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Q What is Islam?

To understand what Islam is. We have to understand the literal, contextual, and Sharia meanings of Islam.

i) Literal meaning of Islam

Islam is an Arabic word derived from the 3-letter-Arabic word, S(و)-L(د)-M(و), which generates interrelated meanings, including, "surrender", "submission", "commitment", and "peace".

The old name of Islam was Deen-e-Hanif (from Adam to Esa)

ii) Contextual meaning of Islam

The contextual meaning of Islam is to enter in peace with God, peace within oneself, peace with all the creations of God - through wholly submitting oneself to God and accepting His guidance. Another simple definition is submission of desires to the will of God.

iii) meaning of Islam according to Sharia
According to Sharia meaning of Islam is voluntarily submitting will to Allah.

Quran 2:256

"There is no compulsion in Islam Religion."

Another Quranic verse says

Quran 109:06

"for you, your religion, for me, my religion"

Holy Prophet (PBUH) told us the definition of Islam. Prophet said "Islam is a combination of two things"

i) To bear witness of Allah and his messengers

ii) Establish pillars of Islam

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~~Prophet told us these things~~

from the Holy ~~Qur'an~~ ^{Holy} prophet told us the definition of Islam. Prophet said that Islam consist of two things.

i To bear witness of Allah and his messengers
ii To establish orders of Islam

Now, to summaries definition of Islam acci to Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) will be

"To bear witness that there is no god but God and his messengers, that you should perform the ritual prayer, pay the alms tax fast during Ramadan, and take the pilgrimoge to the House if you are able to go there"

Dr Hameedullah writes in his book: Introduction to Islam, that Islam is a monotheist religion revealed through Holy Prophet (PBUH)

Imam Ghazali defines Islam consist of two things

i fight of Allah
ii fight of people

Sadr-ud-din Islam defines Islam consist of two things

i faiths
ii Rituals

Lastly definition of Islam according to oxford dictionary, Islam consist of three things

i Monotheism ii Prophethood iii Culture of Islam