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Describe the importance of Deen in human life. Differentiate between Deen and Religion.

1.

Introduction

Deen is the most important entity in human life as it encompasses every matter related to human life. There are various religions in the world misinterpreted as Deen. However, it is Islam that fulfills all the requirements of a Deen. Therefore believing in Islam brings immense benefits including closer relation to Allah, systematic social systems, reward/patience, etc. Additionally, Religion and Deen are two completely different entities. Deen has wide scope and discusses every possible issue while Religion, on the other hand, has narrow scope and is limited to personal life only. Some of the common religions in the world are Hinduism, Sikhism, Buddhism and Shintoism. Islam, on contrary, is Deen, a religion chosen by Allah.

2.

What is Importance of Deen in human life:

①

Deen is a source of guidance for mankind:

One of the most important function of Deen is that it guides in both personal and social issues. Islam as Deen has a Divine source for seeking guidance i.e. Quran. The Holy book of Quran is not for Muslims only rather it was given to all mankind. Allah (SWT) states:

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

(Al-Asra, Quran)

②

Deen distinguish between good and evil:

For believers Allah has put certain limits on various

things and action. Such as they cannot eat the meat meat pigs or drink alcohol and they cannot lie and deceive. These evil things have clearly distinguished by Allah who in Quran says:

It is God who has sent down the book which is truth and balances to judge between right and wrong - (Al Quran)

③

Deen provides social systems

The reason Deen is different from religion is that it provides its believers not only spiritual cure but social also. For example, Islam has a series of exhaustive judicial, economical and political systems, making a clear path for Muslims.

For economics, Islamic system of Zakat serves best. Not only does it lessen accumulation of wealth but it also alleviate poverty.

④

Deen provides motive of life:

The life of human is not purposeless. He is sent down on Earth with a purpose that is to worship Allah, listen to Him and follow His commands. Allah explicitly state in Quran

I do not created the jinn and men except for the purpose that they worship me.

⑤

Deen Provides spiritual cure to heal hearts:

The life on earth is not a bed of roses. Allah has created certain difficulties in order to testify men such as some people are tested with wealth while other suffer the dearth and scarcity of it. When men become tired of all these hardship Allah provides them cure by say:

Surely with remembrance of Allah do hearts find cure

On other another ayat of Quran Allah says:

Islam is the dealing mercy for the believers.

⑥

Deen provides hope:

As mention earlier, the life has certain difficulties which indubitably push human to hopelessness. However, Allah has a message for them, saying:

Surely with hardship comes ease. Surely with that hardship comes ease
(Ash-Ashar, Quran)

⑦

Deen is based on equality principle:

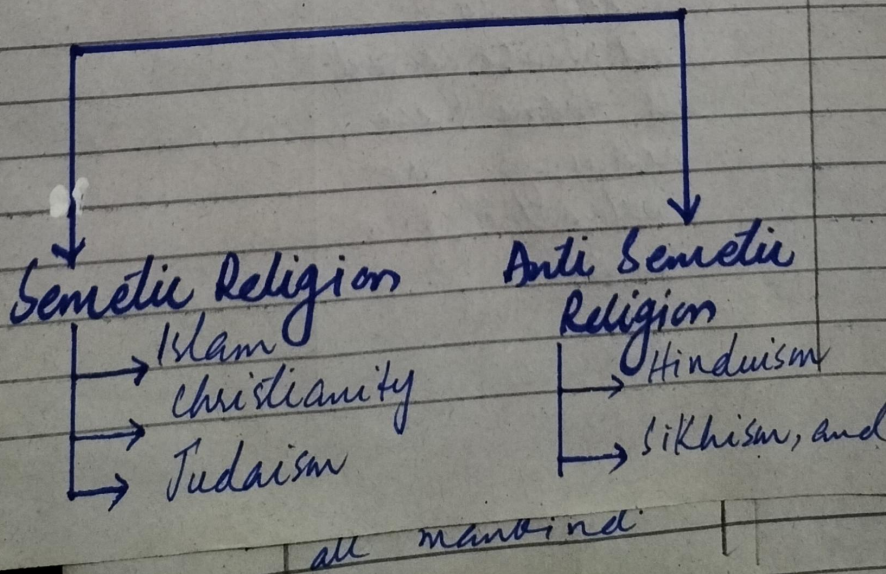
Believers in Islam are all equal before Allah. The only things that make them superior is their deeds. The message of equality was sent all across the world in 7th century BC by Prophet in his last sermon.

He stated:

No Arab has superiority over
Ajam as No Ajam has
over Arab. ~~The~~ one do
good deeds.

What is difference between Deen and religion?

The difference between Deen
and religion mainly lies in their
approaches as religion is
connected to human in his
personal and spiritual deeds
while ~~religi~~ Deen is widely elabo-
rated in respective of believers
personal and social life. On
that pretext there are two
types of religions in the world
which are described below:



Difference:

Deen

Religion

①

Meaning

Deen is an Arabic word which has multiple interpreted meanings:

1. Submission
2. Surrender
3. Honour

Religion is an English word, translated as دين in Arabic. It means "Path"

②

Definition by scholars

Maulana Maududi states that:

word Deen has multiple meanings such as honour or monarch;

Submission or surrender and finally to dispense reward.

all these these meanings are extracted from Quran.

E.B Taylor defines it as:

Religion means the beliefs in spiritual beings.

③

Scope of both entities

Deen deals with spiritual as well as social affairs such as: political and economical.

Religion deals with spiritual affairs.

④

Some other common differences

i.

Deen is an objective reality and a system of collective life.

It is a subjective experience merely connected with relationship between God and man.

ii.

Deen integrates faith and actions and promotes wholistic life.

Religion does not do that rather it emphasizes adherence to specific rituals and dogmas.

iii

Deen transcends cultural boundaries providing universal principles to all mankind.

Religion can only be influenced by rituals or cultural practices.

iv.	Deen encourages man to face problems	Religion acts as a escape from worldly realities.
v	Deen is based on rituals rational principles	while principles of religion are sometimes dogmatic
vi	Every act in Deen creates a bond between God and man.	whole spheres of religion revolves around worship in religion.
vii	Deen has concept of reward in all the commandments of Allah such as if a man does not lie, or or believe in fear of Allah, His or such deeds will earn him great reward.	while in religion the only source of reward is worship. therefore, many monks around the world choose celibacy just for reward.

Comparative Analysis

From differences it could be inferred that religion is a part of Deen. Additionally, all the qualities of Deen in modern world are found in Islam as it is not only preserved but also a chosen religion by Allah himself. The distinctive aspects of it such as monotheistic belief, Quran, modernity, etc. makes it even more relevant among contemporary religion.

Allah in Quran says:

إِنِ الْإِسْلَامُ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ الْدِينُ الْحَقُّ

surely the true religion in the sight of Allah is Islam.

Conclusion:

Deen is an important aspecting, benefiting men in various ways. However, it is misinterpreted as religion. Both, religion

and Deen are different in
their approaches, meaning and
scope. Therefore, on the basis of
their differences, it is evident
that religion is a fragment
of Deen.