

Q what is the difference between Deen and Religion. Elucidate the need and importance of Deen in the Contemporary times.

Answer

1- Introduction:

Deen and Religion are both used in same context usually but they are not same. They are both different in many ways as Deen is divine and Religion is man made. In this contemporary era Deen is needed to solve the turmoil in the world. Deen is focused on personal and collective life while Religion is focused on individual life. The centre of Deen is man while the centre of Religion is God. These both terms are different in many ways. And in this

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Deen has gained importance as it gives satisfaction of soul, give hopes and purpose of life and it is pivotal for ethics and morality. Deen gives guard from evil and wrongdoing and is clear message to mankind. Islam is the only deen in sight of Allah. In Quran Allah says;

وَاللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَنَا عَبْدُكَ

"Surely, the only deen in the sight of Allah is Al-Islam."

2. Difference between Deen

and Religion:

2.1 Deen:

Deen is an Arabic word which means to attain supremacy.

Deen is all embracing term including religious, socio-political and economic system.

2.1.1 Deen is Divine: Deen is revealed by Allah so it is divine and Islam is the only deen acceptable before Allah. Deen Islam provides complete guidance to live this life with peace and to attain eternal success in hereafter. In Quran Allah says,

"This day I have perfected your deen for you completed my favour upon you, and have chosen Islam for you as your Deen."

try to add the arabic of quranic ayats.

(Al-Quran)

2.1.2 Deen is Monotheistic:

Islam is deen that states only sustainer of the world is Allah. So deen is totally monotheistic.

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2.1.3

Centre of Deen is Man:

is centre of deen. In deen islam man is central focus and everything about him is clearly explained, his status is elevated.

"you are the best

nation among all

as you enjoin right
and forbid wrong"

(Al-Quran)

2.1.4 Based of deen is brotherhood:

Deen is based on peace, brotherhood, love and peaceful co-existence.

It encourages mutual

harmony, love and respect.

"All

muslims are

brothers for each

other." (Hadith)

2.1.5 Deen develops reason and intellect:

Deen encourages to

develop intellect and be rational. Deen Islam never says to be blind follower of anything it always encourages man to ponder and discover new things
"why don't you Ponder?" This is the explanation of a Quranic verse

2.2 Religion:

Religion is a Latin word. It means "Road or Path". Its meaning include to follow or to subjugate. Anthropologist Edwin Tyler defines religion as; "To believe in spiritualism is called Religion".

2.2.1 Religion is Man-Made:

Religion is man-made as there are various religions in the world. The terminology refers

to a set of beliefs, rituals and social customs

2.2.9 Religion is Polytheistic;

As Religion

is man-made, it is polytheistic also. In various religions there is concept of more than one God.

Dr. Israr Ahmad defines religion as:

"Religion is combination of three things: Faiths, worships and social functions."

2.2.3 centre of Religion is God:-

Religion

are gods-centric mostly because they only focus on relationship

between God and

man. **Sociologist Emile Durkheim**

says; "To practice certain faiths related to God is called religion."

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2.4 Religion is based on freedom:

Religion

Fosters freedom and people who believe or follow any religion have secular school of thought and consider religion a private part of their life. Religion is just a component of deen.

2.4.5 Religion is hostile to science:

Religions

have been hostile to science and logic as they prove them wrong. Religions encompass just a few sets of rituals, beliefs and social functions and its scope is not very broad.

As deen encourages logical thinking so it encompasses very broad scope while religion has very limited scope.

Deen**Religion**

1- Divine	Man-made
2- Complete code of life	Incomplete
3- Based on brotherhood	Based on freedom
4- Provides direction	Provides comfort
5- Gives future outlook	Gives historical perspective
6- Supreme law	Private belief
7- Unique	Amendable
8- Target this world and hereafter	Exclusively focus one of two world.
9- Monotheistic	Polytheistic
10- Focus on personal and collective life	Focus on individual life.
11- Centre is man	Centre is God

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**Deen vs
Suicide**

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3. Need and Importance of Deen in Contemporary era:

3.1 Deen is needed for human soul satisfaction:

Human

Soul finds comfort and satisfaction by the remembrance

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of Allah.

"Those who believe and whose hearts find comfort in remembrance of Allah.

Surely in the remembrance of Allah do hearts find comfort."

- Al-Quran -

3.9 Deen prevents depression and Suicide:

In deen Islam Allah has clearly stated that His mercy is endless and He can forgive all sins. Allah's mercy and blessings prevent man from a state of hopelessness and from committing suicide.

"spend in the way of Allah and do not cost yourselves into destruction with your own hands."

(Al-Baqrah)

3.3 Deen gives purpose of life:

Deen gives clear direction and purpose to man in his life. His purpose of life is to worship Allah and to do good deed for earning Jannah.

"And He did not create Jin and mankind except to worship Me."

(Al-Quran)

3.4 Deen is a shield to protect man from evil:

Deen gives clear guidance to mankind and to earn good in hereafter man resist himself from doing evil things. In this way the fear of Allah prevents him from evil. **Imam Shafi Said,** 'There is a

verse in Quran that every

wrong doers should be terrified
of. He was asked, "Which
verse is that?" He replied,
"And your Lord never
forgets!"

(Maryam: 64)

3.5 Deen is Source of wisdom and knowledge:

Deen

Islam is a great source of wisdom and knowledge for mankind. Quran contains scientific knowledge and wisdom that must be explored by mankind. As Big Bang theory was devised in 1900's but Quran revealed the origin of universe 1400 years ago. ~~and~~ Information about stars, heavens, earth, sky and constellation all is confined in Holy Quran.

4. Conclusion:-

Deen is a very broad term that encompasses all dimensions of life and is a clear message for mankind. Religion consists of a limited set of beliefs, rituals and customs because it is man-made while deen is revealed by God. Deen is very important for man as it guides mankind and is source of wisdom and knowledge for him.

"The word deen comprehends everything that concerns the servant and his Lord. In this world and hereafter it encompasses both external and internal aspects of human beings."

- Imam Ghazali -