

## Question

What are the Qur'anic arguments on the life Hereafter. What are the impacts on individual and collective life.

**Answer:**

### Introduction:

Belief in Hereafter is one of the five devotions of Islam. The Qur'an deals with the themes of life Hereafter, and there is hardly any chapter that do not touch this theme implicitly and explicitly. The Qur'an clearly explains the speculations of the Hereafter and urges the believers to do good and refrain from sins. Belief in Last Day has a positive impacts on individual and collective life. It gives an individual a meaningful approach towards life, inculcates selflessness, promotes sense of accountability and deters the individual from sin. Similarly, belief in Yawm al-akhir also creates an ideal and generous society, and promotes brotherhood among fellow

being. Thus, the Quran clearly mentions the Last of Judgement, which helps the individuals to bring positive changes not only in themselves, but also in collective life.

## Meaning of the Hereafter.

The word "Hereafter" means "the later". The Quran employs the words "Al-Qayyamah" which means the "Day of Great rising" and "Al-Akhirah" means "Hereafter".

The conceptual meaning of the Hereafter is the life that starts after death. It opens new door to period in grave, resurrection and consignment of individuals to heaven and hell.

## Life Hereafter in the light of the Quran:

The Quran (Holy Book) explains the life hereafter. At times, the Quran mentions the akhirah as an incentive to the disbelievers to accept the truth, and at other times, it uses it as a warning to

deter disbelievers from their wrong faith. The Quran also mentions the speculation of the Last Day to motivate the believers to do good and to qualify for the blessings of heaven.

Allah says in the Quran:

“Whoever does an atom of good deed shall see it, and whoever does an atom of bad deed shall see it.”

(Al-Zalzalah 99: 7-8)

Allah (S.W.T) also explains the Last Day in His Holy Book Al-Quran. Allah says:

“When the stars are made to disappear, when the heaven is rent asunder, when the mountains are carried away as dust and when the Messengers are made to reach their appointed time.”

(Al-Mursalat 77: 8-11)

In another chapter, Allah the Creator of the Universe also depicts the scene and sight of the Final Hour.

Allah says in the Quran;

"He (man) asks, 'what is day of resurrection?'"

Allah replied, when the moon becomes dark, and the sun and the moon are brought together, man shall say that day, 'Whither to fly? There is no refuge! With thy Lord on that day is the place of the rest. Man will that day be informed of what he sent before and what he put off ... Some faces that day will be bright, looking to the Lord, and some faces will that day be gloomy, knowing that a great disaster will be made to befall them.'"

(Al Aiyamah 75:6-25)

## Last Day of Judgement in the light of Hadith:

The Last Prophet of Allah has also emphasized to improve the life hereafter.

He (P.B.U.H) narrated that;

"You will have to die like you sleep, you will have to get up like you awake."

# Impacts of life hereafter:

## 1. Impacts on individuals:

### 1.1. Meaningful approach towards life:

Belief in the paramount consciousness of the life hereafter will maintain a distinct outlook on "success and failure". Belief in the last Day gives a meaningful approach towards life.

Allah says in the Quran:  
 "This worldly life is nothing but a deception and amusement."  
 (Al-Inam)

### 2. Promote sense of accountability:

The world and the life have a purpose, and the person must be responsible to realize it. The responsibility towards accountability. There are various hand-made accountability systems in this world, but quite often the truth is distorted. So, the person believes in Last Day also acknowledges

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the system of accountability in the life hereafter and does not do any wrongdoings.

### 1.3. In Pursuit of selflessness:

A life characterized by an active pursuit of ~~selflessness~~ hereafter and longing and desire for the bliss promised will render it impossible for the believer to occupy in the shell of selfishness.

### 1.4. Deters from sins:

A person having firm faith in the Final Hour also refrains himself from every kind of sins and engages in good deeds.

Al-Ghazali says:

“The key to knowledge is to fear Allah and the sign of fear is abandoning sins, both outwards and inwards. The foundation of all this is to belief in the Day of Judgement.”

## Impacts on collective life:

### Ideal society:

Belief in the life hereafter creates ideal society. When everyone leads a virtuous and pious life, an ideal society emerges as a result.

### Generous society:

Belief in the Last Day also creates a generous society, since everyone knows that this is a temporary world. Every person spends in the way of Allah to please Him.

### Participation in social work:

Islam also encourages man to do social work and help others.

فمن كان يرجو لقاء ربه فليعمل عملا صالحا  
ولا يشرك بعبادته شئاً

Anyone who hopes to meet God should do good deeds and should not make anyone partner

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in his worship.

(Al Kafaf 18:110)

## Conclusion:

Belief in the Final Hour is mentioned in the Quran and it has positive impacts in the life of a person. It helps individuals lead pious life and avoid from wrongdoing. Thus, to believe in the Last Day is to lead virtuous life and succeed in both world.

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