

Date:

Q2 Explain the concept of Tauheed (Unity of God) in Islam. How does this belief influence the individual and

Concept of Tauheed (Unity of God) in Islam: life collective of all believers?

The doctrine of Tauheed means belief in one God. It affirms the belief in absolute unity, oneness, omnipotent and merciful God. Tauheed is the foundation of Islam. The Islamic worldview divides reality into two generic categories: God and non God. God is the eternal creator and nothing is like unto Him. He remains forever the transcendental other, devoid of any resemblance, similarity, partnership and association. He is the unique being, who alone can ~~can~~ sustain everything in the universe. "Allah" the Arabic word for God, is the highest, and repeated word. Significant word of the Quran, establishing the fact that the Islamic worldview is theocentric to the core. He is the master of everything that is in existence and everything passing in the universe is inferior to Him.

The second realm or world consists of everything other than God

DALMATIAN

Date:

Explain the concept of Tawheed (Unity of God) in Islam.

Q2

How does this belief influence the individual and collective life of all believers?

Concept of Tawheed (Unity of God) in Islam:

The doctrine of Tawheed means belief in one God. It affirms the belief in absolute unity, oneness, omnipotent and merciful God. Tawheed is the foundation of Islam. The Islamic worldview divides reality into two generic categories: God and non God. God is the eternal creator and nothing is like unto Him. He remains forever the transcendental other, devoid of any resemblance, similarity, partnership and association. He is the unique being, who alone can ~~can~~ sustain everything in the universe. "Allah" the Arabic word for God, is the highest, and repeated word. Significant word of the Quran, establishing the fact that the Islamic worldview is theocentric to the core. He is the master of everything that is in existence and everything presiding in the universe is inferior to Him.

The second realm or world consists of everything other than God

DALMATIAN

It is the order of time-space, of Creation and experience. Human beings, angels, jinn and all that exists come under this Category. These two orders always remain disparate. The Creator neither descends to the realm of space-time and experience to be united, diffused or confused with creatures. Nor can the creatures ascend to be united or diffused with the creator. He always remains Superior and a unique kind of other and is also close to man by dint of Knowledge His knowledge, mercy, love and compassion. Hence the Islamic Concept of God's unity is to believe in God's oneness, unity, uniqueness and to encourage mankind to establish a meaningful and appropriate relationship with him.

Meaning of ^{Tauheed} ~~Tauhid~~ illah, Allah, and La ilaha illa Allah:

Although the word ~~Tauhid~~ Tauheed is not explicitly mentioned in Holy Quran but it does appear in the authentic sayings of Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H)

Date:

The Islamic credo "la ilaha illa Allah" is a declaration that there is no God except Allah. It is important to understand these two fundamental Islamic words. The Arabic word "illah" stands for a number of mutually interconnected meanings. For instance, it means:

- (i) Achieving peace and mental calm by seeking refuge in or establishing loving relationship with someone.
- (ii) Giving the necessary shelter and security to someone frightened of the prospect of an impending mishap.
- (iii) Turning to someone in utter devotion, due to the intensity of one's feelings for him.
- (iv) Rushing of the lost offspring of the she-camel to snuggle up to its mother on finding it.
- (v) Adoring, loving and worshipping someone intensely.

These literal meanings of the word make it very clear that the word illah stands for something mysterious and attractive to absorb one's ~~total~~ whole being demanding absolute love, adoration and closeness to the extent of worship. Therefore, God or al-illah means the one who

Date:

is al-mawlah meaning al-masbub (worshipped). Worship or al-ibada as Imam ibn-al-Qayyim (1292-1350) defines it, is utmost love of God accompanied with total submission.

Kinds of Tauheed:

There are 3 Categories of tauheed referred to as Tauheed al-Mat (unity of the being), Tauheed al-Sifat (unity of Attributes) and Tauheed al-Afaal (unity of the actions).

The unity of God, according to the Quran is the belief in the oneness and uniqueness of God. Absolute in one in His attributes (Sifat) and the Absolute one in His works (Afaal).

It may be noted that these 3 divisions of tauheed owes its origin to the Quran, as its material is wholly Quranic, though the specific names mentioned above have resulted from later theological expositions.

a. Unity in Person =

^{or} Had there been in them (heaven and earth) any deities except Allah, they ~~would~~ both have certainly been ruined. (Al-Anbiya 21: 22)

Date:

b. Unity in Attributes:

No one is like God, Allah with its attributes. None is comparable to Him. AS Almighty God is one, unique, and incomparable in His lordship, Sovereignty, and worship. He is also one and unique in His names and attributes. He is eternal and self sufficient.

c. Unity in Actions:

His unity in actions means that no one can do the work or create what He works and creates. For example, Allah has created this entire universe, all living things on earth, rivers and mountains, but no human beings or creatures do the same. Let alone they cannot change day into night and night into day. Hence ~~they cannot~~ ~~do~~ no one can do or does the work which Allah has done or does or which Allah will do in future.

Impact Influence of Tauheed on Individual Life and Collective Life:-

This concept defines the position of man in the universe. It says that God is the Creator and the Sovereign while man is His Vicegerent, ~~slave~~ on the earth. This puts man to a noble and dignified position of being God's deputy on earth and hence therefore he should lead his life on earth with purpose to fulfil the will of God on earth. Which is to solve all the perplexing problems of human society and establish a new order wherein equity and justice as well as peace and prosperity prevails.

Impact of Tauheed on Individual Life:-

- ① Tauheed creates sense of accountability. It encourages man to work towards the betterment of his and the society with God's revealed will. He should be cautious, vigilant and alert of his actions and also dealing with his fellow being. Hence it also creates a sense of responsibility and

his/her role on earth.

- ② Tauheed gives purpose of existence to man and universe, meaning acknowledging that God is the divine creator and sustainer of all living things makes man realize that God is the sole master who alone can determine the purpose of the existence of all his creatures, including humans. The human's acknowledgement of God and their consequential struggle in finding their purpose in life is itself a process of their self-fulfilment.

- ③ Tauheed infused self respect, meaning it ~~is~~ inculcated in a man the highest degree of self-esteem and self respect. As the believers know that Allah alone is the possessor of power, provider of his needs and desires therefore he becomes independent and fearless of all powers except God.

- ④ Tauheed induces sense of modesty and humility, meaning a man becomes humble and modest in his

DALMATIAN

dealings: because he knows that whatever he has been bestowed with be it power, ~~wealth~~, wealth, and ~~wealth~~ fame ~~can~~ is given to him by God and that God can take away just as He can give. ~~A true believer~~ A believer with a strong sense of belief will never become arrogant.

⑤ Tauheed imparts Constellation, Satisfaction and hope. The believer ~~should not~~ does not become disheartened or hopeless under any circumstances. He has firm belief in God who is the master of all treasures of the earth and the heavens, whose rewards and bounties are endless and whose powers are beyond imagination. ~~It is~~ Hence this belief imparts to his faith a sense of Satisfaction and hope. And it can only come from strong belief in God.

Impacts of Taheed on collective life of the believers =

7. Human Equality and Social equity =

Taheed implies the fact that Any discrimination based on color, class, race, or territory is unfounded and illusory. Humanity is one single family under God. All humans should treat one another with kindness, respect and dignity. Even Holy Prophet has emphasized on human equality in the word of God that all ~~free~~ men are the creatures of one God and equal.

“And hold fast by the Covenant of God. Allah ~~all~~ together and be not ~~disunited~~^{disunited}, and remember the favor of Allah on you, when you were enemies, then He united your hearts so by this favor you became brethren; and you were on the brink of a pit of fire.”
(Al-Imran 3: 10)

2. Islamic Unity, Brotherhood and Mutual Cooperation =

The unity of God leads to unity of His Creation. Tawheed is grounded in responsibility, social, political and economic accountability and universal justice. The belief of Tawheed creates unity and cooperation among all believers as the Holy Quran says:

"Certainly all Muslims are brothers".
(Al-Hujurat 49:10)

3. Tawheed promotes collective peace and social justice =

Islam connects Tawheed to socio-political and economic justice.

Injustice leads to disruption of peace which must be confronted and corrected.

"O you who believe! Be steadfast witnesses for Allah in justice, and let not hatred for any people, seduce you that ye deal not justly. Deal justly, that is nearer to your duty. Observe your duty to Allah. (Al-A'raf 8:168)
Allah is informed of what you do."

Date:

Conclusion = It is ^{essential} ~~essentially~~ to inculcate the teachings of Tarekat ~~in an~~ in ~~the~~ an individual life as well as collective as it teaches you a person that it is only, God that can change the conditions of people overnight and one has to have a firm belief in God and its attributes.