

Arab Republic of Egypt

Ministry of Awqaf

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Societal Values

All praise is due to Allah, the Lord of all worlds, Who says in His Ever Glorious Book, **“God commands justice, doing good, and generosity towards relatives and He forbids what is shameful, blameworthy, and oppressive. He teaches you, so that you may take heed.”** 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.

The promotion of values in a society is one of the manifestations of its development, progress, cohesion, and stability. On the other hand, when a society lacks these values, it begins to collapse. Any society that stands isolated from ethics bears the seeds of fall and will eventually fade away and disappear. The Arab poet said,

Nations are nothing but their ethics;
once their ethics are lost, nations no longer exist.

Among these societal values: cooperation, solidarity and co-existence as the fruits of these values benefit the whole society. A homeland is for all its citizens without any discrimination on the basis of religion, color, or gender. This concept cures the defects of selfishness. Moreover, these values reflect the principle of Human fraternity, which establishes for a coherent society based on love and giving. The Almighty Allah said, **“Help one another to do what is right and good; do not help one another towards sin and hostility.”** The Prophet (PBUH) said, “The believers in their mutual kindness, compassion and sympathy are just like one body. When one of the limbs suffers, the whole body responds to it with wakefulness and fever.” He (PBUH) said, “When the people of Ash‘ari tribe ran short of food during the battles, or the food of their families in Medina ran short, they would collect all their remaining food in one sheet and then distribute it among themselves equally by measuring it with a bowl. So, these people are from me, and I am from them.”

Among these values are chivalry, generosity, sacrifice and altruism, which all increase national and social cohesion, and cultivates affection, fraternity and serenity among members of society. This is what the Prophet (PBUH) referred to when he forbade contempt and envy, saying, “Do not envy one another; do not inflate prices by overbidding against one another; do not hate one another; do not harbour malice against one another; and do not enter into commercial transaction when others have entered into that (transaction).” Also, the Prophet (PBUH) said, “Whoever fulfills the needs of his brother, Allah will fulfill his needs; whoever removes the troubles of

his brother, Allah will remove one of his troubles on the Day of Resurrection; and whoever covers up the fault of a Muslim, Allah will cover up his fault on the Day of Resurrection”

Another value is: to care about people with special needs, the weak, and the elderly, considering this care as a religious, national and humanitarian duty. The Prophet (PBUH) said, “One who strives to help the widows and the poor is like the one who fights in the way of Allah.” He (PBUH) also said, “You receive provision and Divine support by virtue of the weak ones amongst you.” Islam also considers the achievements of people of determination as an additional force for society and a good example for others. It allowed them to play a role in social life effectively. Therefore, the Prophet chose Ibn Umm Maktoum as his *Mu’azzin* and used to assign to him the duty of leading people in Prayer at the Medina when the Prophet would travel.

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: -

One of the most important societal values is: to ascertain the authenticity of news before spreading it. The Islamic Shari’ah asserts the importance of this noble value and warns against rumors and their promoters,

considering that spreading rumors is a means to destroy communities and spread despair and frustration among people. The Almighty Allah said, **“Believers, if a troublemaker brings you news, check it first, in case you wrong others unwittingly and later regret what you have done.”** The Prophet (PBUH) said, “It is enough falsehood for a man to relate everything he hears.”

Thus, a wise person is the one who thinks well before he speaks. The Prophet (PBUH) said, “He who believes in Allah and the Last Day, let him speak good or remain silent.”

What a beautiful manner that we adhere to societal values, so that harmony and cohesion be achieved among the members of the whole society.

May Allah guide us to the best manners, as it is only Allah Who guides people to the perfect manners.