

## Assignment #01

Q. No. 01:- What is Islam. Enlist salient features of Islam?

### DEFINITION

#### 1. Literal meaning of Islam

i. The word "Islam" is from the root of Arabic word SLM (سلم) which means "to surrender, to submit".

ii. The other literal meaning of the word "Islam" is "peace".

#### 2. Contextual meaning of Islam

To enter in peace by submitting to the will of Allah is Islam.

Quran says "Indeed it is in the remembrance of God alone that the heart of man finds rest - those who believe and act righteously, joy is for them, and a blissful home to return to (13: 28-29)"

#### 3. Shariat

Quran and Sunnah (the sayings and acts of Muhammad P.b.u.h).

Hadith-e-Jibrail:

Holy prophet P.B.U.H says, Islam is combination of two things:

1. Belief in Allah and his messengers
2. Establish pillars of Islam.

Hazrat Umar (R.A) narrates that Allah's prophet said Islam is based on following five principles.

1. To believe that none has the right to be worshiped but Allah and Muhammad is Allah's last prophet.
2. To offer the compulsory prayers dutifully and perfectly.
3. To pay zakat (obligatory charity)
4. To perform Hajj (pilgrimage to Makkah)
5. To observe fast during month of Ramadan.

4. Islam as a universal Deen:

Definitely Islam is a universal deen because of following ~~two~~ reasons:

1. It guides in every aspect of life.

Islam guides the readers and followers in individual life, family life, social life, business etc.

2. It is not brought for a limited time.

Islam is for lifetime unlike others, Torah, Zaboor and Injeel.

3. It is not for a specific geography.

4. It is not confined to a specific ethnicity.

## SALIENT FEATURES OF ISLAM

1. Islamic concept of tawhid :

Tawhid means belief in oneness of Allah. The most important and most fundamental teaching of the holy prophet (PBUH) is the faith in the unity of Allah. This is expressed in the first part of Kalimah as "There is no God but Allah".

This phrase is the bedrock of Islam. It is the expression of this belief that differentiates a true Muslim from a kafir (unbeliever). One can not enter into fold of Islam without having belief in oneness of Allah.

## 2. Prophethood:

The belief in all the prophets and belief in the finality of prophethood bears as much importance as other conviction of faiths, because without acceptance of this belief, no one can enter the fold of Islam.

Apparently this belief is concerned with the faith in prophethood but unless the Holy Prophet (PBUH) is not believed to be the last of the prophets the faith and belief in the Apostles of God remains incomplete. And we also have a conviction that the religion and teachings preached by him shall remain a living guide and precept both in this world and in the Day of Resurrection.

## 3. Islam is a complete code of life

Islam guides in every aspect of life.

### 1. Individual life :-

i. Birth: When someone takes birth in Muslim family, it is ordained to say Aqam in his ears and celebrate Aqeeqa.

ii. Upbringing of children: For upbringing of children, Islam says best first institution is mother and then family and society.

iii. Character building of a person; Life and character of prophet is enough for character building of a Muslim.

iv. Education: Prophet says seeking education is obligatory for Muslim men & women. At another place prophet says "Among you the best one is who educates others."

v. Livelihood: Rightful earning is worship in Islam.

2. Family Life: Islam has given rights and duties of spouses. And rights and duties of children & parents, which can guide in family life.

3. Collective life: For guidance in collective life Islam has provided guidance for social life. It has provided financial system, political system and guidance in global affairs, it has also defined Haqq-ul-Abad, the rights of the people, in order to live a good collective life.

#### 4. Islam and Humanity

In Islam, For human it is important to be characterful and have good ethics.

Prophet says "The perfect among the believers are those who are best in character."  
"charity is humanity" Surah-e-Baqrah 2: 177.

"You are all children of Adam, No one is superior than others." Farewell sermon of prophet.

Prophet says "Planting a green tree is the best charity."

"Do not waste a drop of water, if you are sitting on a bank of water."

Islam is submission to the will of Allah, and it guides in every aspect of life.