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Islamiat (Mock)

02. Introduction

The concept of Islam is rooted in the oneness of Allah and beliefs that Allah has no partners and Holy Prophet (pbuh) is his last messenger. Once a person has established these beliefs he/she has entered the fold of Islam. He/she is a muslim now. Once a person becomes a muslim he/she has to follow the injunctions of the Holy Quran and the Sunnah. He/she also has to follow the articles of faith and adhere to the five pillars of Islam.

The Quran says

"There is no God but Allah and Mohammadi (SWT) is his last messenger"

In this lies the essence of the

Concept of Islam, which simply pertains to Submission before Allah

The distinctive aspects of Islam

↓ Islam is a divine revealed religion

Islam is a religion revealed by Allah and no human being has a hand in presenting it to the world.

The Quran says,

"The religion before Allah is Islam (submission to his will)..... if any deny the Signs of Allah, Allah is swift in calling to account."

A Complete Way of Life

Islam presents a complete way of life - whether it is the social aspect of existences or the political or the economic. Islam provides its followers with a complete framework which they can follow in order to lead their lives in a rational and harmonious manner.

The Quran says

"O you who believe! Enter into Islam whole-heartedly, and follow not the footsteps of the Evil One; for he is to you an avowed enemy."

more the Prophet (pbuh) said

"Everyone of you is a shepherd"

and everyone of you is accountable for those under him... '

Thus Islam enjoins a harmonious and structured existence for its people with a system of accountability in place.

(iii)

Unity of Matter and Spirit

Islam proclaims that the material and the spiritual are combined with each other. If one is changed, the other is affected. Thus, in all the worldly and material dealings the spiritual aspect cannot be ignored.

The Quran advises man to pray as follows,

6 Our Lord! Give us good in this world and good in the Hereafter and defend us

from the torment of the fire.
(2:201)

(iv) Balance between individualism and collectivism (society)
Islam encourages the muslim to establish a balance between individualism and collectivism. The person has to be on his own as he has a ~~due~~ right on himself. And he must also learn to conduct himself in social settings and must perform his social obligations too.

The Quran says,
A man shall have nothing but what he strikes for.²⁰

The importance of Din
in human life

Islam is a deen. A deen presents a complete code of life. Deen is a broad and all-encompassing term, which covers all aspects and areas of a person's life. A person's deen serves as his/her guiding principle, it provides a person with a complete code of life and gives him a sense of direction. Without his/her deen a person's life would be meaningless and would be devoid of any purpose.

Conclusion

• Islam, indeed, provides human being with a complete code of life. This is so as Islam is not a religion but a 'Deen' which covers all aspects of a person's existence, whether social, personal, moral or spiritual.

Q3

Introduction

Islamic beliefs and fundamentals play a crucial role in establishing the Islamic way of life. They act as the basic framework on which the structure of Islam is erected. Moreover, these Islamic beliefs and fundamentals have profound impacts on individual and society.

Islamic beliefs

- i) Belief in God
Belief in Allah as one and only is an important and fundamental belief of Islam.
- ii) Belief in Angels
Belief in angels is the second belief in Islam. Important to the understanding of the religion.

iii) Belief in the Prophets

Belief in the prophets is essential for every human being existing within the fold of Islam.

iv) Belief in the revealed books.

All Muslims are required to believe in the revealed books. The Holy Quran is the final ^{revelation} ~~and~~ of Allah.

v) Belief in the Hereafter

Muslims must believe that after their death, there would be a day of judgement in which they would account for their actions.

vi) Belief in Predestination Decree

Every thing is determined by Allah is an important aspect of Islamic faith and the belief system.

The fundamentals of Islam

(i) Tawhid

It is belief in the oneness of Allah and that He does not have any partners.

(ii) Prayers

Offering prayers five times a day is an important aspect of Islam.

(iii) Fasting

Fasting during the month of Ramadan is also one of the major fundamentals of Islam.

(iv) Zakat

Payment of zakat is beneficial to the economic system of the Muslim Ummah.

v) Hajj

Hajj is obligatory for those who can afford it. It is an important pillar of Islam.

Impacts on individual and ^{Islamic} society

The impacts of the beliefs and the fundamentals of Islam on individual and society are immense. The beliefs and the fundamentals basically shape the entire life of an individual and also of the society that individual exists in. It does so by providing the individual and the society with a sense of direction.

Conclusion

Islamic beliefs and fundamentals are important in determining the manner in which an individual leads his/her life and ~~the~~ ^{they are} also important for determining the way in which a society is shaped.

Q4 Introduction

Islam, indeed has its distinctive system of Human Rights. As a complete code of life, Islam provides its adherents with proper guidance through the Quran and Sunnah, with regard to the various rights that they have, as fellow beings. There are rights of parents, rights of children, rights of husband and wife, rights of relatives, rights of neighbours, rights of the orphans, rights of Islamic brotherhood, rights of non-muslims and many more. Thus, it can be qualifyingly said that when it comes to Human Rights, Islam covers all areas. In fact, the charter of Madina laid down the rights of human

beings in a cogent manner -
The charter of Madina provides
a model for other resolutions
and legislation for the protection
of human right.

system
Human Rights) ensures a
dignified status of woman
in Islam:

Islam recognizes the
right of a woman as
an equal and full partners
to man. They are equal in
nature. The Quran says,

“And Allah has made for
you mates (and companions) of
your own nature. And made
for you out of them sons
and daughters and grandchildren.”
(16: 72)

woman's Rights as a wife

The wife enjoys equal rights in Islam.

The Quran says,

“And women shall have rights similar to the rights against them according to what is equitable, but men have a degree (of advantage) over them.”

Woman's rights as a mother

The mother enjoys great esteem and respect and has a unique position in Islam.

The Prophet (S.W.A) said,

“Paradise lies at the feet of the mother.”

Moreover, the rights of mother is three times more than the rights of the father.

Woman's right in Spiritual life

In Islam both men and women are equal and it promises equal reward to them for their efforts.

Allah says

‘Never will I suffer to be lost the work of any of you be he male or female, ye are members one of another.’

Woman's educational rights

Islam recognizes the woman's right to acquire education.

The Prophet (pbuh) said, ‘The search for knowledge is a duty for every muslim male and female.’⁹

Conclusion

Islam has a distinctive and valuable system of Human Rights and this system ensures the rights of every human being including the women (women) indeed, along with other human beings have a dignified status in Islam.

06 Introduction

The world witnessed a rise in extremism after a combination of ideological and in person wars which were fought between the so called superpowers of the world. No other factor behind the rise of extremism is the fear of the other or xenophobia. Islamophobia is a manifestation of the rise in extremism in the world. Plus, rise of nationalism, populism and authoritarian forms of governments have also resulted in a rise in extremism.

Causes of the Rise of
Extremism in the world

i) Ideological Wars

Ideological wars such as the wars between Capitalism and Communism led to the rise of extremism in the world.

ii) Rise of nationalism

In countries such as the USA, India, and Russia nationalism is on the rise leading to extremism.

iii) Rise of populism

Populism is another major reason behind the rise of extremism in the world.

iv) Rise in Islamophobia

Fear of Islam, hatred towards the religion can be found in various parts of the world leading to a rise in extremism.

measures to deracinate
the menace of the rise of
extremism

i) Increasing global
integration

This will enable people
to become more accepting of each
other

ii) Encouraging cultural
exchanges

This will help people from
different nations to understand
each other's culture and religious
ideologies.

iii) Spreading knowledge
amongst people

People need to gain education
about the various strands
of thoughts and religious affiliations
in our world.

iv) Presenting the Muslim
Ummah as a moderate
community

It is the duty of the
Muslim community as a whole

to present itself as a
unity community and present
Islam as a moderate
and practical religion of
the world.

Conclusion

Though extremism is
on the rise in the world.
If one traces its genesis
one is to find that there
are several ways in which
the rise of extremism could
be prevented from gaining
momentum even further.
The condition being that the
root causes of extremism
are properly dealt with.