

Gambling — the nasty game has taken the form of a status symbol in our largely unaware society. It exists in almost all the possible forms as
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describes some of these games, in which the gamblers go for big deals

“Juaa, Kisi Ka Na Huaa” is a famous proverb of Urdu about gambling. This golden notion was shaped on the basis of centuries-old annotations and interpretations of our ancestors that the final fate of gamblers are absolutely same and that is disenchantment, disappointment and frustration.

It is commonly observed in our circumstances that victims and habituals equally condemn the evils of which they are accustomed and same is the case in gambling.

What is the situation of gambling in our surrounding and how it took its roots in a society, which is quiet fundamental, conservative and Islamic in character, is a question-mark for all the active brains of our scholarship. What our religion, constitution and history said about gambling is a chapter of literature which is, perhaps, least opened and read by the literates of our taboo faceted environment. How the game of gambling is prolonging around us without facing any challenge for its survival, is another point before us which requires yawning investigation

Let us have a momentary look over all these factors — justifying its presence, explaining historical evident of its rooting in our part of the world, and warning of our religious teachings against such ill-fated businesses.

First of all talking form religious platform, we have clear orders against gambling in the Holy Quran. Allah Almighty regards gambling as one of devilish activities.

Quranic orders depict the aluminous teaching of Islam, which orders its followers to observe restraint from falling into the blind well of gambling — that is not only wastage of time but also the material assets.

So our religion provide a clear tenet to escape from being a part of gambling which ultimately snatches away each and every vapor of contentment from the heart and create an artificial scarcity of gratification in mind.

Viewing the gambling in the history of subcontinent, we notice this fashion in every part of total dynasties irrespective of their religious background.

Even in Mughal period, which is treated as one of the greatest and strongest Muslim period of in the region — gambling in royal court was a part of daily life. And in royal residences, royal families had used to play gambling on chess.

Now let's jump form the old days of dead time to the present situation of gambling in our country. It is a hard virtual truth that time for an announced gambling in Pakistan is not as ripe as it is in other socialist and republic countries, but the at the same time development of a variety of under the cover and beneath the surface routes for wide spreading of gambling is only ours distinction for which we must feel sorry.

Nullifying all the rules and regulations by different gangs of gamblers in different areas

From a nasty game to trend

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Illustration by Khalid

without any exception is obviously a shame miracle for the our legislators and law enforcement agencies.

The gambling mafia seems so powerful that in the arena of acute Islamisation of Zia regime — when almost all illegal businesses suffered some level of minor of major set-backs, gambling continued to run in our country with its normal pace. And despite of all oral and original commitments for Islamisation, President Zia could not put a ban on the horse races in Race Course — which was and is a dearest spot of gambling for the power

elite of our society.

Now any sensible person can easily initiate the idea in his mind, if it was the situation of gambling in a power controlled period then what would be the state of affairs at the moment when there is quite liberty and freedom all around and sabotaging rules and regulations has become a child's play.

The question in all this situation of gambling is that what is the force, which acts as a magnetic field to attract and continue to grab the people towards this evil in every circumstance of political and

social setup.

Responding to this important question majority of people, who, now are either organizers of gambling dens or regulars gamblers say that initially people are attracted towards this field by their own dream of multifolding their money overnight. If initially they succeed to get some benefits form this game, they literally commit to always come to the gambling, and if they lose their money then their nostalgia to get their lost money back, drives them to the gambling dens. Whatever the case may be it is a proved

truth in gambling 'Once a gambler forever a gambler'. So we can say that in the environment of acute economic depression all around, certain pressing needs of people sometimes leave them with no way except to try their fate in gambling. Frequent and numerous forms of gambling even in streets and bazaars give them an easy access to gamble and accelerate the progress of this evil business in the society.

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