

MFT 1033: Humanity, Ethics and Culture

Topic 1: Introduction to Humanity, Ethics and Culture

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Topic 1: Introduction to Humanity, Ethics and Culture

- Concept of humanity in Islam
 - Islam is a comprehensive and balance system of life encompassing the spritual and the temporal realms

Topic 1: Introduction to Humanity, Ethics and Culture

- Concept of humanity in Islam
 - Provide comprehensive concept to humanity
 - “who are we” - humanity eternal question



Topic 1: Introduction to Humanity, Ethics and Culture

- Concept of humanity in Islam
 - Humanity on earth: A purpose and a design
 - Relationship with nature and environment
 - Harmony
 - Complementary



Topic 1: Introduction to Humanity, Ethics and Culture

- Concept of humanity in Islam
 - Relationship with fellow humans
 - Inherent design diversity
 - Based on justice and fairness
 - Obligations towards the poor



Topic 1: Introduction to Humanity, Ethics and Culture

- Concept of humanity in Islam
 - Relationship with other religions
 - Freedom of faith
 - Freedom of religious practice



Humanity

- hu·man·i·ty
- 1.all human beings collectively; the human [race](#); humankind.
- 2.the quality or condition of being human; human [nature](#).
- 3.the quality of being humane; kindness; benevolence.
- 4.the humanities
 - a.the study of classical languages and classical literature.
 - b.the Latin and Greek classics as a field of study.
 - c.literature, philosophy, [art](#), etc., as distinguished from the natural sciences.
 - d.the study of literature, philosophy, art, etc.

Ethics

- Merriam Webster dictionary definition of **ETHICS**:
 - the discipline dealing with what is good and bad and with moral duty and obligation
 - a set of moral principles : a theory or system of moral values <the present-day materialistic *ethic*> <an old-fashioned work *ethic*> —often used in plural but singular or plural in construction <an elaborate *ethics*> <Christian*ethics*>
 - *plural but sing or plural in constr* : the principles of conduct governing an individual or a group <professiona*ethics*>
 - a guiding philosophy
 - a consciousness of moral importance <forge a conservation *ethic*>
 - a set of moral issues or aspects (as rightness)<debated the *ethics* of human cloning>

Ethics from an Islamic perspectives

- Abdullahi Hassan Zaroug (professor Faculty of the Shariah, Dept of Islamic Studies, Qatar University)
 - The quran uses the word khuluq in two verses
 - And surely thou hast sublime morals (68:4)
 - This is no other than khuluq (customary device) of the ancient (26:137)

Ethics from an Islamic perspectives

- Abdullahi Hassan Zaroug
 - What is ethics?
 - The word “ethics” comes from the Greek word “ethos”
 - Ethos means habit or custom
 - The word “moral” comes from the Latin moralis meaning mores or customs

Ethics from an Islamic perspectives

- **Abdullahi Hassan Zaroug**
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Ethics from an Islamic perspectives

- Abdullahi Hassan Zaroug (professor Faculty of the Shariah, Dept of Islamic Studies, Qatar University ((The American Journal of Islamic Social Sciences 16:3)
 - Al-Qurtubi interprests the phrase khuluq al awaliyyin to mean their ancient customs and to mean religion, character, ideology or doctrine (mazhab)

Ethics from an Islamic perspectives

- Abdullahi Hassan Zaroug (professor Faculty of the Shariah, Dept of Islamic Studies, Qatar University)
 - Al-Ghazali speculated that morality, unlike other parts of philosophy is not the invention of Greek philosophers but rather philosophers borrowed from revealed religions

Ethics from an Islamic perspectives

- Abdullahi Hassan Zaroug (professor Faculty of the Shariah, Dept of Islamic Studies, Qatar University
 - Defining ethics means distinguishing between moral and nonmoral behavior

Ethics from an Islamic perspectives

- Abdullahi Hassan Zaroug (professor Faculty of the Shariah, Dept of Islamic Studies, Qatar University)
 - Criteria of Moral judgement (good, bad....ought)
 - Some words may occur in nonmoral statement
 - Distinguishing what is moral from what is nonmoral to be prescriptive and action guiding (e.g you should respect your parents)
 - Moral judgement is considered to be overriding and has priority over other judgement such as aesthetic, legal and religious judgement

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Ethics from an Islamic perspectives

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 - The Importance of Ethics
 - (i) Normative ethics should not be the concern of the moral philosopher
 - Judgments on ethical issues are left to religious preachers, politicians, parents and public
 - Deal with facts , for values are subjective and rest on feelings, emotions and personal liking and disliking

Ethics from an Islamic perspectives

- Abdullahi Hassan Zaroug (professor Faculty of the Shariah, Dept of Islamic Studies, Qatar University ((The American Journal of Islamic Social Sciences 16:3)
 - The Importance of Ethics
 - (ii) can be shown in its relation with social sciences e.g law, politics and economics are soulless and insignificant if detached from ethics
 - Ethical concepts such as equality, justice, freedom, and rights are central to legal discourse
 - Issues on jurisprudence such as the enforcement of law, justification of punishment, legal obligation, minimal state, and disobeying the law are ultimately moral issues

Ethics from an Islamic perspectives

- Abdullahi Hassan Zaroug (professor Faculty of the Shariah, Dept of Islamic Studies, Qatar University (The American Journal of Islamic Social Sciences 16:3)
 - The scope of ethics (branches of ethics)
 - Can be categorised into three field
 - (i) Descriptive
 - (ii) normative
 - (iii) meta-ethics

Culture

- Defining culture (Aliaksandr Birukou, Enrico Blanzieri, Paolo Giorgini, and Fausto Giunchiglia, University of Trento)
 - “Culture means the whole complex
 - of traditional behavior which has been developed by the human race and is
 - successively learned by each generation” ([11] cited in [12]).

Definiton of Culture

Defining culture (Aliaksandr Birukou, Enrico Blanzieri, Paolo Giorgini, and Fausto Giunchiglia, University of Trento)

- Culture is the socially transmitted knowledge and behavior shared by some group of people (Peoples and Bailey [21, p. 23] cited in [12])
- Earlier authors define culture in the following ways (cited in Brumann [12]):
 - – Culture ... refers ... to learned, accumulated experience. A culture ... refers to those socially transmitted patterns for behavior characteristic of a particular social group (Keesing [22, p. 68]).
 - – Culture, or civilization, ... is that complex whole which includes knowledge, belief, art, law, morals, custom, and any other capabilities and habits acquired by man as a member of society (Tylor [23, p. 1]).
 - – The culture of any society consists of the sum total of ideas, conditioned emotional responses, and patterns of habitual behavior which the members of that society have acquired through instruction or imitation and which they share to a greater or less degree (Linton [24]).
 - – A culture is the total socially acquired life-way or life-style of a group of people. It consists of the patterned, repetitive ways of thinking, feeling, and acting that are characteristic of the members of a particular society or segment of a society (Harris [25]).

Culture

- influence of culture in the national policy formulation processes
 - Guide in developing national policies
 - Value orientation

Introduction to Humanity, Ethics and Culture

End of topic 1

