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Assignment # 1. Subject: Islamic Studies

Q1: What is Islam?

Ans: Literal meaning of Islam:

The word 'Islam' is derived from Arabic word 'slm' which means peace.

The other meaning of Islam is Surrender or submit.

Contextual Meaning:

The contextual meanings of Islam are:

"To enter in peace by submitting all desires to the Almighty Allah."

"To surrender in front of our creator or submit all the desires to the will of Allah."

Concept according to Shariah/ Islam :-

According to Islam, It is a true religion and one who follows or believes in Islam is called Muslim.

Allah says in Quran 2: 21-22

and the explanation of this ayah is:

"These O Mankind, worship your Lord, who created you and those before you so that you may ward off evils; who has made Earth a resting place for you and sky a canopy, who provides you fruits so that you get food, he pours down water from heaven, so do not associate anyone with Allah, when you know better."

In Surah Baqarah, Ayah 256
Allah says about Islam and the
explanation is:

"There be no compulsion in religion.
Truth will stand out clear from
Error / False. Whoever rejects evils
and believes in Allah and grasped
the handhold strongly, Allah is
knoweth all things."

In Surah Kafirun Allah says/
Explanation:

"For you is your religion and for
me is my religion. (109:06).

According to Islam, the one who
believes in oneness of Allah
and the Prophethood is the
believer of Islam and he has
entered in the boundaries of
Islam and he should follow
the rules of Islam, practicing
all the pillars and follow the
guidance of Allah and the
Messenger.

The First Kalma also describes
the meaning of Islam and it
is called Tawheed which means
"oneness".

The First Kalma has two parts. It
means if anyone believes in
these parts will entered in Islam.

First part of Kalma is believe in oneness that explains: "There is no God except Allah"

Second part is of Prophethood that Hazrat Muhammad (S.A.W.W) is the Prophet of Allah.

Tawheed is a basic requirement for Islam but believe in finality of Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W.W) is also a main/fundamental part of Islam.

Definition of Islam according to different Scholars :-

- Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) defined Islam as:

"Islam is comprising of two things. First one is the witness of oneness of Allah and His Messengers and Second is practicing its Pillars."

Dr. Hamidullah defined Islam as "a monotheistdeen revealed upon the Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W.W)". Many scholars defined Islam according to its literal meaning but the bases of all those definitions are depending on the oneness of Allah.

Ibn al-Qayyim defined Islam as:
"Islam is the oneness of Allah, serving Him alone, not associating any one with Him. He is the only one/only creator of this world. It is believe in oneness of Allah and His Messenger and follow its traditions. One who does not fulfil these requirements will not be a Muslim".

The sixth century exegete Baghawi defined Islam as:

"Islam means surrender and submission".

Conclusion:

Islam is the religion of Peace. One who surrender himself in front of Allah or submit all the desires to the will of Allah is the believer of Islam.

In Islam, there is no compulsion in religion to anyone. Truth and false both are clear to everyone and anyone who wants to follow truth or evils that is his will and the guidance is clearly given in the Holy book of Quran and also Allah sent Messenger to guide the Mankind. Islam is not only believe by tongue but by practicing the pillars and follow the orders of Allah.