

Q) What is the difference between Deen and religion? Describe the importance of Deen in human life with arguments. (2016)

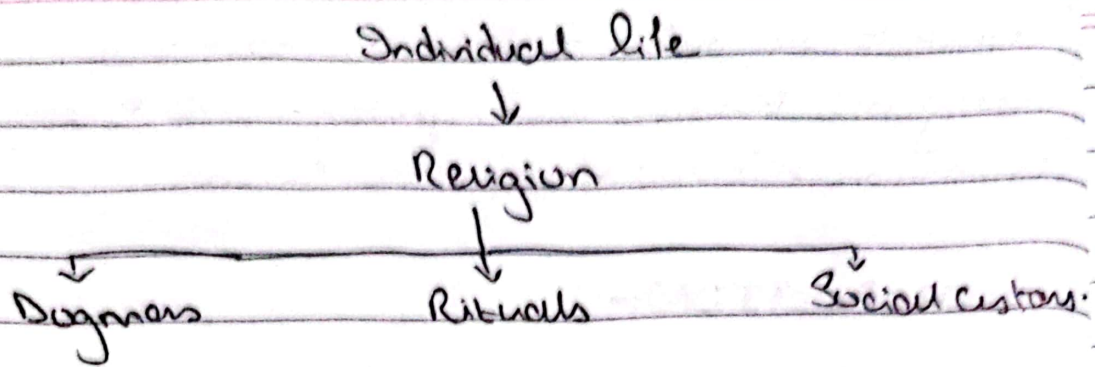
INTRODUCTION:-

Islam is not only a religion but also a Deen, which means a complete code of life.

Religion deals with man's relation with God whereas Deen deals with both aspect^{of} man's relation with God and his fellow beings. Religion deals with sacred and spiritual covering the belief system, mode of worships and observance of certain social customs and rituals. However, Deen covers both sacred and secular aspects of man.

CONCEPT OF RELIGION:-

Word Religion or "mazhab" comes from root "Zahab" which means to go, pass by or walk. Literal meanings of religion are faith, belief and ceremonies. Religion is a bond between a religious devotee and his God. This devotion is all about ritual and faith. whereas religion only deals with the individual life.



CONCEPT OF DEEN:-

whereas Deen is a complete system. In the context of Islam it means to accept absolute sovereignty of Allah. Deen deals with both man's relation with God as well as his fellow beings. A complete code of life with an applicable, social, economic, political and religious system. Deen is divine and dynamic as well. Islam is a deen, not merely a religion.

" Truly, the religion with Allah is Islam "

(Surah Al Imran; 19)

DISTINCTION/DIFFERENTIATION BETWEEN RELIGION AND DEEN:

The words Deen and Religion are entirely different from each other with regard to their concepts. We generally refer to Islam as Madhab (Religion). whereas the word Madhab has never once been used in the entire treasury of the Quranic text and Hadith literature. Instead the word that has almost always been used for Islam in the original sources is Deen.

"This day, I have perfected your Deen for you, completed my favor upon you and have chosen from you Islam as your Deen"

(Al-Maidah 5:3)

The fundamental difference between the Religion and Deen is, the word Religion is used for a set of beliefs and ritual of worship. whereas, Deen refers to an entire way of life that no matter

all aspects of life.

The messenger of Allah said:

"When Allah wished good for someone, He bestowed upon him the understanding of Deen"

(Albukhari and Muslim)

ISLAM: A DIN OR A RELIGION:

Islam is not a Religion (madhab), because all of the elements of a madhab are certainly part and parcel of Islam. It includes the articles of beliefs, spirituality and the etiquettes of worship (Salah, Saum, Zakah and Hajj). Hence it would be more accurate to say Islam is not merely a madhab but an entire code of life (Deen). On the one hand, it prescribes for its followers to remember Allah, offer prayer, observe fasting, give zakat and on other hand it provides a complete constitution for the function of a state. It does not limit itself to the two extremes of individual and state; rather it also

provides a perfect sample for societal conduct.

Religion → An Individual matter

Deen → A Collective matter

ISLAM IS A DEEN NOT JUST A RELIGION:-

As Deen is considered as a code of life, which ^{covers} describes all the aspects of our life. Islam has its own unique economic system which is neither capitalistic nor socialist. Unlike modern banking system which runs on interest based system, Islam promotes Sohbah. Islam also provides a detailed guidance guidelines on governance and administration. Islam gives a social system based on brotherhood. This shows that no other religion except Islam provide detailed guidelines on every problem aspect of the life. which conclude Islam

is a complete religion (Deen).

"Unquestionably, for Allah is
the pure religion"

(Surah Az-Zumar 39:3)

ISLAM VERSUS SECULARISM:

Secularist ideas corey that a people of a state can worship and practice their religions but only in private which will have nothing to do with the affairs of a state. The political, economic and the constitution of a state will be based on the thoughts of current scholars and on the teaching of a particular religion. Whereas, Islam says that religion has a major part in both the individual and state. As we can see, Islam not only introduced a system of beliefs but with that it has introduced a whole new system of the political and economic system based on equality and more important equity.

"And fight until they are persecuted
is no more and Deen is all for
Allah"

(Al Baqarah 2:193)

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN DIN AND SHARIAH:

The meaning of Shariah is mode and path. When one has accepted God as one's sovereign and accepted his servitude and also admitted that the messenger is sent for the guidance. After this, the mode in which ~~Islam~~ Muslim to serve God and the path he has chosen in order to obey him is called Shariah. This path has been indicated by God through his messenger. The messenger shows us the path of righteousness and how to lead a life.

He it is who sent his messenger with the guidance and the Deen of truth, that He may cause it to prevail over all Deens however much

The idolaters may be averse"

(AI - Tawbah 9:33)

Deen always remain same, where Shariah can, many were cancelled several were changed. Regardless Deen never changed.

The Deen of Noah was the same as that of Abraham, Moses, Jesus, and Muhammad (PBUH). but the some shariahs

of these prophets varied from each

other to some extent. The modes of

saying prayer, observing fast were at one time with one prophet and another

and with the other. Rules of

cleanness, codes of marriage, inheritance differed from one shariah to another

But in all these Deen remain unaltered

but the modes of following differ by

the passage of time.

* And now, we have set you (O Muhammad, and sent you) to help establish a way of Religion (complete) contributing values of Religion so you follow what

way and do not yield to the
desires of those who are ignorant
of the truth!

(Surah Al-Jathiah 45:18)

CONCLUSION-

Indeed, Islam is considered as
Deen instead of mazhab (Religion). The
aim of Deen is the welfare and progress
of all mankind. whereas, religion focused
on the faith, and worships on the
individual matter. The importance of
Deen rely that it provides you the
roadmap of how a state should run
how to protect minorities and make
laws according to the shariah which is
described by the messenger of Allah.