

**THE SOCIAL EFFECTS OF BETRAYAL ON PRESENT SOCIETY (AN
OVERVIEW FROM ISLAMIC PERSPECTIVE)**

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Abstract:

Betrayal is not only a sin but also a curse and an evil that has engulfed the entire society. This curse is giving rise to many evils such as theft, robbery, murder, lying, suspicion, dishonesty, and fraud. In a society where such evils occur, it certainly destructs. Present society has the same situation, and society is going towards destruction with the passage of time. We can see the same condition which existed in the ignorant Arabia before the rise of Islam. Sadly, today's man has forgotten the Islamic teachings and instructions. Human is moving for destruction with the passage of time. Islam has instructed to human beings that betrayal is a major sin that destroys one's trust, confidence and belief. Therefore human should avoid from it to save his worldly and hereafter life. There is a need to follow the teachings of Islam in order to improve the condition of the society. Then the balanced environment can be possible in society. The aim was of this research to highlight the social effects of betrayal on present society in the light of Islamic teachings. This research can be useful and informative regarding it's specific objective for scholars and readers.

Keywords: *Betrayal, Islamic teachings, Social Effercts, Present society*

INTRODUCTION: Betrayal means that deceive to someone's trust. Betrayal is the most heinous sin that affects all the aspects of life i.e., social, political, economic, and educational, etc. Betrayal is not only deceiving in one's wealth but it also includes such as lying to someone, telling someone else's secret on another person, deprivation of property rights to someone, betrayal in trust, and reducing the measure of things, etc. Betrayal is a curse and every effort should be made to avoid it. Before the advent of Islam, betrayal was at the forefront of all moral evils, which was leading to all sorts of evils in the society such as, theft, robbery, looting, murder and betrayal of trust, etc. When the light of Islam spread, people were shown the right and wrong path for spending lives and explained the dangers of betrayal too. People were advised that they follow Islamic teaching to save their lives from evils. Qurān says that “O you who have believed, do not betray Allah and the Messenger or betray your trusts while you know [the consequence]”.¹ If we look at the present society, we see all the evils that existed before the sunrise of Islam, i.e., lawlessness, lies, betrayal, deception, oppression, harming others for their benefit, killing, incidents of vandalism, and kidnapping. The main reason for this is ignorant of Islamic teachings. It is advised to human beings that “Indeed, Allah has purchased from the believers their lives and their properties [in exchange] for that they will have Paradise.”² Here it is cleared that betrayal is a curse therefore human beings were advised to avoid it. If we will follow Islamic teachings, then it can be possible that we would create a peaceful environment in our society. The aim was this research to highlight the social effects of betrayal on the present society in the light of Islamic teachings. This research work can be informative in

its specific field for new readers and researchers. This research encompasses some parts such as the first part explains introduction, statement of the problem, hypotheses of the research, objective of the research, significance of the research, the second part elucidates the literature review, the third part explicates research methodology, the fourth part expounds analysis of the problem, the fifth and sixth parts explain conclusion, suggestions, and recommendations.

1.1. Statement of the Problem:

Some statement of the problems is given below such as;

- What is betrayal?
- What is the history of the dark ages concerning betrayal?
- What are the teachings of Islam concerning betrayal?
- What are the effects of betrayal on present society?

1.2. Hypotheses of the Research

Few hypotheses are produced to get the result of this research work, as

- People have ignored the teachings of Islam concerning betrayal.
- Everywhere an unsatisfactory environment can be seen due to betrayal in society.
- Betrayal is the biggest obstacle in the development of a peaceful society.
- Society is going toward the ruin over time.

1.3. Objectives of the Research

Some objectives are given below such as

- To explain the meanings of betrayal.
- To elucidate the history of dark ages concerning betrayal.
- To explicate the teachings of Islam concerning betrayal.
- To highlight the effects of betrayal on present society.

1.4. Significance of the Research

This research work is significant because of betrayal meanings, the history of the dark ages concerning betrayal, the teachings of Islam about betrayal, and the effects of betrayal on present society are explained in detail. This research work can be useful and informative for the upcoming researcher for its specific theme.

1. Literature Review: This research work is an important research concerning its specific objective. Many books and other relevant sources i.e, magazines, newspapers, articles and weblinks have been searched for collecting materials. During searching the materials we got the relevant article entitled “Betrayal”: A Comparative Study of Arthashastra and Islamic Jurisprudence”, we studied this paper in detail and we found it an useful research for our research work.³ Another book entitled “Ikhlaqo Tarbiyat Wadah Khilafi” is a significant book upon ethics, its writer is Ayatullah Abdul Husain Dastagheeb Shaheed.⁴ We got another book which title is “Islami Nizam-e-Zindagi Aur Is Kay Bunyadi Tasaworaat”, it is an informative collection of knowledge. In this book, every aspect of life was discussed in the light of Islam. We found it useful for our research work.⁵

2. Research Methodology: In this research we used the method of library research work, for this purpose we collected the material from different sources such as books,

articles, magazines, newspapers, weblinks, and dissertations, as well, we attended the seminars and workshops too. We have taken benefit from SBBWU, Peshawar's library, Archive Library, and the University of Peshawar's library.

3. Analysis of the Problem: In this section some points are discussed i.e., what is betrayal?, betrayal and dark ages, betrayal and Islamic teachings, and the effects of betrayal on present society, these details are given below:

3.1. What is Betrayal? Betrayal means to deceive or defraud someone. According to Islam, betrayal is a great crime with humanity. Betrayal includes all evils such as lying, dishonesty, deception, and fraud. We must first understand the meaning of betrayal. It comes in treason and dishonesty if one's will not take care of the right of another person. Generally, people consider betrayal to be deceived, but in reality, there are many immoral things involved in it, such as if someone's secret telling to someone else, or someone's trust-breaking. Show off is also betrayal. In the same way, if a person does not fulfill the task entrusted to him honestly, it is also a great betrayal. Theft is also a betrayal. This includes evils such as lying, stealing, deception, and fraud. Betrayal is the worst sin that has been called a sign of hypocrisy. Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH) states that there are three signs of a hypocrite when he speaks he lies when he promises he breaks his promise when he is entrusted he betrays.⁶ That is, these are the works of hypocrites, which Muslims should avoid.⁷ The Holy Qurān says; “do not betray Allah and the Messenger or betray your trusts while you know [the consequence]”.⁸ Usually, the concept of betrayal is considered to be special with financial trust. If a person keeps the property in the base of trust and then refuses to return it, it is said that he betrayed. This is also betrayal, but the Shari'ah concept of betrayal is very wide. It is stated in the Holy Qurān that; “That is so al-'Azeez will know that I did not betray him in [his] absence and that Allah does not guide the plan of betrayers”.⁹ Hakeem-ul-ummah Mufti Ahmad Yar Khan (may Allah have mercy on him) writes: Betrayal is not only the truth is beyond that, he has betrayed him”.¹⁰ The Holy Prophet (PBUH) says that “Whoever advises his brother in a matter while he knows that the truth is beyond that, he has betrayed him”.¹¹ At once place Hazrat Maqil bin Yasar said to people that “the Prophet (PBUH) said: “Whoever is made the ruler upon the people and he betrays his rights, Allah Almighty will not enter him in Paradise”.¹² The sins of ears, eyes, tongue or limbs come in betrayal too. This verse is mentioned in Surāh Ghafir that “He knows that which deceives the eyes and what the breasts conceal”.¹³ In short, that betrayal is a very great sin, therefore everyone should save himself from this sin. Because each one knows that this world is temporary and the worldly life will be finished very soon, we should think about the second world (Hereafter), and we should follow Islamic teachings to maintain a balanced environment in society.

3.2. Betrayal and Dark Ages: If we talk about pre-Islam, the sin had been spread everywhere. The favorite hobbies of the Arab ignorant were theft, robbery, murder, looting, chaos, kidnapping, sale of alcohol, adultery, and cruelty. The darkness of ignorance was all around. No one was aware of justice, equality, compassion, brotherhood and assistance to the oppressed. Betrayal was common and society was affected from it. Betrayal was not

considered an evil or a sin. In fact, everything was affected from betrayed. Due to which the society was in a state of decline and the man of that time was morally degraded. When the sun of Islam was risen then the lesson of molarity were taught to ignorant man and attempt was made to bring him on the right path.¹⁴

3.3. Betrayal and Islamic Teachings: Islam is a perfect religion and eternal code of life. Honesty is a part of faith. A person who believes in Allah and the Hereafter cannot betray anyone's trust. He realizes that Allah Almighty is watching, if I would infringe upon the rights of others or reduce their payments. He will surely be accountable to Allah Almighty on that day when every person will be rewarded for his good deeds. His good deeds will be distributed to others in return for the loss of rights. Then who will have mercy upon his condition there? Such ideas make the believers tremble and then they refrain from betrayal or loss of rights of others. It is advised to human that “then let him who is made trustworthy pay his trust, and let him fear Allah, his Lord”.¹⁵ In this verse, Allah Almighty has linked fidelity with piety, ie, one who believes in the afterlife, reckoning and divine judgment, and who has fear of Allah Almighty, should not betray the trust. Because betrayal leads a person to destruction and for such a person there is destruction and ruin in both this world and the hereafter. At an occasion it is stated that “The Prophet (PBUH) predicted that as the Hour of Judgment draws near, the power of faith will diminish, and as a result, honesty will eradicate, and there will be a large population of Muslims, but one and half of the population will hardly be honest and they will not be really honest. People will say, that there is a trustworthy person in that nation. However, he will not be honest and trusty person”.¹⁶ When a person says something and leaves, his said words are also the trust. In which there is no room for betrayal. The Holy Qurān says that “O you who have believed, do not betray Allah and the Messenger or betray your trusts while you know [the consequence]”.¹⁷ Here an event is explained that “The betrayer will be punished with punishment because the first opinion of Hazrat Umar (RA) was that the perpetrator of the betrayal should be killed but the Holy Prophet(PBUH)forbade him and this is proved by an event that, Hatib Bin Abi Baltah (RA) wrote a letter to the polytheists of Makkah about the secret ideas of Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH). When the Prophet (PBUH) came to know about it, he called him and inquired about it. He accepted his mistake. Then Hazrat Umer (RA) said that let me allow to kill him. The Prophet (PBUH) said: Is he not one of the people of Badr?”.¹⁸ Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH) says that “There are three signs of a hypocrite. When he speaks, he lies, when he promises, he does not fulfill, and when he is made a trustee, he betrays”.¹⁹ Betrayal is a sign of hypocrites and Muslim is that who try to save himself from this sin. Betrayal is a very bad thing so the Holy Prophet (PBUH) used to seek refuge from it. Therefore, according to a tradition, “The Holy Prophet always prayed for protection from treachery to Allah Almighty, because it is a big torment”.²⁰ And I seek refuge in Allah, from treachery, for it is the torment of mischief”.²¹ Betrayal is the enemy of peace, security, justice, tolerance, equality and brotherhood. Betrayal gives rise to many evils and moral decay in society, so we should follow Islamic teachings to protect society from the scourge of betrayal.

3.4. The Effects of Betrayal on Present Society: Betrayal is a thing from which hardly any aspect of life has survived but due to lack of religious knowledge, we are not aware of it. In present society we can see betrayal everywhere i.e, in the business world, telling goods superior, selling dead animal meat, selling counterfeit medicines, sweetening fruits by injecting, refreshing stale food in hotels, misusing the vehicle, electricity, computer, AC, and other things of the company, not giving the right to the rightful, etc. Hundreds of such examples are in present society. Integrity is one of the values that play an important role in cleansing any society from oppression and tyranny, in creating an atmosphere of mutual trust and confidence, justice, and peace. This is a fundamental value which, without inculcating in every individual of a society, the society cannot be cleansed of evils such as fear, mistrust, betrayal, fraud and oppression, and all kinds of financial abundance and worldly resources. Despite the presence of peace and tranquility cannot be made possible. Therefore, in every age and every society, regardless of its religion or culture, honesty has been preferred. We are living in an Islamic society but betrayal is everywhere. The whole society is under the influence of betrayal and dishonesty. Everyone living in this society seems affected by betrayal in the moral, social, political, and educational spheres. The Holy Qurān says that "Surely Allah does not like the treacherous".²² If we take a closer look at society, it is cleared that we are suffering from so many problems today, because we are moving away from Islamic teachings over time. Islam is a religion of peace, security, justice, and equality. So, its teachings are based on honesty, peace, justice, tolerance, equality, and brotherhood. On another occasion, it is advised human beings that nod those who guard their trusts and their covenant, and those who stand firm in their testimonies, and those who guard their prayers, these it is that shall be honored in the Gardens. Will ".²³ Here is a dire need of this that we follow the teachings of Islam and as well as these teachings should be implemented in society too. This is the only way to eradicate the curse of betrayal from society.

4. Conclusion: There is no denying the fact that contemporary society is on the brink of collapse because betrayal has given birth to many evils in the society which has led to the downturn of the world. And every human being suffers from hardship and anxiety. In order to save the society from decline, it is necessary not only to spread the Islamic teachings but also to follow them. So that the society can be saved from destruction.

5. Suggestions and Recommendations:

There are some suggestions and recommendations are given below;

- We should follow Islamic teachings to eradicate betrayal from society.
- We should make the concept of right and wrong clear to the new generation.
- We should live together with harmony and unity in society.
- We should take care each other rights.
- We should aware our new generation about the disadvantages of betrayal.
- The government should pay attention to produce the Islamic environment in society.

- Moral education should be taught with other education in schools, colleges and universities.
- We should attend the seminars, workshops and conferences about the awareness of betrayal.

References:

¹ Al Qurān, 8:27.

² Al Qurān, 9: 111.

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⁴ Ayatullah Abdul Husain Dastagheeb Shaheed, Ikhlāqo Tarbiyat, Wadah Khilafi, Accessed date: 30/09/2020, <https://www.google.com.pk/search>.

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⁸ Al-Qurān, 8:27.

⁹ Al-Qurān, 12:5.

¹⁰ Alfozan, Salih Bin Fozan Bin Abdullah, Ianatul Mustafid Basharah Kitabul Tuheed, Al Baabul Sani Walsatun: Maja Fi Kasirat Al Half, Alnasil Mosatulsalatah, 2002, P. 279. Vol. 3.

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¹³ Al-Qurān, 40:19.

¹⁴ <https://taasir.com/2016>. Accessed date: 01/10/2020.

¹⁵ Al-Qurān, 2: 283.

¹⁶ Bukhari, Muhammad Bin Ismail, Sahihul Bukhari, Darul Kutbul Ilmiyah, Bairot, 2004, H.No. 5476.

¹⁷ Al-Qurān, 8:27.

¹⁸ Ibn-e-Hijrul Asqalani, *Fatahul Bari Sharah Sahih Albukhari, Kitab Al Mughazi, Baab Ghazwatul Fatah Wa Ma Bas Bi Hatib Abn-e-Abi Baltah Ila Ihl-e-Makkah Yakhbarhum Yaghz-e-Wa Annabi (ﷺ)*, Baab 46, H.No. 4724

¹⁹ Al Tirmizi, Jamatul Tirmizi, Abwabul Emaan Aan Rasulullah (ﷺ), Baab Ma Ja Aa Fi Alamatul Munafiq, P: 597, H.No. 2631.

²⁰ Abu Alhasan Ubaidullah Bin Muhammad Abdul Salam Bin Khan Muhammad Bin Amanullah Bin Hassam Uddin Al Rehmani Almubar Kafori, Mar Aat Almafatiir Sharah Mashkatak tul Masabih, Idaratul Bahosul Ilmiyatah Waldawat Wal Iftah- Aljamia tulsalfiatah, Banaras Alhind, 1984, P: 229, Vol: 8.

²¹ Nisai, H.No. 3224.

²² Al-Qurān, 8: 58.

²³ Al-Qurān, 70: 32-35.



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