

Q What is the difference between Deen and Religion? Describe the importance of Deen in human life?

Ans: CONCEPT OF RELIGION:  
Religion or Mazhab comes from root <sup>zahab</sup> ~~the~~ which means to go, pass by or walk. Literal meaning of religion are faith, belief and mannerism. In Latin language word ~~rel~~ religion means binding together. Religion is a bond between a religious devotee and his God. The devotion is all about rituals and faith.

### Concept OF DIN

Din is a complete system, which in case of Islam means to accept absolute sovereignty of Allah. It is about absolute submission of man to absolute sovereign. It encompasses reward a complete code of life with an applicable social, economic, political and religious system. Din is divine and dynamic as well. Din is a collection of institutions social order, practices and beliefs (Islam is a din, not merely a religion).

إِنَّ الدِّينَ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ الْإِسْلَامُ

Truly, the religion with Allah is Islam (Surah Al-Imran: 19)

## Comparison of Deen and Religion

Religion	Deen
1) It is a set of beliefs and rituals of worships.	1) It is an entire way of life, that prevades all aspects of life.
2) Religion is an individual matter.	2) Deen is a collective matter.
3) Every follower of a religion is satisfied that he has established a communion with the Almighty, objective of each individual is his own salvation.	3) Deen is the welfare and progress of all mankind and the character and constitution of a society indicates whether or not it is founded upon divine law.
4) Religion sets up new idols and mumbo-jumbos in order to keep the people's attention away from the real problems of life.	4) Deen is rational and radical. It breaks all idols old and new, and is never variable in its principles.
5) Religion induces a perpetual sense of fear in the minds of men and seeks to frighten them into conformity.	5) Deen treats fear as a form of polytheism and seeks to make man courageous, daring and self-reliant.
6) Religion induces man to flee from struggle of life.	6) Deen calls upon him to face the realities of life squarely, whatever the hazards.

7) Religion treats the world of matter with contempt and calls upon man to renounce it. It promises paradise only in the Hereafter as a reward for the renunciation of material world.

8) Religion encourages belief in fatalism, and this tends to dissuade man from active life and self-development.

7) Deism enjoins the conquest of matter and leads man to immeasurable height of attainment. It exhorts him to seek well-being and happiness in the world as well as felicity in the life hereafter.

8) Deism gives man power to challenge fate and provides energy for a life of activity and self-development.

# Importance of Deen in human life.

## Introduction:

- Deen plays a vital role in human life and society. Its message is real and practical for it comprehensive all human actions. #
- ★ It explains the Tawhid doctrine effectively.
  - ★ It tells us how to live a virtuous life, how to conduct ourselves in public or at home, how to treat parents, relations, friends, strangers the poor and orphans.
  - ★ It instructs us about economic and about our social (educational and political) ends.
  - ★ It deals with the internal and foreign affairs, in peace time and during war.
  - ★ It provides advice in matters concerning marriage, divorce, birth and death, property, inheritance, buying and selling, trade and commerce civil and criminal law and many other practical matters.

In short, it is complete code of life, which provides guidance in all human situation. A divine religion such as Islam addresses all people of all ages, irrespective of race and color through Quran.

ولقد صرفنا في هذا القرآن للناس من كل  
مثل، وكان الانسان اكثر شئاً جدلاً (52)

And surely we have explained matters to people in the Qur'an in diverse ways, using all manner of parables. But man is exceedingly contentious.

وما منع الناس ان يؤمنوا اذ جاءهم الهدى  
وليسخفروا ربهم الا ان تاتيهم سعة الاولين  
او يا تدفع العذاب قبلا (۷۵)

What is that prevented mankind from believing when the guidance came to them, and from asking forgiveness of their Lord, except that they would like to be treated as the nations of yore, or that they would like to see the scourge come upon them face to face.

### CONCEPT OF DEEN:-

Deen refers to a complete code of life. Religion deals man's relation with God whereas Deen deals both with man's relation with God and his fellow beings. Religion deals with private affairs of life whereas Deen covers all aspects of life, individual as well as collective. In other words, Deen is all embracing term which includes religion-socio-politic economic systems. It touches upon the material as well as spiritual dimensions of human existence. In this regard, Islam is not only a religion but also a Deen as it is complete code of life.

According to Dr Khalifa Abdul Hakim:

Islam means peace as well as submission.....  
The purpose of life is to live it well. The purpose of life is life edified, harmonized, enriched, strengthened and elevated

IMPORTANCE OF DEEN:

1) Deen provides Guidance to Mankind:

The primary function of Deen is to guide people towards right path: - And we have sent down to you the Book explaining all things as a guide, a Mercy and Glad tidings to Muslims.

The Quran revelation which continues the impact of Deen of Islam is Unmissed: but you

only the righteous ones will take heed of it:-

Surely, this Quran guides to that which is most right (5:17) and the God fearing ones: -

This is the Book<sup>in</sup> it is Guidance sure, without doubt to those who fear Allah.

2) Deen provides a clear path.

It is Divine light of God which shows the clear path right from wrong, the true from false. - There has come to you from Allah a new light and a manifest book. (5:17) and again in Surah Taha - Believe, therefore in Allah and his messenger and it is the light which we have sent down.

3) Deen leads Mankind from darkness to light.

The Quran leads people out of ignorance of darkness and evil into the light of goodness and piety: — A Book which we have revealed unto you, in order that you might lead Mankind out of depth of darkness into light by the leave of their Lord. This divine light offers a ray of hope to those who have lost their way in the wilderness of darkness. He is the One who sends to his servants Manifest signs, that he may lead you from the depth of darkness into light (57:9)

4) Divine Religion is a source of wisdom and knowledge:

The books of deen contains unsurpassable knowledge and wisdom: — "Yasin" by the Quran, full of wisdom (4:113) Muhammad (PBUH) was taught the wisdom of the Quran so that he in turn could divulge it to the rest of mankind.

5) Deen sets the criterion for the right and wrong.

The Quran provides guidance on judgment and the justice: Quran

— Ramadan is the month in which was sent down as a guide to mankind and guide for judgement between right and wrong (2:185). It is undoubtedly a manifest criterion between truth and falsehood.

6) Deen is spiritual Cure of Modern Man.  
God promises mercy to those who follow the guidance of the Quran: - And this is a book which we have revealed as a blessing so follow it and be righteous, that you may receive mercy (6:155). This is the only hope for the spiritual future of man, a cure for the lost and hurts souls, a guide for the evil and misled ones, and a joy for those who repent - we sent down the Quran which is a healing and a mercy to those who believe (17:82).

7) Teaching of Deen are Guards against Evil

The Quran develops fear of the God, and reverence and love for him: thus it guards those against those evils.

"It is an Arabic Quran, free of all crookedness that they may guard against their evil ends" (39:28).

- The Ayah (2:187) prohibits sexual intercourse and anything like kissing or embracing that might lead to it during I'tikaf.

8) Deen provides clear message to mankind.  
Allah says: - This is a Book with verses or fundamental (of established meaning), further explained in the details - from one it will.



and well-acquainted with all things (11:1)  
The details of life are covered precisely:  
And we have sent down to you the Book  
explaining all things.

#### 9) Deen induces in Man Piety and Remembrance of God

Piety refers to the inner fear man must  
have for his Creator. This profound fear  
centralizes the concept of God and his  
remembrance in the mind of believer:

"And thus we have sent it down as a  
Quran in Arabic, and have explained therein  
in detail the warnings, in order that they  
may have Taqwa, or that it may cause  
them to have lessons from it (20:113).

#### 10) Deen provides Principles for establishment of Justice.

A vital function of Deen is to guide  
in the establishment of balanced system of  
justice and equality :- We have sent down  
books to you in truth that you might  
judge between men, as guided by Allah (4:65)