

Question #1

Elucidate the doctrine of Tauheed in Islam.

Describe its importance in individual and collective life.

1) Introduction:

Tauheed is one of the most common word that is used in muslim vocabulary.

Tauheed is known as the fundamental part of Imaan. Tauheed means to accept unity of God; to accept that there is only one God and that is Allah. Also the oneness of God is known as Tauheed.

Tauheed has significant impacts on individual and as well as collective life.

Impacts include equality, accountability, hope, dignity and brotherhood.

2) Meaning and Definition of Tauheed:

Tauheed is derived from an arabic word 'wahada' which means "to unite" or "to make one", which signifies the unity and oneness of God.

(wikipedia)

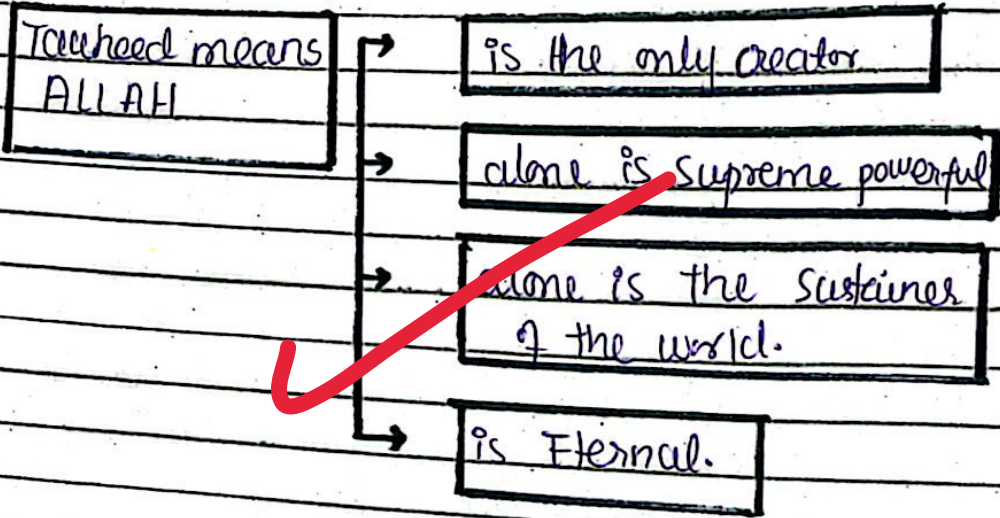
قل هو الله احد . الله الصمد . لم يلد ولم يولد .

ولم يكن له كفواً احد .

Say "He is Allah, [who is] one, Allah, the eternal refuge. He neither begets nor is born, nor is there to him any equivalent."

(Surah Khlas: Al-Quran)

32 Explanation of Doctrine of Tauheed:



(i) Tauheed: Allah is the only creator:

يا ايها الناس فرب مثل فاستمرو له
 ان الذين تدعون من دون الله لاي
 يخلقون ذبابا ولو اجتمعوا له

"people, a parable is set forth: pay heed to it. Those who call upon aught other than Allah shall never be able to create even a fly, even if all of them were able to come together to do that."

(22:73)

From this ayat of the holy Quran, it clearly shows and mentions that nobody except Allah can create a creature (living or non-living) with that perfection reflecting the tauheed that he is the only creator.

(ii) Tauheed: Allah alone

(ii) Tauheed: Allah alone is supreme powerful:

انما امره اذ اراد شيئا ان يقول له كن فيكون.

"only his command when he intends a thing that He says to it, 'Be' and 'it is'."

(Surah Yaseen)

This ayat from the holy Book of Allah, the Holy-Quran proves and reflects the supreme power Allah (S.W.T) holds. Whenever he intends anything and everything. He just says be and it happens - proving the fact that Allah alone is the supreme powerful.

(iii) Tauheed: Allah alone is Sustainer of the world:

الله لا اله الا هو الحي القيوم.

"Allah - there is no deity except him, the ever-living, the sustainer of (all) existence."

(2:255)

This ayat shows the oneness of god (Allah) that he alone is the sustainer of all existing bodies and all existence - proving tauheed - the oneness of God.

(iv) Tauheed : Allah Almighty is eternal:

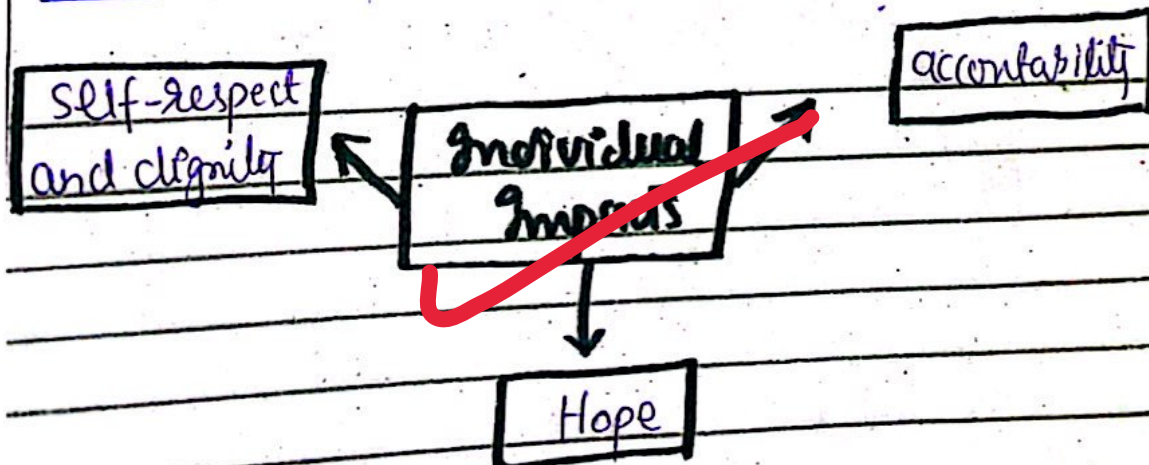
ولا تدع مع الله الها ائرا. لا اله الا هو
كل شئ هالك الا وجهه .

"And do not invoke any other god with Allah. There is no god worthy of worship except him. Everything is bound to perish except he himself."

(Surah Qasas)

This ayat from surah al-qasas from the Holy Quran explains the fact that everything is bound to perish and Allah Almighty alone is the eternal one.

4) Importance of Tauheed in Individual life:



(a) **Self-Respect and Dignity of a Person is respected:**

Tauheed has significant importance in human life; individually and collectively as well. Tauheed respects and encourages to respect self-respect and dignity of a person. According to the content of a hadees:

"The provider and the receiver of Zakat are equal"
(Al-hadees)

(b) **Accountability as an impact of Tauheed in individual life:**

Tauheed signifies the concept of accountability and encourages and emphasize to follow accountability rules and has set certain punishments in order to ensure accountability. As in Holy Quran:

He knows that which deceives the eye.

(Surah Ghafir)

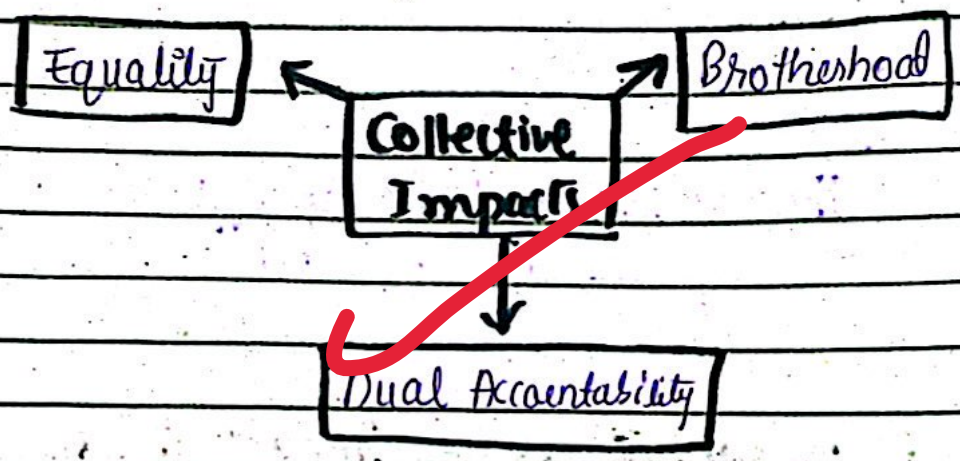
(c) **Tauheed impacts human life by providing hope:**

Tauheed impacts positively on individual life as it assures and provides hope in every situation of life. As in the Holy Quran:

ان مع العسر يسرا .
 "indeed, with hardships there's ease."
 (Surah Al-An-Nashr)

Add more arguments

3) Impacts of Tauheed on collective life:



(a) Equality as an impact of Tauheed on collective life:

Tauheed has significant importance in human collective life. It ensures and affirms equality. Treating the same everyone is equality and is an impact of Tauheed. The content of hadees is as follows:

"One cannot be a believer, if he does not choose for his brother what he chooses for himself."

(Al-hadees)

This shows that everyone should be treated the same irrespective of age, gender and color.

(b) Brotherhood as an impact of Tauheed on collective life:

Brotherhood is another crucial impact of tauheed on collective life - Allah Almighty in the Holy Quran says

"The believers are but brothers"

(Surah Hujurat)

(c) Dual Accountability as an impact of Tauheed on collective life:

The concept of dual accountability refers to the accountability and punishments given in this world and the hereafter as well.

Muslims believe in the day of resurrection and the hereafter, therefore, tauheed impacts and act as a check in the form of dual accountability

"The concept of Qisas and punishment for killing someone is mentioned in the Holy Quran"

(Surah Baqra: 178)

Conclusion: Oneness of God means believing in the oneness of Allah, who is the eternal, sustainer, supreme powerful and the only creator. Tauheed has significant impacts on human individual and collective life as well from self-respect to accountability's dual concept.