

ENGLISH

FREE
BOOK

The Right to a **Secure Life** in Islam

SECOND EDITION

In the Name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

the right to a secure life

in Islam

One of the core meanings of Islam is 'peace.' Those who submit themselves to the will of Allah lead a secure life, both in this life and the next. This secured way of living encompasses all walks of life, irrespective of race, colour and nationality.



Under the shade of the Islamic code, a non-Muslim individual's personal dignity, property and wealth are protected and secured whether he is under covenant or lives in peaceful co-existence.

Allah says in the Holy Qur'an:

{Allah does not forbid you from those who do not fight you because of religion and do not expel you from your homes – from being righteous toward them and acting justly toward them.

Indeed, Allah loves those who act justly.}

(Qur'an 60:8)

Islam has laid down the following codes for life, in order to let the whole society lead a secure and decent life.

THE RIGHT TO THE SAFETY OF LIFE

As life is an entrusted asset, bestowed by Allah to all His living beings, to worship Him, it should be secured.

In regard to this security, it is our duty to save every human life as we have been enjoined in the Holy Qur'an:

{...And whoever saves one [life] – it is as if he had saved mankind entirely...}

(Qur'an 5:32)



**THE SECURITY
OF LIFE AND
PROPERTY**

Shari'ah categorically declares:

{And do not consume one another's wealth unjustly...}

(Qur'an 2:188)

On the occasion of the Farewell Hajj, the Prophet (peace be upon him) said:

"Your lives and properties are forbidden to one another until you meet your Lord on the Day of Resurrection."

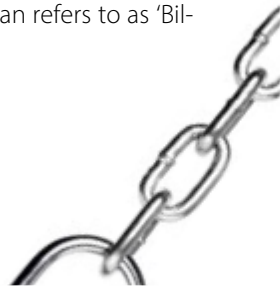
(Bukhari)

The Prophet (peace be upon him) also said, about the one living under protection:

"Anyone who kills a man under covenant will not even smell the fragrance of Paradise."

(Bukhari)

Islam strongly prohibits homicide, genocide, infanticide and any other unlawful killings. The people should follow the due process of law, which the Qur'an refers to as 'Bil-Haqq' (with rights).



THE SANCTITY & SECURITY OF PRIVATE LIFE AND DIGNITY



THE SECURITY OF PERSONAL FREEDOM

Islam recognises the right of every citizen of the State and that there should be no undue interference or encroachment on the privacy of any life.

The Holy Qur'an has laid down the injunction:

{O you who have believed, do not enter houses other than your own houses until you ascertain welcome...}

(Qur'an 24:27)

The Prophet peace be upon him went to the extent of instructing his followers that a man should not enter even his own house suddenly or surreptitiously. The reputation and honour of an individual is preserved; slandering, backbiting and defaming one's dignity or status are not only disallowed but abhorrent practices. The Holy Qur'an says:

{...And do not spy or backbite each other. Would one of you like to eat the flesh of his brother when dead? You would detest it.}

(Qur'an 49:12)

Islam has laid down the principle that no citizen be imprisoned unless his guilt has been proven in an open court.

{...when you judge between people to judge with justice...}

(Qur'an 4:58)

And Allah tells Muhammad (peace be upon him) to say:

{...I have been commanded to do justice among you.}

(Qur'an 42:15)

This was the reason why the Caliph Umar (may Allah be pleased with him) said:

'In Islam no one can be imprisoned except in pursuance of justice.'

Zakah (poor due) is one of the pillars of Islam and at the same time one of the best tools for stabilising the socio-economic securities in a Muslim society. It is part of the Islamic economic system and one of the means of achieving social security.

Social security is achieved not only through Zakah but by ‘*Sadaqah*’ (charity), ‘*Waqf*’ (rendering any asset for public use freely), and distribution from the ‘*Bayt Al-Maal*’ (Muslim treasury).

The second Caliph, Umar, on seeing an old Jewish man begging asked why. On hearing the man’s reply, Umar said: *‘We have not dealt with you in justice if we took*

from you (tax) while you were young and now we have left you alone when you are old.’

Umar brought the man to his house and gave him some money. He then ordered the treasury officer to give such people, who could not earn their living, an upkeep from the public treasury. On another occasion he saw a non-Muslim leper on his way back from a journey and he issued orders that lepers should be provided maintenance from the State funds.

Islam is the religion of peace; it renders life secure in all walks of life not only for its followers but for all human beings.

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