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## Question:

What work you have chosen, from Islamic culture and civilization conclusively ensure the principles of Islamic society can be applicable to this time?

## Answer:

This assignment is about the Islamic culture and civilization which enlightens the principles of Islamic society. And my topic is Noor-ud-Din Mahmud Langi and his whole life and praiseful work which makes him one of the most courageous legends in the Islamic history.

# Islamic Culture And Civilization

## Introduction:

: PROBLEMS Q

There are over a billion Muslims throughout the world, and however they communicate in various dialects and live in many various nations, they actually share a typical Muslim culture. This culture is inserted in certain normal convictions that there is no God except for Allah and that ~~Muhammad~~ (S.A.W.W) is His last Prophet. Muslim culture speaks to the unification of the relative multitude of societies affected by basic convictions and practices. The strict practices and convictions of Muslims are based on the religion of Islam. The first Muslim writing is in Arabic, the Prophet's language. The majority of the writing is strict in nature. It contains correspondence and documentation of the conviction framework from the Quran, Sirat & Hadith. The Quran is viewed as the wellspring of numerous parts of Islamic culture.

# Noor-ud-Din Zangi

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## Introduction:

The great Turkish ruler Nur-ud-Din Mahmud was one of the most prominent leaders of Turkish-Islamic world in the struggle between the Crescent and Cross in the 12th century. Nur-ud-Din, son of Imaad-ud-Din Zangi, who was Atabeg of Aleppo and Mawsil, was born in Aleppo on 11th February 1118 (17th Shawwal 511). Having received a good education under his father's control, Nur-ud-Din was raised as a scholar and mujahid. He both studied Quran, tafsir, hadith, law, history, Persian and Romanic, and was raised as a good soldier. He was taught the war tactics by the distinguished amirs of the era such as Asad-al-Din Shirkuh and Ibn al-Dajje. He was also in the army that reclaimed the city of Edessa from the Crusaders in 1144 under the command of Zangi. Thus, Nur-ud-Din developed himself as a person who is a professional warrior, very brave, far-sighted and cautious against the enemies, as well as being quite benevolent, well-meaning, respectful and religious.

## Motive of Life:

Noor-ud-Din Mahmud's biggest dream was to cease the Crusader hegemony in Jerusalem. However, he had realized, thanks to his father, that Muslim union was the indispensable prerequisite for the ultimate success of this struggle; therefore, he followed and adopted a deliberate policy and first made his efforts for the Syrian union. The biggest obstacle for this union was the Burid dynasty in Damascus which had preferred to collaborate with the Crusaders in order to defend the and sustain its independence against the Zangis and been an ally of the Crusader Kingdom of Jerusalem since 1140.

Although Damascus was the indispensable target of Nur-ud-Din, he did not have the chance to realize his dream in the short run. As luck would have it, Nur-ud-Din took the advantage of the conflict between Ishaq Unur, the Governor of Damascus, and his allies, the Franks, in 1147. That is because Unur, who had to seek help from

Noor-ud-Din against the Franks, when the Kingdom of Jerusalem attacked Hauran region within borders of Damascus offered to give the reign of the city of Hamid to Noor-ud-Din by wedding his daughter to him and sustain his independence in Damascus in return. Therefore, a treaty of alliance was made between the parties in March 1147 and army of the Kingdom was destroyed with the help of Noor-ud-Din.

## Deeds of Zangi:

One of the most significant deeds of Noor-ud-Din was to reclaim Damascus without bloodshed. The city had also been besieged many a time, yet could not be taken, by Imdad-ud-Din Zangi who tried to unite Muslims against the Crusaders. However, it seemed that Damascus had to be captured first in order to set strong fronts before and have an edge over the Crusaders, thus paving way to Egypt.

## Justice done by Noor-ud-Din

Noor-ud-Din Zangi was also known as "Al-Malik al-Adil" as he ruled over his country with justice, and he indeed had a supreme sense of justice. He always protected the sufferer without discriminating against the strong or the weak. He would always listen to the suffering party's trial in person to try to enlighten the situation. He would let nobody be sentenced based upon a suspicion or assumption; a person with an established crime would be sentenced or punished sufficiently as determined by Shari law. He added a new one to the Islamic institutions by having a court justice built to try the legal cases. Thus, Mahkamat-al-Mazalim (courts of Mazalim) had a certain and permanent place to hear the cases. Noor-ud-Din would gather a judicial panel twice a week in the abode of justice and hear the complaints of the public. Noor-ud-Din was an adherent of Hanafi madhab (school); however qadis, faqihs and muftis of all madhabs would appear on these judicial panels of justice.

# Incidents:

## 1- Incident of a Horse:

Noor-ad-Din Mahmud would give a great importance to doing each and every deed in good faith. One day, one of the prominent scholars of religion condemned him as playing chawgan too often which has no use for religion, and furthermore is nothing than a torment for the horse. Therewith, the Sultan replied "Deeds depends upon intentions. I play this game because I want my horses to get used to attacking and retreating. We never give up jihad!" Noor-ad-Din considered this sports game gravely important which was played by many Turkish rulers at the time since it equipped him and his horse with warrior skills. Sultan was such a skilled master of riding that he could mount or dismount even if the horse was at a gallop. Ibn-al-Affir quoted that there had been no other man to ride better than him, and that he seemed as if he was a part of the horse itself.

## 2- Incident of Madina:

I want : to mention a perfect event that highlights the special role of Noor-ud-Din in the history of Madina.

Around eight hundred years ago, Sultan Noor-ud-Din Mahmud Zangi offered his night, Nawafil and Wazaif as usual and fell asleep. The Holy Prophet (ﷺ) came in his dream, showed him two blue eyed men and said : "Save me from them!" He woke up anxiously. He performed wudu, offered Nawafil and fell asleep again. Same thing repeated three times. He called his ministers in the same night. They consulted and left for Madinah Munawara the next morning with a lot of wealth. They arrived in Madinah Munawara after travelling for 16 days. He performed Nawafil in Riyad-ul-Jannah, presented himself at Raudah-e-Rasool (ﷺ) and sat inside the Masjid. All residents of Madinah were called informing them the Sultan has arrived & wants to distribute gifts. However, the wanted people were not seen. Upon inquiring, they were told that there are two righteous men from

the West. They do not take anything from anyone. In fact, they give Sadaqah [charity] in abundance. They worship and carry out spiritual exercises all night long and offer water to thirsty people during the day. They were presented before the Sultan and he immediately recognised them. They were the same accursed people who were shown in the dream by the Holy Rasool (رض).<sup>وَاللَّهُ أَعْلَمُ</sup>

When they were asked about the reason for their arrival in Madinah, they said that we have just come here to live in the neighbourhood of the Beloved Rasool (رض).<sup>وَاللَّهُ أَعْلَمُ</sup>

When their houses was searched, immense wealth and few books were found. All of a sudden, as soon as the mat laid on the floor was removed, everyone was shocked to see a tunnel beneath the mat that was leading to the Raudah of the Beloved Rasool (رض).<sup>وَاللَّهُ أَعْلَمُ</sup>

Both the accursed men would dig the tunnel at the night time and would fill the water skins of soil and throw it on the graveyard. When they reached near the blessed grave, the sky shivered and a severe earthquake struck. It seemed as if the mountains

will fall out. Once their crime was proven, Sultan ordered them to be beheaded. Moreover, he got the ground dug around the blessed Raudah to the level of water and poured molten lead into it so that no one could attempt any such evil act ever again.

## Scholarly Achievements:

- \* He compiled the Ahadees namely 'Al-Fakhr-un-Noorzi'. He gathered Ahadees on the topics of justice, helping the poor for the sake of Allah Almighty and admonitions and advice, in this compilations.
- \* He also authored a book on the topic of 'Jihad'.
- \* He donated a lot of expensive books.
- \* He fixed stipends for the teachers, students and Islamic scholars.

## Constructions of Masajid:

Whatever wealth he would receive from the kings and rich people, he would spent it all on the construction of the Masajid. Once he ordered to count the Masajid of Damascus. The count came up to approximately 100.

He established Awqaf for them. Other than that, he constructed a lot of Masajid and Madaris in Damascus, Halb [Aleppo], Baalbek, Mambij, Rahba, Mosul, Hama and various other cities. Name of some of them are as follows:

- Jami Masjid of Fort Damascus.
- Masjid Atiyyah near Bab Saabriyah.
- Masjid Ramahen.
- Masjid of Bazar Saagah.
- Masjid Dar-ul-Bateekh.
- Masjid Abbasi.
- Masjid Kashk.

## Services of Zangi:

- He called the famous scholar, mathematician, and doctrinal of Khurasan, Qutbuddin and established a Madarsah 'Aadliyah for him. This was the central educational institute of the Islamic world where great personalities like Ibn Khalkharn, Salal-ud-Din Al-Qazweeni and Ibn Malik Nahvi rendered their teaching services.
- There was a well on the field of Uhud that was shut down due to a flood. He opened it up again.
- He widened the narrow markets of Hrjaaz Musqaddas.
- He completed the construction of the safety wall around Madinah Munawwarah.
- He built shrines, bridges, inns for travellers and hospitals.

## Departure:

Noor-ud-Din Mahmud, Ruler of Egypt and Syria, who united Muslims against the Crusaders, died in Damascus on 15<sup>th</sup> May 1174 at the age of 56. He had great successes in his 28 years reign. Noor-ud-Din who was a wise, determined, planned, intellectual, brave, cautious and struggling man, and made good commander and statesman choices managed to turn his state into a great sultanate in a short time thanks to these characteristics. He was a leader who had big goals and devoted himself to realise these goals. He realised one of his three biggest dreams by ending the Fatimid Caliphate in Egypt. His biggest dream, however, was to drive the crusaders away and reclaim Jerusalem for which he strived until his death. Noor-ud-Din Mahmood set even conquest of Istanbul as a third long-term goal and considered this his mission.