

Importance of Deen

General Instructions

Introduction:

1. Give numbering to headings
2. Do not write lengthy paragraphs. Write medium sized paragraphs with headings.
3. Do not use table for comparison and contrast questions.
4. Draw figures/diagram/flowchart where needed.
5. Start new question from fresh page.
6. Give around 15 headings for 20 marks question.
7. Every question should have introduction and conclusion paragraphs.
8. Add Quran/Hadees references wherever possible.
9. Narrate incidents from the life of Holy Prophet (SAWW) and Khulafa-e-Rashideen
10. Add one quotation of famous religious scholar in each question.

important in individual life. Deen is walk of self-satisfaction means those who Islam has emerged as a distinct religion on the globe. Encompassing every sphere of life from rights, from world.

Defining Deen:

11. Change colour scheme for references to give them more visibility.
12. Manage time
13. Wide page borders are discouraged.
14. Avoid writing wrong references.
15. Give more weightage to expressly asked part/s of the question.

Complete system of life according to which a man has to live his life in this world.



Importance of Deen

Deen is important for a man in his every part of life.

1- Introduces with Allah.

Deen introduces a man with his Lord. It provides a man an information about his Creator, his Sustainer and an ultimate authority of the Universe.

For instance: Allah says in the Holy Quran

"We did create you from dust" - Suresh Al-Hajj

2- Source of wisdom and knowledge

Deen provides knowledge and wisdom to man. That knowledge is helpful in his life in decision-making and other purposes.

For instance: Islam provides wisdom and knowledge in shape of Al-Quran, Al-Hadith, Ijma and Ijtihad.



It is mentioned in the Holy

Qur'an as,

"For you Allah sent down
the book and wisdom."

- Surah Al-Nisa

3- Assists in recognising right
and wrong.

Deen is helpful in
creating difference between the
right and the wrong.

For instance: In Islam taking
and giving bribe is a wrongful
act. While earning from lawful
means is a right deed.

4. Satisfaction of Soul.

Deen provides a satisf-
fication of human soul. Through
firm beliefs and acts of
worship, man get closer to
Allah.

For instance: offering ^{Naamaz} five times
a day results in soul satis-
faction.

5. Producing harmony in society.
Deen provides ways
through which old rivalries
are diminished. In result



harmony and cohesion in the society.

For Instance: The Charter of Medina produced harmony among the Muslims and the Jews of Medina.

6- Concept of Reward and Punishment.

There are rewards for those who sincerely follow teachings of Deen. While, punishments for those who disobey.

For Instance: Allah ordains in

"Whoever does good will see it (rewarded), whoever does evil will see it (punished)."

Thus, Deen is important for a man not only in this world but also hereafter.

Unique Position of Islam as Religion.

There are various religions in the world - Hinduism, Judaism, Christianity, Buddhism and so on. However, Islam pertains a



distinct position as a religion. Following are the attributes of Islam for which it is different from other religions.

1. Fundamental Beliefs of Islam:

Every religion has a basic belief for its followers. But unlike Islam there is no systematized set of beliefs in other religions.

Fundamental beliefs of Islam include:

1. Belief in Allah
2. Prophet hood
3. Belief in Books
4. Belief in Angels
5. Belief in the Day of Judgement.

2. Concept of Worship

Islamic concept of worship is also unique in its nature. In Islam, worship is only for Allah. He is only worthy of worship. However, other religions like Hinduism worship heavenly objects, fire, water and so on.

Allah says in this regard,
"Worship Allah alone and associate none with Him."
- Suresh Nissr.



3- Revelation of Holy Quran.

Most of the religions possess Holy books for their followers. Some of which are divine like Bible and Torah. But most religions have their man-made books - Ramayan for Hindus. However, Islam has the Holy Quran which is the word of Allah Almighty. There is no doubt about its divinity.

4- Social System of Islam:

Islam deals with every aspect of human life. It teaches how to maintain a social life in the society. It pertains rights for every part of society. Islam has rights of women, children, parents, soul-mates, animals and so on. Such a unique system of rights is absent in other religions of the world.

Allah says about parents,
 "Do good to your parents"

5- Balancing economy through Zakat.

Islam also deals

For all people, universal religion

with the economic affairs of men. Islam provides a system of Zakat. The system is exclusive to Islam. Through this system poverty can be addressed and an equitable distribution of resources is achieved. Although there is concept of charity in religions, but Zakat is quite different from charity.

"Zakat is distinct in all other forms of charity in society."
(Article - The Impact of Zakat on Social Life of Muslim Society)

Conclusion:

~~The~~ Deen is significant in human's life. It provides a wide array of benefits to man. Islam is a deen with its distinct features. Such attributes cause Islam to differ from all religions in the world.

Q No: 3

Philosophy of Hajj and its Impacts

Introduction:

Hajj is one of basic pillars of Islam. It is a journey by Muslims towards path of Allah. The philosophy of Hajj lies in sacrifice of son by Prophet Ibrahim AS. Most of Hajj rituals are based upon him. Performing Hajj has social, moral and spiritual impacts. These effects mould an individual's life and is based upon producing harmony in society.

Meaning of Hajj

The word 'Hajj' means 'to intend'. In Islam Hajj is a pilgrimage made to the 'Meqabs'.

Philosophy of Hajj

The philosophy of Hajj is related to Hazrat Ibrahim A.S. He shows his absolute and total submission to Allah.



Thus, the features of philosophy include,

1. Giving up pleasures:

One who set for Hajj should give him all of his worldly pleasures in the way of Allah.

2. Forgetting desires:

Hajj requires the pilgrim to forget all his desires. He is not allowed to desire for lavishing lifestyle. He must be simple in his attire.

3. Self-transcendence:

Doing Hajj requires self-transcendence. It means sacrificing self-interest for sake of higher values.

4. Submission to the will of Allah.

The pilgrims submit themselves to the will of Allah. For doing so, they leave all their worldly affairs behind and set on journey towards Allah.

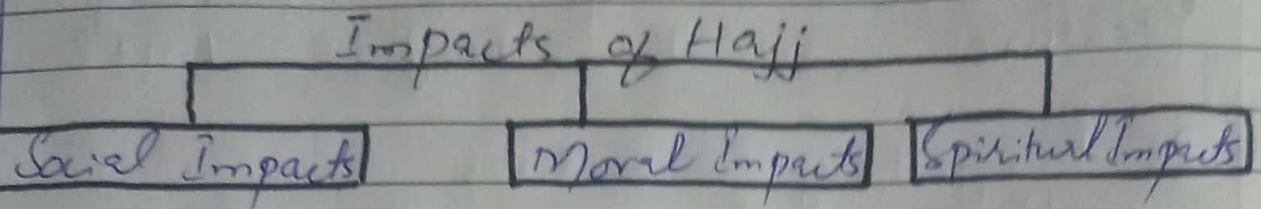
5. Paying obedience to Allah.

Performing Hajj means paying obedience to Allah. As Hajj is compulsory for an adult who possess sufficient resources to do Hajj.



Impacts of Hajj:

Hajj pertains various impacts upon human life. These are,



Social Impacts of Hajj

There are effects of Hajj in society like,

1- Strengthening the unity of Muslims.

Muslims from all over the world join each other during Hajj. They come closer to each other, share their experiences and become familiar to each other. Hajj strengthen unity among Muslims by ensuring mutual respect and harmony.

2. Manifestation of Muslim Brotherhood

Hajj shows manifestation of muslim brotherhood. Muslims from every race, creed and color perform Hajj shoulder



to shoulder.

"The world brotherhood of Muslims manifests itself in Hajj in the most vivid manner." (Introduction to Islam, by Dr. M. Hamidullah)

3- Producing Social harmony.

On the occasion of Hajj, Muslims reaffirm their Islamic knowledge. They pay absolute obedience to their Lord. It keeps them away from doing wrong to others. Moreover, the Hajj sermon also directs Muslims to keep solidarity and harmony in the society.

Moral Impacts

Give subheadings in black.

1- No room for racism in society. Islam has already shattered down the racism among Muslims. Hajj is the practical form of that social attribute. People from every corner of the world see themselves as a muslim not with the lens of racism.

2. Patience among pilgrims. It is patience of pilgrims that they complete journey of Hajj. The journey is about of 5-6 days (major obligations of Hajj). They show patience and



bravery throughout Hajj.

3- Good Conduct with each other.
During Hajj, pilgrims show good conduct and behaviour to each other. They show care and sympathy to each other.

Spiritual Impacts

1- Purification of Soul = More points?
Hajj causes the purification of souls. Pilgrims spend time in remembrance of Allah. They are aside from worldly material life.

Holy Prophet said,
"Hajj and Tawaf are aimed at remembering Allah."

2. Forgiveness of Sins.
Allah forgive all sins of the pilgrims. They come back as new-born. In this regard Allah says in the Holy Quran.
"Say! If you love Allah, then follow me; Allah will love you and forgive your faults".



Q. No: 7

IJTEHAD

Introduction:

Ijtihad is one of the important sources of knowledge in Islam. It plays an important role in the adaptation of Islamic law to the changing needs of society. It has various forms and methods for its applications. Ijtihad is an important tool to align modern life with Islamic principles and to address challenges being faced by Muslims.

Meaning of Ijtihad

The literal meaning of Ijtihad is "striving to the utmost".

In Islam, it refers to exerting one's self to form an opinion in a given case or give decision on a particular matter.

The principle of Ijtihad is considered to be rooted in Hadith, in a discourse between Holy Prophet PBUH and Muez bin-Jebel on his way to Yemen as new Governor.



The Prophet asked about his strategy of deciding matters coming up before him. He replied, "I will judge matters according to the Quran", if the Book contains nothing to guide me I will act on the precedents of Prophet, if it fail too then I will make a personal effort (Ijtihad)".

Thus, Ijtihad is an Islamic legal authority referring to independent reasoning by an expert in Islamic law.

Forms of Ijtihad

There are mainly three forms of Ijtihad

- 1- Istihsan (Juristic Preference)
- 2- Istislah (Human Welfare)
- 3- Maslahah (Public Interest)

1- Istihsan

Literal meaning = to approve
In juristic sense, Istihsan is a method of exercising personal opinion to prevent any rigidity and unfairness

from the implementation of law.

For instance: The decision of Umer Bin al-Khattab to suspend "hadd" penalty of amputation of hand during famine is an example of Istislah.

2. Istislah.

Istislah is an Arabic word which means "to deem proper".

It is a norm used by Islamic jurists to solve problems that find no clear answer in religious texts.

For instance: Imposition of an agricultural land tax in Islam.

3. Musheke-

The word 'Musheke' means 'benefit or interest'.

In Islamic law, it is used to seek something good and to ward off something harmful.

For instance: Establishment of prisons in Islam.

Who is Mujtahid?

An individual who carries out Ijtihad is called Mujtahid.

Eligibility of a Mujtahid.

- 1- He must be an adult.
- 2- He must be a Muslim.
- 3- He must have a firm knowledge of Quran and Hadith.
- 4- He must have full grasp on Arabic language.
- 5- He must have knowledge about modern developments.

Methods of Ijtihad.

There are mainly two methods of Ijtihad.

- 1- Consensus of Opinion
- 2- Analogical Deduction

1- Consensus of Opinion.

It means agreeing upon a common point of discussion.
Example: Consensus upon compilation of Holy Quran.

Day: _____

Date: _____

2. Analogical Deduction-

It means applying analogy to Quranic injunctions to get solution for a related problem.

Example: Quran prohibits wine. So an analogy can be drawn that all intoxicants are prohibited.

Conclusion

Ijtihad is an important source of Islamic law. With different forms and methods, it is useful in finding solutions to contemporary issues of Muslims.