

THE ISLAMIC DRESS CODE

WITH THE NAME OF ALLAH, MOST GRACIOUS, MOST MERCIFUL.

Deen-al-Islam places great stress on cleanliness, dress, appearance and modesty.

The dress code applies to both men and women.

It is meant to develop in us a strong sense of 'haya', i.e., shame or shyness.

Islam is concerned with the human being as a whole and so lays down laws for our total way of life.

This includes dress, appearance and modesty in public.

Many Muslims do not follow this Islamic code for the following reasons:

- 1) They want to move along with the times since they find the Islamic dress code 'backward'.
- 2) They want to look 'smart' for obvious reasons.

Remember, we must learn to please Allah (swt.).

By following others it becomes easy for us to lose our Islamic identity.

Also know that our Nabie (saw.) disapproved of men dressing like women and women dressing like men.

Hence it is important that we honour and uphold the Islamic dress code.

Now take glimpse into Sura al-Ar'af (ch. 7): verse 26:-

"O you children of Adam! We have bestowed raiment upon you to cover your shame, as well as to be an adornment to you. But the raiment of righteousness, - that is the best. Such are the signs of Allah, that they may receive admonition!"

From this verse we find that the Islamic dress code performs more than one function:

- A) It acts as a protection.
- B) It serves as a form of adornment or beautification.
- C) It also has a moral function.

The above verse stresses the importance of taqwa, i.e. the fear of displeasing Allah (S.W.T.).
In other words, good behaviour should be coupled with the Islamic dress code!

Furthermore, the verse addresses all of humanity as no community can afford to
Have its people soaking in immoral behaviour!

Worksheet

1) Does the Islamic dress code apply to both men and women?

2) Why are some Muslims not keen on following the Islamic dress code?

3) Does the Holy Quraan prescribe laws for our total way of life?

4) Can any community afford immoral behaviour? Offer a reason for your answer.
