

Q. What is the difference between Deen and Religion? Describe the importance of Deen in human life with arguments.

Introduction

No religion in the world encompasses every facet of human existence like Islam does. The concept of Deen is only known and practiced within the boundaries of Islam. On the flip side, Religion is a prospect that is adopted by all others outside the folds of Islam. When analyzing Deen, one can conclude that it is of great importance in human life. In this answer, the difference between Deen and Religion will be discussed along with the importance of Deen in human life.

Difference between Deen and Religion

Restricted nature of Religion and all-encompassing nature of Deen

Religion only focuses on values,

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morals, dogmas and rituals. In other words, it doesn't take into account worldly and material factors. Deen, on the other hand, takes into account the spiritual and material elements of life. Deen includes the economic, political and social factors that are missing in religion.

Deen is practical whereas religion lacks practicality

Deen includes the practical elements of life on this earth. For instance, it gives an account of what is halal (permitted) and what is forbidden (haram) (harām). Moreover, Deen highlights the notion of earning and self-sustenance. For example, the Prophet highlighted that one must not fast all day and stand in prayer all day as "Your body has a right over you..." (Sahih al-Bukhari). On the other hand, religion focuses on worship and in some cases asceticism and forgoing of worldly matters.

order to live their life to ensure pleasing Allah.

Element of security that Deen is chosen by Allah

Human beings that follow the Deen of Islam ~~are~~ feel safe and secure as this is the Deen ~~that~~ chosen by the All-mighty Himself. This ensures that they are not riddled with anxiety and uncertainty. ~~and~~ As stated in the Quran:

"This day I have perfected your Deen for you, completed my favour upon you and chosen for you Islam as your Deen." (5:3)

Unity of Ummah

Deen unites the Ummah as all followers are on the collective quest of eternal salvation. All Muslims are united for the common aim of pleasing the Creator. This is important to ensure collaboration and social ~~and~~ solidarity. ~~People~~ Followers are not isolated and have a common purpose which is important

for all especially socially isolated people.

Blue-print of economic system established

Deen includes ^{an} economic set-up that Muslims must follow. From distribution of wealth to trade practices to the various intricacies of economic practices are highlighted in Deen. In order to achieve a prosperous economy, Islam gives a strict code of conduct. This was culminated in to oil-rich middle eastern muslim countries to utilize their natural resources for economic welfare in today's world. The Prophet (SAW) also highlighted the need for written contracts in trade deals which highlights that man is advised on how to conduct business and gain income.

Social order and protection of rights.

Someone's rights are someone else's responsibility. Deen highlights the treatment of others. In such a system, everyone is protected and safe. This, in turn, promotes social order and success. *fitnah* (evil) in society. Every individual

Individual capacity of religion and interests of all in Deen

Religion focuses of the individual's relationship with God. It only includes himself/herself and their betterment. But, Deen includes not just the individual but instead includes all others around him. Deen engages man to not only focus on himself and be selfish but instead be selfless and please Allah through general betterment. As highlighted in the Quran:

"...إخواناً" . . .

"Indeed, all Muslims are brothers."

(49:10)

*(Difference between Religion and Deen (Islam))

Importance of Deen in human life

Provides a sense of direction

Deen is important for humans when they are faced with uncertainty in life. Deen is a guiding force to point humans followers in the right direction to achieve salvation in the hereafter. Deen includes everything that humans would need in

order to live their life to ensure pleasing Allah.

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is watched safe under the banner of Deen. For instance, Allah says in the Quran:

"Let not your hatred of people incite you to act inequitably, act equitably" (5: 8)

Pressure of constant being observed in every field of human existence leads to better behaviour

Because of the all-encompassing nature of Deen, followers (Muslims) know that every move forms part of their Hisbah (Accountability) in the Hereafter. Thus, pious and virtuous traits will be adopted overall since religion only accounts for a the relationship between individual and God, man would think that he can get away with bad behaviour as long as he maintains a strong relationship with God through performing religious rituals and having dogmas. But, Deen forces man to watch every step to please God.

Stronger connection with The creator and spiritual growth

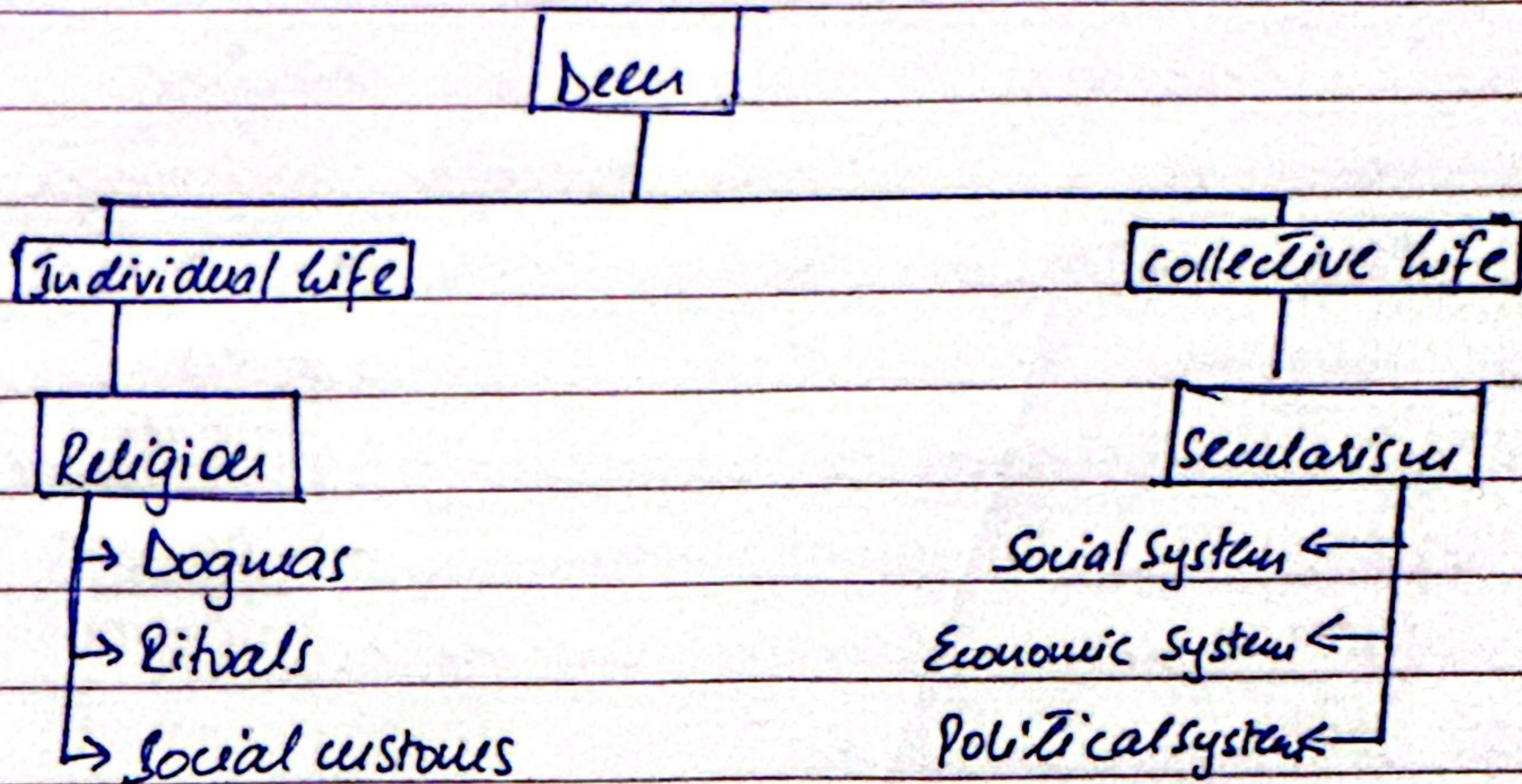
Muslims following the Deen will be able to create a strong relationship with Allah every waking minute. The

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connection to Allah is not restricted within the four walls of a prayer site such as a Church or Temple or even in a mosque. Rather, connection to Allah through Islam (the Deen) can be formed anywhere and at any time. This leads to constant spiritual growth and enlightenment and with tremendously benefits to human beings.

Difference between Religion and Deen



Conclusion

In conclusion, religion forms part of Deen as Deen is an all-encompassing and collective concept. Deen includes not just man's relationship with Allah but ^{also} his relationship with Allah's creation. Deen is important in human life to ensure social order, enlightenment and a sense of purpose. Moreover, following the Deen ensures that man is on the right path to eternal salvation.