

Assignment:

Q: What is Islam? elaborate the salient features of Islam.

Ans: What is Islam?

Unlike many other polytheistic religions that have belief in multiple gods like such as Shintoinism ^{as a polytheistic} having the belief in several gods like \odot Amaterasu, Susanoo and Inari, and Ancient Greek religion which believes in several gods like god of the Sea (^{Poseidon} Zeus), god of the underworld (Hades), king of gods (Zeus), ~~Queen~~ queen of gods (Hera), and ~~few more~~ gods Apollo (god of ^{the Sun} ~~light~~), Ares (god of war) & few others, and Chinese Folk religion, also known as Shenism, also gives belief in ~~is~~ also a complex and multifaceted religion incorporating elements of certain other religions - ~~this~~ ^{which} religion also imparts teachings of belief in multiple gods, Islam is totally a monotheistic religion which teaches ~~us~~ to humans to have a belief in one, all-powerful, all-knowing, and Eternal God that is none other than Allah Almighty.

The one means believing no one along the true God but believing in oneness of God as the Surah Touheed: 1 says, "Allah ji is the One."

The powerful means to believe that Allah Almighty has is the Supreme power; Allah (J) has power over all the things as the Surah Baqara ayat number 259 says, the explanation of which is, a person passed by a township which had fallen into ruin; seeing this, he said, "How can this life again be changed back to life (resurrection)? then, Allah caused him to die for one hundred years; when Allah woke him up & asked, "How long have you remained?" He said, "a day or a part of the day;" Allah said you've remained dead for one hundred years; look at your food that has not yet spoiled at look at the bones of your ~~don~~ donkey (which had been like ashes); Allah said, "see how we make this dead donkey a living one in front of you;" & the bones of donkey started to join with one another & a complete living donkey was created once again; seeing this, the man said Allah is ~~is~~ over all things powerful / ~~competent~~ competent.

Further Islam is the such a divine religion that says we believe in God who is all-knowing that we also reach in Surah al-ala: 07, that Allah knows everything be it a hidden/evident. And belief, in such God who is watching us all the time prevents us from committing sins as it comes to our mind that how can we commit bad acts when being watched by God.

Besides, Islam, a divine religion, also teaches us to have a belief that Allah ~~Almost~~ Almighty is eternal which means Allah ~~is~~ has no beginning ~~or end.~~ ~~as we also read in holy Quran~~ He is all-living - No one

Talking about salient features of Islam,

Additionally, Islam encompasses some

Talking about core beliefs of Islam, we have

6 core beliefs that Islam teaches us:

① Tauheed; ^{which} is to believe in oneness of Allah ~~Almg~~ Almighty as the Surah ikhlas says, "Allah is one." is one of most basic pillars of Islam.

② Defining the tauheed, ~~as Allah~~ & Allama Shibli Nomani writes in his book, "Secret un Nabi saww" two traditions of holy prophet saww: One:

a Tauheed is the first chapter of Islam's Syllabus

Two: Tauheed ^{Islam} is like a fort & its gate is Tauheed.

Another core belief is prophethood; Islam's 2nd core belief and second part of Kalma is Risalat of holy prophet saww, as followers of Islam, we must to believe in finality of prophethood as is quoted in Surah Ahzab, the explanation of which is says, "Rasool e Akram saww is the last prophet saww," after whom no prophet is to supposed to come.

Thanks to Islam that it has given us a such prophet who guides us in many aspects of life from education to being a role model for all of us as we read in holy Quran in Surah Ahzab: 21, "Prophet Muhammad saww is role model for you."

Indeed, Prophet saww teaches us ethics as he himself once said that he had been sent to elevate the ethics of mankind.

promotes dignity of humans:

Ex., Islam promotes humanity:

Right to life

In ancient era of illiteracy, before Islam reached, the illiterate Arabs would bury alive their daughters.

In the pre-Islamic Arabian past, also called the age of ignorance (Al-Jahillyya), Arabs would bury alive their daughters.

Ever since Islam arrived, it changed the fate of ignorant Arabs and saved lives of hundreds tens of hundreds of daughters.

③ Women's rights: Quran 4:7

Islam guaranteed the right to life for all be they women or men, for girls or boys, minors or adults besides their security regardless of their faith or background (Quran: 5:32).
This is the explanation of which is found in Quran 5:32.

Prohibition of Slavery

Moreover, Islam also ~~washed~~ all the strictly prohibits slavery; Islam emphasizes the dignity of humans regardless of their faith, ethnicity or background. Before the arrival of Islam, people were distributed in class system. A particular class of people used to be prioritized over others as was witnessed in India where Shudras were treated as the least-respected class of humans ^{& enslaved}.

Islam washes all these customs and underscored that all humans are of their great worth and have right to freedom; no one can underestimate and make them slaves. ~~as has~~
This is what Holy Quran (90:13) explains, too.

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Women's rights

In addition to many other provisions of many other rights, Islam also ensures women's right to education, property and inheritance; no one is allowed to engulf the rights of women which she gets in inheritance. And ~~no-~~ or Islam ~~free~~ lets

women enjoy the right to education; she is free to access as higher education as she desires. This is also what we the explanation of which is present in Holy Quran (4:7)

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Social Services

Adding to it, Islam encourages social services which are aimed at welfare of human beings.

Dr. Wasiullah, one of the teachers at Al-Azhar University, Cairo, Egypt, says in his book "a key feature of Islam" that the biggest feature of Islam is practice of social services.

Emphasizing the importance of kindness and compassion, Prophet saww is quoted in Saheeh Bukhari, Vol 8, Book 73, Hadees 4242, as saying "Allah (j) is not merciful to him who is not merciful to people. This tradition clearly underscores how Islam encourages to be kind and merciful to others. Obviously, one is kind and merciful to anyone, she will not stand seeing others in trouble need and will come forward to help others

Adding to it, Islam ~~praises the~~ ~~one~~ encourages the act of helping the needy people by saying, "He who looks after a widow or helps a poor person is like a warrior fighting for Allah's cause." (Sahih Bukhari, Vol 8, Book 73, Hadees 35).

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