

What is meant by culture and civilization? Describe the characteristics of Islamic culture.

A Prelude to the Discussion:

Culture and civilization are two distinct concept. ~~the~~ Many cultures and civilizations have emerged and declined over the course of human history. Culture uphold its unique characteristics, for instance language, symbols, food and other. On the contrary, innovation, art, knowledge, advanced cities are characteristics of civilization. Islamic culture emerge in the world with the emergence of Islam. It's characteristics like Simplicity, Equity, honesty is copied by western culture. Unlike other religious cultures, Islam teaches on mutual responsibility, brother-

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hood, respect for women.

(I)

UNDERSTANDING THE CONCEPT "CULTURE"

Culture:

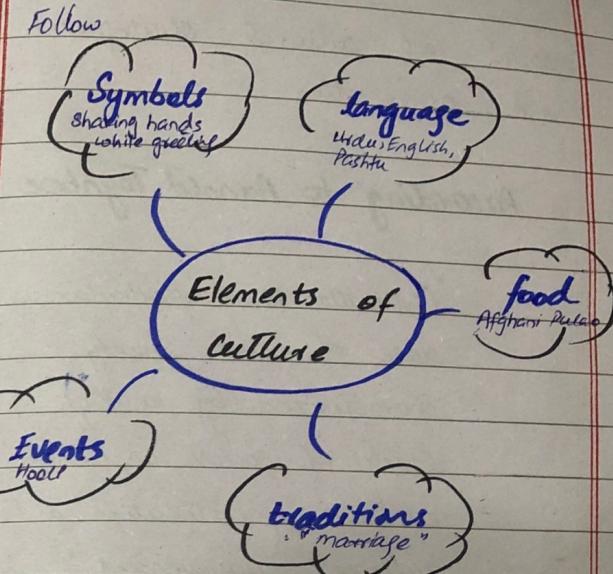
Culture is set of traditions, values and norms practiced by a society.

According to Lenin:

"Culture is ^{asocial} inheritance which is transferred from one to the other generation"

Elements of culture

Culture is a representation of lifestyle of specific group of people. Elements of culture are



(II)

UNDERSTANDING THE CONCEPT "CIVILISATION"

Civilization is the process of in which a society or place reaches an advanced level of

social and cultural development and organization.

According to Arnold Toynbee

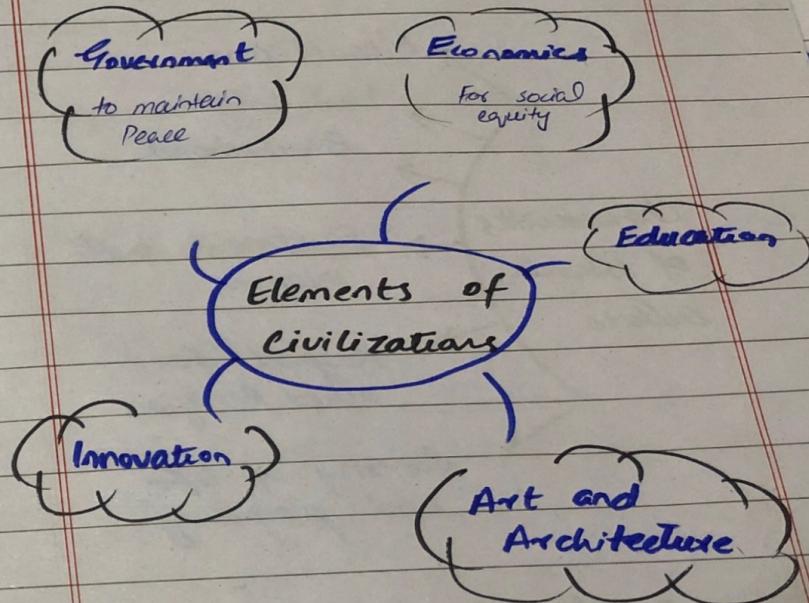
Civilization is a particular stage of human society characterized by a high level of social complexity, economic specialization, and cultural achievement.

Famous world civilizations:

Following are the major world civilizations.

- ↳ Persian Civilization
- ↳ Greek Civilization
- ↳ Arabic Irahiliyah Civilization
- ↳ Islamic Civilization
- ↳ Western Civilization

Elements of Civilization:



(III)

CHARACTERISTICS OF ISLAMIC CULTURE.

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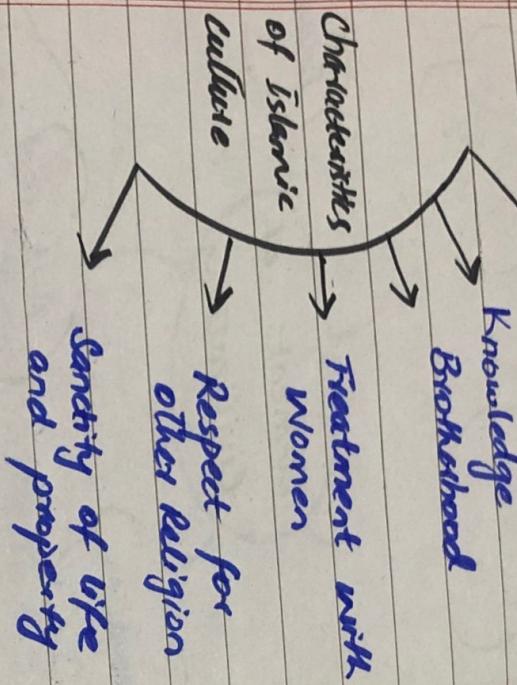
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Islamic culture consist of
the following characteristics

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"And say he is
Allah the one "

Monothelism

(Surah Al-Ikhlas)



b- Knowledge:

Islamic knowledge make the
knowledge compulsory on every
muslim men and women. The
teachings of the last prophet
(PBUH) started with this

۱۷۱۰
"Read"

a- Monotheism:

Muslims uphold

monotheist belief in oneness of
their creator. This is one of the
fundamental belief of muslim
which make them obedient and
united.

c- Brotherhood:

The culture of
Islamic spread like wave
mulius respect. It promo

coordination and coordination, not only among muslims but also among followers of other religion

اَنَّ الْمُؤْمِنُونَ اخْرَدُ

All muslims are brothers

- Hadith -

d- Treatment with women:

Womens were treated like a property. Islamic gave all rights to women, the which were being enjoyed by men at that time. For instance, right to ^{hold} property, Right to get education etc.

"O people! Fear Allah concerning women--"

- last sermon of Holy Prophet (PBUH) -

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e- Respect for other religion:

Islamic culture always supports the peace and harmony. It's teaching and following and not limited for the muslim but also for the non-muslims.

There is no compulsion in religion

- Hadith -

f. Sanctity of life and Property:

Islamic culture ensures individual liberty. As Muslims are vicegerents of their god on earth, so they are suppose to spread his message and promote peace.

: 65

"Your life and property
is as sacred as this
day and this month"

— Last Sermon of
Holy Prophet (PBUH) —

Conclusion:

Culture and civilization are
intermixed, but many scholars have
distinguished these two concepts very
beautifully. The Islamic culture uphold
extra ordinary characteristics and