

Assignment

(Q) What is Islam? Elaborate the salient features of Islam?

start with the summary of the answer as introduction.

"Islam" is derived from the Arabic word "Slm" which means to 'Surrender, Submit, or Yield'. It means to resign one's self to the will of God.

Islam's other meaning is 'Peace' derived from the book of Sayyid Ameer Ali's book :- "The Spirit of Islam".

The main basis upon which Islamic life is founded upon includes -

- ① A belief in the unity, power and mercy of Allah.
- ② Charity and brotherhood amongst mankind
- ③ Shjugation of Persons
- ④ Being grateful to Allah and remembering to thank Him and being humble.
- ⑤ Accountability for human actions in another existence, being conscious of how we treat other human beings and the sins we commit.
- ⑥ Finality of Prophethood.

use marker for headings.

One cannot deny the fact that Islam is a complete Code of life, it teaches us the way, on how we should live according to the principles of Islam. Additionally, the whole concept of Islam also vests on the

Understanding that Allah (S.W.T) is sovereign, all-mighty, and powerful. He created the universe and man, gave him guidance, and gave man the choice between being a Muslim or a Kafir, on the basis of which he will be judged in the hereafter. Reciting and believing in the first Kalimah allows man to join the fold of Islam; the first part of the Kalimah presents the concept of Tawhid (Oneness of Allah) and the second part affirms the prophethood of Muhammad (P.B.U.H).

keep the description of a single argument brief and divide it into subheadings.

As, ~~it~~ mentioned earlier, Islam is a complete code of life and it covers fundamentals of Islam ~~which is~~ covering political, social, economic and legal aspects of life because Islam, the religion contains clear and definite rules and practices. The mission of the prophets and messengers has been to preach Islam and its teachings and to establish divine order on earth. As Islam, being a religion stands for the complete submission and obedience to Allah and it is only through ~~the~~ the submission that one can achieve peace of body and mind.

Those who believe and whose hearts find comfort in the remembrance of Allah. Surely in the remembrance of Allah, the hearts find comfort. 13: 28. (Surah Ar-rasul)

try to add the arabic of the quranic ayats.

Islam is composed of five articles; belief in Tawhid (Gool), angels, books, prophets, day of resurrection / predestination as well as well as five pillars of Islam; Kalimah, Salat, Zakat, Sawm and Hajj, as well as Jihad forming a central concept of Islam.

The concept of Islam is divided into two main types categories according to which a person should lead his life;

- (1) Theoretical (beliefs and principles of Islam, or aqidah and usul of Islam)
- (2) Practical (hukms or orders) decrees or actions.

Characteristics of Islam =

1. Simplicity, Rationalism, Practicality =

Islam is a simple religion, its primary sources are Quran and Sunnah. Rational It's rational approach encourages intellect and education, and it is practical, easy to follow without contradictions; promoting harmony between belief and actions.

2. Unity of Matter and Spirit = Islam balances material and spiritual life, avoiding extremes. Both worldly and religious aspects are given due importance.

add and highlight references/examples against these arguments.

3. Complete Code of Life =

Islam provides guidance for all spheres - social, economic, political and legal. It rejects Secularism, advocating collective practice of religion of in public and private life.

4. Balance between Individual and Society = Islam grants individual

rights and freedoms while imposing social responsibilities (eg Zohet, congregational prayers, Jihād) to foster collective welfare.

5. Universality and Humanism =

Islam is a universal religion with Allah as "Rehmat ul Alameen" (Mercy to all worlds). It upholds human dignity, equality and rights for all humanity.

6. Permanence and Change =

Islam maintains core principles (e.g. pillars of Islam) while allowing flexibility (ijtihad) to adapt to modern needs, avoiding rigidity.

7. Preservation of Teachings =

Unlike other religions, Islam's teachings remain pure and unaltered since their revelation 1400 years ago.

Salient features of Islam =

① Unique Concept of Tawheed =

The basic principle of Islam is Tawheed. The belief in the unity of Allah. It is the starting point of Islam. Belief in the oneness and unity of Allah is the essence of Islam and is espoused in the Articles of faith as well as pillars of Islam. It is the core belief which talks about the facts that Allah has no partners in His dominion, no similarities with another, no rivals in His ability and worship.

even Surah Ikhlas talks about God's uniqueness and oneness.

Say, O Prophet, "He is Allah - One and Invisible;
Allah - the Sustainer needed by all'
He has never had offspring, nor was he born.
And there is none comparable to Him."

Hence this Surah proves this is early Makkon Surah that describes in a few words - just for ayaat - the unique attributes of Allah. The emphasis is on Taheeq and as opposed to other beliefs of the time, that Allah is unique in his oneness, that he always was, and will be. He is eternal and absolute in his oneness, and that he is above the need for another source for his presence nor does he need an offspring, nor nor is there any equal to him. Hence Islam is like a fort and the gate of that fort is Taheeq.

② Prophethood = The Second part of Kalimah also emphasizes on Muhammed (S.A.W) being ^{despite} his messenger and an exemplary for the mankind.

It translates to: "I bear witness that there is no God but Allah, and I bear witness that Muhammed is His messenger."

Also Sunnah Al-Abzab talks about the Simplicity of Prophethood and God's chosen chosen Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) as being the last Messenger of Allah.

"Muhammed is not the father of any of your men, but is the Messenger of Allah and the Seal of the prophets. And Allah has 'perfect' knowledge of all things."

Hence Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) was sent and sent upon us to teach us way of life (Sunnah) by setting an example for the generations to come.

The saying "Verily I have been sent sent as a teacher" is attributed to the Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) emphasizing his role of an educator, mentor, and guide for Humanity.

And Allah (S.W.T) has chosen him to become a role model for the humanity. And it is Allah who has sent down upon us His revelations through Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H):

"Nor does he speak of his own whims. It is only a revelation sent down to him" Surah An-Najm
53: 3 - 4

③ Dignity to Mankind =

Allah has bestowed special authority, superiority on human beings. He has given us knowledge and even special Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) to read, in the name of Allah, in his first revelation. This is a trait that makes us superior over angels. This shows how Allah (S.W.T), ~~can~~ has made a Man ~~more~~ superior to all the creations, by also endowing them with reason and free will, which angels do not possess. And it is Allah's decree that it should be so.

It is the special abilities of humans also that empower them to act creatively and do service to the whole world as well as to their fellow beings.

The idea of the spirituality of humans to the angels is brought out by verses:-

"And he taught Adam the notes of all things; then He placed them before the angels, and said: "Tell me the nature of these if you are right."

They said: "Glory to You, of knowledge we have none, save what You have taught us. In truth it is You who art perfect in knowledge and wisdom."

He said: "O Adam! Tell them their notes." When he had told them, Allah said: "Did I not tell you that I know the secrets of heaven and earth, and I know what you reveal and what ye conceal? (Al-Baqarah 2: 31-33)

The idea of the superiority of humans
over other creatures is underscored by
Allah in the following verse too:

"We have honored the sons of Adam;
provided them with transport on land
and sea; given them for sustenance
things good and pure; and conferred
on them special favors, above a
great part of our creation." (Al-Israa,
17: 70)

And it was clearly brought home to the
angels that this new creation that
is Allah's vicegerent on earth - is
really superior to even angels. This
was done by Allah's command to
Ibn 'Umm Mâ'îd to bow down to Adam:

"And behold, we said to the
angels. "Bow down to Adam"
and they bowed down.
(Al-Baqarah 2: 34)

④ Complete Code of Life =

Islam is a religion that guides us, human beings in every aspect of life. From individual to collective life, Islam teaches how to live a life as a Muslim, how to treat your fellow muslims, your neighbours, siblings, your parents and how to act accordingly in all public spheres of life.

Also seeking & knowledge is obligatory for every Muslim as Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) quoted to to have said:-

If anyone pursues a path in search of Knowledge, Allah will surely make it easy for him a path to paradise; and he who is
more than by his actions will not be speeded by his genealogy. — Sunan Abi Dawud 3643

Also one can also follow Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) exemplary character exemplified to lead their life as a true Muslim, for instance, He was considered trustworthy by the Meccans and was entrusted with the business of Hazrat Khadija (A.S). Later, when he faced problems of the early Muslim Community, he showed courage, strength and patience.

⑥ Islam Promotes Humanity =

Islam is a peace-loving religion, and advocates for a peaceful coexistence with other people from different race, gender and ethnicity. For instance treating people with respect, love, care, sympathy, empathy and tolerance. ALSO Islam is a religion that also calls us to protect animals, to not treat them harshly. Islam also talks about the right of women, as Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) in his last sermon ^{as keeb} ~~tatkeeb~~ called men to protect women and be kind to women. He said: "People, it is due that you have certain rights with regard to your women, but they also have rights over you."

"Do treat your women well and be kind to them, for they are your partners and committed helpers."

Also the carbon States in Surah Al-Maidah (5:32) that "killing one person unjustly is equivalent to killing all of humanity and saving one life is like saving all of humanity". Islam also advocates for the protection of environment, long before it was even needed a thing.

For example Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) quoted to have said: "Whoever plants a tree and diligently looks after it, until it

Until it matures, and being fruit is
rewards." (Musnad)

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good attempt. but the answer is lengthy and might affect your time management.....