

QNO:03; What is Ehsan? Explain it in the light of Quran and sunnah, also describes individual and collective impacts.

1 Introduction

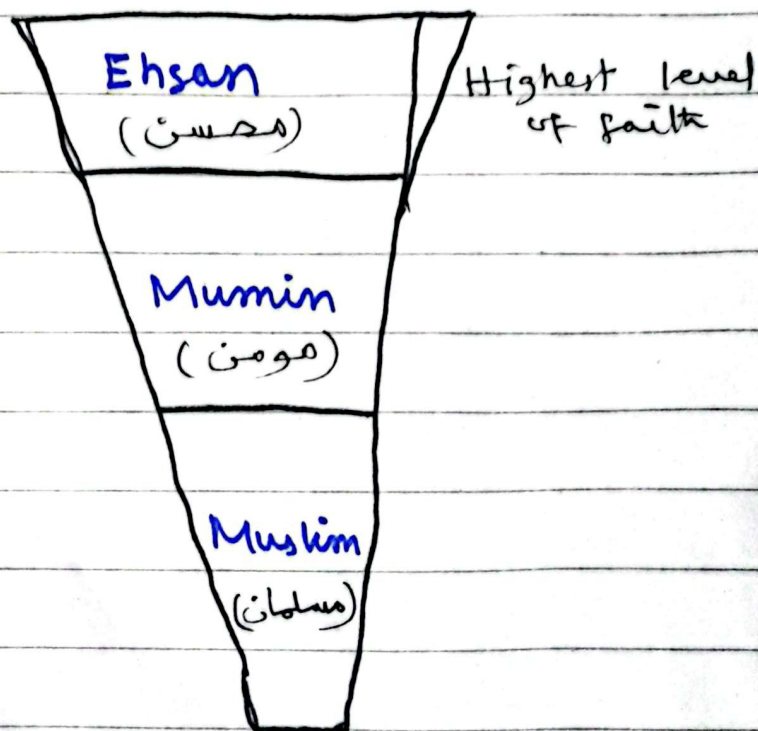
قد اقلع من تركي

He has certainly succeeded who purifies himself (Al-Aid : 74)

In the Deen of Islam, the concept of Ehsan occupies a central and elevated place. It is one of the three core components of the Deen, alongside Submission, Iman (faith). Ehsan refers to the inner excellence and sincerity with which those actions are performed. It represents a state where a believer lives with full consciousness that Allah is watching over everything. This level of faith leads to moral excellence, social responsibility, and inner peace. It is deeply rooted in both ^{the} Quran and the sunnah. It has both individual and collective impacts.

2 Concept of Ehsan (benevolence)

In Islam, Ehsan refers to excellence, beauty, and sincerity in worship and conduct. The term originates from Arabic root "h-s-n" which means "to be beautiful" or "to do something well." It is the highest form of faith, meaning to worship Allah as if you are seeing Him and if you do not see Him, to know that He is seeing you.



3 Ehsan (benevolence) in the light of Quran

Date: _____

The Quran frequently emphasizes the value of Ehsan and praises those who practiced it. Allah repeatedly mentions "Al-Muhsineen" — the doers of good — showing their elevated status in Islam.

"Indeed, Allah is with those who fear Him and those who are doers of good" (An-Nahl, 16:128)

Moreover, love of Allah is one of the highest honours a believer can receive. Ehsan is not optional — it is a path to divine love and mercy.

"Indeed, Allah loves the doers of good (Muhsineen)"
(Al-Baqarah, 2:195)

In surah Yusuf, the character of Prophet Yusuf is described as one of the Muhsineen.

Allah confirms that those who uphold Ehsan even in times of difficulty are ultimately honored by him.

"Thus, we reward the doers of good"
(Yusuf, 12:22)

4 Ehsan (benevolence) in the light of Sunnah

The sunnah of Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) provides numerous example and teachings of Ehsan in daily life.

Hadith - e - Jibari :

"Ehsan is to worship Allah as if you see Him, and if you do not see Him, then (know that) He sees you" (Sahih - Bukhari)

Battle of Badr :

After Battle of Badr won by Muslims, Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H) treated prisoners of war in humane way, provided food, shelter, and hygienic place to stay. There were 70 prisoners of Quraysh soldiers were taken as captives.

One prisoner, Abu Aziz, later said:

"The Ansar gave me bread while they ate only dates, as per the instructions of ^{the} Prophet (SAW). (Sirah-an-Nabawiyyah, vol-2)

5 Individual impacts of Ehsan

- a) Purification of the hearts
- b) Enhanced moral character
- c) Inner peace and contentment
- d) Development of patience and resilience
- e) Spiritual growth

a) Ehsan encourages self-reflection and helps in purifying heart

Ehsan purifies the heart from spiritual diseases like arrogance, hatred, jealousy, and hypocrisy. The constant awareness that Allah sees everything keeps the believer vigilant over their thoughts and intentions.

He has succeeded who purifies it [saw]
(Ash-shams, 91:9)

b) Ehsan refines (Alchla) the moral and character of the individual

Ehsan shapes a person's character according to the Prophet's (SAW) noble example. A person becomes gentle, humble, trustworthy, forgiving, and respectful. It encourages the believer to treat people with compassion, even when they are wronged.

"Indeed, Allah commands justice, good conduct (Ehsan)." (An-Nahl: 90)

c) Ehsan promotes inner peace and contentment

Living with Ehsan brings peace to the soul. The believer finds comfort in knowing that they are doing their best for Allah's sake. They are not overly stressed by people's opinions or material losses.

"Verily, in the remembrance of Allah do hearts find rest." (Ar-Ra'd, 13: 28)

d) It is the development of patience (sabr) and resilience (thabat) in the face of life's trials

One of the greatest individual impacts of Ehsan is development of patience

and resilience. Patience becomes an act of worship, and the individual learns to bear loss, delay, pain or opposition. While, Resilience is the ability to remain firm and hopeful even in difficulty. This is due to consciousness that Allah sees everything.

"O you who have believed, seek help through patience and prayer. Indeed, Allah is with those who are patient."
(Al-Baqarah, 2:153)

e) Practicing Ehsan helps in spiritual growth and closeness to Allah

It refers to the ongoing development of a person's inner self, drawing them close to Allah in thought, intention, and action. This gradual transformation strengthens faith (Iman), deep sincerity (Ikhlas), and softens the heart.

"Faith wears out in the heart of anyone of you just as cloths wear out, so ask Allah to renew the faith in your heart."
(Mustadrak al-Hakim, 5:421)

6 Collective impacts of Ehsan

- a) Promotion of justice and fairness
- b) Strengthening of brotherhood and unity
- c) Elimination of corruption and cheating
- d) Encouraging charity and generosity
- e) Upliftment of Moral standards

a) Ehsan inspires people to treat others with justice and fairness which leads to social justice in society

Ehsan inspires people to treat others fairly, beyond legal obligations. It encourages mercy and compassion, leading to a just society. When individuals and leaders act with Ehsan, they avoid oppression and favoritism.

"O you who believe, stand firm for justice even against your own selves" (An-Nisa:135)

b) Ehsan strengthens brotherhood and unity in the society

It promotes mutual love, cooperation, and forgiveness. When people treat each other with excellence—even in disagreement—it prevents division. It helps Muslims rise above ego, hatred, and jealousy.

"None of you truly believes until he loves for his brother what he loves for himself" (Sahih Muslim)

c) Ehsan helps in elimination of corruption and cheating and promote fairness and accountability.

It teaches honesty and accountability, even when no one is watching. Corruption thrives in environment where people lack moral excellence. Ehsan fills this gap by instilling sincerity and fear of Allah.

"Give full measure and do not be of those who cause loss. And weigh with an even balance." (Ash-shu'ara, 26: 181-182)

d) Ehsan encourages for charity and generosity; it stops from greed, and helps in eliminating poverty

It motivates people to go beyond obligatory charity. It encourages helping others, with empathy and generosity.

A society where people practice Ehsan will never ignore the poor, the sick, or the orphans.

"The best people are those who are most beneficial to others".

(Al-Mu'jam Al-Kabeer, Tabarani)

e) Ehsan ^{uplifts} ~~the~~ moral values of individuals and uplift ethical standards

A society rooted in Ehsan promotes kindness, humility, truthfulness, and modesty. These values become common and expected, not rare. Children grow up learning good manners. Elders are respected and the weak are not mocked

Those who spend [in the cause of Allah] during ease and hardship and who restrain anger and who pardon the people - And Allah loves those who do good. (Al-Imran: 134)

7 Conclusion

Ehsan is one of the three core components of Islam. It refers to the inner excellence and sincerity with which those actions are performed. It is the highest form of faith. The Quran and the Sunnah frequently emphasize the value of Ehsan and praises those who practiced it. It encourages self reflect, enhances moral character and develops spiritual growth in an individual. It also impacts on collective as it promotes justice and fairness. Moreover, it eliminates corruption, encourages charity and uplifts moral ~~ethic~~ standards.

ان راحة الله قريب من المصنين

Surely, Allah's mercy is close to those who perform acts of Ahsan

(Al-Tawbah : 120)