

# TANZEEM-E-ISLAMI



Striving for the Law of Allah, on the Land of Allah

## PERSPECTIVE

The online journal newsletter of Tanzeem-e-Islami

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**PATRON: Ameer of Tanzeem-e-Islami, Mohtaram Shujaiddin Shaikh**

**'PERSPECTIVE' is a trend-setting journal issued by Tanzeem-e-Islami that focuses on a candid commentary on the current national and international issues, in the light of the Qur'an and the Sunnah.**

**A blend that gives Muslims an insight into the events of the past, those happenings at present and the Signs of things to come...**

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Striving for the Law of Allah, on the Land of Allah

## PERSPECTIVE

The Online Journal of Tanzeem-e-Islami

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**Patron:** Shujauddin Shaikh  
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**From the Qur'an**

O believers! Fear Allah, and give up outstanding interest if you are [true] believers.

If you do not, then beware of a war with Allah and His Messenger! But if you repent, you may retain your principal—neither inflicting nor suffering harm.

(*Surah Al-Baqarah: 278-279*)

**Hadith**

Jabir ibn Abdallah (رضي الله عنه) reported:

The Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) addressed the people on his Farewell Pilgrimage and said: "All of the riba of Jahiliyyah is annulled. The first riba that I annul is our riba, that accruing to Abbas ibn Abd al-Muttalib [the Prophet's uncle]; it is being cancelled completely."

(*Sahih Muslim*)

Jabir ibn Abdallah (رضي الله عنه) reported:

The Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) cursed the receiver and the payer of interest, the one who records it and the two witnesses to the transaction and said: "They are all alike [in guilt]."

(*Sahih Muslim*)

## { EDITORIAL }

All praise is due to Allah (SWT), and peace & blessing on his noble Messengers (AS), in particular, on the last of them all the blessed Prophet Muhammad (SAAW).

Pakistan has experienced 'plentiful' economic challenges throughout its history, with short periods of shallow growth interspersed with long periods of devastating crisis, to the stage, today, where we are at the brink of economic meltdown. In the current issue of Perspective, we'll delve into some detail of the reasons behind our economic woes.

In Karachi, on 1 July 1948, Quaid-e-Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah enunciated the principles that should govern Pakistan's Economic Policy, in his speech at the opening ceremony of the State Bank of Pakistan, thus:

"The adoption of Western economic theory and practice will not help us in achieving our goal of creating a happy and contented people. We must work our destiny in our own way and present to the world an economic system based on the true Islamic concept of equality of manhood and social justice."

Ref: [https://www.sbp.org.pk/about/history/h\\_moments.htm](https://www.sbp.org.pk/about/history/h_moments.htm)

It is unfortunate that not only did Pakistan not follow the policy guidelines provided by the founder of the nation, but our nation became a hotbed of riba-based loans (interest-laden-borrowing), corruption and economic mismanagement. It is true that some of the economic challenges can be traced back to Pakistan's independence in 1947. The country inherited a weak industrial base and limited infrastructure from British colonial rule. India delayed in giving us our share after independence and in some instances refused to pay altogether. However, all things considered Pakistan did reasonably well as a nascent state as the initial economic policies focused on import substitution industrialization, aiming to promote domestic industries and reduce dependence on imports.

However, by the 1960s, Pakistan faced balance of payments crises due to over-reliance on imports for industrial goods and insufficient export diversification. There is strong evidence to suggest that the country was steered deliberately towards this deep gorge, as the economic and finance gurus of the country dragged Pakistan to seek assistance from international financial institutions like the IMF and World Bank. From that point on, Pakistan became a hostage to the IMF and its likes, trapped under a mountain of riba-based loans. On one hand, the common people were crushed under the weight of inflation, while on the other hand, the privileges of the elite constantly and unjustly increased.

One of the most significant economic crises occurred in the 1990s. Political instability, mismanagement of resources, and corruption contributed to a severe balance of payments crisis and the mammoth interest on debt accrued over a period lead to a near-default on external debt payments. Pakistan sought IMF loans multiple times during this period, implementing the IMF's structural adjustment programs (SAPs) that included austerity measures (for the masses alone), privatization of state-owned enterprises (for kickbacks), and currency devaluations (devastation of the Pakistani rupee against the US dollar). Consequently, economic downturns led to social hardships and increased poverty levels. The structural weaknesses in our economy including inefficient tax collection and low investment in human capital were also amplified. The energy sector faced one crisis after another due to insufficient investment in energy infrastructure, circular debt in the power sector (caused by IPPs), and mismanagement leading to extremely frequent power outages, crippling industries and affecting daily life. The energy crisis, coupled with corruption and mismanagement not only hindered industrial productivity but also deterred

(continued on page 2)

foreign direct investment and contributed to inflationary pressures due to increased costs of production and transportation. Although Pakistan did respond to the COVID-19 pandemic of 2020 fairly well, yet the pandemic itself further exacerbated economic pressures, causing disruptions in supply chains, reduced economic activity, and increased healthcare expenditures, leading to Pakistan grappling with persistent fiscal deficits, high inflation rates, and rising public debt levels. Initiatives to address economic challenges including austerity measures, tax reforms, and infrastructure development projects such as the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) were all plagued by lack of transparency.

In 2024, Pakistan's economy is facing a multitude of challenges. The country, with a population exceeding 241 million and an estimated growth rate of just 2.1 percent, is at a critical crossroads. The World Bank has projected Pakistan's economic growth at 1.7% for the ongoing fiscal year 2023-24 and 2.4% in the fiscal year 2024-25. From a purely macroeconomic perspective, the first major issue is the threat of growing poverty. Poor policy choices, riba-based loans and corruption combined with a series of shocks—COVID-19, the 2022 catastrophic floods, and adverse global conditions—have caused growth to slow, poverty to increase, and brought the country to the brink of debt default. Secondly, human development outcomes remain at extremely low levels, while per capita income growth has been declining in the face of low productivity. Increased unemployment has steered droves of young Pakistanis to immigrate to other countries leading to brain drain. Thirdly, lack of finance improvements in service delivery and human capital development hit home hard because of the ever-shrinking fiscal space. Currently, tax collection remains around 10 % of GDP, which has been the case for decades. The conundrum is that the rich are not taxed enough and the poor have to bear almost all of the brunt in the form of indirect taxation. There are various privileged sectors, such as real estate, large scale agriculture, the capital markets and, even perks and pensions of the ruling elite, that remain undertaxed. Not to mention that global energy prices are volatile, hindering indigenous and foreign direct investment, while climate change has caused chaos for an agriculture-based economy such as Pakistan.

Pakistan has been a victim of the 'rule of the thief' for 76 years - Kleptocracy. Kleptocracy is a term derived from the Greek words for 'thief' and 'rule', is a form of government corruption where high-level political power is abused to enable a network of ruling elites to steal public funds for their own private gain. In Pakistan, this issue is deeply entrenched and ever pervasive. The elites, comprising generals, judges, bureaucrats, politicians, big landowners and capitalists (businessmen) exploit the country's resources, obviously at the expense of the masses. This has been a major reason for the persistent economic instability and a growing debt crisis. The colonial state machinery implemented by the British government during its rule in the sub-continent was never reshaped. This has allowed the elites of Pakistan to plunder the country's resources for their own gain. Corruption, is rife, today, more than ever. Despite laws against corruption, enforcement is weak, and fraudulent activities are often normalized. The Pandora Papers exposed how prominent members of the government, military generals, businessmen, bureaucrats and their families moved millions (probably billions) of dollars through offshore companies. One challenge lies in breaking this cycle of corruption and ensuring transparency and accountability in governance.

The brutal rise in the prices of electricity, petrol, sugar, medicine and almost all items of basic necessity have gored the masses already miserable by the rampant inflation. The current wheat crisis in an agricultural country like Pakistan is appalling. It has been revealed by official sources that despite the abundant reserves of wheat in local warehouses during the previous caretaker regime, wheat was imported from Ukraine and sold to flour mills at extremely high prices, essentially stabbing Pakistani farmers in the back. Currently, the government is avoiding purchasing wheat from farmers at official rates, denying them fair compensation for their hard work and failing to cover the costs incurred in the production of crops. This has led to widespread protests by farmers against the government. However, it is extremely unfortunate that instead of addressing legitimate demands of farmers and their grievances, the government is resorting to crackdowns and arrests. The reality is that the untimely and unnecessary import of wheat, which has caused the worst injustice to the farmers of Pakistan, is feared to have negative effects on the national economy and wheat production for many years to come, as the farmer will avoid sowing wheat. Protests against inflation and plundering by the ruling elite have recently been witnessed in Azad Kashmir too. It appears that under the guise of a well-thought-out plan, the right to live is being taken away from the people.

The reality is that the harsh terms of agreements made with the IMF to obtain riba-based loans have trapped the nation to a point where we can no longer make decisions in our own national interest and for the welfare of the masses. Moreover, for 76 years, the elite have been plundering the national treasury and resources without any remorse, but no one dares to hold them accountable for their transgressions. It is necessary to take steps at both the foreign and domestic levels to make Pakistan completely self-reliant. The exploitative economic system based on riba and corruption must be uprooted from its core. Austerity must be perused as a national policy, with necessary sacrifices starting from the elites and state institutions. There is an urgent need to ensure that Pakistan is freed from the clutches of IMF and other international institutions, and that our government fully protects the interests of its people.

The reality is that if the just economic system of Islam is established in the country, the fundamental problems faced by the people will be solved, and progress will finally be made towards achieving the true purpose of the creation of Pakistan. However, If the war against Allah (*SWT*) and His Messenger (*SAAW*), is not ended, then we would have to face woeful consequences both in this world and the Hereafter.

Signing off...

Raza ul Haq (Editor)

## Germany Buries the Evidence of Complicity in Gaza Genocide: Nicaragua Exposes It

By John Perry

In the second week of April, Dr Ghassan Abu-Sittah, the British-Palestinian war surgeon, gave his first address as the newly-appointed rector of Glasgow University, chosen in recognition of his work at al-Shifa hospital in Gaza. The following day he flew to Berlin, where he had been invited to address a major conference about Palestine. On arrival he was taken away by police, interrogated for several hours and eventually told he had to leave Germany and wouldn't be allowed to return until at least the end of April. Any attempt to speak to the conference via Zoom could result in a fine or even a year's prison sentence. By the time he was released he couldn't have taken part in the conference anyway, since it had been already invaded by at least 900 police and closed down. Berlin's mayor said that it was 'intolerable' that the conference was taking place at all. Speaking about his experience afterwards, Dr Abu-Sittah referred to the fact that Germany had – also last week – been defending itself at the International Court of Justice against charges by Nicaragua that it is an accomplice to genocidal war. 'This is exactly what accomplices to a crime do' he said. 'They bury the evidence and they silence or harass or intimidate the witnesses'. Watching the live feed of Germany's lawyers at the Hague a few days earlier had been an odd experience. They gave the impression of being affronted that Germany had been accused of such crimes, especially by a small country which, they argued, had no stake in the case. Also, Israel could not yet be said to be committing genocide, because the ICJ has not yet determined the case brought against it by South Africa, which Germany had supported Israel in contesting. Because Israel was not party to the new case, it should simply be thrown out.

Some research might have given them a better appreciation of Nicaragua's credentials to bring the case. Its mutual solidarity with Palestine goes back a long way. It also has more experience at the Hague than Germany, including its pioneer action against the US in 1984, when it won compensation of £17 billion (that was never paid) for the damage done to Nicaragua by the US-funded Contra war and the mining of its ports. Carlos Argüello, who led the case last week and many of its previous cases, said that Nicaragua offered its expertise to Palestine and it had already joined in with South Africa's action. It had decided to target Germany, the second biggest supplier of arms to Israel, because the US, the biggest supplier, is outside the court's jurisdiction on this issue. Argüello explains that the object is to create a precedent with wider application – that countries must take responsibility for the consequences of their arms sales to avoid them being used in breach of international law. Germany's argument that legal action cannot proceed before South Africa's earlier case is resolved is nonsense, since countries have an obligation to prevent genocide, not merely wait until it is proven to be happening. In any case, Germany must have been aware of the numerous warnings from senior UN officials of the imminence of genocide in Gaza, which began as early as October 9th.

Germany claimed that it has a "robust legal framework" in place to ensure its arms exports are not misused, and that sales to Israel are now restricted to non-lethal equipment. But any supplies being sent to a genocidal army are helping to sustain its criminal actions, Nicaragua replied. Much was made of Germany's historic obligations due to its Nazi history, but Argüello argues that these should relate to the Jewish people, not the Israeli state. He adds that Germany's past might also oblige it to help prevent genocide wherever it might occur. Its government spokesman on the South Africa case had claimed that Germany is 'particularly committed to the Genocide Convention'. The economist Yanis Varoufakis was also banned from speaking in Berlin. He planned to conclude his speech by telling German politicians that 'they have covered themselves in shame' through their unflinching support for Israel's atrocities. Carlos Argüello echoes this point when asked whether a decision by the ICJ can actually be enforced: we have to mobilise shame, he says, '...that's the hope with this. Perhaps being too idealistic, but it's the only weapon we have'.

Courtesy: <https://www.counterpunch.org/2024/04/18/germany-buries-the-evidence-of-complicity-in-genocide-nicaragua-exposes-it/>

## 'Prejudice, Islamophobia': Free speech fears as UK redefines extremism

By Aina Khan

The United Kingdom government's new definition of "extremism", touted as a bid to tackle rising Islamophobia and anti-Semitism in the aftermath of Israel's war on Gaza, has ignited fierce debate across the political spectrum, with critics on all sides claiming it will erode freedom of speech and civil liberties. Amid heightened domestic tensions since October 7, he also named several prominent groups advocating for Muslims' civil rights, including the Muslim Council of Britain, the Muslim Association of Britain – which he described as the UK affiliate of the Muslim Brotherhood, Cage, and Muslim Engagement and Development (MEND). "The fact that there are immediately Muslim organizations who are labelled as ['extremist'] tells you exactly what this piece of legislation is intended for," said Imran Khan QC, the British lawyer who rose to prominence representing the family of Stephen Lawrence, whose racist murder in 1993 exposed institutional racism in the Metropolitan Police. Organizations deemed "extreme" under the new definition will be blacklisted, made ineligible for government funding, and they will be banned from meeting with ministers. "What is the starting point of 'extreme views'?" said Khan, who has worked on numerous "extremism" and "terrorism" cases following the July 2005 bombings in London, and represented surviving families of the Grenfell Tower disaster. "The classic example that's always used is about [Nelson] Mandela being a freedom fighter in one instance, and a terrorist in another," he told Al Jazeera. "It's based on prejudice, Islamophobia, racism, and it will be those sections of society who are not able to protect themselves, who are going to be subject to further prosecution and persecution."

Britain is home to a sizeable Muslim minority of about four million people, or 6 percent of the population. The last definition of extremism in the UK was drafted in 2011. Individuals or groups were seen to be "extremist" if they demonstrated "vocal or active opposition to British fundamental values, including democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and the mutual respect and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs". The government now says extremism is the "promotion or advancement of an ideology based on violence, hatred or intolerance", and that groups with the following aims will be considered extremist:

1. negate or destroy the fundamental rights and freedoms of others
2. undermine, overturn or replace the UK's system of liberal parliamentary democracy and democratic rights
3. or intentionally create a permissive environment for others to achieve the results in 1 and 2.

The development comes in the wake of weekly national protests held across the UK in solidarity with Palestinians, as Israel's war on Gaza, which has to date killed about 33,800 people, rages on. Pro-Palestine rallies in the UK have been riddled with claims that they play host to anti-Semitism. Former Home Secretary Suella Braverman lamented what she called "hate marches" in November after raising the possibility of banning them. Gove has previously described those attending pro-Palestinian demonstrations as "good-hearted people" who were "lending credence to extremists". Amnesty International, Liberty, and Friends of the Earth warned that the latest definition of extremism was too broad. Other critics say it unfairly targets groups such as Palestine Action, which has targeted the UK's subsidiary factories and offices of Elbit Systems – Israel's largest arms manufacturer which supplies the majority of land and air munitions used by the Israeli army.

Courtesy: *Al Jazeera*





## Press Releases issued by Tanzeem-e-Islami

13 May 2024

### The silence of Muslim countries on the brutal Israeli attack on Rafah is extremely shameful. The Zionists are bent on erasing Gaza from existence.

**Lahore (PR):** This was said by the Ameer of Tanzeem e Islami, **Shujauddin Shaikh**, in a statement. The Ameer said that Israel has been relentlessly bombing Gaza for the past seven months, resulting in the martyrdom of a large number of children, women, and elderly. Almost 1.5 million Muslims from Gaza have been constantly pushed towards southern Rafah through savage bombings as part of an insidious Israeli plan, and now Israel has initiated a major ground and air assault on Rafah. The reality is that Israel has complete support, even assistance, from America and Western European countries in this genocide of the Muslims of Gaza. The Ameer said that the state of fear and cowardice of Muslim countries is such that they are unwilling to raise even their voices against the escalating Israeli cruelty. Many Muslim countries have not yet severed ties with Israel, and the situation for other Muslim countries is such that they are strengthening the illegitimate Zionist state either through covert aid or criminal silence. Humanitarian atrocities, rather crimes, against the people of Palestine by the Israelis have led to ongoing protests in several universities in Western countries, but it is a matter of shame for Muslim countries that there has been no significant protest against Israel or in support of Palestinians in any major university. In the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the government and other state institutions have shamefully shown criminal aloofness to the plight of the Muslims of Gaza. Moreover, it is a matter of great shame and sorrow that our universities are still engaged in Hindu rituals, music concerts, and secular/liberal activities, yet there is no visible effort for solidarity with the Muslims of Gaza. The truth is that this rebellion against Allah (SWT) and His Messenger (SAAW) has brought disgrace and humiliation upon the Muslim Ummah today. If the rulers, state institutions, and the masses of Muslim countries do not repent and abandon this rebellious path at individual and collective levels, and do not take concrete steps against Israel in support of the oppressed Muslims of Gaza through diplomatic, financial, and military means, they will face more ignominy in this world and be held accountable as criminals in the Hereafter. May Allah grant victory to the Muslims of Gaza and grant the Muslim Ummah real faith. Ameen!

12 May 2024

### The attempts to impose the shameless Western culture in the Islamic Republic of Pakistan are absolutely unacceptable.

**Lahore (PR):** This was said by the Ameer of Tanzeem e Islami, **Shujauddin Shaikh**, in a statement. The Ameer questioned that how could an American music band comprising homosexuals be allowed to perform, under government patronage, in a country created on the basis of Islam. Moreover, it has been revealed that this band, openly promoting promiscuity, had benefaction of the US State Department and the American Embassy in Pakistan, proving that this entire episode was part of the project to promote the Satanic LGBTQ+ agenda in Pakistan. Thankfully, due to strong protests from religious circles and the masses, the government and universities had to shut down this demonic game. The reality is that the Western social and familial systems has been completely ruined, and now they are targeting our social and familial systems through social engineering programs and other deceptive slogans, aiming to establish a shameless society in Pakistan. Under this project, slogans like 'Dance for Education' are being used shamelessly, and competitions of music are being organized, under state patronage, in the largest province of the country. In a major university in Islamabad, Hindu festivals like Holi are being celebrated under government patronage, while a person has the nerve to petition the district administration of Abbottabad to allow the opening of a club for homosexuals. Clearly, a concerted effort is being made to misguide our youth, illustrated by the fact that instead of rallies to support the rights of Palestinians, carnivals of malevolence are being organized in our universities. Whereas, the Jews and Hindus are carrying out mass murder of Muslims in Israel and India. The Ameer said that Islam desires a modest and dignified society and heavily emphasizes upright and modest deeds and behavior in Islamic teachings. The Holy Quran commands believers, both men and women, to protect their gazes and private parts and warns of severe humiliation in this world and punishment in the Hereafter for those who spread obscenity among believers. A Hadith states that modesty and faith are intertwined, where one is given up, the other is taken away as well. Therefore, it is imperative for the government and the masses to take practical steps at the individual and collective levels to curb the spread of obscenity and profanity in society and to promote a culture of modesty, chastity, and integrity in Pakistan, so that we may succeed in this world and the Hereafter.

3 May 2024

### All those responsible for the wheat crisis and the violation of farmers' rights in the country should be awarded exemplary punishment.

**Lahore (PR):** This was said by the Ameer of Tanzeem e Islami, **Shujauddin Shaikh**, in a statement. The Ameer expressed deep concern over the current terrible wheat crisis in an agricultural country like Pakistan and stated that it has been revealed by official sources that despite the abundant reserves of wheat in local warehouses during the previous caretaker regime, wheat was imported from Ukraine and sold to flour mills at extremely high prices, essentially stabbing Pakistani farmers in the back. Currently, the government is avoiding purchasing wheat from farmers at official rates, denying them fair compensation for their hard work and failing to cover the costs incurred in the production of crops. This has led to widespread protests by farmers against the government. However, it is extremely unfortunate and shameful that instead of addressing legitimate demands of farmers and their grievances, the government is resorting to crackdowns and arrests. The reality is that the untimely and unnecessary import of wheat, which has caused the worst injustice to the farmers of Pakistan, is feared to have negative effects on the national economy and wheat production for many years to come, as the farmer will avoid sowing wheat. History bears witness that in Pakistan, individuals involved in corruption on a large scale have always enjoyed the patronage of the government and the elite, making it impossible to bring such national criminals to justice and duly punish them. Instead, they are given free rein to commit more corruption. It appears that a well-thought-out plan is underway to push an agricultural country like Pakistan towards famine. The Ameer said that the need of the hour is to uproot the prevalent malevolent system based on interest, corruption, and the interests of landlords and capitalists. The reality is that if the Islamic system of social justice is enforced in the country, then the basic problems of the masses will be resolved, all laborers including farmers will get their due rights, and all criminals, big and small, will be awarded exemplary punishment.