



# GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP AND THE CHALLENGE OF RELIGIOUS EXTREMISM

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## SITUATING THE ISSUE

- The shrinking global village caused by the advance of technology has capitalized the importance of global citizenship that enables civility, mutual understanding, and collaboration for shared ideals and aspirations.
- The interaction of the people of various religious backgrounds may lead to disharmony and conflicts.

## CONFUSING TERMINOLOGY

- Interrelated terms in the discourse on religious extremism: religious fundamentalism, religious radicalism, religious puritanism, religious conservatism.
- Is religious extremism violent?



## WORKING DEFINITION

“An ideology that (1) capitalizes on absolute norms and binary opposition, (2) demands the maximization of religious laws, (3) is intolerant of differing views, and (4) paves the way to violence.”



## LOCAL AND GLOBAL SYNTHESIS

- Shared commitment in promoting universal values and common goods in local contexts.
- Utility of world organizations where everyone stands on equal footing.



# CHARACTERISTICS OF GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

- Shared ideals and aspirations
- Shared commitment to promote common goods and mitigate harms.
- Equal status, rights, and responsibilities.
- Mutual understanding and collaboration among people of different cultures.



## ISLAM: ILLUSTRATIVE CASE

- Islamic concept of ummah.
- The good as ultimate ideals of pragmatic efforts.
- Continuous dialectic between universal values and principles and particular embodiments.
- Maqasid, Shari'ah, and Fiqh.

# THE CHALLENGE OF GLOBAL UMMAH

- While Medinan concept of ummah provides an legitimized orthodox view of global citizenship, Islam's religious expansionists view Islam's particular embodiments as the answer to modern problems:
  - Islamic revivalism responds to the failure of secular nationalism and modern states.
  - Radical Islamism offers Islam as a political ideology.
  - Islamic conservatism refers to classical or medieval Islam as its worldview.





## UMMATAN WASATAN

- Moderation of ummatan wasatan provides a solid theological basis of global citizenship.
- Disemphasis on Islam's symbolism paves the way to engaging world's citizens and collaboration among them.
- Islam's presence in global citizenship is manifested in its commitment to Islam's universal values and principles.