

## Youth Corner: Nationalism

Nationalism is the belief that people with the same traditions, history, and language should form a country of their own. The concept of nation states evolved from nationalism. For example, Saudi Arabia, Palestine, and Egypt. Is this belief correct? According to westerners it is, but Muslims believe this idea to be wrong, or do they? Some Muslims may not know that this belief destroys our Muslim Ummah and prevents the existence of the Islamic State. The Muslim Ummah is composed of people with different languages, traditions, and histories. If we take nationalism there will be no Ummah. As for the Islamic State, it is made up of Muslims and not all Muslims have the same language, history, and traditions. So does this mean we cannot form an Islamic State? According to this belief NO! A nation state is based on the idea of nationalism that people with same traditions, history, and language are to form their country and that country is called a nation state. An Islamic State would be built on the basis of our aqeedah or belief that all Muslims have and share in common. The Prophet (saaws) once said, "Allah's hand is with the community." This means Allah (swt) protects and supports us Muslims when we live as a community and when we don't, Allah (swt) withdraws his favors from us. We also become easy prey to our enemies. Are we now living in one community? The answer is obvious. We are not living in one community or one Islamic State and we are fighting amongst ourselves because of nationalism, such as Muslims from Pakistan and Bangladesh. We have lost Allah's support and protection, which we need. We have now become easy prey for our enemies. Look at the situations on Bosnia, Somalia, Pakistan, India, and Kashmir. These are examples of what has happened to Muslims because we have divided our Ummah on nationalistic basis. We have become easy prey for the Westerners who developed this belief. This belief is what has turned the Muslims apart and has defeated us. For example, nationalistic disputes between Arabs and Turks which led to the destruction of the Islamic Khilafah State. We must realize what nationalism has done to our Muslim Ummah and must follow the Islamic solution to our problem. Namely, establish our relationships on the Islamic aqeedah and eliminate all nation states by establishing the Islamic state. Once we become one Muslim Ummah having one Islamic State then only may we get Allah's protection and support.

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