior to them. In Islam all human beings are equal. No one is inferior or superior to others.

Writers of West also played vital role in creating negative perception of Islam. In their Literature, they tried to constitute positive conception of West and they still continued to do so. Their written work is much based on prejudice against Islam. Spencer Robert wrote under the title "Did Muhammad exist?"⁽²²⁾ IbnWarraq wrote critical essay on Holy Book of Islam named "The origins of Koran". He also wrote on title named "The Quest for Historical Muhammad" and "What the Koran Really Says?" American writer named J. Millard Burr and Robert O. Collins argued about Islamic Alms in shape of terrorism in Book named "Alms for Jihad". An Iranian writer named Parvin Darabi published book named "Rage against the Veil". It is also about criticism on Islam. Paul David Gaubatz and Paul Sperry wrote the book named "Muslim Mafia". In this book they relate the Islam with International terrorist organization. American author named Sam Harris and British author named Maajid Nawaz published the book named "Islam and the Future of Tolerance". It is written in form of dialogue. In it one gives argument in favor of Religion and other is against it. A researcher named Judith Korean and archaeologist Yahuda D. Nevo wrote the book named "Crossroads to Islam". In this they criticized the Islam as radical Islam on the basis of history and archaeology. Martin Luther published book called "One War Against the Turk". In it Martin Luther shared the lectures of his preachments and pamphlets. In it he showed his hindrance against Ottomon Empire. This book was also against Islam. A French writer called Michel Houellebecq wrote named "Platform". He declared Islam the most idiot religion in it. He was alleged for agitating religious rage and racism. But later he was released by declaring that every person had right to speak freely. An author named Robert Spencer published book named "The Truth about Muhammad". The writer tried to link every evil thing with life of Hazrat Muhammad (SAW) like praising, punishments, and marriage of child, Jihad and dhimmi against Non-Muslims. Salman Rushdie's book named "The Satanic Verses" is also the blasphemous act. Here he referred the satanic verses to verse of Holy Quran. After publication of this book, Muslims were so much angered. Muslims were very anxious to murder Salman Rushdie. But government of England gave him police protection. That's why he is still alive. A writer and ex-Muslim called IbnWarraq wrote book called "Leaving Islam". Its theme was about disownment in Islam. Azerbaijan's Philosopher AgalarQut has published the book called "Asma". It was against the religion of Islam. A writer called Sam Harris wrote book called "The End of Faith". It is the biography of suicide bomber and his life style was

associated the Islamic life style. A Dutch writer called AyaanHirsi Ali published book named "The Caged Virgin".⁽²³⁾ The writer gave stance that Muslim Women are prisoned in Jail and they have no right to do anything. They have to follow Men of their society and they are bound to do things which are ordered by their guardian. So they lead a very restricted life. Indirectly writer's purpose is to criticize the Islam. Michael Savage published the book named "Liberalism is mental disorder". In this book he criticized the Islam as radical Islam and calls it as "Islamofascism". Fred Donner's work "Narratives of Islamic Origins" also built the wrong narrative of Islam. He wrote it in fictional form about origin of Islam but that was not real narrative of Islam constituted by Fred Donner. Brigitte Gabriel is an American and anti-Islamic writer who wrote the book called "Because they hate" whose theme was Islamophobia. It consists of critical analysis of radical Islam in Middle East. She blames that Muslims of Middle East always conspire against Non-Muslims and they are always ready to do Jihad against Christians and Jews. She is also the initiator of anti-Islamic group. A French writer Anne-Isabella Tollet wrote the book "Blasphemy: A Memoir:"⁽²⁴⁾ It is a real story of Christian Pakistani Asia Bibi who was accused of profaning Hazrat Muhammad (SAW) while she was drinking in village of Gujranwala. Pakistani court decreed the death of Asia Bibi. She did not admit the allegation and she also denied the fact that the story of book "Blasphemy: A Memoir:" is her biography.

Conclusion:

Islam regards Judaism, Christianity and other religions existing on the planet and promotes harmony among them by allowing freedom for creed and practice of their own. 25 لا اكره في دين 26 "There is no compulsion in religion" However, Muslims admit the previous religions but acknowledged them as incomplete religions from every perspective of life. Jewish believed that their religion was accomplished by Christian religion and their views assimilate to some extent but Jewish do not admit the religion which emerged after Christian. So Jewish do not accommodate Islam. Christian's faith is that they accomplished the religion of Jews and acknowledged the Jewish religion but they did not admit the religion which came after theirs'. So views and ideas of Christians concur with Jews. So Christian and Jews go with each other and accommodate to one another. Neither the Christian nor Jews adjust the Muslims in them. But Muslims can go with both religions and also accept their leader, their books and their teachings too. You can say that historical clash has been going on since their emergence. So it is historical strife which was started since their existence, this discord and it has been converted into social confrontation. So for comprehending this confrontation, it is necessary to understand historical context. Their clashes have been started since their history began. So discord is going on basis of history. If we erase the history of clashes

between these religions, then all religions can coordinate with each other for cause of humanity. So it is game of mind which builds rage between religions. Both history and mind are responsible for building confrontation. By studying history, person of any religion can be diverted and misguided. So it is also vital that history must be made to leave positive impact on mind of any person. If any misleading event happens in the world, his intention or activity must not be associated with his religion. Media and literature can play positive role in this regard by not exaggerating the thing and they must not spread fake news against any religion.

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