

Islam for signs of peace

By: IIO Team

Peace is what mankind longs for. From the complex systems of civilizations to the simplest forms of life on earth, all have fought and survived for an eventuality called peace. Humanity in its ultimate wisdom strives for a balance. In ancient times this balance was more about the idea of a unified kingdom, like the Mughal Empire or the wars fought by Alexander. In today's world this balance is more about shaping oneself into a huge economic entity, which can compete with a global market or has control over natural resources. And this peace is what brings in the balance.

Definitions of war have changed with time, but not that of peace. We still believe in the virtue of love and caring, and mankind has always hoped for peace to prevail throughout time. In the present world system, population has surged to enormous levels and we are faced with a whole host of problems, ranging from inflation and nuclear proliferation to epidemics and threats from terrorism. Many religions throughout the world history have foretold about these situations. But in perspective of this century's problem, one should think about what lies ahead. What are the steps which the present world order can take to bring in peace, security and harmony amongst nations and individuals?

The most evident role being played to promote peace is by religions, and a large number of them are spread across the globe. People have followed their spiritual insights from generations and have passed it further. Religions have always paved the way for these generations and have taught about brotherhood, sharing love and spreading peace. One such ancient religion is Islam. Though the religion is spread across vast lands in multiple countries and consists of various sects, its followers are still united in love and brotherhood. A vast majority of the 1.6 billion Muslims are moderates, and denounce Islamic terrorism, calling it a shame on the peace loving faith. They consider terrorism as

a violation of their sacred texts teachings and urge that the world should not judge the Islamic community, which at times gets wrongly represented by few radical minorities.

Islam stands for peace. The very basic greeting ‘As-Salāmu Alaykum’ stand for, peace be unto you. This is a universal Islamic greeting and is looked upon as a medium of spreading peace through words. The religious leaders are now contributing to a new Islamic image which talks of peace, more freedom for Muslim believers and more tolerance towards other religions. Post 9/11 there are many instances where the Islamic leaders have come forward and expressed concern over the worlds falling belief in Islam as a religion of peace. These leaders or Imams are educating and supporting peace and religious tolerance and are spreading the notion that radical Muslims are limited to few minorities and are wrongly implicating a peace loving religion. Islam proclaims that their leaders and their faith is a symbol of love and nonviolence. They treat mankind as a single nation and believe in the unity of hearts for the emancipation of hatred, wickedness and sorrow. Islam’s teachings are based on non-violence and mercy to the fellow human beings.

Islamic teachings are inclined towards the promotion and spread of peace and justice. Imams have rightly portrayed Islam as a religion which shuns the practice of violence and disregards bloodshed against its fellowmen. Islamic culture highly believes in spreading the message of love and brotherhood. Throughout times of crisis, Islamic nations have lent a helping hand and are now increasingly being a part of the new age force driving this world. All these efforts put in by the Islamic community from across the world is creating an example of peace and brotherhood. The Islamic community standing together for peace is creating a benchmark in history.

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