

Importance of deen in human life.

1) Introduction:

Deen refers to a complete code of life. Religion deals man's relation with God whereas deen deals with both man's relation with God and his fellow beings. Deen covers all aspects of life, individual as well as collective. In other words, deen is an all embracing term which includes religion - socio - politico - economic systems. It touches upon the material as well as spiritual dimensions of human existence. In this regard, Islam is not only a religion but also a deen as it is a complete code of life. According to Dr. Khalifa Abdul Hakim:

21
Islam means peace as well as submission... The purpose of life is to live it well; in other words, wellbeing. The purpose of life is life edified, harmonized, enriched, strengthened and elevated." He further went to say that "The craving for peace is inherent in human nature; hence being naturally for Islam or peace."

2) Role of deer in human life and society:

It tells us how to live a virtuous life, how to conduct ourselves in public or at home, how to treat parents, relations, friends, strangers, the poor and orphans. It instructs us about economic, social, educational and political ends. It provides advice in matters concerning marriage, divorce, birth and death, property, inheritance, buying and selling, trade and commerce, civil and criminal law and many other practical matters. In short, it is a complete code of life, which provides guidance in all human situations. A divine religion such as Islam addresses all people, of all ages, irrespective of race and color through Qur'an.

وَلَقَدْ صَرَّفْنَا فِي هَذَا الْقُرْآنِ

للتناس من كل مثل
وإن الإنسان أشر نبي وجلا

“

We have surely set
forth in this Qur'an every
'Kind of lesson' for people,
but humankind is the most
argumentative of all beings.”
(Surah Al-Kahf: 54)

Importance of deen in human
life:

the earth?" And to Allah belongs the dominion of the heavens and the earth and whatever is between them. He creates what He wills, and Allah is over all things competent." (Surah Al-Maidah: 17)

~~b) Deen provides a clear path:~~

It is the divine light of God which shows the clear

c) Deen leads Mankind from
darkness to light:

The Qur'an leads
people out of the ignorance
of darkness and evil into
the light of goodness and
piety:

”الر كتاب انزلناه اليك لتخرج
الناس من الظلمات الى النور
ياذن ربهم الى صراط العزيز الحميد“

d) Deen: Source of wisdom and
Knowledge:

The book of deen
contains unsurpassable wisdom
and knowledge: "Yasin, by the
Qur'an, full of wisdom." The
wisdom of Qur'an is really
insightful and provides guidance
Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H)
was taught the wisdom of
the Qur'an in order that
he may deliver it to the
whole of mankind which
he did successfully.

”شهر رمضان الذي انزل فيه القرآن
هدى للناس وبينات من الهدى
والفرقان“

”The month of Ramadan
is that in which the
Qur'an was revealed,
a guidance to men and
clear proofs of the guidance
and distinction.“ (Al-Ba

The Qur'an is undoubtedly
the manifest criterion between
truth and falsehood.

f) Deen is spiritual cure
of Modern Man:

Allah promises mercy to
those who follow the guidance
of the Qur'an:

”وننزل من القرآن ما هو شفاء ورحمة

للمؤمنين ولا يزيد الظالمين الا خسارا^{ee}

^{ee} And we reveal of the Qur'an that which is a healing and a mercy to the believers, and it adds only to the perdition of the unjust.⁹⁹

(Al-Isaa: 82)

g) Teachings of Deen are guard against Evil:

The Qur'an develops fear of God, and reverence and love for Him: thus it guards these against these evil:

قرآنا عربيا غير ذي عوج⁹⁹
^{ee} لعلهم يتقون

guard against evil."

(Al-Zumar:28)

h) Deen Provides a Clear Message to Mankind:

Allah says:

الكتاب احكمت آياته ثم
فضلت من لدن حكيم خبير

"Alif Lam Ra, a Book, whose verses are made decisive, then are they made plain, from the wise, All-awake."
(Hud:1)

i) Deen Includes in Man Piety and Remembrance of God:

Piety refers to the inner fear and deference man should have for his Creator. This

” وكذلك انزلنا قرانا عريبا وعرسونا
فيه من الوعيد لعلهم يتقون او
يحدث لهم ذكرا“

“
And thus have we sent
it down on Arabic Qur'an,
and have distinctly set
forth therein of threats
that they may guard or
that it may produce a
reminder from them.”

(Taha: 113)

j) Deen Provides Principles for
Establishment of Justice:

system of justice and equality:

” الله الذي انزل الكتاب
بالحق والميزان ”

” It is God who has
sent down the book
which is truth, and
the balance to judge
between right and
wrong. ” (Al-Shūrah: 17)

Thus the Qur'an, being
the last of the revealed
Books and Islam provides
the most comprehensive code
of Justice.

Difference between Deen and Religion

1) Introduction:

Islam is not only a religion but also a Deen. Deen is a complete code of life. Religion deals with man's relation with God, whereas Deen deals both with man's relation with God and his fellow beings. Religion deals with private affairs of life, whereas Deen covers all aspects of life, individual and collective. Religion deals with sacred and spiritual covers

secular aspects of man.

The sacred part is as same as covered by religion; the secular part is the guidance of divine code in the mundane affairs like political, social, economic and judicial aspects of man and society.

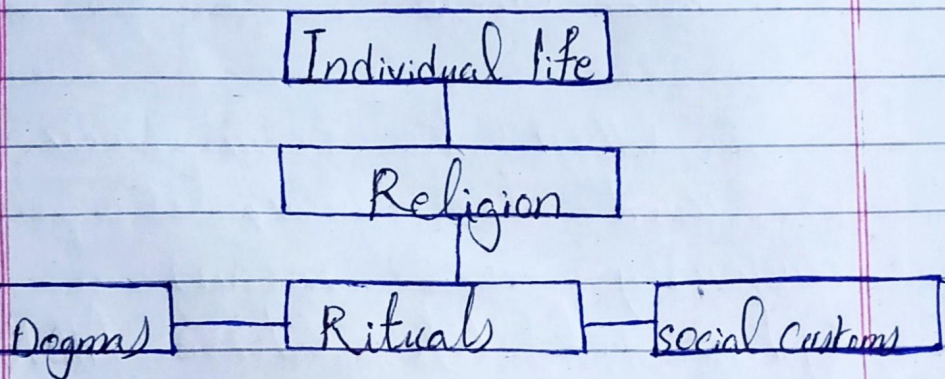
Concept of Religion (Mazhab):

a) Literal meaning of Religion:

Religion is a latin word which means to follow or to subjugate.

b) Contextual meaning of Religion:

is called religion.
Religion deals with individual life only as depicted below:



Concept of Deen:

a) Literal meaning of Deen:

Deen means to attain super~~am~~acy or domain status.

b) Contextual meaning of Deen:

Deen is a complete code of life. Contrary to religion, Deen covers all aspects of

human life. It covers both spiritual / sacred matters and mundane / secular affairs of this world.

When the term Deen is used for Islam, it obviously ~~cover~~ means a system of life where Allah is worshipped and obeyed, not just in the narrow religious sense, but in a manner that includes all aspects of human life. According to Doctor Iqbal Ahmed Deen is:

"The combination of faiths, rituals, certain-functions, social, political functional and judicial systems"

Dogma

Social system

Rituals

Economic system

Few social customs

Political system

Personal Law

” اليوم اكملت لكم دينكم واتممت
عليكم نعمتي وارضيت لكم الاسلام
دينا ”

” This day, I have perfected
your Deen for you,
completed my favor upon
you, and have chosen
for you Islam as
your Deen ”

(Al-Maidah: 3)

4) Islam - A Deen or a Religion:

it provides a complete code of conduct of the followers. On one hand, it prescribes for its followers to remember Allah, offer prayer, observe fasting, give zakat and on the other hand, it provides a complete constitution for the functions of a state. It does not limit itself to the two extremes of individual and state; rather it also provides a perfect sample for societal conduct. Religion is an individual matter, but Deen is a collective matter. Religion is specifically focused on the rights of Allah. In fact, center of religion is Allah and its worships, but center of Islam as a Deen is human being. So, Deen has a broader canvas than religion.

~~The Qur'an says:~~

Islam is a Deen, not merely a religion.

“ان الدين عند الله الاسلام”

“Truly, the religion with Allah is Islam.”

(Surah Al-Imran)

Comparison of Deen and Religion:

A comparative study of religion and deen would help us understand the vital and fundamental characteristics of each and the differences.

The aim of Deen on the other hand is the welfare and progress of all mankind, and constitution of a society indicates whether or not it is founded upon the divine law.

In a social order governed by Deen, the development of a collective and harmonious life correctly indicates whether or not the people

are pursuing the
right course.

R

Religion induces
a perpetual sense
of fear in the
minds of men
and seeks to
frighten them into
conformity.

While deen treat
fear as a form
of polytheism
and seeks to
make men
courageous, daring
and self-reliant.

Religion enjoins religious meditation in the name of worship and thus induces self-deception.	Deen exhorts me to assert themselves and struggle for the establishment of the divine social order, and its betterment when attained.
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6) Difference between Deen and Shariah:

The meaning of Shariah is mode and path. When one has acknowledged God as one's sovereign and accepted His servitude and has also admitted that the Messenger is the tangible ruler holding authority on His behalf, and that the book has been sent by Him, it will mean one has entered Deen. After this,

The mode in which muslim to serve God and the path he has to traverse in order to obey Him is called Shariah. Deen always was, has been, and is still one and the same. Numerous shariahs came, many were cancelled, several were changed but these alterations did not change the deen. The Deen of Noah was the same as that of Abraham, Moses, Jesus, Shuaib, Saleh, Hud and Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) but the shariahs of these Prophets varied from each other to some extent.

7) Conclusion:

Deen. Deen covers all aspects of human life, individual and collective. It provides guidance about the birth of a children, upbringing of a children, character building, livelihood, family life, marriage, divorce, property, inheritance, buying and selling, trade and commerce, criminal law, death and many other practical matters. In short, it is a complete code of life furnishing adequate guidance in all human situations.