

Welcome to

ALI 455: Topical Tafsir of Quran

Social Relationships - Session Three

Check the following verses in your copy of the Quran

Verses for today's session

- 1) Sura Sad, no.38, verse 29
- 2) Sura Nisaa, no.4, verse 1
- 3) Sura Hud, no.11, verse 116
- 4) Sura Hud, no.11, verses 84-92

Agenda

- ◆ Role of the Quran
- ◆ Qualities of a good society
 - Unity and Taqwa through consciousness of origin
 - Countering corruption
- ◆ An Example of a society in the Quran

The Holy Quran

كِتَابٌ أَنْزَلْنَاهُ إِلَيْكَ مُبَارَكٌ لِيَدَّبَّرُوا آيَاتِهِ وَلِيَتَذَكَّرَ أُولُو الْأَلْبَابِ

This is a blessed Book that We have sent down to you, so that they may contemplate its signs, and that those who possess intellect may be mindful

Sura Sad, no.38, verse 29

Sura Nisaa, verse 1

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ اتَّقُوا رَبَّكُمُ الَّذِي خَلَقَكُمْ مِنْ نَفْسٍ وَاحِدَةٍ وَخَلَقَ مِنْهَا
زَوْجَهَا وَبَثَّ مِنْهُمَا رِجَالًا كَثِيرًا وَنِسَاءً ۚ وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ الَّذِي تَسَاءَلُونَ بِهِ
وَالْأَرْحَامَ ۚ إِنَّ اللَّهَ كَانَ عَلَيْكُمْ رَقِيبًا

O mankind! Be wary of your Lord who created you from a single soul, and created its mate from it, and from the two of them scattered numerous men and women. Be wary of Allah, in whose Name you adjure one another and [of severing ties with] relations. Indeed Allah is watchful over you.

Points from the verse

- ◆ Taqwa is the foundation for society and all the rules for its progress.
- ◆ The verse shows equality, between genders, races . . . all forms of differences that may have crept into society. Everyone's origin is the same.
- ◆ A single soul refers to the human being from whom all were created - Nabí Adam (a).
- ◆ Creation of the mate from it means from the same type, not from the person. Other verses also refer to this (30:21, 16:72)

Sura Hud, verse 116

فَلَوْلَا كَانَ مِنَ الْقُرُونِ مِنْ قَبْلِكُمْ أُولُو بَقِيَّةٍ يَنْهَوْنَ عَنِ الْفَسَادِ فِي
الْأَرْضِ إِلَّا قَلِيلًا مِمَّنْ أَنْجَيْنَا مِنْهُمْ وَاتَّبَعَ الَّذِينَ ظَلَمُوا مَا أُتْرِفُوا
فِيهِ وَكَانُوا مُجْرِمِينَ

Why were there not among the generations before you *possessors of virtue* who would forbid corruption in the earth, except a few of those whom We delivered from among them? Those who were wrongdoers pursued that in which they had been granted affluence, and they were a guilty lot.

Points from this verse

- ◆ Every society should have a group of people to counter corruption. This group saves the society from being destroyed.
- ◆ Past societies were destroyed because there were not many who stood up against corruption. Examples are the people of Nabí Nuh, Nabí Salih . . . etc. They were not able to reform society.
- ◆ Affluence intoxicated the people and prevented them from following the truth.
- ◆ There will be oppression and corruption in every society. But there must be some defence against it (like the white cells in the body). When these are absent the disease destroys everybody.

The 'Ulu Baqíyyatín'

- ◆ Literally means those who remain
- ◆ Those who have quality and are long lasting
- ◆ They are stronger and more insightful
- ◆ The title of the twelfth Imam is Baqíyyatullah - one who is from Allah and will remain to spread justice on earth and overcome corruption.

The people of Nabí Shuayb (a)

Sura Hud, no.11, verses 84-92