

# Misconception: Democracy is not compatible with islam



**Background:** It is commonly thought, even amongst Muslims, that the system of democracy or democratic principles are not compatible with The Quran or islam.

The Quran has examples of leaders with authority (e.g. Solomon, Joseph), however this would be conducted by group consultation and representation:

Those who listen to what is said, then follow the best of it; those are the ones God has guided, and are the men of understanding. [39: 18]

...and consult with them upon the conduct of affairs... [3:159] also see [58:11], [42:38], [5:12]

Elected leaders would have to lead by example:

Do you order the people to do goodness, but forget yourselves, while you are reciting the book? Do you not reason? [2:44]

O you who believe, why do you say what you do not do? [61:2]

O mankind, We created you from a male and female, and We made you into nations and tribes, that you may know one another. Surely, the most honorable among you in the sight of God is the most righteous. God is Knowledgeable, Expert. [49:13]

Corruption prohibited:

Do not devour the wealth and property of one another in a wrongful manner, nor bribe the officials/judges so that you may consume a part of the other people's belongings sinfully while you know! [2:188]

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