

What is difference between Deen and Religion? Describe the importance of Deen in human Life with Arguments.

Introduction:

The term Religion and Deen^{are} often used interchangeably, yet they represent two distinct conceptual frameworks. Islam describes itself as a Deen, not merely a religion. While religion in the modern sense is restricted to beliefs and rituals, Din signifies as a complete divine system governing every aspect of human life. This is the major difference between Deen and religion. Deen is a complete code of life. It gives information both individual and collective life. As Allama Iqbal said

**"Islam is not a religion,
but a system of Life."**

Deen

Deen is an Arabic word which means "to attain supremacy or dominion status."

Contextual Meaning: It is a complete code of life.

According to Shariah

To admit the sovereignty of Allah. Almighty, follow his commandments, follow the rules and laws of Allah and believe on reward and punishment.

Dr Israr Ahmed define

Deen as:

"Deen is a combination of six things faiths, worships, social functions, political system, financial system and system of justice"

→ Islam is a Deen not a religion because in Quran Islam define as a Deen not religion.

Religion

Religion is derived from Latin word "Religio" means "to make follower or to subjugate."

Contextual Meaning → Way of life
Dr. Issar Ahmad define religion

as:

"Religion is a combination of three things: faiths, worships and Social functions (rituals)."

Difference Between Deen and Religion

<u>Deen</u>	<u>Religion</u>
• It encompasses faith, worships, ethics, law, politics, economy and social life.	• Limited to beliefs, rituals and spirituality. ..
<u>Surah AL-An'am (6:38)</u>	
"We have neglected nothing in the Book."	
• It relates to both individual and collective life.	• It relates to individual life.
• It is a relationship between man and God, and also a relationship between	• It is a relationship between man and

man and other peoples. God.

- Deen is revealed.
- Religion is man-made.

In Surah AL-Maidah

(5:3) → "Today I have perfected for you your Din."

- Deen consists of a single sovereign

Surah AL-Ikhlās

(112:1) **قل هو الله واحد**

"Say, He is Allah, one"

- Helps in the development of reasons and knowledge.

- Deen is unammendable.

As Allah says in

Quran "Indeed, it is who sent down the Quran and we will

be its guardian" (15:9)

- Deen provides a moral economy (zakat, prohibition of Riba etc.)

- Religion consists of more than one sovereign.

Example grātia (e.g.)

Hinduism pantheon of gods.

- Hostile to scientific knowledge and is an advisory of reasons.

- Religion can be change and developed over time.

For instance, in Hinduism

the custom of Sati, was first encountered by the British.

- Religious teachings silent on economic justice.

- It describes collective social responsibility.

Surah Aal-e-Imran (3:110)

"You are the best nation raised for mankind."

- It gives concept of accountability in this world and the Hereafter.

Surah Al-Fatiha

(1:4) Almighty said

"Master of the Day of judgment."

- It describes the personal piety in social responsibility.

- In this often the concept of spiritual or symbolic accountability.

These are the differences between Deen and religion.

Importance of Deen in Human Life

Deen guides in all aspect of life. It is important

for individual life as well as collective life of a person. Here its importance in individual life and collective life.

→ Importance of Deen in Individual Life

i. Satisfaction of Soul

It provides satisfaction of soul through prayers and ethical living.

In **Surah Ar Ra'd** Allah said

"Those who believe and find rest in the remembrance of Allah have hearts that are at peace."

ii. Hope

It provides the hope to peoples of an individual person.

Surah Ash-Sharh (94: 5)

"Indeed, with hardship (will be) ease."

iii. Purpose of Life

It aligns individual goals with divine, will giving meaning to life.

"Indeed, I created jinn and mankind only to worship Me."

(51:56) in Quran

iv. Protection from Sin

Ethical codes and divine guidance prevent moral decay.

Prophet (PBUH) said

"The most beloved deeds to Allah are those which are continuous, even if small."

v. Balanced Living

→ Importance of Deen in Collective Life

i. Unity of Ummah

It strengthens the communal identity and solidarity. Because deen is same for all mankind and Muslims, it strengthens the identity of Muslims.

In Surah Aal-e-Imran 3:110

Allah Almighty said

"You are the best nation
raised for mankind".

ii. Justice and Equality

Ensures fairness in Law,
economy and governance. It gives
the concept of equality and justice
in every field of life.

Surah AN-NAHL (16:90)

"Indeed, Allah Commands
justice, excellence and giving
to relatives."

iii. Political Stability

In political life Deen
also guided the peoples. It
encourages to establish principles
for leadership, and governance for
political stability in a country.

As Prophet (PBUH) said

"Each of you is a shepherd
and each of you is responsible
for his flock."

iv • Protection of rights

Deen guarantees justice for weak, women and children.

As for women rights **Allah Almighty said in Quran (2:187)**

"They are clothing for you,
and you are clothing for
them."

v • Collective Accountability

Deen tells us about the dual concept of accountability. One accountability in the world and other in hereafter. So, it encourages enjoining good and forbidding the evil.

أمر بالمعروف ونهى عن المنكر

"Enjoining rights and forbidding wrong."

Conclusion

Religion is impartial concept, while Deen is a complete

and comprehensive system of life.
Not every religion can be Deen,
but Islam is the only religion that
is Deen. Deen provides a purpose in
life and a balanced approach to
moved forward. We need to push
back our temptations and desires
to avail ourselves the true meaning
and message of Deen. We need
to understand the importance of
Deen in our life because it led
us towards the success and peace
of this world and the hereafter.
