

## The Difference between Deen and Religion.

### Introduction:

Islam is characterized as a religion it seems as if it is just one of the other religions of the world. However this limited approach about the Islam led to a wrong conclusion that Islam is merely a religion in strict sense. Moreover, Islam is not only a religion but it is a Deen which means a complete code of life. As Deen covers all the aspects of life in individual as well as collective levels. But the Religion deals with the private affairs.

As the Holy Quran Surah Imran verse 19 says that, 'Islam is the only right way of life in the sight of Allah - Further Quran also states that 'And whoever adopts any other way except Islam that shall not be accepted from him and in the Hereafter he shall be among the losers. - Surah Imran 85.

## Deen and Islam:

Deen is all embracing term which includes religio-socio-political-economic system. It touches upon the material as well as spiritual dimensions of human existence. In Quranic approach, Islam is a deen not a <sup>mere</sup> religion.

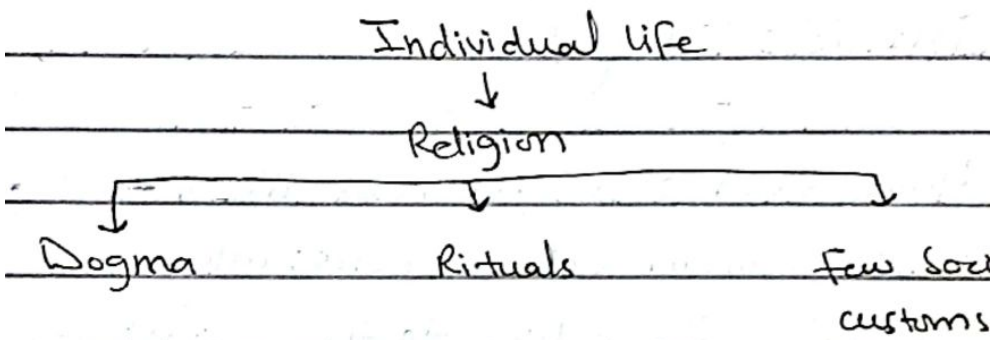
## Total Implementation of Islam:

In true essence Islamic thought consists of the idea that is not enough to practice Islam in the personal life only, but that teachings of the Quran and those of the Sunnah need also be implemented in their totality in the social, economic, and political fields.

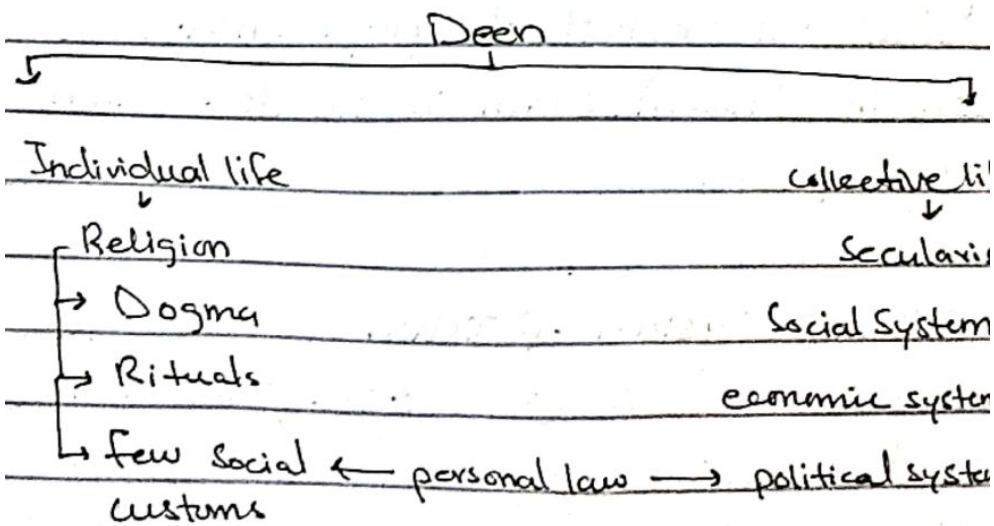
'So, the Sorcerers were assembled at a fixed time on a day appointed - 26:38.

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Islam is a Deen not mere religion:  
 The Holy Quran describes Islam as  
 a Deen al-Haq, a true way of life.  
 Religion is commonly narrow the sense  
 of Islam and its scope. As religion  
 deals with individual life only.



while Deen



a) If anyone follow the laws, he will be given good reward and in case of their violations, he will be punished.

b) Laws are there to support the Islamic system, and the absolute authority and command

c) The value of a system exists till the time it is obeyed.

Hence, Deen is a system of life in which human beings consciously surrender themselves to the sovereignty of Allah. Quran says

"And you see that the people enter Allah's (Deen) Islam in crowds - Surah Yusuf: 76.

Collective System of Islam

It is the Islamic socio-political and economic system.

i) At Social level

At social level there is no discrimination.

As Holy Quran says

"We have created you from a male and

and a female and made you into nations and tribes that you may know each other. — 49:13

"Who created you from a single person (Adam) and from him (Adam) He created his wife (Hawwa). — 4:1

## 2) At political level

In political level there is no oppression. As the Sovereignty belong to the Almighty Allah. No legislation will be done repugnant to the Quran and Sunnah. As Holy Quran say

"... consult them in the affairs or mutual consultation (no authoritarianism) 3:159.

## 3) Economic level.

Islam prohibits the exploitation. No interest business (Riba free). Zakat should be paid to the needy: As Quran says: "... and the giving of Zakat is (obligatory charity)..." 21:73

"Zakat is only for needy and the poor..." 9:60

Conclusion:

Collective life affairs are based on  
Secularism and divine guidance has been  
dismissed as irrelevant. This is shirk and  
in Quranic term it is known as a system  
of taghoot (the way of devil)

"... and they wish to go for judgement  
to the taghoot (those authorities  
which govern in violation of Allah's law)... 4:60

The true way of life, Deen al-Haq, is  
not only meant for the religion but  
religion comes under the Deen. Holy  
Quran makes it clear that Islam is  
meant to dominate all domains of  
life and all man-made system and  
ideologies.