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Question NO#09

Define the characteristics of military strategist in the light of siraah of Muhammad (PBUH) with arguments.

Introduction

**"Do not promote disorder in the earth after the peace has been established."  
(7:56) (Al-Quran)**

Islam is the religion of peace and its prophet promotes peace in the earth. Holy Prophet (PBUH) <sup>is</sup> ~~was~~ the first commander who established the laws of war. He changed the philosophy of war from personal motives to noble cause which is Islam. He introduces effective strategies in the warfare. These strategies include: secrecy in war planning, surveillance of enemies, innovative techniques, and promoting defensive war. Thereby, Allah (SWT) has mentioned in the Holy Quran that **"O Prophet, you are the mercy for all creatures."** Thus, the effective characteristic of Holy Prophet (PBUH) as a military strategist is that he always promoted peace in the region.

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2) Guideline for war was in the Holy Quran

Allah (swt) has clearly mentioned in the Holy Quran that wars have some principle through which they wars are fought in Islam.

**"Fight in the way of Allah with those who fight with you, but do not transgress. Surely, Allah does not love those who exceed their limits."**

Thus, from the Ayat one can assumed that no one is allowed in Islam to transgress the rules of war which Allah and his prophet have mentioned.

3) Guidance for war which Holy Prophet set before the war:

When Holy Prophet (PBUH) commands his army, he gives them following advices:

**Let your invasion be in the name of Allah. Fight with those who disbelieve in Allah. Invade but do not plunder nor counsel booty. Never deform a corpse of dead person nor killed an infant child.**

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Do not kill a wounded person nor  
run after a fleeing one nor  
kill a captative person. Consequently,

the intensity of war fought under the  
leadership of his tenure was least in the

History. According to the book "Muham  
mad at Medina" written by

Montgomery watt, the intensity of  
war during the Muhammad (PBUH) was

least. He also provided following table in  
his book

Total wars (Furqans)	27
Sarayas	77/104
Total loss	1058
Muslim loss	259
Infidels	799
Prisoners of war	6000
Area	1 million sq km
Provinces	9

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4) characteristics of Holy Prophet as a military strategist.

4.1) Holy Prophet (PBUH) changes the philosophy of war.

Before the Holy Prophet (PBUH), the wars were waged in Arabian peninsula due to personal interest of tribes. However, After the Muhammad, the philosophy of war changes in which personal interests were sidelined and a noble cause overtake. For instance, the incidence of **spitting on Hazrat Ali (R.A)** is the prominent example in which Hazrat Ali (R.A) refused to kill a person who spit on him. It is because he only fights for the cause of Allah in which personal egos and hate are sidelined.

4.2) Preparation of war.

Holy Prophet (PBUH) is a fierce commander. He always prepares his army for the war. Even though Holy Quran has also advised Muhammad to prepare for war. "**Against them make**

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**ready your strength at utmost level.**

Thus, Holy Prophet (PBUH) makes advance preparation for war.

4.3) secrecy in war planning.

Holy Prophet made war planning secret. He did not discuss the strategies with any one other than trustworthy companions. They were known as Ashrafat Mubashara. These companions include Hazrat ABU Baqir (R.A), Hazrat Umar (R.A), Hazrat Usman (R.A), Hazrat Ali (R.A) etc. So, the secrecy of war planning was one of the main characteristics of the Holy Prophet (PBUH).

4.4) surveillance and espionage of enemies.

Holy Prophet (PBUH) introduced secret service in Madinah which took eye on the activities of enemies. They searched for the strength, intentions, and capacity of enemy. He also introduced army patrolling.

**(Known as Ahmed meaning and message).**

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4.5) Holy Prophet (PBUH) always promote defensive wars strategies.

All those wars which Holy Prophet (PBUH) fought were started by or imposed by enemies. He never wanted war. It is because he follows the commandments of God and the God says in the Holy Quran "Do not ~~disorder~~ promote disorder in the earth after the peace has established." (Al Quran). So, in short, he always promoted peace over violence.

4.6) Economic blockade in the war.

When Makka leaders forbid Madinah people to perform religious activities in Makka then Holy Prophet (PBUH) announced economic blockade of Makka. The strategy worked perfectly. Therefore, it is characteristics of Holy Prophet that he always thinks rationally and practically.

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4.7) Innovative strategies in war.

During the battle of trench, Hazrat Salman Farsi (R.A) recommended Holy Prophet (PBUH) to dig the trench around the Madina city to ensure its safety. Holy Prophet (PBUH) accepted the offer and he ordered to dig out the trench. To conclude, Holy Prophet (PBUH); as a military commander, loved innovative strategies.  
**(Muhammad Maxin lings)**

4.8) ~~Text~~ Implements effective strategies during war which help muslim to win the war.

Holy Prophet (PBUH) ordered archers to stay in higher position during the battle of Uhud. In the battle of Badr, he choosed higher lands in case if rains, the land would be leveled. ~~Therefore~~ Hence, he implements new effective strategies which helped to change the environment of war.

4.9) Treating and respecting the prisoners of war.

Holy Prophet (PBUH) always treated his

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prisoners of wars well. He offered them food and ordered his soldiers to respect them. He further offered the prisoners of wars that "If any Pows educate ten muslims, he would be free."

Thus, he was very kind to Pows.

4.10) <sup>keep</sup> ~~increase~~ the moral of his fighters high.

Holy Prophet (PBUH) was a brave leader.

**Hazrat Ali (RA)** said that when war intensifies, we all get refuge behind the prophet, and we find out that no one is closer to enemy than Muhammad, it provides us confidence. Hence, he keeps the moral of his fighters high.

5) Conclusion: <sup>brave</sup>

Holy Prophet (PBUH) was a ~~fierce~~ military commander who defeats mighty forces than that of **(Napoleon)**. It is because he holds the best characteristics of military leader and strategist.

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### Question NO # 5

Refine the meaning of prayers and its different categories. Also describe the spiritual, moral, and social impact of prayers.

#### 1 Introduction

Salat is the second pillar of Islam upon which rests the edifice of Islam, the first pillar is the testimony of faith. In the Holy Quran, salat has mentioned multiple types because it has multiple spiritual, moral, and social impacts.

For instance, it brings an individual closer to God. By performing salat five times a day, an individual gets physical and spiritual purification. Furthermore, it inculcates a sense of unity among the Muslim community and many more. Therefore, salat is the second pillar of Islam because without the salat there would be no difference in believers and disbelievers.

#### 2) Literal Meaning of salat:

Salat is the worship offered by Muslims five times a day in a standing position. Muslims believe that by offering salat they feel closer to God.

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### 3) Lexicology of salat.

The word salat comes from Arabic word salah which means bonding and stretching.

### 4) Different categories of Salat.

Faraaz	Sunnah	wajib	Nafil	Others
Fajr	Moakkadah	Jumma	Tahajjud	Chast
Zuhr		Namaz		Khasoof
Maghrib	Unhair Moakad	Eid Namaz		Kasoof
Asar	dan			Tihraf
Isha				Touba and Hajat

### 5) Importance of salat in the Holy Quran and sunnah

Allah (swt) has mentioned the word of salat in the Holy Quran multiple times. For instance, He mentioned in the Quran that "**Be steady fast in your prayers and zakat.**"

It means don't skip prayer and believer has to perform prayer at the mentioned times.

Further more, Holy Prophet (may Allah Peace be upon him) (PBUH) has mentioned the prayer.

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multiple times in teachings. For instance, he said, "Prayer has been made a coolness for my eyes." or "Prayer is miraj for believers." Additionally, he said that the first thing which man would be accountable at the day of Judgement is Prayer. Hence, it can be concluded from the above discussion that prayer is the essential component of Islam.

## 6) Impacts of Prayer

### 6.1) Spiritual impacts of Prayer

#### a) Prayer (Salat) brings believers closer to God.

Salat brings believers closer to God because when ~~one~~ individual performs prayer five times a day, he gets comfort and peace.

For instance, in the Holy Quran, it is mentioned that "Verily, in the remembrance of Allah do hearts find rest." (Al-Quran)

Thus, salat acts as a bridge between believers and God.

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b) It provides psychological stability.

Salat provides psychological stability. When believers perform five time prayer, they feel relaxed because they only feel about the God. It provides them a break from the worldly affairs. For instance, Hazrat Ali (R.A) narrated that one time he has listened Holy Prophet (PBUH) ~~that~~ saying that wake up Bilal (R.A) give Azan so we could achieve peace. Thus, prayer provides psychological stability.

c) Prayer promotes cleanliness among individuals.

Salat promotes cleanliness among believers because ~~prayer~~ before performing prayer one should not only purifies his, but he also has to purify his body and clothes. It is because Allah (SWT) loves cleanliness. As Holy Quran ~~Holy Prophet (PBUH)~~ <sup>Holy Quran</sup> once mentioned that "Allah loves those who purify themselves" (Al-duran). So, prayer promotes cleanliness among individuals.

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d) Prayer (salat) provides checks against evil and indecency.

When a believer performs salat five times a day, it will be away from all kinds of evil and indecency acts. It is because genuine prayer inculcates among believers that Allah (SWT) is watching them and this Ehsan in prayer discourages them to involve in any wrong doing. In the Holy Quran, it is mentioned in the following words: **"Indeed, genuine prayer deters one from indecency and wickedness."** In short, genuine prayer provides check on evil desires of humans.

6.2) Moral impacts

a) Salat teaches the value of time.

Salat teaches the value of time because, in Islam, worship is performed at the appointed times. In the Holy Quran, it is mentioned in the following words: **"Indeed, performing prayer is the duty on believers at the appointed times."** To conclude, prayer

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promotes the value of time among Muslims.

b) Provides Honor and independence.

Salat provides honor and independence. In Islam, all honors and powers belong to Allah (SWT); therefore, it provides a sense of independence. As mentioned in the Holy Quran, **"All powers and honors belong to Allah (SWT)"**. So, it provides honor and independence through which believers feel free.

c) Salat helps in character building.

Salat helps in character building because when believers go to mosque they learn good habits and things. As a result, they develop a good character. As Holy Prophet (PBUH) has mentioned, **"the dearest act in eyes of Allah is one which is done consistently even though it be small."** So, salat is the consistent act which helps in character building.

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d) Salat promotes a sense of duty and responsibility.

Salat promotes a sense of duty and responsibility as man knows that he has to perform the salat five times a day. This prompts man to get closer to God and hence submitting himself to the complete will of God. Hence, this makes the man more responsible towards the people and his family and relatives. (Introduction to Islam by Hamidullah)

6.3) Social impacts of Prayer.

a) Salat promotes brotherhood in society.

Salat promotes brotherhood in society through congregational prayer. When people meet with each other five times a day, it will increase their understanding and love for each other. As Holy Prophet (PBUH) has mentioned, "the Muslims constitute a single structure with each supporting the other." In short, salat increases brotherhood in society.

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b) Salat promotes equality in society

When believers stand for prayer, they all are equal no one is superior to other in the eyes of Allah. As Holy Prophet (PBUH) has mentioned that **NO Arab is superior to non Arab and no white if non Arab is superior to Arab all are equal**. Thus, it promotes equality in society.

c) Promotes locality through congregational prayers.

Salat increases locality because mosque becomes a community center where people interact with each other. Thus, it promotes locality through congregational prayer.

7) Conclusion.

To sum up, salat is the second most important pillar of Islam. It has multiple benefits and performs multiple functions in society. Salat plays a significant role in establishing brotherhood, equality and peace in society. Thus, in the holy Quran, it has mentioned that "woe, to those who are neglectful of their prayers."

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who are neglectful of their prayers."