

Arab Republic of Egypt

Ministry of Awqaf

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Humaneness of the Islamic Civilization

All praise is due to Allah, the Lord of all worlds, Who says in His Ever Glorious Book, **“People, be mindful of your Lord, who created you from a single soul.”** I bear witness that there is no god but Allah, and that Muhammad is His Servant and Messenger. May Allah’s Peace and Blessings be upon him, his Household, Companions and upon those who follow their path to the Day of Judgment.

Islam has established a civilization that aimed at perfecting human values to the highest degree, and drawing the path of affection, fraternity, justice and equality for humanity through building a moral and civilized system that aspires for unity and construction, not division and destruction, in order to bring about security, peace and goodness for all people.

The Islamic civilization has derived its human values from the Glorious Quran and the Prophet’s Sunnah. The Almighty Allah said, **“People, We created you all from a single man and a single woman, and made you into races and tribes so that you should recognize one another. In Allah’s**

eyes, the most honored of you are the ones most mindful of Him: Allah is all knowing, all aware." Thus, humans are dignified creatures through the dignity bestowed upon them by the Almighty Allah, regardless of their color, race, or faith, as Allah (Glory be to Him) said "We have honored the children of Adam." Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said, "All of the people are the children of Adam, and Adam was created from dust." It was narrated that once a funeral passed by the Messenger of Allah (PBUH) and he stood up. He was told that, "It is the funeral of a Jew." He replied, "Is it not a soul?"

Among the manifestations of the humanness in the Islamic civilization is: its recognition of the principle of freedom of belief clearly in a way that does not accept misinterpretation, which implies the freedom of worship, protection of places of worship for all people, and its rejection of all forms of coercion and terrorism, as the Almighty Allah says "There shall be no coercion in religion." Allah also said, "Had your Lord willed, all the people on earth would have believed. So can you [Prophet] compel people to believe?" Allah, the Most High, also said, "So [Prophet] warn them: your only task is to give warning. You are not there to control them," and said, "Your only duty is to deliver the message."

Other important aspect of humanness in the Islamic civilization include: calling for mercy with the weak, respecting the elderly, and giving the people with special needs their full and undiminished rights. Our Prophet (PBUH) said, "Allah support this *Ummah* because of the weak amongst it:

through their supplications, Prayer, and their sincerity." He (PBUH) also said, "He is not one of us who shows no mercy to younger ones and does not acknowledge the honor due to our elders." Once, Umar Ibn al-Khattab passed by an old man of the People of the Book and that old man was begging. Umar commented, "This is not justice that we enjoy the fruits of their labor when they are young, and be neglectful when they are old." Then he ordered that *Bayt al-Mal* gives him and the likes of him sufficient expenditures. The Prophet (PBUH) said, "The merciful are shown mercy by Allah, the Most Compassionate. Be merciful on the earth, and you will be shown mercy from the One Who is above the heavens."

All praise is due to Allah, Lord of the Worlds; may Allah's Peace and Blessings be upon Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), his companions and followers: -

The humanness of Islamic civilization was not restricted to dealing with human beings, but it extended to include merciful dealing with animals. A perfect example for this is that once the Prophet (PBUH) entered the garden of a man from the *Ansar* (Helpers). All of a sudden when a camel saw the Prophet (PBUH) it wept tenderly producing yearning sound and its eyes flowed. The Prophet (PBUH) came to it and wiped the temple of its head. So it kept calm. He then said "Who is the owner of this camel? Whose Camel is this? A young man from the *Ansar* came and said, "This is

mine, Prophet of Allah.” He (PBUH) said “Don’t you fear Allah about this beast which Allah has given in your possession. It has complained to me that you keep it hungry and load it heavily which fatigues it.”

Also, once the Prophet (PBUH) saw a bird with her two young ones and the young one were captured. The bird came and began to spread its wings. The Messenger of Allah (PBUH) came and said, “Who grieved this for its young ones? Return its young ones to it.”

How much the humanity needs to achieve these human principles and values that have characterized our civilization throughout history.

Oh Allah, We ask You to make our country Egypt bounteous and prosperous and all other countries.