

Q1 What is Islam? Explain silent Features of Islam-

Islam :-

MEANING OF ISLAM:-

The word "Islam" means "Complete submission to the will of Almighty GOD"- Islam is an arabic word means "peace"- Islam is a universal Deen that Guides in every aspect of life for entire mankind - It is an ideal spiritual system of ~~every~~ living for all mankind-

" This Day I have perfected for you your religion and completed my favor upon you and have approved for you Islam as religion "

(Surah Almaidah 5:3)

DIVINE RELIGION:-

Islam is the religion of peace, peace with GOD, peace with oneself and peace with the creation of GOD and accepting his guidance.

Other religions are named after their founders, such as Buddhism etc but "Islam" was not thought up by its followers or applied by other people, but was revealed by almighty "Allah."

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"Thus we have appointed you
a mid-most nation, that you
may be witnesses upon
mankind"

Al Baqarah (2:143)

"And whoever desires other Islam
as religion never will it be
accepted from him, and he,
in the thereafter, will be among
the losers"

(Quran 3:85)

SILENT FEATURES OF ISLAM:-

Main characteristics and Features that distinguish
Islam from other religions can be discerned

as:

1- UNIQUE CONCEPT OF TAUHEED:-

Tauheed is the core pillar of Islam and
the first part of Kalma. It holds the
concept that God is indivisibly one (ahad)
and single (wahid).-

1. Tauheed is the First chapter
of Islamic Syllabus

2. Islam is like a fort and
the gate of that fort is
tauheed"

(Allama shibli Nauman "Seerat-uh-Nabi")

"Say, He is Allah, (who is) one,
Allah, the Eternal Refuge.
He neither begets nor is born,
Nor is there to Him any equivalent"
(Al-Ikhas 112:1-4)

"And your GOD is one GOD. There is no
deity except him, the entirely Merciful,
the Especially Merciful"
(Al-Baqarah 2:163)

2. PROPHETHOOD :-

Prophethood is a central concept in Islam and is second part of kalma referring to the belief that Allah has sent prophets and messengers to guide humanity throughout history. Prophets were chosen by Allah to convey his message, guidance towards way of living, source of education, straight path, inviting them to worship Him alone and to live righteous lives -

"Nor does he speak from (his own) inclination. It is not but a revelation revealed"

(Al-Najm 53:3-4)

"We have certainly sent messengers before you, [O Muhammad], among the factions of the former people"
(Al-Mu'minun 35:24)

3:- COMPLETE CODE OF LIFE :-

Islam is constituent code of life. It tells us how to manage all activities of life in ethical way - Everyone can easily understand the Quran and follow the footsteps of the prophet Muhammad (SAW), to the best of his/her ability.

"on no soul does Allah place a burden greater than it can bear"
(Quran 2:286)

Islam established a clear system of worship, laws about life, civil rights, political rights, social issues and rights, laws of marriage and divorce, inheritance rights and all other aspects of daily life.

(a) Individual life:-

"whoever goes aright, for his own soul does he go aright; and whoever goes astray, to its detriment only does he go astray; nor can the bearer of a burden bear the burden of another, nor do we chastise until we raise an apostle"

(Quran 17:15)

- (b) upbringing of children
- (c) character building of a person.
- (d) way of livelihood
- (e) family life.

(3) Collective Life.

(4) Education.

"Seeking knowledge is obligatory
for every Muslim"

Sunan Ibn Majah (Hadith # 224)

4: ISLAM PROMOTES HUMANITY:-

Islam is often referred to as a religion of peace, because it promotes peace and harmony among people. It promotes love and kindness among mankind, welfare, sympathy, empathy, tolerance, human rights, animal rights, environmental protection etc.

Humanity among mankind includes:

(a) Characterful:-

"The believer who has the most perfect faith is the one whose character is finest and who is kindest to his wife"

(Sahih Muslim, Book 32, Hadith 6273)

"And your lord has decreed that you not worship except him, and to parents, good treatment - whether one or both of them reach old age [while] with you, say not to them, uff, and do not repel them but speak to them a noble word"

(Surah Al-Isra 17:23)

(b) Charity:-

"Muslims are those who give wealth in spite of love, for it"

(Surah Bakra 2:177)

~~"Charity known~~

Charity known as "Sadaqa" or "Zakat" in Islam holds significant importance and is considered one of the Fundamental Pillars of the Faith.

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"If you disclose your charitable expenditures, they are good; but if you conceal them and give them to the poor, it is better for you, and He will remove from you some of your misdeeds [thereby]. And Allah, with what you do, is [Fully] Acquainted."

(Al-Baqarah 2:271)

(c) Social work:-

"And give the relatives his rights,
and [also] the poor and the traveler,
and do not spend wastefully - Indeed,
the wasteful are brothers of devils,
and ever has Satan been to his lord
ungrateful"

(Al-Isra 17:26-27)

(4) Animal rights:-

"Prophet (PBUH) scolded a person
Just because his camel was thirsty."

5:- UNIQUE CONCEPT OF WORSHIP:-

Worship means performing ritualistic acts
such as prayers, fasting, charity etc -
Worship includes almost everything in any
individual's activities. Worship is everything
done for the pleasure of Allah - one is
required to submit oneself completely to Allah,
as the Qur'an instructed the prophet Muhammad
(PBUH) to do: Say: "Truly, my prayer
and my service of sacrifice, my life and my
death, are (all) for Allah, the Cherisher of
the Worlds - No partner hath He: this am
I commanded, and I am the first of those
who bow to His will"

(Al-Quran 6:162-163)

(a) Salah is the first practical manifestation of
faith and also the foremost of the basic
conditions for the success of believers:

"Successful indeed are the believers, who those who
humble themselves in their prayers"

(Al-Baqara 2:177)

The prophet (PBUH) further emphasized:

"Those who offer their salah with great care and punctuality, will find it a light, a proof of their faith and cause for their salvation on the Day of Judgment"

6:- NO COMPULSION IN ISLAM:-

No Compulsion in Islam is a fundamental principle in Islam.

"There shall be no compulsion in the religion - The right course has become clear from the wrong"

(Al-Baqarah 2:256)

No Compulsion is the freedom of choice and belief in matters of religion. The person should not be forced or coerced into adopting Islam. Islam encourages peaceful persuasion, dialogue, and setting a good example to invite others to embrace the faith.

7:- ~~Islam~~ IS ETERNAL RELIGION:-

7:- ISLAM AS FASTEST GROWING RELIGION:-

Islam is often cited as one of the fastest-growing religions in the world. Islam is seen as a dynamic and changing force that is reshaping the social and cultural fabric of communities all over the world due to increased demographic influence.

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With continued substantial contributions of countries with majority of Muslims to the global population increase, Islam's sheer size makes it a powerful force on a global scale.

World population is expected projected to grow 32% in the coming decades, the number of Muslim is expected to increase by 70% from 1.8 billion in 2015 to nearly 3 billion in 2060. In 2015 Muslims made up 24.1% of global population. (Few Research Center).

8:- ISLAM IS PRACTICAL:-

" O You who have believed, bow and prostrate and worship your lord and do good - that you may succeed "

(Quran 22:77)

Islam is a practical religion as it emphasizing the importance of worship (bowing and prostrating) as well as engaging in good deeds. It emphasized that success is achieved by the combination of faith and righteous actions.

9:- IMMUNE TO ANY DISTORTION & ALTERATION:-

The belief that Islam is protected from distortion and alteration is based on concept of preservation of Quran. Quran is a literal word of Allah and it has been preserved exactly as it was

"Indeed, it is We who sent down the Quran and indeed, We will be its guardians"

(AP Hijr 15:9)

"And the word of your lord has been fulfilled in truth and in justice - None can alter His words, and He is the Hearing, the knowing"

(AP - An'am 6:115)

10:- CULTURAL PLURALISM:-

Islam stresses on the unity of humanity, it also recognises human diversity and gives valuable principles to deal with ethnic, racial and religious differences in society - In order to develop environment of peaceful coexistence and harmony in society there is desire need to understand the pluralistic perspectives of Islamic teachings - According to Quran, all human beings are from the same soul but they have been created with differences -

"O humankind we (God) have created you male and female, and made you into communities and tribes, so that you may know one another - Surely the noblest amongst you in the sight of God is the most God-fearing of you - God is all-knowing and All-aware"

Surah Hujurat (49:13)

Islam is a global religion with various ethnicities, cultures and regions, and this diversity is in many ways.

(a) Ethnic Diversity:-

Muslims come from different backgrounds, including Arabs, Persians, Turks, South Asian, African etc. Each ethnic groups bring their own unique cultural practices, languages, and traditions to their practice of Islam.

(b) Regional Difference:-

Islam has spread to different parts of the world. The cultural expression of Islam in one part may differ than in other part due to historical, social and geographical factor.

(c) Syncretism:-

In many regions, Islam has interacted with pre-existing cultural traditions, leading to emergence of syncretic forms of Islam that incorporate local customs and beliefs.

~~(d)~~ For example

(d) Dress and Attire:-

Muslim dress and attire vary widely across different cultures and regions. While some muslims woman may wear Burqa, hijab as form of modesty others may prefer more culturally specific forms of dress that vary based on local customs and traditions.

11. DEEN OF TOLERANCE:-

Islam is the Deen of tolerance as Islam commit to tolerance and pluralism, encouraging and peaceful interaction with people of other faiths while affirming the right of individuals to adhere to their own religious convictions.

~~"I say, O be~~

1. say, "O disbelievers,

2. I do not worship what you worship

3. Nor are you worshippers of what I worship.

4. Nor will I be a worshipper of what you worship.

5. Nor will you be worshippers of what I worship.

6. For you is your religion, and for me is my religion."

(Al-kafirun 109: 1-6)

12:- CONDEMNATION OF MONASTICISM:-

Islam condemn monasticism and materialism and recommends its followers to adopt middle way in between two extremist way of life- Islam does not condemn monasticism outright, it does not promote it as ideal way of living. Islam encourages believers to lead balanced lives that incorporate both spiritual devotion and active engagement with society; striving for excellence in all aspects of life

While adhering to the teaching of Islam.

13. LAW OF INHERITANCE :-

The Islamic law of inheritance is a wonderful system of stopping the concentration of wealth. It provides very detailed laws regarding the rights of dependents over the property of the deceased person -

"Allah instructs you concerning your children: For the male, what is equal to the share of two females - But if there are [only] daughters, two or more, for them is two-thirds of one's estate - And if there is only one, for her is half - And for one's parents, to each one of them is a sixth of his estate if he left children - - - - -"

----- Indeed Allah is ever knowing and wise"
(Surah An-Nisa 4:11)

14. FREEDOM OF WORK AND ENTERPRISE :-

Islam has allowed freedom of work and enterprise -

"Allah has made business lawful for you"

(Surah Baqarah, Atat-275)

Islam essentially allows economy to operate freely according to the market forces

subject to Islamic restrictions and guidelines on production, distribution, marketing, investment trade, exchange, wages etc.