

Can there be humanity without *parlok*?

By: Khurshid Imam

A. Humanity – without the belief in the hereafter [*parlok*]?

'I believe in the religion of humanity'.

'Become a good human first and then become

'Who has seen paradise/ hell? So why should we believe in it?'

Often, we get to listen to such phrases whenever there is a discourse on *parlok*/ faith / God.

Those who make such statements were perhaps not presented with the true concept of God and *parlok*. When any natural or man-made thing is taken to be a God, a logical or rational person is unable to accept this kind of belief/ concept of God.

“I believe in Humanity.” What does Humanity mean?

Who will decide what's humane or what's inhumane? Who will set the parameters of morality or Immorality?

A robber might feel that by robbing people of their valuables he's making a lawful earning for himself and his family while the robbed will believe otherwise.

What's moral for one might be immoral for the other. Both parties consider their actions as just and humane.

What's humane for one might be inhumane for another. The same action is deemed permissible in one region while in another region it might be a punishable offense.

Criminals, land grabbers, murderers find no wrong in their actions, they consider it a necessity for their survival. While the victim seeks justice because he/she was wronged.

The question here is about the authority who will draw a line between right and wrong. Who has the authority to set boundaries between humanity and inhumanity?

Common sense says that humanity/inhumanity, morality/immorality can only be defined when there is some higher authority - the one who's perfectly unbiased and just, the one who is free from human weaknesses and is able to do absolute justice.

That absolute judge is our creator. He knows what is good and what is bad for mankind. The Creator is the one whom we call as the Almighty God. Human beings can't be the deciding authority, and no human being is capable of knowing all the circumstances, capabilities, limitations etc. of another human being to pass an absolutely fair judgment.

Almighty God is the one who has set the parameters of morality through his divine revelations. God is the ultimate source of moral/humane values and these values won't function correctly till there is a system of accountability, which holds everyone responsible for his /her deeds. This very system of accountability is what we call as life hereafter /*parlokik jeevan*. All will get their due whether they were just or unjust; whether they were humane or inhumane.

Concept of Humanity works in two phases:

- Abiding by the guidance of God, following the do's and don'ts of God.
- Being held accountable in *parlok* for one's deeds.

If there is no concept of accountability, no concept of life hereafter then there is no meaning of humanity/morality/ethics.

B. Life hereafter: A logical necessity

Most certain thing in life: Death

Most uncertain thing: When will death come!

Yudhishtir was asked - "What is most surprising"? he replied:

अहन्यहनि भूतानि गच्छन्ति यममन्दिरम् । शेषा जीवितुमिच्छन्ति किमाश्चर्यमतः परम् ॥

हर रोज़ कितने हि प्राणी यममंदिर जाते हैं (मर जाते हैं), वह देखने के बावजूद अन्य प्राणी जीने की इच्छा रखते हैं, इससे बड़ा आश्चर्य क्या हो सकता है ?

"Everyday people die and go back to God, yet people desire to live in this world - this is most surprising".

But, what happens after death? People have different opinions about life hereafter or life after death.

- Mr. A believes in the concept of *Avagaman* (being repeatedly born in different forms). You undergo life-death-life-death cycle millions of times.
- Mr. B believes in the concept of resurrection and the judgment day (being accountable for one's deeds). You will not undergo the *avagaman* cycle. You will be raised up on the day of judgment and will be held accountable for your deeds.
- Mr. C believes that nothing is going to happen after death. No re-birth after death. No life hereafter.

Billion-dollar question:

Is it possible that three types of people living under the same roof will experience three different systems after their death?

Mr. A took birth after his death in the form of animal/plant/human being but Mr. B and Mr. C did not take birth after their death. Is this scenario possible?

Of course not!

Whatever system exists after death - it has to be the same for every human being irrespective of his faith. Do you agree?

Laws of nature are the same for everyone!

C. Life hereafter or *Parlokik jeevan*:

Akhirat will be a system where the entire mankind will be resurrected on the day of judgment and each one will be held accountable for his /her deeds.

Accountability is the law of nature, right? You should be paid for your karma - whether *satkarm* or *dushKarm*.

Through Life hereafter or *Parlokik Jeevan*, absolute justice will be delivered to every human being.

The need for absolute justice

In this world, there are many people who lead a pious life. They are good towards others, they submit to God, follow the commandments of God, refrain from evil deeds. But sometimes these people are dragged into various problems by others, either being hurt or punished for no reason or fault of their own. These good people are oppressed, tortured and many times continue to live in misery till their death.

Do you think justice was served to such good people?

Similarly, we see that there are many people who always hurt or cheat others and humiliate people. But they do not get punished due to their high influence or connections in the justice system. Even though they indulge in evil deeds yet they are not punished for their deeds, they lead a very comfortable life till their death. Not all killers, rapist, robbers, criminals are punished in this worldly system of justice.

Were these bad people served justice for their bad *karma*?

A lot of injustice is being done in today's world. Many times, the system might not be fair to each individual. "Might is right" usually works.

Could this be the end of the story? Absolute justice is still pending for good people and bad people.

Common sense says that there must be a system which should provide justice to each and every person as per his/ her deeds.

*Parlok* or life hereafter or life after death.

This justice system will be in the form of:

- Resurrection - Getting a second life on the day of judgment.
- Paradise – a place of reward for *SatKarmi* - noble souls.
- Hell – a place of punishment for *Durachari*, *adharmi* and evil people.

Who will do justice in the life hereafter / *Parlok*? Answer: Our creator.

What if mankind will not be questioned or held accountable after death?

The entire world would be a mess and chaotic. None would be bothered about his/ her deeds and would just try to avoid getting punished in this worldly system.

There is no concept of humanity without the concept of life hereafter or Parlok.
