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ABSTRACTS OF THE ARTICLES

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See for example Burhanuddin Ali bin Abi Bakr bin Abdul Jalil al Marghinani, Al Hidayah Sharh Bidayat al Mubtadi (Karachi: Idarat al Qur'an wa al 'ulum alIslamiyyah, 1417 A.H) 5/241-244

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Plato (427?-347 BC) was a Greek philosopher. His teachings have been among the most influential in the history of Western civilization. After pursuing the liberal studies of his day, he became in 407 BC a pupil and friend of Socrates. From about 388 BC he lived for a time at the court of Dionysius the Elder, tyrant of Syracuse. On his return to Athens, Plato founded a school, the Academy, where he taught Mathematics and Philosophy until his death. His teaching was interrupted by two more visits to Syracuse (367 and 361 BC), which he made in the vain hope of seeing his political ideals realized in Sicily. Plato was a superb writer, and his works are part of the world's great literature. His extant work is in the form of dialogues and epistles. Some of the dialogues and many of the epistles attributed to him are known to be spurious, while others are doubtful. In the various dialogues he touched upon almost every problem that has occupied subsequent philosophers. The dialogues are divided into three groups according to the probable order of composition. His works include the well know *The Republic*, *Phaedo*, *Symposium*, *Phaedrus*, *Timaeus*, and *Philebus*. For more details see: *The Columbia Encyclopedia*, Sixth Edition 2008, available at:

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- Muhammad bin Ismail bin Ibrahim bin al Mughirah al Bukahri, born in Bukhara in 194 A.H. in the house of a great scholar of Hadith. He Spent his life in collecting and compiling the famous and most authentic book of Hadith; Al Jami' al Sahih; popularly known as Sahih al Bukahri. Apart from it He also compiled two other books namely; Al Tarikh al Kabir and Al Adab al Mufrad. He died in 256 a.h. (See for detailed biography: Ali bin Nayef al Shahood, Mashahir a'lam al Muslimin, available at:

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Abu al Husain Muslim bin al Hajjaj al Nisaburi (206A.H—261A.H), born and died in the city of Nisabur, one of the great Imams in the field of Ahadith, his book Sahih Muslim is one of the most authentic books of Ahadith. His teachers included Ishaq bin Rahwiyah, Bukhari and Ahmad bin Hanbal while his pupils included among others Tirmidhi. (See: Ali Bin Nayef al

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need and the right to deviate from Fiqh in order to attain collective *Siyasah*but Ibn-e-Taimiyyah claimed that such "deviation" are imaginary. If the conflict between them appears, it is either because the Fiqh is understood too narrowly, neglecting the rich resources of the *Shari'ah*for attaining the public good or because rulers disregard the divine will and act unjustly. (67)

An in depth examination of the statements of the scholars about 'Siyasah Shariyyah' reveals that from practical viewpoint it denotes extensive powers of the ruler to carry out anything which is in the larger collective interest of the community and which is not conflicting with any injunction or principle laid down in Qur'an and Sunnah although there is no specific evidence for each of such cases. In fact it is the manifestation of the universality of Qur'an and permanence of great part of Shariah. It is through this means that the Muslim rulers, on behalf of the Muslim community at large can play the role of the deputy of Allah on earth.

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the other hand to exercise the same degree of severity with every accused person, especially the first time offenders who have no criminal record. (63)

According to the opinion of Muslim jurists Siyasah is of two kinds; Siyasah Adilah (just) and Siyasah Zalimah (unjust or cruel). The former is recommended and encouraged by Shari'ah because it helps the oppressed to gain his lost right from the dissolute oppressor and it is a vital part of Islamic legal system. The latter is forbidden by Islam. (64)

Some scholars explain types of Siyasah as follows:

- 1. Siyasah [of selfishness] which basically aims at benefitting a particular group of individuals on the basis of colour, area or ethnicity etc. This kind of Siyasah permits use of any and every means for achieving its goals notwithstanding their legitimacy. It follows the saying; Goals justifies the means. To elaborate on this kind of Siyasah Machiavelli compiled his infamous book 'the Prince' and therefore this kind of Siyasah is attributed to him as Machiavellian Siyasah. It is neither approved by Islam nor by any good moral standard and it can never be adopted by Islam because it divides the humanity into the ruling and the ruled nations which leads to every kind of evil in the course of establishing hegemony upon each other.
- 2. Just and Straight forward Siyasah: it aims at reaching at the truth and obtaining of welfare for humanity in general. Only legal means are sought to achieve its goals. This is the Siyasah which Islam promoted during Prophet (peace be upon him)ic era and in the era of the Rightly Guided Caliphs. (65)
- 3. According to Tarablusi, Siyasah is extensive law (شرع مغلظ) and it is of two kinds, unjust Siyasah which is prohibited by Shari'ah and just Siyasah which takes the usurped right from the cruel, redress many grievances, deters the mischievous and obtains objectives of Shari'ah for people. Thus it is obligatory to adopt it and rely upon it. It is vast areas of understanding where many are mistaken and their steps slip. To overlook it is to waste rights, leave Hudood (fixed punishments of public crimes) and encourage evil doers. On the other hand to commit an excess in it opens the door of cruelties and injustice which causes blood shed and usurpation of wealth illegally. (66)

The concept of Siyasah Shariyyah though in practice since the earliest period of Islamic history, was crystallized by Muslim scholars like Ghazali and others but very particularly by the two Hanbali scholars, Ibn-e-Taimiyyah and his pupil Ibn-e-Qayyim al Jauziyyah. The former thinks that if the divine law or Shari'ahis duly observed, Siyasahof the rulers will not conflict with Fiqh as elaborated by the scholars. Earlier authorities had conceded that rulers had the

an opposition to the government's unIslamic policies, though its intensity varied from time to time.

Second thing which has been mentioned by Mr. Coulson is extra-Shari'ah jurisdiction, which again creates an impression as if there is some domain of state affairs which is out of the purview of Shariah. This contention is a total fallacy. There is nothing like extra-Shari'ah jurisdiction. The permission to the ruler to pursue special policies in fitness to the circumstances of his time, where no textual rule is available, is not unconditional. He must never deviate from the basic principles of Shariah. He must never legislate in the matters where clear text is available for guidance.

According to Islamic theory man is a trustee of Allah on earth. The trust which he has to take care of is 'Khilafah fi 'l Ardh' (deputyship of Allah on earth). Islam has provided man with instruments and tools to fulfill the responsibilities given by Allah to him. One of those instruments is "Siyasah Shariyyah" which help the Muslim ruler to govern the affairs of the state which may sometime be quite unpredictable. If this facility is removed the ruler will be left with an inflexible and fixed legal system which will not be capable of coping with ever changing circumstances. (61)

Some contemporary jurists consider Siyasah Shariyyah as to act on 'maslahah' (public interest) which the Law Giver has neither upheld nor overruled or it denotes administration of public affairs in an Islamic polity with the aim of realizing the interests of and preventing harm to the Community, in harmony with general principles of Shari'ah even if it disagrees with the particular rulings of Mujtahideen. (62)

If one has to search for legal evidence or authority of 'Siyasah Shariyyah' in Islamic law, one may deduce this from the injunctions of Qur'an and Sunnah which make it a compulsion upon the Ummah to enjoin good and forbid evil. This compulsion is an obligation to be discharged by the Ummah through its representatives i.e. the rulers. To fulfill this obligation there has to be some means and that is Siyasah Shariyyah. As it is a duty of Muslims to follow the commands of their rulers, in turn they have to obey all the commands given by him in course of Siyasah Shariyyah. Thus those in authority within an Islamic state must have a way to strive for the ultimate goal of the Ummah i.e. to enjoin virtue and forbid evil. For this purpose the ruler can take any measures which he thinks suitable for this purpose. Any such measures will not be called Siyasah Shar'iyyah unless it observes the limits of moderation which tends neither towards undue strictness nor towards laxity, for both lead to injustice and the loss of rights.

A just Siyasah would require that a judge should not set well known and dangerous criminals free merely because of insufficient evidence, but should detain them until the truth emerges. It would be patently tyrannical on