

Define Tauheed? What is its impacts on individual life and society? Elaborate.

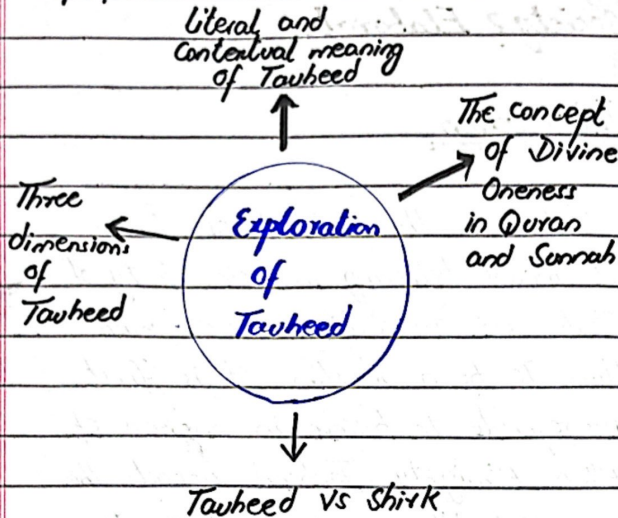
1) Introduction

Tauheed is the bed rock of Islam. It means believing in sole diety of Allah, and associating no one with Him. To be a muslim, it is first prerequisite to believe in oneness of Allah Almighty. Tauheed impacts the individual life a man as it creates sense of accountability, gives purpose of existence, creates self respect and gives hope. Tauheed creates equality, brotherhood and promotes peace in society.

“Tauheed is the term used to express unity of Godhead, which is great fundamental basis of religion of Muhammad.”

(Thomas Patrick Hughes)

2) Exploring Tauheed: The foundation of faith and Monotheism



(A) Literal and Contextual meaning of Tauheed

(i) Literal Meaning of Tauheed

The term Tauheed comes from Arabic root word (Wahhada - وَهَدَا) which means "To make something one" or "to unify". Literally Tauheed means "unification".

(iii) Contextual Meanings of Tauheed

Contextually, Tauheed is central tenet of Islam, signifying belief in absolute Oneness of Allah in all aspects.

(B) The Concept of Oneness of Allah in Quran, Sunnah and Fiqh

(i) Tauheed in Quran

Tauheed is the central theme of Quran. It is emphasized in Quran to believe in Allah as Sole Creator, Worthy of Worship, and Controller of everything

قل هو الله احد
الله الصمد
لم يلد ولم يولد
ولم يكن له كفوا احد

“Say: He is Allah, the One and Only. Allah is Absolute, Eternal. He begets not, nor he is begotten. And there is none like Him.” (Surah Ikhlas)

لا اله الا الله

"There is no god but Allah."

الله لا اله الا هو الحي القيوم

"Allah! There is no god but He,
the Living, the Self Sustaining."

(Surah Baqarah = 255)

(iii) Tauheed in Sunnah

The Holy Prophet (SAW), the idol breaker, preached Tauheed whole his life.

"Islam is to bear witness that:
None has the right to be worshipped but Allah, Muhammad is messenger of Allah, to offer prayer, to pay Zakat, to fast during Ramadan and perform Hajj if have means."

(Hadith-e- Jibrael)

(iii) Tawheed in Fiqh

Religious scholars highlight the importance of Tawheed

"Islam is like a fort and gate to that fort is Tawheed"

(Allama Shibli Numani)

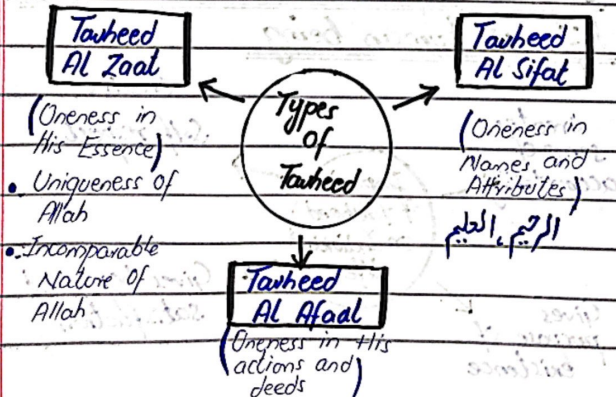
"Tawheed is first chapter of Islamic syllabus."

(Shibli Numani)

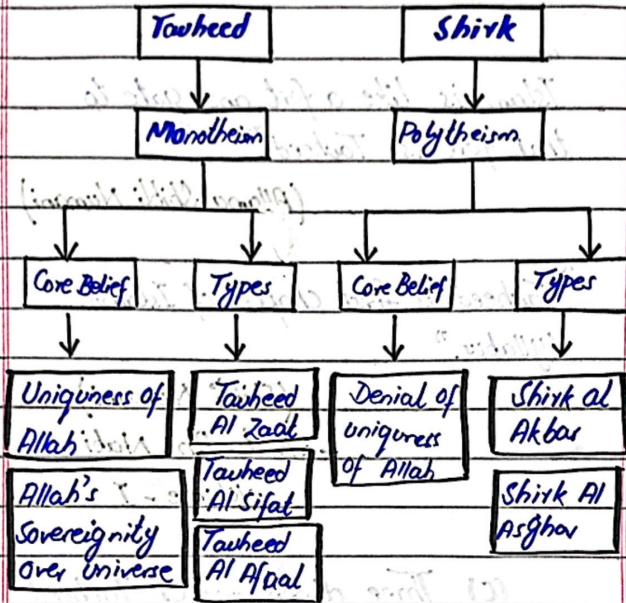
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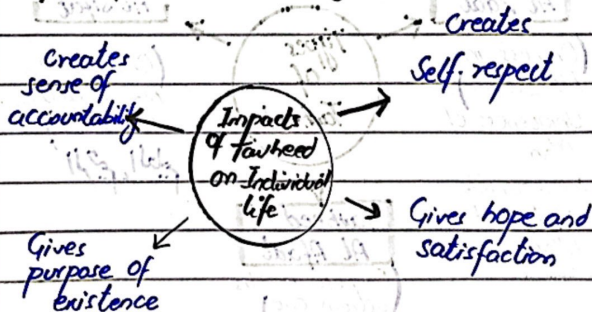
(c) Three dimensions of Tawheed



(1) Tauheed vs Shirk - Monothemism versus Polytheism



3/ Impacts of Tauheed on Individual life of human being



(A) Tauheed creates sense of accountability

Tauheed creates in man sense of accountability and responsibility towards others. It encourages man to shape himself according to Allah's Will.

« **انا لله وانا اليه راجعون**
Indeed We belong to Allah and indeed, to Him we will return»
(Surah Baqarah 156)

(B) Tauheed gives hope and satisfaction

The believer do not lose hope since he knows that His Creator has infinite power and it gives man confidence

« **الذكرك الله تطئش القلوب**
Indeed by the remembrance of Allah the hearts are assured.»
(Surah Ar Ra'ad: 28)

(c) Tauheed creates sense of self respect

Tauheed creates sense of self respect in man. As man know Allah is Sole provider of his needs which makes him independent and fearless.

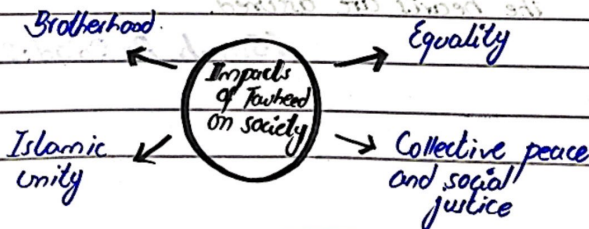
(d) Tauheed gives purpose of existence to mankind

The primary purpose of human existence is worship of Allah. This is articulated in Quran as

“And I did not create the jinn and mankind except to worship Me.”

(Surah Adh Dhariyat 56)

5/ Impacts of Tauheed on Society



(A) Tauheed infuses sense of equality in society

Tauheed infuses in mankind that all Muslims are equal. The only basis of priority is Taqwah.

"An Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab, nor does a non-Arab has superiority over an Arab; a white person has no superiority over black person, nor black person has superiority over a white person. Superiority is only on piety and good action."

(Farewell Sermon of Holy Prophet (SAW))

(B) Tauheed emphasizes on Islamic Unity

All Muslims believe in One God are like a community. As Quran says:

وَاقْتَصِمُوا بِحَبْلِ اللَّهِ جَمِيعًا وَلَا تَفَرَّقُوا

"And hold fast by covenant of Allah all together and be not disunited."

(Al Imran: 10)

(c) Tauheed makes all Muslims brothers

Tauheed creates brotherhood, bond and mutual cooperation among Muslims.

انما المؤمنون اخوة

"Certainly all Muslims are brothers."

(Al Hujrat 10)

(d) Tauheed creates peace and social justice in society

Islam connects Tauheed to socio-political and economic justice. Injustice leads to disruption of peace.

"O you who believe! Be steadfast witness of Allah in justice and let not hatred of any people seduce you that ye deal unjustly."

(Surah Al-Maida 8)

5/ Conclusion

Tauheed is basis of faith of Muslims.
It is believing in oneness of Allah
in Nature, Actions and Attributes.

Tauheed creates sense of self respect,
hope, satisfaction and accountability
in mankind. It creates brotherhood,
unity and justice in society.