

mention the full qs statement or the source of the qs for proper evaluation....

without that, these are just notes and cannot be awarded marks.....

# 1/ INTRODUCTION TO ISLAM

## i/ Meaning and Concept of Islam

⇒ Literary Meaning: "Islam" is an Arabic word. Its root word is S.L.M. Any Arabic word having these three letters, it would mean... "Peace", "Submission", and "surrender", and "Obedience."

⇒ Contextual Meaning: The contextual meaning of Islam is "To enter in peace by submitting to the will of Allah" and it can also mean that "Submission of desires to the will of Allah."

⇒ According to the Deen of Islam, Islam means that "Voluntary Submission of desires to the will of Allah."

The literal meaning of Islam can be linked to the core of the deen of Islam. As the real peace of body and mind is only attainable through submission and obedience to Allah. As Allah Almighty says in the The Holy Quran Translation:

"Verily in the remembrance of Allah do hearts find rest."

try to add the arabic of quranic ayats..... (Quran 13:28)

Having peace of mind and hearts will <sup>ultimately</sup> bring peace in life and also establishes peace in society.

The whole Universe and its constituents follow the natural laws of God. Meaning that the everything present in Universe is obedient before God. Either it is Sun, man, stars, galaxies or trees, soil and water. Like wise, Humans either refute or not, believe follow the course prescribed by Allah. As Allah Almighty says in the Quran ... Translation

"Then He turned the heavens when it was still like smoke, saying to it and to the earth, Submit, willingly or unwillingly. They both responded, we submitted willingly."

(Quran 41: 11)

So the Islam lies in everything of world and at large of Universe.

# Definition of Islam

1/ **The Holy Prophet (PBUH):** "Islam is the combination of two things: Bears witness of Allah and His messengers, Establish/Practice the pillars of Islam."

2/ **Imam Ghazali:** "Islam is the combination of rights of Allah and rights of people."

3/ **Molana Sadat Uddin Islahi:** "Islam is the combination of two things, faiths and worships."

That is the reason that Makki chapters of the Holy Quran are full of faiths and correcting the thoughts of Muslims while Madani chapters of the Holy Quran are full of worships and rights. Even the Hadith of The Holy Prophet (PBUH) says "Indeed actions are result of their intentions."

4/ **Dr. M. Hamidullah:** "Islam is a monthiest deen revealed upon The Holy Prophet (PBUH)."

The definition means that message of Towheed given by The Holy Prophet (PBUH) is Islam."

Imam Raghīb al-Isfahānī: (d. 1108) "Islam, in law, is of two kinds: One is a simple confession with the tongue ... the other is that along with confession, there is belief in the heart and a fulfilment in practice, and resignation to God in whatever He brings to pass or decrees."

(Book: al-Mufradat fi Gharaib al-Quran)

these much definitions are not required.....

Syed Ameer Ali: "Islam as Salam (Salaam), in its primary sense, means to be tranquil, at rest to have done one's duty, to have paid up, to be at perfect peace; in its secondary sense to surrender oneself to Him with whom peace is made. The noun derived from it means peace, greeting, safety, salvation. The word does not imply, as it commonly supposed, absolute submission to God's will, but means, on the contrary, striving after righteousness."

(Book: The Spirit of Islam)

"Islam is a deen, ~~beti~~ which includes beliefs - Belief in Allah, Messengers - including The Last Prophet of Allah (PBUH), Angels, Divine books and life hereafter, Worship & Kalms, fasting, Zakat, Pilgrimage, Prayer, Rights - of God and of people and good deeds."

# Distinction of Islam as Dīn

Purity of belief in Tawheed.

Only Islam has the purest form of belief in tawheed. The 113<sup>th</sup> Sūrah of Holy Quran said about the only God and its endless powers and characteristics.

However, other religion such as Christianity and Judaism considered prophets as the sons of God. That is highest form of idolatry and polytheism.\*

The word "Islam" itself defines the tawheed as <sup>the</sup> word means that which brings peace to mankind when man commits himself to God and submits himself to his will. A 'Muslim' is one who resigns himself to God and thereby professes faith of al-Islam.

\*Even though, The Holy Quran says:  
"He has ordained for you of religion what He enjoined upon Noah and that which we have revealed to you. (O Muhammad), and what we enjoined upon Abraham and Moses and Jesus - to establish the religion and not be divided therein. Difficult

for those who associate others with Allah is that to which you invite them. Allah chooses for Himself whom He wills and guides to Himself whoever turns back (to Him)." (42:13)

The Kalma tayyiba also shows the belief in tawheed in purest form.

None is worthy to be worshiped except Allah.

## 2. Concept of dignity of mankind.

Islam is the din that describes humans as superior to all other creatures. The dignity of mankind is that all other things are created for them to comfort them and can benefit them so that the mankind can be thankful to The God.

Moreover Islam is the religion of all. It describes every human superior without discriminating on the basis of their colour, creed and race.

Indeed, We honoured the progeny of Adam, and bore them across land and sea and provided them with good things for their

sustenance, and exalted them above many of our creatures.

(Bani Israel 17:70)

one reference is enough for a single argument.....

Moreover, Allah Almighty declared human as its vicegerent on the earth. In the Quran, Allah commanded all humanity to worship not considering their language, colour, creed etc.

"O humanity! Worshipping your Lord, who created you and those before you, so that you may become mindful of Him.

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Concept of Human brotherhood.

It gives the concept of human brotherhood and equality. Islam says all humans are brothers to each other.....

"All mankind is from Adam and Eve. an Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab nor a non-Arab has superiority over an Arab; also a white has no superiority over black nor a black has any superiority over white except by piety (taqwa) and good actions.

Learn that every Muslim is a brother to every Muslim and that Muslims constitute one brotherhood."

(Last sermon of Holy Prophet) (aq)

#### 4/ Comprehensive System of Life:

Islam is complete way of - personal and social concerns. It governs all aspects of human existence - spiritual, moral, social, economic and political.

The Holy Quran describes Islam as complete way of life. (Surah Al-Maidah 5:3)

#### 5/ Divine Origins

Islam is believed to be divinely revealed through and Sunnah and still in its original form. It will be in its original till the day of resurrection.

Unlike other religions, it does not contain <sup>even</sup> a single word of humans. It is completely from the highest source: Divine

#### 4/ 6/ Balance b/w worldly and spiritual life

Islam as Din rejects dualism b/w sacred and secular. It encourages both material success and spiritual fulfillment.

Islam encourages good deeds in the world and promotes balanced life.

'Seek the Hereafter with what Allah has given you, but do not forget your share of the world.'

(Surah Al-Qasas 28:77)

### 7/ Universally Applicable.

Islam is not the din of a particular era nor even outdated now. It <sup>can</sup> be applied and applicable universally as it is flexible contains everything directed, guided and instructed by the Allah Almighty himself for example. the older divine religions for a particular time and for a particular nation but the Islam is for all times and for all nations either living in different corners of the world.

### 8/ Final and Perfect.

It is as above said culmination of previous revelations (Judaism, christianity) with a complete preserved message.

More over it contains every aspect of life either in individual or social life. It renders divine laws for humans to ensure peace, stability and justice in their lives. It balances spiritual and material life. It does not order to not have social life and wishes. even it encourages social life as like congregational prayers.

add a few more arguments in this part....

"Work for worldly life as if you will live forever, and work for the Hereafter as if you will die tomorrow"