



UHMS 1182- (APPRECIATION OF ETHICS AND CIVILIZATION)

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Group Assignment – SECTION 45

**Islamic values on environment, and protection of the environment that is related to the Islamic religion.**

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## **Islamic values on environment**

Although the term 'environment' is not expressly stated in the Quran or the Sunnah, if we define the environment as the earth and all that surrounds it, we discover that it is referenced 199 times in the Quran. Islam takes into account all factors of long-term sustainability. Islam's primary precepts are founded on a comprehensive and analytical viewpoint that requires people to protect and respect the environment. This, according to Islam, is the only way to ensure long-term viability and survival. The Muslim, according to Islam, is a person who belongs to a group and understands that his or her existence is contingent on the collective's survival (The First Islamic Conference of Sustainability Ministers, 2003). As a result, this individual must act in a manner that is respectful to society and that preserves and promotes the social and environmental characteristics of his or her group. All things were created with precise dimensions by Allah. These heavenly interventions ensure the survival and long-term viability of natural resources. As a result, Islam encourages individuals to retain a sense of balance, as the world was designed to be balanced. As Allah said: "And Allah loveth not those who do mischief" (Surat Al Ma'eda, verse 64) "And do no mischief on the earth after it has been set in order: that will be best for you, if ye have Faith" (Surat Al A'raf, 'the Heights', verse 85)

- **The Environmental Concept in Islam**

The environment is a wide term in Islam. Climate and its components, plants, animals, sand, humans, and everything on the ground or in the atmosphere are all included. In Islam, the environment is a broad notion that encompasses the ground, sky, and mountains, as well as all creatures, as well as humans and their motives, emotions, and instincts (Abdus slam, 2010). All of these species were made to help humanity. As a result, it is the people's responsibility to protect and save the environment. Waste of resources and environmental destruction are forbidden in Islam. During the conflict, the Prophet (peace be upon him) told the Muslims not to chop down trees. He highlighted the need of environmental preservation and the prevention of environmental devastation. Therefore, every Muslim has a religious obligation to protect the environment. The relevance of the environment in Islam encompasses all aspects of the environment. Environmental preservation has a special place in Islamic thinking. The next section goes through some of these topics and explains how Islam views them. Water appears in the Holy Quran in about 50 'verses' and 40 'Suras,' according to the Islamic Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (ISESCO). 'And God sends down rain from the clouds, and delivers it to the ground after its death,' Allah says in sura Nahl, verse 65. Water is seen as a vital component of life in Islam. As a result, humans and other animals cannot exist without water. 'We produced every living creature from water,' Allah says (Al-Anbiya: 30). 'Don't squander water even if you're on a gushing river,' stated Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), emphasizing the value of water in Islamic thinking. The rationale for utilizing water is emphasized in both the Quran and the Sunnah.

Life will come to an end if the water supply runs out; this is true since water is the most vital ingredient in an organism's survival. All ancient civilizations were founded near water, plainly demonstrating that humanity cannot exist without it. As a result, water is significant in Islamic philosophy. Water represents life in Islam. In Islamic thinking, the ideas of water may be summed in two parts. (1) Water's characteristic is not exclusive to a few people; it is widespread. Water ownership, particularly groundwater, is forbidden in Islam. (2) Human or animal dunks take precedence over other uses of water (ISESCO). The scarcity of water resources and the non-renewability of water resources raises the demand for water. Many countries are caught in a bind as a result of this circumstance, and they must deal with it in a variety of ways. The greatest approach to avoid a water scarcity is to save it. This answer is consistent with Islamic theology, implying that Islam foresaw these issues thousands of years before.

Furthermore, Allah created everything in its rightful place. This equilibrium can be harmed by improper use of natural resources. "He created man and gave him clear expression," Allah says in the Quran. Both the sun and the moon follow a strict schedule. The stars and the trees have prostrated themselves. He built heaven and fixed the equilibrium so you wouldn't upset it. Don't scrimp on the balance while giving weight. "He" created the world for all living things to inhabit (Al-Rahman: 3-9). According to this verse, Allah created the world in a balanced state. Abuse of natural resources has the potential to disrupt the ecosystem's balance. Abuse of natural resources, for example, is the cause of environmental problems like global warming and climate change.

These occurrences imply an environmental imbalance. Life is a complimentary system, according to Islamic thinking. This system has various interactions amongst its components; these interactions can be influenced by environmental damage, which can have detrimental consequences for the whole system. People can prevent unanticipated environmental crises and protect themselves by maintaining the balance of natural resources. Islam promotes environmental preservation since it is the only source of life. As a result, individuals must safeguard the environment. Water, plants, animals, birds, locations, air, and sea, for example, are all examples of environmental resources. All animals have the right to use these resources.

Because humans are the only rational species on the planet, the right to profit from the environment is related to being responsible for it. People, according to Islamic philosophy, are accountable for environmental protection. 'The advantage of a thing is in exchange for the obligation linked to it,' stated our Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him). Allah bans humans from harming the environment and commands them to make the greatest use of it possible. 'And do good as Allah has done good to you,' Allah says. Furthermore, do not attempt to ruin the earth. The corruptors are despised by Allah (Al-Qasas: 77). Destruction of the environment infringes on future generations' rights.

The ecosystem must be preserved in its current state. People should think about future generations, who have a right to profit from the environment as well. Environmental advantages should not be restricted to a select few, according to Islamic philosophy. Instead, it should be a constant source of life for all people. In Islam, consumption is based on the effective use of natural resources and the elimination of waste, which ensures that the environment is in excellent shape. 'Eat and drink, but waste is not excess,' Allah says (Al-araf: 3). Reducing trash may help the environment in a

variety of ways. Waste minimization, for example, indicates the effective use of natural resources. It also protects the ecosystem from the negative effects of trash contamination. Furthermore, Islam encourages people to keep their bodies, their surroundings, and their surroundings clean. Excesses of any kind, whether in drinking, eating, or other activities, are forbidden in Islam. For example, the indiscriminate use of fertilizers and the untreated disposal of industrial waste in natural environments can harm natural resources such as water and plants, as well as soil fertility.

- **Overview of Some Theories on Environmental Responsibility and Protection**

In the literature, there has been a lot of discussion on environmental responsibility. Many perspectives on environmental responsibility have been developed by theorists. In terms of corporate environmental responsibility, these ideas differ. Every theory grants the organization within the society a certain role. This job establishes the organization's environmental responsibilities. The following section delves into the most widely held theories in the realm of environmental stewardship.

### **Stakeholder Theory**

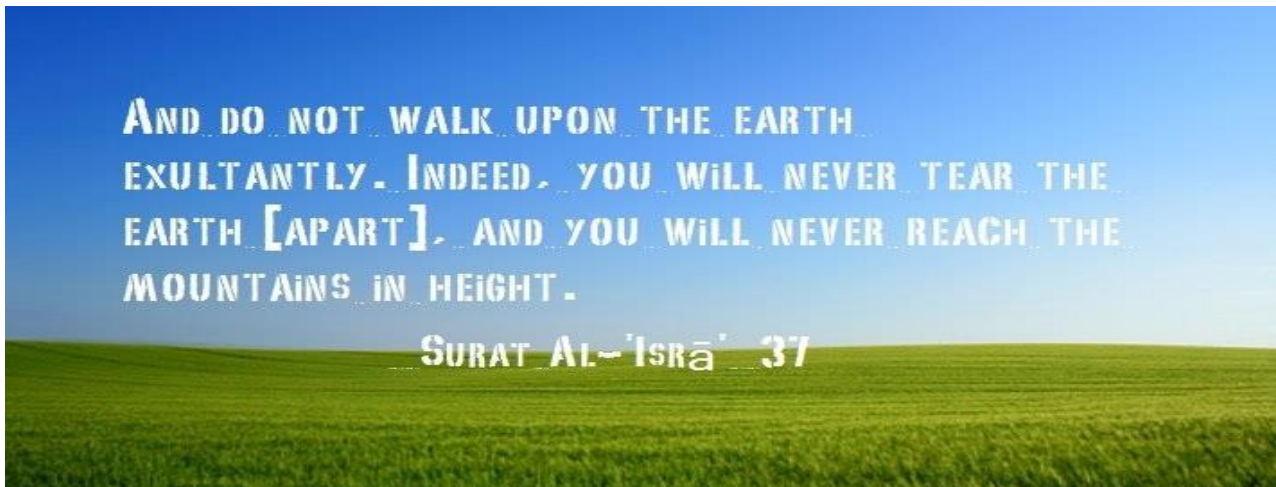
Freeman proposed the stakeholder notion first (1984). It states that businesses should be run in a sustainable manner. To put it another way, businesses should be accountable not only to their shareholders but also to a larger range of stakeholders. The idea arose in reaction to the economic theory of the company, and it is in direct opposition to theory E, which claims that severe, results-driven measures like payoffs and facility closures increase economic value drastically and fast. Stakeholder theory, according to Flak and Dertz (2005), is essentially a management tool; the characteristics of power, urgency, and legitimacy of demands characterize the organization's stakeholders. The idea posits that a corporation may advance its investors' interests without jeopardizing the interests of other stakeholders. As a result, it takes into account both group and individual shareholders.

### **Legitimacy Theory**

The legitimacy theory is one of the most widely mentioned ideas in the field of corporate environmental responsibility (CER). It is seen as a component of a broader system, such as society. As a result, in order for various elements of the system to function, organizations must fit into the broader system's framework or set. In terms of legitimacy theory, Wajdi (2008) states that organizations attempt to create a balance between their acts and how they are viewed by outsiders, as well as what society thinks suitable. According to the legitimacy paradigm, organizations engage in CER to justify their continuing existence to stakeholders (Lodhia, 2004). In other words, businesses must consider environmental factors when conducting business; else, society will reject them.

## **Islamic View of Environment**

Islamic thinking is based on the Quran and Sunnah. The Muslim people's guidance is Sharia. In Islam, human thinking cannot be used to determine what is useful and what is detrimental. As a result, the Islamic Sharieha offers individuals with direction in determining these concerns. 1.6 billion Muslims are influenced by these concepts in their thought and conduct (Wajdi, 2008). The distinction between Islamic and Western conceptions is that Islamic ideology, as embodied in the Sharieha, promotes the environment above all else and favors communal interests above individual ones. As a result, businesses and individuals should safeguard and preserve the environment, even if it means sacrificing their own interests. The Islamic viewpoint is preferable to Western conceptions, which suggest that businesses should safeguard the environment in order to defend their own interests. Western philosophies pique different people's interests. Companies, for example, safeguard the environment to avoid fines and complaints, attract consumers, and create money. In contrast to these ideas, Islam thought presents an alternative conceptual framework for man's relationship with the environment based on the Quran and Sunnah (Wajdi, 2008). Companies and individuals strive to conserve the environment as a reaction to a religious command when environmental stewardship becomes a religious duty. This reaction is accompanied by a deep desire to please Allah.



## **Protecting the Environment**

Unfortunately, people have not always been good custodians of the planet. We must all take proactive efforts toward cleaner living practices in order to conserve the environment and preserve the earth for our children and future generations. We are all consumers of gas, food, clothing, automobiles, furniture, water, toys, electronics, trinkets, and other commodities. The goal is to start becoming more conscious of our consumption habits and how each purchase or action affects the environment

The good news is that becoming more environmentally conscious isn't always difficult, expensive, or uncomfortable. It might even be a fun task for your family or coworkers to take on. And, while tiny adjustments on an individual basis may appear insignificant, consider how much cleaner the world would be if everyone embraced even a handful of the following lifestyle changes. Environmental protection is the activity of individuals, organizations, and governments protecting the natural environment. Its goals are to protect natural resources and the current natural environment, as well as to repair harm and reverse trends where possible.

**Here are some of the ways that can help us protecting the Environment:**

1. Consume less
2. Compost
3. Choose reusable over single-use
4. Upcycle more
5. Recycle properly
6. Use less water
7. Shop secondhand
8. Buy local
9. Walk, bike or carpool
10. Use fewer chemicals.



## **1. Consume less**

Consumption reduction can have a significant environmental impact. The three "R's"—reduce, reuse, and recycle—get a lot of press, but the earth might benefit from a greater emphasis on the most crucial and overlooked "R": trash. You say "no" when you refuse, which isn't always easy. None of the freebies at events, the inexpensive things on clearance, the hot new children's toys, or the latest devices that claim to improve your life are necessary. And they nearly invariably end up in the trash or in the back of a closet, forgotten. Consider whether a non-essential item would actually improve your life the next time you're tempted to buy or accept it. If not, it's quite acceptable to simply say, "No, thanks!"

## **2. Compost**

"Rot" is another "R" that gets little attention but has significant environmental repercussions. Instead of sending your food and yard waste to the landfill, let it decompose organically in the soil. To put it another way, compost. Composting your food scraps and yard waste has two benefits: it saves a huge amount of rubbish out of the landfill and provides free, rich soil for your garden. Organic waste is being collected alongside ordinary trash and recycling in several locations. If this service isn't available in your area, don't worry: you can make your own low-maintenance compost pile in your backyard.

## **3. Choose reusable over single-use**

Think how many people you encounter every day who drink from disposable cups or bottles, sip from plastic straws, carry disposable grocery bags, dine from disposable plates or containers, and use disposable utensils. All of that single-use plastic needs to go somewhere, and it's had disastrous consequences for our soil, oceans, and marine life. All of the goods listed above (and more) have more environmentally friendly alternatives. Make the switch to reusable things and commit to using them as much as possible. You'll have less trash stacking up at your curb, and you'll be making a significant contribution to environmental protection.

## **4. Upcycle more**

Upcycling—basically, turning garbage into treasure—allows you to be creative with your worthless or unwanted stuff. Making something new, such as artwork, toys, or jewelry, is both enjoyable and beneficial to the environment. It not only keeps objects out of the garbage, but it also saves money by avoiding the need to buy new items, which cost a lot of resources to manufacture. Instead of going to the craft store, have your kids look through you recycle bin first and let their imaginations run wild!

## **5. Recycle properly**

If you can't refuse it, rot it, reduce it, upcycle it, or reuse it, it's time to resort to the final "R"—recycling. Learn what may and cannot be recycled in your household recycling containers. If you put the wrong materials in the recycling bin, the entire load may be rejected, which means your recyclables may end up in the landfill. You can quickly learn how to recycle unique products like

electronics, batteries, and appliances. Make an effort to get your stuff to the correct disposal sites by checking with your local municipality for dropoff locations.

## **6. Use less water**

One of the simplest ways to help the environment is to conserve water at home. Consider all of the times you consume water, both inside and outside your home, and make any necessary improvements. Consider the following scenario:

- Turn off the tap while you brush your teeth.
- Fix leaky faucets.
- Make your water use more efficient by aerating faucets, using sprinklers that reduce runoff and installing low-flow toilets and efficient shower heads.
- Collect and use rainwater for watering plants.
- Shorten your shower by a few minutes—or skip it altogether if you don't really need one that day.
- Only run your dishwasher or washing machine when it's full. These are just the basics—you can get really creative when it comes to conserving water.

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## **7. Shop secondhand**

Did you realize that just one basic t-shirt necessitates about 700 gallons of water to grow? Instead of going to the mall to shop for new clothes, go to a thrift store or vintage shop first, or trade clothes with friends. You may give your wardrobe a fresh lease on life without squandering the vital resources required to manufacture new garments. Many additional types of consumer items, such as children's games and toys, shoes, appliances, furniture, cars, and more, can be purchased secondhand. 7. Buy local. While we're on the subject of shopping, it's crucial to consider the route your items take to reach you. All of that packing, combined with the gasoline required for delivery, has a significant environmental impact. Instead, visit your local farmers market for fresh, package-free produce; dine at a farm-to-table restaurant; and support local artists, garment makers, and shops before opting for two-day delivery.

## **8. Buy local**

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## **9. Walk, bike or carpool**

A typical passenger vehicle emits roughly 4.6 metric tons of carbon dioxide per year, according to the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). 1 Any reduction in this area will be beneficial. Try walking or bicycling for short trips—you'll get a good workout without having to step foot in a gym. If walking or riding a bike isn't an option, consider carpooling with a friend, neighbor, or coworker to a shared location. If everything else fails and you must drive, plan your errands in the most efficient path to save time and mileage.

## **10. Use fewer chemicals.**

Do you want to help the environment? You'll be on the right track if you use less dangerous chemicals. Chemicals' long-term detrimental effects on our bodies and the environment are difficult to predict, so it's preferable to avoid them if at all feasible. Choose organic food, chemical-free lawn and garden care, all-natural cosmetics and hygiene products, natural household cleansers, and chemical-free lawn and garden care. The Earth will be grateful to you!

## **Protection of the environment the Islamic way**

Everything in this cosmos was created by God in proper proportion and measurement, both quantitatively and qualitatively. In the Qur'an, God declares: "Verily, all things have We created by measure" (Qur'an 54:49) "...Everything to Him is measured." (Qur'an 13:8) "And We have produced therein everything in balance." (Qur'an 55:7) Islam has a high value on environmental conservation, instructing its adherents not to chop down trees, pollute rivers, or pollute the atmosphere. The Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) taught mankind to live on less, to conserve animal and plant life, and to honor the Creator by being merciful to creation. "If a Muslim plant a tree or sows seeds, and then a bird, or a person or an animal eats from it, it is regarded as a charitable gift (sadaqah) for him." (Al-Bukhari) There is vast diversity and variation of form and function in the cosmos. The cosmos and its different parts benefit humans and serve as evidence of the Creator's majesty; He is the One who chooses and orders all things, and there is nothing He has made that does not rejoice and proclaim His glory. "Have you not seen that God is glorified by all in the heavens and on the earth — such as the birds with wings outspread? Each knows its worship and glorification, and God is aware of what they do." (Qur'an 24:41) Everything God has made is a magnificent symbol, full of meaning, pointing beyond itself to the grandeur and greatness of its Creator, His wisdom, and His intentions for it. "He Who has spread out the earth for you and threaded roads for you therein and has sent down water from the sky: With it have We brought forth diverse kinds of vegetation. Eat and pasture your cattle; verily, in this are signs for men endued with understanding." (Qur'an 20:53-54) The conservation of the environment is a significant part of Islam. Muslims, as stewards of the Earth, have an obligation to care for the environment in a proactive way. Different species, whether plants or animals, were created for a specific reason. Muslims are urged to focus on the link between living beings and their environment, as well as to maintain Allah's ecological balance. Environmental protection is vital to Islamic teachings, and humanity bears the obligation for ensuring the safe custody of the environment. The origins of Islamic thinking are the Quran and Sunnah. Sharieha is the Muslim people's guidance. Human reasoning cannot be used to

determine what is useful and what is bad in Islam. As a result, the Islamic Sharieha offers individuals with direction in determining these concerns. These ideas have an impact on the thought and behavior of 1.6 billion Muslims (Wajdi, 2008). The contrast between Islamic philosophy and Western conceptions is that Islam thought, as embodied in the Sharieha, values the environment over all else, and Islam emphasizes community interests over individual interests. As a result, businesses and individuals should safeguard and preserve the environment, even if doing so jeopardizes their own interests. The Islamic viewpoint is preferable to Western conceptions, which suggest that firms should safeguard the environment as part of preserving their environmental interests. Western philosophies pique different people's interests. Companies, for example, safeguard the environment to avoid penalties and complaints, to attract consumers, or to produce riches. In contrast to these ideas, Islam thought presents an alternative conceptual framework for man's relationship with the environment based on the Quran and Sunnah (Wajdi, 2008). When environmental stewardship is elevated to the level of a religious obligation, businesses and individuals work to safeguard the environment in response to a religious command. This reaction is accompanied by a deep desire to please Allah.

## **Environmental and resource conservation**

The Islamic stance on environmental conservation displays a good picture of Islam and how it embraces every issue that humans confront on the planet. The Islamic perspective on the environment and natural resource conservation is founded not only on the prohibition of over-exploitation, but also on the concept of sustainable development. According to the Holy Quran: "It is He who has appointed you viceroys in the earth ... that He may try you in what He has given you." (Surah 6:165) "O children of Adam! ... eat and drink: but waste not by excess, for Allah loves not the wasters." (Surah 7:31) The Prophet Muhammad (SAW) promoted the planting of trees and the cultivation of agriculture, both of which are regarded excellent deeds. This is exemplified by the following traditions: According to Anas bin Malik (RA), Allah's Messenger (SAW) said: "There is none amongst the Muslims who plants a tree or sows seeds, and then a bird, or a person or an animal eats from it, but is regarded as a charitable gift for him." (Bukhari). Islam forbids the unnecessary cutting or killing of plants and trees, as evidenced by the following Hadith: According to Abdullah ibn Habashi, Prophet Muhammad (SAW) said: "He who cuts a lot-tree [without justification], Allah will send him to Hellfire." (Abu Dawud). The lot-tree grows in the desert and is extremely important in a region with limited flora. The damage created by deforestation in many nations causes soil erosion and the extinction of much of the world's biodiversity. The Fourth Caliph, Hazrat Ali ibn Abi-Talib (RA), effectively stated Islam's perspective to the exploitation of natural resources "Partake of it gladly so long as you are the benefactor, not a despoiler; a cultivator, not a destroyer. All human beings as well as animals and wildlife enjoy the right to share Earth's resources. Man's abuse of any resource is prohibited as the juristic principle says 'What leads to the prohibited is itself prohibited'. When Abu Musa (RA) was appointed as the new governor of Al-Basrah, he addressed the people, saying: "I was

sent to you by ‘Umar ibn Al-Khattab (RA) in order to teach you the Book of your Lord [i.e., the Qur’an], the Sunnah [of your Prophet], and to clean your streets.”. According to Abu Hurairah, the Messenger of Allah (Peace Be Upon Him) banned a person from relieving himself at a water source, on a route, in an area of shade, or in the burrow of a departing creature. These ideals emphasize Islam's emphasis on preserving key resources and the importance of cleanliness.

## **Environmental Sensitization**

You may increase environmental awareness in your personal and professional networks in a variety of ways. The popularity of social networking among the younger population makes it simpler and more appealing to propagate environmental awareness through platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, and Google+. The deployment of QR Codes (Quick Response Codes) across college campus is a simple and successful strategy that can be utilized. Another excellent idea is to launch your own tree-planting program at your school, institution, or workplace. Students, faculty members, and coworkers can be persuaded to contribute a small sum of money to the plantation campaign. Plants at your house, school, or office are not only beautiful and decorative, but they help keep you healthy and enhance indoor air quality. According to Hazrat Jabir (RA), Prophet Muhammad [SAW] stated: “No Muslim, who plants a shoot, except that whatever is eaten or stolen from it, or anyone obtains the least thing from it, is considered [like paying] alms giving on his behalf until the Day of Judgement.” (Muslim) Environmental awareness and the preservation of natural resources are central to Islamic values. As Allah's viceroys on this world, we must use natural resources in a sustainable manner to guarantee that Allah's bounties remain. The notion of conservation is nicely represented by the guideline that states that while doing ablutions (wudu), we should use water sparingly, even if we have access to a river. We, as humans, are custodians of all creation, including soil, air, water, animals, and trees. A primary goal of the Quran, Islamic teachings, and Prophet (Peace Be Upon Him) traditions is to create and preserve a healthy and clean environment free of pollution and abuse.

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**In conclusion,** Despite the fact that the term "environment" is not expressly stated in the Quran, environmental concerns are discussed 155 times in various suras. All things found on the ground of the earth and in the skies are included in the Islamic perspective of the environment. The Quran and Sunnah emphasize the importance of environmental conservation. People, according to Islam, are liable for any damage done to the world. As a result, individuals should conserve natural resources and safeguard the environment. The only way to ensure survival is to maintain the balance of natural resources. Unlike Western views, which regard environmental conservation as a response to external forces and the attainment of specific interests, Islam considers environmental protection as a response to internal forces.

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