

**The Role and Significance of Religion in
Human Life with Particular
Emphasis on Islam**

✍ Kabuye Uthman Sulaiman*

“And hold fast, all together, by the rope which Allah (stretches out for you), and be not divided among yourselves; and remember with gratitude Allah's favour on you; for ye were enemies and He joined your hearts in love, so that by His Grace, ye became brethren; (Surat Al-Imran 3:103)

The likeness of the believers in their mutual love, mercy and compassion is that of the body; when one part of it is in pain, the rest of the body joins it in restlessness and fever.” (Narrated by Al-Bukhaari (6011) and Muslim (2586).

ABSTRACT

The thrust of this study is to discuss the role and significance of religion in general, and Islam in particular. It focuses on eight topics: Religion as a binding force, religion as a consolation factor, religion as a factor in the alleviation of poverty, religion as a basic need of man, religion as the route map, religion as the source of worldview, religion as the source of objective morality, and religion as the foundation of human civilisation. The order of these topics does not mean that any one of them is more important than the others, or less essential. While there are many studies on the role and significance of religion in human life, this is one of the few that discusses a wide spectrum of issues related to the role and significance of religion in general, and Islam in particular. The study argues, among other things, that religion is indispensable and that efforts to outlaw it are untenable. It regards accusations against religion, particularly, that it is the

* Kabuye Uthman Sulaiman is an assistant Professor, Department of General Studies, Kulliyah of Islamic Revealed Knowledge and Human Sciences, International Islamic University Malaysia.