



ROLE OF RELIGION IN STATE: WITH REFERENCE TO ALLAMA IQBAL

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ABSTRACT

Religion plays an important part in our culture, even though the western world of today is often considered to be a secular society. Religion is a link to our past and has in many ways influenced our values and set the stage for today's society. As society go through changes, so does religion. People's actions and thoughts are affected by the communities they live in, and the different beliefs and attitudes they encounter.

Religion has a place in personal life that should be protected as vigorously as any other freedom. However, religious views do not have a role in government, except to the extent such beliefs agree with our understanding of freedom. Beliefs supported exclusively by religion are not appropriate .If religion, in general, is seen as a solution for many or even all social problems, advocacy of a strong bond between state and religion in every domain goes without saying.

If, however, the main point is freedom of religion, the individual citizen should assess the value of a religion. In that case, the issue of the relationship between state and religion falls apart in three dimensions: religion's place in the state domain, government's role in the religious domain, and state and religion meeting together in intermediate domains.

Conversely, the government has no prominent role to play in the religious domain. Spiritual welfare is ultimately a personal or institutional affair. That citizens might be offended by the religious doctrines of others is the price to be paid for fundamental freedoms. Only if preaching switches to intimidation or incitement to violence or if religion inspires criminal offenses is government intervention is mandatory. As a result of government restraint, there may exist a diversity of denominations, neither supported nor evaluated by the government.