

Q: What is difference between Deen and Religion? Describe the importance of Deen in human life with arguments? (2016)

### Outline:

- 1- What is Religion?
- 2- What is Deen?
- 3- What is Difference between Deen and Religion
- 4- Importance of Deen in human life.
- 5- Conclusion

### Introduction:

#### Religion:-

Religion comes from the Latin Italian, religare, which means re. lig. "tie back" or "blind to." Religion is used in a narrow sense, its scope being limited to a set of dogmas, some rituals for worship and a number of social customs to celebrate important life-events.

✓ Religion deals with individual life only.  
According to Sir E. B. Taylor:  
"Religion means the belief in spiritual being."

"Religion is a package of peace entailing morals, economical and values."

Boxer Muhammad Ali

- And Ibne Khaldun says about Religion

"(Divine) Religion are introduced by Allah in order to lead mankind eternal blessings. Their object is to worship Allah as well as management of worldly affairs."

## Deen:-

Deen is complete code of life. Deen deals with both with man's relation with God and his fellow beings. Deen is all embracing term which includes religio - socio - politico economic systems. It touches upon the material as well as spiritual dimension

Of human existence. Deen covers both sacred and secular aspects of man. The sacred part is same as spiritual dimensions of human existence. Deen covers both sacred and secular aspects of man. The sacred part is same as covered as by religion; the secular part is the guidance of divine code in the mundane affairs like political, social, economic, judicial aspects of man and society.

**In Surah Al-Baqrah Allah says:**

"Let there be no compulsion in religion, for the truth stands out clearly from falsehood, so whoever renounces false gods and believe in Allah, has certainly grasped the firmest, unfailing hand-hold and Allah is All-hearing, All-knowing."  
**(2:256)**

# Difference Between Deen and Religion

In Surah Al-Tawbah Allah says:

"He is the One who sent down His Messenger with guidance and the faith of true (deen) so that he makes it prevail over every other faith, no matter how the idolaters hate it."

(Al-Tawbah - 33)

## Religion

## Deen

1. In literal sense it means path / Road.

Deen refers to a number of meanings such as Religion, Belief, anything through which God is worshiped, government, judgment day, way of life.

2. In terminology it refers to set of beliefs, rituals and social customs.

Deen refers to Islam; the way of life chosen by Allah for mankind by Allah (SWT).

3- Concerns a person's individual and personal life.

Deen consists of a set of beliefs, rituals, social customs and a complete code of life.

4- Religion has relatively a narrower scope than deen.

Whenever Allah SWT has referred to Islam in the Quran he has used the word 'deen' instead of 'Religion' due to its wider scope.

"Surely the true deen in the sight of Allah (SWT) is Islam."

(Al-Imran - 19)

## Importance Of Deen in Human Life:

1) Deen provides guidance to Mankind:  
The primary function of deen is to guide people towards the right path.

"surely this Quran guides to that which is most upright and gives good news to the believers who do good that they shall have a great reward."

(Al-Israq 17:9)

## 2) Deen provides a Clear Path:

It is the divine light of God which shows the clear path. The right from wrong, the true from the false.

"Therefore believe in Allah (SWT) and his messenger and the light which we have revealed; and Allah is aware of what you do."

(Al-Taghaabun 64:8)

## 3) Deen leads mankind from darkness to Light:

The Quran leads people out of the ignorance of darkness and evil into the Light of goodness and piety.

"Alif LAAM Ra. (This is) a book which

We have revealed to you that you  
may bring forth men, by their Lord's  
permission from utter darkness into light  
to the way of the mighty, the Praised One.  
(Ibrahim 14:1)

#### 4) Deen sets Criterion for Right and Wrong:

The Quran provides guidance on judgment and justice.

"The month of Ramadan is that in which the Quran was revealed a guidance to men and clear proofs of guidance and the distinction."

(Al-Baqrah: 185)

The Quran is undoubtedly a manifest Criterion between truth and falsehood.

#### 5) Deen provides principles for Establishment of Justice:

A vital function of the Deen is to guide in the establishment of balanced system of justice and equality.

"It is Allah (SWT) who sent down the book by which is truth, and the balance to judge between right and wrong"

(Al-Shuqra 42:17)

Thus the Quran, being last of the Revealed books and Islam provides the most comprehensive Code of Justice.

### Conclusion:

Islam (deen) not only provides a set of beliefs and rituals, but also a complete Code of life consisting of a social, political, economical, judicial and administrative system for the humanity to follow so that they may be successful in both the worlds.

The motive of our lives as described by the Quran is to worship Allah (SWT).

"I did not create the jinn and the Human except for the purpose that they should worship me."

(Az-Zariyat-56)

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