

Islamic Studies Paper 2022

Question Number 3

Write down the main principles of Islamic

Answer Number 3

1

INTRODUCTION

Islam is an all encompassing religion, it not only guides a person on spirituality but also on the social system. Islam has laid down economic principles to ensure there are no negative practices in the society such as accumulation of wealth, poverty and exploitation. The detailed economic system entails rules of business and dealings. The Quran and Sunnat-e-Nabwi strictly prohibit interest and guide towards just practices. The aim is to form a just and fair society at macro and micro level and provide opportunities of Rizq-e-Halal to all. As Islam is a timeless religion, the economic solutions are apt to deal with the economic challenges at hand today. All the contemporary economic challenges can be solved by adopting the

fair principles of Islamic economics.

2 TENETS OF ISLAMIC ECONOMICS

2.1 PROHIBITION OF INTEREST

Islam strictly prohibits interest. Interest is considered one of the most exploitative and unjust principle of economy where by humans are asked for unfair money. The economy suffers through a fake inflation due to this practice

“The one who gives interest, takes interest or manages interest, has declared war with Allah and His Messenger (SAW)”

- Hadith - e - Nabui

2.2 PROHIBITION OF EXCESSIVE PROFIT

Islam encourages business, but exploitation is strictly banned even in the lieu of business. There are instructions to mark rightful profit and refrain from 'najafez munafakhori'. Unfair profits make necessities out of reach of common man and give rise to bad competition

2.3 FAIRLY MEASURING

Muslims are required to be fair in dealing and measurement. This applies metaphorically in today's world; where the measurements go beyond physical scale balancing and apply to adhering to contracts.

2.4 CONCEPT OF ZAKAT

The concept of Zakat came in 2 AH, after the first muslim community was formed in the city of Yathrib. Zakat ensures there is no poverty and creates a sense of brotherhood between a society.

Deprivation can bring out the worst in a person and Zakat is the solution.

"Hunger can lead a person to disbelief"

- Hadith-e-Nabwi

Zakat also ensures the concept of social responsibility is kept alive and rich people do not rise up in their bubble to disassociate from the rest.

"Zakat purifies wealth"

- Al Quran

2.5 SPENDING IS ENCOURAGED

Islam does not demonize spending ones own wealth. Instead it does the quite opposite to prevent hoarding and ensuring circulation of wealth. Prophet (SAW) once suggested a companion that if he has money and wealth, his outlook should show it. Islam does not contradict the human nature of wanting to spend.

2.6 CIRCULATION OF WEALTH

Hoarding is not appreciated. To keep the economy healthy, circulation of wealth is encouraged. Islam requires people to spend or invest money and inject wealth back into the economic system. Hazrat Usman (RA) was a wealthy companion; he spent his money, reinvested it or did public service projects.

2.7 DIFFERING MECHANISMS OF PROFIT SHARING

Islam appreciates beauty of diversity. Not everyone with a good business acumen can bring capital to a business, and not every rich person has the right business skills. Hence Islam

permits profit sharing on basis other than invested amount only.

2.8 ENCOURAGES BUSINESS AND INNOVATION

Islam counters ideological values vacuum and encourages innovation in every sphere. Embracing Hazrat Salman Farsi's idea of Khandaq, is an example. Entrepreneurship is encouraged in Islam and it is also considered the profession of Prophets.

2.9 WOMEN PARTICIPATION

Islam has a strong focus on women participation in the economic sphere. Allah has given similar intellectual capacities to all humans. Female participation is just not permitted, instead it is encouraged. Prophets (SAW) beloved wife Hazrat Khadija was a business woman with her sphere of influence extending across cities.

3

CONTEMPORARY CHALLENGES AND ISLAMIC SOLUTIONS

3.1 ACCUMULATION OF WEALTH BY THE RICH

SOLUTION: CIRCULATION OF WEALTH

Accumulation of wealth is a pertinent concern in today's world. The poor are getting poorer and the rich are getting richer. This applies to both individuals and divide amongst countries of global south and north. The solution to this is abiding by the Islamic principle of wealth circulation to benefit more people.

3.2 COOPERATIONS BENEFITTING FROM HARDWORK OF OTHERS

SOLUTION: EQUITY AND PROFITING SHARING

It is common in today's world that big cooperations benefit off people's hardwork and pay nothing equivalent to the input in profit making. Islam offers a formula of equity sharing admost this exploitation where people become profit owners in exchange for their skills

3.3 ECONOMIES ARE DECLINING DUE TO INTEREST PAYMENTS ON DEBTS

SOLUTION: PROHIBIT INTEREST

In the contemporary world, third world countries have defaulting economies due to piled up interest payments on their debts. Islam overwhelmingly counters this exploitative practice and prohibits interest.

3.4 UNEMPLOYEMENT AND RAMPANT

POVERTY

SOLUTION: GROW BUSINESS, INNOVATION and ZAKAAT

Islam acknowledges the need of innovation in every society. Innovation creates new opportunities and avenues for youth. In the modern world it can be equated to technological innovation and adapting to it. Islam also focus on Zakaat to ensure poverty is eradicated.

3.5 LACK OF CAPITAL

SOLUTION: QARZ-E-HASNA AND TIMELY PAYMENTS

The phenomenon of qarz-e-Hasna and

associated benefits in Islam is encouraging towards entrepreneurship. Islam intertwines humanitarian values with social order to ensure equity. Deen also focuses on timely payment of finances.

"Pay the labourer before his sweat dries"

- Hadith - e - Nabwi

4

CONCLUSION

Islam's encouragement of fair practices and in depth economic reforms can play a vital role in dealing with contemporary challenges. Being Ummat - e - Wasat, Islam's economic principles also reflect a moderate approach. Encouragement of trade and innovation along with public spending and refraining from exploitative practices makes Islamic economic principles all encompassing. The world today faces instances of extreme left and right, mixed with exploitation. Islamic economics is the solution.

Question Number 8

Describe the importance of Deen

Answer Number 8

1

INTRODUCTION

Islam is a deen; which literally means the doctrine of life. Its' nature is all encompassing and guiding towards all aspects of life. Unlike religion, which only focuses on spirituality, the deen of Islam serves as a guide for the ways of life, social interactions, social order, rights, public sphere, governance etc. A deen does not blindsight its' follower in any sphere of life. Islam is not limited to connection with the Almighty, instead Muslims are given the gift of adhering to the perfect practices by choosing Islam.

"This day I have completed my favour upon you and chosen Islam as your religion"

- Prophet Muhammad SAW

2

DEEN: ALL ENCOMPASSING

Deen of Islam guides a muslim in all spheres of life. No other religion has this attribute of guiding in all spheres of life. Islam offers different layers of human life, tailored solutions. Deen is also essential for the soul as it grounds the human being whilst also telling the right approach to carry and interact in social life.

3

IMPORTANCE OF DEEN

3.1 GUIDANCE IN EVERY SPHERE

All encompassing deen of Islam serves as a guide in all sphere of life. From human dealing to societal functions, Islam guides on all. Principles of economics, politics, judiciary, social order, all are a part of Islam and islamic culture.

"Islam is the name of faith, rituals and Islamic way of living"

- Sadar-Ud-Din Islahi

3.2 FILLS IN IDEOLOGICAL VACUUM

A deen encourages its followers to question and gain intellectual poweress. Islam doesnot encourage blind folded following instead it strongly wants Muslims to fill in the ideological vacuum.

"Read in the name of thy Lord and Cherisher,
who created man out of a leech like clot,
Read! and thy Lord is most bountiful,
He who taught you the use of pen, taught
men what he knew not"

- Al Quran

3.3 PROMOTES MORAL AND HUMANITARIAN VALUES

(1) WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Islam focuses on rights and dealing with women and children gently. Prophet (SAW) had strict orders not to harm women and children even in the time war. Prophet (SAW) was extremely kind and gentle towards children, he would elongate his prayers if Imam Hassan and Imam Hussain were playing on his back during prostrations.

(II) ORPHANS

Prophet (SAW) : an embodiment of deen-e-Islam, made taking care of orphans a shared societal responsibility. He asked fathers to not show extreme affection towards their children in front of orphans as it would hurt them.

(III) ANIMALS

"I saw a woman in hell because she would keep her cat hungry"

- Prophet (SAW) after Miraj

This particular instance highlights Islam's focus on rights of animals who can't communicate for themselves. This elaborates the view of deen-e-Islam towards life.

(IV) ENVIRONMENT

Environment preservation seems like a fairly contemporary concept; but as a deen is timeless, the Prophet (SAW) strictly guided for environment preservation. He guided soldiers in wartime.

"Do not cut trees and Do not harm women and children"

- Hadith-e-Nabwi

3.4 CONNECTION WITH THE ALMIGHTY

Deen does not have the concept of intermediaries. Every human has direct connection to Allah Almighty, and such a connection with the spiritual is essential for every soul. The element of dua is encouraged so that every man and woman bonds with Allah on a personal level.

"Allah is closer to a human than its jugular vein"

"Dua is the brain of Worship"

3.5 ROLE MODELS WHO ARE HUMAN

An inclusive deen Islam, provides muslims human role models in the form of Prophets, so that people can relate with them and look upto them. The messengers of Allah were ordinary humans who faced the trials of worldly life. Looking upto them becomes easier and fulfilling for followers of Islam.

4

DIFFERENCE IN DEEN AND RELIGION

4.1 DEEN IS THE ULTIMATE CHOICE

A person can juggle between religions and leave them, ~~who~~ however deen is the ultimate destination. A person who enters Islam has entered the religion of peace by consent.

There is no way of leaving, incase he becomes a murtid.

4.2 DIFFERENCE IN SPHERES OF INFLUENCE

Religion only guides on spiritual matters and ways to pray. Its scope is extremely limited and aloof of the real world. Islam on the other hand is all encompassing. A guidance in all spheres of life

4.3 DEEN IS NOT LIMITED TO TIME AND SPACE

Religions are often confined to time or space. Hinduism is a religion of the Indies, Slavic a religion of the north west. Islam

however is not limited or confined by boundaries of geography.

"Prophet (SAW): Rehmat for all Universe"

- Al-Quran

4.4 MULTIPLE RELIGIONS - ONE DEEN

There are more than 5000 religions in the world but only one deen i.e. Islam. Other religions compete with each other. However Islam rises above them all in its scope of practice and arena.

4.5 DEEN IS VOLUNTARY

"There is no compulsion in deen"

- Al-Quran

Religion have often seen use of force, but Islam is voluntary. A main tenant of deen-e-Islam is absence of compulsion. Deen is ought to be entirely voluntary inclusion and entrance in peace.

4.6 DEEN IS CHOSEN BY ALLAH

Deen-e-Islam is chosen by Allah for mankind. The Prophet Muhammad (SAW) was

Allah's messenger. And Quran is the scripture which remain unchanged till the end of time unlike other religions which have been altered over the course of time.

5

CONCLUSION

Religions are uncomparable to Deen. Deen-e-Islam includes guidance on all arenas, is unchanged since its inception and is picked by God for us humans. All other religions have their specific shortcomings. This makes the element of deen extremely important in human life; for functioning, living, interacting and most importantly connecting with the Almighty.

Question Number 7

Explain reconstruction of Pakistani Society.....

Answer Number 7

1

INTRODUCTION

Pakistani society was supposed to function on Islamic ideals and teachings but has been subject to constant turmoil and turbulence since its inception. Reconstruction of the Pakistani society in light of Islamic principles can reform it to make it better in every sphere, since Islam is an all encompassing deen and has guidance in every sphere of life. Economic, political and social reforms on Islamic principles can reconstruct the Pakistani society on its way to peace and prosperity.

2

NATURE OF Islam

Islam literally means peace, and it is an all encompassing deen. By following Islamic

commandments, a society goes on the road of peace and prosperity. Islam draws light on the correct economic, political and social ways for a healthy society. The community of Madinah is an example of an Islamic community.

3

NEED FOR RECONSTRUCTION IN PAKISTANI SOCIETY

The Pakistani society is currently divided internally, isolated internationally and filled with moral ills. This primarily because of being away from Islamic values in all spheres of life. At macro level the government and institutions don't adhere to Islamic principles and unfortunately the public has also fallen astray. Immoral practices have become a norm.

4

RECONSTRUCTION OF PAKISTANI SOCIETY IN LIGHT OF ISLAM

4.1 ECONOMIC REFORMS

(1) POVERTY ALLEVIATION

The Ideal Islamic community has no room

for rampant poverty or ills like hunger. The concept of charity is extremely heightened. People ought to help each and most importantly the state must take care of its people

"Even if a dog sleeps hungry on the bank of Euphrates, I am to be blamed"

Hazrat Umar R.A

(II) SYSTEM OF TAXATION AND ZAKAAT

Islam's system of taxation is progressive. It does entail everyone to pay the same amount of money. Instead each person pays according to their capacity. This helps the poor and ensures a feeling of connection in the hearts of the rich.

"Zakat purifies wealth"

- Al Quran

(III) PROHIBITION OF RIBA

Islam bans all exploitative practices like interest. A common man in Pakistan is unable to start livelihood due to interests attached with loans. Any such exploitative measure

should be banned.

(IV) PUBLIC SPENDING

In times of need; Islam encourages public spending by the wealthy and the government. Hagnat Usmans wells and the system of social security introduced by Hagnat Umar and pertinent examples.

4.2 POLITICAL REFORMS

(I) LEGITIMATE GOVERNMENT AND HONEST LEADERS

A consensus based leader with honest practiced is considered a fundamental right in Islam. Who believes in "Enjoying Right and Forbidding wrong". A rule of an area must be legitimized and respected by the general public

(II) CORRUPTION SHOULD BE PROHIBITED THROUGH JUST ACCOUNTABILITY

Robust accountability structures must be present that have the power to carry out

anticorruption trials. Every community is entitled to a just ruler and every ruler is subject to accountability. Even Hazrat Umar was questioned by a citizen where he wore clothes, which had used cloth from the spoils of war. Umar's garment had used up more cloth than everyone share. Hazrat Umar not only explained himself that he had combined his sons' share also, but also encouraged such public scrutiny.

4.3 SOCIAL REFORMS

(1) FOCUS ON EDUCATION

Islam lays special emphasis on education making it compulsory for everyone

"Education is compulsory for every man and woman"

It is further highlighted by the fact that the first Wahi instructed to read:

"Read in the name of thy Lord and Cherisher"

- Al-Quran

This is because education reforms a society and empowers and community like no other.

Prophet (SAW) syllabus for his students included societal subjects once the community of Islam

was formed.

(II) Benevolent Administrators

The role of public administrators must be reiterated to remind them as serving the public.

The Prophet (SAW) and Khulfa-e-Rashideen considered themselves servants of God and people, not masters of people.

(III) CERTAINTY OF PUNISHMENT

A fair society ensures certainty of punishment to create an environment where citizens are not scared. Islam has strict punishments for thieves; not because of the intention to make everyone handless, but to ensure no one dares to make such a mistake.

(IV) INCLUSION OF WOMEN

Islam believes in the intellectual ability of all genders. Women closest to the Prophet (SAW) were active members of the society. Hazrat Khadija was a business woman, Hazrat Ayesha a renowned teacher, Hazrat Swada a philanthropist. To ensure betterment of society

women must not be left behind or marginalized.

(V) RESPECT AND CARE FOR MINORITIES

Islam gave minorities the status of 'Zimmi' in an Islamic state. Meaning the Zimedani of the government. No tolerance should be there for Islams disrespect but other than that minorities should dealt with utmost respect and care. No hooliganism and dis crimination should be tolerated

5

PAKISTANS WAY FORWARD

The Islamic Republic of Pakistan must vieldcate the Islamic standards with in its society. Education and reforms can restructure the society from up and down. Pakistani law makers and citizens must adhere to the all encompassing Islamic principles.

6

CONCLUSION

Even though the Pakistani society

currently faces a lot of challenges. It has an overwhelmingly muslim population who are ardent followers of deen-e-Islam. Hence structural reforms in the society can restructure Pakistan and put it on the right track.

Question Number 2

Explain the concept of Human Rights.....

Answer Number 2

1

INTRODUCTION

Islam is a revolutionizing deen: It changes the norms of subjugation and among other things focuses on human rights. A religion usually just focuses on the spirituality element however Islam lays focus both on Haqooq Allah and Haqooq Ul Ibad. Islam considers humans Asraf-ull-Makhoorat raises extreme concern on subjugation of humans and their rights. Islam also considers men and women equal and emphasizes on similar rights and respect for them. As a religion revealed amongst Kafara-e-Makkah, Islam's belief about woman and their equally respectful status was ground breaking.

2

STATUS OF WOMEN BEFORE ISLAM

The state of women before Islam was horrific. It was as if girls were considered lesser beings. People would be so ashamed if a girl child were born that they would kill her.

There were no rights of women and were mostly used to do work and satisfy men's sexual desires. Islam shifted the perspective altogether and women beings to cherished, loved and supported. The paradigm shift in the status of women explains Islam's focus on Human Rights

3

HUMAN RIGHTS IN ISLAM WITH A SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON WOMEN

In the circumstances before Islam, women were marginalized, to eradicate this tradition, Islam put forward every human right equal for both and in most cases reiterated the emphasis on women.

3.1 EDUCATION A RIGHT FOR BOTH MEN AND WOMEN

" Education is compulsory for every
muslim man and woman "

- Al Quran

Islam considers education a fundamental human right. It makes it compulsory on all muslims with a special mention of women, because it might have been overlooked keeping the prevailing norms in mind.

3.2 WARTIME RULES: NO HARM TOWARDS WOMEN AND CHILDREN

" Do not harm women and children and do
not cut trees "

- Hadith - e - Nabwi

Women were directed to be protected, not be made a subject to show force and claim victory. Islam prohibited maltreatment of women even if they are from the enemy camp.

3.3 RIGHT TO BUSINESS, ENCOURAGED FOR WOMEN ALSO

Islam gives the right to earn rizq-e-Halal

and lead a comfortable life. Hazrat Khadija is a role model in Islamic history that emphasizes on this right for women also.

3.4 RIGHTS OF CHILDREN

SPECIAL ATTENTION TO DAUGHTERS

Islam gives special rights to children. Makes their right to receive love and affection. Sunnat-e-Nabawi is a prime example of the greatest father daughter bond. He loved his daughters relentlessly and showered them with utmost care. Hazrat Fatima (RA) was the apple of his eyes.

"Any father who raises two daughters will be with like this in Jannah"

Prophet Muhammad (SAW) said while joining his two fingers together

3.5 RIGHTS OF PARENTS WITH MOTHER

AS A TOP PRIORITY

Islam raised the structure of Parents. He told a companion that if you make your mother perform Hajj on your back, that would just repay one night that she woke up for you.

Prophet (SAW) also once mentioned that after Allah and Rasool Ullah comes your mother, then again your mother, then again mother and then your father.

3.6 RESPECT OF SPOUSE

"And we created you in pairs"

- Al Quran

Islam considers husband and wife the garment of each other that protect and shield one another. Allah has made mutual respect and care a right of a spouse, whether it is the wife or husband.

4

OTHER-EQUAL RIGHTS FOR ALL

4.1 RIGHT TO CHOSE RELIGION

"There is no compulsion in religion"

- Al Quran

Allah consider humans Ashraf-ul-Makhlooqat. That have intellectual capacity to chose for themselves. Whether it may be man or woman, religion can not be enforced on anyone.

4.2 RIGHTS OF NEIGHBORS

Islam focus alot on the rights of neighbors. This to encourage social harmony and cohesion. Neighbors are 40 houses on each side of your home. Ultimately this means the community living together has rights on each other that must be respected irrespective of gender.

4.3 RIGHT TO RESPECT AND LIFE

"Killing a ^(innocent) person is equivalent to killing the entire humanity"

- Al Quran

"No doubt the sanctity of Kabadh is a lot but the sanctity of a muslim is more than than"

Islam is strictly against foul talk, misbehaviour and disrespecting. Islam compared the sanctity of Kabadh to a human life, thereby laying emphasis on respect of a human. Respect is utmost importance without the discrimination of gender, class, caste.

5

CONCLUSION

Islam's focus on human rights sets it apart from every other religion. Allah loves his people and ensures that they are given their rights without discriminating on the basis of gender. In fact to counter the pre-existing cruel norms, Islam heightened the aspect of rights of women in both public and private life, to ensure a just society.