



# Comparing Islamic and Secular worldviews

## Session Three

The Modern worldview

Points for discussion



# Political Life

- Setting up of temporal authority
- Transformation from theocracy to democracy
- Civil religion

The meaning of sovereignty of God, is manifestation of Divine Will in human society, through the medium of Divine apostles and through un-deviated human reason and consciousness.

It is comparable to the human will centered in the “self” which causes the body's limbs to be moved in accordance with its volitions through the agency of nerves and muscles.

From: Theocracy and Democracy, Muhammad Taqi Ja'fari

The meaning of Divine sovereignty is that God, the Supreme, has planted the seeds of goodness and perfection in the nature of man, and arranged for the conditions of their growth through inspired reason and conscience, and revelations conveyed through Divine messengers, and demanded their steady cultivation from mankind.

The meaning of government of the people over themselves is the sovereignty of their pure unspoiled consciousness and intellect rather than the sovereignty of force and power, personal or group bias, fancies, prejudices, and the like.

From: Theocracy and Democracy, Muhammad Taqi Ja'fari

The relation between sovereignty of God upon human beings and democracy, is like the relation between the soul and its activities. For example, when the people, or a group of wise men of wholesome minds and undeviated consciousness, recognize a truth, a law based upon this perspective and implemented by the people will be enforcement of Divine sovereignty by people upon the people.

The criterion behind this is what is called 'the authority of reason' based upon the principle . . . [that] every judgement given by reason is the same as the judgement of the Shari'ah and is called 'the prince of concurrent necessity of reason and the Shari'ah'.

**From: Theocracy and Democracy, Muhammad Taqi Ja'fari**



# Social Life

- Effect of the Industrial revolution
- Transformation of the family
- Individualism and change in society
- Relationship between the races
- Uprootedness of modern society