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Islamiat  
Assignment

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Batch 042

Q, What is meant by Islam? List the salient features of Islam.

Ans. Islam refers to the religion and spiritual faith based on the teachings of the Quran, the central religious text of Islam. Islam is a monotheistic religion that originated in the 7th century in the Arabian Peninsula with the revelations received by the prophet Muhammad (PBUH), who is believed to be the last and final messenger of Allah.

In the Quran, Islam is defined as surrendering or submitting to the will of God. Quran serves as the primary source of guidance and authority in Islam. Muslims are those who willingly submit to God's guidance and seek to live their life in accordance with Islamic teachings. Islam emphasizes the oneness of God and the belief in His prophets, as well as the accountability of individuals for their actions in the afterlife.

Islamic teachings encompass a wide range of topics, including belief in the six articles of faith: belief in God, angels, scriptures, prophets, the Day of Judgment, and divine decree. It also covers principles of worship, such as prayer, fasting, charity, pilgrimage, and moral values such as honesty, justice, compassion, and respect for others. Islam encourages its followers to seek knowledge, engage in good deeds, and develop a strong connection with Allah through prayer, supplication, and contemplation. It promotes social justice, equality, and compassion towards others, emphasizing the importance of kindness, generosity, and

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maintaining harmonious relationships within society

Islam, as a holistic religion, encompasses various salient features that define its teachings and practices. The foremost being Oneness of God. At the heart of Islam lies the belief in Tawhid. The Quran firmly establishes this fundamental principle - "Say, He is Allah, the One. Allah, the Eternal Refuge. He neither begets nor is born, nor is there to him any equivalent" (Quran 112:1-4). Islam categorically rejects the association of partners with God and emphasizes the indivisible nature of His divine essence.

Islam recognizes Prophet Muhammad as the last and final messenger of Allah. Through him, Muslims received the last divine revelation. The Quran explicitly states, "Muhammad is not the father of any of your men, but he is the messenger of Allah and the last of the prophets" (Quran 33:40). Prophet Muhammad's exemplary life and teachings serve as a model for Muslims to follow in their quest for spiritual growth and righteousness.

The Quran holds a central position in Islam as the literal word of God, serving as a comprehensive guide for Muslims. It encompasses various facets of life, offering guidance on theology, morality, social principles, personal conduct and more. The Quran itself attests to its authenticity, declaring, "This is the Book about which there is no doubt, a guidance for those conscious of Allah" (Quran 2:2). Muslims turn to the Quran as a source of wisdom, inspiration, and divine instructions for living a righteous life.

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The Five Pillars of Islam represent the foundational acts of worship and devotion, which Muslims adhere to.

Shahada, is the declaration of faith, affirming the belief in the oneness of God and the prophethood of Muhammad. The Quran states, "There is no deity except Allah, and Muhammad is the messenger of Allah" (Hadith Bukhari).

Salah being the second. Muslims are obligated to perform five daily prayers at designated times. The Quran ~~underscores~~ underscores the importance of prayer, stating, "And establish prayer and give zakah and bow with those who bow" (Quran 2:43). Salah serves as a means of communication and connection with Allah.

Other than that, Zakat, where Muslims are required to give a portion of their wealth to support the less fortunate. The Quran highlights the significance of charity, stating, "And establish prayer and give zakah and bow Allah a goodly way And whatever good you put forward for yourselves - you will find it with Allah" (Quran 73:20). Moreover, Muslims

observe fasting from dawn to sunset during the month of Ramadan. Fasting promotes self-discipline, empathy and spiritual purification. The Quran prescribes fasting, saying, "O you who have believed, decreed upon you is fasting as it was decreed upon those before you that you may become righteous" (Quran 2:183). Muslims who are

physically and financially able are obligated to undertake the pilgrimage to the Holy city of Mecca. The Quran continues to discuss Hajj, "And (due) to Allah from the people is a pilgrimage to the House - for whoever is able to find thereto a way" (Quran 3:97). Hajj symbolizes unity, equality and the remembrance of God, as Muslims from diverse backgrounds gather to perform the prescribed rituals.

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Furthermore, Islam places significant emphasis on moral conduct and ethical values. The Quran and Hadiths provide guidance on virtuous and righteous behavior, encouraging Muslims to embody these values in their daily lives, such as honesty. "O you who have believed, fear Allah and be with those who are true" (Quran 9:119). The Prophet Muhammad emphasized the importance of honesty, saying, "Truthfulness leads to righteousness, and righteousness leads to Paradise" (Hadith Muslim). Another one being Justice, "O you who have believed, be persistently standing firm in justice, witnesses for Allah" (Quran 4:135). The Prophet Muhammad stated, "The most beloved people to Allah are those who are the most beneficial to people" (Hadith Ibn Majah). Other values also include kindness and compassion, "And the servants of the Most Merciful are those who walk upon the earth gently" (Quran 25:63). The Prophet (pbuh) emphasized kindness, stating, "Kindness is a mark of faith" (Hadith Muslim). In addition to that, Islam promotes forgiveness, social justice, equality and the establishment of a just society. "Hold to forgiveness, command what is right, and turn away from the ignorant" (Quran 7:199). The Prophet (pbuh) exemplified forgiveness, saying, "Whoever pardons people, Allah will pardon him" (Hadith Bukhari). Muslims are encouraged to actively engage in charitable acts, support the underprivileged, and uphold the rights of individuals. The Quran emphasizes the importance of fairness and equality, stating, "O you who have believed, be persistently standing firm in justice, witness for Allah" (Quran 4:135).

By adhering to these principles, Muslims seek to establish a deep connection with Allah, live a righteous life,

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and contribute positively to society. These features  
serve as a roadmap for Muslims, guiding them  
on their spiritual journey and shaping their beliefs,  
actions, and interactions with others.