

What is Islam? Enlist salient features of Islam?

### Islam:

Islam is the religion of those who believe in Allah, the one God of the universe, and who follow Muhammad (PBUH) of Arabia, the last of the Prophet of God. Islam is one of the three monotheistic revealed religions.

### Literal meaning:

The Arabic word Islam literally means "surrender" or "submission." The other meaning is "to become reconciled with one another" or to make peace.

Islam, in law, is of two kinds: one is simple confession with tongue and other along with confession, there is belief in the heart and fulfillment in practice. (Imam Raghib Al-Isfahani)

### Contextual Meaning:

Submission of desires to the will of Allah. According to Professor Khurshed Ahmed, Islam means peace achieved by submitting to the will of Allah Almighty.

According to the will of Allah Almighty.

According to shariat definition:

Voluntary submission of desires to the will of Allah

لَا إِكْرَاهَ فِي الدِّينِ قَدْ تَبَيَّنَ الرِّشْدُ مِنَ الْغَيِّ فَمَنْ يَكْفُرْ بِاللَّاغُوتِ  
وَلَوْ مِنْ يَأْتِيهِ فَقَدْ اسْتَمْسَكَ بِالْعُرْوَةِ الْوُثْقَىٰ لَا انْفِصَامَ لَهَا وَاللَّهُ  
سَمِيعٌ عَلِيمٌ - (2:256)

There is no compulsion in religion. The Right way stands clearly distinguished from the wrong. Hence he who rejects the evil ones, and believe in Allah has indeed taken hold of the firm, unbreakable handle. and Allah is All-hearing, All-knowing.

(Surat Al-Baqarah: 256)

Hadith of Angel Jibreel:

Islam is a component of 2 elements.

- witness of Allah and his messenger.
- Establish pillars of Islam.

Syed Ameer Ali - Islam definition.

According to syed ameer ali, Islam is enjoying rights and forbidding amar-bi-n-mehroof, to accept monotheism and to protect human rights. (spirit of Islam Book)



## Features of Islam.

### 1. Islamic Concept of Tauheed.

- Tauheed is the first Part of Kalima. Muslim worship only one Allah (God).
- Allah is the one and unique in his oneness.
- Nothing is like him and he is not like any other thing.
- Allah has no partner/s.
- Allah is the only creator, the only sustainer of every thing.

قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ - اللَّهُ الصَّمَدُ - لَمْ يَلِدْ وَلَمْ يُولَدْ - لَمْ يَلِكُنْ لَهُ كُفُوًا أَحَدٌ

Say: he is Allah the one. Allah is eternal and absolute. None is born of him and nor was he born. And there is none like him.

Adama sibli numani book sheerat-e-nabi

Holy Prophet (PBUH) said:

- Tauheed is the first chapter of Islamic syllabus.
- Islam is like a fort and gate of that fort is the tauheed.

### 2. Prophet hood





Prophets; and Allah is ever aware of all things.  
(sura Azab: 40)

### Hadith:

"I am the last of the Prophets. There is no prophet after me."

### 3- Life after death

The faith on the day of Judgment and life after death is also a feature of Islam. The life after death is a mystery for disbeliever and bright fact for the believer.

According to Islam, this world is mortal and Peace of trial and man is being judged here by it deeds. And after his death, he will be resurrected in new world and will be rewarded and Punished for his deeds and misdeeds.

In surah Innam Allah describe a reward for good deeds and punishment for misdeeds.

من جاء بالصلاة عشر أمثالها ومن جاء بالنية فلا يجزيه إلا مثقالها  
وهم لا يظلمون - (160)



(160) - Qurat Inaam  
whoever comes on the day of Judgment with a good deed will have ten times the like thereof (to his credit), and ever comes with an evil deed will not be recompensated except the like therefore, and they will not be wronged." (sura Inaam :160)

#### 4- Brotherhood (Akhawat)

- Fraternity and community.
- Holy prophet Muhammad (PBUH) lesson of brotherhood.
- Brotherhood at the time of migration.
- Islam is a religion of brotherhood.
- Philosophy of worship
- Unity of Ummah.

#### 5- Islamic concept of Justice.

Justice as defined in the quran, commands mankind to behave in a fair and just manner. Allah (swt) has commanded us to protect the rights of others, to be fair and just with people, to side with the one who is under oppression, to help and to be fair with the needy and orphans and to be just and not go beyond the boundaries.



of Allah.

إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَأْمُرُكُمْ أَنْ تُؤَدُّوا إِلَىٰ الْأَعْلَىٰ وَإِذَا كُنْتُمْ بَيْنَ النَّاسِ أَنْ  
تَكُونُوا بِالْعَدْلِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ نَهَىٰ عَنِ الْفَحْشَاءِ وَالْمُنْكَرِ وَكَانَ اللَّهُ عَلِيمًا.

Indeed, Allah commands you to render trusts to whom they are due and when you judge between people to judge with justice. Excellent is that which Allah instructs you. Indeed, Allah is ever hearing and seeing. (Surah An-Nisa 58)

### 6- Belief in Holy Books.

One of the fundamentals of belief in Islam is belief in the holy books sent by Allah.

Allah states the following:

نَزَّلَ عَلَيْكَ الْكِتَابَ بِالْحَقِّ مُعَدِّمًا لِمَا بَيْنَ يَدَيْهِ وَأَنزَلَ التَّوْرَةَ وَالْإِنجِيلَ

It is he who sent down to thee (step by step), in truth, the book, confirming what went before it; and He sent down the law (of Moses) and the Gospel (of Jesus) before this, as a guide to mankind, and He sent down the criterion (of Judgment) between right and wrong.

(Surah Al-e-Imran 3)



## 7- Belief in Angels.

Muslims are required to believe in all angels of God.

امِنَ الرَّسُولُ بِمَا اُنزِلَ اِلَيْهِ مِنْ رَبِّهِ وَالْمُؤْمِنُونَ كُلٌّ اٰمَنَ بِاللّٰهِ وَمَلٰئِكَتِهِ وَكُتُبِهِ  
وَرَسَدِهِ لَا تَفْرُقُ بَيْنَ اَنْفُسِهِمْ مِنْ رَسَدِهِ وَقَالُوا سَمِعْنَا وَاطِيعَا نُرْسُلُ رَبِّنَا وَاللَّيْلِ

The Messenger believes, and so do the believers, in the guidance sent down upon him from his lord; each of them believes in Allah, and in his angels, and in his books, and in his messengers. They say, "We make no distinction between any of his messengers. We hear and obey. Our Lord! Grant us your forgiveness; to you we are destined to return."

(Surah Al-Baqarah: 286).

## 1- Complete way of life.

Guidance pertains to both public and private spheres, touches on eco/social/political/legal facts of life. Islam says no to secularism, which means that religion should not retreat within the private sphere but should be



practiced in public life and collectively too.

### Conclusion

Islam is a complete religion with a definite code of life and divine law for guidance. Its teachings are holistic and all-encompassing. And we should embrace Islam fully, not just practicing some parts and abandoning the other.