

U.S. Hegemony: Gap between U.S. and the Muslim World

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ABSTRACT

The new international political order came with the demise of Soviet Union in 1991 and U.S. emerged as a sole hegemon either having alliances with other strong militarily and economically states or the states which are not in the alliances but are not a threat to U.S.'s power. The incident of 9/11 had further paved the way for U.S. to project its supremacy and strength over weak states and maintained the status of super power. As a result of having that much of power, U.S. started interfering into other states in domestic as well as in foreign issues. The relations between the U.S. and Muslims are decreasing. After the incident of September 11 and the Iraq war and latter the Afghanistan war, the world population both in the U.S and in the Muslim world is keener to stop violence. whereas their relations reached at its lowest and Muslim states trying are to bridge the gap between the U.S and the Muslims. The ideological aspirations are gradually growing into a wider conflict, mainly exaggerated by the publication of materials deemed offensive by Muslims and deemed expression of free thought by the U.S. Under these conditions, it's the need of the time to encourage mutual respect, understanding between social, cultural and religious values of each group which is important for bridging the gap between the U.S and Muslims. The clash of civilization and major reasons of differences between Muslims and U.S are briefly described in this paper.

KEY WORDS: U.S., Unilateralism, Hegemony, Muslims, Unipolar

Introduction

The well being and betterment of humanity has always been ideals to all ideologies of the world. No ideology calls for violence and killing of the innocent people in the name of religion. Therefore, it is call of the day to communicate a message to human beings with a document containing facts, not myths. There has been no ideology on the earth that believes in perishing humanity. The end of the Cold War gave rise to the United States to rule the world unilaterally but the communication revolution divided the centre of power among Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, England, France, Germany, Italy, Russia, and the U.S. Europe

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wisely read the contemporary world and made a European Union to adopt itself in the age of globalization. China became a member of the World Trade Organization in November 2001 and started exporting its consumer goods more to America as compare to any other part of the world by minimizing its imports. The Muslims remained isolated even with their big platform in the form of Organization of Islamic Conference. The nuclear detonation by India in May 1998 forced Pakistan to follow suit, and it diverted the attention the West towards Muslims. Economic and political sanctions were imposed upon Pakistan unilaterally. Although same type of sanctions were imposed on India also but she was bestowed with civil nuclear deal in 2008.

Since 9/11, it is the Muslim community that is facing great challenges in the world over. Afghanistan and Pakistan has been directly under terrorists attack since 9/11. The U.S. has been a country that is considered a land of opportunities. Since 9/11, it is painstakingly thought that the U.S. has been against the interests of Muslims. First, it was alleged by the U.S. that terrorist act of 9/11 was done by Muslims especially by Al-Qaeda. Second, U.S. targeted Muslims after terrorist acts done wherever in the world. President Obama government is tryind to review its policy towards the Muslims. The President of the U.S. gave his first interview to a Qatar based Muslim channel Al-Jazeera. In June 2009, he addressed Muslims of the world in the University of Cairo, Egypt. These were the pragmatic efforts by the U.S. President to achieve the objectives of peace and democracy for humanity by making an end of ideological based differences. But after that no solid work is done in order to bridge gap between Muslims and U.S. Muslims are also not practicing their lives according to the true spirit of Islamic ideology and some Muslims are also culprits. It is the duty of Muslim Umma now that it should welcome this gesture of affection and co-operation of U.S. to make this planet peaceful and democratic.

This article is an attempt to harmonize good relations between Muslims of the world and the U.S. It will bring both the U.S. and the Muslims close to each other. It is a document based on explicit facts and figures, providing a base to dissolve all kinds of misunderstandings and misperceptions between two communities that are suffering after 9/11. Therefore, it would be an interesting treatise to resolve the ongoing conflict between the U.S. and the Muslims. After 9/11 incident ideologies of the world came at the front after a statement of the George Walker Bush, considering America under attack as a result of a 'crusade.' Therefore, it is call of the day, in this age of globalization that we must get together to have peaceful environment for our present and next generations. True democracy is a source to find its end product without indulging in any war. The emphasis is on the theoretical frame work, regarding international environment after the Second World War, that how a bipolar world was transformed into cold war and finally the emergence of U.S as a hegemon of the world has been discussed. It provides a brief story of Soviet disintegration owing to Afghan intervention. The New World Order and its implications also came under discussion.

Emergence of the United States as a Sole World Power

Profound structural changes have been seen at the end of Cold War in the international politics. All the strength and power was concentrated in the West, especially the U.S. emerged as a sole power, which meant that the U.S. would enjoy supremacy of power having no rivals to counter after the collapse of Soviet Union in 1991 as no country could match the U.S. The economy grew and the stock market boomed.

After the Second World War, a period of U.S. hegemony began. Its power has increased over the period of time, especially since the end of Cold War after which it's in the international environment. In the post cold war world, the U.S. has only rival, the Soviet Union broke up and the U.S. was left as the sole super power managed to grasp control all over the world and has further enhanced its power that even more than before. U.S. became the strongest country, having most powerful military and largest economy in the world. History witnesses to it that there has never been a powerful country as the U.S. was. Then U.S. has had maintained a uni- polar world order, a world that was completely under its hegemony and prevented any other country to emerge as a challenger capable of competing with it on an equal footing.

As a result of this new world order, till now militarily no country has been able to challenge the power and hegemony of the U.S. and U.S. has been fully enjoying the status of the unipolar power of the world before it has indulge itself into Iraq and Afghanistan war. Only the colossal upheaval of World War II proved sufficient to sustain U.S. on to the whole world (Rueter, 1994: 4). Since the mid of twentieth century, the U.S. has assumed the hegemonic power. Before that in the nineteenth century, Britain played that role. The U.S. was the strongest power economically and militarily after 1945 and the U.S. benefited from the international environment as all other powers in the past got advantages from the environment. But the U.S. has far greater power than any other state had ever possessed since the Roman Empire. It was for the first time that a single state had that much of wealth and power which was a great support behind the U.S. global policies. After the World War II, the U.S. had about half of the world's wealth, strongest military, having most developed regions and were controlling world's energy and other reserves. The U.S. had long been the World's industrial power (Chomsky, 1997: 83). It had domination in technologies, in aggregate economic out put, in energy production and in food production in the whole world. So that the U.S. had an influence in every field. "Since the 1880s, America has had hegemonic ambitions to shape the development of the international political and economic systems.....first as a junior partner of the Great Britain and then in its own right as the world's military and technological power with the leadership that proved key to defeating the Axis of powers and setting forth the ideological vision of the post war framework of capitalist international relations managed by a system of multilateralism under the U.S. management. The industrialized capitalist

nations regarded the U.S. as a hegemon, one that managed an economic system in which all major players benefited including former axis nations and provided a military umbrella that offered security without burden” (<http://www.globalpolicy.org/wtc/analysis/2002/0926hege.htm> Retrieved on 5-7-2010). When the Second World War ended the U.S. was an economic power, able to rule as the World’s hegemon having atomic bombs and the only strongest power in both military and economic terms.

At the end of the World War II, U.S. was the only state having nuclear weapons (Haftendon, 1993: 24). The capitalist ideology made U.S., the strongest power against the communist world. U.S. had intervened into the internal affairs of many countries in order to protect them against the evils of communism. By exploiting the Soviet Union threat the U.S. intervened into many other countries and acquired more and more influence. In the Reagan era as well as in the Bush era U.S. asserted more and more influence in world politics. The reforms started in the Soviet Union by Mikhail Gorbachev culminated in the fall of Berlin Wall in 1989 and then the Gulf War of 1991 followed Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in 1990, portrayed U.S. victory over communism. From the Second World War U.S. emerged as the strongest world power, to arrange an international order to its own best advantage (Rogers, 199: 1).

Uni-polar Hegemony

After the collapse of Soviet Union, the world had become uni-polar, this impression had gained popularity. Charles Krauthammer gave the concept of unipolarity and he labeled post-cold war world as a unipolar world (Kanwal, 1999: 351). Bipolarity ended with the demise of Soviet Union and the world became unipolar headed by one power only i.e U.S.. Gulf war of 1991 also supported this argument that the world had become unipolar. U.S. was the only country with economic, military, diplomatic and political power and could indulge herself into any issue of the world.

Some researchers believe that after the end of bipolarity there were more chances of multi polar world rather than unipolar world. As China, Japan and Germany were emerging powers in economic field. U.S. economy was not as stronger since late 1960’s but U.S. managed to control its deficits and up till 1990s its economy was strong enough to rule the world. U.S. used NATO and UN as tools for institutionalizing its unipolarity. These organizations supported U.S. for attaining the status of super power militarily as well as economically. No other state was able to match or challenge its power.

In the decade of 1990s, there was a hot debate that whether the world is unipolar with one super power, the U.S. or multipolar with other potential challengers who could compete with U.S. power. This debate was going on until the dawn of 21st century. But the history witnessed to it that when terrorists

attacked on the World Trade Center and Pentagon on 11th September 2001 and to tackle these terrorists' activities, U.S. unilaterally imposed war on Iraq and Afghanistan, no other country prevented it. Which strengthened this argument that U.S. was the sole super power and no one country was strong enough especially militarily to stop it from launching/imposing wars.

The new international political order came with the demise of Soviet Union in 1991 and U.S. emerged as a sole hegemon either having alliances with other strong militarily and economically states or the other states which were not in the alliances but were unable to challenge U.S.'s power. The incident of 9/11 had further paved the way for U.S. to project its supremacy and strength over weak states and maintain the status of super power. As a result of having that much of power, U.S. started interfering into other states in domestic as well as in foreign issues. Critics might put it, "a foil to justify American continuous meddling in other people's affairs." (Aziz, 1995: 183). Bipolar world had a good feature that it had kept U.S. under check in military, economic and ideological spheres. Soviet Union was a potential rival to challenge U.S. power but after disintegration of Soviet Union and in unipolar world, no country had been able to compete with U.S. as Soviet Union did.

Unilateralism by the U.S.

Unilateralism means "to act apart from others along with the justification for doing so" (Sewel, 2000: 6). It's a policy which requires power and capability to act alone and afford to take risk. USA has been the follower of this policy, even when it was not the only power in the world. This country's unique power position in world made it super power. History provides many examples of the U.S unilateral behaviour like in "Monroe Doctrine" that with the end of Napoleonic wars fear arose that Spain might attempt to re establish its control over the newly independent Latin American States. Britain offered USA its services to prevent Spain from doing so but U.S. rejected British proposal and was alone, unilaterally able to handle Spain. This strategy continued in the post world war II era.

There are many examples of U.S unilateralism in the western hemisphere, like in 1989 invasion of Panama, invasion of Grenada in 1983, the invasion of the Dominican Republic in 1965, and U.S. behaviour in Cuban Missile crisis and in the Bay of Pigs and its influence to change government in Chile. And after the disintegration of USSR, USA had got the opportunity to indulge itself unilaterally in other countries matter with more courage (Hastedt, 1997: 30). Basis of American power was its economic powers which had enabled it to perform a role of leader in world politics. It had raw-materials and natural resources for the support of economic structure. So it was a way ahead from the world. The world's strongest economic institutions of IMF and World Bank were purely created on U.S. preferred terms and conditions. It has a great role within these organizations. U.S. was also the architect of the new international monetary system after world

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war II. General Agreement on Tariff and Trade (GATT) was negotiated which further proves its hegemony on helm of world affairs. Edward Luck gives four major characteristics of U.S:

1. “a willingness to go it alone on a variety of issues, along with apparent immunity to the pressures and criticisms of others,
2. an assumption that its national values and practices are universally valid and its policy positions are moral and proper, not just expedient.
3. a strong tendency to look inward to domestic considerations and processes, when determining how to act in international for a, in some cases coupled with a willingness to adopt national legislation that contradicts the rules and responsibilities imposed by international arrangements.
4. a belief by national policy makers and legislators that they have other options for pursuing their nation’s interests and that acting through multilateral institutions is the only an option, not an obligation.” (Malone, David & Yuen, 2003: 323).

For USA unilateralism did not precipitate other states reaction. America acted unilaterally and imposed war on Afghanistan in the name of war against terrorism. Its justification and proof that Osama Bin Laden was behind the terrorist attacks of 9/11 were so weak and nothing could prove that he was present in Afghanistan. It is militarily unchallenged super power and through the policy of strength that, USA imposes its will on the whole world. USA is not only protecting its influence and power potential but also achieving its hegemonic ambitions of strategic importance. Attack on Iraq was not for the removal of Weapons of Mass Destruction but to get control over Iraq’s vast oil reserves and to install a regime of its own choosing which could support it. To fight against terrorism and rogue states having WMD, USA had established a phenomenon go it alone if necessary. USA will not hesitate to act alone, if necessary, to exercise its right of self defense by acting preemptively against terrorists. Gone are the old justifications of war based on self-defense and imminent threat written in Article 51 of the UN charter. USA alone will determine when it needs to use force (Ikenberry, 2003: 377-378). President George W. Bush as well as President Clinton both acted unilaterally on different policies. President Bill Clinton who fought for an international ban on landmines tried to sabotage the new international criminal court. President Bush cancelled Anti- Ballistic Missile Treaty, attempted to write some provisions for enforcement into Biological Weapons Convention (Dyer, 2003: 10). USA did this and changed regimes, governments, so called non- democratic but in reality they were not projecting U.S. interests and were not liked by it. So it unilaterally done this in order to enhance its power and hegemony over the world.

Unchallenged U.S. Hegemony

U.S. had enjoyed a hegemonic position in early years of 20th century in terms of economic growth, military power and technology. Previous leading states were either great commercial and naval powers or great military powers on land, never both. But at the dawn of cold war, the U.S. of America was dominant economically as well as in air and naval capabilities and at that time former USSR was also militarily powerful. After the demise of USSR, U.S. had no rival of its power. America single handedly achieved desired results in world politics.

Number of scholars were predicting American decline after the end of cold war. They said as this world hegemon was becoming over stretched in the same way that earlier empires had declined under the burden of military power. Just as Britain was overtaken by U.S. in the mid twentieth century. It was also predicted that Japan and Western Europe would lead in the next phase of capitalism. U.S. is supreme in all fields of power while other countries, which are considered as potential challengers, do not possess power in all fields. U.S. is both big and rich, whereas the potential challengers are either one or the other. It will take time for other big countries such as China and India to become rich. China is economically booming but militarily far behind America. It is the only state with both nuclear weapons and conventional forces with global reach. American military expenditures are greater than those of the next eight countries combined and it leads in the information based revolution in military affairs (http://www.ksg.harvard.edu/news/opeds/2002/nye=uspower_economist032302.htm).

It's clear that America is powerful enough to act alone, on its own. Due to disparity between USA and the rest of the world, there is increase in unilateralism of USA is seen. It does not need any military support of its allies. It had vast resources, geography and growth rates, which was an astonishing development but as long as it is indulging itself into different wars on earth its economy is suffering. U.S. is successfully fighting its own wars on other resourceful lands and trying to capture or utilize the explored as well as unexplored resources and that's why it is enjoying the status of world hegemon.

Gap Between the U.S. And the Muslim World

Today the relations between the West and Muslims are crucial. After the incident of September 11 and the Iraq war and now the Afghanistan war, the world population both in the West and in the Muslim World is keener to stop violence. Whereas the relations reached at its lowest and states are increasing practices of integration and dialogue in order to bridge the gap between the West and the Muslim. The term West broadly refers to European countries and the European settlements around the world including United States, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. Similarly Muslim majority countries comprise the Muslim World.

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The focus of this research is on the U.S. in the West and the Muslim world as a whole. The ideological aspirations gradually growing into a wider conflict, mainly exaggerated by the publication of materials deemed offensive by Muslims and deemed expression of free thought by the U.S.. Under these conditions, it's the need of the time to encourage mutual respect and understanding between social, cultural and religious values of each group is important for bridging the gap between the ideology and humanity.

The theory of a clash of civilization is used in both the West and in Muslim World in order to show the reasons of volatile relations between them. According to this school of thought, the fundamental differences in ideologies and political and cultural norms are the basic reasons of conflict. But an other school of thought which is against it says that basic differences in attitudes towards gender equality and social liberalization are the causes of gap/ conflict between West and the Muslim World. "Although nearly the entire world plays lip service to democracy, there is still no global consensus on the self-expression values, such as social tolerance, gender equality, freedom of speech and interpersonal trust that are crucial to democracy. Today these divergent values constitute the real clash between societies and the West" (Ronald & Norris: 2003). However, it is there that the cultural values, religious doctrines and economic policies do play an important role in defining relations between the U.S and the Muslims.

Why U.S. is Against Muslims

Reasons here are meant to give an overall picture, general attitudes and apprehensions of average U.S citizens towards the Muslim World.

1. Lack of Democratic Values in Muslim World.
2. Lack of Basic Human Rights
3. Committing Violence and Terrorism
4. Anti- Israel Views by Muslims.

1. **Lack of Democratic Values in Muslim World:** - Of the forty-seven Muslim majority countries in the world, only a handful have functional democracies in practice. However their public is in favour of democratic system of governance. From the U.S. perspective, democratic practices are impossible without having the values of tolerance, personal freedoms, human rights and the social liberalization in a society. In this regard, Muslim societies have low levels of all these values.

Authoritarian regimes in the Muslim world felt democracies as a threat to them. Saudi Arabia is an example of the incompatibility between democracy and Muslim world. The royal dynasty has sustained its grip on power. Despite the attempts by women to obtain the right to vote in local body elections, to participate in politics and even to drive cars but it was dealt firmly by the

dominant religious forces. It perhaps comes as no surprise when U.S. view a lack of democracy in Muslim countries as strongly linked to an Islamic ideology and to low levels of social tolerance.

Muslim countries are identified as one of the least free societies in terms of freedom of speech and expression. The wide spread protest and boycott of western products were seen by Muslims in retaliation of the cartoon published, satirizing the Holy Prophet of Islam in various news papers. West has seen it as an intolerance in Muslim societies. Due to core values of western democracy, many states showed the defense of cartoons as a freedom of speech and personal freedom (Azzam, 2006: 7). Islam as a religion has a great role in the lives of Muslims but in U.S, the secularism has led to a minimal role of religion in determining public affairs. Here religion is separate from state. In a recent study by U.S academicians on contemporary Muslim world states that “of countries with substantial or predominantly Muslim populations, majorities in many countries (several in the 90% range) say that religion is an important part of their daily lives”(Esposito, 2008).

U.S.A also considered Muslim fatwas by religious leaders a violent act like the *fatwa* given by Ayatollah Khomeini to kill Salman Rushdie as a punishment for satirizing Islam and the Holy Prophet. Ridiculing or satirizing any prophet whether in Jewish, Christian or Muslim, remains out of question for all Muslims. The differences in the Western especially U.S.and Muslim approaches towards religion are arguably an important reason of conflict on freedom of speech and democracy.

2. **Lack of Basic Human Rights:-** U.S. generally view that Muslim men are granted superior status as compare to women and men are eligible for higher inheritance shares as sons than women as daughters because it is specified in Quran. Two western scholars, Hilsdon and Rozario state that “there is a widely-held belief in the West that all Muslim women are oppressed because of their religion. No distinction is made in terms of country, religion, class or communities, not to mention from family to family” (Anne 2006). West also considered veiling of women not men in Islam are indicators of un- equal status for men and women. They considered Islamic laws of stoning and cutting off hands as against human rights and social liberalization.
3. **Committing Violence and Terrorism:-** A general public perception in the West has formed linking Muslims to terrorist activities and violence across the World. Muslims did in New York, Madrid, Bali, and in London against the western targets. These terrorists activities have a distinctive Islamic ideology and that’s why U.S. closely associated, Islam and militancy. They think that this terrorism may not have a foundation in Islam but the fact that the terrorist activities are generally carried out by Muslims. The list of charges against Muslims by U.S. is very long, The think that Muslims are waging war or jihad against the democracy, freedom of speech, gender equality and all other values of social liberalization. Therefore, the existence of this negative image

of Islam in the West specially in U.S. is not surprising. U.S. media shows that Al-Qaeda and Usama Bin Laden justifies killing of innocent people as it's the part of war against Western non Islamic values. Muslims have double standards for non Muslims. It is widely held in U.S. that religious institutions (madrassahs) in Pakistan are breeding grounds for extremism and encouraging jihad against the West. This argument is supported by the emergence of evidence linking the masterminds of London bombings to these madrassahs.

Similarly there is the double standards of Muslims as they speak out against U.S. aggression in different part of the World. Yet on the other hand they themselves commit violence and are killing Americans all in the name of Islam.

4. **Anti- Israel Views by Muslims:-** The refusal of many Muslim states to recognize

Israel as a sovereign and independent state is considered a prejudice against the existence of Israel. Mostly Muslim states are against Israel due to Israel-Palestine conflict. Pakistani public consider Israel as mastermind of the September 11, 2001 attacks on U.S. and the Iranian President statement to wipe out Israel from the world map are considered strongly wrong in U.S..

Why Muslims are against U.S.

It is also important to point out here how Muslims perceived U.S. Muslims have different views regarding U.S.

1. U.S. Hegemony/ Unilateralism: Problem for Muslims
2. Muslims are Victims of U.S. Aggression
3. Double Standards with respect to Democracy and Human Rights
4. Anti Muslim Views or Islam Phobia by U.S.
5. Wrong Portrayal of Muslims by Media.

1. The U.S. Hegemony/ Unilateralism: Problem for Muslims:- After the end of Cold War between the former USSR and USA, U.S. had unilaterally imposed war on Muslim countries of Iraq and Afghanistan, no other country prevented it, even it had bypassed United Nations, which strengthened this argument that U.S. was the sole super power and no one country is strong enough specially militarily to stop it from launching/imposing wars against Muslim states.

U.S. imposes its will on the whole world. U.S.A is not only protecting its influence and power potential but also achieving its hegemonic ambitions of strategic importance. Attack on Iraq was not for the removal of weapons of mass destruction but to get control over Iraq's vast oil reserves and installed a regime of its own choice which could support it. To fight against terrorism and rogue states having WMD, U.S. had established a phenomenon of "go it alone if necessary". USA will not hesitate to act alone, if necessary, to exercise its right of self defense

by acting pre-emptively against terrorists. Abbottabad operation in Pakistan was done alone by U.S against Usama Bin Laden and violate the sovereignty of Pakistan. Muslims perceive this hegemonic role of U.S. is only to demolish Muslims and its military strength is unchallenged and it is using to crush Muslims because they have the potential to rule the world.

2. Muslims are Victims of U.S. Aggression:- Muslims perceive that they are under the attack of U.S. aggression, be in Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iran, Palestine, Kashmir, India, Bosnia and Kosovo. Muslims have the concept or feeling of brother hood and they could not see their Muslim brothers in pain any where in the world. This holds the U.S. responsible for instigating the conflict between the Muslims and U.S. The Muslims lake military subjugation of Muslim countries by U.S. in the name of opening them up to the values of democracy, freedom and development, U.S. hypocrisy. U.S drone strikes on militants in the last few years have irritated the Muslims because these strikes had killed more Pakistani civilians in the border area than activists. Salala Check Post attack in 2011 is an-other example of U.S brutal act in which 24 Pakistani military soldiers were killed at the border. The U.S ambassador to Pakistan Cameron Munter accepted that the attack on Salala check post by NATO helicopters in November 2011 was a big mistake and it will not happen again. 24 people lost their lives and no punishment was given to the attackers (*Dawn*, Nov, 2011).

3. Double Standards with respect to Democracy and Human Rights:- Given the history of U.S, continued relationship with authoritarian regimes through out the world and the parallel U.S saying of supporting democracy and human rights in Muslim countries is seen as a good example of double standards on part of the U.S. Pakistan is an example where in 2008 public disapproved President Musharaf's policies in February elections but U.S. sent assurances for the continuation of the support to the dictatorship in the country (Pakistan Public Opinion Survey, International Republican Institute, USA, (2008). Retrieved on 22-8-10 from <http://www.iri.org>). Another example is that U.S. Patriot Act of 2001, in which the strict security laws were introduced, curtailed basic civil liberties as a tool for employing heightened security measures against terror suspects and acceptance of the same in U.S. without much opposition is a source of concern for many.

The arrest and unbounded custody of terror suspects mostly Muslims in Western jails without being held on trial is seen as a big gap of the same human rights advocated by the U.S. The treatment of the prisoners in Guantanamo Bay and Abu Ghuraib (Iraq) cast shadow on the human rights causes of the U.S and as well as the torture techniques used by (CIA) Central Intelligence Agency have further showed the worst standards of U.S. regarding human rights. Muslim countries are hijacked over their human rights records on the basis of U.S standards, a general sense of injustice arises that leads towards resistance to impose foreign values on them. Muslims argued that the U.S. commitment to freedom of speech is not as sincere as they project it to be. Muslims argue that

making height of any religion is off-limits, particularly when it wounds the sentiments of others.

The so called governments in the name of revolution in Libya, Yemen, Egypt and Syria are supported by U.S. “The White House spin portrayed President Barack Obama’s decision to go to war in Libya as a triumph for a triumvirate of liberals—Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, UN Ambassador Susan Rice, and Obama adviser Samantha Power—who have well-established records of advocating the use of U.S. military force for “humanitarian” purposes. If anyone wonders what real-world “humanitarian” intervention looks like, NATO didn’t give them much time to wait” (Selfa, 2011: 77).

Its bombing went far beyond its supposed charge to protect Libyan civilians. NATO hit targets across Libya, including several in densely populated Tripoli. It has even managed to kill rebel columns by mistake. Behind the rhetoric of humanitarian intervention, NATO is carrying out a war for regime change (Obama has said repeatedly that “Qaddafi must go”) in Libya. And if it can’t win the ouster of the dictator in Tripoli, it may be satisfied with hiving off a pro-Western state in the east, where Libya’s oil wealth resides.

The history of U.S. and European “humanitarian” intervention has produced only greater violence and more injustice—in Somalia, in Haiti, in the former Yugoslavia and Kosovo, and in Iraq (Selfa, 2011: 77). Same would be seen in the Middle Eastern revolutions.

4. Anti- Muslims Views or Islam Phobia by U.S.:- Over all impression in U.S. is against Muslims, they considered Muslims terrorists, intolerant and fundamentalists. For them Islam is the most violent religion in this world. Muslims do not practice democracy, human rights, no gender equality and no freedom of speech is there for the prosperity of people.

5. Wrong Portrayal of Muslims by Media:- U.S. media with biased opinion shows issues regarding Muslims and presents negative image or picture of Muslims. They are shown as terrorists and militants. Media is presenting wrong cultural practices and linking them to the religious beliefs of Muslims such as honor killings and forced marriages etc. In 2005, a study by the International Helsinki Federation for Human Rights (IHR) found that in UK, the media portrayed the Muslim terror suspects with bias. Even when suspects were released by the law enforcement agencies without any charge, the media implied convictions (BBC News, “Anti Muslim Bias Spreads in EU” Retrieved on 20-8-10 from <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/1/europe/4325225.stm>).

As the gap existing between the Muslims and the U.S.A is explored further, it becomes apparent that, while there is an element of truth in each of the factors discussed in this research. If the U.S. and Muslim community are serious in resolving the present social, cultural, political, economic and military conflicts, then it is important to understand and promote greater understanding of each other’s view points.

Conclusion

It's the reality that after the end of cold war U.S became the sole super power of the world. History shows that there has never been a powerful country as U.S was. New World Order emerged in which no other country was capable to compete or to challenge U.S power in economic as well as in military fields. Since the mid of twentieth century, the U.S has assumed the hegemonic power role and capitalist ideology ruled the world against communist ideology. Then U.S started a policy to police the world and had intervened into the internal affairs of many countries in order to protect them against the evils of communism. This policy provided U.S with more and more influence into world affairs and world became unipolar headed by one power only. No other power was capable enough to keep U.S under check in ideological, military and economic spheres. After the terrorist attacks of 9/11 U.S imposed war against Afghanistan and established a phenomenon of 'go it alone for war' or "pre-emptive strikes if necessary". At present China is competing U.S economically but militarily far behind America. U.S is successfully utilizing other states resources for its own sake especially of the Muslim states which are having large natural resources and are kept under American control. America's wars were and are fighting in Muslim states like Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan and in Middle East and people of Muslim states do not like these ventures and are against U.S policies. As a result the relations between U.S and Muslims are not so good. Gap between capitalist and Islamic ideologies is widening and situation of conflict and crises in different forms is emerging as the time passes by.

This research has explained different reasons of negative attitude of U.S against Muslims and vice versa. It is the need of the time to encourage mutual respect, understanding between two different ideologies, social and cultural values of U.S and Muslims. Their norms/values must be exercised in true spirit. Do not blame each other but should co-operate with each-other to find the way out from their problems and it will help them to bridge the gap between ideology and humanity.

U.S allegations of lack of democratic values in Muslim world, lack of basic human rights, committing violence and terrorism and anti –Israel views by Muslims must be removed by finding their proper solution. In the same way some allegations are also pointed out by

Muslims like U.S hegemony creating problems for Muslims, Muslims are victims of U.S. aggression, double standards with respect to democracy and human rights, anti Muslim views and wrong portrayal of Muslims by U.S. media must be resolved. U.S. must play the role of big brother not big boss, in order to resolve the grievances of Muslims world. In return Muslims should co-operate with U.S. and find the way out from violence, aggression and wars for the safety of humanity.

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