

# CONCEPT OF UMMAH AND MODERN NATIONALISM IN THE LIGHT OF IQBAL'S THOUGHTS

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Zameer Nasir, Shabana Razia **“Concept of Ummah and Modern Nationalism in the Light of Iqbal’s Thoughts”** Al-Raheeq International research Journal Vol 2, No. 2 (December 23, 2023) 33-68

**Journal** Al-Raheeq International research Journal

**Journal homepage** <https://alraheeqirj.com>

**Publisher**

Al-Madni Research Centre

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[www.alraheeqirj.com](http://www.alraheeqirj.com)

**Published online:** 2023-12-23

**ISSN No:**

**Print version:** 2959-7005

**Online version:** 2959-7013



## CONCEPT OF UMMAH AND MODERN NATIONALISM IN THE LIGHT OF IQBAL'S THOUGHTS

### **Abstract:**

*Persons and nations are bound to believe and act upon an idea or religion for the justification of their lives among the nations of the world. The best idea must be fully equipped with time and space-free Universal and beneficial laws. Iqbal's thoughts are based on The Quran and Sunnah. Iqbal, the great Muslim thinker, offered the concept of nations based on ideas or religion contrary to the modern nationalism that is mostly adopted by the west. Some Muslim religious leaders adopted the concept of modern nationalism and divided the Muslims into two groups before the partition of the Sub-Continent (British India). Islam affirms Iqbal's concept of Ummah. It also rejects the modern concept of nationalism based on territory, language, and racism. It is ignorance to divide the people based on which they have not chosen independently. Human being's division is reasonable based on their ideas. Iqbal adopted the*

*concept of Ummah and rejected the modern concept of nationalism for the benefit of Muslims as well as non-Muslims. Some Muslim countries have adopted the modern concept of nationalism but they have no sufficient reason to adjust it. Contrary to other ideas or religions Islam believes in the independence and consciousness of human being either a friend or enemy. There is no discrimination of territory, language, and colour, etc. Muslims all over the world are one Ummah. Contrary to concept of Ummah, the modern concept of nationalism is an unnatural, illogical, pride and prejudice creating and harmful for human love, unity and universal peace.*

***Keywords: Human Unity and division, Ummah concept, Islam, modern nationalism, Universal peace***

**1. Introduction:**

It is the way of Nature (Allah Almighty) to provide chance a nation after the decline of other nation. Leadership of the world is changed according to the laws of Nature. Ambiguity or wrongness of thoughts leads to decline or destruction of any nation. Individual's mistakes are ignored by

the Nature but mistakes of the whole nation are not ignored.

The whole nation has to bear the loss of national mistakes.

Iqbal says:

فطرت افراد سے انماز بھی کر لیتی ہے

کبھی کرتی نہیں ملت کے گناہوں کو معاف<sup>1</sup>

“The faults of individual's nature can reprieve but nations for crimes no pardon can receive”

There are two concepts of nation i.e. Islamic and Western. This study is the critical analysis of both. Muslim Ummah has to bear great losses after the downfall of Baghdad, Spain, India and Ottoman Caliphate especially. These were due to the deviation from real Islamic thinking and practice.

## **2. Purpose of Nature:**

Human beings are inter-connected to each other due to their nature. Male and female make family that is a base of tribe and nation. Individual and collective problems can be solved due to inter-connection i.e. love and respect leads to unity whose result is welfare of the all the nations of the world.

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<sup>1</sup> Iqbal, Zerb-e-Kaleem(Kulyat-e-Iqbal),Lahore,Shaikh Ghulam Ali and Sons(private)Limited,1991, P86

Wrong concept of nation leads to decline, destruction, and loss of the whole humanity because nations are inter-connected to each other especially in this era due to the globalization. So it is very important to explain the true concept of nation for the benefit of whole humanity.

The purpose of Nature is to unite human beings based on love and unity as Iqbal says:

یہی مقصود فطرت ہے یہی رمزِ مسلمانی

اخوت کی جہانگیری، محبت کی فراوانی<sup>2</sup>

“This alone is the Nature’s objective; this alone is Islam’s secret that there should be universal brotherhood, abundant love among the people!”

Correct thoughts that lead to the people to independence (Al-Quran 2:256) and success (Al-Quran 3:185) of here and hereafter on the basis of consciousness. Muhammad (PBUH) was the last one of the series of Prophets sent by Almighty Allah for the guidance of whole humanity.

The Quran says:

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<sup>2</sup> Iqbal, Bang-e-Dira(Kulyat-e-Iqbal),Lahore,Shaikh Ghulam Ali and Sons(private)Limited,1991, P270

قُلْ يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ إِنِّي رَسُولُ اللَّهِ إِلَيْكُمْ جَمِيعًا<sup>3</sup>

Translation: "Say (Muhammad ﷺ) O people! I am the messenger of Allah sent to you all."

Iqbal conveyed the message of reality, awareness, through his poetry, philosophy and thoughts. The sources of Iqbal's thoughts are mentioned below.

### **3. Base of Iqbal's thoughts**

Iqbal was a Muslim thinker, philosopher and national poet. All his thinking, philosophy and poetry based on Quran and Sunnah i.e. Islam, a final message of Allah that is free from time and space restrictions, universal and beneficial for all human beings.

### **4. Basic Terms: Nation, Millat, Ummah**

Every Individual is independent to accept or reject any idea or religion even Islam because independence leads to accountability (Al-Quran 88:26). Every person has to face accountability of its faiths and deeds here and hereafter

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<sup>3</sup> Al-Quran, Al-Aaraf 7:158

according to the plan to Almighty Allah. Who accepts Islam is called a Muslim and is bound to act upon it. All the Muslims of the world without any discrimination of color, race, language and territory make a Unity called Muslim Ummah. Islam covers every aspect of life and Muslims need not to barrow or beg any new or old idea from non-Muslims. Iqbal considers nation, millat and Ummah as synonyms. This Ummah is responsible for conveying the message of love, unity and welfare by theory and practice to the whole humanity. This duty is assigned by the prophet Muhammad (PBUH) to the Muslim Ummah. The existence and position of Muslim Ummah is the scale of love, unity, welfare, power balance and international peace of the world. So thoughts of Muslim Ummah about every aspect of life must be clear and unambiguous for the guidance and dominance of truth.

**5. Human natural conditions:**

Iqbal clears the importance of independence and drawback of slavery because only independent persons or nations can change the world and dominate the truth.

**i. Self-Recognition:**

The persons should know their reality means self-recognition. This ability prevents them from going to astray and sins. Iqbal says:

تو اگر اپنی حقیقت سے خبردار رہے

نہ سیہ روز رہے اور نہ سیہ کار رہے<sup>4</sup>

“If aware of your reality you would be; neither unlucky nor sinning you would be”

**ii. Independence and slavery:**

Slavery is so effective that it changes the thoughts and deeds of persons and nations. According to Iqbal:

غلامی میں نہ کام آتی ہیں شمشیریں نہ تدبیریں<sup>5</sup>

“Neither swords nor plans are of any avail in slavery”

There is a great difference between a slave and an independent person. Iqbal clears it.

محلوم کا دل مردہ و افسردہ و نومید

آزاد کا دل زندہ و پر سوز و طربناک<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> Iqbal, Bang-e-Dira(Kulyat-e-Iqbal),Lahore,Shaikh Ghulam Ali and Sons(private)Limited,1991,P55

<sup>5</sup> I qbal, Bang-e-Dira(Kulyat-e-Iqbal),Lahore,Shaikh Ghulam Ali and Sons(private)Limited,1991, P271

“A slave’s heart is dead, sad and hopeless hence, the free’s heart alive with flames of joys sense.”

Slave and independent persons are not equal in thinking, status and ability. There is a great difference between their thinking and practice level. Iqbal mentions it as:

ممکن نہیں محکوم ہو آزاد کا ہمدوش

وہ بندہ افلاک، یہ خواجہ افلاک<sup>7</sup>

“A rule cannot make with free man a tie, this is a slave of sky, he is master of sky.”

Independent persons or nations are leading ones while slaves have no vision of life. The slave’s life is like animal that is used for just other’s requirements. Iqbal clears their functions of life as under:

آزاد کا ہر لحظہ پیامِ ابدیت

محلوم کا ہر لحظہ نئی مرگِ مفاجات<sup>8</sup>

“The free perform such deeds in span of breath but slaves are every instant prone to sudden death”

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<sup>6</sup> Iqbal, Armagan-e-Hijaz(Kulyat-e-Iqbal),Lahore,Shaikh Ghulam Ali and Sons(private)Limited,1991,P40

<sup>7</sup> Ibid,P40

<sup>8</sup> Iqbal, Zerb-e-Kaleem(Kulyat-e-Iqbal),Lahore,Shaikh Ghulam Ali and Sons(private)Limited,1991,P78

**iii. Reason of slavery:**

What is the reason that a person or a nation accepts the slavery instead of independence? According to Iqbal, it is the lack of self-recognition. Iqbal explains in the context of India.

خودی کی موت سے ہندی شکستہ بالوں پر

تفس ہو اے حلال اور آشیانہ حرام<sup>9</sup>

“Due to the death of self-recognition (*Khodi*) Indians accept slavery, they are pleased with prison life, to break the bars they wage no strife.”

**iv. Blind Pursuit/following:**

There is another issue of following blindly to any person especially religious leaders. This blind pursuit destroys the self-recognition that is a great cause of slavery. Iqbal points out it also.

تقلید سے ناکارہ نہ کراپنی خودی کو

کراس کی حفاظت کہ یہ گوہر ہے یگانہ<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> Ibid, P80

<sup>10</sup> Iqbal, Zerb-e-Kaleem(Kulyat-e-Iqbal),Lahore,Shaikh Ghulam Ali and Sons(private)Limited,1991, P188

“Don't spoil yourself (*Khodi*) by blind pursuit of religious leaders. Take care of precious gem that is unique”

**v. Inspiration of slave:**

As the cruel and ignorant leaders lead to destroy the nations, the inspiration of slaves also destroys the nations. The religious leaders in India adopted the wrong concept of nationalism and spread it as Islamic concept. Iqbal explains this as below:

مُحْلُومِ كِى اِهَامِ سِى اللّٰهِي چَايَ

غَارَتِ كِرَا قَوَامِ هِي وَه صَوْرَتِ چِنْگِيِر<sup>11</sup>

“God save from revelation of a thrall, like Changez , he leads to nation ‘fall!’”

**6. Nations cycle in the world**

Nature changes the nations' leadership according to their thought and practice. The Quran say:

وَتَلِكِ الْاَيَّامِ نُدَاوِلُهَا يَبْنِ الْقَابِسِ<sup>12</sup>

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<sup>11</sup> Iqbal, Zerb-e-Kaleem(Kulyat-e-Iqbal),Lahore,Shaikh Ghulam Ali and Sons(private)Limited,1991,P54

<sup>12</sup> Al-Quran, Al-Imran 3:140

And these days (of varying conditions) We alternate among the people.

The decline of Muslim Ummah was due to its wrong manifestations of Quran and Sunnah and wrong practices that lead them to decline and even slavery as in Baghdad, Spain and India etc. The downfall of Ottoman Caliphate was the greatest loss of Muslim Ummah. Its unity scattered in the form of many small countries based on ignorance of race, colour, language and territory that was provided by non-Muslim Dominant Western powers.

#### **7. British rule in India and its impact on Muslim Ummah**

British took benefit from the decline of Indian Muslims due to malpractice because Islam, by theory is dominant forever. Only Muslims enjoyed dominance by good practice and have to face decline due to malpractice. British occupied India and try to continue their rule by changing Muslims concepts to make them slave for their long run benefits. During British rule in India Ottoman Caliphate fell down in 1923 sand Muslim Unity in world become to end.

Slavery changes the concepts that lead to wrong thinking and practice. The same situation happened after the British occupation in Muslim India.

## **8. Modern Nationalism**

British rulers try their best to destroy the Muslim concept of Ummah and replaced it into modern nationalism. British was afraid of Muslim Unity based on Ummah concept included all the Muslims of the world without any discrimination of race, color, language and territory.

### **i. Unawareness of Ummah Concept:**

Many Indian Muslims religious leaders especially Molana Hussain Ahmed Madni leader of jamiat ulama Hind and Shaikul Hadith(Head) of darul Uloom deoband(UP) India also adopted the concept of modern nationalism and gave the slogan.

قومیں اوطان سے بنتی ہیں<sup>13</sup>

“Nations are made by countries.”

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<sup>13</sup> Newspaper, Teej, 9, janauray, 1938, Delhi, India.

It means the people living in India will be considered one nation so he, his party and his followers opposed the partition of British India on the basis of religion.

Iqbal opposed this concept and criticized on Hussain Ahmed Mudni in his Persian poem "Husain Ahmad"

عجم ہنوز نداندر موزدین ورنہ  
زدیو بند حسین احمد ایں چہ بوا العجی اسب  
سرود بر سر منبر کہ ملت از وطن است  
چہ بے خبر ز مقام محمد عربی است  
بمصطفیٰ برسماں خویش را کہ دیں ہمہ اوست  
اگر بہ او نرسیدی تمام بولہبی است<sup>14</sup>

"Yet non Arabs know not the dean's (religious) hid signs from devband Ahmad Husain the means oddline. He signs on pulpit, 'nation is non by land', he queer, know not land of the Prophet grand. To Mustafa reach, to him belongs deed. If you did not reach him, you are *Bulahb* clean."

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<sup>14</sup> Iqbal, Armaghan-e-Hijaz(Kulyat-e-Iqbal),Lahore,Shaikh Ghulam Ali and Sons(private)Limited,1991,49

**ii. Ummah :Universal to Localness**

It was very sad condition that Indian Muslims want to live in India by adopting the Western concept of nationalism. This is equal to convert a universal concept into local. Iqbal warns the Muslims that it is equal to slavery.

کسی یکجائی سے اب عہد غلامی کر لو

ملت احمد مرسل کو مقامی کر لو<sup>15</sup>

“Make the covenant of slavery now with some local one; make the Ummah of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) a local one.”

**iii. Freedom at the price of Deen:**

Indian Muslims wanted to achieve freedom without adopting the Islamic concept of Ummah. Iqbal warned the Muslims.

دیں ہاتھ سے دیکرا گر آزاد ہو ملت

ہے ایسی تجارت میں مسلمان کا خسار<sup>16</sup>

“If they want freedom of Millat to leave their religion, It is a great loss of Muslim Ummah.

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<sup>15</sup> Iqbal, Bang-e-Dera(Kulyat-e-Iqbal),Lahore,Shaikh Ghulam Ali and Sons(private)Limited,1991, 201

<sup>16</sup> Iqbal, Armaghan-e-Hijaz(Kulyat-e-Iqbal),Lahore,Shaikh Ghulam Ali and Sons(private)Limited,1991, P15

**iv. Base of Muslim Ummah: Islam**

Iqbal was a God gifted Muslim scholar. He opposed this wrong concept of modern nationalism and presented Islamic concept of Ummah before the Indian Muslims. He says: Nations are made by religions.

قوم مذہب سے ہے مذہب جو نہیں تم بھی نہیں

جذب باہم جو نہیں محفل انجم بھی نہیں<sup>17</sup>

A nation exists on religion; you cease to exist if the religion does not exist; as without mutual attraction the assembly of stars does not exist.

The unity of Muslims Ummah is due to religion and without unity there is no concept of Millat. Iqbal explains the connection of religion, unity and Ummah. He says:

دامن دین ہاتھ سے چھوٹا تو جمعیت کہاں

اور جمعیت ہوئی رخصت تو ملت بھی گئی<sup>18</sup>

“Is the Din's connection is lost, disappears the organization; and if organization departs also disappears the Muslim nation.”

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<sup>17</sup> Iqbal, Bang-e-Dera(Kulyat-e-Iqbal),Lahore,Shaikh Ghulam Ali and Sons(private)Limited,1991, 201

<sup>18</sup> Ibid, P248

Muslims observe the development of Western nations. Muslims should not consider Muslim Ummah equal to the Western nations. The Muslim Ummah is the nation of Muhammad the Hashmi Prophet and is special in its formation. Iqbal say:

اپنی ملت پر قیاس اقوام مغرب سے نہ کر

خاص ہے ترکیب میں قوم رسول ہاشمی<sup>19</sup>

“Judge not your nation on the criteria of Western nations; specie in composition is the Hashmi Prophet's (S.A.W) nation.

**Idols of modern nationalism:**

Western civilization is a system against Islamic civilization. Muslim should obey Allah's teaching. Western civilization created many idols that are respected like worship.

**i. Country:**

In Western civilization the importance of country and its people is more than others either they are right or wrong. Iqbal considers it as a false god on the land. He says:

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<sup>19</sup> Ibid

ان تازہ خداؤں میں بڑا سب سے وطن ہے

جو پیر ہن اس کا ہے وہ مذہب کا کفن ہے

یہ بت کہ تراشیدہ تہذیبِ نبوی ہے

غارت گر کا شانہ دینِ نبوی ہے<sup>20</sup>

“Country is the biggest among these new false gods! What is its skirt is the shroud of religion Islam”

This idol which is the product of new (Western) civilization is the plunderer of the structure of the Holy Prophet's (S.A.W) religion.”

The base of modern nationalism is country, color and race etc. These are the reason of hatred, pride and prejudice among the nations. Iqbal explains it.

ان کی جمعیت کا ہے ملک و نسب پر انحصار

قوتِ مذہب سے مستحکم ہے جمعیت تری<sup>21</sup>

“Based on country and race is their organization; the force of Din stabilizes your organization.

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<sup>20</sup> Iqbal, Bang-e-Dera(Kulyat-e-Iqbal),Lahore,Shaikh Ghulam Ali and Sons(private)Limited,1991,P160

<sup>21</sup> Iqbal, Bang-e-Dera(Kulyat-e-Iqbal),Lahore,Shaikh Ghulam Ali and Sons(private)Limited,1991,, P248

It is against the oneness of Allah. Islam is universal. It is not allowed to bound it in a specific country. All Muslims are parts of one nation due to believing the Oneness of Allah. Iqbal says to destroy this false concept and its idols.

نظارہ دیرینہ زمانے کو دکھا دے

اے مصطفوی خاک میں اس بت کو ملا دے<sup>22</sup>

“You should show the old panorama to the world, O Mustafa's follower! You should destroy this idol of modern nationalism.”

**ii. Idols of color and race:**

Color and race are the ignorance. These idols are created by Western civilization. It is required to leave these idols of modern civilization and join Muslim Ummah again. Iqbal says:

بتانِ رنگ و خوں کو چھوڑ کر ملت میں گم ہو جا

نہ تورانی رہے باقی، نہ ایرانی نہ افغانی<sup>23</sup>

“Breaking the idols of race and colour merge into the Millat; You should be neither Turanian, nor Iranian, nor Afghanian!”

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<sup>22</sup> Iqbal, Bang-e-Dera(Kulyat-e-Iqbal),Lahore,Shaikh Ghulam Ali and Sons(private)Limited,1991, 160

<sup>23</sup> Ibid,P270

**iii. Purpose of nationalism:**

The purpose of West is to divide the people of the world into different nations for its benefits. Islam wants to unite all children of Adam. Iqbal describes as:

تفریق ملل حکمت افرنگ کا مقصود

اسلام کا مقصود فقط ملت آدم<sup>24</sup>

“The aim and end the Franks before them keep, has caused in several states such rupture deep. Islam wants to unite all the Adams.

**9. Western Civilization: Mother of nationalism**

New Western civilization is very attractive for people who don't know the reality. Iqbal observed it very closely and exposed its reality. He describes it as:

نظر کو خیرہ کرتی ہے چمک تہذیب حاضر کی

یہ صناعی مگر جھوٹے نگوں کی ریزہ کاری ہے<sup>25</sup>

“The glitter of modern civilization dazzles the eyes, but this is the luster of unreal jewels only.”

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<sup>24</sup> Iqbal, Zarb-e-Kaleem(Kulyat-e-Iqbal),Lahore,Shaikh Ghulam Ali and Sons(private)Limited,1991,P58

<sup>25</sup> Iqbal, Bal-e-Jibreel(Kulyat-e-Iqbal),Lahore,Shaikh Ghulam Ali and Sons(private)Limited,1991,P274

Iqbal explains that the western civilization is destroying the character of good people. It is dangerous for Muslim Ummah because character is very crucial in Islamic civilization.

فساد قلب و نظر ہے فرنگ کی تہذیب<sup>26</sup>

“The culture of that prevails in West corrupts the heart and gaze of man.”

#### **10. Basis of Ummah:**

##### **i. Towheed (Oneness of Allah):**

The first belief in Islam is Tauwheed (Oneness of Allah). It is the first base of Ummah concept in Islam. Iqbal explains this concept.

ہم نشیں مسلم ہوں میں توحید کا حامل ہوں میں

اس صداقت پر ازل سے شاہدِ عادل ہوں میں<sup>27</sup>

“O companion! I am a Muslim, I am the harbinger of Monothiesm(Touheed); since eternity I am the sincere testifier of this truth.”

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<sup>26</sup> Iqbal, Zerb-e-Kaleem(Kulyat-e-Iqbal),Lahore,Shaikh Ghulam Ali and Sons(private)Limited,1991,71

<sup>27</sup> Iqbal, Bang-e-Dera(Kulyat-e-Iqbal),Lahore,Shaikh Ghulam Ali and Sons(private)Limited,1991,P192

**a. Universe and Muslim:**

Universe is created for Towheed (Oneness of Allah) The ultimate Truth and duty of Muslim is to guard it in the universe. Iqbal says:

حق نے عالم اس صداقت کے لئے پیدا کیا

اور مجھے اس کی حفاظت کے لیے پیدا کیا<sup>28</sup>

“Allah created the Universe for this truth and created me for its Guardianship.”

True service to God implies firm belief in His Touheed and other attributes, not only in words but by affirmation with the heart and by deeds in His cause and in the service of humanity as is required by the Holy Quran).

**b. Unity of nations Due to Monotheism(Towheed):**

حرم کاراز توحید ام ہے

کہ تہذیب فرنگی بے حرم ہے<sup>29</sup>

“The hidden purpose of the sanctuary(Ka'bah) is to unify all nations.

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<sup>28</sup> Ibid

<sup>29</sup> Iqbal, Bal-e-Jibreel(Kulyat-e-Iqbal),Lahore,Shaikh Ghulam Ali and Sons(private)Limited,1991,374

Western thought is bereft of the idea of oneness, because the Western civilization has no ka'bah."

**ii. Prophet hood:**

Second base of Ummah concept is the belief of Prophethood. Muhammad(PBUH) is the last prophet of Allah and the role model for the whole humanity. Iqbal says Muslims to love Prophet enlighten the world with his teachings. He says:

قوت عشق سے ہر پست کو بالا کر دے

دہر میں عشق محمد ﷺ سے اجالا کر دے<sup>30</sup>

"With the love's power elevate every low to elegance; With Muhammad's (S.A.W) name illuminate the whole world.

**iii. Individual Muslims and Ummah:**

Every individual is very important in Islam. Individuals will be safe in Ummah not out of it. Separation of a reason of unsafe and in danger. Iqbal says:

فرد قائم ربط ملت سے ہے تنہا کچھ نہیں

موج ہے دریا میں اور بیرون دریا کچھ نہیں<sup>31</sup>

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<sup>30</sup> Iqbal, Bang-e-Dera(Kulyat-e-Iqbal),Lahore,Shaikh Ghulam Ali and Sons(private)Limited,1991,P207

“Your honor depended upon the organization of the Millat when this organization departed, disgraced worldwide you became.”

Every individual should be conscious and active. Active persons make their nation strong and dominant. Muslims individual must be stand up for Millat.

افراد کے ہاتھوں میں ہے اقوام کی تقدیر

<sup>32</sup> ہر فرد ہے ملت کے مقدر کا ستارا

“In each man's hand lies the nation's fate, each man is a star of nation's great.”

#### **iv. Departure from Centre: Death**

Nation's foundation is their center. Center of Muslim Ummah is Islam. Muslims must attach to their religion. As Iqbal says:

قوموں کے لئے موت ہے مرکز سے جدائی

<sup>33</sup> ہو صاحب مرکز تو خودی کیا ہے، خدائی!

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<sup>31</sup> Ibid, P190

<sup>32</sup> Iqbal, Armagh-e-Hijaz (Kulyat-e-Iqbal), Lahore, Shaikh Ghulam Ali and Sons (private) Limited, 1991, P15

<sup>33</sup> Iqbal, Zerb-e-Kaleem (Kulyat-e-Iqbal), Lahore, Shaikh Ghulam Ali and Sons (private) Limited, 1991, P175

“The nation suffer death from centre if they part; If they have centre strong, God head it can import.”

**v. Unity of Adam:**

The modern civilization is trying to unite the nations. But the centre of Islam is Makkah that is the symbol of unity of all the children of Adam.

مکہ نے دیا خاک جینوا کو یہ پیغام

جمعیت اقوام یا جمعیت آدم<sup>34</sup>

“Makkah this question to Geneva posed: ‘Is league of man or diverse states composed’?”

**vi. Universal ness of Ummah concept**

Unity of concept is very important in making a strong nation. In Ummah concept Towheed (Oneness of Allah) is the main and universal concept and Islam everything for Muslims. Iqbal say:

بازو ترا توحید کی قوت سے قوی ہے

اسلام ترا دیس ہے تو مصطفوی ہے<sup>35</sup>

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<sup>34</sup> Ibid, P58

<sup>35</sup> Iqbal, Bang-e-Dera (Kulyat-e-Iqbal), Lahore, Shaikh Ghulam Ali and Sons (private) Limited, 1991, P160

“Your arm is enforced with the strength of Towheed(Monothelism/oneness of Allah). You are the follower of Mustafa (PBUH) , Your country is Islam.

The superiority of territory is ignorance like dust in Islam. Muslim doesn't believe such ignorance. Every territory is the territory of Muslims. Iqbal explains beautifully.

پاک ہے گرد وطن سے سرد اماں تیرا

تو وہ یوسف ہے کہ ہر مصر ہے کناں تیرا<sup>36</sup>

“Your skirt is undefiled by the dust of homeland! You are the Yusuf for whom every Egypt is kana'an.

Every country or territory has boundaries. But there is no limitation of territory of Muslim. Every country is our country. It means every Muslim living in any country is our brother, member of Ummah. Iqbal says:

مومن کی جہاں کی حد نہیں ہے

مومن کا جہاں ہر کہیں ہے<sup>37</sup>

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<sup>36</sup> Iqbal, Bang-e-Dera(Kulyat-e-Iqbal),Lahore,Shaikh Ghulam Ali and Sons(private)Limited,1991,P201

<sup>37</sup> Iqbal, Bal-e-Jibreel(Kulyat-e-Iqbal),Lahore,Shaikh Ghulam Ali and Sons(private)Limited,1991,P103

“There are no frontiers for the man of faith, he is at home everywhere”

When a person recognizes itself, it leaves the ignorance of unnatural things. All land is of Allah. Children of Adam are the dwellers of it. Islam denies every wrong attachment. Iqbal explains:

نہ میں عجمی ہوں، نہ ہندی، نہ عراقی نہ ہجازی

کہ خودی سے میں نے سیکھی دو جہاں سے بے نیازی<sup>38</sup>

“I don't belong to Fars, or Hind, to Iraq or Hijaz don't trace my breed. The self to me this much has taught spurn both the worlds and pay no heed.”

Islam is universal. Every country is a country of Muslims. The bond of unity is Towheed (Oneness of Allah). None can destroy because it is the real truth. Iqbal's says:

چچین و عرب ہمار ہندوستان ہمارا

مسلم ہیں ہم وطن ہے سارا جہاں ہمارا<sup>39</sup>

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<sup>38</sup> Iqbal, Zerb-e-Kaleem(Kulyat-e-Iqbal),Lahore,Shaikh Ghulam Ali and Sons(private)Limited,1991,P73

<sup>39</sup> Iqbal, Bang-e-Dera(Kulyat-e-Iqbal),Lahore,Shaikh Ghulam Ali and Sons(private)Limited,1991,P159

توحید کی امانت سینوں میں ہے ہمارے

آساں نہیں مٹانا نام و نشان ہمارا

“China and Arabia are ours, India is also ours; we are Muslims, whole world is homeland of ours; the trust of Monotheism (divine unity) is in the breasts of ours; It is not easy to destroy the identity of ours.”

The enemy of Adam is Iblees(Satan). He and his followers are afraid of the revolution of Islam that changes the thinking and deeds. Iqbal explains:

اس سے بڑھ کر اور کیا فکر و عمل کا انقلاب!

پادشاہوں کی نہیں اللہ کی ہے یہ زمیں<sup>40</sup>

“NO bigger change could be of needs and thoughts, this earth owns to Allah, to a king not.”

This world is of Almighty Allah not of a king or dictator and Muslims are the slaves of Allah.

#### **vii. Losses of modern nationalism**

Modern nationalism is not only harmful for Muslims but for non-Muslims also.

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<sup>40</sup> Iqbal, Armaghan-e-Hijaz(Kulyat-e-Iqbal),Lahore,Shaikh Ghulam Ali and Sons(private)Limited,1991,P13

**i. Muslim's losses:**

Iqbal warned the Muslims before the partition of India about the dangers of modern nationalism. Muslims of India are facing ideological and physical problems. Riots of Gujarat, Delhi, and other territories of India are the result of adopting the wrong modern nationalism. Iqbal says:

آبرو باقی تری ملت کی جمعیت سے تھی

جب یہ جمعیت گئی دنیا میں رسوا تو ہوا<sup>41</sup>

“Your honor depended upon the organization of the Millat; When this organization departed, disgraced worldwide you became.”

Arabs established their countries on the basis of Arab nationalism, ignorance in Islam. All Arabic countries in Arabic peninsula have less power, courage, than that of a very small territory of occupied Israel. Iqbal explains this reality before the birth of Israel. Iqbal says:

نسل اگر مسلم کی مذہب پر مقدم ہو گئی

اڑ گیا دنیا سے تو مانندِ خاک رہ گزر<sup>42</sup>

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<sup>41</sup> Iqbal, Bang-e-Dera(Kulyat-e-Iqbal),Lahore,Shaikh Ghulam Ali and Sons(private)Limited,1991,P190

“If race would become more important than Din (religion) to the Muslim; he would be blown away from the world like the dust of the road!”

Who divided the Muslim Ummah into many small countries? It was the deep planning of West. Muslim should be careful about their unity. Iqbal points out this.

حکمت مغرب سے ملت کی یہ کیفیت ہوئی

ٹکڑے ٹکڑے جس طرح سونے کو کر دیتا ہے گا<sup>43</sup>

“The politics of the West has reduced the nation such as gold is rendered to pieces by scissors”

Reference to the division of Ummah(Muslim world)into a large no of secular nation states after World War I. However our misfortune is that, inspite of the efforts of Iqbal and a large number of other reformers all over the Muslim world, the trend towards fragmentation of the Ummah is countinuing unabated.

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<sup>42</sup> Ibid,P265

<sup>43</sup> Ibid,P264

**ii. Non-Muslim's losses:**

Iqbal was longheaded thinker. His age was the age of consciousness. Nations are trying to connect each other for their mutual benefit. But they have no idea to unite all the people of the world. Iqbal says:

اس دور میں اقوام کی صحبت بھی ہوئی عام

پوشیدہ نگاہوں سے رہی وحدت آدم<sup>44</sup>

“In present age the league has been contrived, but sight of man from oneness is deprived.”

Modern nationalism is not only dangerous for Muslims but for non-Muslims also. Enmity, cheating, dogging, destruction of weak nations,

اقوام جہاں میں ہے رقابت تو اسی سے

تسخیر ہے مقصود تجارت تو اسی سے

خالی ہے صداقت سے سیاست تو اسی سے

کمزور کا گھر ہوتا ہے غارت تو اسی سے

اقوام میں مخلوق خدا بنتی ہے اس سے

قومیت اسلام کی جڑ کٹتی ہے اس سے<sup>45</sup>

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<sup>44</sup> Iqbal, Zerb-e-Kaleem(Kulyat-e-Iqbal),Lahore,Shaikh Ghulam Ali and Sons(private)Limited,1991,P57

“The antagonism among world’s nations is created by this alone; subjugation as the goal of commerce is created by this alone.

Politics have become bereft of sincerity by this alone; the destruction of the home of the weak is by this alone.

God’s creation is unjustly divided among nations by it; the Islamic concept of nationality is uprooted by it,”

**viii. International peace and Duty of Muslim Ummah**

West is dominant and wants to become slave the east especially Muslim Ummah is the cause of insalivation of east .it is very important but Muslims are not aware of it:

رہبڑ و ضبط ملت بیضا ہے مشرق کی نجات

ایشیا والے ہیں اس نکتے سے اب تک بے خبر<sup>46</sup>

“The salivation of the East is in organization of the Muslim nation; the people of Asia are still unaware of this mystery.”

Muslim should unite for their benefits all over the world:

ایک ہوں مسلم حرم کی پاسبانی کے لئے

نیل کے ساحل سے لیکر تا بنجاک کا شاعر<sup>47</sup>

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<sup>45</sup> Iqbal, Bang-e-Dera(Kulyat-e-Iqbal),Lahore,Shaikh Ghulam Ali and Sons(private)Limited,1991,P160-161

<sup>46</sup> Ibid,P265

“The Muslim should unite into one body for Haram’s defense from the banks of Nile to the city of Kashghar”

Muslim are weak. They should not become sad, their firm belief and action on Tauheed will become the Muslim a strong nation:

شب گریزاں ہوگی آخر جلوہ خورشید سے

یہ چمن معمور ہوگا نغمہ توحید سے<sup>48</sup>

“The night will eventually disappear by sun’s appearance! This garden will be filled with the light of Touheed!”

Muslims are very important in the world. they are the torch bearer of Islam. they are the only hope of this dark age of cruelty. Iqbal say:

کشتی حق کا زمانے میں سہارا تو ہے

عصر نورات ہے دھندلا سا ستارا تو ہے<sup>49</sup>

“You are the support of boat of God in the world; the present age is night; you are a glimmering star.”

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<sup>47</sup> Ibid

<sup>48</sup> Ibid, P195

<sup>49</sup> Iqbal, Bang-e-Dera(Kulyat-e-Iqbal),Lahore,Shaikh Ghulam Ali and Sons(private)Limited,1991,P201

Modern civilization is really a darkness characterless ethic less. Humanity is in search a light of character and ethics and welfare which is only in Islam practiced by Muslims.:

اٹھ کہ اب بزم جہاں کا اور ہی انداز ہے

مشرق و مغرب میں تیرے دور کا آغاز ہے<sup>50</sup>

“Rise as a world's assembly has adopted different ways; in the East and West is the beginning of your age.”

Everything will be destroyed. the world and the dwellers of the world but Tauheed and Muslims will remain forever. Iqbal says:

مکان فانی مکیں فانی، ازل تیرا ابد تیرا

خدا کا آخری پیغام ہے تو جاوداں تو ہے<sup>51</sup>

“The house is ephemeral, the dweller is momentary, yours are the beginning and the end. You are the final message of the God and you are eternal.”

Muslim Ummah is divided into many different countries of the world after the downfall of Ottoman caliphate. In this situation mostly Muslims of the world became disappointed.

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<sup>50</sup> Ibid, Iqbal, Bang-e-Dera(Kulyat-e-Iqbal), P263

<sup>51</sup> Ibid,P269

They were hopeless due to the downfall of ottoman caliphate. Iqbal encouraged the Muslims, their importance in the universe and their function in his message. He says:

چشم اقوام سے مخفی ہے حقیقت تیری  
ہے ابھی محفل ہستی کو ضرورت تیری  
زندہ رکھتی ہے زمانے کو حرارت تیری  
کو کب قسمت امکاں ہے خلافت تیری  
وقت فرصت ہے کہاں کام ابھی باقی ہے  
نور توحید کا اتمام ابھی باقی ہے<sup>52</sup>

“your potential is still hidden from the world’s nations; the assembly of existence still has need for you. The whole world is kept alive by your warmth; your Khalifa is the star of possibility’s destiny. There is no time for leisure, there is work to be done; completion of the light of Tauheed is still to be done.”

Muslims should continue their duty to spread the Oneness of Allah as the Muhammad (PBUH) assigned them.

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<sup>52</sup> Iqbal, Bang-e-Dera(Kulyat-e-Iqbal),Lahore, Shaikh Ghulam Ali and Sons(private)Limited,1991,P206

The status of Muslim Ummah will become high forever with the name of Muhammad (PBUH). Iqbal says the end point as:

چشم اقوام یہ نظارہ ابد تک دیکھے

رفعت شان ارفعنا لک ذکرک دیکھے<sup>53</sup>

The world eyes should witness this sight till eternity; the elegance of grandeur of 'Rafa'na Laka Zikrak' (And raised high for you your repute) should see"

**ix. Conclusion:**

Muslim Ummah based on Islamic civilization. This civilization enlightened the world with thoughts and deeds. After the decline of Muslim civilization, Western civilization is dominated. Modern civilization based on race, color, language and territory. It has no ethical or religious base. India suffered British occupation. The slavery period was tuff time for Muslims of India. They tried for their freedom, but some Muslim religious leaders adopted the Western nationalism concept and spread it as religious concept. Iqbal opposed it strongly on the base of Quran and Sunnah. Muslim Ummah

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<sup>53</sup> Iqbal, Bang-e-Dera (Kulyat-e-Iqbal), Lahore, Shaikh Ghulam Ali and Sons (private) Limited, 1991, P207

concept is worldwide, beneficial for Muslims and non-Muslims also. Modern Nationalism is illogical and harmful for all over the world especially for Muslims and International peace. It is the duty of Muslims to adopt their own Islamic Ummah concept for the solution of their political, economic and all the problems, benefits for humanity and international peace.



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