

First Assignment: 1

Q: What is Islam? Elaborate
the silent features of Islam?

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Meaning of Islam:

"Submission to the will of God"

Definition of Islam

The religion of Muslims, a monotheist faith regarded as revealed through Muhammad as the prophet (PBUH) of Allah.

Definition: 2

Islam one of the three major world religions, along with Judaism and Christianity, that profess monotheism, or the belief in single God.

Reference:

Sura Al-maidah 5:3

"To day I have perfected your religion for you, and have completed my blessing upon you, and chosen Islam as Din (religion and a way of life) for you."

DEFINITION NO * 3

Islam means Submitting to Allah, worshiping him alone and obeying him, And Shunning Shirk (Polytheism associating others with Allah) and those who believe in that. This is the religion which Allah approves for his slaves. Allah says.

Allah Says:

"Truly the religion with Allah is Islam."

⇒ Sunan Ibn Majah: 3803

"Praise is to Allah by whose grace good deeds are completed."

FIVE PILLARS OF ISLAM

The Five Pillars of Islam are fundamental practices in Islam, considered to be obligatory acts of worship of all muslims.

The five pillars are the declaration of faith (Shahadah), prayer (Salah), alms-giving (Zakat), fasting (Sawm) and pilgrimage (Hajj). They constitute the basic

ZAKAT:

Once a year every muslim must pay Zakat - almsgiving. It equal 2.5% of nisab. Nisab when you have the equivalence to (85)g gold or (285)g of silver. Then you count for all of your belongings and give the value of 2.5% of that.

Source: Quran (2:110)

"And establish prayer and give Zakat, and whatever good you put forward for yourselves - you will find it with Allah."

RAMADAN:

Ramadan is the 10th month in the Islamic Calender. This month is all about fasting from dusk to dawn (fajr to maghrib). No food or water is allowed. The sick, and the traveler is excused from fasting.

Source: Surat Al-Baqra (2:185)

In this verse, God in the Quran describes Ramadan as a month of clarity, spiritual guidance and ease.

HAJJ:

The pilgrimage trip to Makkah is mandatory for every muslim who has the possibility to do it at least once in their life-time. There is a special season when Hajj is made. You can travel to Mecca anytime and perform Umrah.

The pilgrimage rite begins on the 7th day of Dhu al-Hajj (the last month) of Islamic year and ends on the 12th day.

Source: Al-Bukhari

"The Prophet (PBUH) said:

"Whoever performs Hajj to this house (Ka'ba) ... He will come out as sinless as a newly born child (Just delivered by his mother)".

Six Features Of Islam:

- 1 → Islam is the religion of truth. It is the embodiment of the code of life, which Allah, the Creator and Lord of the universe, has revealed for the guidance of mankind.
- Islam is an Arabic word, which denotes submission, surrender and obedience.
- As a religion, Islam stands for complete submission and obedience to Allah - that is why it's called Islam.

2→ Religion of Islam has come down to mankind from Almighty Allah. It must be clearly understood that the religion of Islam was not given to us by any philosopher, legal expert, moralist, psychologist, Conqueror, founder of a kingdom, Politician or national leader.

3→ Emphasis on Correct basic faith, that is faith in Almighty Allah, As the One and Only Being, who is the Creator. Sustainer and Master of the Whole Universe.

4→ Facilitate matters not to create difficulties.

Surat an Nahl : 16 Verse: 125 The Holy Prophet also advised his companions to be soft spoken and kind to the people in preaching Islam. He would tell them that they had been raised (appointed) to facilitate matters, not to be create difficulties.

5→ Islam has distinct Culture. The Culture in Islam is not Arabic or Eastern or Middle Eastern. it is also not monolithic. It has varieties and a rich diversity.

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6→ Complete Code of Conduct: Islam is not an ordinary religion in any means, it is a Constitution, that warns, directs and instructs for the guidance and betterment of mankind for all times and under all conditions and requirements.

7→ Universality and Continuity of Message The message of Islam is for entire human as it is evident in Quran that it addresses human beings by saying: "O Mankind! Islam addresses itself to the Conscience of humanity, banishing all false barriers of status, wealth and race."

8→ Holy Quran is the primary source of guidance for its followers, therefore any sort of changing in its original form could have raised questions over authenticity of the Islam so it was being preserved even after the demise of holy prophet (P.B.U.H) exactly the way Allah, Supreme being desired.

9→ Belief in Premeasurement Muslims believe that Almighty God has knowledge of, and control over, everything that exists in all time and space.

10→ Belief in the day of Judgment Muslims believe in an appointed Day of Judgment and in Heaven and Hell.

11→ Belief in the Angels of God Angels are pure and spiritually obedient beings, created by God to fulfill His Commands and worship ~~on~~ Him tirelessly.

12→ Belief in Resurrection after Death after the world ends, Muslims believe that all people who have died will be brought back to life (or, resurrected) in order to face the Judgment rendered to each of them by Almighty God.

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13→ The social system of Islam is based upon sound and just principles, which are designed to secure happiness and prosperity for both individual and society.

14→ Islamic modernism differs from Secularism in that it insists on the importance of religious faith in public life, and from Salafism or Islamism in that it embraces Contemporary European institutions, social processes, and values.