

Importance of Din in Human Life:

"Deen" is an all-around movement in the light of faith in Allah and a sense of responsibility for the formation of thought and belief, for the promotion of high principles of human morality for establishment of good relations among members of the society and elimination of any sort of undue discrimination.

The Islamic concept of Din is unique in the broadest sense of the word, Din must come from God for the right guidance of man. Din refers to a complete code of life. Deals with both man's relation with God and his fellow beings. Covers all aspects of life: individual as well as collective. Includes religious, socio-political-economic system. Material as well as spiritual dimensions of human existence.

According to Dr. Khalifa Abdul Hakim:

"Islam means peace as well as submission -- the purpose of life is to live it well; in other words, well being. The purpose of life is edified, harmonized, enriched, strengthened and elevated.

• Role of Din in Human Life and Society:

- vital role: its message is real and practical because it comprehensively covers all human actions.

A system guidance and principles for all spheres of life:

"We have surely set forth in this Quran every kind of lesson for people, but humankind is the most argumentative of all beings" (Surah Al-Haf - 54)

Collective Importance:

- ① Economic uplift
- ② Accountability
- ③ Rule of Law
- ④ establishment of Justice
- ⑤ Alleviate poverty
- ⑥ Removes social evils

Importance:

① Provide Guidance to Mankind:

Guidance with reference to past people's tribles, their fates: Christ, Moses, Jacob and so on.

Guidance with references to Day of Judgment
Guidance with reference to daily activities.

"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" - (Bani Israeel)

"They have certainly disbelieved who say Christ is the son of God" - Surah Almaidah.

② Defines the motive of this life: Show clear path.

"I did not create the Jims and the humans except for the purpose that they should worship me" - Az-Zariya

③ Dm helps us to distinguish b/w right and wrong. Do's and Don'ts

It sets the criterion, with the help of Quran and Sunnah. If everyone was to decide for himself, the scope would have been limited as people's moral have limits. Provide guidance that is versatile.

Guidance on Judgment and Justice - eg Surah Baqrah and Surah Ad-Imran: "He sent down the Criterion of judgment b/w right and wrong."

④ Provides a code of life: The word "Deen" itself means a general and comprehensive code of life. Not only does it provide us with a set of rituals and beliefs but also provides us with guidance to lead a happy and productive life.

⑤ Provide All kinds of Systems: Economic, Judicial, Administrative, Political, Social etc. Those must be driven by righteous just way.

6. A Spiritual Cure for all times: God promises Mercy,
"And we reveal Quran that which is a healing and
a mercy to the believers, and it adds only to the
perdition of unjust (Al-An'am - 82)

7. Source of Wisdom and Enlightenment:

"And Allah has revealed to you the Book and the
Wisdom, and He has taught you what you did not
know and Allah's grace on you is very great (An-Nisa)
Quran is full of Hikmah (wisdom). Quran is being
interpreted in numerous ways and always comes
up with something new. Along with the scientific
development and technological advancement Quran
and Sunnah are being interpreted in new manners.
Surah Yasin - full of wisdom.

8. Din leads Mankind from Darkness of Ignorance to
the light of Knowledge:

Surah Al-Hadid, "A Book revealed on to you
in order that you might lead Mankind out of
the depth of darkness into the light."

9. Teachings of Din are Guard against Evil:

Quran develops fear of God and reverence and love
for Him. "A true believer is shielded by the
powerful cover of the Quran against evil and wicked
ways." (Surah Al-Baqara - 187)

10. Din induces in Man Piety and Remembrance of God.
Piety refers to inner fear man must have for his
Creator when ^{he is} inclined towards evil. Allah has
explained details of warnings in order to induce
piety that may cause remembrance of Him.
Surah Taha: God message for man is to attain
taqwa.

The word Mazhab (religion) has never been used in Quran for Islam rather Deen is being used.

- Madhab is a term used for a set of beliefs and ritual of worship
- Deen refers to entire way of life that prevades all aspects of life, Deen is far more comprehensive, all-encompassing reality.
- Several religions could co-exist at a time but there would be only a single Deen at a time.

Difference b/w Deen and Religion

Religion: In literal sense, it means path/road rituals and social customs.

- Concerns an individual's personal life.
- Has limited dimensions or narrow scope relatively

Deen: In literal sense, it refers to a number of meanings such as religion, belief, anything through which God is worshipped, government, Judgment, way of life, Day of Judgement etc.

In terminology, it refers to Islam, the way of life chosen by Allah for mankind. It consists of a set of beliefs, rituals, social customs and a complete code of life.

- wider scope: whenever Allah has referred to Islam in the Quran, He has used the word Deen instead of mazhab due to its wider scope.

• "This day I ^{have} perfected your Deen for you, Completed my favors upon you, and have chosen Islam for you as your deen." (Al Maida - 13)

• "Surely the true Deen in sight of Allah is Islam" (19)

• "He is the One who has sent down His messenger with guidance and faith of truth (deen). (Al Tawbah - 33)

Difference b/w Din and Religion:

• Ibn Khaldun:

Deen is introduced by Allah in order to lead mankind to eternal blessings, their objective is to worship Allah and observe worthy affairs.

Professor H.A.R Gibb: once said that "Islam is a Deen". "Within western world, Islam still maintains the balance b/w exaggerated opposites (Body and Soul):

E.B Taylor:

'Religion means the belief in spiritual being'.

Durkheim: "Unified form of beliefs and practices relative to sacred thing."

• Religion deals with individual life i.e Man's relation with his God.

• Deen deals with individual + collective aspect Man's relation with God and with other human.

Comparison:

Religion

- Subjective
- Self salvation
- No fruitful end result (D.O.J)
- Sense of fear
- Believes in conformity

Deen

objective
Progress of all
Fruitful end result.
Courage to face the hurdles
(versatile, evolving, revolt.

• No self development

• 'This world

• self meditation

Self development

This world + Here after
Divine social order.

Conclusion:

Islam not only provides a set of beliefs and rituals, but also a complete code of life consisting of social, political, economic, judicial and administrative system for 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.

"I did not create the jinns and the humans except for the purpose that they should worship me." (Az-Zariyat - 56)

- However, worshipping Him all our lives is not possible if worship is limited to a set of rituals as we humans, have humanly needs.
- That's why Allah has gifted us with Islam, a complete code of life.
- It guides us with complete manuals, and provides us with all kinds of systems needed to lead our lives.
- If one wishes, he can perform every act, worldly or spiritual, according to the teachings of Islam, and thus, worship Allah all their life.