**Islamic Civilization vs. Western Civilization**

In essence, any Islamic civilization is founded on the basic principles of our beloved Prophet Mohammad P. B. U. H. and our Holy Book of Quran. As Muslims we all value respect, honestly, collaboration and patience. Our culture also includes respect of the elderly, strong family ties and conservatism.

Pakistan as an Islamic Republic with a majority Muslim population is a great example to discuss.

In contrast the Western society is founded on principles that are most often diametrically opposed to those endorsed by our Islamic culture; these contrasting aspects include but are not limited to religious orientation (no common religion or God, limited religious obligations and persistence of atheism in the young generation), family attachments (non-existent), relationship with the elderly (they don’t hold a respectable position in their lives) and conservatism (western society is an extremely open society).

Today, every community and every home in the East seems to be influenced by the culture of the West (this includes our modern Islamic civilization). One might say that this has to do with the success of the Western Societies; they are indeed considered the developed world. This has led to the claim that many underdeveloped nations in the East are trying to achieve an eminent position in the world merely through imitation of the western culture at workplaces, educational centers and public services. Many people fear that Eastern societies are only picking up the negative aspects of the Western civilization and in a trade-off giving up the positive aspects of their own respective cultures.

Irrespective of this debate, many Islamic communities feel that the provenance of western culture in their society has propelled the young generation away from Islam.

The youngsters within the Islamic communities are adopting only a limited portion of the Western culture that is clothing, music, food and drinks; while they ignore other prominent aspects of the western culture that are still somewhat in accordance with our religion which includes honesty, politeness, patience and respect etc.

In their progressive transformation towards the Western culture the youngsters are leaving behind the essence of the Islamic culture.

However, many believe that if we just follow the basic principles of Islam we could not only match but also surpass the Western world in agriculture, technology, science and economy. In our quest to achieve greatness, there seems to be no need for our youngsters to imitate the Western society, unfortunately, not many of us comprehend this fact.