

Question:

Explain the concept of Tawheed (Unity of God) in Islam. How does this belief influence the individual and collective life of the believers?

1. Introduction:

Tawheed is the bedrock of Islamic beliefs. Tawheed, which means the belief in oneness of God - Allah Almighty. This belief enable the believers to worship the only true God day and night irrespective of geography. Unity in being, unity in attributes and unity in worship are the types of Tawhid. The opposite of this belief, Tawheed, ~~are~~ called Shirk which is prohibited in Islam. Besides, Tawheed ~~has~~ influences individual's life in a sense of satisfaction in life, ensures dignity that to bow Allah but none, and a believer becomes fearless and brave. Apart from the individual's influences,

Tawheed influence the society as whole such as dual concept of accountability, pluralism and acceptance, and creates social harmony among masses. Tawheed is the unique concept of Islam which emphasises on believing in one God and only God is worthy of worship.

2. The concept of Tawheed in Islam

a) The literal meaning of Tawheed:

The word Tawheed is an Arabic word. Tawheed word comes from "Wahida" which means one or unification.

b) The contextual meaning of Tawheed:

Tawheed, the part of the first Kalima, can be defined as to believe in oneness of God - Allah Almighty, to believe in all his attributes. He is the only creator of the entire universe and He is the worthy of worship.

3. Types of Tawheed in Islam:

a) Unity in being: Belief of being present everywhere and everytime.

"Had there been other gods besides Allah in the heaven or on the earth, both realms would have surely been corrupted."
(Al Quran - 21:22)

b) Unity in Attributes:

Another type of Tawheed is to believe in quality and characteristics of God. This can be seen from the 99 names of Allah Almighty.

He is the Creator of all. He is the most-merciful and the most-beneficent.

(Al Quran)

try to add the arabic of quranic ayats.....

c) Unity in Worship:

He is the only God of worship worthy. He must be worshiped and preached.

Your God is only God.

Al-Quran

4. Rationale proof of Oneness of Allah:

In the age of scientific and innovation, has anyone ever thought how the entire universe works? From night to day, from birth to death, from making the entire universe in seven days — all are have the creator, and that creator is none but Allah Almighty. Allah says in the Quran that when he wishes anything to be created he just say "be" and that becomes. The universe shows the primary example of Allah as being one. The direction and happening of innovation are true picture that there is only one God.

5. How Tawheed influences the believers:

a. Influences on Individual:

I. It brings satisfaction in life and gives hope:

God brings satisfaction and
worshipping only

pleasement in one's life. Also, it gives hope to ~~hopeless~~, as Allah Almighty says in the Holy Quran, "Don't be hopeless".

D. A sense of accountability in daily life.

Believers surrounded by some chaos and worldly affairs, Tawheed makes them accountable in ~~daily~~ affairs of life. A believer whatever does in ~~a~~ day must have fear of God and a sense of accountability in hereafter. That makes them to go for good deeds and gain reward in the hereafter!

III. Fear of punishment in the Hereafter if believed in Shirk.

A believers has been in fear of Allah everytime. He knows that Shirk is the most prohibited in Islamic teachings. Also, it gives a ~~sense~~ of reward in the hereafter and tries to make good ~~deeds~~ in the worldly affairs to be rewarded.

IV. A Believer becomes fearful and brave:

One who believes in Allah should not fear of anyone. He (God) is the master of all. Tawheed emphasises on ^{new}brave and fearful. A believer fears of Allah only. Hazrat Ali (RA) is the prime example of being fearful and brave all-time. This belief helps in ideology vacuum and it is often said Hazrat Ali (RA) fought fearful and bravely because he trusts on God's power and oneness.

! Fear Allah - Al Quran

b. Influences on the Collective

I. Pluralism and acceptance

Islam has always been advocate of pluralism and acceptance in the society. Believe in Tawheed, the society of believers have inclined towards acceptance of every person regardless their gender, sex and colour.

The last sermon speech

given by the Holy Prophet Muhammad ^(ﷺ) is the evident of pluralism in Islamic teachings. The believers, in Madinah state, founded by the Last Prophet Muhammad ^(ﷺ) was a heterogeneous society. All community - Jews, Non-believers, had same respect and acceptance.

II. It creates social harmony, and in a divided world and frequent global conflict, the believers of Tawheed give the utmost importance to social cohesion and harmony. Islam has given the Muslims the title of "Ummah". This shows the social harmony during the Hajj where believers from across the world get together to worship Only God.

III. Dual Concept of Accountability. In Islam, there is the dual concept of accountability. Whatever one seeds here, will reap on the day of judgement. This strong accountability mechanism of Islam ensures

the society of accountability. There is indeed reward for good actions and severe punish for bad deeds. Tawheed the pillar of Islamic beliefs make the believers and the society accountable of their actions. The Holy Quran says for good deeds, there is reward.

6. Shirk and Tawheed:

Shirk means the association of someone to Allah. Associate of someone for worship instead of Allah. Allah Almighty says in the Quran that Shirk is the most hated sin. And for Shirk there are severe punishments on the day of judgement. In the words of Shah Waliullah: Shirk is the ambiguity in faiths -

Reference from Sunnah: The key to paradise is to give evidence that there is no God but Allah Almighty.

add more arguments.

a 20 marks answer should have around 15 arguments.

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Conclusion:

Tawheed, the part of the first Kalime and the fundamental belief of Islamic teachings, is the concept of oneness of God. He is the only worthy of worship. Moreover, Tawheed gives a sense of accountability in daily affairs in believer's life. Acceptance and pluralism in the society is another key characteristics of Tawheed and Tawheed is a proof of Allah who is the creator and master of the entire universe.

| There is no god but |
| Allah. |

37:35