

RELIGION, MODERNIZATION AND THE ISLAMIC UMMAH

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Abstract

In this paper I explore the impact of modernization and social change on the Islamic ummah (community of believers) and how they are shaping the emerging struggle between 'hybridity' and 'authenticity' among Muslims and Islamic movements. The paper will explore the challenges of this struggle and its sociological implications for the 'de-centering' of the Muslim world into multiple autonomous regions. I argue that the future of the Muslim ummah may gain strength not as a unified and unitary community, but as a differentiated community consisting of ummahs representing different Islamic regions. Each regional ummah will possess and embody a unique character that has been moulded by the history and temperament of its people. The paper will conclude with some observations on the future religious, intellectual, economic and political trajectories of Muslim countries.

Keywords: Religion, modernization, ummah, community, believers

Islamic Ummah: A Brief Historical Overview

The concept of ummah has inspired the imagination of Muslims, especially Muslim intellectuals, from the very early days of Islamic beginning. The term ummah appears over sixty times in the *Quran*, where it has multiple and diverse meanings ranging from followers of a prophet, or of a divine plan of salvation, to a religious group, a small group within a larger community of believers, misguided people and an order of being. From its numerous and, sometimes, vague meanings in the early days of Islam, it came to symbolize and embody the very notion of an Islamic community, gradually acquiring socio-legal and religious connotations. Sociologically, ummah became a transformative concept in the sense that it played a significant role changing, first, the Arab tribes into an Arab community and, later, as Islam began to expand to non Arab lands, different groups of Muslims into a community of believers.

Ummah as a community of believers entailed a consciousness of belonging to a community whose membership was open equally and without any qualification or restriction, except that of the faith, to all believers. In this sense it embodied the universalism of Islam. It became a means of establishing a religious and cultural identity that was independent of the Muslim state. This means of constructing a religious and cultural identity made the spiritual development and sense of cohesion independent of the transitory territorial states.

The life of the new ummah was marked by a pervasive new moral tone, derived from the individual relationship to God and not by old primordial loyalties and maintained by the expectations prevalent in the group as a whole and given form in their corporate life. Over time, ummah became a state of mind, a form of social consciousness, or an imagined community which united the faithful in order to lead a virtuous life and to safeguard and even to expand the boundaries of the autonomous ummah.

Ummah became a framework for maintaining the religious unity and accommodating the cultural diversity of the believers. This generated a strong sense of unity, which permeated the Muslim world and was instrumental in submerging, or overriding, the significant ethnic and cultural differences on the level of the ideal. It thus became a critical basis for expansion that allowed for a certain disregard of the realities of life. Psychologically speaking, the term ummah provided for an existence on two levels, an existence in a tension that, never completely to be relieved, is still an important element in the inner unrest besetting significant parts of the Muslim world.

In the modern Muslim world the notion of ummah is an integral part of religious, political and ideological discourses on Islam. Its foundation is constructed on the basis of the *Quranic* revelations and on the collective memories of the political grandeur of Islamic history. In the Muslim imagination, the ummah lives under a divine law whose protector is the ummah itself. The temporal political authority is neither a source nor a guarantee of the law. Its legitimacy is recognized so long as it guarantees the preservation and expansion of religion.

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While this type of volitional orientation is very much in tune with the contemporary globalization trends, it is also an inherent source of political instability and unrest in the modern Muslim world. This is reflected in the ideologies of several major modern Muslim social and political movements, like the Jamaat-i-Islami and the Muslim Brotherhood.

For organizations like the Mohmmadiyah, Jamaat-i-Islami and Muslim Brotherhood, the Muslim ummah is a transnational geographical entity with its heart lying in the modern Arabic Middle East. According to their ideologues, the dignity and political authority of the ummah have been severely undermined by the last five centuries of Western political and military domination. The Western attempts at keeping the ummah ineffective forever are now being resisted by the new signs of Islamic revival.

This illustrates the fact that, for many Islamic activists, the notion of ummah is an important and integral part of the contemporary Muslim consciousness that originated in *Quranic* revelations, but has evolved in meaning and usage in conjunction with developments in the Islamic world. Ummah manifests itself at the ideological, cognitive, behavioral and ethical levels. For Muslims, and especially Muslim activists and intellectuals, it is a sociological reality. It is a unique principle of social identity in Islam which acts as a basis of collective consciousness and community organization. There is a consensus among Muslim scholars that the ummah refers to a spiritual, non-territorial community distinguished by the shared beliefs of its members.

However, the Islamic world is not immune from the ideology of nationalism. In Muslim countries nationalism has often incorporated the concept of the ummah. While most of the Muslim countries, like their counterparts elsewhere, have been strongly influenced by nationalism, the Islamic revivalist movements invariably make the existence of Muslim ummah an important part of their political platform. These movements argue that loyalty to the Islamic ummah overrides any other ethnic, linguistic and geographical loyalties.

The political reality, however, is that while most Muslims regard the idea of ummah as an important source of their collective identity, nationalism and nationalist movements are also an important part and parcel of most Muslim countries. As such, Muslims tend to have dual or multiple social identities comprised of national, or ethnic, and Islamic identities. In a sociological sense, the concept of ummah refers to an ideal state—an all-encompassing unity of the Muslims that is often invoked but never completely realised.

Sociology of the Ummah

As a sociological phenomenon, the ummah can be viewed as a collective identity. Collective identity is grounded in the socialization process in human societies. Individuals develop it by first identifying with the values, goals and purposes of their society and by internalizing them. This process, besides constructing the individual identity, also constructs the collective identity. Rituals and ritualized behaviors of the society further reinforce it and give the members a sense of similarity, especially against the 'Others' whose collective identities are different.

The key role in the construction of collective identity is played by symbolic systems of shared religion, language and culture, which act as boundary defining mechanisms of the collective identity. The boundaries can be crossed, or changed through incorporation, or shedding of symbolic domains such as those that are entailed in religious conversion or excommunication. Collective identity is constructed through major 'codes' of primordiality, civility and transcendence or sacredness. These codes are ideal types as real coding invariably combines different elements of these ideal types. The construction of collective identity is not purely a symbolic affair unrelated to the division of labour, to the control of resources and to social differentiation. Collective identity and social solidarity entail consequences for the allocation of resources and for structuring entitlements to members of the collectivity as against the outsider.

From this perspective ummah would constitute a collective identity of Muslims in the sense that it refers to Muslim's identification with the sacred domain of Islam and its incorporation in their individual consciousness. The implication of viewing ummah as a frame for collective identity of Muslims is that, since it is a result of social construction in which social structure and social processes play critical roles, as these framing devices change, they also produce changes in the nature of collective identity. In other words, since Muslims, besides partaking in common faith, also live their lives in the contexts of their respective societies, as these societies change under the impact of modernization and globalization that also will impact on Muslim collective identity.

Modernization, Social Change and the Ummah

If ummah is a form of collective identity or an imagined community can we detect its presence in contemporary Muslim consciousness? I attempted to investigate this question in my study of Muslim religiosity in Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, Egypt, Kazakhstan, Iran and Turkey. This study was conducted between 1997 and 2003 and involved the questioning of over 6300 Muslim respondents about their religiosity.

The evidence shows very high to high ummah consciousness in Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, Egypt, Iran and Turkey and low in Kazakhstan. The Kazakhstan case is unique among the countries included in the study. It was the only country that was part of the Soviet empire until its disintegration in 1991, which led to its independence. During the Soviet rule religion was more or less banished from public life. Consequently Kazak Muslim identity became grounded in ethnicity and history rather than religiosity. In all other countries Islam was a powerful and ubiquitous part of public and private life and played a pivotal role in the development of religious identity and ummah consciousness as reflected in the data.

Table 1: Ummah Consciousness and Modernity in Muslim Countries

Country	Ummah Consciousness ¹	Modernity ² (Human Development Index)
Indonesia	92	.682
Malaysia	90	.790
Pakistan	91	.499
Egypt	94	.648
Iran	76	.719
Turkey	71	.734
Kazakhstan	22	.765

1. Ummah Consciousness Index was derived from unpublished survey data from the named countries. It is an average of respondents “agreeing” with the following beliefs: 1. No doubt about the existence of Allah. 2. Firm belief in the Quranic miracles. 3. Faith in the month of Ramadan. 4. Belief in life after death. 5. Belief that persons who deny the existence of Allah are dangerous. These surveys were conducted by me between 1997 and 2003. The sample sizes for the various countries were: Indonesia 1472; Pakistan 1272; Malaysia 802; Egypt 788; Iran 614; Turkey 527; and Kazakhstan 1000. The samples were not random. The findings apply to surveyed samples.
2. Modernity refers to the Human Development Index Value for the selected countries, see UNDP (2002).

This consciousness shapes the image of the ‘self’ and also that of the ‘other’. It allows Muslims to identify with the other Muslims who are subjected to oppression, violence and injustices by the ‘other’. This is the reason why the conflict in Palestine and the pro- Israeli policies of the West, especially of the United States, have created a feeling of intense anti-Americanism in Muslim countries. For the same reasons conflicts in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Chechnya, Iraq and Afghanistan have provoked anti-Western feelings and attitudes. One can argue that ummah consciousness also underpins the so called Jihadist movements which are actively involved in violent resistance in a number of Muslim countries in Southeast, South and Central Asia and the Middle East. Their activities in the Iraq, Palestine, Chechnya, Kashmir, Afghanistan, Pakistan and elsewhere are the most commonly reported stories in the media.

Does this mean that ummah consciousness also acts a catalyst for Islamic unity at the international and even at the national level? The answer is *no*. The clearest evidence of this is the fragmentation of the Islamic world into 49 Muslim majority countries many of which are hostile to each other as well as the ethnic and sectarian violence which is endemic in many Muslim countries. Other indicators of this are the lack of poor mass support for Islamic political parties in almost all Muslim countries and conflict between radical Islamist movements such as Al Qaeda, Jammah Islamiah and the existing political structures.

Muslim countries differ in their level of modernity. I would like to argue that the level of modernity would have a significant impact on the institutional development, differentiation and institutional specialization that may lead to a decline in public influence of religious institutions in society while at the same time leading to a greater emphasis on personal religiosity. Such developments would obviously have consequences for the development of religious and political pluralism or at least their greater acceptance as a social and political norm.

My argument is that in Muslim countries, political culture, as elsewhere, will evolve in response to national aspirations and not in response to the ummah's aspirations. If this argument has any validity then the future of Islamic ummah would not be a unitary social reality but a differentiated one. And one consequence of that may be the 'decentring' of the Islamic ummah. Let me explore this proposition in some details.

Modernization and the Ummah

Modern technology has resulted in rapid communication over unlimited space. This technology is now in existence nearly all over the world. The potential for worldwide rapid communication has been translated into actual practice. We now live in a globalizing social reality in which previous effective barriers to communication no longer exist. The world is fast becoming a global village and 'a single place'. Therefore, in order to understand the major features of social life and emerging religious and political trends in contemporary Muslim societies, we need to go beyond local and national factors and situate the analysis in the global context. In the pre-globalized world, 'knowing' of all Islamized people was seriously constrained or even rendered impossible by the limitations of technology. At best, only a small number of people were able to travel to other cultures and societies. The legendary travels of Ibn Batutta and Vasco de Gama are now a reality experienced by thousands of business and recreational travellers every year.

In the pre-modern and globalized world ummah consciousness was largely determined by the observance of the practice of the 'five pillars' of Islam (oath of belief, payment of zakat, performance of hajj, daily prayers and fasting) and certain other key beliefs. The existence of these beliefs and practices was seen by many believers everywhere as evidence that the entire culture of the Muslim societies was Islamized, that is, had come to resemble the Arabian culture where Islam had originated. This transformation of all Islamized people was considered to be an integral part of Prophet Mohammad's social and religious mission. It was naively assumed by many Islamic intellectuals in the Middle East that such cultural trajectory was the common destiny of all Islamized people. The difficulties of communication and contact with people in far off regions fed this belief. But the reality was that Islamized cultures invariably added the Islamic layers on top of the various other cultural layers. The work of Clifford Geertz on Islam in Java and Morocco provides an excellent illustration of this. Similar conclusions can be drawn from the study of the customary laws of Muslim countries, which still continue to play a significant role in social and cultural affairs of Muslim communities.

It can be argued that modernization is prompting a reformulation of the common Muslim belief that Islam is not only a religion but also a complete way of life, which, in Islamic discourse is known as the 'one religion one culture' paradigm. Instantaneous and worldwide communication links are now allowing Muslims and non-Muslims to experience the reality of different Islamic cultures. Such experiences reveal not only what is common among Muslims but also what is different. For example, gender relations and dress codes for Muslim women are structured in different ways in Muslim countries like Malaysia, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Turkey and Kazakhstan.

While the first consequence makes us conscious of the social and cultural diversity of the Muslim ummah, the second consequence produces a reaction of rejection of this cultural and social hybridity and a desire to replace it with the authentic 'Islamic way'. The struggle between 'hybridity' and 'authenticity' perhaps constitutes the most important challenge of globalization for the Muslim ummah and is one of the underlying causes of the emergence of Islamic fundamentalist movements. Islamic fundamentalism refers to a strategy by which Islamic 'purists' attempt to reassert their construction of religious identity and social order as the exclusive basis for a re-created political and social order. They feel this identity is at risk and is being eroded by cultural and religious hybridity. They try to fortify their interpretation of religious ways of being through selective retrieval of doctrines, beliefs and practices from a 'sacred' past.

Religious fundamentalism thus is a problem produced by the encounter between modernization and Muslim ummah in all its diversity and cultural hybridity. Its strength varies according to the intensity of attitudes towards diversity and cultural hybridity. For example, in the context of Indonesia, Islamic scholar Azyumardi Azra has observed that Islamic radicalism in Indonesia is predicated on the perception that indigenous Indonesian Islam is syncretic and hybrid, and needs to be purified and transformed into 'authentic' Islam through the application of the radicals' interpretations of the sacred texts. According to Azra, this 'literalist' interpretation is the root of the radical Islamic fundamentalism in Indonesia. This observation is applicable not only in the case of Indonesia but also in the context of other Islamic countries as well.

In the modern globalized world diversity and cultural crossovers will become a matter of routine. Instead of eliminating hybridity, this may in fact transform different Islamic countries and regions into autonomous cultural systems thus posing a challenge to the conventional categorical oppositions of 'us' and 'them', 'Muslim' and 'other'. This type of development would have far reaching implications for the Muslim ummah. Islamic countries in different parts of the world could be transformed into unique religious and cultural systems, each claiming acceptance and recognition as authentic traditions of Islam.

This transformation may lead to the 'decentering' of the Muslim world from its supposed cultural and religious center in the Arabic Middle East to a multi-centered world. Five such centers of the Islamic world can be readily identified, namely, Arabic Middle Eastern Islam, African Islam, Central Asian Islam, Southeast Asian Islam and Islam of the Muslim minorities in the West. The demographic characteristics such as size, diversity and age structure of the populations in the Muslim countries will further accentuate the movement towards decentering. Over time, these traditions may find strength and consolidate with the support of their followers.

The decentering of the Muslim ummah will confer a kind of legitimacy on the regional ummahs, and this may lead them to chart their development—religious, political, economic, social and cultural—along distinctive lines appropriate to the history and temperament of their people. For example, one of the most widely acknowledged characteristics of Indonesian Islam in particular and Southeast Asian Islam in general is that it is malleable, syncretic and multi-vocal. These characteristics may be more congenial to the history, temperament and ecology of Indonesian Islam and Indonesians than the Saudi Arabian Islam which is characterized by moral severity and aggressive piety.

Indonesian Islamic scholar Azyumardi Azra has suggested that the Islamic radicalism and most of the radical Islamic organizations like Front Pembela Islam (FPI), Majelis Mujahidin Indonesia (MMI), Jamaat Muslimen Indonesia (JAMI) and other similar groups are led by Indonesians of Arabic descent who reject the indigenous Indonesian Islam in favour of their 'salafi' 'authentic' Islam which is closer to the Arabian Islam. He explicitly criticizes the radical Indonesian Islamists and their organizations for advocating Arabic Islam and rejecting the accommodative Indonesian Islam. This is an illustration of an Indonesian Muslim intellectual's defense of the 'particular' character of Indonesian Islam which also implies its compatibility with history and temperament of the Indonesian people.

Drawing from the insights of Professor Alatas's work one can argue that modernization, while corroding and challenging the inherited or constructed cultural identities, also encourages the creation and revitalization of particular identities as a way of competing for power and influence in the global system. This will be aided by a unique affinity of religion for particularistic identities. And because religion in a globalizing, modernizing world is marginalized, it uses new opportunities and ways to gain public influence and legitimacy. Under conditions of globalization, religion is confronted with two main routes to gain public influence. One from the perspective of sub-global, which we can call regional perspective, and the other which focuses on the global or universal perspective. However, even the global and universal perspective paradoxically acquires particularistic characteristics. My argument here is that, far from losing public influence, religion may gain public influence under conditions of globalization. This influence, nevertheless, will be mediated by a sub-global religious tradition that can adapt and encourage the applied role of religion with greater success than the inherited global tradition can.

In the light of the above, the future Islamic ummah will gain strength not as a unified and unitary community but as a differentiated community consisting of ummahs representing different Islamic regions. Each regional ummah will embody the unique character moulded by history and the temperament of its people. It will chart its own course to gain material and an ideological influence in a global system, and, simultaneously, it will act as a supportive and effective constituent of Islamic civilization. This trend will also produce strong liberal and conservative movements, and each regional Islamic ummah would have to find its unique ways to meet the challenge these movements will pose. This decentering of the Muslim ummah may also be beneficial for the intellectual revitalization in the Muslim world

The looming challenge for the Muslim world is not religious, but intellectual. At present, Islamic ummah is in the doldrums not because of the weakness of commitment to the faith but because of its intellectual stagnation brought about by political, social and cultural conditions generated by colonialism, neo-colonialism and economic underdevelopment, poor governance some of which can be attributed to the real or imagined influence increasing devotional religiosity of the masses. This stagnation is most dramatically manifested in the scientific

and technological backwardness of the Muslim world. The following are some illustrations of this. The 2008 rankings of the world's top 200 universities by the Times Higher Education Supplement (THES) show the poor state of academic institutions in the Muslim countries. The United States with 5 per cent of the world population had 58 or 29 per cent of the top 200 universities. Forty nine Muslim majority countries on the other hand with 17 per cent of the world population had none.

Some years ago, using data from the Science Citation Index produced by the Institute for Scientific Information, academics Mohammad Anwar and Abu Baker from the International Islamic University of Malaysia, showed that the total contribution of forty-six Muslim majority countries to the world of science literature between 1990 and 1994 was a meagre 1.17 per cent of the total world output, as compared to 1.66 per cent for India and 1.48 per cent for Spain. This study also showed that the twenty Arab countries contributed only .55 per cent to the scientific output, whereas Israel alone contributed 0.89 per cent in the same period.

Another indicator of this intellectual insularity of the Arab world was reported in the 2002 report of the United Nations Development Fund on the Arab world. According to this report there is little writing or translation from other languages: in the 1000 years since the caliph Mamoun the Arabs have translated as many books as Spain translates in a single year. The consequences of intellectual stagnation are already reflected in the economic performance of the Muslim countries. A Brookings Institution study reported in the Economist (September 13, 2003) showed that over the past quarter-century, GDP per person in most Muslim countries has fallen or remained the same.

Muslim scientist and Nobel laureate, the late Dr Abdus Salam observed 20 years ago that: "...of all civilizations on this planet, science is weakest in the lands of Islam. The dangers of this weakness cannot be over-emphasised since the honourable survival of a society depends directly on its science and technology in the condition of the present age". In the third industrial revolution with its 'knowledge economy' in which creation of wealth will depend primarily on 'brain industries' the scientific, technological and intellectual stagnation is going to have far reaching socio-economic repercussions. What are the reasons for this intellectual stagnation?

Several factors can account for these conditions, the most important being the meagre resources allocated by Muslim countries to research and development. On average, Muslim countries spend 0.45 per cent of GDP on research and development. The comparable figure for OECD countries is 2.30 per cent. These conditions are also a legacy of the colonialism experienced by most Muslim countries for an extended period in the past two centuries, during which they endured some of the worst excesses of racial and economic exploitation that stalled their development which has been brilliantly detailed by Professor Alatas in his book *The Myth of Lazy Native*. But most of the causes of their present predicament can also be attributed to the prevailing cultural and political practices poor governance. Other countries like Korea, Singapore Taiwan and India have taken notable strides in the fields of science and technology and are now among the major emerging economies.

The non availability of funds can hardly justify the absence of good universities in resource rich countries like Saudi Arabia, Iran and Kuwait which are reportedly earning daily over a billion US dollars daily from their oil exports alone. (An encouraging development which appears to be taking place is that as academic and administrative conditions in the public sector universities have declined, the private sector has responded by establishing well-resourced universities. This is illustrated by the establishment of the Aga Khan Medical University and Lahore University of Management Sciences in Pakistan and Belkent University in Turkey).

The other conditions not conducive to the development of vibrant universities include the weak and undeveloped conditions of civil society in Muslim countries. Civil society refers to the presence of diverse non-governmental organizations and institutions of higher learning which are strong enough to counterbalance the power of the central intuitions of the state, which have a tendency to want to establish a monopoly over power and truth in society. Muslim countries are increasingly coming under intense pressure from religious fundamentalist movements to impose epistemologies compatible with their versions of Islamic doctrines that are generally hostile to critical rational thought. This is stifling the development of conditions conducive to the development and growth of vibrant institutions of higher learning. In my recent studies of contemporary Islamic consciousness in a number of Middle Eastern Muslim countries, I was struck by an all-pervasive sense of humiliation arising from the inability of the Arab countries to match the military and technological superiority of Israel. This sense was further reinforced by the economic power and absolute technological superiority of the West vis-à-vis Muslim countries. This sense of humiliation is a major underlying cause of Islamic militancy and terrorism.

A robust civil society is a prerequisite for the development of a society based not on the tyranny of strongly held convictions and beliefs but on a social order based on doubt and compromise. Science and technology prosper only under conditions which privilege the rule of reason and nature. The influence of religious fundamentalist movements is having deleterious effect on the academic conditions especially in the humanities and social sciences. The intellectual stagnation of Muslim countries threatens to imprison a significant proportion of humanity into permanent servitude. There is a great urgency to create and nurture conditions promoting academic excellence and to develop strategies to arrest the decline of the institutions of higher learning to ensure an honourable survival of future generations of Muslims. This is probably the greatest and growing challenge facing the governments of the Muslim countries today.

Conclusion

One broad conclusion which can be drawn from this evidence of scientific and technological backwardness is that the quality of human capital in Muslim countries is at severe risk, and, combined with conditions of low educational attainment, gender bias and wide spread poverty the situation is likely to get worse in the foreseeable future. In the third industrial revolution with its 'knowledge economy' in which the creation of wealth will depend primarily on skills, these conditions would have serious repercussions for the economic and social position of Muslim countries in the world. The existing evidence paints a bleak picture of the Muslim world.

The real challenge for the differentiated Muslim ummah will be to find political, social and cultural ways to fuse a high degree of piety and a high degree of intellectual activity for scientific advancement.. The empirical evidence and my observations have led me to the conclusion that dogmatic religious piety is reinforcing the traditionalistic self-image of Islam in Muslim countries. This is producing a kind of cultural conditioning which is not conducive to the pursuit of rational, objective and critical scholarship because of the ideological control imposed by dogmatic religiosity and the traditionalistic self-image of Islam. Let me illustrate this by referring to the three categories of thought proposed by the Algerian-French anthropologist Mohammad Arkoun. He labels these categories as 'thinkable', 'unthinkable' and 'unthought'. The cultural conditioning emanating from the dogmatic religiosity and traditionalistic self-image appear to encourage the majority of Muslim masses and intellectuals to think only in terms of the 'thinkable' and the 'unthinkable' and discourage cognitive processes leading to the 'unthought'.

The conditions which prevent the realm of the 'unthought' from flourishing and which now prevail in most Muslim countries constitute perhaps the most significant barriers to the development of science and technology. Muslims, like non-Muslims, will be called upon to address and solve modern problems not only related to the development of science and technology but also other problems like equality of citizenship for women and children, the management of human sexuality, environmental degradation, the rule of law, political and cultural freedoms. A proper understanding and resolution of these and other problems would require a common understanding based on rational scientific knowledge.

Theoretical insights drawn from the work of Professor Syed Hussein Alatas would suggest that one of the ways to approach the problem of the absence of the 'unthought' (a thought process in some ways similar to his notion of 'captive mind') would be the relative autonomy of various institutions from all stifling hegemonic political, cultural or religious influences. This is not an easy objective to achieve but human history bears testimony to its achievability. The challenge for the Muslims is to explore yet unimagined pathways to achieve this objective. This task may be easier to undertake under conditions of a differentiated Islamic ummah, which, as I have argued, is now evolving under conditions of modernization and globalization.

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