

Q2. Define Tauheed. What is its impact on individual life and society? Elaborate

## ANSWER - 2

### INTRODUCTION:

Tauheed is the fundamental belief in Islam without which a man cannot become a muslim. It is a cardinal principle of Islam and its importance is mentioned in several Quranic verses and in Hadith. Allah says in the Quran,

'And there is no god but He.'

Similarly, Allah mentions Him <sup>self</sup> to be the sole creator and the sustainer of this universe and everything in it.

### DEFINITION OF TAUHEED:-

#### → Literal Meaning:

The word tauheed is derived from the word  $\text{وحد}$  which means oneness and uniqueness.

#### → Contextual Meaning:

Tauheed means the faith in the unity of Allah. It refers to the belief that oneness and uniqueness of Allah.

## • ISLAMIC CONCEPT OF TAUHID:

In Islam, Tauheed is the belief in oneness of Allah. It is the faith that defines Muslims as it is the first part of the Kalima:

لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ

‘There is no god, but Allah’

Without bearing witness to this no one can become a Muslim. It is to believe that Allah is the Sole Creator, sustainer and Cherisher of the world. Allah is the Supreme, the Lord, the only worthy of worship. Maulana Shibli Nomani said:

‘Tauheed is the first chapter of Islamic syllabus?’

and:

‘Islam is like a fort and Tauhid is the gate of the fort.’

## → TYPES OF TAUHID:

There are three types of Tauhid:

### (1) Allah in Himself:

According to this belief, there is only one God. This is a message that all the prophets propagated. Allah in himself refers to Allah

being the Only One God, rejecting the concept of plurality. Surah Ikhlas is the best example for this. Allah

says:

'Say, He is Allah, the One and Only,  
Allah, the Absolute, the Eternal,  
He begetteth not, nor is He Begotten,  
And there is none like unto Him.' (112:1-4)

### (iii) Allah in His Attributes:

Allah enjoys qualities that are unique to Him. He is omnipotent, omnipresent and Absolute. He does not get tired, nor does He feel hunger. Allah says in Ayat-al-Kursi,  
'Neither sleep nor drowsiness overtakes Him.'

He controls the universe single handedly with the power that only can be associated with a Divine presence - God.

### (iiii) Allah in His Actions:

There is no other entity that can do things that Allah is capable of doing. Only Allah has the power to create, sustain and then destroy this universe <sup>and</sup> everything.

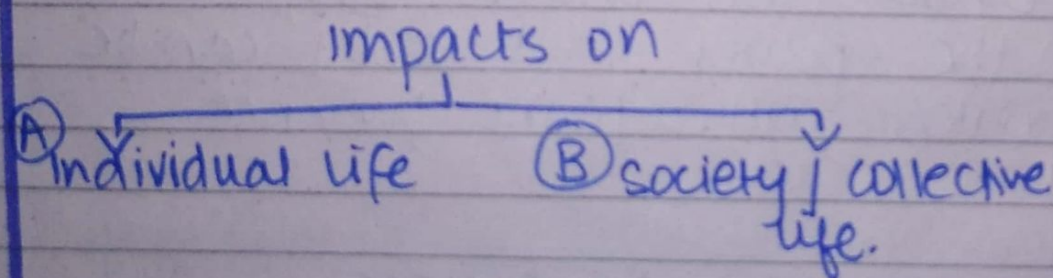
in it. In the Quran, Allah says:  
'And He wraps night over  
the day and then wraps day  
over the night.'

and also,

'If there were present, in the  
heavens and the earth, more  
than one god, there would  
have been confusion in both.'

### IMPACT OF BELIEF IN TAUHEED =

All the fundamental beliefs have  
certain impact on us. They can  
be divided as follows:



#### ① Individual life =

In our personal lives, this belief  
that Allah is One and there  
is no one worthy of worship  
but Allah. It is He who is the

Provider, the Raziq, the Khaliq and the Malik. Therefore, it impacts one life and changes and moulds it for good.

### (1) It ensures self-respect and dignity:

A person becomes dignified and relies only on the help of Allah. He seeks refuge in the assistance of no one else but Allah with the faith that He is one god and certainly capable of doing all things. It is said:

وہ اک سجدہ جسے تو گراں سمجھتا ہے  
ہزار سجدوں سے دیتا ہے آدمی کو نجات

### (2) This creates a sense of accountability:

With this faith that one is answerable before God for one's actions inculcates a sense of accountability. It saves one from committing sins as well as crimes. Allah says this numerous times in the Quran that,

'The believers will be granted Paradise and for disbelievers there is Hellfire.'

This creates in a person and makes him realize that he cannot get away with his crimes and mistakes.

### (3) Makes a person virtuous and upright:

This belief makes a muslim shine in the way of Allah with the belief that Allah will compensate the good and the painful events in this life. The faith, that none can transgress one's limits, makes + renews faith in Allah and His divinity. The Holy Prophet (pbuh) is reported to have said,

'No Arab is superior to a non-Arab and no non-Arab is superior to an arab, except in the matter of Taqwa.'

### (4) Makes a believer hopeful:

Hope is one of the finest virtues of Islam. The concept of hope and blind reliance on Allah makes the difficulties in life bearable. The promise of Allah that says

'Allah does not burden a soul beyond his capacity.'

It nurtures patience and contentment in believers. Allah says,

'Allah loves those who are patient.'

The fact that the bearer of patience is beloved to Allah, firms one's heart to strive in Allah's cause even more. When the problem befalls a man, he seeks Allah's help through prayer and patience; and when one prays wholeheartedly with staunch faith that it is Allah who tests us and it is He who relieves us, the problem surpasses easier. Allah says in the Holy Quran,

'Do not fear, nor lose hope, for Allah's help is near.'

(5) Saves one from narrow mindedness:

The faith, that it is Allah who is All-Powerful and our Lord, saves one from believing in baseless superstitions. It saves one from fearing the unknown and not falling in the traps of fake saints and

amulet sellers who trade on the name of religion. Allah promises believers that Allah's help will always be there and only asks for our reliance on him. Allah says in the Holy Quran,

'Fear not for Allah is with you.'

This ensures that Allah is the only sustainer and provider so one should not indulge in irrational fears.

### (6) Inculcates Spirit of Bravery

A believer is not afraid of striving spiritually as well as physically in the way of Allah. A believer is brave enough to follow the covenant of Allah even if it does not align with the beliefs of contemporary world. It ensures in a believer that it is Allah who rewards for every right action even if it goes against the world. How beautifully it is said by a poet that

کے زمانے کا سارا تقاضا ہے اب دکھا دیا ہے  
حقیقت میں مجھے میرا خدا کرنے میں دیتا ہے۔



### (7) Satisfaction of hearts:

The belief in Tauheed ensures the divine presence in our day to day life. Thus, by trusting that Allah is the dispenser of our affairs, one can be satisfied completely. Allah mentions in the Quran,

‘Verily! In the remembrance of Allah do hearts find satisfaction.’

### (8) Avoid Negative Thoughts:

By having a firm belief in the Divine presence of Allah, one always negates the thoughts of hopelessness and despair. It strengthens our hearts to not only carry out routine activities but also fight negatively and dilemma diligently. It is mentioned in the Holy Quran:

‘Do not lose hope in the mercy of Allah.’

and also,

‘Neither have we forgotten you nor are we displeased.’

## B. Impact on society or collective life:

Just as it affects individuals in their lives separately, Tauheed and the belief in it ~~has~~ has significant effects on the society. Just as a person mends his life according to the teachings of Allah with the belief that ~~they~~ he will be held accountable for it, it naturally transcends to the society. All of the people play their part in this way and positively impact the society. Following are the few effects of belief in Tauheed or oneness of Allah on the society as whole.

### (1) Concept of Unity and equality:

The belief re-inforces the concept of unity and equality. Islam shuns the idea of racism, sexism and class segregation and focuses on the aspect of piety. In the eyes of Allah, all Muslims are equal and the only difference that makes one superior is piety. Other than that there is no distinction among the rich and poor, black or white, superior or inferior, leader or slave. (Allah's Holy Prophet (pbuh) said:

'NO black is superior to red and  
no red is superior to black .....  
except in the matter of Taqwa.'

## (2) Concept of Brotherhood and Fraternity:

According to the teachings of Islam, all muslim is one single community and brothers of each other. Allah says,

'Hold steadfast the covenant of Allah and do not be disunited.'

As muslims are a single community, the calamity that befalls on one region is in fact the pain of all of the community. Such is the example of Gaza, Palestine where thousands of Muslims were butchered at the hands of Jews. It not only became a national issue but also ignited the flame of rage and fear in the hearts of the Muslims all over the world. Not only muslim countries but non-muslim countries with muslim inhabitants stood up for the citizens of Palestine. The Holy Prophet (pbuh) said:

'Muslims are a single brotherhood, so if one gets affected, all are affected.'

And regarding this, Allah says in Surah Hujrat,

'Believers are nothing else than brothers (in Islam) so, make reconciliation between them.'

### (3) Inter-Religious Harmony:

The faith that Allah is Supreme and Watchful for all things ensures that Muslims live in peace and harmony not only among themselves but also among the non-Muslims. In the Holy Quran, Allah mentions:

'Let there be no compulsion in religion.'

and also,

'For you is your religion, for them is theirs.'

If this is kept in mind, it would

end a lot of violence under the pretence of sectarianism and inter-religion conflicts that are so widespread today.

#### (4) Brings peace in the society:

When a man believes in Tauheed and the teachings of Islam, it can be seen that the institution of brotherhood will be established. Everyone will live in harmony and enjoy social equality and freedom. It will bring peace and prosperity to the society and help uplift the nation as a whole. The Holy Prophet (pbuh) is reported to have said,

‘None of you believes until he wants for a brother what he wants for himself.’

As noone would want to live under cruelty and with violence, it would bring peace and harmony. Allah imposes severe restrictions on harming others. The Holy Prophet (pbuh) said,

‘The worse among you is from whose mischief his neighbour is not safe.’

Therefore, one who believes in Allah

and His teachings through Holy Prophet (pbuh) would never harm anyone.

### CONCLUSION:

Therefore, it can be seen that impact of the belief in Allah almighty as One Supreme leader who is watchful of all our deeds and is alone sufficient to reward and punish us, is of great importance. When one believes that Allah alone is our Beneficiary, we do not stray from the path and whole heartedly submit to the will of Allah. It is described beautifully in Surah ~~Fahime~~ Fahha

'Thee do we worship and  
Thine Aid we seek.'

Hence, it greatly impacts our life at the level of an individual and society.

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