

## **Aqeedah Corner; Allah (swt) is The Only Legislator**

In order to organize societies as well as providing a comprehensive system to satisfy human needs, Man has wrongly assumed the role of the legislator. The objective here, is to evaluate the role and the extent of the human mind and present in some detail , why Man cannot legislate a correct and a just system.

The issue of how to correctly satisfy the organic needs and the instincts of Man as an individual and as a member of a society cannot be resolved without comprehensive knowledge about Man and his environment. Before we even attempt to present ways and means to satisfy our organic needs and instincts, we must determine at least two fundamental issues pertaining to our basic instincts:

(1) How and when is a balance established among the different instincts that exist within an individual ?

(2) Why is there a variation in the nature and the degree of response to an instinct among individuals, even though they are exposed to identical stimuli ?

The first question addresses the optimal satisfaction of the instincts within Man, while the second reflects the complexity of satisfying an individual within a group: The larger the group gets, the harder it becomes to accurately determine each individual's satisfaction. The optimal satisfaction of the different instincts necessitate that we know precisely the degree each instinct should be satisfied so as to bring tranquillity to the individual. It should be noted that satisfaction of an instinct pertains to the individual and not to a vaguely defined group. Furthermore, since instincts are aroused from the outside world, it is no less important to carefully determine the relationship of Man and the universe that surrounds him. Hence an in-depth understanding of the universe including Man, entails that we know exactly how they were created and then proceed to the issue of organizing Man's life within the universe. Since creation of the Universe and everything related to that event (i.e. creation) is not tangible, than the human mind cannot truly determine how to correctly satisfy the instincts and the organic needs of Man. Hence due to the inability of the mind to acquire comprehensive information about the universe, including its creation, Man will never be able to successfully legislate.

However if Man chooses to legislate for himself the very instincts present within him, will only serve to introduce bias and render the whole process futile. Prejudice, greed and exploitation are inevitable consequences of such an undertaking. Man has a natural disposition to evaluate things only on what benefits or harms him. However "benefit" is a relative criterion and hardly a sound basis for justice. Therefore the concept that Man is sovereign, is intellectually weak and in practice results only in exploitation of all mankind.

It is no surprise that Islam recognized the shortcomings of Man and puts the condition upon Muslims, that they believe in Allah (SWT) not only as the creator but also as the only Legislator. The belief that Allah (SWT) is the only Legislator constitutes the Aqeedah of Islam and consequently obligates Man to denounce all other ideologies in their entirety. It is unfortunate that many of us do not realize the grave error we commit when we respond to the call for democracy, which is founded on the false premise that Man can and should legislate for himself.

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