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**Assignment - 3**

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**Foundational Principles of the Islamic System of Social Affairs**

The Islamic system of social affairs is built upon fundamental principles that emphasize equality, brotherhood, and compassion. These principles are derived from the teachings of Islam as outlined in the Quran and the Sunnah (the traditions of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH)).

**Equality**

Equality is a central tenet of Islam, emphasizing the equal worth and dignity of all human beings regardless of their race, ethnicity, gender, or social status. The Quran states, **"O mankind, indeed We have created you from male and female and made you peoples and tribes that you may know one another. Indeed, the most noble of you in the sight of Allah is the most righteous of you. Indeed, Allah is Knowing and Acquainted" (Quran 49:13).**

Islamic teachings promote equality in all aspects of life, including legal rights, opportunities, and responsibilities. Muslims are encouraged to treat each other with fairness, justice, and respect, recognizing the inherent value of every individual in the eyes of Allah.

**Brotherhood**

Brotherhood (or sisterhood) is another foundational principle of the Islamic social system, emphasizing solidarity, cooperation, and mutual support among members of the Muslim community. The concept of brotherhood transcends ethnic, cultural, and national boundaries, uniting believers in a common bond of faith and humanity.

Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) said, **"The believers in their mutual kindness, compassion, and sympathy are just like one body. When one of the limbs suffers, the whole body responds to it with wakefulness and fever" (Sahih Bukhari).**

Islamic teachings encourage Muslims to care for one another, share each other's burdens, and strive for the well-being of the community as a whole. This sense of brotherhood fosters unity, cohesion, and resilience in the face of challenges.

**Compassion**

Compassion is a core value in Islam, exemplified by the mercy and kindness of Allah towards His creation. The Quran describes Allah as **"the Most Merciful, the Most Compassionate" (Quran 1:1),** emphasizing His boundless love and forgiveness towards His servants.

Muslims are encouraged to embody compassion in their interactions with others, showing empathy, generosity, and kindness towards those in need. Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) said, **"Those who show mercy will be shown mercy by the Most Merciful. Be merciful to those on the earth, and the One above the heavens will have mercy upon you" (Sunan al-Tirmidhi).**

Compassion extends not only to fellow human beings but also to animals, the environment, and all forms of creation. Muslims are urged to alleviate suffering, promote justice, and strive for a world guided by love and compassion.

**Islamic Principles of Money Dealings: Sale**

One aspect of money dealings in Islamic law is the concept of sale, known as "Bay'." Sale in Islam is governed by specific principles and guidelines aimed at promoting fairness, transparency, and ethical conduct in economic transactions.

**Significance of Sale in Islamic Teachings**

Sale is considered a lawful and legitimate means of acquiring wealth in Islam, provided it adheres to the principles of Sharia (Islamic law). It serves as a mechanism for the exchange of goods and services, facilitating economic activity and promoting prosperity within society.

Islamic teachings emphasize the importance of honesty, integrity, and trustworthiness in all business dealings, including sales transactions. Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) said, **"The buyer and the seller have the option of cancelling or confirming the bargain unless they separate, and if they spoke the truth and made clear the defects of the goods, then they would be blessed in their bargain, and if they told lies and hid some facts, their bargain would be deprived of Allah's blessings" (Sahih Bukhari).**

**Principles of Sale in Islamic Law**

Islamic law outlines several principles that govern sale transactions, ensuring fairness and equity for all parties involved:

1. **Mutual Consent**: Sale must be based on the mutual consent of both the buyer and the seller, without coercion or deception. Both parties should enter into the transaction willingly and with full knowledge of the terms and conditions.
2. **Clear Description**: The goods or services being sold must be accurately described, with no hidden defects or misleading information. Transparency and honesty are essential to ensure fair dealing and prevent disputes.
3. **Fair Price**: The price of the goods or services should be fair and reasonable, reflecting their market value and quality. Islam prohibits price manipulation, exploitation, or unfair profiteering in sales transactions.
4. **Ownership before Sale:** This principle is known as **"Al-Milkiyyah Qabla al-Bay',"** which translates to "Ownership before Sale." This principle emphasizes that a seller must possess ownership of the goods they intend to sell before entering into a transaction. It is based on the concept of transparency, fairness, and avoiding deception in business dealings.
5. **Prohibition of Riba (Interest)**: Islam prohibits the charging or payment of interest (riba) in sale transactions, as it is considered exploitative and unjust. Instead, transactions should be based on profit-sharing, partnership, or other Sharia-compliant financial arrangements.

**Conclusion**

In conclusion, the Islamic system of social affairs, with its emphasis on equality, brotherhood, and compassion, provides a framework for a just society. The principles of sale in Islamic law further reinforce these values by ensuring fair and transparent financial transactions. Together, these principles contribute to the overall well-being and stability of the Muslim community.

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