

Rulings as to Citizenship♦

1. Islam is a *Deen* and Muslims are an Ummah. Islam connects Muslim to a unity assigning to hem a status of a single mind and body. Thus, the temperament of Islam is that the Muslims irrespective of their regions are a single Ummah on the basis of *Kalimah* and no discrimination among them can be tolerated and no partial treatment can be permitted.
2. However, regretfully, due to influences of the Western World in the contemporary age in limitations in the existing system of citizenship, division of humanity on geographical grounds and the approach of the citizens of every country to be separate nation, the Muslim Ummah is following in their footsteps, Muslims living in different countries have been divided in several nations instead of a single nation and problems have emerged in respect of their free movement and residence. Though this system is not in harmony with the universal approach of unity in Islam, there is scope to accept the prevalent system of citizenship under the existing international conditions, regional interests and factors in countries in contemporary circumstances.
3. If a Muslim of Muslim or non-Muslim country is desirous for citizenship in a Muslim country and he faces threats towards his faith, life, property and dignity in his own country, the Muslim country is required to admit his application.
4. When Muslims of a country in compulsion take refuge in other Muslim countries, it is obligation of such countries to grant all citizenship rights to these refugees.
5. There are following conditions for a Muslim to opt citizenship of a non-Muslim country:-
 - (a) To obtain citizenship of a non-Muslim country where a Muslim apprehends threats towards his faith life, property and prestige, it is not permissible, however if such threats do not exit, it is permissible.
 - (b) It is not permissible to adopt the citizenship of a country being fond of non-Islam civilization and culture there.
 - (c) It is not good for citizen of Muslim country to adopt citizenship of non-Muslim country only in order to uplift the standard of life.
 - (d) It is permissible to adopt citizenship of a non-Muslim country for educational purposes, medical necessities and economic difficulties.
 - (e) It is better to have citizenship of a non-Muslim country for preaching purposes.