

ASSIGNMENT  
OF ISLAMIC  
STUDIES

FARAH BATOOI

BATCH- 410

1

What is Islam? Elaborate the Salient features of Islam

start with the summary of the answer as introduction.

Meaning of Islam :-

Literal/Basic Meaning :-

Islam is an Arabic word/derived from an Arabic word Salam which means peace, submission and obedience.

Contextually :-

It means acceptance and commitment to obey the commands and guidance of God.

~~As-Salam~~ The other name of God is As-Salam i.e. The peace.

So in that way Islam also means to be peace with God (i.e. to submit oneself according to His will) and to be peace with His creations or creatures (i.e. to living in peace with His creatures).

The one who follows the Islam is Muslim.

Shariah :-

According to Shariah Islam means submitting one's desires to the will of God Voluntarily

As Allah says in the Quran (2: 256)

"Let there shall be no compulsion in religion, for the truth stands out clearly from the falsehood. So whoever renounces false gods and believes in Allah has certainly grasped the firmest, unfailing hard-hold and Allah is All Hearing and All Knowing"

try to add the arabic of quranic ayats.

Also in Surah kafirun verse no 6. (Explanation)

For you is your religion and for

②

me is my religion.

Islam is an old / same religion which was taught by all prophets and then by Prophet Muhammad (SAW) in its ~~comphite~~ comprehensive, complete and final form

As well as in  
According to the Holy Quran (3:84) (Explanation)

It is the same religion which was revealed to Abraham and Ismail and Isaac and Ya'qub and the tribes and which was given to Moses and Jesus and to other prophets of God.

According to Hadith Islam means / ~~demands~~ Will of Allah and His Messenger and Establish / <sup>five</sup> practice of the Pillars (testifying the oneness of Allah and Prophethood of Muhammad (SAW), prayer, charity and pilgrimage).

Scholarly Definition:

Islam is the monotheistic deen which teaches oneness of Allah.

Maulana Sadruddin Ishai in his book "Islam at Balance" describes Islam as ~~religion of~~ combination of faith and worship

According to Imam Ghazali Islam is the <sup>Includes</sup> / Rights of Allah and Rights of People

## Salient features of Islam / Speciality of Islam / Distinguish features of Islam:-

The features or the characteristics which make the Islam unique or distinguish it from all other religions is believing in one God i.e. the Tauhid.

## 1) Unique Concept of Tawheed

Tawheed means identify Allah as the only One and True God in belief and in worship. According to the Prophet Muhammad (SAW) it is the first part of Kalimah or Shahadah i.e. عَلَى إِنَّهُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ "There is no worthy of worship except Allah (alone). Singing out Allah as the only One and True God means believing in His Lordship (Herrschaft) is only the Master, Creator and Provider of what is in the heavens and in the earth (including Humans, angels, plants and animals and the entire Universe) i.e., Worship (Alone worthy to be obeyed and worship due to the only Creator, Sustainer and provider of creatures in the heavens and in the earth) and In His Names and Attributes which are unique in its qualities and possess <sup>by</sup> no one other than Him alone.

As Allah says in the Quran (112:1-4)

"Say He is the one - Allah, the Eternal and Absolute.

He begets not, nor was He begotten. And there is none comparable to Him."

According to the Book of Sirat-ul-Nawbi Tawheed is the first chapter of Islam as Prophet Muhammad (SAW) said: "Islam is like a fort and that fort is Tawheed" one reference is enough for a single argument.

## 2) Prophethood

The second part of Kalima or Shahaada is called "The Mohammad (SAW) is the prophet of Allah". Believing in the finality of Prophethood.

As Allah says "in the Quran (33:40) Explanation

Muhammad (SAW) is not the father of your men. He is the Messenger of Allah and the Last Prophet and Allah is knowing of everything.

(9)

Which depicts the teachings and actions of Prophet Muhammad (SAW) as a way of life for (Sunnah) for all mankind.

He (SAW) acts as a teacher

As He said (Explanation)

"I have sent down to Mankind

A teacher ..

He (SAW) also act as a source of Rule and laws of Allah. As Allah says in the Quran (162:3-4)

"Nor does he speaks from his inclination. it is not a but a revelation revealed"

which depicts that He (SAW) does not speak from his own desires and wishes but the commands which were ~~ideas~~ revealed to Him from above. This also implies that whoever follows the command of Prophet Muhammad (SAW) follow the command of Allah.

keep the description of a single argument brief and increase the no of arguments instead.

### 3) Honouring /Dignify Mankind

bring Islam honour and dignification to Mankind.

Historically humans ~~were~~ <sup>hierarchy in</sup> sacrificed on the basis of certain religious beliefs and ~~social~~ <sup>hierarchy in</sup> structures, such as, the Ancient Greek sacrificed humans to make their Gods happy and in return guarantee the favourable conditions for battles and voyages. ~~and~~ the Ancient Egypt sacrificed humans in order to accompany the Pharaoh in the after life. In Hinduism the individuals with low status ~~were~~ <sup>treated</sup> declared Shudras were treated badly and killed on the basis of touching higher status individual belongings and religious books.

As Allah says in the Quran (2:30) Explanation:

Allah having conversation with angels says that Verily I have made Mankind/Human as a Messenger P.C.

(5)

Caliphate on earth which humanas  
The making of Caliphate on earth dignifies human  
or making human superior to all the creations. The word 'Khalif' means  
perfect.

As Allah says in the Quran (7: 70) Explanation

Certainly the children of Adam were honoured  
among all other creatures and provided them with good things on land  
and sea.

Prophet Muhammad (SAW) address  
during his last sermon, also known as  
'Haj-tul-Wida' (Explanation)

No mankind is superior on the basis of colour, cast and  
race. The one who gain superiority / superior to others is on the basis  
of his / her love and fear of God.

depicts the end of discrimination among  
the humans on the basis of their class and creed.

Islam also honour man and woman by giving them their rights and  
duties, as previously women were killed, sacrificed and not given the right  
in property and honour transferred as Allah mentioned in (3:26)  
"It is He (Allah) honour whom He wills and dishonour  
whom He wills"

4) Encourage Humanity:

Islam promotes humanity through Characterful Individual/  
Accord the virtue of Characterful. According to the Quran and Sunnah  
the person with character possess the qualities of righteousness, justice  
and kindness in all aspect of life. Encourage humanity through charity

As Allah says in the Quran (2: 177) Explanation

That Righteousness is not turning the faces towards East and  
West rather true righteousness is to give belief in Allah, Prophets

(6)

angels, books and to give wealth to the relatives, orphans, the needy, travellers and those who ask for help.

By Providing Medical Services :- As In Surah Al Maidah (5: 32) Explanation, The one who saves one life as it saves all humanity and the one who kill one life it is as it kills all of humanity.

By Social Work :

The Scholar of Famous Egyptian University named Al Azhar University, Dr. Wasiullah Muhammad Abbas in his book "Key Features of Islam" states that the biggest service to Islam is the social work.

By fulfilling the Human Rights

by giving equal rights to all human being including both man and woman and eliminate discrimination on the basis of colour and race as mentioned in last sermon of Prophet Muhammad (SAW). The sermon declared/nullify the superiority of white over black and black over white and giving the rights to woman in food, clothing and respectful treatment by men.

By giving rights to Animals

i.e. by putting stress / laid great importance on the showing compassion and kindness toward Animals, as Prophet (SAW) emphasize over the provision of adequate water, food and shelter to the animals and prohibit the torturing and killing of animals for sports and entertainment. In one of his (SAW) Hadees (Explanation) a woman entered into hell fire because of not giving the cat food and water led her imprisoned.

7

Promoting Environmental protection:-

Along with provision of rights to human and animals, Islam also laid great emphasis on the protection of Environment. The prophet Muhammad (SAW) prohibits the cutting of trees during war, and promote plantation by encouraging on planting a trees, as well as laid great stress on ~~cleaners~~ Cleanliness by declaring ~~cleaners~~ Cleanliness as a half of faith.

08

6) Islam is a Universal Religion

One of the feature which makes Islam unique from all other religion is its universality i.e. it guides in all aspects (political, economical and social) of life. It is not confined to a specific space, <sup>and</sup> time, geography and ethnicity and most importantly it is protected by Allah (Almighty) as all other religion <sup>and their scholars</sup> laid changes according to their desires and given circumstances.

add more arguments.

a 20 marks answer should have around 15 arguments.

end the answer with conclusion.