The Clash of Civilizations Thesis and Muslims: The Search for an Alternative Paradigm

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Abstract

The clash of civilizations thesis, first formulated by Bernard Lewis and popularized by Samuel Huntington in the 1990s was, in the course of time, embraced by President George W. Bush for execution, virtually making it the cornerstone of US foreign policy during the early years of the 21st century. The situation thus created has pushed the Muslim world to the centre-stage of international politics. An in-depth analysis, however, finds the thesis to be seriously flawed. Despite differences, Islamic and Western civilizations share a number of common values such as human dignity, rule, justice, transparency and freedom of choice. The idea of a clash between these two civilizations appears to be based on a misapprehension of certain events in history and its implications for world peace are simply horrendous. Luckily there are indications that the new American administration under President Obama seems to have realized the essential flaw of the clash of civilizations thesis. The present article ventures to explore the outlines of an alternative paradigm that might pave the ground for peaceful civilizations co-existence.

Introduction

The term civilization has come into focus in current intellectual and political discourse especially since the publication of Samuel Huntington's controversial "clash of civilizations" thesis on the subject. Since Huntington's recent writings revolve around ideas that concern the future of humanity, a number of scholars have joined the debate. However, several observers of the current affairs, particularly in the mainstream media, are convinced that the

1 See, Samuel P. Huntington, "The Clash of Civilizations?," Foreign Affairs (Summer 1993). Huntington later developed the main ideas of this article into a book: The Clash of Civilizations.
The broader question of the moral justification of national and international organizations, or of any other institutions, is relevant in the context of the discussion of the role of the V.I. Lenin Institute and the National University of Ukraine. The question of the justification of national and international organizations is important in the context of the discussion of the role of the V.I. Lenin Institute and the National University of Ukraine.

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In 1992, President of the Turkish Republic, Marshal Atatürk, visited the National University of Ukraine and the V.I. Lenin Institute. The visit was an important event in the history of the two institutions. Atatürk expressed his appreciation for the work of the National University of Ukraine and the V.I. Lenin Institute. He also expressed his belief in the future of the two institutions and the role they would play in the development of society.

In his speech, Atatürk emphasized the importance of education and the development of culture. He stated that education was the key to the future of the country and that it was essential for the development of society. He also emphasized the importance of scientific research and the role of universities in promoting scientific progress.

Ataturk's visit to the National University of Ukraine and the V.I. Lenin Institute was a significant event in the history of the two institutions. It served to strengthen the ties between Turkey and Ukraine and to promote cultural and scientific cooperation between the two countries.
of the Third Realm. The Third Realm is the domain of the Third Stage, which represents the completion of the process of the Second Stage. In the Third Realm, the realm of the physical realm, there is a complete transformation of the individual into a pure energy form. This is achieved through the process of the Third Stage, which is characterized by the transformation of the individual into a pure energy form. The Third Stage is the final stage of the process of the Second Stage, and it is the stage in which the individual becomes a pure energy form.

The Third Realm is divided into two main zones: the Inner Zone and the Outer Zone. The Inner Zone is the realm of the pure energy form, and it is the realm of the individual who has completed the process of the Second Stage. The Outer Zone is the realm of the physical realm, and it is the realm of the individual who has not completed the process of the Second Stage.

The Third Realm is the realm of the Third Stage, and it is the realm of the pure energy form. The Third Realm is the realm of the Third Stage, and it is the realm of the pure energy form. The Third Realm is the realm of the Third Stage, and it is the realm of the pure energy form. The Third Realm is the realm of the Third Stage, and it is the realm of the pure energy form. The Third Realm is the realm of the Third Stage, and it is the realm of the pure energy form. The Third Realm is the realm of the Third Stage, and it is the realm of the pure energy form. The Third Realm is the realm of the Third Stage, and it is the realm of the pure energy form. The Third Realm is the realm of the Third Stage, and it is the realm of the pure energy form. The Third Realm is the realm of the Third Stage, and it is the realm of the pure energy form. The Third Realm is the realm of the Third Stage, and it is the realm of the pure energy form. The Third Realm is the realm of the Third Stage, and it is the realm of the pure energy form. The Third Realm is the realm of the Third Stage, and it is the realm of the pure energy form.
However, a greater disputation on this point was to follow. What is the hope of those who derive their information from this? They are the most likely to be prejudiced against the interference. It is possible, for it must be observed, that the preponderance of influence in the question may be in the hands of those who have the most to lose by the measure. For this reason, the question of interfering with the existing system of government, as it is understood, will be one of the most difficult to be decided. The decision, therefore, will be one of the most important in the history of the country. It is desirable that the opinion of the people should be heard by the court.

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I found a question in this document that asks, "What are the implications of globalization on the economy?"
Early Christian literature, particularly the New Testament, provides a rich source of information on the early Christian community. The Gospels, Epistles, and other writings offer insights into the beliefs, practices, and challenges faced by those who followed Jesus. The early Church had to grapple with the question of how to understand and respond to the divine presence in a world that often seemed distant and abstract. This led to the development of various forms of religious expression, including hymns, prayers, and liturgical practices.

One significant aspect of early Christian worship was the use of hymns to inspire devotion and to articulate the faith. These hymns often reflected the community's understanding of its relationship with God and its aspirations for a better world. They served as a means of connection with the divine, a way of affirming the community's identity, and a tool for teaching and instruction.

The early Church also engaged in debates about various issues, such as the role of the Holy Spirit, the nature of the resurrected body, and the significance of the Eucharist. These discussions were crucial in shaping the early Christian community's understanding of its faith and in defining its relationship with other religious groups. The debates were not always easy or harmonious, and they sometimes led to divisions and schisms within the Church.

Despite these challenges, the early Christian community remained committed to its faith and to the mission of spreading the gospel to all nations. Through the power of the Spirit, the Church was able to overcome obstacles and to grow in numbers and influence. The story of the early Church is a testament to the enduring power of faith and the ability of communities to respond creatively to the spiritual needs of their time.

As we reflect on the early Christian experience, we are reminded of the importance of community and of the need for ongoing dialogue and reflection in the face of new challenges. The lessons of the early Church are as relevant today as they were two millennia ago, and they continue to inspire and challenge us to be faithful in our own contexts.
In the conclusion, a need to draw attention to a few key points in understanding the crucial nature of these events can be expressed. First, the historical context of such events is essential for people of various backgrounds to understand the complexity of the situation. Second, the role of international organizations in providing aid and resources is crucial. Finally, the impact of such events on the local economy and infrastructure must be assessed. These points highlight the importance of collective action and international cooperation in addressing global challenges.
A Common World Between Us and You

To make it happen, it should start with a genuine interest in the other person and a willingness to learn about their culture and background. This can be challenging, especially if you come from different backgrounds or have limited exposure to the other culture. However, it is possible to overcome these barriers by being open-minded and respectful of differences.

One of the most effective ways to start is by asking questions. This can help you gain a deeper understanding of the other person's perspective and values. It also helps to show that you are interested in their culture and willing to learn.

Another important aspect of creating a common world is by sharing your own experiences and values. This can help to bridge the gap between you and the other person and make it easier to connect on a deeper level.

In conclusion, creating a common world between us and you requires a genuine interest, open-mindedness, and a willingness to learn and share. By focusing on these aspects, it is possible to overcome cultural barriers and build meaningful relationships.
To ensure the protection of all people...

The information provided seems to be very much about the minds of many people.

For the mind, the importance of maintaining consciousness and mental well-being is crucial. The proliferation of information and the constant exposure to data can be overwhelming. The need for clarity and focus in decision-making processes is paramount. However, the constant influx of information can lead to a state of cognitive overload, making it difficult to process and retain information effectively.

In this context, it is essential to develop strategies to maintain mental clarity and focus. Techniques such as mindfulness meditation, deep breathing exercises, and regular breaks can help in managing cognitive overload. Additionally, prioritizing tasks and setting realistic goals can aid in achieving a balanced mental state.

In conclusion, the importance of maintaining mental well-being cannot be overstated. By implementing strategies to manage cognitive overload, individuals can enhance their cognitive function and decision-making abilities, ultimately leading to a more balanced and productive life.
Since the Obama administration has already revised the policy of the clash of civilizations and has extended conciliatory gestures toward the Muslim world, Muslim leadership should respond positively. Civilizational values demand free, fair, and transparent engagement. There are numerous issues to undertake in dealing between the two camps: the Afghan-Pakistan question which is related to the question of Kashmir, the Palestinian question and so on. However, the first two questions are the oldest unresolved issues in the history of the United Nations. Since President Obama has mentioned Afghan-Pakistan as the number one problem in his Cairo speech, we shall first consider the Afghan-Pakistan question.

Foreign troops are operating in Afghanistan on the basis of the plea that they are there to assist and stabilize a democratic Afghan government and to restore the rule of law in the country. But mounting casualties both among the local civilians and NATO troops demand a quick withdrawal of all foreign troops from the territory. An immediate withdrawal of NATO troops from Afghanistan, however, is likely to create lawlessness and instability in the country. Is there any other mechanism to ensure Afghanistan's stability other than prolongation of NATO troops' stay in the country? Could NATO troops be replaced by other troops? Could the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) play an effective role in finding a way out of the current impasse in Afghanistan? In our opinion, deployment of troops from OIC countries might be useful mainly because OIC troops would know Afghan culture better than NATO troops. OIC countries such as Turkey (also a NATO member), Malaysia, Indonesia, and Bangladesh might be more acceptable to Afghanistan to assist them in the process of restoring order in the country. Some of these countries have already gained a degree of legitimacy in their peacekeeping role in various parts of the world under the UN mandate. However, OIC currently doesn't have a military mandate, but creating one should not be difficult if the US and its coalition partners were to request it to do so. In fact, empowering the OIC would emphasize the point of Muslim self-evaluation of the conflict, whether or not the Qu'ranic guidelines would legitimate continued bloody conflict between two Muslim groups or acts of terrorism? Also, the withdrawal of the US from Afghan affairs would definitely improve the image of the US in the sight of many Muslims, leading to better Muslim-American relations. In other words, this will help achieve mutual trust which is essential for a peaceful civilizational coexistence.

Although President Obama has relegated the question of Palestine to a secondary position in defining the relationship between the US and the Muslim world. For most Muslims, however, the question of Palestine remains firm in the relationship between them and the US. Obama administration would do well to make some progress in this respect. This would require international observers with proper peacekeeping mandate under the auspices of the UN to be deployed in zones between Israelis and Palestinians, between Israel and Lebanon, and between Israel and Syria. Moreover, it also requires that Israel be persuaded to respect the resolutions and the presence of UN agencies in Israel and Palestine, and that building settlements and housing complexes in the occupied territories be halted. Such a process would also improve the international situation. However, in one's regret, nothing of that sort seems to be happening.

Mutual trust between the members of the two civilizations depends on honesty and transparency in dealing with international issues. These common values of both civilizations and yet the Bush Administration, in the wake of the events of September 11, 2001, launched a "war on terror" without producing its evidence regarding terror threats. As a result, quite a few people do not trust the official versions of terror threats. Opinion polls in Muslim countries indicate strong resentment to the official version of 9/11. On the other hand, terror activities since September 11, 2001 seem to be on the increase every year. These serious threats to international law and order must be addressed immediately with elaborate participation of government bureaucrats, policy-makers, and think tanks on the basis of accepted methods and values.

Human rights and human dignity must be recognized universally, both on paper but also in practice. Many Muslims identify double standards by the number of Western governments in their treatment of Israel as opposed to Iraq and several other Muslim and non-Muslim countries. Both Iraq and Palestine have violated UN resolutions but only the former has been punished by the international body while Israel has been allowed to flout the world body with utter impunity.

In order to better comprehend the situation obtaining in the Middle East, Muslims should also develop a deeper understanding of the political system in Western countries. Muslims need to understand that Western democracy sometimes allow lobby groups to campaign for specific issues and may take government's support even though they may not go through the legislative process. To be specific, the policies toward Israel are often supported by significant sections of public opinion in those countries. Muslims should also appreciate the fact that there are millions of people in the West who, while they are not Muslims, yet they do care for justice and humanity.
understanding by humanity in a world where human dignity is not respected. Therefore, any action that might harm the world's population should be a matter of grave concern for the people and governments involved.

The continuation of the abuse of children in the world continues to be a matter of grave concern for the people and governments involved. Governments should be aware of the need for laws and policies that protect children from abuse.

The protection of children is a matter of grave concern for all people and governments involved. Governments should be aware of the need for laws and policies that protect children from abuse. The protection of children is a matter of grave concern for all people and governments involved. Governments should be aware of the need for laws and policies that protect children from abuse.