

CHAPTER 6

MUAMALAT (RELATIONSHIP)

Meaning of citizenship

Citizenship is state of being a member of a particular country and having the rights and privileges as well as duties towards the nation.

Duties of the state to its citizens

The following are the duties of the state to its citizens:

- a) The state is accountable to all its citizens.
- b) No ruler to assume divine rights.
- c) All the deeds of the state must be inspired by the Quran and Sunnah.
- d) The sovereignty/freedom does not belong to the ruler but to Allah.
- e) The ruler must consider himself as a servant to people.
- f) The state should provide security to its citizens and look after their welfare.
- g) It should administer justice to all without and bias based on race, colour or religion.
- h) Rulers cannot enter into treaties with foreign powers without prior consultation of the citizens.
- i) The ruler should step down if he does not enjoy mutual confidence of the citizens.

Duties of the citizen to the state

The following are duties of citizen to the state:

- Must be loyal to the government and obey those in authority.
- Must cooperate with the state in matters of interest of the nation.
- Must be prepared to defend the state against any aggression.
- Have the right to choose and reject the leaders.
- Have the right to counsel the leaders.
- Have the rights to full justice, protection, security and welfare.

The social achievements of the prophet Muhammed (p.b.u.h)

The following are social achievements that made by the Prophet Mohammed:

- a)** He established solid brotherhood and equality of mankind that all people are from Adam, and he is from sand.
- b)** He eliminated all sorts of racism. It teaches that people are distinct just for the purpose of knowing each other, therefore, none is expected to be favored because of his or her origin.
- c)** He was able to eradicate and emancipate slavery. Islam discourages slavery but rather encourages that they should be given their freedom.
- d)** He improved the status of women contrary to what was being done in the pre-Islamic era in Arabia.
- e)** He promoted religious Tolerance due to his superb character. Islam advocates for freedom of worship and religion.
- f)** He managed to spread of Islam and advocate for the belief in one God in the Arabian Peninsula and area beyond such as Abyssinia, Rome and Persia.
- g)** He was able to end the age of ignorance and enlightened his community and left in as righteous.
- h)** He advocated and promoted peaceful co-existence of people of diverse tribes/ clans and nations.

The areas where Muslims and Non-Muslims interact

The following are the areas where Muslims and non-Muslims interact:

- a) Trade and business
- b) Learning institutions
- c) Work places
- d) Neighbourhood
- e) Family ties

Islamic teachings on the relationship between Muslim and non-Muslims

The following are the ways in which Muslims can co-exist peacefully with non-Muslims:

1. Muslims should deal with Non-Muslims justly and with fairness in all aspects of life.
2. Muslims should extend greeting to them as a sign of good neighbourhood.
3. Muslims should exercise wisdom, patience and knowledge when debating or discussing religious issues with the non-Muslims.
4. Muslims must be careful not to compromise the religion with non-Islamic practices that are prevalent in the society.
5. Muslims can enter into treaties or peaceful agreements with the non-Muslims for the sake of coexistence.
6. Non-Muslims should be given the freedom of practicing their religion without interference.
7. Visiting them when sick and praying for their recovery and guidance since it shows that Muslims love peace and health for them.
8. Sending condolences to them during death, disasters and tragedies.
9. Collective participation with them in any project or undertaking beneficial to the society.
10. Perform *da'wa* (inviting them to Islam) using good language and wisdom. They should not be coerced to embrace Islam.
11. Accommodate them in our communities and show them kindness and justice.
12. Sign treaties with them and having respect for such treaties to show the curtesy nature of Islam.
13. Maintain good family ties with them. There are instances where one or some members of a family are of different religions. A Muslim should not break his or her family ties.
14. Muslims should give free education to the children of non-Muslim members like the way they provide to Muslim children with no favor neither corruption.

Rights of non-Muslims in an Islamic state

The following are the rights of non-Muslims in an Islamic State:

- The right to political choice and party
- The right to protection from threats and external attacks
- The right to profess their own religion and no forcing them into Islam
- The right to own property and start business in the Islamic state
- The right to seek education
- The right to freedom of expression
- The right to be treated with fairness and justice
- The right to sign treaties and terms with the Islamic State

Instances that reflect on the prophet's relation with non-Muslims

The following are examples of situations where the Prophet Muhammed (p.b.u.h) related with non-Muslim:

- a) The prophet called his people and they always called him names and fought with him in many battles but upon the conquest of Makkah, he forgave them all.
- b) A non-Muslim called umu-jamil used to put thorns on the pathway of the prophet and one day when he did not see the thorns, he went to ask about the woman. He even visited her.
- c) The prophet elevated the likes of Khalid bin Walid even after he had fought and killed many Muslims for long time
- d) After being stoned to bleeding by the people of Taif, the prophet prevented an Angel from destroying the people and even made a prayer of guidance for them.
- e) The prophet Muhammed showed religious tolerance, when the Qureysh refused him and his companions from worshipping in the Ka'abah. He persevered and he didn't fight back because they were not aware of Islam.
- f) The prophet Muhammed (p.b.u.h) tolerated the infidels Arabs during the Boycott of Banu-Hashim. Despite of all the difficulties he went through but he did not abandon his duty of preaching Islam to them leniently

g) He was injured and his canine was removed in the battle of uhud but he did not curse nor pray onto the disbelievers of Makkah a punishment, but he remained patient and tolerated them hoping that they will embrace Islam.

In what ways did our prophet Muhammed (p.b.u.h) encouraged religious tolerance

The following are ways through which the prophet Muhammed (p.b.u.h) encouraged tolerance:

- a) He accorded non-Muslims freedom of worship, expression, association and movement
- b) He was a living example of nobility and humanity to both Muslims and non-Muslims
- c) He had never insulted anyone or retaliated even under extreme provocation
- d) He never persecuted or oppressed anyone because of their faith
- e) He declared that other people's place are sacred and honour
- f) He also taught against abusing other religion and their gods
- g) He advocated for fair treatment of prisoners of war
- h) He did not compel others to change their religion

Significance of freedom of religion to Muslims in Kenya

The following are the importance according freedom of religion to Muslims in Kenya:

- Muslims are able to practice their religion freely without any victimization. That is, Muslims worship freely, hence harmonious co-existence with others.
- Muslims are able to construct places of worship such as mosques and Madrassas anywhere in the country and manage these places.
- Sanctity and respect of the places of worship such as mosques, churches, synagogues are upheld.
- Muslims are able to form organization for the welfare of the fellow Muslims such as WAMY, SUPKEM among others.

- Muslims are free to express their opinions, wishes and stand on matters affecting them for example, inclusion of Kadhi's Courts in the promulgated constitution of 2010.
- Muslims are free to travel out of the country for religious obligations such as travelling to Makkah for the purpose of performing Hajj and Umra.
- Muslims are free to celebrate their religious ceremonies and festivals such as Eidul-Fitri, Eidul-Adh-haa among others.
- Muslims are able to wear and observe Islamic code of dress at the workplaces, homes and in education institution. Such as wearing of Hijab, Kofia, Buibui and Kanzu among the Muslims.
- Muslims have liberty to publish and sell Islamic books and other education materials. In addition, they are able to use the electronic and print media to preach and teach Islam.
- Muslims are able to receive government support in their undertakings, such as initiation of development projects in marginalized areas like North Eastern part of Kenya.
- Muslims children are able to learn their religion in School by introducing I.R.E in the curriculum. More so, they can get governmental financial support like other children of other faiths.

Muslims festivals and why each is celebrated

The following are Muslim festivals and their reasons why each is celebrated:

- a) **Iddul-fitr** is celebrated to mark the end of the Holy month of Ramdhan. And it is normally celebrated on the first day of the month of Shawwal.
- b) **Iddul-Adh-ha** is celebrated to mark the end of Hajj and to commemorate the event of Nabii Ibrahim who was commanded by Allah to sacrifice his beloved son Ismail. It is celebrated on the 10th of Dhul-Hijjah.
- c) **Friday** is celebrated every week as the idd of the week.
- d) **Miladun-Nabi** is celebrated to mark the birthday of prophet Muhammed (p.b.u.h). It is celebrated on 12th Rabiwul-Awwal.
- e) The first day of Muharram is celebrated to mark the beginning of a new year.

Ways through which the prophet Muhammed (p.b.u.h) eliminated racism

The following are ways through which the prophet Muhammed (p.b.u.h) eliminated racism:

- He created a sense of brotherhood among believers by teaching that all Muslims are brothers regardless of colour and race
- He preached on equality among all races whereby he made Bilal ibn Rabah who was a slave a Muadhin (caller for prayer). He was not an Arab as well.
- He emphasized on equality of all people before Allah, by keeping the instrument to measure the goodness of a person being the level of piety.
- He prescribed heavy punishment to those who practice racism
- He married from different races and tribes to discourage racism while encouraging the unity of Muslims and equality of mankind. For example, he married Mariyah al-Qibtiyah from Egypt.
- He preached to the people of all races and he sent missionaries to preach to people from non-Arabs origins for example Abyssinia, Roman Empire, Persian, among others so as to show how he was calling for togetherness and condemning racism.
- He consulted all of his swahabas regardless of their races. For example, during the battle of Khandaq, the prophet accepted the views of a Persian by the name Salman Al-Farsy who worked side by side with the Muslims.
- The Prophet Muhammed (p.b.u.h) signed treaties with the jews and the Christians of Madinah, through the signing of the Madinan Constitution.
- After the conquest of Makkah, the prophet Muhammed (p.b.u.h) welcomed different guests in his kingdom regardless of their races, language and background.
- He preached against all form of racism for instance, when Abu-Dharr insulted Bilal he reprimanded him on spot.

Status of Women in Islam

a) Status of women before Islam

The following is the status women during the time of Jahiliyyah (Pre-Islamic Arabia)

- a) Arabs would kill their baby girls and bury them alive out of fear of humiliation.
- b) Girls would be married off without their consent
- c) Women would be inherited like property.
- d) Women were not given opportunity for education
- e) Women could not inherit and own their rightful property
- f) Women were married with unlimited numbers by one man
- g) Women were considered as mere property of the society
- h) Brides were not given their dowry
- i) Women were raped and forced to have sex with strangers with a name of giving hospitality to the guest.

Ways in which Islam has raised the status of women

The following are some of the rights of a Muslim woman which elevate her status in the society:

- A Muslim woman has an equal opportunity as the men in the performance of ibada (act of worship) without considering gender.
- Islam encourages both men and women to equally seek knowledge. A Muslim woman has never been segregated in her quest for knowledge.
- The Sharia gave the woman the right to choose a spouse and even keep her original family name once married.
- Islamic teachings give the Muslim woman a right to own property and take part in the development of the economy.
- A Muslim woman is entitled to dowry during marriage and the money is entirely her own.
- A Muslim woman has freedom to express herself to air her grievances and ideas.
- A Muslim woman has a sacred position in the society which the prophet Muhammed said is three times that of the father.

- A Muslim woman is also allowed to interact with other members of the society with her husband permission to attend such religious obligations.
- Islam liberates a woman from being treated as an object by the society around her.
- A Muslim woman has her personality and character protected by her modest appearance and her Islamic mode of dressing.
- A Muslim woman is protected from improper treatment of women, like emotional, physical or psychological abuse and domestic violence.
- They are accorded respect to protect their dignity during prayers or gatherings and functions that involve both genders by secluding her.

How Islam empowers women economically

The following are ways in which Islam has empowered women economically:

1. Women are accorded the right to own property
2. Women are allowed to engage in income generating activities such as business, legal employment among others
3. A Muslim woman is entitled to definite share of inheritance from her parents, husbands and close relative
4. A Muslim woman is entitled to be given dowry by her husband and spend it entirely for herself
5. Married women should be taken care of by their husbands therefore, they can use their earnings in investment of their choice
6. The fact that Islam makes it compulsory for both men and women to seek knowledge opens the avenues for both parties to advance in different careers and also in the job market
7. Islam allow women to receive gifts and be recipients of the proceeds from religious endowments (waqf) which could be of high value to her
8. Women are entitled for financial support if they are taking care of the custody of children after a divorce

Privileges accorded to a woman in Islam

The following are the privileges given to a Muslim woman:

- a) Islam honours women by giving them rights and freeing them from them from any manner of degradation
- b) Islam takes women in consideration, acknowledges them and recognizes their independent personalities
- c) Islam gives women a stipulated share in inheritance as a mother, sister, daughter or a wife
- d) Islam favors women in many aspects. That is, she is exempted from religious duties if she is in menstruation period
- e) She is also exempted from attending the obligatory jamaa prayers in the mosques unless she wishes that
- f) As a mother the prophet Muhammed (p.b.u.h) taught that the paradise lies under her feet, that honour is only given to a mother
- g) A woman is entitled to dowry, provision, maintenance and security
- h) A woman has been instructed to safeguard her dignity, modesty and chastity by observing hijab
- i) She is exempted from fasting if is an expectant mother, breastfeeding and a woman in her post-natal bleeding and menstruation

Islamic Guidelines on the child care

The following are the Islamic teachings/ guidelines on the child care:

- A Muslim child is to be taught good behavior, moral and proper etiquette.
- Muslims are encouraged to provide their children with both religious and secular education.
- Parents and guardians should ensure that their children are married to the right people.
- Muslim children are to be corrected and disciplined when they do wrong.
- Parents and guardians should ensure that their children grow healthy and strong.

- Children are supposed to be treated fairly and equally without any sort of discrimination.
- Parents and guardians should spare time with their children.
- Parents should demonstrate their love, mercy and affection towards their children.
- Parents should always be alert to everything that may have negative influence on their children.

Meaning of Child Abuse

Child abuse refers to physical, sexual or emotional mistreatment of a child practiced by parents, guardians, relatives or any other adult interacting with the child.

Forms of child abuse prevalent in Kenya

The following are different forms of child abuse that prevail in Kenya:

- **Physical Abuse:** Physical abuse may include intentional infliction of pain, injuries, bleeding to the victim in order to intimidate them or force them to do something. This may include, pinching, slapping, whipping, burning, canning and any rough handling of the child.
- **Sexual Abuse:** Child sexual abuse or child molestation is a form of abuse in which an adult or older adolescent uses a child for sexual stimulation or to satisfy his sexual desires either through raping or defilement.
- **Child neglect:** This may involve the failure of a parents or guardian to provide children with food, shelter, clothing, protection, love, education among other necessities.
- **Child labour:** It refers to the employment of children in any kind of work that deprives them their childhood rights. For example, working as drug traffickers, working as house servant among others
- **Social abuse:** This involves discrimination of children on basis of age, gender, disabilities and other defects.

- **Verbal abuse:** This is the use of vulgar language against children. This may involve the calling them disgusting names, insulting and abusing them.
- **Forced initiation rites:** It is the adoption or having inadequate legal framework to protect children from the rites of initiation. For example, subjecting a girl child to female genital mutilation.

Islamic views on child abuse

The following are the Islamic teachings on Child Abuse:

- Parents, guardians and other members of the community should protect the children from any form of abuse
- Responsibility from marriage to parenthood is stressed in Islam
- Islam has given all spiritual guidelines on child rearing and upbringing
- Islam is meant to produce children who are good Muslims and who have accepted citizens in the society

Effects of child abuse

Child abuse has several effects to the development of a child. Some of these effects are as follows:

1. Abused children have a feeling of guilt and self-blame for mistakes that are not of their own making.
2. They keep on having psychological trauma, nightmares or flashbacks of the unpleasant situations that they went through.
3. They develop fear of people, things or places associated with the abuse. This may include objects used in torture, places where the abuse occurred and the people who abused them.
4. They develop low self-esteem and a feeling of rejection and disowned.
5. Some children may resort to drug addiction so as to suppress thoughts and feelings of the abuse.
6. Physical and sexual abuse may cause chronic pains or permanent disability, including sexual dysfunction.
7. Some victims think of committing suicide while others actually commit.

8. Some may lack moral responsibility and develop the feeling of revenge in adulthood and may end up engaging in acts of child abuse.

Effects of sexual abuse to a child

The following are the effects of sexual abuse to a child

1. Victims suffer from bodily injuries like scars, bleeding, bruises, burns, fractures and deformities.
2. Victims of child sexual abuse may cause internal lacerations and bleeding. Sometimes, it can result into damage to internal organs.
3. Extreme cases of child abuse or sexual abuse may lead to death
4. Other long-term effects of physical abuse may include low self-esteem, withdrawal from the society abuse of drugs, psychological trauma, emotional instability, anxiety and general discomfort.
5. Child abuse may lead to infection of STIs including HIV and AIDS.

Child Labour

Child labour is the depriving of a child's rites such as education, free time to play, mistreating, offering employment at their under-age among others.

Causes of child Labour

The following are the causes of child labour in the society:

1. Poverty – Due to poor situations at home and which bring problems of human necessities one will engage his child to child labour.
2. Death – If one remains an orphan and he/she needs to eat and he will have to look for a job.
3. Dropping out of school – As one remains laborers or has nothing to do i.e. idleness will have to engage himself into labour.
4. Lack of schooling – One engages himself as he is not educated as he doesn't know what he is doing.
5. Being homeless – Lack of place to stay, you will have to find something to do to cater for your basic needs.

6. Greed for wealth – One will opt to employ children for cheap labour thus deriving them their rights.
7. Lack of role model – As great people are involved in child labour there is no one to emulate. (there is good example to follow).

Effects of child labour

The following are effects of child labour in the society:

- a)** A child is deprived of his or her proper childhood
- b)** A child suffers physical and mental torture
- c)** A child is forced to a life of unskilled, poorly paid work.
- d)** A gets deprived of the basic education
- e)** A child suffers due to mistreatments
- f)** A child is not treated with respect by the society
- g)** A child is exposed to several risks and develops health problems

Indicators/ signs to show child neglect in our society

The following are indicators that show that a child is neglected in our society:

- If the physical appearance of a child is wanting
- Begging for food or stealing money
- His health condition is poor
- Frequently absenting himself from school to attend casual work
- Difficult time relating to other children
- He is violent and truant due to the stress
- His emotionally disturbed and became upset easily

Role of the parents and guardians in minimizing child abuse, child labour and neglect

The following are the roles to be played by the parents and guardians in minimizing child abuse, child labour and neglect in the society:

- a)** Parents should take responsibility of raising their children
- b)** Parents and guardians should not ignore or neglect their children
- c)** Both the parents and guardians should provide their children with the basic needs
- d)** Parents and guardians should offer their children protection
- e)** Parents and guardians should offer parental love and care to their children

- f) Parents and guardians should listen to their children's pleas and try to understand them
- g) Parents and guardians should create sufficient time for their children
- h) Parents and guardians should monitor their children's progress in their daily activities and studies
- i) Parents and guardians should play an important role in instilling virtues in the children

[Ways in which Muslims can help prevent children from being exploited in the society](#)

The following are the ways in which Muslims can help to fight against children exploitation in the society:

- By addressing poverty: Muslims should create job opportunities through investing, paying of zakat, donating, organizing visits to the destitute people of the society so as to reduce poverty.
- Through creating of awareness on dangers of child exploitation: Muslims should keep on educating people through sermons, seminars, billboards and media on the effects of child exploitation.
- By creating of awareness on the rights of children: The rights of children such as right to life, parental love and care, education, protection and security should be addressed and advocated for.
- Through strengthening the institution of family: Muslims should foster good relationship among the people of the family, since family is the important unity of the society.
- Promotion of education: All the Muslims, through the government should promote education. Through education people learn how to reconcile, fight for their rights and become self-reliance people.
- By agitating for enactment of laws to protect children: Muslims should help to initiate different programmes that will fight for the rights of children as stated in constitution and charters.

- By coming up with means to create awareness on proper parenting: Parents and guardians should be enticed to take up their responsibilities of bringing up their children properly.
- By seeking divine intervention through prayers and supplication which always do wonders by the will of Allah.

Domestic violence

Domestic violence refers to the physical, emotional, financial or sexual abuses done either within the marital home or outside either by the spouses or their family members with or even without the consent of the other partner such as threatening, hurting, fighting as well.

Forms of Domestic violence

The following are forms of Domestic violence in the society:

1. Domestic violence may involve use of force against someone in a way that injures or endangers their lives.
2. Instilling fear, guilt, shame and intimidation
3. Threatening to hurt the individual's partner or hurt those around the home.
4. Denying essential needs such as food and clothing among others.
5. Involvement into sexual harassment.

Effects of domestic violence

The following are the effects of domestic violence in the society:

- Victims of domestic violence suffer from low self-esteem, even if they used to be confident before they were abused.
- Violence or aggression may lead to physical injuries or deformities.
- Extreme cases may lead to death of the victim.
- It leads to divorce in marriages.
- Show major personality changes (e.g. an outgoing person becomes withdrawn)
- It leads to depression, anxiety or suicidal attempts.

- Victims frequently miss work, school, or social occasions, without explanation.

[Solution to domestic violence](#)

The following are ways through which Muslims can assist in curbing domestic violence:

- Educating fellow Muslims on the need to have an understanding between couples so as to lead a peaceful life.
- By advising Muslims who are married to seek alternative ways of resolving issues in marriages rather than resorting to violence.
- Advocating for respect between couples and letting them know that only Allah is perfect and urging them to exercise patience.
- By intervening in case of a situation where the violence has erupted and standing in a just and fair mediator.
- Preaching the essence of peaceful co-existence between couples during marriages as it is the case in the sermon of Nikaah and stressing that in case of disagreements people could part without violence.
- Creating awareness among the youth who are just about to get married and those who are married on the adverse effects of domestic violence.
- Praying for the couple during marriage for Allah to bless them with a peaceful and loving union.
- By adopting the exemplary practice of the prophet Muhammed (p.b.u.h) who used to be the best to his wives.
- By adopting the machinery of divorce (gradual steps of resolving disputes between couples) as provided for in the Holy Quran.
- Through reporting the domestic violence cases to the relevant authorities who can take necessary actions accordingly.

[Islamic relations with other nations](#)

The Islamic state classifies its relationship with the other countries into the following three categories:

1. Relations with Muslim countries

- a) All Muslims are brothers in faith wherever they live in this world. They form one brotherhood because of a common religion.
- b) The concept of Islamic brotherhood eliminates all forms of differences on the basis of race, tribe, colour, language, blood relations or nationality.

2. Relations with non-Muslim countries joined by treaties and agreements

- a) This relation is governed by either a treaty, an alliance or agreement signed between the Islamic state and the non-Islamic allied state.
- b) The agreement may be in sharing business opportunities, development, and exchange programs among others.
- c) Muslims should honour the treaty as agreed upon and should not violate its conditions.
- d) If the other party or parties are not fulfilling the terms agreed upon, then any Islamic state is at liberty to cancel the alliance.
- e) Before the cancellation of any treaty, several attempts to keep together and several warning should have been given.
- f) Islam has laid more emphasis on the sanctity of an agreement and the violation of a promise or pledge is a great sin liable for severe punishment.

3. Basic principles on Islamic international relations

Basic principles of Islam's concept of international relations which guide the relations of an Islamic state with other countries include the following;

- **Promotion of Peace and Security at all costs:** During the time of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) Muslims resorted to fight only when they had been wronged, persecuted and even expelled from their homes by the enemies of Islam.
- **Promotion of Brotherhood:** Islam believes in the brotherhood of humankind. All humankind was created from a single pair and come from the same parents, Adam and Hawa. Therefore, they all share in the same parentage.

- **Establishment of Justice and Equity:** Everyone should be treated equally and fairly before the law and in the distribution of resources of the state. There should be no intimidation or instilling fear among people on the basis of religious or any other differences.
- **Promotion of International Co-operation:** A Muslim nation should be ready to co-operate and share with other nations; ideas regarding education programs, economic development, sports and cultural programs among other related fields for righteousness and fair play while observing the limits of Allah.

Ways through which a Muslim nation can co-exist peacefully with people of different nations

The following are ways through which Muslim nations can co-exist peacefully with other nations:

- i. Through appreciating the unity of the creator i.e. one God who created all living beings. This will enable Muslims to co-exist peacefully with people of other nations.
- ii. Through appreciating unity of mankind, who originated from the same father and mother, Muslims develop a sense of belonging hence, unity and brotherhood is enhanced.
- iii. Through respect of other nations interests and right to life and property i.e. should not destroy their properties, should deal justly and kindly with them (Q 60:8)
- iv. Concentrating on common /mutual interests e.g. education, security, economic/ social/ political development and avoiding divisive/ controversial issues such as a tribalism, racism etc.
- v. Forming joint committees and councils to resolve conflicts whenever they arise between the nations.
- vi. By attending and participating in conferences and seminars to discuss matters on peaceful co-existence whenever invited.

- vii. Organizing/forming joint political /social forums to share ideas and other concerns.
- viii. Appreciating other nation's laws, traditions and customs through exercising tolerance.
- ix. Educating the youth and other members of the society about the Islamic teachings in relating with other nations.
- x. Drawing agreements and accords (treaties) with other nations which should be legally binding and strictly adhered to, to ensure peaceful co-existence and mutual respect.
- xi. Emulating the Prophet (p.b.u.h) in his excellent relations with friendly nations.
- xii. Joining hands with other nations in fighting aggression and tyranny.

Causes of conflicts between Muslim nations and others in the world today

The following are the causes of conflicts between Muslim nations and others in the world today:

- Injustice:
- Encroachment/ Aggression:
- Lack of respect for one another:
- Hatred:
- Lack of cooperation:
- Mistrust/ Suspicion:
- Non-fulfillment of pledges:

Misconceptions about Islam

These are the concepts found in the religion that have been misunderstood to give negative image of Islam. These misconceptions, either by Muslims themselves or at large non-Muslims, have adversely affected the relationship between Muslims and non-Muslims. The following are some misconceptions that non-Muslims have about Islam:

- a) Allah is exclusively the God of Islam

- b) Jihad is an offensive Holy war that makes Muslims to be violent and terrorist
- c) Islam oppresses women
- d) Islam was spread by the sword
- e) Muslims worship prophet Muhammed
- f) The Islamic sharia is archaic and cruel
- g) Islam is associated with slavery and slave trade, and female slaves have no right

Meaning of the concepts related to Jihad

Jihad is derived from an Arabic term Jahada which means to make an effort in order to achieve a goal. The Qur'anic definition of jihad is "striving with one's self and one's wealth in the cause of Allah.

Qu'ud literally means sitting down. In relation to jihad, Qu'ud means intentionally neglecting the responsibility of going for jihad and remaining behind while the others have gone.

Qital literally means fighting or battle. In relation to jihad, Qital is a situation in which people hurt each other using their bodies or weapons likely to cause death.

Kinds of Jihad

In Islam there are three kinds of jihad as explained below:

- **Jihad against whims of spirits:** Muslims are urged to fight against their evil commanding souls, and not to let them to triumph over them.
- **Jihad against the temptations of Satan:** Islam admonish Muslims and all people to enjoin not the temptations of Satan, for he is the dangerous enemy to mankind.
- **Jihad against visible enemy or oppressor:** This involves the raising of arms not in a spirit of brutality but in the spirit of love for humanity to guide them in the right path.

Misconceptions about jihad

The following are misconception about jihad:

- a) Jihad means sacred and Holy war against people of other faiths
- b) Jihad is a Holy war against non-Muslims to compel them to join Islam. That is, jihad is fighting against unbelievers objectively to win them over to Islam or subduing and exterminating them in case they refuse to become Muslims.
- c) Jihad is mistakenly understood as an act of terrorism. Jihad and terrorism are interchangeably used to refer to each other.
- d) Acts of terror which results in mass suffering and destruction of property and death
- e) The spread of Islam by arms is a religious duty upon Muslims in general.

Islamic concept of jihad

The following are the Islamic views about the concept of Jihad:

- Islam despises all forms of violence and terrorism, whether against Muslims or non-Muslims.
- Islam, calls for peace, co-operation, and maintaining justice among all.
- Islam calls for happiness for the common good of humanity as a whole.
- In Islam, war is not waged at anyone or any state except in the case of self-defense.
- Peace and restraint should be the first steps before resorting to any acts self-defense.
- Allah (SWT) commands that there should be no compulsion in religion. Nobody should be forced to join Islam but should do so out of their will.
- Killing an innocent soul is a great sin in the sight of Allah (SWT).
- Allah (SWT) condemns any form of Suicide.
- The Quran warns of great retribution to those who commit suicide.
- Islam advocates for peaceful co-existence.

Reasons for Jihad in Islam

The following are the causes of Jihad in Islam:

- i. For self-defense: Incase one is attacked by enemies then he or she should fight them.
- ii. In order to defend the weak members of the society, fighting with the intention of helping those who are being oppressed. (Q 4: 75)
- iii. In defence of religion (in the course of Allah): Muslims are supposed to fight in order to defend their religion.
- iv. Fighting to remove aggression: Islam allows Muslims to fight those who are aggressive e.g. where one country attacks another for no particular reason then it should be fought.
- v. For protecting places of worship; all places of worship in which the name of Allah is glorified should be protected against those who want to destroy them. (Q22:40)
- vi. Waging Jihad so as to defeat those who cannot tolerate Allah's message e.g. where Muslims are denied freedom of worship.
- vii. Jihad can be undertaken to defend property e.g. in a situation where property has been destroyed or stolen.
- viii. Jihad can be undertaken so as to bring an end to evil e.g. people who refuse to pay zakat, who practice immoral activities should be fought.

The rules of Jihad according to Islamic teachings

The following are the rules of Jihad according to Islamic teachings:

1. Muslims should pray for victory from Allah before, during and after the holy war
2. Killing of old, women, children, innocent people who are not in the battle field and those engaged in worship is prohibited.
3. Soldier should not crucify nor mutilate dead bodies of their enemies.
4. Muslims should respond to the invitation of their enemies if they call for peace, that is, fighting should be the last resort.
5. Destroy, burning or cutting vegetation is not allowed.
6. Destroy of places of worship is not allowed during Jihad.
7. Slaying of flock or herds is not acceptable except subsistence.

8. War captives should not be persecuted but rather should be treated with kindness and in case the enemy wants to rescue himself, should be allowed to pay ransom.
9. The enemy should not be compelled neither forced to accept Islam.
10. A person who surrenders should not be attacked.
11. The enemy should not be ambushed; should be informed about the attack in advance.
12. Injured soldiers should be taken care of regardless of the side they are fighting for.
13. All treaties and accords signed by the warring parties should be respected.
14. Soldiers should not steal the booty.
15. There should be fair distribution of the booty.

Terrorism

Terrorism is a criminal act that is deliberately executed by an individual or a group in order to achieve specific goals such as revenge, creating fear, instability, demanding for ransom among other goals.

Methods used by terrorists to achieve their goals

Terrorists employ several cruel and unlawful methods including the following:

- a) Brutal murder of innocent people, including women and children.
- b) Hijacking innocent passengers and clients and torturing them physically and emotionally
- c) Torturing innocent people or captured victims.
- d) Suicide bombing.
- e) Kidnapping people to unknown destinations
- f) Destruction of valuable property and wealth.

Causes of terrorism

The following are the causes of terrorism in the society:

- a) Social and political injustice: The terrorists feel that they have been stripped of something that they feel entitled to such as certain rights, lands and other possession.
- b) Religious beliefs: Some of the radical religious groups they feel to punish what they see ungodly. Thus, wanting to establish their religious laws.
- c) Persistent poverty that lead to hopelessness and despair, therefore, some people tend to do terror acts to gain wealth through threat.
- d) Low of educational attainment: Some people are unlearned therefore; they can be easily manipulated by terrorist-ideological beliefs once exposed.
- e) Ethnic conflicts: Some group of people can terror other group because of certain ancient ethnic rivalry that happened between them.

Islamic views on terrorism

The following are the reasons why Islam is against terrorism:

- Terrorism is not part of Islam, neither is it encouraged.
- Islam is a religion of peace and it emphasizes on peaceful relations between different people.
- prohibition of any form of injustice including any violence which seeks to instill fear, injury or death to innocent civilians.
- The religion values human life whether it is of a Muslims or Non-Muslims and makes it absolutely forbidden to take an innocent life unjustly.
- Islam also prohibits destruction of people's property. All individual's wealth, family and dignity in the society must be respected and protected.
- Islam despises all forms of violence and terrorism, whether against Muslims or non-Muslims.
- Islam, calls for peace, co-operation, and maintaining justice among all.
- Islam calls for happiness for the common good of humanity as a whole.
- In Islam, war is not waged at anyone or any state except in the case of self-defense.

- Peace and restraint should be the first steps before resorting to any acts self-defense.
- Allah (SWT) commands that there should be no compulsion in religion. Nobody should be forced to join Islam but should do so out of their will.
- Killing an innocent soul is a great sin in the sight of Allah (SWT).
- Allah (SWT) condemns any form of Suicide.
- The Quran warns of great retribution to those who commit suicide.
- Islam advocates for peaceful co-existence.

Effects of Terrorism

The following are the effects of terrorism in the society:

- 1) Cruelty is directed to innocent groups of people like the children, women, the elderly, the disabled, and the sick. These vulnerable people are victimized either by the government or other quarters in the name of fighting terrorism.
- 2) Brutality and murder of innocent civilians and destruction of valuable property such as building, for example the September 11 and wastegate.
- 3) Undermining the security levels of the countries involved.
- 4) Members of the society lose trust in each other and some take this opportunity to strike others because of suspicion rather than concrete reasons.
- 5) Frequent wars that throw the whole world into panic, instability, fear, hunger, pain and mass suffering.
- 6) Creates hatred and enmity between people, communities and nations who have once lived together in harmony, peace and mutual understanding.
- 7) Interrupts the country's economic stability which is crucial for business and economic growth. For instance, the investors are threatened by the attacks as a result of which they run away from our society hence melting down the economy.

- 8) Breach of contracts between nations because the security situation may not allow them to execute their trusts, due to unnecessary suspicion and hatred.
- 9) Diverting so many resources from projects on development towards beefing up security, creating awareness, rescue missions and treatment.
- 10) Distorts the image of Islam before the whole world where people take Muslims to be perpetrators of violence and destruction.
- 11) Certain fundamental rights and freedom are deprived of the people who deserve them. For example, subjecting extra-vetting to people who want to have their Identity cards, passport and other documents or even denying them completely.
- 12) Terror victims are affected emotionally and psychologically. Members of the society remain constantly threatened by the fact that terrorism attacks have no specific time or place.

Measures that can be adopted by Muslims to guard against terrorism

The following are measures that can be adopted by the Muslims to guard against terrorism:

- Individually or collectively Muslims should always be the first to speak and condemn acts of terror because Islam is a religion of peace
- Creating public awareness through the mass media so as to enlighten the society on the evils of terrorism and also the Islamic stand on terrorism
- Reporting any persons suspected to be supporting or engaging in acts of terrorism to the relevant authority
- Terrorism as a topic should be taught in IRE in schools, this inculcates the knowledge on terror and its effects on children, members of the society and all aspects of life.
- Muslims should neither support nor engage in acts of terrorism as it is both a crime and sin, that is Muslims should be beyond reproach.
- Organizing campaigns, seminars, workshops and talks to advice and counsel the youth against radicalization which leads to acts of terrorism.
- Muslims should cooperate and work hand in hand with government agencies, provide useful information that can guard against terrorism.
- To lobby the government to address the root cause of terrorism, for example, creating employment opportunities to the youth.

Ways in which Muslims in Kenya can help promote peace

The following are ways in which Muslims in Kenya can help promote peace:

- i. Following the teachings of the Quran on non-aggression against others/on living harmoniously with others.
- ii. Following the Sunnah and teachings of the prophet (SAW) on Muamalat for instance a non-Muslim neighbor has a certain right as a human being.
- iii. Praying for peace and reconciliation in case of a dispute between a Muslim and a non Muslim.

- iv. Condemning evil and injustice in the society and calling for a just society, through various forums.
- v. Helping the poor and the needy in the community through giving Zakat and Sadaqa and other social responsibilities.
- vi. Obeying the lawful authority so long as it does not contradict Allah's laws and common sense.
- vii. Through teaching, preaching and advocating for peace in school, Madrassa, and mosques.
- viii. Treating people of other religions and cultures with tolerance e.g. living peacefully with them and assisting them when necessary.
- ix. Devising and applying conflict resolution mechanisms, e.g. reconciling warring parties.
- x. Writing books, pamphlets, journals on matters of peace.
- xi. Use of electronic and print media to sensitize people and promote peace and reconciliation in the nation.

Ways in which Muslims in Kenya are helping refugees

The following are ways through which Muslims in Kenya are helping refugees:

- Helping them by providing them with basic needs such as food, clothing and shelter.
- Through provision of nadrassa education to their children as well as the old and youth to promote their spiritual development.
- They have helped the refugee's children join schools in Kenya and continue to help them with learning materials.
- Some Muslim families have taken refugees to their homesteads and offer them a living.
- Through general acceptance of refugees by Muslims in Kenya in the mosques and in social functions and their communities.
- By providing them with easy accessibility to medical care and health facilities such as medicines and hospitals.
- Through offering them physical protection and security from both internal and external attacks.
- Some refugees have been assisted with finances to start off business to be self-reliant people.
- There are Muslims working with NGO's among the refugees as interpreters, social workers, relief worker and counselors.

Roles of Muslims in alleviating the problems of street children

The following are roles of Muslims in alleviating the problems of street children in the society:

- Help them with food
- Provide them with homes
- Offer education to them
- Take them to hospital when they fall sick
- Find to know who their parents and take them back home.

- Invite them during celebrations and festivals so as to enjoy together to make them feel loved.
- Muslims should strive to have well secured marriage and peace in the society
- Muslims should guide the street children and give them job if necessary.

Slavery

Slavery is a system under which human beings are subjected to a dominating power with no rights and freedom over anything in their lives at all. They are treated as property to be bought and sold, and forced to work.

Islamic measures to curb slavery and slave trade

The Sharia put several measures to curb and discourage slavery and slave trade. These measures have raised the status of slaves in Islam. Among these methods include the following:

1. The Qur'an instructs Muslims not to force their female slaves into prostitution but instead ask for their hand in marriage.
2. Muslims were also asked to free the slaves as atonement for crimes or sins done, such as not fulfilling nadhir (vow), killing a believer unintentionally and those who wish to take back their wives after divorcing them by dhihar.
3. Islam gives the slaves freedom to buy their own liberty. The prophet used to advise the slaves to free themselves if they are able like during the battle of Badr, some captives were told to buy their freedom by paying ransoms or educating Muslims.
4. The Sharia raised the rank of the slave and made his blood protected just like the free person, where the free person is killed for the deliberate murder of a slave.
5. Muslims rich men are encouraged to buy slaves and set them free for the sake of Allah. For example, Khalifa Abubakar Assidiq bought Bilal ibn Rabaah from his master Umayyah and set him free.
6. Muslims are encouraged to place people in position basing on their merits. In Islam, some of slaves were given high esteem position, likes of Bilal who

became Muadhin and Usama ibn Zaid who was made a commander of Muslim army.

7. Islam made the freeing of slaves one of the eight categories which money paid as Zakat should be given.

Islamic Teachings on Treatment of Slaves

The following are the Islamic guidelines on how Muslims should treat slaves:

- Islam emphasizes on the Islamic brotherhood. That slaves are brothers and sisters to free-men and should be treated as the same way a free man is treated.
- The slaves should be fed, clothe from the same food and clothes of the freemen.
- Islam discourages the imposition of duties upon slaves which will overcome them. But rather they should be assisted.
- Muslims are encouraged to call their slaves using their original names but not referring them as *abd* and *amati* (slaves). Instead they can call them as My (*ghulam*) boy and my (*jariyah*) girl and my (*fata*) young boy and my (*fatati*) young girl.
- Whoever kills a slave should be killed
- Islam urged the setting free of slaves and there were great rewards for it.
- Islam prohibited punishing the slave by burning, cutting or damaging an organ or hitting them violently.
- Whoever punishes his or her slave in any brutal manner should set the slave free.