

Explain the doctrine of Prophethood and its importance in human life:

1 Introduction

The concept of Prophethood is present in the three great monotheistic religions of Christianity, Judaism, and Islam. In Islam, however, it has a special status and significance. According to Islam, Allah created humans to worship Him and lead a virtuous life based on His teachings. But here arises a question as to how can a man fulfill and know his duties. This question is answered by the God Himself most effectively by sending the chosen people to guide the humanity. The existence of Prophethood, by which Allah sent a prophet to every nation to reveal

his message. From the Adam to the final prophet, Muhammad (PBUH), the messengers have played an important role in delivering divine message.

Doctrine of Prophethood holds immense importance in human life, offering spiritual enlightenment, providing a framework for ethical living and social justice. So, to believe in Prophet is to believe in the oneness of God.

Keep the introduction a bit brief

2) Doctrine of Prophethood

(2a) Concept of Prophethood in Islam

Risalah is the Arabic word for message. and Risalat refers to the 'Prophethood'. It represents the various ways Allah communicates with humanity. Prophets are considered the intermediaries between Allah and mankind. This concept underscores the integral role of Prophethood in Islam, serving as a source of

divine wisdom and ethical principles
for individuals and societies to follow.
The concept of Prophethood is rooted
in Quranic teachings as:

وَلَقَدْ بَعَثْنَا فِي كُلِّ أُمَّةٍ رَسُولًا أَنِ اعْبُدُوا اللَّهَ وَاجْتَنِبُوا الطَّاغُوتَ

"We have sent to every community
a messenger, saying, 'Worship
Allah and avoid false gods'"

(Al Quran 16:36)

(2b) Belief in All Prophets

Every Prophet of God, according to
Quran, strove to build man's
relation with God, and guide
man in all facets of life
teaching the Islamic revelations.
So, to believe in a prophet
means to believe in the God
and His revelation. This belief
fosters a sense of unity among
believers recognising the inter-

-connectedness of the messages conveyed by various prophets in upholding the oneness of God and moral conduct.

(2c) Finality of Prophethood

(2c)

The belief in the finality of Prophethood holds utmost importance. It is a distinctive feature of Islamic belief. The Prophet Muhammad is the last messenger of God, who was sent to all mankind. As the Quran enjoins:

قل يا ايها الناس اني رسول الله اليكم جميعا -

"Say, (O Muhammad) "O humankind, I am the messenger of God to you all."

(Al-Aaraaf 7:158)

Prophet Muhammad declared:

"There is no prophet after me."

He affirmed that his mission

marked the conclusion of prophethood. The finality of Prophethood marked and underscored the completeness and universality of the message brought by Prophet Muhammad, making his teachings the ultimate source of guidance for all of humanity.

2d) Mission of Prophets of Monotheism

In order to fulfill their mission all Prophets stood steadfast in the path of God. Their mission was to purify societies from polytheism, idolatry, and deviations from pure monotheistic worship. They were sent to give clear understanding of Tawhid, and this is the foundational aspect of Islam. Further they strove to foster a connection between God and the individuals, guiding them towards righteousness and spiritual

unity.

3) Importance of the Doctrine of Prophethood

(3a) Divine Revelation for Spiritual Enlightenment

Prophethood in Islam serves as a way for the spiritual enlightenment as the Quran affirms,

"Indeed, there has come to you from Allah a light and a clear Book." (Quran: 5:15)

Try to add the Arabic of quranic ayats

The messages conveyed by prophets show the right way to follow providing clarity and guidance.

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) encompassed this spiritual enlightenment, and hadiths describe him as a lamp spreading light, emphasising the profound role of prophethood in illuminating hearts and minds "with divine wisdom."

3b) Ethical Guidance and Role Models

Ethical guidance and role models are central to Islamic teachings. The Quran underscores the Prophet Muhammad's role as a paragon of ethical conduct. Further, many instances of Hadith and Quran shows that Prophet's impeccable manners and ethical principles, are important to follow as these are of much importance in shaping the fabric of society and individual character.

قال انى عبد الله اتانى الكتاب و جعلنى نبيا -

"I am the servant of Allah who has given me the Book and ordained me a Prophet." (Maryam 19:30)

One reference is enough for a single argument

فاتقوا الله و اطيعون -

"Fear God and obey me!"

(Quran. 43:63)

Keep the description of arguments brief and increase the number of arguments instead.

(3c) Advocacy for Social Justice and Equity

Advocacy and equity for social justice is a pivotal aspect of prophethood in Islam. The Quran declares, "We sent our messengers with clear signs and sent down with them the Book and the Balance, so that people may stand forth in justice". (Quran 57:25)

In the Treaty of Hudaibiyah, Prophet Muhammad demonstrated extraordinary fairness and equity, fostering an environment where even the most marginalised could access justice. This commitment to social justice remains a profound legacy of prophethood, guiding Muslims to pursue an equitable and just society.

(3d) Inspiration and Comfort in Adversity

The doctrine of Prophethood in Islam is a source of inspiration and comfort during adversity. The Quran states, "Verily, with every hardship comes ease" (94: 5-6)

ان مع العسر يسرا -

The lives of prophets, filled with trials and tribulations, offer solace and hope to believers facing challenges. Prophet Muhammad's (PBUH) perseverance in the face of adversity at the Battle of Uhud where he comforted his companions and remained steadfast, exemplifies this inspiration.

Add more arguments

4) Conclusion

In conclusion, Prophethood in Islam is the profound testament to divine guidance and moral enlightenment. From the beginning to the last prophet Muhammad (PBUH), this doctrine weaves a rich tapestry of spiritual

enlightenment, ethical guidance, and social justice advocacy. The lives of Prophets serves as a role model for those seeking inspiration in the face of adversity. The importance of Prophethood in human life transcends temporal boundaries, offering a holistic framework that addresses spiritual, moral, and societal dimensions, paving a path of virtue and righteousness for all humanity.

A 20 marks answer should have around 15 subheadings

Conclusion