

Question:

How Ibn Rushd reconciles philosophy with religion?

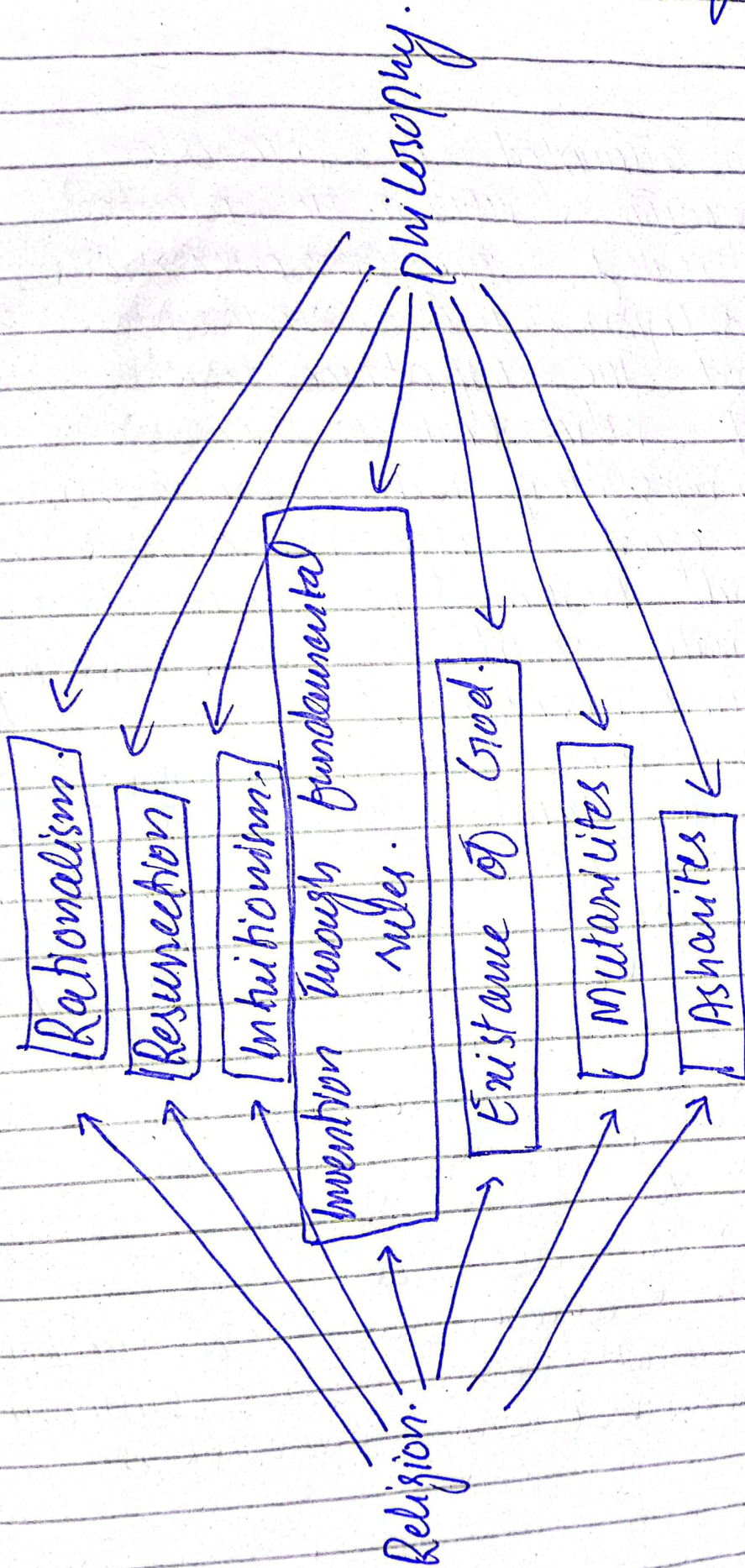
Introduction.

- a.) The importance of rationalism in religion and philosophy.
- b.) The thinking process starts with doubts in both religion and philosophy.
- c.) Ibn Rushd about mutazilites and asharites.
- d.) Description of the ultimate reality.
- e.) Room of resurrection in both philosophy and religion.
- f.) Philosophy and religion deal everyday life affairs.
- g.) Principles of philosophy and religion:
 - i. The existence of God.
 - ii. The prophecy
 - iii. The resurrection.
- h.) Critique on Ibn Rushd for his reconciliation of philosophy and religion.
- I.) Conclusion.

Introduction:

Ibn Rushd attempted to reconcile philosophy with religion. He wanted to whisker away the misconceptions regarding religion and philosophy. He highlighted the importance and place of rationalism in both of the disciplines. Along with rationalism, he gave equal edge to doubts and critical thinking to reach into the ultimate reality. Moreover, according to Ibn Rushd, neither of the mutanizites and asharites were wrong. Because both attempt to describe the ultimate. In fact, religion and philosophy entertain the question of resurrection. Beyond this, they deal with everyday life affairs. Furthermore, both of the discipline give special emphasis to the existence of God, prophecy and the life afterward. However, the reconciliation of Ibn Rushd also serve criticism from the later following philosophers.

3
Shared areas of philosophy and religion:



a. Importance of rationalism in both religion and philosophy.

Rationalism occupies a reasonable and prominent place in religion and philosophy. Tracing it through the lens of religion, God says in the Holy Quran that you people should think in the universe and explore it. which clearly projects that God appreciate those who rationally think in the universe and explore the universe. Meanwhile, in philosophy, rationalism serve an important part since classical era. And the classical philosophers advocated that philosophy begins with rationalism and thinking. As famously said by Rene Descartes, "I think therefore I am". So, religion and philosophy according to Ibn Rushd are not indifferent to each other, they share a big deal and sometimes converge each other.

b. The Thinking process starts with doubts in both religion and philosophy.

Both philosophy and religion starts with doubt in the nature. Ibn Rushd emphasized this point of doubt which is the root cause of all the knowledge across the world.

According to Rene Descartes, if one wants to get real knowledge then he/she needs to reconstruct all the knowledge. The reconstruction starts with doubt on the existing beliefs. While in religion, the mutazilites started doubting the established beliefs in order to reach into the ultimate reality. Ibn Rushd put forward this point and attempted to bring close philosophy and religion.

c. Ibn Rushd about Mutazilites and Asharites.

According to Ibn Rushd, neither mutazilites nor Asharites was wrong. Both carried out a

reasonable ground. Mutazilites searched for rational ground in order to reach into the ultimate reality while Asharites stick to their dogmas and beliefs. So, here Ibn Rushd reconcile Mutazilites, whose claim was philosophical and on other hand, the Asharites, whose claim was religious. And he was successful as far as the consensus of the ~~later~~ later philosophers is concern.

d. Room of resurrection in both philosophy and religion.

Religion categorically mentions in the Holy Quran that each of the people will be resurrected and be held responsible. While philosophy also claims that matter cannot be created nor destroy. The matter of this world is constant and will remain constant forever. Ibn Rushd found these faculties in common and thus argue that philosophy and religion are on the same footing and foundation. Thus, he was successful in the reconciliation of philosophy and religion.

c. Both philosophy and religion deal every day life affairs.

Von Rushd argued that the theme of both religion and philosophy is the same. Likewise, philosophy searches meaning and life and attempts to shape life. Same is with religion, it also provides us meaningful life on this planet. Resultantly, a meaningful life is not possible without consulting philosophy and religion.

f. Description of the ultimate reality:

Moving on, Von Rushd said that ultimate reality is the destination of both philosophy and religion. The journey towards the ultimate reality is quite different of both but anyhow it is same (destination). For philosophy, the search for ultimate reality is analytical and logical but for religion it is divine and natural. So, this phase is the most overlapping.

g. Principles of Philosophy.

- i) Existence
- ii) Prophecy.
- iii) Resurrection.

According to Ibn Rushd, the first principle of philosophy is the curiosity about the existence of God. Philosophy argues that God exists from pre-eternity. While religion also holds the same view that God exists and will exist forever. Secondly, philosophy says that the world will cease to work someday. The total energy of the world would be consumed and then there will be collapse. Religion again overlaps about the questions of prophecy. Lastly, philosophy holds that the matter is constant and a man once die, go nowhere but to another world. In fact, religion says that the resurrection will take place. Ibn Rushd said that there is no hostility between philosophy and religion. They are twinned to each other. And he successfully welded them together.

Critique on Ibn Rushd for
his reconciliation of religion
and philosophy.

The first criticism raised by
Al-Ghazali, who said that
religion is purely based on
divine teachings and the attributes
of God, while philosophy is just
presumptions and not more than
this. So, an attempt to bring
philosophy in rank of religion is
just time pass. It is not
possible ever to rank philosophy
with religion. The second criticism
comes from pragmatism and
the school of thought to promote
pure reason and analytical
knowledge or synthetic knowledge.
They say that religious beliefs
are bad faith and philosophy
is no more than supernatural
and there is no proof of
the elements which philosophy
undertakes. True things are
those which have existence
or liable to proof and
reason.

Boys

Conclusion:

Abn-e-Rushd took up a heated discussion about religion and philosophy. The earlier philosophers said that philosophy is contrary to religion. Rushd took up the traits and after proper recognition he reached upon the reconciliation of philosophy and religion. He tackled up rationalism, doubts, ultimate reality and resurrection, after thorough understanding, he said that all these areas of philosophy and religion are overlapping. Moreover, he said that neither of Mutazites and Asharites were wrong. Only their ways of treatment were different. Furthermore, the principles through which philosophy and religion evolve, he found those the same though he encountered criticisms but he is found to be successful in his reconciliation of philosophy with religion.