2016 (Question Paper)

Q. No. 2. What is meant by culture and civilization? Describe the characteristics of Islamic culture.

Ans: Culture refers to the ideas, customs, social behavior, and other characteristics of a particular group or society. It encompasses language, religion, cuisine, social habits, music, and arts.

Civilization, on the other hand, is a complex human society characterized by the development of urban centers, a system of government, social stratification, a division of labor, and advanced forms of culture, science, and industry.

Characteristics of Islamic Culture:

1. Tawhid (Monotheism): Islamic culture is based on the belief in the oneness of Allah. The Quran states: "Say, 'He is Allah, [Who is] One, Allah, the Eternal Refuge. He neither begets nor is born, Nor is there to Him any equivalent.'" (Quran 112:1-4).

2. Prophethood: Respect and adherence to the teachings of all Prophets, with Muhammad (PBUH) being the final prophet. "Indeed, We have sent you, [O Muhammad], as a witness and a bringer of good tidings and a warner." (Quran 33:45).

3. Revelation (Wahi): The importance of divine guidance through the Quran and Hadith. The Quran emphasizes following the revelation: "Follow what has been revealed to you from your Lord and do not follow other than Him any allies." (Quran 7:3).

4. Akhlaq (Morality): High moral standards are essential. The Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said: "The best among you are those who have the best manners and character." (Bukhari 3559).

5. Community (Ummah): Emphasis on the unity and brotherhood among Muslims. "The believers are but brothers, so make settlement between your brothers. And fear Allah that you may receive mercy." (Quran 49:10).

6. Knowledge (Ilm): Encouragement of learning and knowledge. The Prophet (PBUH) said: "Seeking knowledge is an obligation upon every Muslim." (Ibn Majah 224).

Q. No. 3. What is the difference between Deen and Religion? Describe the importance of Deen in human life with arguments.

Ans: Deen in Islam refers to a comprehensive way of life, encompassing not only religious rituals but also moral, social, and legal aspects.

Religion generally denotes a set of beliefs and practices related to the worship of a deity or deities.

Difference between Deen and Religion:

1. Comprehensiveness: Deen includes all aspects of life – spiritual, moral, social, economic, and political – while religion often focuses primarily on spiritual and ritual aspects.

2. Guidance: Deen provides guidance for every aspect of life based on divine revelation, whereas religion might not provide a detailed framework for all areas of life.

Importance of Deen in Human Life:

1. Purpose and Direction: Deen gives a sense of purpose and direction in life. Allah says in the Quran: "And I did not create the jinn and mankind except to worship Me." (Quran 51:56).

2. Moral and Ethical Guidance: It provides a moral framework for individuals and societies. "O you who have believed, enter into Islam completely [and perfectly] and do not follow the footsteps of Satan. Indeed, he is to you a clear enemy." (Quran 2:208).

3. Social Harmony: Deen promotes justice, equality, and social welfare, leading to harmonious societies. "Indeed, Allah commands you to render trusts to whom they are due and when you judge between people to judge with justice." (Quran 4:58).

4. Salvation and Afterlife: Deen addresses the afterlife and provides a path to salvation. "And whoever obeys Allah and His Messenger will be admitted by Him to gardens [in Paradise] under which rivers flow, abiding eternally therein; and that is the great attainment." (Quran 4:13).

Q. No. 4. Describe the characteristics of a Military strategist in the light of Sirah of Muhammad (PBUH) with arguments.

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) was an exemplary military strategist. Key characteristics of his military strategy include:

1. Preparation and Planning: Before the Battle of Badr, the Prophet (PBUH) gathered intelligence on the enemy's movements and planned accordingly. "Make ready for them all you can of power, including steeds of war to threaten the enemy of Allah and your enemy..." (Quran 8:60).

2. Diplomacy and Alliances: He formed alliances with various tribes, such as the Treaty of Hudaybiyyah, which secured peace with the Quraysh. "And if they incline to peace, then incline to it [also] and rely upon Allah." (Quran 8:61).

3. Adaptability: In the Battle of the Trench, he adopted a defensive strategy by digging trenches around Medina, a tactic new to the Arabs. This adaptability ensured the city's defense despite being outnumbered.

4. Psychological Warfare: During the Conquest of Mecca, the Prophet (PBUH) entered with an overwhelming force, causing the Quraysh to surrender without a fight. "If you gain mastery over them in war, disperse by [means of] them those behind them that perhaps they will be reminded." (Quran 8:57).

5. Ethical Conduct: He emphasized ethical conduct in warfare, prohibiting the killing of non-combatants, destruction of crops, and harming prisoners. He instructed his soldiers: "Do not kill a child, nor a woman, nor an elderly person." (Abu Dawood 2614).

Q. No. 5. Define the meaning of prayer and its different categories. Also describe the spiritual, moral, and social impact of prayers.

Prayer (Salah) in Islam is the ritual worship performed five times daily. It is a direct link between the worshiper and Allah.

Categories of Prayers:

1. Obligatory (Fard): Prayers that are mandatory, including the five daily prayers (Salah).

2. Supererogatory (Sunnah): Additional prayers performed voluntarily, such as the Sunnah prayers before or after the obligatory prayers.

3. Optional (Nafl): Voluntary prayers beyond the Sunnah prayers, offering extra rewards.

4. Congregational (Jama'ah): Prayers performed in a group, particularly for the Friday prayer (Jumu'ah).

5. Funeral (Janazah): Prayers for the deceased.

Impacts of Prayers:

1. Spiritual Impact: Prayers enhance one's connection with Allah, instilling peace and tranquility. "Indeed, prayer prohibits immorality and wrongdoing, and the remembrance of Allah is greater." (Quran 29:45).

2. Moral Impact: Regular prayer instills discipline, honesty, and a sense of accountability. The Prophet (PBUH) said: "The first matter that the slave will be brought to account for on the Day of Judgment is the prayer." (Abu Dawood 864).

3. Social Impact: Congregational prayers foster community bonds and social cohesion. "The best of you are those who learn the Quran and teach it." (Bukhari 5027).

Q. No. 6. Highlight the concept of Public Administration in Islam. Explain the responsibilities of Civil Servants.

Public Administration in Islam is based on principles of justice, accountability, and welfare. The Quran and Sunnah provide guidelines for governance and public administration.

Responsibilities of Civil Servants:

1. Justice and Fairness: Civil servants must administer justice impartially. "O you who have believed, be persistently standing firm for Allah, witnesses in justice, and do not let the hatred of a people prevent you from being just. Be just; that is nearer to righteousness." (Quran 5:8).

2. Accountability: They are accountable to Allah and the people. The Prophet (PBUH) said: "Every one of you is a shepherd and is responsible for his flock." (Bukhari 7138).

3. Efficiency and Competence: Positions should be assigned based on merit. "Indeed, Allah commands you to render trusts to whom they are due..." (Quran 4:58).

4. Service to the Public: Their primary duty is to serve the public and promote welfare. Umar ibn al-Khattab, the second caliph, is noted for his dedication to the welfare of his people, regularly inspecting the state of the people under his care.

5. Integrity and Honesty: They must avoid corruption and dishonesty. "And do not consume one another's wealth unjustly or send it [in bribery] to the rulers in order that [they might aid] you [to] consume a portion of the wealth of the people in sin, while you know [it is unlawful]." (Quran 2:188).

Q. No. 7. Discuss the salient features of the Islamic political system in the light of governance under the pious Khilafat-i-Rashida.

Ans: The **Islamic political system** under the **Khilafat-i-Rashida** (Rightly Guided Caliphate) was characterized by principles derived from the Quran and Sunnah.

Salient Features:

1. Shura (Consultation): Decision-making was based on consultation. Abu Bakr (RA) said

: "O people, I have been appointed over you, though I am not the best among you. If I do well, help me; and if I act wrongly, then correct me." (Bukhari 686).

2. Justice: Emphasis on justice and fairness. Umar ibn al-Khattab (RA) established courts and appointed judges to ensure justice. "Indeed, Allah commands you to render trusts to whom they are due and when you judge between people to judge with justice." (Quran 4:58).

3. Accountability: Leaders were accountable to the people. Umar (RA) famously said: "By Allah, if a dog were to die of hunger on the banks of the Euphrates, I would hold myself responsible."

4. Rule of Law: Law was based on the Quran and Sunnah. Caliphs themselves adhered strictly to the law.

5. Welfare State: Ensured the welfare of all citizens, including non-Muslims. The treasury (Bayt al-Mal) was used for public welfare projects.

6. Freedom of Religion: Non-Muslims were allowed to practice their religion freely. Umar (RA) granted the Christians of Jerusalem religious freedom upon its conquest.

Q. No. 8. What are the contemporary challenges of the Muslim world? Suggest its solutions in the light of Quran and Sunnah.

Ans:

Contemporary Challenges:

1. Political Instability: Many Muslim countries face internal conflicts and lack effective governance.

2. Economic Disparities: High levels of poverty and inequality are prevalent.

3. Educational Deficits: There is a significant gap in educational attainment and access.

4. Extremism: Misinterpretation of Islamic teachings leads to extremism and terrorism.

5. Lack of Unity: Fragmentation and lack of unity among Muslim nations.

Solutions in the Light of Quran and Sunnah:

1. Establishing Justice: Promote justice and good governance based on the Quranic principles. "O you who have believed, be persistently standing firm for justice, witnesses for Allah..." (Quran 4:135).

2. Economic Equity: Implement the principles of Zakat and fair economic practices to reduce poverty. "Take from their wealth a charity by which you purify them and cause them increase." (Quran 9:103).

3. Education: Emphasize the importance of education for all. "Read in the name of your Lord who created." (Quran 96:1).

4. Combating Extremism: Promote a correct understanding of Islam, emphasizing peace and moderation. "And We have not sent you, [O Muhammad], except as a mercy to the worlds." (Quran 21:107).

5. Unity and Cooperation: Encourage unity and cooperation among Muslim countries. "And hold firmly to the rope of Allah all together and do not become divided." (Quran 3:103).