



Munich Personal RePEc Archive

**Does Bible and Quran Represent the
True Word of God, The Economist case
against Addictive substances**

Hayat, Azmat

University Kebangsaan Malaysia

2 February 2017

Online at <https://mpra.ub.uni-muenchen.de/79527/>

MPRA Paper No. 79527, posted 11 Jun 2017 15:37 UTC

Does Bible and Quran represents the true word of God?

“The Economist case against addictive substances”

By

Azmat Hayat

PhD Economics Candidate at

University Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM)

azmat583@yahoo.com / azmat@uom.edu.pk

Abstract

Policy prescription regarding addictive substances is one of the critical issues facing humanity since time immemorial. It is a universal truth that drug addicts are always trouble makers in terms of creating violence, corruption, incest and numerous other immoral and corrupt activities across the globe. In order to formulate the best and universal policy approach, the present study analyzed the policy prescription of economists and different religions. Christian church like the Jews not only permits but encourage the use of addictive substances in their various religious festivals. Mainstream economists case about addictive substances is based on confusion and contradiction. In sharp contrast Islam consider addictive substances as the mother of all evils and ills. Muslim jurists on one side strictly restrict the production and consumption of addictive substances, while on the other side through moral education its use is discouraged.

1. Introduction:

The use of addictive substance is one of critical problem facing humanity since time immemorial. An addictive substance can be defined as the one for which the desire to use depends considerably on previous consumptions. Across the globe widely used addictive substances are heroin, cocaine, alcohol, and crack. To discourage the use of addictive substance as well as reduce their flows into their countries, many governments allocate and spent billions of dollars every year. Addictive substances have numerous adverse impacts. Addictive substances on one hand damage the health of the users while on the hand it inflicts costs and harms on the entire society. In majority of the cases alcohol is the most widely used addictive substance affecting the users as well as the society. Increasing reports of road deaths as well as casualties linked to drunk driving have been recorded throughout the globe. In the study of the World Health Organization (2005), every year due to drunk driving approximately 1.3 million peoples are killed on roads. Drunk driving is also responsible for the injury of around 50 million people across the globe. Similarly, drunk driving is one of the biggest sources of disability in people across the globe. In the least developed countries ninety per cent of the casualties occur due to drunk driving. The situation is expected to exacerbate further specifically in the least developing countries as majority of them record significant increases in car use. In terms of robbery and killing drug addicts put a significant damage and destruction to almost each and every society across the globe. The sale, consumption and dissemination of addictive substance are always a source of untold damage. Across the globe both lawful and unlawful production entails billions of dollars and the use and control of drugs have a deep and intense medical, social, moral, political and legal repercussions.

Across the globe, different countries treat the issue of addictive substances according to their own culture and circumstances. The present study on one hand attempted to provide a proper guidance for solving the issue of addictive substances, but on the other hand it also attempted to highlight whether contemporary Bible and Quran represents the true word of God? The writing and publication of this article is not intended to insult someone belief but rather it is motivated by the desire to invite our non Muslims believers especially the Christians to come with us in order to find the truth in the following article.

The remainder of the article is organized as follows. Section 2 reviewed the belief behind the usage of Addictive substances in Judaism. Section 3 examined the usage of addictive substance in Christianity. Section 4 discussed the policy prescription of economists, while section 5 highlighted the wisdom behind the prohibition of addictive substance in Islam. Section 6 concludes and recommends policy solutions.

2. Addictive substances in Judaism:

More than 3500 years ago Judaism originated in the Middle East. Although the Jews regards Moses as the main founder of Judaism, but they trace back their history to Abraham. One common thing among the Jews and Christian is Torah which has similar contents with the Old

Testament of Bible. In Judaism it is believed that daily work is for the welfare of human body while Almighty has selected Sabbath and Festivals for the welfare and enhancement of human soul. Jews commemorate the Shabbat as a day of rest on the seventh day of each week. Jews considers Sabbath and festivals as, “the seasons of the Lord” and “Holy convocations”. The blessing obtained from observing the Holy days are explained by the prophet in the following words,

"If thou keep back thy foot because of the Sabbath, from doing thy business on my holy day; and call the Sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord, honourable, and shalt honour it, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own business, nor speaking thine own words: then thou Shalt delight thyself in the Lord: and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob, thy father "¹.

Anyone who fail to observe the “seasons of the Lord’, then in Bible they are mentioned in the following word,

"Your new-moons and your festivals my soul hateth: they are a trouble unto me; I am weary to bear them"².

In Judaism alcoholic drinks serves as an essential element in the seasons of the Lord including the marriage ceremony. Alcoholic drinks are therefore associated with religion. In Judaism it is believed that wine bring happiness to the heart of men, therefore alcoholic substance is treated as one of the essential component in the holy convocations.

“And He will love you and bless you and multiply you; He will bless the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your soil, your grain, your wine, and your oil, the offspring of your cattle and the choice of your flocks, in the land which He swore to your forefathers to give you”³.

In the Jewish religious festivals as well as on the eve of Sabbath, holiness and sacredness of the day is mentioned before the use of alcoholic substances. To make the festival holy in Judaism, special blessings for wine are recited before the meal. The importance of wine among the Jews as an essential food item can be verified and confirmed from the fact that in the case of fire on the day of Sabbath, the presence of three foods items must be made obligatory, which includes a basket of loaves, a cake made from preserved figs and a jar of wine⁴.

¹ Isa.I viii. 13, 14

² ibid. i. 14

³ Deuteronomy 7: 13

⁴ EBi. C. 15690, See also P.II, pp. 438, 440

An old rabbinic prescription says that in Judaism that there is no joy without wine. It is believed that like the ancient Greeks, Judaism is also a cheerful religion which encourage the use of addictive substance for fun and pleasures.

3. Drug use in Christianity:

Across the globe Christianity is the largest practicing religion with more than 2 billion believers. Like Jews, the Christian church also encourages the use of wine in their religious festivals. Drinking wine is a form of worship, which is regularly held at Churches in the name of Eucharist or Sacred Meal or Holy Communion. The rite of sacred meals ranks amongst the most important rituals of Christianity and it is celebrated in commemoration of the sacrifice of Jesus. According to tradition one day before his alleged arrest, Jesus Christ commanded his disciples in following manner:

“Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said, Take, eat; this is my body. And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins”.⁵

Luke adds Jesus thereafter said;

“Do this in remembrance of me”.

The rite of Eucharist is held in fulfillment of this order. The well known Christian Scholar Justin Martyr⁶ explains the rite of Eucharist that there is a gathering every Sunday at Church. At the beginning some prayers and hymn are sung. Then the participants embrace each other and convey their good wishes. Bread and wine is then brought. The head of the gathering takes the bread and wine and makes prayers of the blessing to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. All participants answer Amen. The Deacons of the Church then distribute the bread and wine among the participants. Hence followers of Christianity regards alcohol as one of the greatest blessing Christ ever bestowed on mankind, which can be proved from the following verse of bible,

“And wine that maketh glad the heart of man, and oil to make his face to shine, and bread which strengtheneth man's heart”⁷.

In Bible there are many verses which claim that even prophets used addictive substances in their lives. The following verse of Bible shows that even Prophet Lot used addictive

⁵ Mat. 26:26

⁶ Quoted by **Burkitt, pp. 165-167**

⁷ Psalm 104:15

substances;

“And Lot went up out of Zoar, and dwelt in the mountain, and his two daughters with him; for he feared to dwell in Zoar: and he dwelt in a cave, he and his two daughters. And the firstborn said unto the younger, Our father *is* old, and *there is* not a man in the earth to come in unto us after the manner of all the earth: Come, let us make our father drink wine, and we will lie with him, that we may preserve seed of our father. And they made their father drink wine that night: and the firstborn went in, and lay with her father; and he perceived not when she lay down, nor when she arose. And it came to pass on the morrow, that the firstborn said unto the younger, Behold, I lay yester night with my father: let us make him drink wine this night also; and go thou in, *and* lie with him, that we may preserve seed of our father. And they made their father drink wine that night also: and the younger arose, and lay with him; and he perceived not when she lay down, nor when she arose. Thus were both the daughters of Lot with child by their father. And the firstborn bare a son, and called his name Moab: the same *is* the father of the Moabites unto this day. And the younger, she also bare a son, and called his name Ben-ammi: the same *is* the father of the children of Ammon unto this day.”⁸.

Similarly another verse of Bible also verified the drunkenness of Prophet Noah,

“And the sons of Noah, that went forth of the ark, were Shem, and Ham, and Japheth: and Ham *is* the father of Canaan. These *are* the three sons of Noah: and of them was the whole earth overspread. And Noah began *to be* an husbandman, and he planted a vineyard: And he drank of the wine, and was drunken; and he was uncovered within his tent. And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father, and told his two brethren without”⁹.

There is no reference in Mark and Matthew in which Jesus directed that this act be made a perpetual rite. Paul was a first to render it a ritual¹⁰, and Luke followed suit because he was a student of Paul. Christian theologians have conceded this. Hence in the statement of FC Burkitt:

“The account of Last Supper in Mark does not indicate that this act must be celebrated in future; but St. Paul when referring to the act attributes it to Jesus and adds the following sentence, ‘Do this in remembrance of me.’”

From the above discussion it is evident that contemporary Bible on one hand not only permitted but also encouraged the use of addictive substances. On the other hand in Bible, there are thirty verses which says that God is Omniscient which can be confirmed from the following verses,

“Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure”¹¹.

⁸ Gen 19:30

⁹ GEN 9:18

¹⁰ I Cor 11:24

Another verse in the Bible goes in this way,

“For whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything”¹².

“Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable”¹³.

Ground reality exhibits that it is a universal truth that the use of addictive substances is held responsible for numerous personal and social ills. Contemporary Bible on one hand not only allowed the use, sale and production of addictive substances but it has also made its consumption as a compulsion which is regularly held among the Christian community in religious festival, while on the other hand, there are thirty-seven verses in Bible which says that God is omniscient. Reading the above contradiction one start suspecting the possibility that if either God is omniscient then contemporary Bible is not the true Word of God?

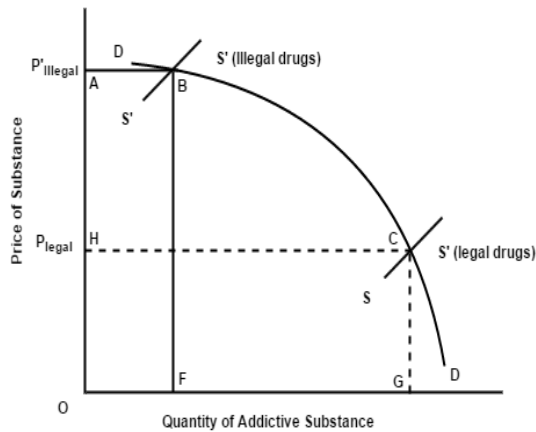
4. Mainstream Economists Case against Drug Use:

Regarding the policy prescriptions of conventional economics, critics quote a famous joke which goes, “That the First Law of Economics says that for every economist, there exist an equal and opposite economist, while the Second Law of Economics says that both economists are wrong”. As a corollary and proof they cite the issue of addictive substance in economics. In other words, economist’s advice on the issue of addictive substance is based on two hands. On one hand as a policy prescription, one group of economists supports the prevention of addictive substances. With their usual blackboard model, this group opined that addictive substance is highly price sensitive and therefore prohibition will bring an upward shift of the supply curve by decreasing the equilibrium quantity (Q_e) and increasing the equilibrium prices (P_e). Prohibition of addictive substances will bring a drastic decrease in the use of addictive substances accompanied by a decrease in the negative externalities of drug adductors. Many economists of this school of thoughts argued that legalization of drugs would decrease prices of addictive substances which will bring a drastic increase in the number of occasional users. This group of economists opined that prohibition of addictive substances will be the best policy approach for eradicating and eliminating this important problem facing the humanity.

¹¹ Psalm 147:5

¹² John 3:20

¹³ Isaiah 40:30



Demand for addictive substances by casual users

On the other hand, another influential group of economists which emerged in Britain in the eighteenth century not only advocates but forcefully implement their policy of free market economy by legalizing every types of drugs. Adam Smith, David Ricardo and other liberal writers were considered as the founder of this school of thought. These scholars propagated the philosophy of individualism and rational self interest based upon the doctrine of Laissez-faire, which translates as “leave us alone”. According to this philosophy even a **Parrot** can become an economist if he learns the law of demand and supply. In other words this doctrine emphasized that government intervention in any economic matters should be left to the interchange of supply and demand in the marketplace. In the philosophy of free-market economy, neither the consumers nor the producers are responsible for the production, utilization, and division and pricing. Many governments advocated this philosophy in the middle of nineteenth century up to the end of the nineteenth century. The economy of the United States as well as many Western European countries with draw from full laissez-faire at the closing decade of the nineteenth century. These countries then implemented a new economic system called “Welfare State” specifically after the decades following WWII. The philosophy of free market ideologies came again in 1980 due to the strong influence and support of US president Ronald Reagan and British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. This philosophy received further momentum and legitimization due to the collapse of communism in former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe in 1989/90. In term of addictive substances proponent of this philosophy opined that addictive substances should be made legal for adults but it should be also made pure for potency and efficiency. Proponents of this approach opined that the current war on drugs has been unsuccessful and the associated costs-including enlarged police forces, the constructions of more prisons, an overburdened court system and untold human cost have increased markedly. In other words, the overall impact of addictive substance to users, to other people, and to the ravaged inner cities in which the trade takes place would be lower if government regulation were relaxed and the resources currently devoted to supply restrictions were instead put into treatment and counseling. To paraphrase the opinion of free markets ideologists, the legalization of every type of addictive substance will be a far more superior policy approach than the prohibition. Legalization of addictive substance might increase the number of addictive users, but this policy approach will also reduce the damaging impact on society through a decrease in robbery, theft, prostitution as well as on a number of other channels. Free market ideologist argued the negative

externality created by prohibiting addictive substance to the entire society is much greater than its positive impact.

After having analyzed the different and contrasting views of economists regarding addictive substance, it is hard to draw a conclusion as to whether legalization is advantageous or prohibition is advantageous.

5. Addictive substances in Islam:

A close study of human history reveals a deep rooted link between human actions and the views of life advocated by its member of society. It is the view of life which in every age has shaped and directed economic organization and institution in society. Despite minor differences humans, since the dawn of history up to the present day, has based his practical life on two concepts. One is Materialistic concept of life while another is Moral concept of life.

The materialistic concept of life views humans as an animal and devils whose sole objective is to fulfil his greed and lust. Mercantilism, liberalism/capitalism and Marxism exhibit this selfish and greedy nature of life. In the materialistic view of life rules, regulations and values are designed in such a fashion so as to ensure the fulfilment of material wants. This concept of life leads to an individualistic and self-interest centered approach to life where every man lives for himself and the purpose of human life is to secure maximum pleasure and comfort for himself. Self-interests make individual indifferent to collectiveness due to which humans always created violence and troubles for other humans. In cold war era this animal nature of human was responsible for the death and sufferings of numerous other humans.

In contrast to the materialist approach to life the moral concept of life which are explained by Quran is rooted in a particular view of the universe and human. According to this approach human life is an organic whole. It has several different aspects and segments, yet they are so interrelated that they form one entity. They cannot be divided into air-tight compartments. Political, economic, social and moral aspects are parts of whole. Movements in one parts have inevitable repercussions in another parts. On the basis of this reality Quran has devised a strategy for the solution of every problem of man.

According to this approach the infinitely vast universe has not came into existence by itself or as a result of some accident. It has been purposely created by an Ever Living, Eternal, Omnipotent, and God. In Quranic view human being is the best among all creatures on the basis of their wisdom, intellect and knowledge. In Imaam Ghazali statement, every sensible human behavioral repertoire entails with the habits of Lion, Pigs, Cattle, Devil and Angels. In other words, God/Allah tests human behavior with the attitude of lion, Pigs, cattle, devil and angel. Like lion, human do have the behavioral tendency of superiority and proudness. Human tries to dominate, to compete, to be aggressive either on the basis of color, wealth and strength. Like pig's human attitudes sometimes become extremely mean and inappropriate. Like animals, human do have the behavioral tendencies to eating, drinking and their offspring. Similarly the behavioral tendencies of devils were to create and further violence and corruption among the humanity, while the activities of Angels were to seek the obedience and beauty of God. According to the philosophy of Quran, humans are successful only if they behave like Angels, while the attitudes and behavior of Lions, Pigs, Cattles and Devils are considered as a punishable

act (sin). A question arises if humans do have the behavioral tendencies of Lions, Pigs, Cattles, Devils and Angels, then why they get success and salvation by behaving only like angels and not like lion, pigs, cattle and devils? Accordingly Islam regards human being as the noblest, perfect and best among all creatures. Human is endowed with the wisdom and intellect to differentiate between sin and virtue. In other words this world is a place for test and this test requires some people to be fortunate and some to be unfortunate. Some are created with wealth and power, while some are created as weak and poor. The fortunate and unfortunate are both tested for tolerance and thankfulness to God (Allah) and how they use this freedom for him and society. In short, every human being is tested according to their own circumstance. On the Day of Judgment Allah/God will ask how you utilize your freedom. Did you behaved like Lion, Pigs, Cattles, Devils or Angels? Quran (Muslim Holiest Book) mention this reality in the following words,

“Glorious is the One in whose hand is the Kingdom (of the whole universe), and He is powerful over everything, the One who created death and life, so that He may test you as to which of you is better in his deeds. And He is the All-Mighty, the Most-Forgiving”¹⁴.

On the other hand in the materialistic view of life humans have no special status apart from the rest of other creatures. Proponent of this view opined that “existence and human life are both unintentional and that humanity is the probable product of the development of evolution. They also stressed that matter is the essential element of the universe; and therefore human mind-sets and way of behaving are the consequences of human biological activities.”

One common thing among all these thinker’s and scientists is the belief of atheism and hence the exclusion of religion from all spheres and activities of life. All these Western thinkers and scientist regarded humans as mortal, while ignoring the unobservable part of human soul. Inclusion of soul make human being as immortal. Similar is the case of dreams which always convinced sensible human being that there was more to human that met the bodily eye. Dream is a type of situation where any human being could experience anything unimaginable beyond his control. Quran mention dreams in the following words.

"It is God that takes the souls at death, and those that die not during their sleep. He keeps that (soul) for which He hath ordained death and dismisseth the rest till an appointed term. Verily in this are signs for those who reflect"¹⁵.

In dreams people are given an indication of the future events and happenings which are either blessings or curses. In the philosophy of Islam death of the bodily life is not the end of human existence. It is believed that bodily life in this world is unconscious to the divine and spiritual world, while the time of death is considered as the reawakening to the divine and spiritual world. As a proof and justification for the above argument Islamic philosophers give the

¹⁴ Quran 67:3

¹⁵ Quran 39:42

example of nightly sleep. Sleep on one hand perform the function of rest to our human physical life, but on the other hand gave an example and taste of death. In Islamic philosophy Day of Resurrection/Judgment of human deeds and action is nothing more than the reawakening from sleep. In computer similarity human Soul/Mind is assumed as software while human body as hardware. Therefore for either rewarding or punishing human deeds or actions, this Software/Soul/Mind is then transformed to some other means on the Day of Resurrection/ Day of Result Declaration of human deeds. Quran Soul/Spirit is mentioned in the following words,

“They put you questions about Ar-Ruh (*the Spirit*). Tell them: "The Spirit is at my Lord's command and I am not given any knowledge of it but a little"¹⁶.

“Soon shall We show them Our signs in the universe and in their own souls, until it becomes clear to them that this Qur'an is indeed the truth. Is it not enough that your Lord is a witness over everything”?¹⁷

Soul is something which cannot be quantified nor distributed nor approximated. No one knows the exact place of soul in human body. Only soul has the capacity of knowing the true purpose of life on this earth. The soul is a supernatural thing which cannot be explained through any material arguments and reasoning. Quran express this reality in the following words:

“No one knows the forces of your Lord except Himself, and this (*Qur'an*) is nothing but a reminder to mankind”¹⁸.

Since time immemorial, human managed successfully apparently stubborn problems, but no one until today were able to know the true nature of soul. Human soul is a mystery, which will remain forever. Man lives until a certain day and then dies. Some dies in their young and early ages, while other go through all phases of life and then dies in their latter years. In other words, every human being is destined to death. In Quranic philosophy this worldly life is a test of human behavioral freedom until death. It is a test of God/Allah to evaluate who is better in his deeds and action in order to determine the final destiny which is either Heaven or Hell. Among the testing materials, addictive substances are one of them in which prominent and widely used are alcoholic drinks, heroin and cocaine. Quran express this reality in the following words;

“O you who believe; Intoxicants (All kinds of Alcoholic drinks), and gambling, and Al-Ansab(Stone Altars) and Az-Alam (Arrow for seeking luck or decision) are an abomination of

¹⁶ Quran 17:85

¹⁷ Quran 41:53

¹⁸ Quran 74:31

Shaitan's (Devil) handiwork. So avoid (strictly all) that (abomination) in order that you may be successful"¹⁹.

Ground reality exhibits that drug addicts are always troublemakers among the society. Recent data revealed that around 25 to 85 percent of all wrongdoers are drunkards²⁰. It is universally verified and confirmed that there are linear association between excessive drinking and breaking and infringement of the ethical law among the society. Alcoholic substances belong to a group of toxic chemicals; whose nutritional value is of no utility in practical dietetics. In fact, it is one of the misleading arguments that use of alcoholic substance has a motivating and stimulating impact. Alcoholic drinks when used in medium quantity have a tranquilizing impact, while its use in excess has a fatal and venomous impact. Alcoholic substances as a drink and cocktail are unsafe for bodily processes. Drug addicts on one hand are financially corrupt, while on the other hand they are the biggest source of creating trouble and negative externality among the general public²¹. In summary Quran express this reality in the following manner.

“Satan only seeks to breed enmity and spite among you by means of wine and gambling and would keep you from the remembrance of Allah/God and from prayer; will you not then desist”²²?

From the above discussion it is evident that only Islam became successful in tackling this pressing issue of addictive substances. In the philosophy of Islam, on one side production as well as consumption of addictive substances is strictly prohibited, while on the other side through moral education these substances are discourage and opposed.

6: Policy recommendations:

According to the World Health Organization (2005) report, excluding the damage caused to society the ranking of alcohol is fourth among the twenty leading risk factors for death and disability across the globe, while including the damage caused to the individual and society the finding of recent scientific study of “Lancet”, disclosed that alcohol is more harmful than heroin.

Like the ancient Greek, pleasure and enjoyment is a distinguishing feature of the Jewish religion. Jews believes that alcoholic drink brings comforts and happiness to the hearts of men. Belief on comforts and happiness made alcoholic drink as an essential element in almost every Jewish festival. As a result, the Jews encourage the production, sale and consumption of alcoholic drinks. The Christian church also encourage the use of alcoholic drinks in their daily life. In Christianity drinking wine is a type of worship, which is regularly held at the rite of Holy

¹⁹ Quran 5:90

²⁰ JE. I.P. 333

²¹ Dastur, op. cit., PP. 108-109

²² Quran 5:91

Communion. Holy Communion also known as the rite of Eucharist or Sacred Meal ranks amongst the most important rituals of Christianity. In Christian societies like Jews there is no restriction on the production, sale and consumption of addictive substance. Mainstream economists, policy prescription are always based on confusion and contradiction. About the policy prescription of economists, George Bernard Shaw once famously said that if all economists were laid end to end they would not reach a conclusion. The economists case towards addictive substances is one of them where it is very hard to take a decision whether drug prohibition or drug legalization will be the best policy approach. Economists believes that legalization of addictive substances will be the best policy option than the prohibition. Economists blind belief on the story of free market ideology convinced majority of the western countries to legalize Wine and Marijuana. Although economists acknowledge this fact that legalization of drugs will bring a drastic increase in the number of drug addicts but it will also bring a substantial reduction in the destructive impact of drug addicts on society through reduction in criminal activities. In academic discussion, economists on one hand discuss the benefits of non-intervention in the market, but on the other hand they forcefully implement the philosophy of free market ideology across the globe in each and every aspect of human life. Mainstream economists believes that market will allocate the resource efficiently in the absence of intervention, while at the same time, some truth seeking economists acknowledge this fact that market fails to allocate the resources efficiently in case of de-merits goods like intoxicants materials.

About the policy prescription in each and every aspect of human life Muslims seek guidance from Quran which was revealed to an illiterate Muhammad (Peace Be Upon Him) more than 1400 years ago. As a true word of God, Quran challenged the entire humanity in the following words;

“Do they not then consider the Quran carefully? Had it been from other than Allah, they would surely have found therein a many contradictions²³.”

For the solution of any economic and social problem, the Holy Quran is evidently full of wonderful beauties and excellence. It is a universal fact that man-made solutions to any problem are always full of failure and contradiction. For the solution of any social issue Quran provided guidelines which always proved to be successful and blessing for the mankind. Quran considers addictive substances as the mother of all evils. In Islamic countries on one hand there is a strict prohibition on the production, sale and consumption of addictive substances while on the other hand through moral education its production, sale and consumption are discouraged.

7: Conclusion:

In Judaism alcoholic substances are an essential element in almost every Jewish festival including the marriage ceremony. Jews Holy Book Torah encourage the use of Wine in almost every Jewish festival. Similarly, Bible (Christian's Holy book) also encourage the use of wine in

²³ Quran 4:82

their religious festivals. Bible is divided into two major parts, The Old Testament (which has similar contents with Torah) and the New Testament. The New Testament was written mostly by Paul, a Jew who converted to Christianity and later on became the leading explainer of the Christian faith. Beside the four Gospels in the Bible which describe the life and philosophy of Jesus Christ, there are many other Gospels which are available until today. These Books/Gospels which could have become part of the Bible, and indeed were and are accepted by some Christians, are rejected by the majority of the elders of the Church. These controversial Gospels are known as Apocrypha, a Greek word which means concealed but which is now commonly understood as meaning “unauthentic and false”. The publicly and legitimately accepted books are called “Canonical”, which is regarded as the true word of God. Observing the ground realities about the harmful effect of inebriating materials and reading the verses in Holy Bible about drug use one start suspecting whether this “Canonical Bible” also represents the true word of God or Apocrypha?

About the policy prescription, Quran challenge the entire intellectual community across the globe in the following words,

“And if you are in doubt about what We have sent down upon Our Servant [Muhammad], then produce a surah the like thereof and call upon your witnesses other than Allah, if you should be truthful”²⁴.

In sharp contrast to conventional economists, Christians and Jews, Islam regards addictive substances as the mother of all evils and ills. Islamic countries where Islamic Law (Sharia) is implemented, on one side production, sale and consumption of addictive substances are strictly prohibited, while on the other side through moral education they discourage the uses of addictive substances. It is a universal fact that hatred and enmity has linear association with intoxicants and gambling. No one can deny the fact that the use of inebriating materials disrupts the whole social setup. Addictive substance which is neither a necessity nor a comfort good continues to cost countless damage and destruction to humanity around the globe. The damage and destruction of addictive substance is evident from the annual expenditures on alcohol, which are about \$30 billion, while the annual estimates for illegal drugs are approximately \$20 to \$ 50 billion.

References:

David J Nutt, Leslie A King, Lawrence D Phillips, (2010) “Drug harms in the UK”: The Lancet, Volume 376, Issue 9752. pp 1558 - 1565.

World Health Organization (2005),“Alcohol, Gender and Drinking Problem. Perspective from Low and Middle Income countries”, p. 6. Retrieved from http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/publications/alcohol_gender_drinking_problems.pdf.

²⁴ Quran 2:23

Melvin H. Marx & William A. Hillix, “System and Theories in Psychology”, National Book Foundation Islamabad Pakistan.

Friedlander.M (n.d), The Jewish Religion, KEGAN PAUL, TRENCH, TRUBNER, & CO. Ltd.

Abraham, I (1921), Judaism, T. and A. Constable Printers to His Majesty at the University Press, Edinburg pp 52-66.

Danesh, H.B. (1994), *The Psychology of Spirituality*, Canada: Paradigm Publishing.

Manfred B. Stegar (2003), *Globalization A Very Short Introduction*, Oxford University Press.

UN Office on Drug and Crime (2012), Addressing Drugged Driving to Prevent Road Deaths (2012). Retrieved from <http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/frontpage/2012/March/addressing-drugged-driving-to-prevent-road-deaths.html?ref=fs1>.

Paul A. Samuelson and William D.Nordhaus, (1998) “Economics” McGraw-Hill Companies.

Cambell R. McConnell and Stanley L. Brue, (2011). “Economics, Principles, Problems and Policies”. The McGraw-Hill companies.

Jeffrey A. Miron and Jeffrey Zwiebel, “The Economic Case Against Drug Prohibition”, The Journal of Economic Perspectives, Vol. 9, No. 4 (Autumn, 1995), pp. 175-192.

Taqi Usmani, “What is Christianity”, Darul-Ishaat Publishers, pp 45-49, 93.

Muhsin. A, “Let the Bible speak”, Retrieved from <http://www.islamicbook.ws/english/english-021.pdf>

Ghazali. I, Reality about human (Urdu Translation), Al-Meezan Publishers, Lahore Pakistan.

British Broad Casting (2014), Schools, religion. Retrieved from
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/religion/judaism/>

Yahya, H, The Secret beyond matter. Retrieved from
<http://www.harunyahya.com/>.

Bible Verse Search retrieved from. http://www.openbible.info/topics/wine_and_drugs

Daryabadi, A, M, Tafsir-ul-Quran, Islamic Research and publication, Nadwatul Ulma, Lucknow-226 007, India.
