

# { Political Science }

## Question # 1

Discuss the Islamic concept of state and Ummah and compare it with the western state concept.

### 1) Introduction

Islam is a complete code of life. It gives proper guidance in individual as well as collective sphere of life. Islam also provided a practical concept of state and Ummah. It tackled the problems faced by western concept of state. The Islamic concept of state is based on the sovereignty of Allah.

### 2) Islamic concept of State

The Islamic concept of state came into existence almost 1400 years ago. This concept was initially implemented by Holy

Prophet. Afterwards the government of Khalifas of Islam was also based on this concept

## Characteristics of Islamic Concept of State

Following are the main characteristics of Islamic Concept of State

### a) Sovereignty of Allah

In an Islamic concept of State sovereignty belongs to Allah Almighty. He is the creator of this entire universe. The rules and regulations in an Islamic State are all derived from the Holy Quran or the Sunnah of Holy Prophet.

### b) Khilafat as a form of government

The Islamic Concept of government is based on Khilafat. The first Khalifa of Islam was Hazrat Abu Bakr. There are two

## methods for the appointment of Khalifa

- a) He is appointed by a Consultative assembly.
- b) He is nominated by the previous Khalifa. However, a Khalifa cannot appoint his son or father as his successor.

## c) Accountability to people and God

In an Islamic concept of State, a Khalifa is accountable to the people. In addition to that he is also accountable to Allah, who is the supreme creator of this universe.

## d) Appointment of Amir

In an Islamic state, Amir occupy an important position. He is responsible for dispensing justice and even the Khalifa is responsible to Amir.

## e) Government by consultation

Islam has given the right to people to choose a ruler for themselves. Islam has also stressed the importance of governance through consultation. The Holy prophet used to consult his companions in important matters of government.

## Islamic concept of Ummah

Ummah is the term used for muslim nation. Ummah is above all races, caste, creed, and nationality. According to this concept, muslims all around the world are united on the basis of religion. In the words of Iqbal

ایک ہندو مسلم سرحد کی پاسبانی کے لیے  
نیل کے ساحل سے لے کر تاجکات کا شرف

In the west the concept of Ummah is termed as pan-Islamism. Jamal-ud-din Afghani was a great proponent of pan Islamism. He believed that muslims around the globe should unite in order to face the challenges of present time.

## Difference between Western and Islamic concept of state

Following is the difference between Islamic and Western concept of state

### Islamic Concept of State

### Western Concept of State

#### ① Sovereignty of Allah

#### ① Sovereignty of Constitution

In an Islamic state Allah is the supreme authority. The state is governed according to principles laid down by Allah in Holy Quran.

In a Western state, the Constitution or parliament is supreme. In UK parliament is supreme while in US constitution is supreme.

#### ② Khilafat as a form of government

#### ② Various forms of government

In Islamic state Khilafat is the acceptable

In Western concept of state various kind of

Form of  
government

government has  
existed such as  
monarchy, democracy  
etc

③ Ruler is  
accountable to  
God

In an Islamic  
State the  
ruler is  
accountable to  
God as well  
as the people

③ Ruler is accountable  
to parliament  
or Congress

In Western Concept  
of state the ruler  
is accountable to  
only parliament or  
Congress. In UK the  
ruler is answerable  
to parliament and  
in US the ruler  
is answerable to  
Congress

④ It is based on  
religion

Islamic concept  
of state has  
religious basis.  
No laws are  
against religion

④ It is not based  
on religion

Western Concept  
of state is  
not based on religion  
It is rather based  
on race or  
territory

② Islamic Concept of state is no longer practiced

The Islamic concept of state ceased to exist after the abolition of Khilafat

Western Concept of state has evolved and is still in practice

The Western Concept of state has evolved through monarchy, aristocracy and democracy and is still in use today

### Conclusion

The Islamic concept of state prioritize the sovereignty of Allah and rule of Khalifa who is accountable to both Allah and the people. On the other hand the western concept of state is not based on religion. It believes in the supremacy of Parliament or the Constitution.