

Define Tauheed. What is its impact on Individual life and -the Society? Elaborate.

Introduction:

The most fundamental and -the most important teaching of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) is faith in -the unity of God. And, -the doctrine of Tauheed affirms this belief of monotheism. This is expressed in -the primary Kalimah of Islam -that "There is no God but Allah". (لا اله الا الله) "It is the expression of -this belief -that differentiates a true muslim from a Kafir (unbeliever), mushrik (one who associates others with God in His divinity) or dahriyah (an Atheist)". (Maulana Abu Aala Mawdudi). Faiths are -the essential part of Islam, in a same way Tauheed is -the essential part of all other faiths. To spread -the message of Tauheed Allah sent His prophets and also Holy Quran justifies -the Oneness of Allah.

قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ ۝ اللَّهُ الصَّمَدُ ۝ لَمْ يَلِدْ وَلَمْ يُولَدْ ۝
وَلَمْ يَكُن لَّهُ كُفُوًا أَحَدٌ ۝

1. Say, He is God, -the One.
2. God, the Absolute.
3. He begets not, nor was He begotten.
4. And

-there is nothing comparable to him-

Definition of Tauheed:

(a) Meaning of Tauheed:

Tauheed is rooted from W-h-d. It indicates the action of unifying and of conferring unity. The word Tauheed does not occur in Quran. It does occur in the authentic sayings of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). In first Part of Kalimah word 'Ilah' is referred to Allah, whose literary meaning stands for something awfully mysterious, and extremely attractive to absorb one's whole being, demanding absolute love, adoration and closeness to the extent of worship.

(b) Defining Tauheed:

Tauheed is very essence of Islam. The Islamic world view divided reality into two generic categories: God and non God. God is eternal creator and nothing is like unto him. He remains forever -the transcendental other, devoid of any resemblance, similarity, partnership and association. He is that unique being who alone can be called as reality and

the being of everything other than him derives his reality, existence and being from him. Allah the arabic word for God is the highest focused word of the Quran signifying the fact that Islamic worldview is theocentric to the core. He is always the one who presides over the entire system of existence as its master and creator.

The second realm consists of everything other than God: His creatures. The creatures are always dependent on that one God. He is always sublime 'Other' but a unique kind of other who is extremely close to man by the dint of his knowledge, mercy, love and compassion.

Kinds of Tauheed:

a) Unity in Person:

لَوْ كَانَ فِيهَا آلِهَةٌ إِلَّا اللَّهُ لَفَسَدَتَا

"Had there been in them (Heaven and earth) any deities except Allah they would both have certainly been ruined.

(Al-Anbiya 21:22)

The peace and smooth going of universe proves that there is only one God: Allah, if there had been more they would have quarreled with one another.

b) Unity in attributes:

الَّذِي أَحْسَنَ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ خَلَقَهُ وَبَدَأَ خَلْقَ
الْإِنْسَانِ مِنْ طِينٍ ۝

Who has perfected everything He created.
And He originated the creation of humankind
from clay.

(As-Sajdah 32:17)

Allah is one, unique and incomparable
in His lordship, sovereignty, and worship.
He is one one and unique in his
names and attributes.

c) Unity in actions

إِنَّمَا أَمْرُهُ إِذَا أَرَادَ شَيْئًا أَنْ يَقُولَ لَهُ
كُنْ فَيَكُونُ ۝

His command is only when He intends
a thing that he says to it, "Be" and it is.
(Surah Yaseen 36:82)

Impact of Tauheed on Individual Life :

(i) Width of vision:

A believer of Tauheed can never be
narrow in outlook. He believes in God
who is the only creator and sustainer.
He then does not regard anything as
stranger but a fellow to him because
he know all the creatures are made

by Allah almighty. His vision is enlarged, his intellectual horizons widens and his outlook becomes liberal and as boundless as Kingdom of God. This wideness can never be achieved by an atheist or monotheist.

ii) Tauheed brings self respect and self esteem:

When a person knows that only Allah is the provider he never bows his head in front of any of his creature. Neither he associates someone with him nor he fears of anyone's power. Because he believes in the oneness of Allah.

"Those who worshipped the calf will certainly be afflicted with wrath from their lord as well as disgrace in the life of this world. This is how we reward those who invent falsehood."

(Al-A'raf 7:152)

Shirk brings humiliation, while tauheed augments self esteem, in the light of above verse.

(iii) Tauheed induces the sense of modesty and humbleness:

Along with self respect Tauheed generates

humbleness and modesty because a believer never becomes proud and arrogant because he knows whatever he possesses belongs to Allah and he is accountable to Him.

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said:

"No one who has an atom's weight of arrogance in his heart will enter paradise".

(Al-Hadith)

One who believes in oneness of Allah has to follow this Hadith and resultantly he becomes humble and modest.

(iv) Tauheed imparts consolation, satisfaction and hope:

The believer never becomes despondent and brokenhearted under any circumstances. He has firm faith in God who is the master of all treasures of the Universes whose grace and bounty has no limits and whose power is infinite. This belief fills his heart with satisfaction and hope.

"And Allah will provide for him from where he does not expect. And whosoever relies upon Allah-

-then He is sufficient for him. Indeed, Allah will accomplish His purpose. Allah has set for everything an extent." (Surah-Falaq 65:3)

Impacts of Tauheed on Society

(i) Tauheed brings equality:

Tauheed is merely not a metaphysical concept but a dynamic which implies all creatures are created by one God and all men are equal. Any discrimination on the basis of color, race or nationality is unfounded. Humanity is one single family ^{under} God and there can be no resistance.

"The believers are but a single brotherhood: so make peace with your brethren" (Surah Hujrat 49:10)

Prophet Muhammad PBUH said in His last sermon:

"All mankind is from Adam and Eve, an Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab nor a non-Arab has superiority over Arab; also a white has no superiority over a black nor a black has any superiority over a white except by

Piety and good actions".

(ii) Promotes collective peace and social justice:

Islam connects Tauheed to sociopolitical and economic justice. Injustice leads to disruption of peace and brings Allah's resentment.

"O you who believe! Be steadfast witnesses for Allah in injustice and let not hatred of any people seduce you - that you deal not justly. Deal justly - that is nearer to your duty. Observe your duty to Allah. Lo! Allah is informed of what you do."

(Al-Maidah 5:8)

(iii) Robust brotherhood, unity and co-operations:

"Certainly all Muslims are brothers".

(Al-Hujraat 41:10)

The unity of God lead to the unity of his creature. Tauheed is grounded in human responsibility, sociopolitical and economic accountability and universal justice. The prophet (PBUH) said: "All believers are like a body when one part of the body is ill"

all other parts of the body share the illness.

Conclusion:

Tauheed being the core center of Islam is central and pivotal essence of belief system of it. One can not be a muslim when he does not accept Allah as only God. For Tauheed both verbal expression and admitting in heart are necessary. Muslims believe that Allah granted all things to exist. Allah is the only one who assembled and sustains all things. Allah does not need any ^{real} help or assistance over creation. To spread this message of Tauheed Allah sent numerous prophets with Holy books. Tauheed has another form which is worship along with submittance. And, the one who either considers the assistance of any God in heart or express by tongue or actions is Mushrik. And, Allah says in Quran:

“That is Allah your lord! There is no God but He, the creator of all

things. Then Worship him, and He has
the power to dispose of all affairs"
(Al-An'am 6:102)

Allah is alone in his attributes
and actions - is the main teaching of
Tauheed - Tauheed helps individuals
and society to flourish their existence
and live in harmony with each other
Tauheed therefore is the essence^{key}
of all aspects of life.
