

Q:- Define Tawheed. What is its impact on individual life and the society ?
Elaborate.

Ans:-

i- Introduction :

The doctrine of Tawheed affirms the belief in absolute Unity and oneness of a Unique transcendent, omnipotent, compassionate and merciful God. Tawheed is the very essence of Islam.

Meaning of Tawheed ; Ilah Allah and La Ilaha illa Allah -

The Islamic Credo

"اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ، لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ" — "La ilaha illa Allah" is a declaration that there is no Ilah (god) except Allah (God). The Arabic word ilah stands for a number of mutually interconnected meanings. For instance, it means :

- (i) Achieving peace and mental calm by seeking refuge in or establishing loving relationship with someone.
- ii) Giving the necessary shelter and security to someone frightened of the prospect of-

- iii) an impending mishap.
- iv) Turning to someone in utter devotion, due to the intensity of one's feelings for him.
- v) Rushing of the lost offspring of the she-camel to snuggle up to its mother on finding it.
- v) Adoring, loving and worshiping someone tremendously.

These literal meanings of the word make it clear that the word ilah stands for something awfully mysterious and extremely attractive to absorb one's whole being, demanding absolute love, adoration and closeness to the extent of worship.

Therefore, God or al-lah (الله) means the one who is al-mawla meaning,

al-mabud (worshipped). Worship or al-ibadah, as Imam Ibn-al-Qayyim (1292 - 1350) defines it, is "utmost love of God accompanied with total submission."

Impact Of Tawheed On Individual Life :

i- Tawheed creates sense of accountability :-

- Tawheed creates in man -

a sense of responsibility towards other people. The sense of accountability to God for all his acts in this world creates in him the sense of responsibility and makes him vigilant and cautious against all kinds of evils.

ii) Tawheed gives purpose of existence to man and Universe ;

Acknowledging God as the creator and the Sustainer of all existing things entails acceptance of Him as the sole deity and Master who alone can determine the purpose of the existence of all His creatures, including humans, whom He has 'made in the finest of forms (al-Tin 95:4).

iii) Tawheed encives the self-respect and dignity .

This belief produces in man the highest degree of self-respect and self-esteem .

اَيُّ رَبٌ لَّوْ كَرِهَ الْعَالَمُونَ
لَا يَدْعُ اِلَهٍ اِلَّا هُوَ
كُوْنِيَاتٌ -

The believer knows that Allah alone is the possessor of all power, provider of his needs -

which makes him indifferent to, and independent and fearless of, all powers other than God.

iv) Tawheed induces a sense of modesty and humility -

Along with self-respect this belief also generates in man a sense of modesty and humbleness. It makes him Unostentatious and Unpretending.

v. Tawheed imparts consolation, satisfaction and hope :

The believer does not become despondent and broken hearted under any circumstances. He has firm faith in God who is the Master of all the treasures of the earth and the heavens, whose grace and bounty have no limit and whose powers are infinite. This faith impacts to his heart extraordinary consolation, fills it, with satisfaction and keeps it filled with hope. Such a profound confidence can result from no other belief than belief in one God.

- In conclusion, the concept -

of Tawheed (the oneness of God) has a profound impact on an individual's life, inspiring a sense of purpose, Unity, and spiritual growth, ultimately leading to a more fulfilling and meaningful existence.

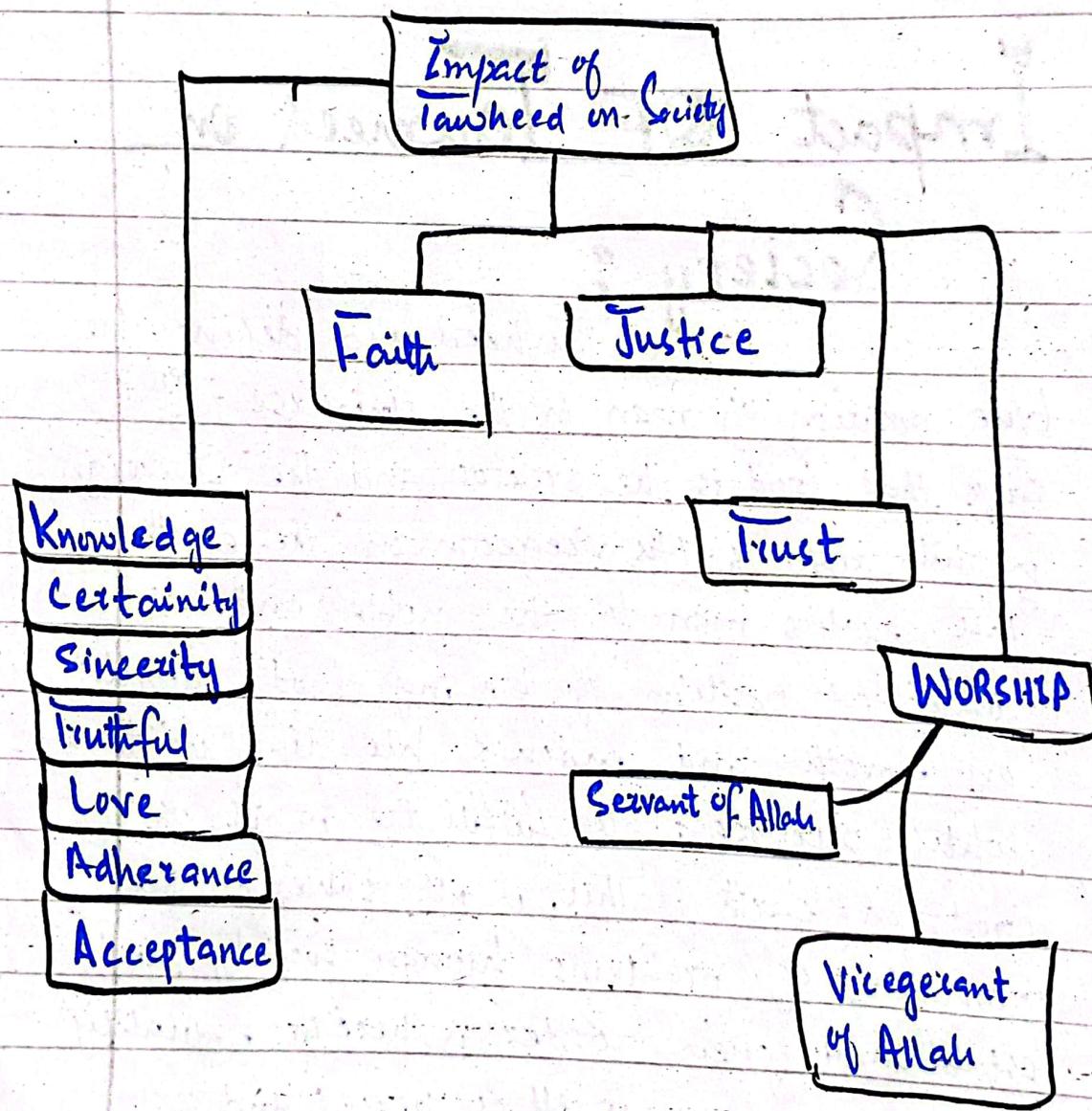
3. Impact OF Tawheed on Society :

Tawheed also defines the true position of man in the universe. It says that God is the creator and the Sovereign while man is His vicegerent on the earth.

This exalts man to the noble and dignified position of being God's deputy on earth and endows his life with a lofty purpose: to fulfill the will of God on earth. This will solve all the perplexing problems of human society and establish a new order wherein equality and justice, as well as peace and prosperity, will reign supreme.

In conclusion Tawheed (in terms of society) promotes Unity, equality,

Social responsibility, justice, fairness, and the elimination of harmful practices, contributing to the creation of a more harmonious and just community.



4. Conclusion :

Overall the principle of Tawheed serves as a guiding light -

shaping both individual character and communal structures towards the attainment of spiritual fulfillment, social harmony, and moral excellence. Its profound impact resonates across every aspect of human existence, fostering a world imbued with compassion, justice, and reverence for the Divine. As enclaved in the Quranic verse Surah Al 'An'âm (6:162), 'Say indeed, my prayer, my rites of sacrifice, my living, and my dying are for Allah, Lord of the Worlds,' this verse encapsulates the transformative power of Tawheed. It underscores the holistic Unity and devotion it instills in believers, guiding them towards righteous conduct and collective welfare.'