

DATE: ___/___/___

Q What is Islam? Enlist the salient features of Islam?

ANS The word Islam is derived from Arabic word "SLM" which mean "Peace" another meaning of Islam is to surrender or submission.

The contextual meaning of Islam is "To enter to the peace by submitting to the will of Allah."

Another contextual meaning of Islam is "Submission of desire to the will of Allah" is called Islam.

According to Shariah "Submission of desires voluntary to the will of Allah" is called Islam.

In Quran, Surah Bakarah, Ayat number 256 Allah says and the content of Ayat is "There is no compulsion in the choice of

religion. In Quran Surah Kafiroon Ayat number 6 Allah says and the content of Ayat is "For you is your deen and for us is our deen."

Some muslim scholars said that

Islam is the combination of *Huquq Allah* and *Huquq ul Ibad*

(Imam Ghazali). *Mulana Sadat-uddin-Ilahi* said that "Islam is the combination of faiths and worship."

DATE: ___/___/___

ISLAM IS UNIVERSAL DEEN:

Islam is universal deen because it guided us in every aspect of life. It is not limited to any specific geography, time and ethnicity. Islam is an ideal system of living for all mankind. In Quran 5:32 Allah says and the context of Ayat is "Killing a single person means killing the whole mankind".

SALIENT FEATURES OF ISLAM:

Some of the salient features of Islam are following:

1. UNIQUE CONCEPT OF TAUHED:

Unique concept of Tauheed means that we should believe on oneness of Allah. Tauheed is our first part of Kalma. According to Holy Prophet "It is a gateway to Islam". Tauheed is a core pillar of Islam. Allama Shibli Nomani wrote in his book "Seerat-un-Nabi" that "First chapter of Islam is Tauheed". He also wrote that "Islam is

like a boat and the gate of that boat is Tauheed". In Quran Allah says in Surah Ikhlas and the content of Ayat is "He Allah is one".

2 PROPHETHOOD :

One of the main salient feature of Islam is to believe in the finality of Prophethood and the last ~~of~~ Prophet is ~~Muhammad~~ Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). Prophethood is ^{also} the second part of our Kalma. In Quran Allah says and the content of Ayat is that ~~every~~ "Prophet is send to every nation". The Prophethood of all Prophet before Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) used to be for specific nation and time. But the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) is for all nations ~~and~~ till the day of judgement. In Quran 7:157 Allah says ~~that~~ "Muhammad (PBUH) is sent for all of you" and the content of Ayat is that "Muhammad (PBUH) is sent for all of you".

DATE: 1/1

3 COMPLETE CODE OF LIFE :

Another salient feature of Islam is that it is a complete code of life. It ~~not~~ is ~~only~~ present in every aspect of life. Islam provides guidance to all aspects of life whether it is individual and social, economic and political, legal and cultural, national and international. Quran encourage men to embrace Islam without any reservation and follow God's guidance in all area of life.

4 ISLAM PROMOTES HUMANITY :

Another salient feature of Islam is that it promotes humanity. Humanity is not only taking care of human but also taking care of animals. Islam is the only religion in the world that has been promoting humanity for last 1400 years. Humanity is natural instinct without any discrimination eg: love, care, welfare, sympathy, Human rights, Animal rights environment protection. Prophet (PBUH) said that "do not cut trees even if you are in war". This hadith points
↓
case of

DATE: ___/___/___

toward environment protection. Prophet (PBUH) also said that "the perfect among the believers are those who are best in character". In Quran 5:32 Allah say and the context of Ayat is "save one person means that he save every person".

5 TEACHING OF ISLAM IS IN ORIGINAL FORM :

Another salient feature of Islam is that the teaching of Islam is in original form. The Quran is a revealed book of Allah which has been in existing form for the last 1450 years. It is still available in its original form. There has not been a ~~sig~~ single change made in it.

6 FIVE PILLAR OF ISLAM :

Another salient feature of Islam is five pillar of Islam. Shahada, Salah, Zakat, Fasting and Hajj. These are the five fundamental acts of worship that every muslim is expected to observe.

7 UNIVERSALITY :

Another Salient feature of Islam is that it is a universal Deen. It is not specific to any geography. The message of Islam is for all human. It is not specific to some human. And the God ~~of~~ ~~is~~ ~~muslim~~ in Islam is the God of the world and the Prophet is the messenger of all mankind. In Quran Allah says and the context of Ayat is "O people I am the messenger of God to you all".

8 UNITY BETWEEN MATERIAL AND SPIRITUAL :

Another Salient feature of Islam is that it brings unity between material and spiritual. Islam does not believe in asceticism. It does not ask men to avoid material things. Islam tell us that spiritual elevation is to be achieved by living piously in rough and tough situation of life. In Quran suah Bakarah Allah says and the content of ayat is "Oh God, Give something fine in the world and something fine in hereafter".

9 BALANCE BETWEEN INDIVIDUALISM AND COLLECTIVISM :

Another salient feature of Islam is that it brings balance between individualism and collectivism.

Islam believed in the individual personality of man and everyone is personally accountable to God.

It also guarantees the fundamental rights of individual. On the

other hand it also awakens a sense of social responsibility

in man, and encourage individual to do social goods, and encourage

everyone to give Zakat. In Suran 2:177 ~~51:19~~, Allah says and the

context of ayat is "muslim are those who give wealth inspite of loving it".

10 SIMPLE RELIGION :

Another salient feature of Islam is that it is a religion free from mythology. Its teachings are simple and intelligible. It

is free from superstitions. The

oneness of God, the Prophethood of Muhammad (PBUH) and the life after death are the basic articles of its faith. These are based on logic.

DATE: / /

Islam awakens man to use his intellect and encourage them to see things in the light of reality. In Quran, Surah Taba Allah says and the context of ayat is "O God, increase my knowledge".

CONCLUSION :

II. AN ETERNAL RELIGION :

Another salient feature of Islam is that it is an eternal religion. It is not for any specific time but it is for till the day of judgement. In Quran, Surah Al-maidah Allah says and the content of ayat is that "This day I have perfected your deen for you, completed my favor upon you, and have chosen Islam for you as your deen".

CONCLUSION :

In conclusion, Islam is the only religion in world which promotes humanity, which is a complete code of life, an eternal religion, which brings balance between individualism and collectivism. These features shape the beliefs, practices and values of Muslims by guiding their spiritual, ethical and practical aspects of life.