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Q What is ijtihad & its role as a Islamization of Modern Society?

Answer: Introduction

Ijtihad Term Origin:

The term ijtihad originated from Arabic word "Jahada" means "efforts or to strive".

Definition:

Ijtihad is an exertion of a qualified jurist to find out the ruling about the matter (worldly) with the help of Quran and Sunnah.

Ijtihad is all about person or individual intellectual effort to deal with the unknown matter of life or society. It is not authentic without Quran and Sunnah. Mujtahid must have to referred to these two while ruling any law about a matter.

Purpose

Q The main purpose of ijtihad is to find out a legal ruling about the rising issue.

② Second, is to bring all ummah on the same page. which has been dispersed because of the rising issue.

③ To introduce laws by keeping in mind the welfare of society in order to lead them towards peace and calmness

④ To avoid potential evils of the society which could be the result of the rising issue or conflict.

Types of Ijtihad

Absolute Ijtihad

Restricted Ijtihad

- Involves a complete freedom of jurists to introduce a rule/law about the matter

- Only limited jurists or school of thoughts are allowed to issue any kind of law

Requirements of Ijtihad

⇒ Mujtahids who come up with proper rulings or law after analyzing the text i.e. Quran and Hadith should have following qualities:

- ① He must demonstrate piety, honesty, truthfulness.

- ② Must have knowledge about other classical jurists
- ③ Should have information about other School of thoughts provisions
- ④ Must have deep knowledge of Quran and Sunnah.

Islamization of Modern Society :

As we know that the main aim of ijtihad is actually to produce law or ruling for the worldly matter, in this way it actually allow Quran and Sunnah interference in the secular world. In this way it allows religion (Islam) to be deeply ingrained in secular world. Following ways would show how ijtihad is playing a role in Islamization of Modern Society.

• To deal with modern economic issues

To find out ways for religious matters (unexplained in Quran)

Ijtihad
Role

→ Look into rising ethical or social problems

↓
To sort out emerging political issues

To Solve modern Economic Issues:

Ijtihad helps the Islamic Society to deal with the modern economic systems or policies such as rise of

- digital currencies

- Crypto

- Islamic banking

- Insurance of property and

These are such issues about which rulings are not clearly mentioned in the Quran and in Ahadith.

To Solve Political Problems

Ijtihad helps the muslim community by letting them know about their basic rights amid emerging new socio-political circumstances such as problems of restriction on speaking the truth, extrajudicial killing etc. In modern society where muslims donot know how to deal with such issues like blocking humanitarian aid to Gaza, Unjustified killing of innocent and not aligning to the agreements.

In such kind of situation, ijtihad allows people and Muslim states to deal in a specific way. But it should be confined to Islamic

laws or rulings.

3 To deal with rising social and ethical problems

Ijtihad, could figure out a way for the rising ethical or social problems like; Biotechnology, test-tube babies, hybrid animals or plants, kidney transplantation in order to save human life.

Rising social issues like pornography, organized and victimless crimes etc.

4 To Sort out rising religious issues

With the passage of time, new issues are emerging. For this purpose ijtihad helps muslims to deal with it. Like, reading Quran from mobile phone, fasting while on space exploration etc. There are certain issues about which there is not any clear injunctions in Quran and Hadith. But ijtihad is there to sort it out.

Conclusion:

In this way, it can be said that ijtihad is now serving as an integral part of a muslim society.

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Because it give rulings about those new and emerging issues about which Quran and Hadith has not mentioned. In this way it helps muslim societies to grow and develop while maintaining islamic laws or its ideology, in its true essence.

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