

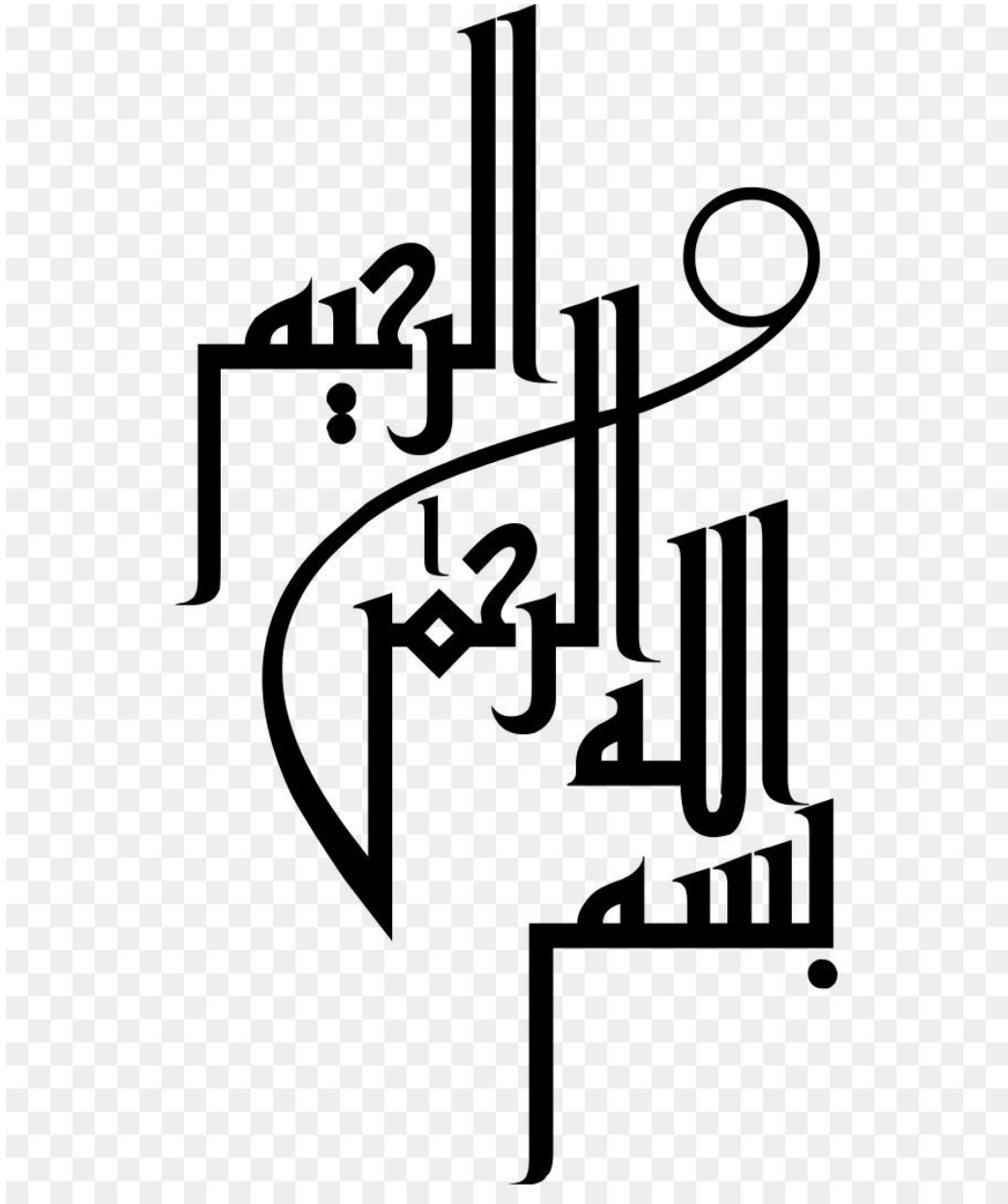
Lectures for:

International Peace Youth Group

(Part 3)



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The Existence of a Universal Creator

Question 1: Can religious scripture answer the question whether the Universal Creator God exist or not? If yes, then what is the evidence (reason)?

(If scripture cannot, then how is it possible to know about the existence of Universal Creator God)?

Answer: The Scripture can answer this question, but it must show the evidences to prove existence of the creator through logical reasons.

The Holy Quran says in this case:

It God Almighty who created the heavens and the earth.

(Chapter 14, verse 32)

There are many verses in Quran to prove the existence of universal creator. I will mention some of them in next question.

Question 2: How the religious scripture explain about the existence of God (whether the Universal creator (God) exists or not)?

Please select the choice below, and write the reference verses from

your religious scriptures.

- A) Scripture says that there is no Universal Creator God.
- B) Scripture says that there is Universal Creator God
- C) Scripture doesn't mention about Universal Creator God

Answer:

The scripture says that there is Universal Creator God. It is mentioned in many verses as follow:

(Chapter 57, verse 3): He is the First and the Last, the Ascendant and the Intimate, and He is, of all things, Knowing.

This issue also is mentioned in the following chapters:

Chapter 20, verse 50

Chapter 27, verse 60

Chapter 32, verse 7

Chapter 6, verse 96

Chapter 10, verse 5

Chapter 13, verse 2

Chapter 21, verse 33

Chapter 35, verse 13

1. **Question 3:** What is the evidence which can explain the existence of a universal Creator in your scripture?

Or what is the evidence which can explain the non-existence of a universal Creator in your scripture?

Answer:

There are many evidences. I will mention some of them as follow:

1. The proof of Order:

It means that when we look at the different parts of the world (such as solar system, all stars and galaxies) we watch an amazing order in their creation and their movements.

This fact leads us to the truth that there should be a moderator and organizer who established the world with such a significant order.

The Quran say in this case:

It is He who created the night and the day and the sun and the moon; all [heavenly bodies] in their orbit are swimming.

(Chapter 21, verse 33)

The Quran also says:

Indeed, in the creation of the heavens and the earth and the alternation of the night and the day are signs for those of understanding.

(Chapter 3, verse 190)

2. The proof of possibility:

It means that everything in the world was possible to be existed or non-existed, because its existence is not from itself, but it is from its source which caused its existence.

This fact leads us to truth that there should be a self existence which his being and existence is from himself and does not need a cause to be existed. This self existence is the Universal Creator. Otherwise (if we suppose that there is no self existing being, then it will lead to the Round and Sequential which are impossible. This truth has been approved in Philosophy.

The Quran says:

O mankind, you are those in need of God, while God Almighty is the Free of need.

(Chapter 35, verse 15)

2. **Question 4:** What is the reason that description of Universal God is different by each religion?

How should humanity understand about different description about Universal God in each religion?

Answer:

Different religions have appeared in different societies and different times. So, each religion was trying to explain the religious teachings according to the level of understanding of the people in that society and in that time. And we know the level of knowledge and understanding of people is different in various society and different times.

The Quran says:

We did not send any messenger except in the language of his people to

state clearly for them.

(Chapter 14, verse 4)

This is the main reason in case of heavenly religions.

3. Question 5: Should religion give complete truth about the existence of universal Creator and its existence?

Please support your idea with verses from the scripture.

Answer:

Yes, because the issue of God is the central issue and main subject in our religion. God is the creator of the world and the lord of the people and the guider of human being, and his existence cannot be ignored in the scripture.

The Holy Quran says:

He is God Almighty, the Creator, the Inventor, the Fashioner; to Him belong the best names. Whatever is in the heavens and earth is exalting Him. And He is the Exalted in Might, and he is the Wise.

(chapter 59, verses 24)

Verses:

(Chapter 14, verse 32)

اللَّهُ الَّذِي خَلَقَ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضَ

(Chapter 57, verse 3):

هُوَ الْأَوَّلُ وَالْآخِرُ وَالظَّاهِرُ وَالْبَاطِنُ

(Chapter 21, verse 33)

وَهُوَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ اللَّيْلَ وَالنَّهَارَ وَالشَّمْسَ وَالْقَمَرَ كُلٌّ فِي فَلَكٍ يَسْبَحُونَ

(Chapter 3, verse 190)

إِنَّ فِي خَلْقِ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَاخْتِلَافِ اللَّيْلِ وَالنَّهَارِ لآيَاتٍ لِّأُولِي الْأَلْبَابِ

(Chapter 35, verse 15)

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ أَنْتُمُ الْفُقَرَاءُ إِلَى اللَّهِ وَاللَّهُ هُوَ الْغَنِيُّ الْحَمِيدُ

(Chapter 14, verse 4)

وَمَا أَرْسَلْنَا مِنْ رَّسُولٍ إِلَّا بِلِسَانٍ قَوْمِهِ لِيُبَيِّنَ لَهُمْ

(chapter 59, verses 24)

هُوَ اللَّهُ الْخَالِقُ الْبَارِئُ الْمُصَوِّرُ لَهُ الْأَسْمَاءُ الْحُسْنَىٰ ۚ يُسَبِّحُ لَهُ مَا فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ ۗ وَهُوَ

الْعَزِيزُ الْحَكِيمُ

Characteristics of the So-called Religions

(The So-called Religions are those faiths that cannot be considered real religions)

Question 1: What are the examples of so-called religion?

Answer:

According to Islam, one of the examples of “So- called Religions” is the Idolatry. It is the faith of those who make some statues by their hands and then worship them as their creator and their Lord. They are actually misled. They are trying to find the real God who created them, but they are going astray.

The Quran says in this case:

When Abraham said to Azar, his father, ‘Do you take idols as God?

Indeed I see you and your people going astray. (Chapter 6, verse 74)

The concept of Idolatry also can include faith of people who worship some animals, persons or stars and consider them as the creator and God.

Question 2: What happens when people believe in a so-called religion?

Answer:

Worshiping a wrong thing or person is wasting time and does not make a benefit. They are like people who have lost their destination.

The Quran says:

And they worship other than God that which neither harms them nor benefits them.

(Chapter 10, verse 18)

Question 3: As in Q.2, so-called religions do have trustworthy (persuasive) factors for people to believe in it. But for what reason would you consider it to be a so-called religion?

Answer:

Because: there are specific characters and factors for the true religions.

I will mention some of them when I answer the next question. The So-called religions do not provide any benefit without those characters.

The Holy Quran says:

You worship besides God Almighty nothing but idols, simply creating lies 'about them'. Those you worship besides God certainly cannot give

you any provision. So seek provision from God 'alone', worship Him, and be grateful to Him. To Him you will 'all' be returned.

(Chapter 29, verse 17)

Question4: Please share the right ideas on religion for people not to follow a so-called religion through WARP Office discussion.

Answer:

According to Islam, the first factor for a true religion is worshiping God as the creator of the world and the highest existence, who can guide us to the right path.

The Glorious Quran say in this case:

And they have taken besides God [false] deities that they would be for them [a source of] honor.

No! Those "deities" will deny their worship of them and will be against them opponents [on the Day of Judgement].

(Chapter 19, verse 81-82)

The Quran also says:

God has commanded that you worship not except Him. That is the correct religion.

(Chapter 12, verse 40)

There can be other schools of thought that are based on the humanism, but we do not call them Religion.

Verses:

(Chapter 6, verse 74)

وَإِذْ قَالَ إِبْرَاهِيمُ لِأَبِيهِ أَرَرَ أَتَتَّخِذُ أَصْنَامًا آلِهَةً إِنِّي أَرَاكَ وَقَوْمَكَ فِي ضَلَالٍ مُّبِينٍ

(Chapter 10, verse 18)

وَيَعْبُدُونَ مِنْ دُونِ اللَّهِ مَا لَا يَضُرُّهُمْ وَلَا يَنْفَعُهُمْ وَيَقُولُونَ هُوَ لَاءِ شَفَعَاؤُنَا عِنْدَ اللَّهِ ۗ قُلْ أَتُنَبِّئُونَ اللَّهَ بِمَا لَا يَعْلَمُ فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ وَلَا فِي الْأَرْضِ ۗ سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَىٰ عَمَّا يُشْرِكُونَ

(Chapter 29, verse 17)

إِنَّمَا تَعْبُدُونَ مِنْ دُونِ اللَّهِ أَوْثَانًا وَتَخْلُقُونَ إِفْكًا إِنَّ الَّذِينَ تَعْبُدُونَ مِنْ دُونِ اللَّهِ لَا يَمْلِكُونَ لَكُمْ رِزْقًا فَابْتَغُوا عِنْدَ اللَّهِ الرِّزْقَ وَاعْبُدُوهُ وَاشْكُرُوا لَهُ ۗ إِلَيْهِ تُرْجَعُونَ

(Chapter 19, verse 81-82)

وَاتَّخَذُوا مِنْ دُونِ اللَّهِ آلِهَةً لِيَكُونُوا لَهُمْ عِزًّا * كَلَّا سَيَكْفُرُونَ بِعِبَادَتِهِمْ وَيَكُونُونَ عَلَيْهِمْ ضِدًّا

(Chapter 12, verse 40)

أَمَرَ أَلاَّ تَعْبُدُوا إِلاَّ إِيَّاهُ ذَلِكَ الدِّينُ الْقَيِّمُ

The purpose of the creations and existence

Question 1: Is it possible to find the purpose of the existence of all things and mankind through religion?

If yes, Please explain how people can find the purpose in religion.

If no, Please explain why people cannot find the purpose in religion.

Answer:

Yes, it is possible to find the purpose of the existence and mankind through religion. Because it is one of the fundamental issues for all human beings and the religion must answer this type of important questions.

The best way is to find it by the scripture and direct revelation from God Almighty.

The Quran says:

Did you think that We created you without purpose and that to Us you would not be returned?

(Chapter 23, verse 115)

Question 2: What is the purpose of existence for all things and mankind presented in religious scripture?

Answer:

According to the Quran, the purpose of creation of all things is to prepare the situation for human life on the earth.

We recite in the Holy Quran as follow:

God has created for you whatever is in the heavens and whatever is on the earth - all from Him. Indeed in that there are signs for the people who think.

(Chapter 45, verse 13)

But the purpose of creation of human being is worshipping God and learning knowledge.

We recite in the Quran as follow:

God says: I did not create the jinn and the mankind except to worship me with knowledge.

(Chapter 51, verse 56)

Question 3: Do People (including religious leaders like you) live according to the purpose of the existence explained in religion?

Answer:

We try to be so. If we and all other people live according to purpose of the existence, there would be no conflict and clash in the world.

The Quran says:

The Prophet has believed in what was revealed to him from his Lord, and all believers should believe in God and His angels and His books and all his messengers, [saying], "We make no distinction between any of the messengers." And they say, "O Lord, We hear and we obey. [We seek] Your forgiveness, and to You is the [final] destination."

(Chapter 2, verse 285)

Question 4: Explain how people should live according to the purpose of the existence mentioned in religion.

What should people do to live according to the purpose?

Answer:

When we know that the purpose of the existence is to increase knowledge and to worship God, we have to fulfill it.

We recite in the Quran as follow:

say, "My Lord, increase me in knowledge."

(Chapter 20, verse 114)

The Quran also says:

Worship your Lord until the certainty comes to you.

(Chapter 15, verse 99)

Question 5: Should the purposes of existence for all things and human being be recorded in the scriptures?

Answer:

Yes, because it is the responsibility of the religion to clear fundamental issues to the followers.

The Quran says:

We constructed the heaven with strength, and indeed, We are [its]

expander.

And the earth We have spread out, and excellent is the preparer.

And of all things We created two mates; perhaps you will remember.

So flee to God . Indeed, I am to you from Him a clear warner.

(Chapter 51, verse 50)

Verses:

(Chapter 23, verse 115)

أَفَحَسِبْتُمْ أَنَّمَا خَلَقْنَاكُمْ عَبَثًا وَأَنَّكُمْ إِلَيْنَا لَا تُرْجَعُونَ

(Chapter 45, verse 13)

وَسَخَّرَ لَكُمْ مَّا فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ وَمَا فِي الْأَرْضِ جَمِيعًا مِنْهُ ۗ إِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ لَآيَاتٍ لِّقَوْمٍ يَتَفَكَّرُونَ

(Chapter 51, verse 56)

وَمَا خَلَقْتُ الْجِنَّ وَالْإِنْسَ إِلَّا لِيَعْبُدُونِ

(Chapter 2, verse 285)

كُلُّ أَمَنٍ بِاللَّهِ وَمَلَائِكَتِهِ وَكُتُبِهِ وَرُسُلِهِ لَا نُفَرِّقُ بَيْنَ أَمَنِ الرَّسُولِ بِمَا أُنزِلَ إِلَيْهِ مِنْ رَبِّهِ وَالْمُؤْمِنُونَ

أَحَدٍ مِّن رُّسُلِهِ وَقَالُوا سَمِعْنَا وَأَطَعْنَا غُفْرَانَكَ رَبَّنَا وَإِلَيْكَ الْمَصِيرُ

(Chapter 20, verse 114)

وَقُلْ رَبِّ زِدْنِي عِلْمًا

(Chapter 15, verse 99)

وَاعْبُدْ رَبَّكَ حَتَّىٰ يَأْتِيَكَ الْيَقِينُ

(Chapter 51, verse 50)

وَمِن كُلِّ شَيْءٍ (48) وَالْأَرْضَ فَرَشْنَاهَا فَنِعْمَ الْمَاهِدُونَ (47) وَالسَّمَاءَ بَنَيْنَاهَا بِأَيْدٍ وَإِنَّا لَمُوسِعُونَ

فَفِرُّوا إِلَى اللَّهِ إِنِّي لَكُم مِّنْهُ نَذِيرٌ مُّبِينٌ (49) خَلَقْنَا زَوْجَيْنِ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَذَكَّرُونَ

The Identity of the Scripture

Question 1: Should the founder of religion teach based on their own knowledge or based on the will of heaven which they received?

Answer:

The founder of religion shall teach based on the will of Heaven and God Almighty.

The Holy Quran says:

The Prophet does not speak from [his own] inclination.

It is not but a revelation revealed,

Taught to him by one intense in strength,

One of soundness. And he rose to [his] true form He is in the highest horizon.

(Chapter 53, verse 3 – 7)

The Glorious Quran also says:

If Muhammad had made up about us some sayings,

We would have seized him by our power;

Then we would have cut from him the aorta.

(Chapter 69, verse 44 - 46)

Question 2: Should the scripture have written records of the way in finding the figure who has received the will of heaven?

Answer:

Yes, the Scripture has mentioned it.

According to the Quran the person who receive the will of Heaven, must have the following characteristics:

1. He shall be innocent person in his time.
2. He shall be wise and righteous person.
3. He shall invite the people to God Almighty, not to himself.
4. He must show miracles and prophecies.

According to Chapter2 , verse 124, God Almighty said to prophet

Abraham: I appoint you as a prophet and leader. Abraham said: will my

descendents also have this position?

God said: this status cannot be gained and reached by oppressors.

(Chapter 2, verse 124)

God Almighty also says to Prophet Muhammad:

Say, "This is my way; I invite to God Almighty with insight, I and those who follow me. And exalted is God, and I am not of those who associate others with Him."

(Chapter 12, verse 108)

It is also mentioned in Chapter 40, verse 78 that the prophets had signs from God (which mean the miracles and prophecies) as evidences to prove their prophet hood.

(Chapter 40, verse 78)

Question 3:

Should the teachings of religion include the will of the heaven that would be fulfilled in the future?

Answer:

The Scripture offers and presents establishing a utopia which would be founded on the following principles: Justice, knowledge, wisdom, freedom, equality, ethics and morality, peace and prosperity, grace and merci, belief and righteousness.

These principles have been fulfilled restively and temporally during past times, but they will be fulfilled absolutely and permanently in the future which is called End of Time.

The Holy Quran says:

We wanted to confer favor upon those who were oppressed in the land and make them leaders and make them inheritors.

(Chapter 28, verse 5)

The Quran also says:

God has promised those who have believed among you and done righteous deeds that He will surely grant them succession upon the earth just as He granted it to those before them and that He will surely

establish for them their religion which He has preferred for them and that He will surely substitute for them security, after their fear, to make them worship Me, not associating anything with Me.

(Chapter 24, Verse 55)

We also recite in the Quran as follow:

We have already written in the book [of Psalms] after the [previous] mention that the earth is inherited by My righteous servants.

(Chapter 21, verse 105)

Question 4: When the time has come for the heaven to fulfill what has been written in the scripture, should the scripture have written explanation of the promised one who would fulfill the will of heaven?

Answer:

Yes, it has to be mentioned in the Scripture and that one is called the savior of the world. We had a detailed discussion about this issue in the last Warp office discussion under the title of End of Time.

Because – as it was mentioned in the past, God Almighty wants to give

hope to the people who are working for the human principles for all people in the world, and to encourage them to worship God.

The Glorious Quran says:

God has promised those who have believed among you and done righteous deeds that He will surely grant them succession upon the earth just as He granted it to those before them and that He will surely establish for them their religion which He has preferred for them and that He will surely substitute for them security, after their fear, to make them worship Me, not associating anything with Me.

(Chapter 24, Verse 55)

Verses:

(Chapter 53, verse 3 – 7)

وَهُوَ بِالْأُفُقِ دُو مِرَّةٍ فَاسْتَوَىٰ عَلَّمَهُ شَدِيدُ الْقُوَىٰ إِنَّهُ هُوَ إِلَّا وَحْيِي يُوحَىٰ وَمَا يَنْطِقُ عَنِ الْهَوَىٰ
الْأَعْلَىٰ

(Chapter 69, verse 44 - 46)

وَلَوْ تَقَوَّلَ عَلَيْنَا بَعْضَ الْأَقَاوِيلِ لَأَخَذْنَا مِنْهُ بِالْيَمِينِ ثُمَّ لَقَطَعْنَا مِنْهُ الْوَتِينَ

(Chapter 2, verse 124)

وَإِذِ ابْتَلَىٰ إِبْرَاهِيمَ رَبُّهُ بِكَلِمَاتٍ فَأَتَمَّهُنَّ ۖ قَالَ إِنِّي جَاعِلُكَ لِلنَّاسِ إِمَامًا ۗ قَالَ وَمِنْ ذُرِّيَّتِي ۗ قَالَ لَا يَنَالُ عَهْدِي الظَّالِمِينَ

(Chapter 12, verse 108)

قُلْ هَذِهِ سَبِيلِي أَدْعُو إِلَى اللَّهِ عَلَىٰ بَصِيرَةٍ أَنَا وَمَنِ اتَّبَعَنِي وَسُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ وَمَا أَنَا مِنَ الْمُشْرِكِينَ

(Chapter 40, verse 78)

وَلَقَدْ أَرْسَلْنَا رُسُلًا مِنْ قَبْلِكَ مِنْهُمْ مَنْ قَصَصْنَا عَلَيْكَ وَمِنْهُمْ مَنْ لَمْ نَقْصُصْ عَلَيْكَ وَمَا كَانَ لِرَسُولٍ أَنْ يَأْتِيَ بِآيَةٍ إِلَّا بِإِذْنِ اللَّهِ فَإِذَا جَاءَ أَمْرُ اللَّهِ فُضِيَ بِالْحَقِّ وَخَسِرَ هُنَالِكَ الْمُبْطِلُونَ

(Chapter 28, verse: 5)

و نريد ان نمن على الذين استضعفوا في الارض و نجعلهم الأئمة و نجعلهم الوارثين

(Chapter 24, Verse 55)

وَعَدَ اللَّهُ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا مِنْكُمْ وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ لَيَسْتَخْلِفَنَّهُمْ فِي الْأَرْضِ كَمَا اسْتَخْلَفَ الَّذِينَ مِنْ قَبْلِهِمْ وَ لِيُمَكِّنَنَّ لَهُمْ دِينَهُمُ الَّذِي ارْتَضَىٰ لَهُمْ وَ لِيُبَدِّلَنَّهُمْ مِنْ بَعْدِ خَوْفِهِمْ أَمْنًا يَعْبُدُونَنِي لَا يُشْرِكُونَ بِي شَيْئًا؛

(Chapter 21, verse 105)

وَ لَقَدْ كَتَبْنَا فِي الزَّبُورِ مِنْ بَعْدِ الذِّكْرِ أَنَّ الْأَرْضَ يَرِثُهَا عِبَادِيَ الصَّالِحُونَ

Reliable Evidences in Scripture

Question 1: What is faith in religion?

Answer:

The Faith means to believe in the principles of the religion and it has 3 signs:

1. Belief in heart
2. Saying by tongue
3. Practicing by actions

The Holy Quran says:

The Bedouins say, "We have believed." Say, "You have not [yet] believed; but say [instead], 'We have submitted,' because faith has not yet entered your hearts. And if you obey God and His Messenger, He will not deprive you from your deeds of anything. Indeed, God is Forgiving and Merciful."

The believers are only the ones who have believed in God and His Messenger and then doubt not but strive with their properties and their lives in the cause of God. It is those who are the truthful.

(Chapter 49, verses 14-15)

Question 2: What are the important elements of faith?

(ex. prayer, praise(worship), practice or training, scripture, service (rituals, offerings), chanting etc)

Answer:

They are as follow:

1. Practicing the principles of religion such as prayers, fasting, Zakat (helping needy people), and other rituals.
2. Reciting the Holy Scripture and using its teachings in the life.
3. Being a righteous person.

We recite in the Quran as follow:

By the Time,

Indeed, mankind is in loss.

Except for those who believe, and do righteous deeds, and advise each other to the truth and advise each other to patience.

(Chapter 103, verses 1-3)

Question 3: please give an estimation of the importance of scripture in your religious life and explain the reason for your answer.

Answer:

The scripture plays the main role in the life of a Muslim believer.

The Quran is the word of God and teaches the true path of life according to the religion of Islam.

We recite in the Holy Quran as follow:

Indeed, this Qur'an guides to that which is most suitable and gives good news to the believers who do righteous deeds that they will have a great reward.

(Chapter 17, verse 9)

Question 4: What would be the difference between a scripture centered religious life and a religious life without scripture?

Answer:

According to our Scripture, a Non-Scripture centered life is not really religious life. Without Scripture, man may not find the true path of religious life and may go astray.

The Quran says:

The oppressors will realize on the day of judgment that they have gone astray and will be sad.

Then the prophet will say:

O my Lord, this group of people has taken this Qur'an as [a thing] abandoned.

(Chapter 25, verse 30)

Verses:

(Chapter 49, verses 14-15)

قَالَتِ الْأَعْرَابُ آمَنَّا قُلْ لَمْ تُؤْمِنُوا وَلَكِنْ قُولُوا أَسْلَمْنَا وَلَمَّا يَدْخُلِ الْإِيمَانُ فِي قُلُوبِكُمْ وَإِنْ تُطِيعُوا اللَّهَ وَرَسُولَهُ لَا يَلِتْكُمْ مِنْ أَعْمَالِكُمْ شَيْئًا إِنَّ اللَّهَ غَفُورٌ رَحِيمٌ. إِنَّمَا الْمُؤْمِنُونَ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا بِاللَّهِ وَرَسُولِهِ ثُمَّ لَمْ يَرْتَابُوا وَجَاهَدُوا بِأَمْوَالِهِمْ وَأَنْفُسِهِمْ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ أُولَئِكَ هُمُ الصَّادِقُونَ

(Chapter 103, verses 1-3)

إِلَّا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ وَتَوَاصَوْا بِالْحَقِّ وَتَوَاصَوْا بِالصَّبْرِ. وَالْعَصْرُ
بِالصَّبْرِ

(Chapter 17, verse 9)

إِنَّ هَذَا الْقُرْآنَ يَهْدِي لِلَّتِي هِيَ أَقْوَمُ وَيُبَشِّرُ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ الَّذِينَ يَعْمَلُونَ الصَّالِحَاتِ أَنَّ لَهُمْ أَجْرًا كَبِيرًا

(Chapter 25, verse 30)

وَقَالَ الرَّسُولُ يَا رَبِّ إِنَّ قَوْمِي اتَّخَذُوا هَذَا الْقُرْآنَ مَهْجُورًا

Prophecy and Fulfillment

Question 1: If there is a difference between the scholars of the world's predictions (like the weather forecasts, incidences of disease rates, increase in economic trend rate etc.) and the prophecy discussed in the scriptures, what would the difference be?

Answer:

There are 3 differences as follow:

The first difference is that: The predictions of the scholars of the world are based on the worldly calculations and scientific efforts.

But the prophecy in the Scripture is based on the revelation of God.

The second difference is that: The predictions of the scholars of the world are said, to give some specific services to some organizations or people. But the prophecy in the Scripture is there, to prove the trustworthiness of the Scripture and to guide the people to the religious teachings.

The Quran says as one of prophecies about Ferro in the king of Egypt:

Today we will save your body that you may be a sign to those who succeed you. (Chapter 10, verse 92)

The third difference is that: The predictions of the scholars of the world are possible for other similar scholars and scientists to perform them.

But the prophecy in the Scripture is usually impossible for other people to do. That's why will call them Miracles of God.

Question 2: Please give us an example of the prophecy told in your religion's scripture.

Answer:

There are many prophecies in different chapters.

According to the chapter 30, verses 2-4, God Almighty informs the Muslims that The Persians will overcome the Romans in near future and then they will become defeated after a short time. This prophecy was fulfilled after a short time exactly.

The mentioned verse is as follow:

The Romans have been defeated, in the nearest land. But they, after

their defeat, will overcome. Within a few years.

(Chapter 30, verses 2-4)

Question 3: Why are such prophecies written in religious scriptures?

(What happens if there are no written prophecies in the religious scriptures?)

Answer:

There are 2 reasons:

1. To prove the trustworthiness of the scripture.
2. To guide the people to the religious teachings.

The Holy Quran says:

We will show our signs to the people in the horizons and within their souls until it becomes clear to them that it is the truth.

(Chapter 41, verse 53)

Question 4: Should scriptures have prophecies in order to be trustworthy?

Answer:

Yes, otherwise there is no evidence to prove it.

The Quran says:

Why do not they think upon the verses of Qur'an? If it had been from [any] other than God, they would have found much contradiction and incorrect issues within it.

(Chapter 4, verse 82)

Reliability of the Prophecy

Question 1: What is the significance of the written prophecy in the scriptures to a believer?

Answer:

Prophecy and fulfillment are the signs of the truth and trustworthiness of the Scripture.

It makes the people satisfied that they are following the Right Path. Because a prophecy is from the news of the unseen, and it is mentioned by God Almighty.

The Quran says:

That is from the news of the unseen which we reveal to you, [O Muhammad]. You knew it not, neither you nor your people, before this. So be patient; indeed, the [best] outcome is for the righteous people.

(Chapter 3, verse 44)

Question 2: Could a prophecy in the scriptures not have fulfillment?

(What should a believer do if one was hoping and longing for the prophecy to be fulfilled?)

Answer:

It is impossible for prophecy in a true Scripture not to have fulfillment.

Otherwise, the people will doubt about trustworthiness of Scripture.

The Quran says:

If the Scripture had been from other than God, the people would have found much contradiction and incorrect issues within it.

(Chapter 4, verse 82)

Question 3: Is there an example in your scriptures where a prophecy is fulfilled?

Answer:

There are many examples and I mentioned some of them. They are:

1. The prophecy about Ferro's body. The Quran said:

Today we will save you in body that you may be to those who

succeed you a sign. (Chapter 10, verse 92)

2. The mentioned verse about the war between Romans and Persians:

The Quran said:

The Romans have been defeated, in the nearest land. But they, after their defeat, will overcome within a few years.

(Chapter 30, verses 2-4)

3. When the prophet of Islam and his followers were deported from the city of Mecca by idolaters, he was very sad. Then a verse of Quran revealed to him and said: You will go back to it.

That verse is as follows:

Indeed, [O Muhammad], He who revealed the Qur'an to you, will take you back to a place of return.

(chapter 28, verse 85)

This prophecy was fulfilled. He and the Muslims could overcome against the Idolaters in Mecca and they returned to that city.

Question 4: What is the significance of fulfillment according to the

prophecies in religion?

Answer:

It can be an important evidence to prove the trustworthiness of the scripture and a sign of the truth.

We recite in the Quran as follows:

[All] praise is [due] to God Almighty, who has sent down upon His Servant the Scripture and has not made therein any deviation.

(chapter 18, verse 1)

Question 5: Should scriptures have prophecies and fulfillment in order to be trustworthy?

Answer:

Yes, it is necessary. Otherwise any person can write a book and say: it is from God.

One of the most important signs of trustworthiness of a Scripture is prophecy and fulfillment.

Verses:

(Chapter 10, verse 92)

فَالْيَوْمَ نُنَجِّيكَ بِبَدَنِكَ لِتَكُونَ لِمَنْ خَلْفَكَ آيَةً

(Chapter 30, verses 2-4)

فِي بَضْعِ سِنِينَ لِلَّهِ الْأَمْرُ مِنْ ﴿٣﴾ فِي أَدْنَى الْأَرْضِ وَهُمْ مِنْ بَعْدِ غَلَبِهِمْ سَيَغْلِبُونَ ﴿٢﴾ غَلَبَتِ الرُّومُ

﴿٤﴾ قَبْلُ وَمِنْ بَعْدِ وَيَوْمَئِذٍ يَفْرَحُ الْمُؤْمِنُونَ

(Chapter 41, verse 53)

سَنُرِيهِمْ آيَاتِنَا فِي الْأَفَاقِ وَفِي أَنْفُسِهِمْ حَتَّىٰ يَتَبَيَّنَ لَهُمْ أَنَّهُ الْحَقُّ

(Chapter 4, verse 82)

أَفَلَا يَتَذَكَّرُونَ الْقُرْآنَ وَ لَوْ كَانَ مِنْ عِنْدِ غَيْرِ اللَّهِ لَوَجَدُوا فِيهِ اخْتِلَافًا كَثِيرًا

(Chapter 3, verse 44)

... نُوحِيهِ إِلَيْكَ الْعُغَيْبِ ذَلِكَ مِنْ أَنْبَاءِ

(Chapter 4, verse 82)

وَ لَوْ كَانَ مِنْ عِنْدِ غَيْرِ اللَّهِ لَوَجَدُوا فِيهِ اخْتِلَافًا كَثِيرًا

(chapter 28, verse 85)

إِنَّ الَّذِي فَرَضَ عَلَيْكَ الْقُرْآنَ لَرَادُّكَ إِلَىٰ مَعَادٍ

(chapter 18, verse 1)

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي أَنْزَلَ عَلَىٰ عَبْدِهِ الْكِتَابَ وَلَمْ يَجْعَلْ لَهُ عِوَجًا

The truth

Question 1: What is truth?

Answer:

The truth is what is right. The main criteria for understanding the truth are the wisdom and logic. Truth is opposite of falsehood.

The word of Al-Haq which means “the truth” is repeated in the Holy Quran 103 times.

We recite in our Holy Scripture as follow:

And do not mix the truth with falsehood or conceal the truth while you know [it]. (Chapter 2, verse 42).

God Almighty is the Symbol of the truth. According to the Quran, the word of “Al-Haq” is one of the names of God.

We recite in the Quran as follow:

So high is God, the Sovereign, the Truth.

Chapter 20, verse 114

That's why the word of God also is truth.

The Quran says:

His word is the truth. And He is the dominion.

Chapter 6, verse 73

The Quran also says:

The truth is from your Lord, so never be among the doubters.

(Chapter 2, verse 147)

Question 2: In religious world, why does the conflict happen just because of the difference in truth like the case above?

Answer: There should be no conflict in the religions, because there is no enmity between the Prophets and Apostles of God.

The Quran says:

The Prophet has believed in what was revealed to him from his Lord, and the believers. The Prophet of Islam and the believers have believed in God and His angels and His books and His messengers, [saying], "We make no distinction between any of messengers of God.

Chapter 2, verse 285

So, the cause of conflict should be one of the following issues:

1. Misunderstanding the message of religions, which is mercy.
2. Lack of tolerance in front of opposition,

Political motivations and tendencies. In other word, misusing the religion for the sake of political motivation.

Question 3: What is the color of the ball? How would "A" and "B" see the ball's color? Can both claims be the truth?

Answer:

If the colors are symbols of different dimensions of the truth, it can be correct and both of "A" and "B" can be right to see a part of truth and the ball could be the truth completely.

But this picture cannot be right. It says: the ball is the truth, and each one of "A" and "B" are seeing a part of it. But it is kind of contradiction.

Because if we suppose that both of them are truth, then it means: after death, we will come back to the earth and we will not come back to the

earth.

When there is contradiction, we should say: one of them is truth (right) and the other one is false.

The Quran says to the non-believers:

Indeed, we or you are either upon guidance or in clear error.

(Chapter 34, verse 24)

Question 4: How can people prevent the religious conflict caused by the difference in the truth?

Answer: There are some ways to avoid the religious conflict as follows:

1. Freedom of religion

The Holy Quran says:

There is no compulsion in the religion. The right course has become clear from the wrong.

(Chapter 2, verse 256)

1. Performing Tolerance

The Quran says in this case:

And say, "The truth is from your Lord, so whoever wills - let him believe; and whoever wills - let him disbelieve.

(Chapter 18, verse 29)

2. Respecting the other religions

As I mentioned, the Quran says to followers of other religions:

Indeed, we or you are either upon guidance or in clear error.

(Chapter 34, verse 24)

Please pay attention to the point! The Quran does not say: we are right and you are wrong. It says: we or you are either upon guidance or in clear error.

This is the best way to avoid conflict between religions.

Question 5: If there is person like "C" who has 'complete truth,' can we stop the conflict? Even if "C" has 'the complete truth,' how and through what method can "C" persuade "A" and "B"?

Answer:

As I mentioned, if the colors are symbols of different dimensions of the

truth, both of “A” and “B” can be right to see a part of truth. And the person “C” is seeing the truth completely.

In this case, the person “C” can explain to them that “A” and “B” are right relatively, not absolutely.

According to Holy Quran, even the Prophet of Islam always was saying:

O My Lord! Increase my knowledge.

Chapter 20, verse 114

Verses:

Chapter 2, verse 42

وَلَا تَلْبِسُوا الْحَقَّ بِالْبَاطِلِ وَتَكْتُمُوا الْحَقَّ وَأَنْتُمْ تَعْلَمُونَ

Chapter 20, verse 114

الْحَقُّ فَتَعَالَى اللَّهُ الْمَلِكُ

Chapter 6, verse 73

وَلَهُ الْمُلْكُ الْحَقُّ قَوْلُهُ

Chapter 2, verse 147

مِنْ رَبِّكَ فَلَا تَكُنْ مِنَ الْمُمْتَرِينَ الْحَقُّ

Chapter 2, verse 285

أَمَّنَ الرَّسُولُ بِمَا أُنزِلَ إِلَيْهِ مِنْ رَبِّهِ وَالْمُؤْمِنُونَ كُلٌّ آمَنَ بِاللَّهِ وَمَلَائِكَتِهِ وَكُتُبِهِ وَرُسُلِهِ لَا نُفَرِّقُ بَيْنَ
أَحَدٍ مِّن رُّسُلِهِ

Chapter 34, verse 24

وَإِنَّا أَوْ إِيَّاكُمْ لَعَلَىٰ هُدًى أَوْ فِي ضَلَالٍ مُّبِينٍ

Chapter 2, verse 256

لَا إِكْرَاهَ فِي الدِّينِ طَعَّدَ تَبَيَّنَ الرَّشْدُ مِنَ الْعَيِّ

Chapter 18, verse 29

وَقُلِ الْحَقُّ مِنْ رَبِّكُمْ فَمَنْ شَاءَ فَلْيُؤْمِنْ وَمَنْ شَاءَ فَلْيُكْفُرْ

Chapter 20, verse 114

وَقُلْ رَبِّ زِدْنِي عِلْمًا

The Spiritual Realm

Question 1: What happens to people when they die? (Where do people go after they die?)

Answer:

According to the religion of Islam, the being and existence is divided into 2 different dimensions: Physical, and Spiritual.

God Almighty, Angels and the souls of human beings belong to the Spiritual world. They are eternal.

We recite in the Glorious Quran as follow:

But seek, through that which God Almighty has given you, the home of the Hereafter; and [yet], do not forget your share of the physical world.

(Chapter 28, verse 77)

The Quran also says: Whoever does righteousness, whether male or female, while he is a believer We will cause him to live a good life, and

we will give them the reward [in the Hereafter] according to the best of their acts. (Chapter 16, verse 97).

Based on this reality, the soul of human being after death will attend the Spiritual World.

Question 2: Knowledge about the physical world can be attained through secular books. Then, where must we find

Knowledge about the spiritual realm (or the afterlife)?

Answer:

It can be attained by Heavenly Scriptures and Philosophical and Theosophical books.

Question 3: How does your scripture explain about the spiritual realm (or the afterlife)? (Heaven, Hell, Nirvana, Buddhahood, Paradise, the eternal cycle of birth, death, and rebirth and/or Resurrection, Reincarnation)

Answer:

According to the Holy Quran the human beings are divided into 3

groups:

- Righteous people.
- Sinful people.
- Criminals

The first group will attend the Paradise.

The Sinful people, God Almighty may forgive them if they are not criminals.

But the criminals should attend the Hell.

The Glorious Quran says:

Indeed, the righteous will be in pleasure,

And indeed, the wicked and evil people will be in the Hell.

They will there on the Day of Recompense,

(Chapter 82, Verses 13-14)

The Quran also says:

Say, "O My servants who have transgressed against themselves [by sinning], do not despair of the mercy of God. Indeed, God Almighty

forgives the sins. Indeed, he is the Forgiving, the Merciful."

(Chapter 39, Verse 53)

As I mentioned in the former presentations, the Paradise and the Hell are actually the manifestation of deeds and acts of people in this world.

Question 4: Is there a person in your religious text that teaches things regarding the spiritual realm (or the afterlife)? How did he/she come across this knowledge about the spiritual realm (or the afterlife)?

Answer:

This person is the prophet of Islam, who received his knowledge from revelation of God Almighty.

The Quran says:

Indeed, this Qur'an guides to the most suitable principles and gives good news to the believers who do righteous deeds. They will have a great reward.

And that those (criminals) who do not believe in the Hereafter - We have prepared for them a painful punishment.

(Chapter 17, Verses 9-10)

Question 5: What is the evidence that the spiritual realm (or the afterlife) described by him/her is trustworthy?

Answer:

The same evidences which made us to believe in his messages and missions. Those evidences are the miracles and prophecies.

In one of the former discussions we mentioned this issue in details.

When we believe in a person as messenger and apostle of God, we accept his reports and teachings.

Furthermore, the wisdom also proves that based on the justice of God, there should be another opportunity to maintain the Justice of God.

We know that a great number of criminals and oppressors have killed and tortured the people but they did not receive the punishment of their deeds in this world. And also a big number of oppressed people die without receiving their reward in this world.

We also know that God is Just and does not neglect the people without

rewards or punishments.

Then, there should be another opportunity and situation to maintain the Justice of God.

The Holy Quran says:

Indeed, those who are virtuous and patient God Almighty does not neglect the reward of righteous people.

(Chapter 12, verse 90)

Question 6: Who amongst those who teaches the spiritual realm (or the afterlife) can be trustworthy? What are the standards?

Answer:

The prophets and messengers of God are the most trustworthy. Because they receive the revelation from God directly, and God Almighty is the most Knowledgeable one in this case.

Question 7: Should the Scripture have a record about the invisible spiritual realm (or the afterlife)?

Answer:

Yes, because this issue causes the people to do righteous and avoid the evils.

Question 8: If each religion has different explanations concerning the afterlife, how should we respond to the situation?

Answer:

The essence of all heavenly religions in case of the Hereafter is the same.

The Glorious Quran says:

He has certainly succeeded who purifies himself

And mentions the name of his Lord and prays.

But you prefer the worldly life,

While the Hereafter is better and more enduring

Indeed, this is in the former scriptures,

The scriptures of Abraham and Moses

(Chapter 87, verses 14-19)

Verses:

(Chapter 28, verse 77)

وَابْتَغِ فِيمَا آتَاكَ اللَّهُ الدَّارَ الْآخِرَةَ وَلَا تَنْسَ نَصِيبَكَ مِنَ الدُّنْيَا

Chapter 16, verse 97

مَنْ عَمِلَ صَالِحًا مِمَّنْ ذَكَرَ أَوْ أُنتَىٰ وَهُوَ مُؤْمِنٌ فَلَنُحْيِيَنَّهٗ حَيَاةً طَيِّبَةً وَلَنَجْزِيَنَّهُمْ أَجْرَهُمْ بِأَحْسَنِ مَا كَانُوا يَعْمَلُونَ

(Chapter 82, Verses 13-14)

إِنَّ الْأَبْرَارَ لَفِي نَعِيمٍ

وَإِنَّ الْفُجَّارَ لَفِي جَحِيمٍ

(Chapter 39, Verse 53)

قُلْ يَا عِبَادِيَ الَّذِينَ أَسْرَفُوا عَلَىٰ أَنفُسِهِمْ لَا تَقْنَطُوا مِن رَّحْمَةِ اللَّهِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَغْفِرُ الذُّنُوبَ جَمِيعًا إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ

(Chapter 17, Verses 9-10)

إِنَّ هَذَا الْقُرْآنَ يَهْدِي لِلَّتِي هِيَ أَقْوَمُ وَيُبَشِّرُ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ الَّذِينَ يَعْمَلُونَ الصَّالِحَاتِ أَنَّ لَهُمْ أَجْرًا
وَأَنَّ الَّذِينَ لَا يُؤْمِنُونَ بِالْآخِرَةِ أَغْتَدْنَا لَهُمْ عَذَابًا أَلِيمًا كَبِيرًا

(Chapter 12, verse 90)

إِنَّهُ مَنْ يَتَّقِ وَيَصْبِرْ فَإِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يُضِيعُ أَجْرَ الْمُحْسِنِينَ

(Chapter 87, verses 14-19)

وَالْآخِرَةُ خَيْرٌ (16) بَلْ تُؤْثِرُونَ الْحَيَاةَ الدُّنْيَا (15) وَذَكَرَ اسْمَ رَبِّهِ فَصَلَّى (14) قَدْ أَفْلَحَ مَنْ تَزَكَّى

(19) صُحُفِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَمُوسَى (18) إِنَّ هَذَا لَفِي الصُّحُفِ الْأُولَى (17) وَأَبْقَى (17)

The Speech of Grand Ayatollah Hosseini Nassab at the “International Religious Leaders’ Conference”

Seoul, South Korea



In the name of God the compassionate the merciful

Dear Chairman of HWPL, Respected Religious Leaders,

Peace and blessing of God be upon you

It is my honor to speak in the “International Religious Leaders’ Conference” which is attended by participants of the WARP Offices and religious leaders from around the world.

Based on my experience through participating in the WARP office discussions during the past 2 years, I have realized the unique role of the WARP office, and the sincere efforts of the Religious Leaders for the sake of unity and religious peace.

It is the most important responsibility of Religious Leaders to find out the truth from the Holy Scripture and to teach it to other people, especially the youth.

The Truth is the common spirit of all Scriptures, and it is the universal value among all Religions.

In the light of Truth, all heavenly religions can be united.

The unity of religions is the foundation of Religious Peace and it will lead to solidarity, prosperity, and worldwide conciliation.

According to this fact, finding the truth leads to unification of all religions, and as a result, it leads to the religious peace.

That's why we have been focusing on the topic of "Truth" in our WARP office discussions in the last year.

The Human being innately wishes to seek and follow the truth, to reach

prosperity and perfection.

They also love the following values, as the results of pursuit of the truth:

1. Reaching Freedom of mind and freedom of speech
2. Maintaining social Justice
3. Performing Righteousness and Morality
4. Maintaining Tolerance and mercy
5. Performing Peace, tranquility and safety in the world

These are the common desires of Human beings, especially the Youth.

The people in general, who seek the truth, if they find the mentioned values in the religious teachings and in the Holy Scriptures; and, if they realize that the religious leaders are also performing and maintaining those principles, then they will follow the religious teachings; otherwise, they will lose their trust in faith.

Based on this fact, we have 2 important responsibilities to prevent the people (especially the youths) from turning away from religion:

Firstly: All religious leaders shall promote the divine desires of human beings, as a result of the common truth, through a logical interpretation of the Holy Scriptures.

Secondly: All Spiritual leaders and religious scholars shall symbolize the mentioned human values.

We should prove that God Almighty is the essence and the manifestation of the Truth and the Religions are the heralds and the harbingers of the Human Values, such as: Freedom, Justice, Morality, Tolerance, peace and conciliation.

The decision makers in the world including the religious leaders and politicians shall pay special attention to the millions of youth around the world, who are shouting: WE LOVE PEACE.

They also shall hear the message of millions of oppressed people in different countries, who are saying:

NO JUSTICE NO PEACE.

We as the religious leaders, have a great role to cooperate with each other, to find the common truth, through discussions among different

religions, in order to introduce the right path to the people, especially the youth.

We shall prove that: religion is able to lead the world to happiness, felicity, safety, blessing and welfare.

Accordingly, we should support the WARP office discussions, as the significant link and the great network for the worldwide religious institutions and spiritual leaders, to show the cooperation and solidarity of all religious leaders, and to send the message of tolerance, peace and unity to all people around the world.

At the end, I thank the chairman and all the officials of HWPL, who work sincerely to reach this significant aim, through administrating the WARP office discussions, and implementing the “Declaration of Peace and Cessation of war”.

HWPL should be an umbrella organization for all peace lovers to perform conciliation, prosperity, tolerance, and co-existence for all nations.

There are many coalitions for war in the world. We need a coalition for

peace.

Thank you very much. God bless you all.



Interfaith programs in Canada

(By: Grand Ayatollah Seyed Reza Hosseini Nassab)

No. 1: Interfaith seminar, for the sake of Humanity and Peace

Nov. 2016

This seminar was held in Al-Rasoul Al-Adham Mosque, Toronto Canada. Scholars from different religions Sunni, Shia, Christianity, and Buddhism gave lectures.





No. 2: Interfaith ceremony for unity and tolerance, and solidarity

Feb. 2017

This interfaith ceremony was held in Imam Mahdi Islamic Centre, Toronto, Canada. Religious leaders and politicians gave lecture about unity, peace, solidarity and harmony in Canada.

Lecturers:

- Senator Don Meredith - Member of Senate in Canada
- Grand Ayatollah Hosseini Nassab - Imam of IMIC
- Majid Johari - Member of Parliament in Canada
- Rabbi Benjie Gruber - Jewish Temple Har Zion
- Nirmab Armstrong - Regional Councilor
- Natalie Douncet - St. Luke's Church
- Sebastian Meadows - Thornhill Lutheran Church
- Khaled Osman - Political Activist
- Daryoush Kari - from Board of IMIC





No. 3: Interface Vigil for the victims of Cultural Centre in Quebec

This Vigil was held in city of Richmond Hill by:

- Minister of Advanced Education in Ontario
- Grand Ayatollah Hosseini Nassab
- Mayor of Richmond Hill
- Chairman of Richmond Hill Islamic Centre.

Senator Don Meredith, Grand Ayatollah Hosseini Nassab, MPP Reza

Moridi, MP Majid Jowhari, Deputy Mayor, Regional Councillors and

leaders from Sunni, Shia, Ismaili, Ahmadi and Bohra communities gave lectures.





No. 4: Interfaith Seminar in Imam Mahdi Islamic Center- Toronto

This seminar was held by HWPL, Imam Mahdi Islamic Center and other Shia Muslim Communities in Toronto, Canada, on May 13th 2017.

Scholars of different religions gave lectures in this seminar.







