

PART - II

Q3) Introduction

Islam is a religion of peace, it promotes peaceful co-existence of everyone in a society. It emphasizes on living a life collectively with each and not in mere isolation. It promotes solidarity and harmony across different cultures of a society. Peace co-existence can be seen from the life of our Holy prophet (P.B.U.H) and sayings of the Holy Quran. Peaceful coexistence can transform the society in many ways such as it can end violence, it can promote brotherhood and it can protect a society from an external threat.

Peaceful Co-Existence According to the Teachings of Islam

According to Quran

"So if they remove yourself from them and do not fight you and offer you peace, then Allah has not made for you a cause for fighting against them" (Al-Nisa: 90)

According to Holy Prophet

"You will not enter paradise until you believe and you will not believe until you love each other. Shall I show you something that, if you did, you would love each other? Spread peace between yourselves" (Sahih Muslim)

How Peaceful ^{Co-}Existence Can Transform the Society

① It promotes Solidarity among People

Peaceful co-existence can promote solidarity among people living together. It can end long hatred and individuals together can work to achieve a collective aim. For example our Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) preached solidarity among the people of Madinah and it completely transformed the society in a ~~negative~~ positive way.

② It can save a society from an external threat

If individuals in a society live together they can protect each other and the society from an external attack. For example, when Holy prophet (p.b.u.h)

migrated to Madinah, he solved the differences between the tribes and they all protected Madinah from Quraysh in the Battle of Trench.

③ Can Increase Economic Development

Peaceful Co-existence means living together and not fighting among yourself. If there is no fighting and there is no instability, economic development can thrive, which would provide great benefits to the society and transform the society in a positive manner.

④ Would solve any Sectarian differences

Peaceful Co-existence has the ability to solve any existing difference about religion or even any other. According to the Holy Quran "The believers are, but a single brotherhood! so make peace, and be reconciled among each other" (Surah Al-Hujarat). This shows that Islam is against division of religion and if this division is excluded among Muslims they can improve relations among each other and even conquer the world.

5) Promotion of Compassion and Mercy

Islamic teachings emphasize qualities such as compassion and mercy. By incorporating these values into daily interactions, individuals contribute to creating a compassionate society that cares for the well-being of others.

Example of mercy can be taken from the life of our prophet when people of Taif tortured the Holy prophet. Angel Jibrail came down to him and asked that if he commands, he will wipe out entire Taif people between the mountains. Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h) said "Even if these people don't accept Islam, I do hope from Allah that there will be persons among their progeny who would worship Allah."

Conclusion

The concept of peaceful existence in Islam is not merely a passive state of non-conflict, but an active-commitment to fostering positive relationships, understanding, and cooperation. When integrated into the fabric of society, this concept has the transformative power to create a harmonious, just and compassionate community.

(Q4)

Introduction

The political system in Islam is based on the fundamental belief of submission to Allah as the Creator and Supreme law maker. Basic principals of Islamic political system are based on Adl, shura, freedom, responsibility and equality. The features of the Islamic political system provide solutions to all contemporary challenges faced by Muslims.

Principles of Political System

1) Freedom

In Islam, an individual is free from any limitation except those implemented on him by Islam. An individual can speak fearlessly, even if that truth is he speaking. He can speak without an interference of anyone even if it is against Caliph.

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2) Responsibility:

In Islamic political system the responsibility for the well being and protection of people falls on the government and the caliph. Not just that, both caliph and government are answerable to Allah and the responsibility that is given to them is a gulf/amanah from Allah.

3) Equality

In Islam, there is equality and no one is above the law. Everyone is equal in the eyes of Allah, as the Holy prophet (P. b. u. h.) said "No arab is superior over a non arab neither a non arab is superior over an arab, everyone is equal in the eyes of Allah."

4) Will of People

In Islamic political system there is strong enforcement of the will of people. No one can lead or become a caliph without the will of people as it is against Islam. The ruler should be elected by the will of people.

Salient Features

1) Treaties with Non-Muslims

In Islam, treaties are given importance to even if they exist with non muslim states. Islamic political system urges muslim leaders to abide by treaties and if the time comes to terminate them, terminate them by giving a prior notice.

2) Religious Freedom

Islamic political system gives religious freedom to even non muslim and urges muslims to migrate if they cannot offer their religious obligations easily. "If they reach the limit of patience and endurance and are unable to defend themselves, they should migrate" (Introduction to Islam, Dr Hamidullah)

3) Women Rights

In Islamic state, women are allowed to vote, conduct business and to even hold properties on their own name. Even the contract of marriage is sacred and all rights can be mentioned over there. All fundamental rights of women are protected.

4) Socialist Republic

In an Islamic state there is no place for monarchy and aristocracy. An Islamic state is based on the concept of Theocracy, and according to it the authority comes from Allah and there are certain commandments and rules that can never be altered.

Solutions to Contemporary

Challenges

1) Participatory Governance

The concept of Shura encourages participatory governance, offering a solution to the challenge of political alienation and fostering a sense of collective decision making.

2) Human Rights and Social Justice

Islamic principles of human rights and social justice can contribute to addressing contemporary challenges related to inequality, discrimination and the violation of basic human rights.

3) Economic Equity

The Islamic economic principle of Zakat and social welfare can contribute to addressing contemporary challenges of economic inequality and poverty.

4) Fulfillment of Treaties

Islamic political system emphasizes on fulfilling all the requirements and conditions of treaties. Countries can learn how to be firm on their commitments by learning through Islamic System.

Conclusion

It's important to note that the application of Islamic political principles may vary, and the interpretation of these principles can be subject to diverse perspectives. However, when implemented with justice, equity and accountability, these principles have the potential to address the most contemporary challenges

Q5)

Introduction

Extremism is not tolerated in Islam, Islam is against Extremism of any kind. Extremism means the trespassing of boundaries in all affairs. It is a challenge to Islam and the Muslim Ummah. Extremist ideologies and actions often distort the teachings of Islam, leading to social, political and religious tensions. In the contemporary context, Muslim Ummah faces several challenges related to Extremism, and addressing these challenges is crucial for fostering a more harmonious and inclusive environment.

Challenges Faced by Ummah

1) Distortion of Islamic Principles

Extremist ideologies often involve distortion and misinterpretation of Islamic principles. This includes misapplication of Quranic verses and Hadith to justify violent actions or exclusionary beliefs.

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2) Terrorism and Violence

Extremist groups sometimes resort to terrorism and violence in the name of Islam, causing harm to innocent lives and damaging the image of Islam as a religion of peace.

3) Promote Sectarianism

Extremism can strain relations between Muslims and followers of other faiths. Acts of extremism contribute to misconceptions and prejudices, hindering constructive dialogue and understanding between religious communities.

4) Youth Radicalization

Extremist groups often target young individuals, exploiting grievances and frustrations to recruit them. Addressing the root causes of radicalization is essential to prevent the recruitment of vulnerable youth into extremist ideologies.

5) Political Instability

Extremism can contribute to political instability, within Muslim majority countries. Terrorist activities and radical movements may disrupt governance and hinder economic development.

6) Global Perception of Islam

Acts of extremism can contribute to a negative global perception of Islam. This perception affects Muslims world-wide, leading to discrimination and prejudice against them.

7) Erosion of religious freedom

Extremist ideologies may undermine the principles of religious freedom within Muslim majority countries, restricting the rights of individuals to practice their faith freely.

Conclusion

In conclusion, addressing extremism within the Muslim Ummah requires a multi-faceted approach that involves education, engagement, and collaboration at local, national and international levels. By promoting the teachings of Islam and addressing the root causes of radicalization, extremism can be eradicated.