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Q: What is Islam, Elaborate the salient features as well.

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### A monotheistic religion

Islam is a monotheistic religion revealed to Muhammad ibn Abdullah between 610 and 632 of the Common era. Islam means to achieve peace with God, with oneself and with His creations. The word "Islam" is made derived from three Arabic letters "S", "L" and "M" which generate words with unrelated meanings.

It is not a new religion but a reiteration of the primordial message of God's oneness, which can be found in earlier monotheistic religious traditions. Islam emphasizes submitting one's will to the will of God, it is a complete code of life. It covers every aspect and sheds light in every aspect of life. It can be practiced by anyone at anytime and anywhere; this is why it is considered universal.

"Indeed, the religion in the sight of Allah is Islam" (Al Imran)

### Different Definitions of Islam

i) Holy Prophet (PBUH)

In Hadith Jibrail it is noted that the last prophet said

"Islam means that the individual bears witness of Allah and His messenger and practices pillars of Islam".

ii) Dr Hamidullah

It is a monotheist religion revealed upon the prophet

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enough

iii) Maulana Sudda Uddin Falahi

Islam is submission based on love and realization of Allah's greatness

iv) Imam Ghazali

It is the submission of body and soul to Allah.

v) Allama Iqbal

Islam is the name of dynamic way of life that develops human personality through complete submission to the will of Allah



Date \_\_\_\_\_

## A Dīn or Religion

Religion is a term used for a set of beliefs and rituals of worship. On the contrary, Dīn refers to an entirety of life that covers every aspect of life, it is far more comprehensive. It is a magnificent Dīn, it covers variety of topics such as public administration, economy, personal matters and relations. Islam is a beautiful Dīn, it sets the criteria of Right and Wrong as well.

"It is He who sent you [Muhammad] as a guide to mankind and He sent down the criterion of judgement between Right and Wrong" (Al-Imran).

## Salient Features of Islam

### i) Tawhid

In Islam there is only one God, the concept revolves around monotheism. The righteous person is 'he who who does not associate anyone with Allah, as there is no one equal to Him. There is only one supreme authority that has created all that exists from macro to micro.'

"Indeed, within the Heavens and earth are the signs for believers" (45:3)

### ii) Quran sent as a guidance

Holy Quran is the sacred scripture revealed to the Holy Prophet brought by Arch Angel Gabriel between 610 and 632 CE. It has comprehensive knowledge about everything. It contains guidance and warnings and information about those who came before us.



Date \_\_\_\_\_

"This is the Book, in it is the guidance we sent to you  
to those who fear Allah" (Al-Baqarah)

"Indeed He does not speak out of desire but surely it is revelation  
sent down to Him" (Al-Najm).

### iii) A complete Religion

Islam was sent down to humanity as a final message of God,  
it is not a new religion rather it is the reiteration of the primordial  
message. It is the continuation of the very religion of prophet Adam.  
Its scope does not confine itself to personal matter but public  
matters too and even state matters are covered as well. Islam  
has its own public administration and economic system.

### iv) The last day and life after death

According to Islam, the world we live in is a place of trial and  
temptations. Our destination is jannah, it is where we will be rewarded  
for our deeds, our lives will not end the day we die but start.  
When the trumpet will be blown, people who walked on this earth  
since its inception will rise and Allah knows no invisible will be alone  
that day.

"Any who denied God, His Angels, His books, His messenger  
and the day of judgement has gone astray." (An-nisa).

### v) Practical and Rational Religion

Islam is a religion without any mystique. Its teachings are simple  
and understandable. Everything is based on reason and logic, there is no  
ambiguity. It guarantees the fundamental rights of individual and does  
not give anyone the authority to tamper with them.



Date \_\_\_\_\_

vii) The last messenger and finality of prophethood.

For the ease of mankind, Allah raised a prophet among the mankind and gave Him the knowledge of Quran, the last prophet is the perfect role model for the mankind to follow.

"No doubt in the messenger of Allah you have a perfect model to follow" (Surah Atab).

With Holy prophet (PBUH) came the finality of prophethood and it is clear that His message is for all mankind and no prophet will ever come after him.

"Muhammad is not the father of any man among you, but he is the messenger of Allah and seal of the prophets." (33:40).

Add profound analysis

As per the demand of your question

Explain the first part properly

Mere adding definitions won't help

You have got potential

Good luck!



