

Q:1 Explain the doctrine of Touheed in Islam. Elaborate its impact on individual and society?

Introduction:

Touheed is the first and the main principle of Islamic faith. It is a belief that Allah is supreme Being, Creator, Sustainer, and Master of the Universe. Allah is the Highest Authority and exclusively worthy of worship. It also imparts different ~~and~~ impacts not only on the individual but also on society. Thus, Touheed is the bedrock of Islam.

Doctrine of Touheed:

Touheed or Monotheism is the belief in the unity of Allah. He is the Greatest, Lords of the Worlds and the King of the kings. First surah of the Quran starts with the praise of Almighty Allah:

الحمد لله رب العالمين

"Praise be to Allah, the Cherisher and Sustainer of the worlds"

(Al-Fatiha (Al-Baqarah) 1:2)

Unity and Oneness of Allah

Unity and oneness of Allah means the belief in Allah with all his powers. Allah is All-knowing, All-wise, and All-powerful. He is and will always be. He has no beginning and no ending. He is the first and last. He has no parents or son, no partners in His attributes, power, work and dominion. The Quran says:

ولم يتخذ ولدا ولم يكن له شريك في الملك

"No son has He begotten, nor has He a partner in His dominion"
(Al-Furqan 25:2)

Quran has laid great emphasis on Allah's absolute Unity and Oneness. The concept has been summed up in Surah Ikhlas of the Holy Quran:

قل هو الله احد - الله الصمد - لم يلد ولم يولد - ولم
يقل له كفوا احد

"Say He is Allah, the one and only - Allah the Eternal, the Absolute. He begetteth not, nor is He begotten. And there is none

like unto Him."

(Al-Idkhas 112: 1-4)

At another point, The Qur'an says:

والعالم له واحد لا اله الا هو الرحمن الرحيم

"There is no god but He, the Most Merciful, the Very Merciful -"

(Al-Baqarah 2: 163)

Similarly, if one have a look in the vast universe, he can clearly seen everything in a perfect manner. The flaw-less system clearly indicates that there is someone who is controlling all this without any help.

لو كان فيهما الهة الا الله لفسدتا

"If there were in the heavens and in the earth other gods besides Allah, there would have been confusion in both".

(Al-Anbiya 21: 22)

Thus, when a person surrenders himself to Allah's command, he gains superiority over all other creatures in

the universe.

Types of Touheed:

1) Unity in Person:

It means that the person, who has the belief in the oneness of Allah, has the knowledge that no other power can do anything. He knows that Allah - the Supreme power is the Lord and He can do whatever He wants. This brings bravery and courage in him.

قل هو الله احر - الله الصمد
"Say He is Allah the One and Only".

(Al-Ikhlās 112: 1-2)

2) Unity in Attributes:

All the attributes belong to Allah. He is the One who is the Greatest, the Merciful, the Lover. He is the One for whom pride is made. The Holy Quran Says:

علم الغيب والشهادة العزيز الرحيم

"He knows all that is beyond

as well as all that is within
a creature's sense-perception -"
[Sajdah 32:6]

3) Unit in Action:

In this type of Touheed, it means that all the actions in the world and in the whole Universe are controlled by the one and the Only Allah. Life, Death, respect, humiliation, livelihood, helper etc all are given and taken by Allah.

انما امره اذا اراد شيئا ان يقول له كن فيكون
"His command is only when He intends a thing that He says to it, Be, and it is -"
(Ya-sin 36:82)

Shirk:

Associating partners with Allah is known as Shirk. Worship of idols, and offering prayers and supplications to anyone, dead or living, believing that they hold the same attributes in a lesser degree than Him is regarded as Shirk. It is the belief that Allah

is not Sovereign or Independent and Sole Dispenser of the affairs of the world and that other deities can intercede with Him is Shirk.

The Quran considers Shirk to be an unpardonable sin. It says:

ان الله لا يغفر ان يشرك به ويغفر ما دون ذلك لمن يشاء ومن يشرك بالله فقد افترى اثما عظيما

b) "Allah forgives not that partners should be set up with him, but He forgives anything else to whom He pleases, to set up partners with Allah is to devise a sin most heinous indeed."

[An-Nisa 4:48]

Impacts of Tauheed:

1) Impacts on Individual:

a) Inculcates Self-respect and Self-esteem:

This belief produce in man the highest degree of self-respect and self-esteem. The believer knows that Allah alone is the Possessor of all

power, can be provide take or int

"Alla and awa

b) Ne

be no God heaven of the Sustain

c) Ser

and become boister

worth becau possess Allah

power, and that none besides Him can benefit or harm a person, or provide for his needs or give or take away life or wield authority or influence.

وَلَهُ مَنْ تَشَاءُ وَيُنزِلُ مَنْ تَشَاءُ
"Allah is the one who gives honor and He is the one who takes it away."

Ali Imran 3:26

b) Never be narrow in Outlook:

A believer of Touheed can never be narrow in outlook. He believes in a God who is the Creator of the heavens and the earth, the Master of the East and the West, and Sustainer of the entire Universe.

c) Sense of Modesty and Humbleness:

It makes an individual unostentatious and unpretending. A believer never becomes proud, haughty or arrogant. The boisterous pride of power, wealth and worth can have no room in his heart, because he knows that whatever he possess has been given to him by Allah and that Allah can take

away just as he can give.

d) Virtuous and Upright:

This belief makes man virtuous and upright. He has the conviction that there is no other means of success and salvation for him except purity of soul and righteousness of behaviour. He has perfect faith in Allah, who is above all needs, is related to none and is absolutely Just.

e) Never becomes Despondent:

The believer never becomes despondent. He has a firm faith in Allah, who is Master of all the treasures of the earth and the heavens, whose grace and bounty has no limit and whose powers are infinite. This faith imparts to his heart extraordinary consolation, fills it with satisfaction and keeps it filled with hope.

2) Impacts on Society:

a) Unity and Cohesion:

It promotes a sense of shared purpose, common values, and a collective identity among

Muslims - The Quran says:

ان هذا امتكم امة واحدة وان اربكم قاعبه ون

"This community of yours is one community, and I am your Lord, so worship Me."

(Al-Anbya 21:92)

b) Equality and Justice:

The believer of Touheed bears the lessons of equality and justice. It emphasizes the inherent equality of all human beings before Allah. It teaches that all individuals are equal in their worship of Allah, regardless of their social status, wealth, or lineage. This promotes equality, justice, rights and dignity of every individuals in collective life.

c) Spirit of Brotherhood Concepts:

Touheed brings the concept of brotherhood in the society and in the whole community. It teaches that all are equal because they all worship the only one Allah. This single belief of all promotes spirit of brotherhood.

d) Inter - Religious Harmonys

Touheed teaches the lesson of harmony by inculcating in the people of society that not to say foul words against other religions. In this regard, The Holy Quran says:

"Do not revile those whom they invoke other than Allah, because they will revile Allah in ignorance out of spite."

(Al-An'am 6:108)

Conclude:

To conclude, Touheed is the most important and first pillar of Islam. Without it Islam is incomplete. By making a firm belief on Touheed it brings about various positive impacts not only in an individual's personality but also makes up the society in a better way.