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Islamic Studies - 2nd Quarter

Question # 1:-

Analyze the life of Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) as a role model for individuals, focusing on his character traits, personal struggles, and his approach to ethical and moral conduct. Discuss how his life can inspire and guide individuals in their personal and spiritual development.

Answer:

(a) Introduction

The life of Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W) is a perfect example and a role model to follow. His teachings and personal experiences are for all times and for everyone to follow. He was perfect.

in character, moral, ethics and manners. The evidence is found in Quran, as Allah states:

"Verily, you (O Muhammad (S.A.W)) are on an exalted standard of character"

(2) A role model for individuals

(i) The character of Prophet (S.A.W):

Prophet (P.B.U.H) was full in his character. He is a perfect example to be followed anytime and everywhere. He was famous everywhere as "Sadiq" and "Amin" due to his honesty. People were used to give him these expensive goods to save their things. He never lied nor betrayed anyone. Due to his honesty and moral deeds, Khadija (R.A) sent him proposal for marriage, who was considered as the richest business woman in Arab.

(iii) Personal struggles of Prophet (P.B.U.H)

It is mentioned by many historians that Prophet had spent a life full of struggles and hardships.

But he never treated anyone rudely. Being capable of having all the luxuries and material things, he preferred to live a simple life.

Hazrat Ayesha narrates that; "Sometimes we don't have something to eat, so we eat dates with water".

Moreover, his lifestyle was so simple that people usually urge him to change but he always refused. He faced hardships just for the sake of Allah to expand Allah's Deen and to teach people what is wrong and what is right.

(iii) Unmatchable kindness of Prophet (S.A.W):

Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) was a person with kindness. His kindness was not only for humans but also for plants and animals. According to 'Amir Ali' in his book 'The Spirit of Islam': "The kindness of Prophet was unmatchable, even today nobody can come close to it."

(iv) A mercy for the whole world:

He was not a kind person and a mercy for that time, but for the whole humanity and all times.

Allah says in Quran:

"We have sent you as a mercy for all worlds"

(v) Muhammad (S.A.W) as an educator:

Prophet (S.A.W) was asked to read through his first revelation.

He^o, throughout his life give importance to Allah's command.

He was used to educate

people both in worldly and

religious matters. After migrating

to Madina, he started teaching

in Masjid-e-Nabwi and later on

established the first institute

known as "Sura." His teachings

were widely appreciated

and people from far area

come to consult him. Hazrat Ali (A.S)

in this regard says that, Prophet (S.A.W)

has the knowledge of everything."

(vi) A living example of justice and equality:

Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W) emphasises

much importance on justice

and equality. He was against

nepotism and always promoted

merit. In his last sermon, he clearly stated that, no Arab has any superiority over non-Arab and no non-Arab has any superiority over Arab. And he also told people, that all humans are from Adam and Eve and holds same rights.

(vii) Importance of woman rights through Prophet's teachings:

Before Prophet (S.A.W) the of Arab were used to bury their daughters or make females dance in the Makkah. With the advent of Islam, Prophet (S.A.W) not only stopped this tradition but also raise awareness about daughters. His own life is full of such noble examples, he was used to play with Hazrat Ayesha (R.A) and also helps him in her

domestic tasks. He stated:

"The best among you are those who treated their females gently" (Hadith)

(viii) His (P.B.U.H) teaching are a source of savior of mankind:

Amir Ali in his book "The Spirit of Islam" states that the life of Prophet is a beacon of light for all muslims to follow and to come out of darkness". Similarly, George Bernard Shaw stated:

"I have studied him, -the wonderful man- and in my opinion, far away from an anti-Christ, he must be called the Savior of humanity."

2 → How the life of Prophet (P.B.U.H) can inspire and guide individuals in their personal and spiritual development?

(A) Personal development of individuals through Prophet's seerah:

Life of prophet Mohammed (S.A.W) is a role model for all the world. He was a perfect human being whose teachings and sayings can bring lightening to the life of his followers.

(i) Simplicity and moral conduct

He was the most honest man on earth, as also witnessed by Arabs of that time. He lived a very simple and hard life. His life teaches us that all the earthly goods are not as important as we considered them but the true happiness and

success lies in the happiness of Allah. We should always follow his teachings to get success in this world and hereafter.

Abul Ali in his Book, "The Spirit of Islam" states that the Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) was extremely simple in his habits, his modes of life, his dress and his belongings."

(iii) Justice and Equality:

His life is full of such events and occasions, in which he did justice and prefer equality. Once a woman named 'Fatimah' theft something and the case was brought to the Nabi (S.A.W), a Sahabi asked prophet to let her go without any punishment, but Prophet^ﷺ replied: "if my daughter Fatimah, would have done this, I would

still order to cut her hands."

Prophet has strongly order his ummah to do justice and not to harm anyone.

"If two people come to you for justice, do not give order without hearing the argument of the second"

(Hadith)

(iii) Forgiveness

Prophet (S.A.W) was harmed many times in Makkah, but he never harm anyone return nor he gave any harmful invocation, but always pray Allah to give them guidance. Moreover, he also forgave his all enemies even that person who killed and ~~show~~ show the lives of his uncle Hazm (R.A). The same path he followed by the individuals. Forgiveness is also an attribute of Allah, and for the sake of Allah's pleasure, a man should forgive others too.

(iv) Honesty

Prophet Muhammad was the most honest man history has ever produced. His honesty was famous throughout the Arab and even today, even non-Muslims know about it. Prophet (S.A.W) has strictly advised his followers and ummah to remain honest, whatever the situation is.

(v) Education:

Prophet has made it compulsory on Muslims to get education. He, himself was a teacher and wanted his people to learn. In this regard, he has said:

"Seek knowledge from
cradle till grave" (Hadith)

(vi) Human Rights and women rights:

He (P.B.U.H) has emphasized to take care of others. He strictly ordered, not to harm anyone through

face, tongue and even in intentions. Moreover, he strictly guided people to take care of their women and said:

"The best of you are those who treat their women gently".
(Hadith)

(2) Spiritual development of people through Prophet's teachings.

(i) Oneness of Allah:

The main duty of the Prophet (P.B.U.H) was to direct people towards the oneness of Allah. People, at that time were used to worship a number of Gods. He, through his teachings and efforts convert them to worship one Allah, who is the sustainer of the universe.

He became a beacon of light for all of us, to link our connection with the only one God - Allah, our lord.

(iii) Way of worship:

Through his teachings and Hadiths, today we are able to worship Allah, in a true manner. He, himself practically did all that which we are doing today to please our Lord.

(iii) Importance of Salah:

Quran says:

"Remember me, and I will remember you"

The same thing has been taught by Mohammed (S.A.W). He was used to pray 8 times a day. Hazrat Ayesha narrates that he was used to stand so long in the prayer that his feet got swollen.

Prophet Mohammed (S.A.W) further said; The first thing that will be asked on the day of judgement will be Salah. He urged people to pray salah to

please their lord as it is
the only difference between a
Muslim and a non-Muslim.

Furthermore, He said:

"The coolness of my eyes
was placed in Salah" (Hadith)

(iv) Self-examination and a sense of
accountability:

Prophet's teachings encourage
believers to engage in regular
self-reflection, assessing their spiritual
state and aligning their actions
with divine guidance. This develops
a deep understanding of one's
purpose and motivates him to
draw closer to Allah.

Similarly prophet (S.A.W) reminded
his believers of the Day of
Judgement, on which their deeds
will be of importance and
they they will be accountable
to Allah.

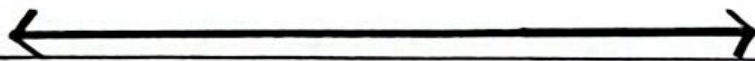
Critical Analysis

Without any doubt, the life and teachings of Prophet (S.A.W) is a role model to follow at every age and by anyone. He has clearly drawn a contrast between the good and the wrong through his teachings. He has been proved as a beacon of light, who put believers out of the darkness and guided them the right path. He was also the founder of Human Rights, who give importance to the lives of people without knowing their religion, color, creed or race. His *seerah* and *Sunnah* are as fruitful as it is being used even today, after 1400 years. If, followed correctly and completely, they can change our life and have the

ability to change this earth
into a paradise.

Conclusion

Muhammad's (S.A.W) ~~was~~ is the last messenger of Allah, but his teachings are for ever and for everyone. He is a complete role model for individuals and for the society. He has guided individuals in their personal and spiritual developments.



Question # 2:

Analyze the Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H)'s leadership in the context of military strategy. Discuss his approach to warfare, focusing on his emphasis on justice, restraint, and compassion. Explain how his military leadership provides valuable insights into ethical and moral consideration in the conduct of war.

Answer:-

→ Introduction

Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W) was not only an educator, diplomat as a peace maker but also a military expert. In his life he participated in 27 wars and led from from. His main focus was not to destruct the sights and to kill many people but to avoid maximum human lose. So,

according to historians, he, in all these wars lost nearly 357 Muslims but defeated a large number of Kufars.

2 → His military strategies and approach to warfare:

(i) Leading from front:

Prophet^ﷺ always led his army from the front. This raised the spirit of his fighters and eventually, leading Muslims to the victory.

(ii) Groupings and their positions:

He (S.A.W) was used to divide the Muslim army into groups and making a person to command them. Similarly, he was also used to fix their positions to attack the opponents. These strategies made a small number of army to cover and hold a large area.

(iii) Deciding the way and time to reach battleground.

Muhammad (S.A.W) always advised the warriors to reach on the battleground on time to choose the safest and most crucial places. He always choose difficult paths to reach their destination. It was because, the opponents will choose to come through the simple and easy way which will be more in distance.

(iv) Deciding a place outside of city:

In all battles, Prophet always a location which was far from the city. Because, he never wanted to harm any civilian population and any infrastructural damage. Moreover, he advised his followers to hold on the water and other eatable resources to make the

non-muslim's army weak.

(v) Teaching of war and tactics:

He was used to send delegations to nearby states such as Yemen, Ethiopia and Syria to learn the latest war tactics. This technique helped muslims to fight with the larger armies.

(vi) Least destruction:

Being a mercy for all the worlds, he always focused on least destruction. He was used to tell his fighters that they should fight only, due to the cause of Allah and not for personal grudges.

(vii) Rely only on Allah's help:

Prophet (P.B.U.H) advised his believers to rely only the help that is from Allah and

he made them sure that Allah will definitely help them if they will remain steadfast.

2 → Ethical and moral consideration in the conduct of war through Prophet (P.B.U.H.)'s military leadership

(I) Good treatment with the prisoners of war:

He always treated well with the prisoners of war. He provide them food, water and shelter. Most importantly, there was no burden on them to accept Islam. But due to his kindness, many non-Muslims converted into Islam.

(II) Not to harm children and women:

Prophet (S.A.W), being a noble character always advised his army not to harm the children and women.

"Do not harm infants,
women and old persons
if you find them in war."
(Hadith)

(iii) Focus on education, even in the
time of war:

After the Uhud, many mushrikeen
were the prisoners of the
war. Many of them were
educated. When Prophet came to
know about this, he set
them free on the
agreement that each of them
will educate ten muslims.

(iv) Ban on environmental damages:

"Whole of the world is
a Green Mosque" (Hadith)

During the time of war,
Prophet strictly prohibited his
fighters to through any
waste and to cut down
plants and trees. He further

advised,

"Do not destruct fruitgiving trees."

2 → Critical Analysis

The examples and principles set by Prophet Muhammed (S.A.W) 1400 years ago were superseded in their nature. As compared to the contemporary era, the situation in Palestine, Syria, Sudan and Afghanistan is a clear contrast of his teachings. Although, he fought many wars but he focused on least destruction. He made it clear that wars are for the sake of Allah and should be fought when the situation exceed the limit of peace.

He was a true victorious and a brave person. At the Battle of Hunain, when muslims were

losing hope. He decided to fight by saying: "I am the prophet, not lying; and I am the son of Abdul-Muttalib."

Hazrat Ali, in his speech said:

"Muhammad (S.A.W) is the bravest, history has ever seen."

Similarly, a non-muslim ruler and a dictator, who is known well in the modern history, Napoleon Bonaparte said:

"I am surprised at the prominent achievements of the son of desert (Muhammad S.A.W). These are the acts which are not even done by Prophet, Musa and Jesus."

2 → Conclusion

Prophet (P.B.U.H)'s military strategies and achievements are marked in the history with golden words. He has approved himself as the greatest military leader history has ever produced.

