

Social Media Ethics And Islamic Principles And Regulations: An Applied Research

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Abstract;

Social media is a chief source of communication in current era. Every person is sitting at home and sharing their thoughts and views with people. Social media has many benefits so its use is a necessity and need of this era but there are some features of social media usage which can be improved; one of the ethical behaviors on social media is the reformation which is very important in the context of Islamic teachings. Today social media ridiculing or mock humanity, deshape and insult the images of religious and political leaders.

Today social media mocks humanity, insulting pictures of religious and political leaders. Respectable people of the society such as teachers, lawyers and judges are defaced; hateful attitudes are fostered against the officers of the army, police and sensitive institutions of the country. Besides living people they also portray the faults and weaknesses of dead people and considered all these to be the art of comments. Promoting incidents of violence is a daily routine, posts containing violation of women are exaggerated on Facebook, and baseless news is spread to defame respectable people. Looking at these moral defects and collective attitudes, it is known that social media is causing more harm than benefit due to the above misuse.

In Islamic teachings, there are instructions related to all these immoral matters, Islam is the religion in which Sharia teachings had not yet started, but the series of moral teachings had started. Basis of Islam is laid down on ethics. Therefore, this research paper presents an applied analysis of ethical behavior on social media in the context of Islamic teachings, which not only

identifies the moral aspects which can be corrected on social media, but also provides a possible solution.

Introduction;

The speedy progress of science and technology has brought about many changes, and by making the world a global village, it has removed the distances from Arab to non Arab and from East to West. Now people are sitting in their homes and communicating with people around the world. All these connections and events are on the mercy of the media. The significance of media in any state is a muslim_fact. Sociologists have considered media as one of the four pillars of the state. Media has played a very important role in reforming society. But it is a fact that along with the importance of media, in today's era, along with print and electronic media, social media is also becoming an important slice of life. Many software and sites like Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram, Twitter, Messenger and Snap chat are playing an significant role in this field and a large number of people are using this media, so keeping in mind the ethics of social media. Proper use can bring peace and prosperity in the world, but on the contrary, wrong use can create trouble and unrest.

Unfortunately, our media tends to make Zero a hero and hero a Zero for certain purposes, and most channels, Facebook IDs and social media groups are busy in highlighting the negative aspects of every issue. Because of which many moral and social disorders have developed in the society, it is having a evil effect on the minds of the youth, the negative use of social media is a long topic, but one of its important and reformed aspects is the causes of derogatory behavior of humanity and its stoppage is the part of this research study.

It is the responsibility of the researchers and scholars of any state to find out the causes of these moral flaws and to present a strategy of action to remedy it. Besides this it is the responsibilities of higher authorities to stop it in the light of these investigations. In this article, a detailed research has been done on the ethics of social media and combined attitudes in the context of Quran and Sunnah.

Social media ethics and derogatory human behavior:

Along with the positive effects of social media, there are also various negative effects, one of the negative effects and negative impact is insulting humanity, it is a daily routine that people are made fun of on social media, scholars and priests are ridiculed. Secular people are trampling the sanctity of Islam and the Prophet of Islam. Photos of political leaders are usually defamed on social media, sharing half-naked and nude photos of women is becoming a hobby of young people. In summary, the trend of insulting and slandering humanity on social media is increasing, even though Islam teaches us that man has been created with dignity by Allah, the Almighty says:

{وَلَقَدْ كَرَّمْنَا بَنِي آدَمَ¹

Transaltion; "And we have honored the children of Adam."

From the text of the Holy Quran, it is known that Allah Almighty has given honour and dignity to man, now it is against Islamic teachings to harm the honor of those whom Allah Almighty has given honour. Not only alive people but dead body also ought to be honoured and dignified. Therefore, in the interpretation of this verse, the scholars, Zaghlool al-Najjar, wrote about the prohibition of insulting a person:” Here, the dignity and honor of the human body, whether it is alive or dead. Because by not honoring the human body, the dignity of the human being is harmed, which is completely contrary to the honour that Allah Almighty has given to the human being.”²

Allah Almighty has bestowed honour upon man, but now a man cannot bear the honour of another man and considers his dishonor as his success. Generally, in our society, there is a concept that usury (intreset) is a great sin and most people have no relationship with usury, although insulting and defaming a Muslim is a greater sin than usury, the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said:

من أرى الربا الاستطالة في عرض المسلم بغير حق³

Translation;"Surely the greatest interest is to insult the honour of a Muslim without any reason."

Unfortunately, today no one considers insulting a human being as a sin, nor does it come to our minds that the post I am sharing is a cause of repayment or a sin? Therefore, it is the responsibility of scholars to create awareness among the people in this matter, of which this conference is a link. Therefore, in this article, an attempt is made to clarify the aspects that lead to human defamation on social media, along with the reasons and reasons for these noteworthy aspects will be explained in the light of the Qur'an and Sunnah. . Some of the features involving human abuse on social media are as follows.

1. Social Media Ethics and the Growing Trend of Rumour-mongering:

Different types of rumors are spread on social media sometimes on political basis and sometimes on social basis. In order to prevent baseless rumors and false information, Islam has educated us not to copy everything we hear, until it has been completely investigated. Allah SWT says:

{يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا إِنْ جَاءَكُمْ فَاسِقٌ بِنَبَأٍ فَتَبَيَّنُوا أَنْ تُصِيبُوا قَوْمًا بِجَهَالَةٍ فَتُصْحَبُوا عَلَىٰ مَا فَعَلْتُمْ نَادِمِينَ} ⁴

Translation;"O you who believe! If a evildoer brings you any important news, research it carefully, lest you unknowingly attack a nation and then regret what you have done."

In these above mentioned words, we are prohibited from trusting anything without research and the actions that take place as a result of it. The reason for this is that the cause of this bad action is the fire of corruption in the society. Muhammad SAW said;

«كَفَى بِالْمَرْءِ كَذِبًا أَنْ يُحَدِّثَ بِكُلِّ مَا سَمِعَ»⁵

Translation; “It is enough for a man to be a liar if he spread everything he hears.”

In these hadiths, the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) has drawn attention to an important thing: don't copy everything you hear until it has been fully researched. People are sharing, the main reason for this is copying without investigation, in this

regard it is the responsibility of the social media users to investigate the posts they are sharing and avoid sharing posts without proper investigation and research.

2. Mocking and Unethical Behavior on Humanity on Social Media:

Making fun and ridiculing people is actually insulting them, there are countless posts circulating on social media regarding human insult, especially people's honor are put at stake for temporary laughs, according to Islamic teachings, these are types of crimes It is important to avoid it, because there is a great promise of it in the Qur'an and Sunnah. ALLAH says in Quran;

{يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا لَا يَسْخَرُ قَوْمٌ مِنْ قَوْمٍ عَسَىٰ أَنْ يَكُونُوا خَيْرًا مِنْهُمْ وَلَا نِسَاءٌ مِنْ نِسَاءٍ عَسَىٰ أَنْ يَكُنَّ خَيْرًا مِنْهُنَّ وَلَا تَلْمِزُوا أَنْفُسَكُمْ وَلَا تَنَابَزُوا بِاللُّغَابِ} ⁶

Commenting on this verse, Ibn Juzi writes: "The rich should not mock the poor, and those whose sins are hidden should not mock those whose sins are open, those of high lineage should not mock the weak lineage, in this way. Similar matters in which someone is criticized and hated (should not be done)."⁷

Prophet Muhammad SAW has forbidden people to make fun of people. There is a tradition that once Hazrat Abdullah bin Masoud's fat legs were opened. Some people laughed looking at his fat legs. But Prophet SAW asked: Why do you laugh? The Companions of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) at his fat legs, so he SAW said:

«وَالَّذِي نَفْسِي بِيَدِهِ لَهَمَا أَنْتَقِلُ فِي الْمِيزَانِ مِنْ أَحَدٍ» ⁸

Translation;"By the One in whose hand my soul is, it will weigh more than this mountain in the scale."

On social media, people's faces are distorted, one person's head and another's body is uploaded in such a way that they deceive people, due to which in most cases it is difficult to reach the exact reality. People tend to accept what they see on Facebook as reality, even though the reality is the differing, the human body is made an object of ridicule and fun. Although according to Islamic teachings this is a reprehensible and abominable act that must be avoided, the human being was created by Allah Almighty in the best form, and it is not right to spoil this good and best form in any way. Allah Almighty says:

{لَقَدْ خَلَقْنَا الْإِنْسَانَ فِي أَحْسَن تَقْوِيمٍ} ⁹

Translation;"And we has created us a man in best form."

Allah Almighty has created man in the best form, but man is making this creation as a means of mockery, distorting the human form and presenting it on Facebook, the ugliness of which can be estimated in the context of this verse. Allah SWT is the Creator and the Owner, but rather the Best of Creators.

3. Ethics of Social Media and Religious Personalities

In Islam defamation of any person is not permissible, how can it be permissible to dishonour the religious scholars and of the other esteemed personalities? Who are our religious leaders, and the heirs of the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ? His honor is the honor of Islamic rites and his

humiliation is the humiliation of Islamic rites, So respecting religious scholars is one of the rites of Islam, and insulting them is actually insulting Islam."

Insulting and defaming the religious scholars is a great crime and a great sin, because insulting them is not only an insult to their person, but it is an insult to their knowledge and their religion.

The people and said:

إن من إجلال الله إكرام ذي الشبهة المسلم، وحامل القرآن غير الغالي فيه والجافي عنه، وإكرام
ذي السلطان المقسط¹⁰

Translation;"One of the honors of Allah, the Exalted, is that the old Muslim and the Hafiz of the Quran who does not exaggerate in it, should be respected, and the just ruler".

Allama Ibn Abd al-Barr in his famous book "Jami Bayan Al-Ilam Wa Fadla" has made the honour and disgrace of scholars the subject of discussion, and has collected many traditions in this regard, in which it has been made clear that scholars are the most important among people. They deserve respect and reverence, so he writes in his book: "Among the people, there are three types of people who are more worthy of respect, the religious scholars, the community and the sultans, so whoever despised the religious scholars, his death was ruined, and whoever despised the king." His world is ruined if he falls short, wise people don't look down or despised anyone."

Disrespecting religious scholars is a great crime, whether they are in private gatherings or on social media. Unfortunately, today, along with beards, turbans, students and scholars of madrasas are being criticized on social media, they are defamed and is used as a source of ridicule, although those who disrespect the religious scholars and the elders, the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) denied to accept those people as his ummah. He SAW said; "those who Does not respect elders, does not show mercy to the little ones and does not know the right of our religious scholars, are not among us".

4. Social Media and Ethical Behavior from Political Leaders

Insult of political leaders on social media is limitless series, people of each party share posts against the other party, disrespect the opposing political leaders, write and use Abusive language against them, and make all kinds of allegations. Someone is a thief, someone is an adulterer and strange allegations are made. However, Islam teaches us that disrespecting a Muslim is forbidden. The Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said:

المُسْلِمُ أَخُو الْمُسْلِمِ، لَا يَظْلِمُهُ وَلَا يَخْذُلُهُ، وَلَا يَحْقِرُهُ النَّقْوَى هَاهُنَا» وَيُشِيرُ إِلَى صَدْرِهِ ثَلَاثَ
مَرَّاتٍ «بِحَسَبِ أَمْرِي مِنَ الشَّرِّ أَنْ يَحْقِرَ أَخَاهُ الْمُسْلِمَ، كُلُّ الْمُسْلِمِ عَلَى الْمُسْلِمِ حَرَامٌ، دَمُهُ،
وَمَالُهُ، وَعِرْضُهُ»¹¹

Translation; A Muslim is a Muslim brother; he will not oppress him, nor disgrace him, nor despise him. Taqwa is here, he ﷺ kept pointing to his chest three times. The blood, property and honour of another Muslim is forbidden to every Muslim.

Today, playing with the honour of others on social media is their favorite pastime, although it is not known that this action is a cause of loss and loss for us in this world and the hereafter. , the Prophet ﷺ has declared it forbidden to spoil the honor of others and to behave defamatory towards them, and this act is sufficient to make him a sinner.

People who run after the honour of others, their hobby day and night is curiosity and whispering, for these people, the Prophet ﷺ made a promise, and urged them to be ready to suffer the punishment of this worldly and hereafter. Yes, the Prophet ﷺ said: These are the people who have believed on their tongues and faith has not entered their hearts. Allah will disgrace him and whoever Allah disgraces, He will be disgraced even if he is inside the house.¹²

5. Social Media Ethics and Attitudes towards Women:

Respect for humanity and human rights history-making charter, in the sermon farewell sermon, Muhammad (peace be upon him) said: "People! In the matter of women, fear Allah and accept my will to do well to them." Today, Europe claims to be the protector of feminism and women's freedom, while the reality is that the people of Europe have deprived women of their true status and status and put them in the pits of humiliation.

Before the arrival of the Prophet ﷺ, women were considered to be a very backward and subjugated section of the society, they did not have any respect and position in the society, but with the advent of Islam, women not only gave the right to live in the society, but He gave him his rightful position and ordered them to behave well. He said:

« أكمل المؤمنين إيماناً أحسنهم خلقاً، وخيركم خيركم لنسائهم »¹³.

Translation: "The best of you are those who are good with their wives."

Just as women were not respected in the era of Jahiliyyah and were insulted in different ways, in the modern age women are also insulted in different ways, in which there is a social media, not only social media but In print and electronic media, women's photos are also used as advertisements for marketing, for the introduction of any business, women's photos are often used in advertisements, it is actually insulting and disparaging women.¹⁴

6. Ethics of Social Media and Crimes of Blackmail:

Social media blackmailing is also becoming a trend, good and respectable families have faced dishonor in this regard, some people take photos of women dancing or singing in their homes through children or women in wedding events. Making videos of songs and uploading them, and blackmailing women and defaming them, slandering and blackmailing is becoming a daily routine, many women and youths are blackmailed on social media. Have been forced to commit suicide, destroying someone's honour and slandering him is a serious sin, the Quran has declared slander as an open sin. Allah says:

{وَالَّذِينَ يُؤْذُونَ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ بَغَيْرِ مَا كُتِبَ لَهُنَّ فَأَنتُمْ أَكْثَرُ الظَّالِمِينَ} ¹⁵

Translation; "Those who hurt Muslim men and Muslim women by slandering them have committed slander and open sin."

The Holy Qur'an has guided the Muslim Ummah in this regard, that they should not slander chaste women, and those who are guilty of this crime, and the Holy Qur'an has given them a strict promise.

﴿إِنَّ الَّذِينَ يَرْمُونَ الْمُحْصَنَاتِ الْغَافِلَاتِ الْمُؤْمِنَاتِ لَعُنُوا فِي الدُّنْيَا وَالْآخِرَةِ وَلَهُمْ عَذَابٌ عَظِيمٌ﴾¹⁶

Translation; "Those who slander honorable, innocent, believing women are cursed in this life and in the hereafter. And they will have a terrible punishment."

In today's world, we don't even think that we have to answer for what we are doing, so when sharing a post on social media, we must think that what we are sharing is a sin. Not the cause? And what will I have to answer in this regard in the court of Allah on the Day of Judgment? The Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him, said: "Whoever slanders his slave and that slave is innocent, on the Day of Resurrection, he or she will be punished with whips on back."¹⁷

In summary, the blackmailing that has started on social media should not be a part of it in any way, because blaming and slandering is a bad act, it spreads corruption in the society, causes heartache to others, disrespects humanity. And insults happen, so avoid being a part of this growing trend on social media.

7. Social Media Ethics and the Trend of Unnecessary Criticism

There are different forms of human defamation, one of which is unnecessary criticism, because the purpose of criticism for the sake of criticism is actually human defamation, an endless chain of unnecessary criticism on social media begins, each person on others. The arrow is raining; they attribute all kinds of evil to others and consider themselves free from all kinds of evil. Such concepts do not build but destroy the society. The Holy Quran has encouraged us not to target anyone, but instead of attributing things to others while giving sermons and advice; we should attribute them to ourselves, which can be seen from the incident of Habib Najjar.¹⁸

On Facebook and Twitter, the market for unnecessary criticism is hot. Although this behavior on social media is harmful for the society. It has been the Sunnah of the Prophets (peace be upon them) in relation to social reform that they did not use criticism for the sake of criticism. However, they did not avoid constructive criticism. Due to which their society became an ideal society. Therefore, a person should first of all worry about his own reformation and instead of criticizing others by looking at his actions; he should worry about their reformation. Therefore, if there is a post on social media that justifies criticism, then also, keeping in mind the correction, comments should be written in a constructive manner, so that an atmosphere of agreement is created instead of disagreement.

Research Results:

1. Awareness in the context of Islamic teachings about the ethics of social media is the need of the time.
2. The method of defaming each other politically on social media is very harmful, due to which people interpret politics as a dirty pool, although politics is the main pillar of the country, in this regard, social media needs widespread training.
3. Insulting religious and political leaders on social media is a major sin according to Islamic teachings, so such defamatory posts should not be shared on social media.
4. Blackmailing is on the rise on social media, the honor of women and gentlemen is being played with by uploading their photos, those who do this should be discouraged.

5. Mocking humanity is a big crime, because it is defaming and disrespecting humanity, it is the responsibility of scholars and researchers to warn people about the sin of this crime on social media.

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