

Salat (Prayer) is the basic pillar of worship in Islam. Analyze its social, moral and spiritual effect?

## INTRODUCTION

The structure of Islam is based on five pillars. Each have its own distinct importance in the sight of Allah (SWT). These pillars include: Shahadah, Salat, Zakat, Soum, and Hajj. Salat would be discussed further as it is a cornerstone of Islam. Allah, repeatedly, in His Book, says:

‘Perform the prayer and give alms’  
(AL-Quran)

Literally prayer means dua. Terminologically it means performing the five obligatory prayer. It is the first order given by Allah (SWT) to Muslims and will be the first question to be asked on the day of Resurrection. It has immense social, moral and spiritual implications as it it enstills punctuality, brotherhood, and equality in a society. It further is a source of sins removal, getting closer to Allah and, Peace and Purity.

## Concept of SALAT:

Termi Literally: literally salat means dua or prayer  
Terminologically: Terminologically, salat means performing the five obligatory pray. Salat was the first obligation of Muslims. It holds this significance as it is a worship prescribed by Allah himself, as Muslims are not capable<sup>enough</sup> of coming up with ways to please Allah (SWT)

## Importance of SALAT:

Salat is the first obligation and the first order given to Muslims during the Makkkan era. It holds so much importance in deen that it has been mentioned sixty-times in the Holy Book. Moreover, Salat acts

a discriminating factor between Muslims and the disbelievers. Companions of the Prophet (SAW) did not consider any act as disbelief but the abandonment of Salah. Moreover, the first question to be asked on the Day of Judgment would be in regards to Salah. The Holy Quran says:

'The first matter a Muslim will be held ac

## SPIRITUAL and MO SPIRITUAL IMPLICATIONS

### Forgiveness of Sins:

Prayer is an excellent source of removal of sin past sins. Moreover, it also stops an individual to further indulge in sinful acts itself. The Holy Prophet (SAW), while holding a branch of tree, said:

'A Muslim who performs prayer for God's sake will have his sins removed from him as these leaves from this tree' (AL-Hadith)

### Removal of distress:

There is a Hadith of the Prophet (SAW), which states 'Whenever anything distressed the Prophet (SAW), he prayed.' (AL-Hadith)

Therefore, through this Hadith it is confirmed that prayer is an excellent source of getting away from all sorts of distresses and anxiety.

### Source of Peace:

Prayer is an excellent source of gaining peace and tranquility. The Holy Quran says:

'Surely in the remembrance of Allah do hearts find comfort' (AL-Quran)

Indeed the best form of getting peace is through prayer. As we pray, we are in constant remembrance of Allah (SWT).

### Entails Purity:

Indeed when a Muslim performs ~~to~~ abalution five times a day, he tends to stay pure, not just physically but within as well. The Holy Quran says:

'Purity is half of the deen'  
(AL-Quran)

### WAY To Get closer to Allah:

Allah says:

'The most beloved act with which My slave becomes nearer to Me, is what I have enjoined upon Him'  
(AL-Quran)

Hence proven that when an individual prays 5 times a day he/she is the closest of Allah (SWT).

### Social and Moral Implication:

#### Instills Punctuality:

Prayer instills punctuality in an individual or society on whole. This is because when a person, every day, for five times <sup>does</sup> performs something, it becomes a habit of respecting and being on time. Holy Quran, in regard to this, reads:

'Prayer is enjoined at a standard time'  
(AL-Quran)

#### Prayer gives a purpose:

Prayer reinforces or reminds every individual the main purpose of their being. Allah says:

'We have not created jinns and Humans except for the purpose of worshipping Me' (AL-Quran)

## Goal driven society:

When everybody in a society is pursuing the same purpose of they all become purpose driven and collective trying to seek the blessings of Allah (SWT)

## EQUALITY

When everybody is collectively doing something, it instills the concept that all are equal in sight of Allah except for the one who is most righteous.

Allah says: 'The best among you is the one who is most righteous' (AL-Quran)

Prophet (SAW) <sup>reiterate</sup> ~~validates~~ this as well.

**Brotherhood:** When everybody in a society is worshipping the same Allah, together! It instills brotherhood in every individual and a sense of belonging. This brotherhood also strengthened the Ansars and Muhajir

## Conclusion

Prayer is one of the fundamental pillars of Islam. It is so pertinent that prayer would be the first question asked on day of Judgment. Prayer is the offering of 5 daily prayers that were made obligatory in Makkah i.e. making it the first command of Allah for His servants. It has multiple impacts on society and individuals. Prayer is a great source of being punctual, getting close to Allah, removal of sins, being pure etc. It further instills the feeling of equality and brotherhood by keeping us away from distress and sins!

Discuss in detail the Socio-economic system of Islam. Explain its postulates and functioning How it eradicates poverty?

### Introduction

Islam is a deen. It is a complete code of life that addresses all aspects of life concerning humanity. It caters to all individual, societal, economic, judicial, political aspects. ~~One major~~ It provides the mankind with clear rulings and guidelines to operate various systems. ~~one may~~ Indeed it is a true deen. Allah <sup>(SWT)</sup> in His Book says:

'Islam is

'Indeed the true deen in sight of Allah (SWT) is Islam' (AL-Quran)

One of the major systems addressed in Islam is the Socio-Economic system. It is based on divine guidelines, makes a society balanced and always on equilibrium. Unlike the rest of systems it negates all sorts of exploitations by giving the concepts of income distribution and code of conducts. However, it also acknowledges the ideas of Private ownership and Profit making. Owing to its various dynamic implications, it is a system in its own. Thus, making it the best solution to all economic evils especially poverty. It gives special measures to eradicate poverty by the systems of wealth sharing. It works for the betterment of all and not just for single entities.

### FUNDAMENTALS OF THE Socio-Economic system:

This concept entails the foundations the system is based on.

#### Based on Divine Guidelines

The Islamic economic system is based on the principles

Laid down by Allah (SWT) as everything, all resources belong to him. Therefore all will be utilized accordingly to His law.

### System in its own

Islamic economic system negates the concept of exploitat<sup>ions</sup> and believe in betterment of society. On the contrary it recognizes the economic disparities among individuals and approves of private ownership and profit making. This all makes it a system in its own, unlike the contemporary Capitalist or Communist systems.

### How Does the System functions:

It approves of private ownership:

The Islamic economic system approves of private ownership Allah in His Book says:

'For men is a share of what they earned and for women is a share of what they earned'  
(Al-Quran)

Therefore, like Capitalist systems Islam encourages the ownership of resources for all individuals.

### Profit Making:

Furthermore, Islam also approves of the concept of making profit. Keeping in view that while earning Profits there should be no element of deception and exploitation.

### System of wealth sharing:

As Islam negates the concept of wealth accumulation in few hands, as it tends to lead to exploitations of poor at hands of rich, it gives excellent

ways to distribute wealth through charity, Zakaat, Sadaqah and law of inheritance. Allah has repeatedly ordered in His Book;

'Perform the prayer and give alms'  
(AL-Quran)

This reinforces that how important wealth sharing is to Allah as He mentions it with Prayer.

### Business code of Conduct :

Islam categorically preaches its followers to have the best conduct while trading. It further encourages to document your deals and once sealed stand by it no matter what. Allah in His Book says:

'O you who believe, Honor your commitments'  
(AL-Quran)

It further encourages to be honest and refrain from making false oaths.

### Can not Make Money on Money :

Allah strictly forbids exploitation. Making money on money entails interest, hence Allah has strictly made Interest Haram because it aids in exploitation, debt traps and economic catastrophes like Wall Street crash and financial crisis of 2008. Therefore, Allah says that if one wants to generate income from money, it should undergo proper economic activity and not through the means of interest. Allah in His Book says:

'Allah condemns Usury' (AL-Quran)

Islamic Economic System is so concerned about the underprivileged fractions of society that it gives proper mechanisms to protect it. Which are discussed ahead.

## How Does Islamic Economic System Eradicates

### Poverty?

#### Wealth Sharing:

Islamic <sup>system</sup> while specifically targeting poor and needy, has given the concept of zakat <sup>along many others</sup> to share wealth. Zakat can be utilized only on poor or the Masarif e zakat, who are all poor and needy or those who could add in the poverty rates in near future. Allah <sup>says</sup>: Zakat is the right of poor over rich' (Quran).

#### Spending on Education

~~The mechanism of zakat can~~ The mechanism of wealth sharing can be used on the education of the poor to improve their living standards.

#### Spending on Capacity building:

Moreover, one can also spend the share on skill develop<sup>ment</sup> and capacity building of poor to enable them to sustain themselves.

#### Spending on their health:

Spending on the health expenditure of poor would provide them with health security and lower their economic burden. This would eventually improve their economic conditions.

#### Responsibility of Rich to employ poor: (Employment opportunity)

While acknowledging the economic disparities in Islam, Allah also says that It is also inferred that to whom Allah has blessed, it is the responsibility of them to take poor in his protection and employ him provide employment opportunities. It is a wonderful mechanism to keep employment rates stable and eradicate poverty.



## Conclusion:

Islamic economic system can be best impt employed to eradicate social economic evils like poverty. Mainly, because it provides the system of wealth sharing which can be utilized for the education of poor, providing them health security and developing their skills. ~~It~~ Indeed Islamic Economic system is one of its kind because it <sup>not only</sup> provides measure to eradicate poverty but also ways to stabilize and grow <sup>the</sup> economy with the most ethical, moral and exploitation free guidelines. As it ~~provid~~ strictly condemns usury, exploitation. It is efficient because it is based on divine guidelines, encourages profit sharing and private ownership of resources. To conclude, It is a system in its self as it caters to all fractions in society, be it rich or poor.

## Question

Elucidate the doctrine of Tauheed. Describe Importance.

### Introduction

Tauheed is the core of being a Muslim. It terminologically means to completely submit to Allah and believing in him alone. It can be categorized in three ways, which include Oneness in Person, Oneness in attributes and oneness in action. It has multiple impacts on individual as it instills self respect in him, provides him in purpose in life, and make him accountable for ~~his~~ actions. On the contrary, it has social implications that include equality, just society, humility.

### Concept of Tauheed:

Tauheed literally means one/unity. However, terminologically it means that submitting to Allah entirely and believing that He alone is the ultimate power and no other is.

associated to Him.

## Categorization of Tauheed:

### Oneness in person

It means to believe that Allah is one, he has no family or offsprings. Allah in His Book says

'Say that He is Allah, ~~the exalted~~ the One and the Only, the exalted and the supreme, He begets not, nor is He begotten. And there is none like unto Him' (AL-Quran)

### Oneness in Attributes:

This means to believe that all the praises are only for the Al-mighty Allah as He alone is the only deserving of them. It is said in the Book that:

'There is no God but Allah, and His are the most beautiful names' (AL-Quran)

### Oneness in Actions

It is to believe that ultimate power and authority is of Allah. In the Book, it is said.

'To Allah belongs the kingdom of heavens and the earth' (AL-Quran)!

### Impacts on Individual:

#### Purpose in life

Believing in Tauheed gives an individual a purpose in life to worship Allah. Allah says.

'We have not created the Jinns and the humans except for the purpose to worship Me' (AL-Quran)

#### Enstall self respect.

The sense that the Almighty Allah deemed fit for an individual to be a part of His world. Allah

in Book says:

'We created man in the best design'  
(AL-Quran)

Ensures Humility:

Tauheed ensures humility in an individual making him think that all greatness belongs to Allah and we are nothing. Allah says:

'Pride is my cloak and greatness my robe, whoever completes me with regards to either of them. I shall throw him into Hell'

(AL-Quran)

Societal impact.

Equality in Society:

Makes Muslims believe that we all are nothing and all greatness belongs to Allah. This humility extends to equality

Just society

Knowing that Allah is watching and hold accountable we all tend to practice justice in this world as well.

Accountability: We know that Allah will hold accountable hence we set our matters straight in this world too.

Conclusion

Tauheed is a fundamental. Without this one can not be a Muslim. It to fully believe in greatness of Allah by submitting to him and associating nothing with him. It can be categorized and has multiple social and individual implications.