Question No. 2

What is the difference between Deen and Religion? Describe the importance of Deen in human life with arguments.

Introduction

According to population education, a website that tracks various demographics regarding population, language, religion and so on.

"There are more than 10,000 religions, faith-based practicing groups present in the world."

However the majority can be split up into four major groups: Christianity, Islam, Hinduism and Buddhism (7%)
(31%)   (24%)   (15%)

Deen and religion are used interchangeably to indicate between various groups. In reality, these two words are quite different. Deen is a complete code of life; it encompasses worships, beliefs and is present on the most minute task. While religion also provides its followers with the beliefs, ritual or worships that they need to live their lives, but it is silent when it comes to the code of life. Both concepts have a similar function but differ in the application. We can that religion is a individualistic concept while deen it encompasses all.

Concept of Religion:

According to Emile Durkheim, religion is one of the most important social institutions of society. Religion is a set of beliefs and worships/rituals that a person follows. In the Arabic language religion is referred to as

Religion :   مذہب (Arabic Word)
                    ↓
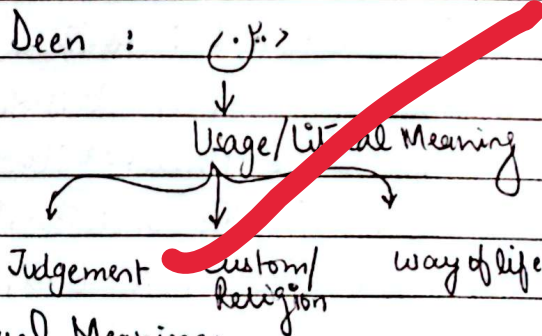   (زَنَّتَ) Root word

Literal Meaning:- Path or road.

Contextually Meaning:- These are the holy, divine set of beliefs and the rituals that accompany there beliefs.

Religion is an individualistic concept as it focuses on the self rather than whole society. The scope of religion by doing so, is narrower than the scope of Deen.

Concept of Deen:-
Deen is an arabic word. The following is the entymology of the word deen and usage in Quran :-

        Deen :   (د.ی.ن)
                    ↓
             Usage/Literal Meaning

    Judgement   Custom/   way of life
                 Religion

Contextual Meaning:-
Deen is a set of beliefs, worships/rituals that are accompanied by a complete code of life.

Deen is the collective concept of religion. It is a way of life that guides its followers. It is not only a way of life but also brings with it a system of governance comprising of judicial, social, administrative and economic systems.

Difference between Deen and Religion

As we have seen the above discussions, the biggest difference that the two concept have in between them is : Complete code of life. It is through the code that society can correct its dealings when it comes to social, political economic, judicial and administrative issues. Moreover, the individual nature of religion restricts itself from fully realising its potential. For example, Any religion in the word, establishes that lying is a sin. However, these religions keep it on the individual to ensure that he doesn't do so. However, Deen raise the ante' when it comes to the repercussions. It involves the society and entire collective community. It cautions them from the impacts of a society that isn't truthful and advises for collective action. It forbades lying in every sphere of life.

Is Islam a Deen or a Religion?

Islam is the 2nd most followed religion in the world. Its teachings encompass a variety of issues. The scope of Islam is far greater than the human mind I can comprehend. As mentioned, Deen provides a system or a code of life/practices for every aspect. We see that Islam came with a well defined code for every aspect of life. Be it the economic system, Islam has regulated the dealings between individuals and/or groups. It laid down the principles for an altogether different society by providing paths for improving justice, political structure, social uplift and many more. By doing so, it has created an altogether new society.

Discuss this part in detail by giving subheadings

Importance of Deen on Human Life

The importance of Deen can be guaged by the following points

Deen Provides Guidance:-

Deen provides a complete code of life and it regulates/ guides a person's life. The purpose of Deen is to act as a lighthouse for a lost ship (mankind). It provides guidance on all fields whether that is individual, societal or national. It gives logical cedence to a person's life. As Allah (SWT) says in the Quran:

~~Try to add the Arabic of quranic ayats~~

"Surely This Quran guides to that which is most upright and gives good news to the believers who do good that they shall have a great reward." (Surah Bani-Israel).

Deen Defines The Primary Motive of life:-

Deen is the building block of a person's life. It guides and most of all gives meaning to a person's life. Life is not meaningless and rather than living it in a meaningless way. Deen counters that and provides meaning to a person's life. It defines the very reason why a person was created in the first place. As Allah (SWT) says in the Quran:

"We have created The Jinns and Humans for Our Worship only." (Surah Zariyat).

Deen Provides a Code of Life:

Deen provides a code of life; this is the primary distinguisher of the two (Deen and Religion). Islam is a complete code of life. It gives divine guidance in all aspects of life. Deen regulates our dealings with others and ourselves. It brings those dealings in accordance with guidelines laid down by the Almighty. Moreover, it also regulates our societal interactions and brings them in line with the interaction of as foretold by the Almighty.

Deen Provides a Spiritual Cure for all Times:

Deen provides a meaning and credence to a person's life. There are many times in a person's life when they are in a morally/spiritually depressed. Deen gives moral and spiritual credence to a person's life. It provides a cure for the person's spiritual ailments. As Allah (swt) says in the Quran:

"And we reveal of the Quran That which is a healing and a mercy to the believers and it adds only to the predition of the unjust"
(Surah-Anaam)

Deen is a source of wisdom & Enlightment:

For Those who require that there be meaning in their lives; Deen provides that. Deen is a source of

wisdom, and enlightment for all. It gives meaning to every action that a person does. It also provides a rationale, rhetoric for why a person should do something. It broadens the mind and depth of thought. As Allah (SWT) say in the Quran:

"Surely, there are signs for the wise."

(Al-Quran)

On another occasion, Allah (SWT) has also said

"...llah has revealed to you the Book and the wisdom, and he has taught you what you did not know, and Allah's Grace on you is very great." (Quran An-Nissa)

CONCLUSION

Throughout this discussion, we have seen the concept of deen, religion and the importance of the former. Deen provides a person with the spiritual and moral tools that they need to be, to be successful in this and the life hereafter. It provides a person with a compass to lead himself back on the correct/right path when he has gone astray.

07

Add more arguments in this part