

QUESTION #03

ANSWER

IMPACTS OF SALAT ON ONESELF

1) INTRODUCTION

Salat is the second pillar of Islam. It was made obligatory in 10th Nisbi. Salat (Namaz) is obligatory on a Muslim five times a day. Quran has repeatedly mentioned to keep prayers almost 100 times and 28 times with paying Zakat. Salat injects various changes in human life spiritually and morally.

On one end, it is a means to self-purification and self-refinement which bring purity in man, closeness to Allah and piety. On another end, it drives punctuality, unity, co-operation and dedication.

Briefly, Salat guides the overall life of man.

2) Meaning of Salat

Literal: To bow down, pay homage and illumination

Contextual: To bow down before God for pleasing him

Shar'iah: To bow down in the love of Allah, worship him and make him pleased.

3) SALAT AS A MEANS OF SPIRITUAL PURIFICATION AND SELF-REFINEMENT

a) It Brings Purity in Man

Five times obligatory prayer a day means doing five times ablution (wuzu). It makes man physically clean as well as spiritually neat because of the connection it joints with Allah. Allah says in Quran;

"Those who keep prayers and make themselves cleaned are beloved ones."

b) It strengthens the Bond between Man and God

In Salat man interacts with his God. He forgets worldly things and makes connection with Allah. As Prophet (P.B.U.H) said;

"Namaz is like an ascension for man."

c) Salat Inculcates Piety in Man

The essence of Namaz is that it cleans man externally as well as internally. So, man becomes more cordial to Allah for pleasing Allah. Not only he praises Allah but also he behaves with others softly. So, take an example of Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H), he never did an inch of harm to others and that was of his (P.B.U.H) piety.

d) Salat Impedes Man from Evil Doings

When a man offers

Salat, he erodes all of the ill-desires such as greed, corruption, impurity in business, etc. As the saying of Prophet (P.B.U.H);

"Salat is a check against wrongdoings."

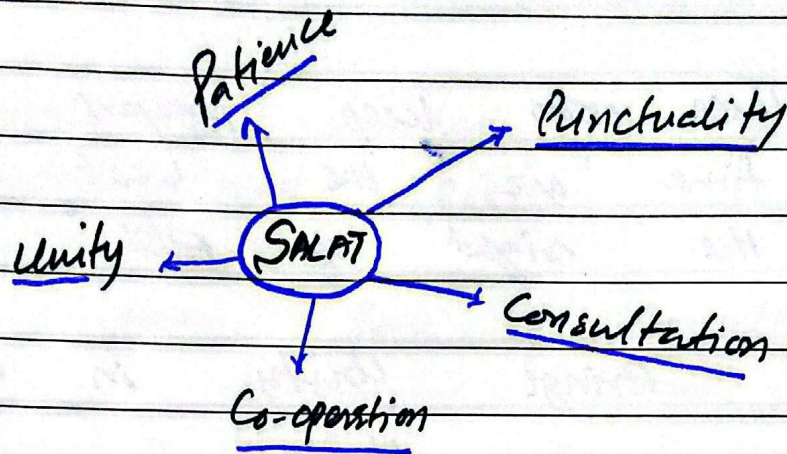
e) Salat gives Purpose to Life

The west has more suicide ratio than that of the East and it is because of worship in the East that gives purpose to life. For a Muslim, worship Allah is the fundamental requisite of life. As one point in Quran, it is mention;

"We created humans and jins not ~~to~~ but to worship us."

4) SALAT AS A MEANS TO

SELF-DISCIPLINE AND HUMILITY



a) Salat Instills Patience in Man

Salat brings patience in a man in a way man awaits for Azan, Imam and Jamat. It also creates patience in his life. Man behaves with family, friends and strangers with patience. The book of guidance says as;

"Get help from Prayers and patience."

b) Salat Injects Punctuality

When man prays five times a day with prescribed times, it brings sense of punctuality in his life. He also becomes punctual to

his overall life. As per one Hadith:

"Those who keep prayers on time are the best in the sight of Allah."

- c) Salat brings unity in Islam. Unity is the essence of Salat as believers stand firmly ~~as~~ before Allah, it creates a sense of unity. It is not only limited to the mosque, but it also affects man's life. Believers are also united in their lives. As Allah says in Quran:

"Hold firmly to the rope of Allah so do not be divided."

- d) Salat results in co-operation. Salat works as a means to cooperation in a way that believers help one another in worldly affairs. At one place in the sacred

book it is mentioned;

"Help one another in good deeds and piety."

e) Salat gives sense of consultation. Mosque, where Salat is kept is also the place of consultation. Prophet (P.B.U.H) always tried to consult with people at the end of Salat. Therefore, Salat is also a mean to consultation.

5) CONCLUSION

Resultantly, Salat is one of the fundamentals of Islam. Everyone is enjoined to offer Salat. It affects man's spiritual life by bringing piety, purity and purpose to life. It also makes man's moral life the best by inculcating punctuality, patience and cooperation. So, Salat brings success not only to life hereafter but to worldly life also.

QUESTION # 01

ANSWER

Zakat is not just a form of worship but a powerful tool (Economic)

1) Introduction

Zakat is the fourth pillar of Islam and it means to purify one's soul as well as one's wealth. Zakat is an economic system of Islam which is aimed at social welfare. Quranic teachings reveals that Zakat does not only aim a form of worship but it also works as a mean to social well-being. Poverty, starvation and impeding hoarding are main the subjects of Quran among others. Zakat also works as socio-economic upbringing of a society by reducing.

poverty, increasing employment, wealth circulation and social welfare.

2) ZAKAT ACCORDING TO QURANI TEACHINGS

a) Purity and Re-distribution

Zakat means to purify the soul as well as one's wealth. So, by zakat man becomes pious and the wealth he earns becomes source of comfort for him. As Quran describes and Prophet (P.B.U.H) is instructed;

"..... And get charity from the affluent and give it to the needy and make their wealth pure....."

b) Poverty Alleviation

To eradicate poverty from the society, Quranic teachings guide that to whom Zakat is given. Quran signifies that every needy person must be given zakat for making his

Life better. The Quranic verse shows that who are eligible as;

"Alms be given to the poor, needy, freeing slaves, new in Islam, Zakat administration, wayfarers, indebted people, and in the name of Allah."

c) Prevention of wealth Hoarding

According to the Quran, the accumulation of wealth is strictly prohibited. Because it created inequality in the society. The explanation of verse which prohibit hoarding is:

"And those who hoard gold and silver and do not spend in the name of Allah shall be tested with hellfire."

d) A welfare Economic structure

Quran talks about the system of Zakat as social welfare system. After collecting the Zakat, it is ordered to

spend it on social welfare.
At the time of Hazrat Umar
and Umar bin Abdul Aziz, Zakat
played an important role in
uplifting society.

3) SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF ZAKAT

a) Reduction of Poverty

Zakat reduces
poverty by circulating wealth in
the society. It helps get
wealth from wealthy and give
it to needy people. The
best example to get someone
from poverty is to get him
portable and small shops.

b) Zakat Creates Employment

Zakat system
creates an opportunity for
jobs. There are multiple departments
established for spreading Zakat
in the society. One can
get a good job on one's

capabilities. As prophet (P.O.H) assigned a lady for treasury affairs in mosques namely Al-Khifa-bint-Abdullah.

c) Circulation of wealth

wealth circulation is also one of the major objects of Zakat system. The circulation of wealth is important in a economy to combat inflation. When a few people hold handsome wealth, it creates more purchasing power for them leading the poor in purchasing struggle. So wealth is circulated for making equal purchasing power parity.

d) Overall social-welfare of society.

Zakat is a system of social welfare. It establishes a society where no one is under-privileged. All types of charity, such as Adalat, Khairat, Khums, Zakat, etc are incorporated in a society to help poor and needy. Zakat has

a proper institution which works on social welfare. In caliph Umar's era, people were given wazif, widows were given wazif and all these who were looking for job but could not get were also given wazif. Hence, Zakat brings socio-economic stability in a society.

4) CONCLUSION

It becomes evident from above discussion that Zakat system of Islam is manifested upon social welfare. There are many verses in Quran that orders to promote Zakat culture. If we see in real terms, Zakat eradicates poverty, generates employment and makes society free from evils. So, Zakat is one the best aspects of economic systems of Islam.