

Difference between Din and Religion? Discuss.

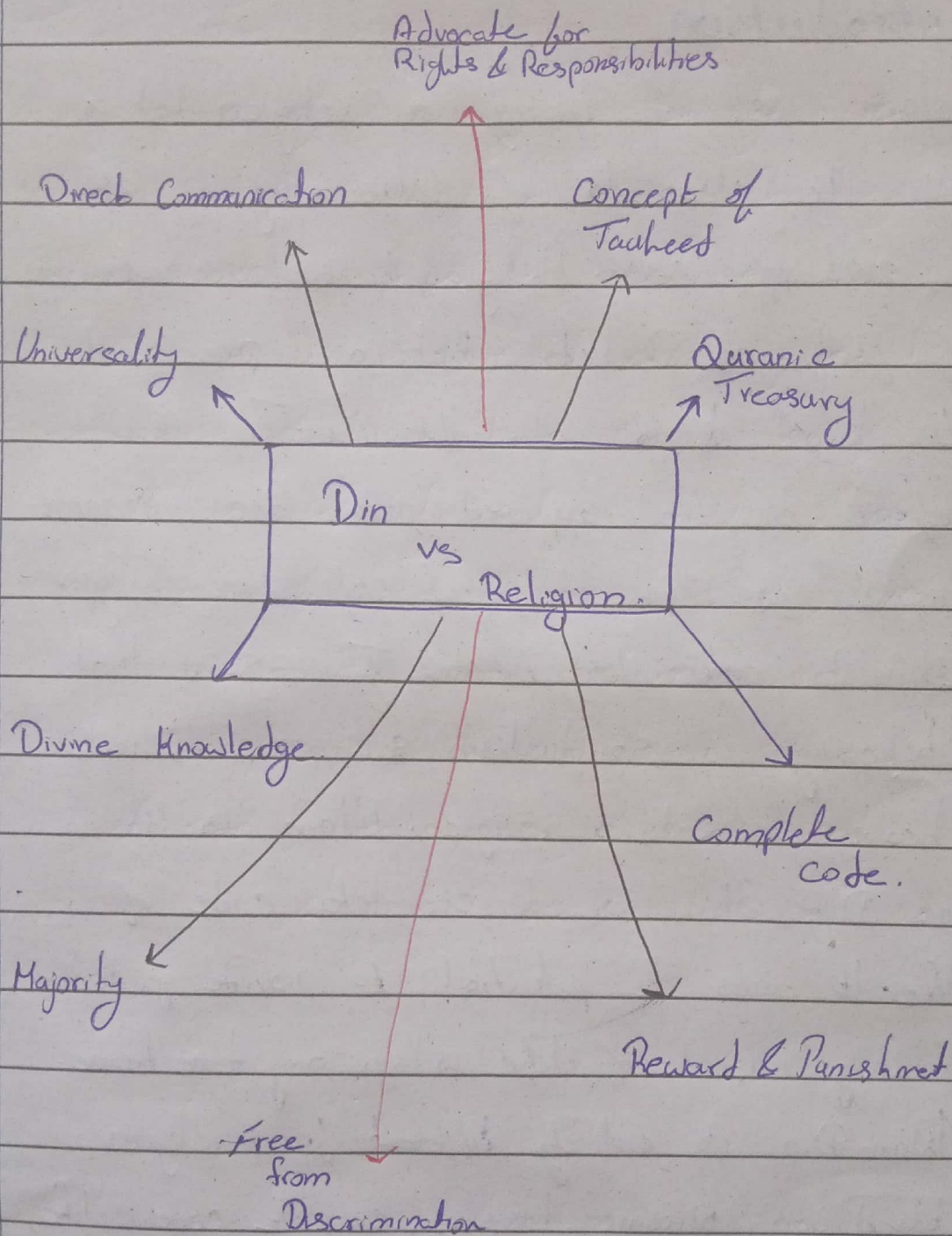
## Introduction

Islam is not merely a religion, but all the elements of Islam religion is a part of Islam. Religion is a set of faith or beliefs that are practiced to form bonds with the God. It is referred to the approved path and manners meant for the beneficial of human being.

Islam An anthropologist Edward Tylor, said that believing in spiritualism such as God, hell, heaven or soul, is religion. Islam is known as Din, which is a complete code of life. It owns the potential to provide guidance in any aspect of life, within any time frame.

Islam Din is entirely different from religion based on Quranic treasury, complete code of life, divine knowledge, universality, concept of Tawheed and Day of Judgement, direct bonding and many more. In short, religions can be many based on beliefs but Din is unique and is the only source of guidance.

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## a.) 'Din' used to refer Islam in divine book

Islam is also known as Din. Islam is not merely a religion. It consists of all the elements of religion, but it holds importance more than it. Din is used in all the treasury of Quran and hadith and not Madhab to refer Islam. In Surah Maidah, Allah manifestly stated that "Today I have completed your Deen. I have bless upon you and choose Islam as your Deen."

## b.) Din is a complete code of life

Religion is a belief and faith on certain ibadah, ritual and azidah, in order to form bond with God, But Din is a code that deals with every aspect of life: social, individual, ethical, political, economic or any other. Once again in Surah Maidah, Allah clearly stated that Islam is a perfect code of life.

### c.) Din is universal and unique.

There are many religions in the world.

Every group of community or society have certain beliefs and faith upon which they define their worships to please their God.

On other hand, Din is universal and unique. All the followers of Islam have common belief and it is the only religion that defines every aspect of life. Religion like Hinduism, Christian or Buddhism are based on certain beliefs and faith and do not provide perfect code of life, whereas Islam is based on divine knowledge and provide complete system.

### d.) Religion based on man-made beliefs

Whereas Din on divine beliefs

Religion is a set of beliefs and faith, driven

by human being, whereas Din is based upon

the divine knowledge, which Allah Almighty revealed

on Holy Prophet (PBUH). Religion is centric around

man-made aqidah, ritual ibadah and social function.

Islam have divine aqidah, ibadah and social function

For instance, Islamic aqidah is that holy Prophet is last messenger and it is clearly dictate by Allah in Holy Quran: Kalima Tegyub, whereas worshipping of Sun is aqidha of Hindus base of on human beliefs.

### e.) Islamic concept of Tauheed

Islamic concept of Tauheed clear demarcate between Din and Religion. Din follows the concept of Tauheed, that there is no one but Allah and He is worth of worship only. In contrast, religion is base on different beliefs there each religion worship one or more than one god. For Example: In Hinduism, hindus worship multiple gods base on different beliefs, whereas in Islam, all followers worship one and only Allah Almighty.

### f.) Religion promotes discrimination whereas Din promotes equality

Likewise, religion, Din does not promote discrimination. As per Din, everyone is equal

and vandalise the concept of human supremacy based on color, rituals or gender. Din does not forbid anyone, to follow Islamic teaching. In opposite, religion is based on cast system. It forbids marginalize and alienated individuals from following. In Surah Hijrat, Allah said that the followers of Islam are brother and individual are equal and shall be judge on their righteous deeds.

g) Din do not have hierarchy to communicate with God

Religion follows a defined hierarchy in order to form gods and communicate to whom they worship. Din do not require any human hierarchy in order to communicate with Allah Almighty. Religion like Hinduism and Christian requires, religious individuals in order to worship, but in Islam. The individual do not need any such assistance.

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h) Din provide the concept of Reward and Punishment, whereas religion do not

There is no religion in the world that provide knowledge of Day of Judgement, except Islam. Islam provides a complete guidance on the concept of reward and punishment. It define the aims and goals of human existence in the world. In Surah Al-Imran, it is stated that human will be rewarded based on deeds and there are deeds acceptable to Allah Almighty -

i-) Din advocates role and responsibilities of individual

Din provide in depth knowledge of the roles and responsibilities that individual owes toward other people. It underscores the importance of God, family members, neighbours, relatives etc, whereas religion only advocate in regard to the bond formation with God. In Quran, while highlighting the importance of

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mother in individual life, Allah said that heaven lies below mother feet.

**i-) Religion is for limited people**

**Whereas Din is for mankind**

Religion is meant to be followed by a certain group of people, whereas Din is meant for the entire mankind and can be followed by anyone modern to seek guidance on any aspect, on any phase of time. There are many western scholars who studied ~~western~~ Islam for research purposes and finally ended up being a muslim.

**Conclusion:**

In the light of the above argument, it can be concluded that religion is a set of belief, human oriented to form bonds with the gods, as said by Emile Durkheim, one of a sociologist that religion is to obey certain faith in order to form bonds with god. On the other hand, Islam



is not only limit to bond formation with Allah,  
Din reflects to the entire life, means to  
practice divine knowledge in every aspect  
of life.