

**THE CONSEQUENCE OF POVERTY WHICH ARISES FROM
CORRUPTION IS DEFINED BY THE NATURE OR
CHARACTERISTICS OF PROSPERITY**



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INTRODUCTION

Man has needs, wants and fancies such as food, clothing, shelter, education, relationships, travels and vacations. Desiring more or what is better is a default characteristic of his. When he achieves this, he calls that prosperity or development. Ordinarily there is no problem with that. However, more often than not, he engages in unethical means in pursuit of prosperity to the detriment of fellow humans through direct corruption or indirect exploitation tagged aid, interventions or loans. A misleading definition of poverty using statistics is normally used as opening for providing such aid, interventions or loans. In fact, some countries have agencies or departments responsible for “developing” other countries; whereas the long-term objective is self-development, greater self-influence and more self-prosperity.

A believer should not be bewildered by worldly needs, wants and fancies because he will either leave them or they will leave him. Death is inevitable. Therefore, believers should tread with caution and not misplace their priorities. This world and what it contains is infinitesimal compared to the bounties of the hereafter.

Muhammad Imran Muhammad

In the Name of Allah, the Compassionate, the Merciful, the Subtle, the Just, the Powerful, the Patron, the Guardian of Faith. Perfect peace and blessings be upon His Messenger (SAW), his household, his companions and all believers who stick to the Straight Path. Amen and amen.

ON PROSPERITY

The unconscious and better still, conscious and inevitable strive and pursuit of man is his own prosperity. To be more. To be better. To have more. To have better. To be and have what is best, in the perception, knowledge, understanding and belief of man. And it is necessarily or equally inevitably, in relation to another person, persons or place. This is the relationship between sociology and economy or society and wealth.

The intertwined relationship between these is what we can observe to be constantly certified by history. Someone who inherits wealth seeks and strives to be more, better and to make it more and better **IRRESPECTIVE** of the knowledge and discipline of the inheritor or successor. And the level or form or scope of realization is **INCONSEQUENTIAL**, to establish this truth. It does not matter whether we all agree that some do so succeed while others fail. We will appreciate that those that will be recorded to have failed **CANNOT HAVE REDUCED ALL THE RESOURCES TO A HEAP OF CURRENCY AND SET IT ON FIRE**. One possibility is a challenge in priority. The inheritor may have greater and stronger need, want and fancy for eating, drinking, housing, coloured with transport facilities, travels, ceremonies and recreation. This singular take-over in the commitment of the resources can blind a naive observer from appreciating the common spirit for advancement. Therefore, if the stock or company or new individual goes bankrupt, it does not contradict the spirit of prospering. Indeed, the unfortunate and inexcusable assumption will be that, the new person is solely responsible for the collapse. However, the real truth is that, the society he lives in

and belongs to has contributed in his formation. For example, his circle of relationships directly related to building the resources may be nonchalant or aid and participate in the process of more consumption or spending than investing or savings. The circle of relationships not directly related to the expansion of the wealth may be strongly responsible for the push. Either of these or both will meet with his personal discipline of personal restraint to build the resources.

Another level of historical proof is that, with those who are living, individuals, groups and organizations are engaged in the very same things with topping identities of being owners or employers as against employees. It may be professionals of different shades. For instance in the robbery or rape of formal organizations, the pillars of management and accounting ‘cooperate’ to serve themselves. In government, the political head may join, lead or actually enable it alone. All the corruption that we hear about, see, participate in or get affected by, are really driven by the same and common spirit of prospering. Dictatorship can achieve the credit just as monarchy, communist, religion or democracy can OR FAIL TO ACHIEVE. This process or struggle may be between family members. In societies where Mafioso is established, this can be clear. This process or struggle can be between professional bodies or members. This has been a big challenge in the oil and gas industry, where engineers are made to believe that the management is engineering and the unions have independent orientation for building the sector – by differing as against collaborating. And all respects, it is for more self. In all respects it is for better self. This may be the individual, the persons, the family, the group or the wealth, organizations or place; a combination of these or all, in comparison to another or others.

It is also important to note that what is more, better and best are all dynamic. The factors of time and place of the PERSONS are the critical drives. For example, eating and drinking to exist differs from eating and drinking to live fat or dieting to slim. Clothing for decency is different from colouring it with beauty or fashion.

And living so in the tropics has a different definition or requirement against living the same terms in the temperate climate. Moving by road is not the same with flying. Being driven and served is different from doing yourself. A house or bungalow is different from a mansion. Keeping a python, a bear or tiger as a pet is not the same with keeping a cat. The definition of the scope of world news, in 1960 is not the same in 2019. The world is never the earth. It is as wide as we can reach and care for. Surgery can be by knives or by light.

This common strive and pursuit is not restricted to mere acquisition. Indeed, it is impossible to be so limited because the materials to be so acquired must first be made available. Any that can become so in their natural given state can be acquired for instance by inheritance or purchase. An example is land area. This is more revealing where the land is believed or certified to bear valuables like mineral resources in economic quantities or volumes. The closest examples are oil, gas, gold, uranium. This immediately invites laws, politics and possibly war to be engaged. This was the sinister difference of France in the civil war history of this country – as far as the unity of Nigeria is concerned.

This factorial aspect is what drives technical and technological innovations and improvements as they are applied to really serve the common strive and pursuit of prosperity – to be more and better or have more and better or both. This is what explains the development of sex toys that some people may find offensive. This is what explains the business in arms along with the development of the manufacture and armies to use them. This is what explains the growth and development of all technical and technological skills. The surgery for looks or beautification is one an advanced level of cosmetics – make look-like. But people have been and can continue to look different or better by eating or drinking certain foods. This is not to deny that there is no food or drink or both, to take for lost limb that can be attended to with an artificial one. This growth and development can open up choices. This is where gender transformation comes in.

But it is not only technical and technological skills that can be engaged to serve this common strive and pursuit of prosperity. Specialist kinds or forms of relationships serve as another platform or means. This involves skills or application of knowledge for useful benefits, independent of the availability of tools. Indeed, the focus here is much less to tools or equipment as against relationships. This is where transport and Logistics falls. The movement of men and goods with different kinds of carriage from one point to another by different modes of transport is the service. Passengers and Cargos are the targets for satisfying. It is therefore men again or their property. This is more opposed to a maintenance engineer or technician on a damaged pipeline by bunkers. The service of personnel management, administration or bureaucracy stand out distinct from the works or employments for which engineers, technocrats, craftsmen are engaged in. The realization of a common but related objectives is the service on the shoulders of the managers. The same applies to the service by Call Girls, a refined label for commercial sex workers or prostitutes. Sometimes, these services can be in group windows or platforms. Free women will have club houses or association for organized, safe and quality service to the clients. It is not different from professional bodies like Bar Association or Bankers. The target for satisfying are the clients for the services of the members or associations. It is not different in the case of security agencies like the army, the police, the immigration, prisons, etc.

It will be appreciated that even though both the technical and services types or forms go to meet the prosperity that men commonly strive to pursue, the skills that enable these have to be provided and developed. And the foundation for this is the provision of knowledge. All types, forms, approaches or activities like training, seminars, conferences, retreats, human capital development, etc. are examples that are related to this. Accordingly, there are all sorts of subjects or disciplines that have evolved corresponding to all facets of needs, wants and

fancies of men. These packages consisting of different levels may be for the eyes, nostrils, ears, teeth, bones, skin, blood, intestines, heart, veins, fat, nails, hair, genitals, reproduction, the total balance of these or their relationships, like against insanity, etc. Those relating to housing like architecture, building, electrical, plumbing are not left out.

And perhaps the Arts present the most frightening possibilities of prosperity. The prices of antiquities or creative works. The freedom behind it or that drives it can be as consuming as destructive. For instance in theatre Voltaire was accosted by a trainee actor on the difficulty of attaining the quality level of performance he demanded, and he affirmed that: to succeed in the arts, you must have the devil in you. Voltaire was so free in thought that he brushed the truth simply available to a believer when he said: If there were no God it will be necessary to invent him. But it can be far from right knowledge for a believer. The same freedom of thought led Karl Marx to the ‘understanding’ that: The first requisite for the happiness of the people is the abolition of religion. But he was not of any respectable standing in any religion before discovering the need to abandon it. So, when he saw that: Revolutions are the locomotives of history, he still gained some honour.

In order to be able to CONTROL prosperity by ensuring its regular availability, the improvement of these to meet expanding scope of men and their quality, INSTITUTIONALIZATION has come into being, grown and developed. This means that deliberate rational efforts are made to fuse related aspects together for efficient and effective management. This is why you have financial institutions handling all matter of human prosperity from the standpoint of money. They hold deposits for safety and use for more prosperity by charging interests or giving interests in relation to depositors. It also gives loans for the use of individuals or corporate bodies. Over them are regulatory bodies and the bus stop is the Central Bank. With knowledge there are kindergartens, nursery and primary schools, post

primary schools, tertiary institutions of various categories. The universities, the polytechnics and colleges of Education provide high level terminal qualifications. There are specialized institutions like the Law school, Teaching Hospitals, Driving schools, Aviation, Maritime and Nigerian Institute of Transport Technology. Productivity has therefore developed by transformation, the production of goods and the production of services. And they are all inevitably related in striving to pursue prosperity for men.

But all of these become realizable depending upon what Time permits. Just look at yourself. You need, want or fancy taking birth again and again. You buy your dress and follow up with mending and replacing them. The car is not different. Renovation of the house is in the same trap. Do we not remove an infected tooth? What about heart or kidney transplant? The same applies to public infrastructure or house furniture. The secret is that wearing out is inevitable with time. This extends to even difficult and irrational pursuits. Do we not invest in the burial of the dead and label it with the honour of being befitting? Do we not divorce partners in godly matrimony because the wife has ‘refused’ to give a baby boy even though she does not decide the sex of the child? This is why the reality of prosperity is absolutely dependent upon availability as at when due. Effectiveness has to match with timeliness for efficiency. The history of the management of Pensions in Nigeria is a good reference for the scope of belongingness across the ladder of those paid as at when due, those who get paid lately, those who get paid after their death and those who are struggling to be certified as entitled to payment along with any of the classes identified on the ladder. Payment of salaries has not escaped the same challenges. This is apart from the determination of what pension or salary is appropriate, from time to time. And the history of unionism in this country is a fair teller on this. This is why anyone, group, organization, leader of government that plays down on timeliness is inhuman. For example, in relation to agriculture, if inputs in the forms of loans, seedlings, fertilizers, tractors,

pesticides etc. are not made available in the appropriate time for planning, the measure of irresponsibility rises. And the worst that can happen in the history of a society is to have priorities misplaced by either individuals, groups, organizations or the government. The greatest misfortune that can befall a society is for its leaders to muddle up the priorities for common good and escape sanctions. This is because:

Every soul shall have a taste of death. (Q 3:185)

Nor does anyone know in what land he is to die. (Q 31:34)

And let not those who covetously withhold of the gifts which Allah hath given them of His grace, think that it is good for them. Nay, it will be the worse for them; soon shall the things which they covetously withheld be tied to their necks like a twisted collar, on the Day of Judgement. To Allah belongs the heritage of the heavens and the earth. And Allah is well-acquainted with all that ye do. (Q 3: 180)

And verily it is We Who give life, and Who give Death: it is We Who remain Inheritors (after all else passes away). (Q 15:23)

It is We Who will inherit the earth, and all beings thereon; to Us will they all be returned. (Q 19:40)

To possibly deal with this, overriding arrangements are made by human societies in order to enable OPTIMAL opportunities for every member. This is by giving sovereignty to the collective will in the form of government. In our case, we have the machineries of the Executive, the Legislature and the Judiciary across the three tiers of government. They essentially serve dual objectives. They protect each citizen and legal group from overriding any other or others in the strive and pursuit of prosperity. If a Secretary to a State Government lures the wife of his junior staff to serve his sexual needs, a barrister can step in for the abused and get

a court to adjudicate in the matter. The same applies to an ambitious president who seeks to extend his tenure or a university lecturer who evaluates female students by sleeping with them. A governor who uses his position to personalize allocations meant for flood victims is not different. In the same vein, persons who will not be civil in submitting themselves can be attended to with reasonable force by instruments of coercion. The second related objective is that of providing common services and works that will meet the needs, wants and fancies of Nigerians. Like the instruments of coercion, it is entrusted with the major resources and provision of infrastructure. It serves as the umbrella of safety for all citizens to strive and pursuit of prosperity.

It can therefore be appreciated, the growing and developing trend of optimization of strive and pursuit of prosperity by depopulation. Global warming is one cover to justify TOO MANY PEOPLE TO CATER FOR. And Africa is the priority target, for Europe and America because they ‘care’ more for their prosperity. The Duke of Cambridge is for instance of this stand:

“Africa’s rapidly growing human population is predicted to more than double by 2050 – a staggering increase of three and a half million people per month,” Prince William explained during a recent event hosted by the Tusk Trust, a charity that is committed to protecting African wildlife. “There is no question that this increase puts wildlife and habitat under enormous pressure.”

According to The Telegraph, Prince William continued, “Urbanization, infrastructure development, cultivation – all good things in themselves, but they will have a terrible impact unless we begin to plan and to take measures now.” He added, “We are going to have to work much harder, and think much deeper, if we are to ensure that human beings and the other species of animal with which we share this planet can continue to co-exist.” From the article, Prince Williams argues for urgent depopulation efforts in Africa on <https://depopulation.news>

The World Health Organization has been implicated with evidence, in Kenya. Here's the full abstract from the study, word for word:

In 1993, WHO announced a “birth-control vaccine” for “family planning”. Published research shows that by 1976 WHO researchers had conjugated tetanus toxoid (TT) with human chorionic gonadotropin (hCG) producing a “birth-control” vaccine. Conjugating TT with hCG causes pregnancy hormones to be attacked by the immune system. Expected results are abortions in females already pregnant and/or infertility in recipients not yet impregnated. Repeated inoculations prolong infertility. Currently WHO researchers are working on more potent anti-fertility vaccines using recombinant DNA. WHO publications show a long-range purpose to reduce population growth in unstable “less developed countries”. By November 1993 Catholic publications appeared saying an abortifacient vaccine was being used as a tetanus prophylactic. In November 2014, the Catholic Church asserted that such a program was underway in Kenya. Three independent Nairobi accredited biochemistry laboratories tested samples from vials of the WHO tetanus vaccine being used in March 2014 and found hCG where none should be present. In October 2014, 6 additional vials were obtained by Catholic doctors and were tested in 6 accredited laboratories. Again, hCG was found in half the samples. Subsequently, Nairobi's AgriQ Quest laboratory, in two sets of analyses, again found hCG in the same vaccine vials that tested positive earlier but found no hCG in 52 samples alleged by the WHO to be vials of the vaccine used in the Kenya campaign with the same identifying batch numbers as the vials that tested positive for hCG. Given that hCG was found in at least half the WHO vaccine samples known by the doctors involved in administering the vaccines to have been used in Kenya, our opinion is that the Kenya “anti-tetanus” campaign was reasonably called into question by the Kenya Catholic Doctors Association as a front for population growth reduction. From

the article, Proof that vaccines target blacks for depopulation, on <https://depopulation.news>

There was Ebola in Nigeria. Uganda is now facing the fight against Marburg virus.

This is how far we can get. From child spacing to contraceptive facilities, arms business etc. And why not? With unstoppable time along with the growth and development of knowledge, skills and control measures, the number, types, forms, quality of the materials and services produced to meet the needs, wants and fancies of men transform again and again. For instance with health, there is prevention, there is cure, there is living well that is ahead of not being sick. Indeed we are already targeting 'immortality' through reversal of looks and feelings. The subtle way to this is by a new knowledge and literature of the age of human parts in relation to chronological age that a person has lived. With wears, the underwear and the tops are in so much variety and quality that decency appears to be returning to animal exposure. And freedom is getting more and more refined, defined or varied. The pointers to this are gender transformation and nudity as matters of choice, just like the freedom to die by consenting to a patient's choice by a doctor. The initial idea was bored by one DOCTOR DEATH who helped many before the American laws recognized it. This is parallel to the right to abortion by a woman of age with peripheral culture of single parenting. The logic of depopulation is to optimize prosperity for men to the best. But the uncontrollable factor of population needs to be checked. The senselessness of this logic is that, only the generation that is sponsoring it for itself will be served, against all others. Unfortunately, death has not stopped. Therefore, we have experiences like policies for promoting marrying more women, have male children and practices like sperm banks, any form of orphanage and test tube babies to grow population. This is the character of confusion in the plain history of prosperity pursuit by men.

As to these, they love the fleeting life. (Q 76:27)

Verily, (the ends) ye strive for are diverse. (Q 92:4)

A greedy miser and thinks himself self-sufficient. And gives the lie to the best.
(Q 92:8-9)

Fair in the eyes of men is the love of things they covet: women and sons, heaped-up hoards of gold and silver, horses branded (for blood and excellence), and (wealth of) cattle and well tilled land ... (Q 3:14)

THE DIFFERENCE OF A BELIEVER

Before the difference, what is common between a believer and a non-believer in this affair of chasing prosperity? The true possibility is that as free humans, they can be equally involved or engaged in all the kinds and forms of activities to realize the different types of prosperity. Either of them can be trained, acquire the requisite knowledge and skills, innovate, produce and serve or be served. Both can be connected to the depopulation process. Both can take advantage of the sperm banks. Either can decide on gender change. In summary, believers, disbelievers, misbelievers, unbelievers can be engaged or enjoy the process of the common strive and pursuit of prosperity.

For a believer, this is the very basis of proving compliance over belief. This is because, Allah is the absolute creator of this man that can strive to achieve anything associated with prosperity. He is the creator of the environments that enable these. The physical space, the natural resources, the relationships and the possible needs, wants and fancies.

How can he reject the faith in Allah?

Seeing that ye were without life, and He gave you life; then He will cause you to die, and will again bring you to life; and again to Him will ye return. It is He Who

hath created for you all things that are on earth. Moreover His design comprehended the heavens, for He gave order and perfection to the seven firmaments; and of all things He hath perfect knowledge. (Q 2:28-29)

Of the bounties of thy Lord We bestow freely on all – these as well as those – the bounties of thy Lord are not closed (to anyone). (Q 17:20)

Verily We have created man into toil and struggle. (Q 90:4)

Have we not made for him a pair of eyes? And a tongue and a pair of lips? And shown him the two highways? But he hath made no haste on the path that is steep. (Q 90:8-11)

Or do ye think that ye shall enter the Garden (of bliss) without such (trials) as came to those who passed away before you? (Q 2:214)

If it had been thy Lord's Will, they would all have believed, all who are on earth. (Q 10:99)

A believer must therefore avoid the foolishness of CARELESSNESS by getting involved, engaged to simply serve or be served FOR PROSPERITY by ANY needs, wants or fancies.

The foundation and justification for this rests on the provision by the creator of all things and the nature of the present opportunity for prosperity. And the believer is NOT banned from a blanket or total involvement or engagement in the opportunities that this world provide, PROVIDED HE KEEPS WITHIN THE LIMITS DEFINED BY THE ABSOLUTE OWNER, against Whom he is only a Trustee.

As opposed to life or living in this world that will inevitably be cut by Death, the believer has Eternity in living as a most intelligent ADDITION to strive and pursue.

As against skills, processes and relationships that are now necessary for whatever acquisitions, Allah has provided for the successful, acquisition by just wishing or asking.

Against the continuous need, want and fancy for maintenance, renewal, replacement or improvements on needs, wants and fancies as they get discovered again and again, over and over, Allah has provided for the successful, what neither ears, eyes nor thoughts or imaginations can reach or comprehend.

Over and above all of these absolute and serene security is permanent because, competition, jealousy and envy will be eliminated for full blown peace and love.

And give good tidings to those who believe and do righteous deeds that they will have gardens (in Paradise) beneath which rivers flow. Whenever they are provided with a provision of fruit therefrom, they will say, ‘This is what we were provided with before.’ And it is given to them in likeness. And they will have therein purified spouses, and they will abide therein eternally. (Q 2:25)

Their Lord gives them good tidings of mercy from Him and approval and of gardens for them wherein is enduring pleasure. (They will be) abiding therein forever. Indeed, Allah has with Him a great reward.” (Q 9:21-22)

Indeed, those who have believed and done righteous deeds, their Lord will guide them because of their faith. Beneath them rivers will flow in the Gardens of Pleasure. Their call therein will be, ‘Exalted are You, O Allah,’ and their greeting therein will be, ‘Peace.’ And the last of their call will be, ‘Praise to Allah, Lord of the worlds!’ (Q 10:9-10)

Those will have gardens of perpetual residence; beneath them rivers will flow. They will be adorned therein with bracelets of gold and will wear green garments

of fine silk and brocade, reclining therein on adorned couches. Excellent is the reward, and good is the resting place. (Q. 18:31)

The chosen servants of Allah. Those will have a provision determined. Fruits; and they will be honoured. In gardens of pleasure. On thrones facing one another. There will be circulated among them a cup from a flowing spring. White and delicious to the drinkers. No bad effect is there in it, nor from it will they be intoxicated. (Q. 37:40-47)

(Other) faces, that Day, will show pleasure. With their effort (they are) satisfied. In an elevated garden. Wherein they will hear no unsuitable speech. Within it is a flowing spring. Within it are couches raised high. And cups put in place. And cushions lined up. And carpets spread around. (Q 88:8-16)

As a result, a believer is not prohibited from enjoying the passing prosperity of this life and being admitted to enjoying the eternal prosperity that should be the ultimate goal. Any believer who is sincere must openly admit that there are lots of pleasures that are available and are increasingly so for the good life of this world. And they can be ENJOYED. It will amount to hypocrisy and pretence to claim or give the impression that one CANNOT enjoy them. Indeed they can be caught STEALING the pleasure. The difference rests with the DISCIPLINE of the believer – the degree of sticking for the hereafter more than either the balance between the two or more for this world. The continuum was defined by the guidance of the Prophet (SAW): to seek prosperity in this world as if one will never die and to seek the prosperity of the hereafter as if EVERY COMMITMENT is the believer's last act BEFORE SUBMITTING TO DEATH. And he is reported to have pleaded most for Allah (SWT) to grant him the good in this life, the good in the hereafter and safety from the Fire.

The rational and sensible deductions from this status of a believer is that he cannot be totally opposed to all types, forms and levels of prosperity in this world. And

those who care much do not deserve any scorn. The dividing line is not just prosperity but the choices between the limits that Allah has preserved for Himself and the permissible difference between what one will be satisfied with against the scope of the things available. For example, carnivorous animals are forbidden to be eaten by a believer. Beef from dog and pig are as a result out of question and consideration. But ducks and chicken are permitted. A believer may choose to deny himself the consumption of chicken in preference for ducks. Coming closer home, some fellow citizens will not consider snail for meal even though it is not prohibited. And the objection to cow beef will be irrelevant on the ground of some religious dictate because it contradicts the standard of Allah. However, it will be unislamic to insist on having a cow beef for consumption where the hosts prohibit it for themselves. This is because there is no compulsion in religion.

Humans are not angels. The prophets, the saints, the sincere, the believers and Muslims will all have their ranking on this ladder of prosperity. The difference between them and all others, is that they are RULED by the last Message and the guidance of the Prophet (SAW).

THE MEANING OF POVERTY

As against prosperity that is required or expected to be pleasing, satisfying and fulfilling, poverty is the very opposite and contradiction of this. The last or worst state of poverty in this life is to lose the total function of the body. And this can be ascertained when it ceases to usefully relate with oxygen. For a believer it is the departure of the soul, for which the physical body is only a wear. At death, the person assumes the status of total lack by expiration, to fit into the benefits of prosperity as outlined above, by participating in any way or form. This is why a society where dying is commonly related to the absence or insufficient or appropriate prosperity facilities, arrangements, processes, relationships and participant beneficiaries etc. is identified or classed as poor. And it does not

matter whether the society provides very valuable raw materials and manpower that serves another society of over fed, over drunk, over housed, over protected, over grown, over developed etc. people.

This means that, exclusion from poverty is REALLY ABSOLUTELY not totally escapable. Everyone shall against whatever efforts revert to the worst state of poverty by death. And to a believer, this is neither unexpected nor unwelcome. The admission and submission rests on the belief that Allah created us and has decided that we shall return to Him on call. And non-believers cannot dispute that every individual is born naked and is packed away (for the safety of the living) at death. It makes no difference whether textile materials, currency, drinks and others are killed to accompany him. Allah is truly the inheritor of the heavens and the earth, no matter what the ignorant, the foolish and the arrogant may tell themselves.

This state of poverty is recognized by both believers and unbelievers. Consequently, all men strive and pursue prosperity to the utmost for as long as they exist. And the duration is not for any intelligent person to finally bother about. This is because some die before birth, some at birth, some as infants, some as children, some as adults and ALL THE OTHERS at different chronological ages. All the difference and commitment to raising life EXPECTANCY are short of attending to this reversal.

Man We did create from a quintessence (of clay). Then We placed him as (a drop of) sperm in a place of rest, firmly fixed. Then We made the sperm into a clot of congealed blood; then of that clot We made a (foetus) lump; then We made out of that lump bones and clothed the bones with flesh; then We developed out of it another creature; So blessed be Allah, the best to create! After that, at length ye will die. (Q 23:12-15)

It is He Who has created you from dust, then from a sperm drop, then from a leech-like clot; then does He get you out (into the light) as a child; then lets you (grow and) reach your age of full strength; then lets you become old, though of you there are some who die before; and lets you reach a term appointed; in order that ye may learn wisdom. (Q 49:67)

O mankind! If you have a doubt about the Resurrection, (consider) that We created you out of dust, then out of sperm, then out of a leech-like clot, then out of a morsel of flesh, partly formed and partly unformed, in order that We may manifest (Our power) to you; and We cause whom We will to rest in the wombs for an appointed term, then We bring you out as babes, then (foster you), that ye may reach your age of full strength; and some of you are called to die, and some are sent back to the feeblest old age, so that they know nothing after having known (much). (Q 22:5)

It will thus amount to audacity on the part of a believer to believe, express and live on the idea or principle of sufficiency. This is the trait of unbelievers who have more to lose in the definite and real end. For a believer it is a major sin. And the gravity was shown by the swallowing of Qaroon and his possessions by the earth. Where are the leaders who shy away or avoid those that will tell them the truth that is right even if it will offend them or those who take the burden of their promises to be light or inconsequential? Are they truly believers?

He may say (boastfully): wealth have I squandered in abundance. (Q 90:6)

Truly Man is, to his Lord ungrateful. And to that (fact) he bears witness (by his deeds). And violent is he in his love of wealth. (Q 100:6-8)

The mutual rivalry for piling up (the good things of this world) diverts you (from the more serious things). (Q 102:1)

Proclaim! And thy Lord is Most Bountiful. He Who taught (the use of) the Pen. Taught man that which he knew not. Nay, but man doth transgress all bounds. In that he looketh upon himself as self-sufficient. Verily, to thy Lord is the return (of all). (Q 96:3-8)

Yea, when (the soul) reaches to the collar-bone (in its exit). And there will be a cry, ‘Who is the magician (to restore him)?’ And he (the dying man) will conclude that it was (the time) of parting. And one leg will be joined with another. That Day, the drive will be (all) to thy Lord. (Q 75:26-30)

Then why do ye not (intervene) when (the soul of the dying man) reaches the throat. And ye the while (sit) looking on. But We are nearer to him than ye, and ye see not. Then why do ye not, if ye are exempt from (future) account, call back the soul, if ye are true (in your claim of independence)? (Q 56:83-87)

While this basic and foundation knowledge is necessary for every believer, it is more so for every person in position of leadership and most so for those sharing sovereign leadership in the Executive, Legislature or Judiciary and uppermost for the President, the Governor and Chairman. This is what needs not to be imposed on others but the **ORIENTATION AND LIVELIHOOD** of the believer will constantly serve as a magnetic reminder to those who cling and live as if this world is temporary, changing and uncertain with pains. The orderly living on the consciousness of this is the first platform for the service and leadership of the Ummah to mankind.

POVERTY IN THIS LIFE AND WORLD

As outlined in the beginning, the immediate and final impression of prosperity is the satisfaction of the needs, wants and fancies of man. Any relevant definition of poverty must consequently relate the results of the relationship between the resources and the abilities of the members of any family, group or society to meet

POSSIBLE SAFETY from SLIDING into the path of death. The first point of poverty is thus defined by struggling or being threatened by basic physical requirements to exist. Not having minimum food, drink, shelter, companionship, knowledge, skills etc. to be alive. These provisions can be in a character of being shared. For example, an infant or child can achieve this minimum security by only COMPANIONSHIP with parents, relatives, just as an elderly person can or by an institution like orphanage or old people's homes. In other words, it is absolutely not excusable for any single human being to be so threatened, unsafe. Wherever it happens IT IS A CHALLENGE OF DENIAL because NO individual came into this world with satisfied basic physical needs, wants or fancies. They become, SOCIALLY, then ECONOMIC and POLITICALLY. Any of such indication is a trait of irresponsibility on the part of the family, the group or society he belongs to.

There is NO JUSTIFIABLE room or reason for any human being NOT TO have the regular benefit of minimum physical needs, wants and fancies. This position comes BEFORE the feasible definition of poverty on a comparative ladder of haves. Any definition of poverty that blankets the relevance of such definition to commence FROM AFTER every human is served or accessible to the minimum requirements to continue existing IS FRAUDULENT. It amounts to ignoring and abusing the first basis for admissible understanding. Such intellectual wretch presents exposure of individual, group, national, regional or global irresponsibilities AS SELF-INFLICTED.

This is one indication of how wrong perception can grow into evil knowledge without guidance. Nobody even needs to believe in Allah or the hereafter to understand the drive of man's ordinary inordinate greed to such self-destructive orientation. Donations and charities do not fit into humanism before the total security of every man with minimum physical needs, wants and fancies. And a believer should know better than this if he cares to learn and know his deen.

Whatever misfortune happens to you, is because of the things your hands have wrought, and for many (of them) He grants forgiveness. (Q 42:30)

If the unbelievers are ignorant or prefer such mischief, in the strive and pursuit of prosperity, the believer has no such excuse or liberty. To be sure, he will be accountable for it, if he ignores to know what is right, asks for forgiveness for the past like a new convert to Islam from idol worship.

From this, we can immediately visualize the state of intellectual bankruptcy and misbelief of individuals, groups and nations that claim to be doing favours or assisting human beings across the surface of the earth. The actors are real dupes and misguided. Indeed is the corruption in the chain not enough education? In Nigeria, can the history of orphanages, correctional centres, internally displaced persons camps etc. be fully told or written, without fortunes made by the trustees? This further reveals one poverty characteristic that most of mankind is faced with. Unless and until we correct this, we will be bound to continue to fail or fall short and 'LIVE' with the sharp consequences of such ignominy. Crime is one that even an intelligent person cannot deny or refuse to acknowledge.

And the more flamboyant provisions are sharply available, the greater the complexity of this fraud and mislead. It in fact grows and develops into a matrix that makes the actual truth disappear. For example, will university students be classified as poor? What of the sexual looseness induced by making basic ends meet? How will this be separated from sexual looseness for living above board? How will this be distinguished from sexual looseness for academic make-up? None of these is properly fitting into sexual harassment principle and practice. They are all on strong and clear volition.

Once we miss the first right step, the possible ripple effects can be diversionary from what is right as a priority.

The first point of note that we must save against losing in whatever circumstance is that, majority of mankind have missed the point. It is fraudulent to be carving nation states with independence whereas in the relationship between the nations the basic integrity of each human being across or between the nations are not respected, upheld or protected. This is why in the recent past the history of Africa was defined as transition from colonialism to neocolonialism. The new perspective of contemporary history with the world growing into a global village has not helped. The share of hunger, malnutrition, illiteracy, non-housing, bad roads, used-up transport facilities for reuse, low levels of research, fierce competition in corruption etc. in the developing countries is neither reasonable nor sensible, as scientific as the explanations may be. The beginning of poverty must not be from or include **LACKING THE BASICS TO EXIST AND SURVIVE**. It is not defensible and is actually **SELF-SERVING** to the worst breed of mankind in inordinate greed. This is because every human being, every man and woman **ABSOLUTELY DESERVES BY ENTITLEMENT, THE RIGHT TO LIVE FROM THE MOMENT HE COMES INTO EXISTENCE**. The brain wash or indoctrination of some to believe and work to sustain the status quo of oppressing fellow humans to live more and better at the expense of even death, makes nonsense **ALL** gestures of loans, donations, assistance to alleviate or soothe such crimes.

POVERTY IN THE HOME FRONT

A believer must then be in the forefront of ensuring that no individual is reduced to or locked up in the state of total lack. To avoid or ignore this amounts to queuing up along with the ignorant, the fraudulent and the greedy who treat the consequences as independent of this necessary foundation. In our case, it is impossible to do this without statistical records and monitoring of population growth. A sound knowledge of the scope of people to be served at every time is the beginning of leadership care. And we have more than enough arrangements

to PERFECTLY establish this. The president, governor, chairman along with the senator, representative and state house member for a constituency cannot fail in this. The very same will apply to resources and the best management of these. The leader who believes must hence lead others in ESTABLISHING WHAT IS THE MINIMUM PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR A CITIZEN TO EXIST AND SURVIVE.

This will logically and sensibly fit into attending to poverty as variations in possessions and access and levels of prosperity ABOVE MINIMUM PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS. The bankruptcy that is common is the cry of poverty in a society where five percent live the lives of eighty five percent without reference to the deserve of every member in the circumstance of the available social, economic and political resources. Thieves.

This is however made to appear difficult or carelessly ignored But Not Impossible. It is well known that the culture of poverty that drives the wicked predicament of more than fifty percent of mankind has infected our leaders. Everyone is for himself. The President does not 'interfere' in the affairs of governors even when they belong to the same party. The Governors do not see the Chairmen as deserving honour, independence and support. The Senators are either fighting or competing with the governors. The representatives are rarely available. And the state house of assembly members are submitting to the dictates of the governor. The only meeting point is what to get from the collective trust. And it is the factor that determines parting. The fall-outs that have more positive orientation, individually or in cooperation are for now inconsequential. This is because it is NOT ILLEGAL to cooperate even between different party leaders. Indeed, those who care are made to appear as if they are doing the electorate who gave them the mandate some favour. The indicator is that the corruption surrounding constituencies projects has reached a point of attracting a presidential alarm. And the few seemingly performing states along with the Federal

Governments will definitely do better IF THIS ELEMENT OR CHARACTERISTIC OF POVERTY is not part of the leadership culture.

As a result, it is deceitful to present poverty as helpless to the leaders or self-created by the citizens. To act on the basis of this mislead is unfortunate and irresponsible.

It is thus unlikely if not impossible for mankind either at the global, regional, national, society or community level, to REALLY PURSUE PROSPERITY, without accepting to honour the integrity of man as an equal creature with one another regardless of whatever circumstantial differences. Racialism is no less evil than racism, with the toppings of nationalism.

Mankind was one single nation. And Allah sent Messengers with glad tidings and warnings; and with them He sent the Book in truth, to judge between people in matters wherein they differed. (Q 2:213)

Mankind was but one nation, but differed (later); had it not been for a word that went forth before from thy Lord, their differences would have been settled between them. (Q 10:19)

O mankind! We created you from a single (pair) of a male and female, and made you into nations and tribes, that ye may know each other (not that ye may despise each other). (Q 49:13)

For a believer, there is no compulsion in religion. A fellow man does not have to believe. But it will amount to either disbelieve or contradiction for a believer to hold a concept of poverty and act accordingly, contrary to what is consistent with Islam. This positive distinction and orientation is what actually stands the believer and Ummah as the best model – under whom ALL are well served.

This is the basis for shedding tears and even regret, where a believer is leading and the state of lack or misery does not get checked or swept away. Neither states where Muslims are in the majority nor where Christians are in the majority are safe. Neither the electorate nor the leaders have been helpful. And we have not had one president that is neither a Muslim nor Christian. Indeed, we are fighting each other and even degenerating to inter-faith phenomena. What a shame and embarrassment! Where are the Scholars and Teachers? Where are the Imams and the Priests?

How can you reach the goal of prosperity in the opposite direction? How can a Muslim in Nigeria turn to the west cardinal point and face the Ka'aba? How can believers in the God of Ibrahim find the way find the path of Ibrahim in fighting each other and listening to others? This is a self-imposed wretch.

THE LACES FOR DIVERTING FROM RESPONSIBILITY

The misleading definition of poverty is best covered by the classes of solutions to overcome or deal with it. The greed-protective definition will always line up indices in isolation of responsibility level for the first protection of all men. This is why depopulation is desirable to sustain wildlife for the fun of the opulent.

Accordingly, one class or approach is by simple comparison of the types or forms of materials for use. For example in health, if the ratio of general physicians to the citizens is not as prescribed by the World Health Organization, there is a sign of poverty. The same applies to the number of ambulances to a hospital or doctors on call. In agriculture, the types of seedlings for high yield, use of capital equipment are welcomed. Even in the provision of drinking water, pipe borne water goes along with bottled water and sachet water. In education, power point presentation is ahead of other forms. Infrastructure facilities like dams, trunk roads, overhead bridges, speed trains, airports, street lights are not ruled out. And the direction is that, the less you have of what some others have, the poorer you

are. Learning outside classrooms with chalkboard is therefore a characteristic of poverty.

The same applies to the services that have been created to meet the needs, wants and fancies of men. A five star hotel will have porters and round-the-clock service. The less of these the poorer. In the world of money, banks, stocks, insurance, online transfers etc. are some of the characteristics. And like money that is wide-covering, there is Information Technology service like internet service. Companies that operate on e-commerce terms are indicators. Of course, the ratio of police officers to the citizens is never lost sight of. And the same principle applies. The less of these in a society the poorer it is, irrespective of the primary responsibility for everyone before comparison.

The knowledge and skills that are required to enable the types or forms of materials or services are equally in good reference. Thus, all shades of craftsmanship, technicians and technologists are in focus. For information technology, we require training and skills in appropriate hardware and software. For mass communication, printing technology is relevant.

Consequently, a society may consider lifting itself up by introducing cell phones to its citizens. This will come along with all the shades of technical and technological personnel and skills that will enable the service. And the society will be ahead others in this wise even if fifteen percent of the citizens live on uncertainties of food, drink, shelter and security.

There is also the explanatory diversion with institutions. The developing countries are still struggling to make 'modern' political, social and economic institutions work, to serve the entire citizens. Not too long, the subject of social studies was discovered not to be very useful. The cancellation of history has been revisited. I wonder if universities have not invested in making professors for that subject. Lobbying is gradually creeping into the political arena, for Allah knows

what benefits, for believers. We now have universities and we are complaining between conventional ones, specialist ones, Private ones and job oriented ones against growing unemployment. The judiciary is groping to be modern. The legislators are updating on regional and international model practices. The executive is investing in human capital development for greater transparency, efficiency etc. But the air of corruption is the common need across.

The wool that is often put across the mind for clear understanding, is in the form of the approach. A free competition between experts and leaders from their standpoint. The financial gurus will come with fiscal measures like controlling the volume of currencies in circulation. The loans to build infrastructure and support entrepreneurship. Professors from the silver towers cannot be disputed on the truth that knowledge and education is the best basis for development and dealing with poverty.

The intelligent meeting point for all is **PRODUCTIVITY**. I can therefore imagine a psychological culture of confusion with the President, Governors and Chairmen. When lieutenants present budget proposals – competing in assuming priority position for allocating resources, **WHAT CRITERIA CAN COMMONLY ADMIT ANY PACKAGE?** This is not condemnable in itself. The point however is that, it veers away from the satisfaction of the **RESPONSIBILITY FOR EVERY MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY**. This is why no amount of performance helps to bail poor countries out of poverty. The history of the formal and **INFORMAL** investments or commitments by the **BELIEVING JEWS** in other countries that have made the State of Israel possible and developing is the best. Any hypocrisy short of this will not realize and sustain prosperity above **THE RESPONSIBLE SATISFACTION OF THE PHYSICAL BASICS FOR EVERY HUMAN BEING** in the country.

The simple and absolute basis of curtailing these diversions against firstly attending to the basic physical requirements of everyone before talking about poverty is that every and all of mankind are really swimming in the free gifts of Allah.

Firstly, He created man. If we do not exist, all of these will be of no consequence. And Allah does as He pleases. Believers know that at the end, Paradise will still have some vacancies. To fill it up, Allah will create new people to fill it up. They will be free from the life and trials of the world and the Judgement that followed. To fulfil His promise and mercy to Hell Fire which will similarly be asking for more, He will stem on it and the provisions will become shared among the eternal inhabitants with no vacancies outstanding. This is because everyone has a provision in both places until one cancels going or remaining in one, by his good or evil deeds.

It is He Who has created man from water; then has He established relationships of lineage and marriage, for thy Lord has power (over all things). (Q 25:54)

In addition, He has provided ALL OF US WITHOUT EXCEPTION with more than enough provisions, that the basics of every one and all of us CAN BE MET, and MORE BETWEEN US, according to our choices.

It is He Who hath created for you all things that are on earth. Moreover His design comprehended the heavens, for He gave order and perfection to the seven firmaments. And of all things He hath perfect knowledge. (Q 2:29)

To Him is due the primal origin of the heavens and the earth. When He decreeth a matter, He said to it: “Be” and it is. (Q 2:117)

Of the bounties of thy Lord We bestow freely on all – these as well as those; the bounties of thy Lord are not closed (to anyone). See how We have bestowed more

on some than on others; but verily the Hereafter is more in rank and graduation and more in excellence. (Q 7:21)

As a result, it is not difficult to understand if an unbeliever is a leader and is blind, ignorant and stubborn to this. This is because he cannot know without guidance. And will not take note, even as his greed and injustice creates new threats and fears in his course of acquiring more and more, while others lack. On the contrary, it will be unfortunate if the leader is a believer and worse so, if he is a Muslim. It is contradictory self-deceitful for a believer who submits to God to be ungodly, at collective leadership level.

We created not the heavens and the earth and all between them but for just ends, and for a term appointed. But those who reject Faith turn away from that whereof they are warned. (Q 46:3)

This is what Caliph Umar acted out by moving around in the night and was opportune to attend to a family that was in undeserving pain of lack. The family rightly apportioned responsibility to the Caliph. But today, a leader will shed tears before a group of less needy and sing conversant with the conditions of the lacking. He will swim in cosy livelihood and sermons of patience. How can the leader sincerely know of the conditions in which the citizens that gave him the mandate live in, when he lives, rules and leads in ignorance topped up by avoidance of those who may know? This is why the regalia of arrogance and sufficiency are evil and the foundation of having such scholars, wealthy and political leaders be ahead of all of those to be hosted in Hell Fire. The condition and experience of Umar is NOT EXCEPTIONAL but the standard requirement to primarily focus on.

It is He Who has spread out the earth for (His) creatures. Therein is fruit and date-palms, producing spathes (enclosing dates). Also corn, with (its) leaves and stalk for fodder, and sweet-smelling plants. (Q 55:10-12)

A Sign for them is the earth that is dead, We do give it life, and produce grain therefrom, of which ye do eat. And We produce therein orchards with date-palms and wines, and We cause springs to gush forth therein. That they may enjoy the fruits of this (artistry). It was not their hands that made it. Will they not then give thanks? Glory to Allah, Who created in pairs all things that the earth produces, as well as their own (human) kind and (other) things of which they have no knowledge. (Q 36:33-36)

See they not that it is We Who have created for them – among the things which our hands have fashioned, cattle, which are under their dominion? And that We have subjected them to their (uses)? Of them some do carry them and some they eat. And they have (other) profits from them (besides), and they get (milk) to drink. Will they not then be grateful? (Q 36:71-73)

What sane, rational and sensible person will deny and not appreciate these? An unbeliever, misbeliever or disbeliever will admit that the ‘creativity’ that results from human interaction and transformation or use of these are **OUT OF QUESTION** if the creation of these things were not there in the first place. For example, grant humanity everything less the **EARTH**, or Sunlight or Nightfall or rains, or **SPACE**, where will all the education, skills, processes and productivity for prosperity be? Specifically for those who care to know and find out, the Qur’an and Sunnah of Prophet Muhammad (SAW) is **FREELY AVAILABLE** for Guidance.

If ye would count up the favours of Allah, never will ye be able to number them, for Allah is oft-forgiving, most Merciful. (Q 16:18)

Where then is the intelligence of the unbeliever in defining poverty to **INCLUDE THE BASIC PHYSICAL LACK BY ANY ONE HUMAN BEING?** And what **EXCUSE** has a believer to admit and act on poverty **IN EXCLUSION OF THE FIRST RESPONSIBILITY?** If the unbelievers choose to stick to only the good

of this life, they are not at any RISK with believers being in-charge. But the believers have the responsibility of educating the unbelievers to their benefit.

THE ARISING CHARACTERISTICS OF CORRUPTION

With men already created and favoured with being in this world, the first, primary or principal abuse of his reality will be to be Ignorant or deny Allah as the only Truth. Whereas it is not uncommon or impossible, it is a matter of personal responsibility to account for it as at when due and as pleases Allah. This does not rule out the fact that anyone who is accessible or has been reached with the message and guidance of Allah and hesitates to measure it for acceptance or rejection is a fool since the distinctive integrity of man is best expressed by consciousness. This is why whatever is willingly or deliberately committed has the highest value. Those who are righteous are required to be so on their own understanding and choice. Those are forced to do the right things are not righteous.

Hence, the greatest and worst corruption is to ignore, deny or contradict the originator of man, the heavens, the earth, all that He has provided or enabled between for the guidance and favours of mankind. But such stupidity does not affect the truth. This is why there is no compulsion in religion, for Islam. This is why any believer who recants his faith is rightly minimally entitled to execution. This is why a non-believer who submits in faith retains the good deeds he had done by being rewarded for the hereafter and is Forgiven all the corruption he was earlier involved in. Therefore, the Truth is to be given utmost protection because of its finality. Everything and everyone hang or revolve around it for identity.

For a believer who cares, the consequence of such corruption is of double or two-faced but related and frightening nature. The one aspect is that Allah will not close the path to the pleasures or prosperity to meet the needs, wants and fancies

of men including the growth and development of these. This means that both believers and unbelievers can have what appears to be good times. However, in the case of unbelievers the good will be restricted to this world and they will be losers in the next world that is certain and eternal. As for the believers, they will have to struggle with the restraint of the blessings of Allah in the mixed up process because some of the pleasures or prosperity will be permissible. Those that are doubtful will be expanding and building up those that are prohibited. But Allah is clean and accepts only that which is clean.

This means that in addition to the trials promised believers, at their best, self-attracted difficulties in the forms of the turning away of the face of Allah and their wasteful struggle to find right-footing on the Straight path will be the consequences. Is this not evident in the Ummah? Did the Prophet (SAW) produce two Ummahs? Did the four rightly guided caliphs lead two Ummahs? Dear believer, how many do we have now? Is the seventy three in the hadith of the Prophet not controversial today? Is everyone not striving to establish that it is the One on the right path? What a shame! And above our brothers, the Christians and the Jews we have several shades of unbelievers.

Mankind from one family, one nation, of one faith, has built up and is living in its own jungle of animalism – where some are preys to others, some are just inconsequential, and none is safe because like men adopt pets some animals surprisingly adopt others. Our sociology is degenerating.

The corruption of non-belief or disbelief is a LACK in the necessary foundation for prosperity. It is like physical death. It is worse than being blind, deaf, dumb, insane or handicapped. It is worse than poverty that is applicable to believers who believe but are sinners.

A leader who is a believer and fails to recognize the import of his status in a society like ours and misbelieves that things are on the right track and require only a push to rail to destinations is a big fool.

Added to this is the corruption of the meaning or definition of poverty. As pointed out earlier, poverty necessarily excludes total lack, for believers. Minimum physical provisions of requirements to enable every human being exist and survive is a matter of RESPONSIBILITY. Whereas this is dynamic and changes with time and place, poverty commences from the difference in the provisions of prosperity between men ABOVE THE MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS. This is what Allah has freely provided for ALL of mankind. However, like the abuse or denial of belief in Allah, the abuse of this definition only generates the consequences of more stress, more fears, more costs etc. and indeed less peace in spite of more materials, equipment, facilities, services, opportunities etc.

One example is the common security arrangements around a leader. As undeveloped as Nigeria is on the ladder of prosperity, the following are instructive. The statutory provisions for the accommodation and livelihood of the President, a Governor, President of the Senate, Speaker of the House etc. are not defensible. When Prof Yemi declined moving to a new heaven completed for the Vice President, it did not make much news. But the cry to cut on the allowances of National Legislators has not stopped. The President had to personally allay the concern of citizens over the costs of his medicals in the United Kingdom. And naive citizens jumped at the declaration of some personal sacrifice of salaries by some leaders. Of what consequential benefit is that TO ALLEVIATION of poverty? The outing is a cultural output of the corrupt concept of the problem and the solution.

In other words, taxation can also be good. But its goodness will stop at the expressed intention. If the concept is faulty, the application or implementation

cannot be of much help. The build-up will not necessarily be helpful. Is the protocol around political leaders not meant to make it convenient for the individual to be a Superman? This is because he has the very same twenty four hours in a day like a lacking or poor or rich individual in his constituency. He needs sleep, he needs convenience, he needs food and all of these require time. But how can an over-fed reach the lacking in food, when his initial focus is on different types of food, the quantity produced ONLY? Have we not heard and even seen how statistics is used to tell lies? Are we not aware that American farmers can destroy products to control price, for bigger profits? The corruption of the concept and the orientation that supports it cannot be useful to humanity as it is faulty, based on ignorance, groping for the truth that is right.

As long as man lives, he will never STOP to seek and strive to prosper more and better. And as long as it is not based on firstly attending to the collective responsibility we have for basic physical existence and survival of every man, whatever progression or prosperity we may measure as achievements will be enmeshed in different circumstances and shades of frustration.

Does the Qur'an not teach us that willingly or unwillingly we are in submission to Allah? Are we not searching for peace and stability with force and threats? Are believers not different if they know and live it to their utmost? What need will there be of the amount of force and threat facilities IF every man is minimally physical provided for?

This is the basis for the superiority of poverty in Islam. It is NOT the promotion of wretchedness. The believer who is poor and does not ask is of the highest integrity in the rating of charity gesture. This is the person who is on a low level of provision but is more contented than ambitious for more and better. And his knowledge of the truth that is right and discipline is the driver of this orientation. This is the kind of poor whose oath may be fulfilled by Allah as an indication of

his closeness and acceptance by Allah. Such poor are on the path of the successful.

The majority of early entrants into paradise will be the poor. This is essentially because, the more and better the acquisitions of prosperity or involvement, the more and greater the exposure to accountability. The direct opposite of this are those who acquired resources and disposed or kept or managed them according to the provisions of the Qur'an and Sunnah. They will remain behind for as long as they have to, to account for their engagement. As a result, the poor are honourable people who are believers that hang onto the rope of Allah.

It is therefore consistent as best lived by the Prophet (SAW). He did not come with any material burden, he did not amass any for living a thousand years for himself or his heirs and departed with none to fight over. He died and left behind only the verses of the Qur'an and his Sunnah, making Scholars his Inheritors. The motivating principle is that believers are travellers in this world. The true world and life is the eternal in the Hereafter.

Accordingly, in Islam and for the believers THE WRETCHED is not the victim of fellow human wickedness by ignoring the first responsibility to care for everyone. But the person who, on the Day of Judgement loses ALL his good deeds to pay for his arrogance, pride, oppression, etc. and qualifies for hospitality in Hell Fire. This is where and the place an unbeliever will be asked if he will be willing to give the whole world for his ransom, if it belongs to him? He will affirm. But Allah asked him for much, much, much less. To believe in Him.

The real value of the world in the sight of Allah is not better than the wing of a fly. If it were, a non-believer will not be favoured with it by Allah. The real and best provisions are preserved as reward of success for believers.

A believer who indulges in the enjoyment of whatever this world can offer must neither lose sight of the real world and life nor exchange it for the real world and life. Consequently leaders who are believers have the option of moderation and NOT PRETENCE. They also have the risky option of indulgence within the limits of what is permissible. BUT, NOT AT THE COST OF IGNORING RESPONSIBILITY BY EXCUSING IT AS PART OF POVERTY. That is wholesome corruption.

THE COMMON POINTS OF CORRUPTION

This world belongs to and is lived in by both believers and unbelievers. The unbelievers are 'safe' from commitment to belief in Allah and poverty as commencing from AFTER THE SATISFACTION OF THE MINIMUM PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS OF EVERY MAN. The believer is not safe from these. And both will account for their commitments or failures before Allah.

However, on the ladder of poverty, where comparison or competition applies, both believers and unbelievers can be corruptive in the process of prosperity. The most attractive reference is in the abuse of public resources. A leader has his records visited or investigated or probed and it is discovered that the management of the resources were to an unacceptable degree, questionable. This can lead to prosecution and sanction. For example, public facilities are sold out and bought over at less than acceptable prices. It may be that taxes are not paid or collected. It may be that works or services are not done at all but funds are paid out. Indeed, it may take the form of reckless irresponsibility like building bulletproof fences for a public residence, where regular security personnel and facilities are provided. This form of corruption can cause poverty – having less than could have been the situation.

The measure can also apply to the skill or processes. For example, the medical profession in protecting lives does not welcome quacks to perform abortion for

anyone who asks for it. There are qualified standards of personnel, equipment, environment etc. for it. The morality is another issue entirely. Thus, the more a society has the standard requirements for evacuation, the better and safer. This is how infant mortality rate is measured in prosperity or poverty.

It can as well have to do with the number of complexity of institutions. For example, a military establishment that is self-sufficient in providing members with their needs either in settlements of barracks or in theatre of war is good. The troops who get wounded or killed can easily be evacuated. Sick ones can be treated and feeding does not break. This is due to the order in which the military moves in the field. The cooks are in very safe positions as against those facing the fighting enemies. Conversely, in a situation where a country is aligning with another country to fight an enemy, the destructive capacity of man has heightened to attacking with aircrafts that are monitored because no human pilot is required. Any form, type or level of abuse that will affect such arrangement is corruption.

At the level of individuals, the person who will live in a hotel facility paid for, for a year or more is not the same with the person living in a rented house and serving himself for his needs, wants and fancies. The availability of such hotels is a yardstick for comparison on the ladder of poverty as against prosperity. Any relationships that will obstruct such possibilities by loss or leakage of resources, misplacement of priority or availability of substandard facilities is corruption. It is not different from burning tyres for roasting beef or production of fake drugs or drinks.

The relationship between corruption and poverty or tampering with prosperity is generally having to do with interfering with the expected boost in the provisions for more than better goods and services for the comfort of man. The spread goes only IN COMPARISON.

For that reason, it is neither a big deal nor of any special excellence to be an initiator, discoverer, manager or be in lead IN WHATEVER WILL ENHANCE PROSPERITY IN THIS WORLD. Is it not true that believers, misbelievers and unbelievers are constantly recorded as achievers? Indeed believers give recognition to unbelievers and misbelievers whereas misbelievers and unbelievers give to believers. Check any prominent donor organization and you will find the chain or list of recognized beneficiaries to cut across faithfuls, doubtful and non-faithfuls. Any believer in such a capacity or position is not more than in the fun of this world. And along with what Allah has permitted for even His enemies.

THE DIFFERENCE IN REQUIRED LEADERSHIP

Because majority of mankind are not in understanding of what corruption entails, history has inevitably exposed the groping for the knowledge and discipline of what is right. Any attempt to deal with corruption will have to rest the greatest burden to the leadership. There are backward societies where brute force is the dictator. This is the basis for Mafioso. The Dons do not see themselves as evil people. They are simply engrossed in their greed and the protection of the same along with their allies. They see themselves as possible moderators of the ‘excesses’ of constituted authority. This is the worst form of corruption as a solution to corruption.

There is the attractive option of communism which is driven on the beautiful principle that all resources belong to all men and benefiting from it be best organized by the communist elite. It will be laughable to deny that each man has the opportunity to exist and survive under the historical examples. However it fell into questionable corruption. The elite were far from modest. Individuals stood in regular risk of having the life to be protected taken away, because of the human speed to serve everybody, feed the greed of the elite and resist liberty from within

and outside. This is why religion is at best in the back seat in such societies. And the faithful constantly get chased around between admitting prohibited practices and being maimed.

Another ‘creature’ is Democracy. Its worst form is depicted in the real moderation of the excesses of Mafioso and communism. This is why some societies are making improvements on it and renaming it welfarism or social democracy. And it is no doubt finer than the preceding solution. The bankruptcy of such success is still in the pressure on those who have. But ‘poverty’ including basic responsibility for every man is fairly attended to along with security. They are the PROOFS that enjoying the prosperity of this world is not denied or prohibited to non-believers or misbelievers.

However, any of these is CHARACTERIZED by mass protests or resistance, to come into being and to be sustained. This is why in our case the unions always misbelieve that the government and the employer does not deserve the license of NO STRIKE. It is an international culture of human groping for the right knowledge and discipline of what is right and true. The employer is never saying all the truth so the labour never takes its stand from believing the employer. They will often start with what is unrealistic and in-between, the professions of NEGOTIATING and LOBBYING are created. This was best captured by Karl Marx when he observed that REVOLUTIONS ARE THE LOCOMOTIVES OF HISTORY.

Against this, provision of Islam is AGAINST protests and revolution. The citizens are required to give their loyalty to the leaders EXCEPT when they encroach on the reserves of Allah. They should support the leaders with guidance, reminder, criticisms and goodly prayers. With this setting resting on the primary responsibility for every human, the possibility of oppression is for an animal. But he will not last forever and he will account for it fully. This is why leadership is

generated by the learned. And the best is characterized by the person who is more or most considered fit and is imposed on him. Where the position of leadership is by inheritance ANYTHING can become and is NOT the standard of Islam. This is why the distinction of the groping option is by franchise on the surface. But only the elite produce the candidates.

This reveals the complexity of the challenges of a leader who is a believer in this country. It is thus not surprising to find a believer in the position clearly corrupt and arrogant while still enjoying the praises of non-believers and submitting to their guidance. Indeed he may be enjoying the corrupt guidance by fellow believers in order to impress the non-believers.

This does not rule out the caution that he needs to primarily play a role that will reveal the distinctive beauty of Islam. This is rarely the case, but non-believers will never fail to see and say: but he is a believer.