

Islamic Studies Test 1

QUESTION 1:-

Introduction:-

Zakat is one of the five basic pillars of Islam, which includes Tauheed, Salat, Fasting, Zakat and Hajj. It is one of the basic fundamental obligations of Islam and a key ritual/prayer to be performed. It is a form of charity that Allah has ordained compulsory on muslim man and woman to pay from his property and income.

Importance of Zakat:-

Zakat is the most basic form of charity in Islam. Allah has made it part of

the basic fundamentals of Islam. It is essential for every muslim to pay certain amount of Zakat on his belongings if they pass the criterion of Zakat.

Zakat is supposed to be paid annually to the deprived and underprivileged part of the society.

Obligatory:

Zakat is obligatory to pay annually by every muslim that reaches the criterion. Allah fatak has ordered in Quran Pak to offer Zakat along with Salat.

والقيوم الصلاة والزكاة

"Offer Namaz and give Zakat"

* Basic Features of Zakat:-

Allah has ordered to pay Zakat for the following reasons

* Purifies the Belongings:

By paying zakat from your earnings and belongings, it gets purified. Holy Prophet said

“like ablution purifies body, salat purifies soul, zakat purifies the belongings”

* Form of Charity:

Zakat is a form of charity as it is literal taking some portion of your personal money and give away to the needs and poor. Holy Prophet (PBUH) said to his Sahaba

“Take a portion of their belongings and give to the poor”

* Distribution of Money (Wealth):

Zakat allows the distribution of wealth among different segments of the society. It promotes the circulation of wealth and allow the underprivileged classes to benefit from it. Holy Prophet (PBUH) said

"The best among you is the one who offers prayers and gives charity"

* Demotivates hoarding of personal belongings:

As people have their obsession of collecting material goods and monetary wealth. The act of Zakat demotivates this phenomenon and promotes the act of charity and help.

* Promotes Unity and Brotherhood:

Zakat promotes the feelings of brotherhood and unity among the muslims. It creates a sense of responsibility among the muslims towards their fellow members ^{of the society} and creates the emotions of ownership. ~~The~~ The paying of Zakat and financial assistance brings the society together.

* Poverty Alleviation:

Zakat is a way to decrease poverty among the society. As Zakat is directly impacting the needy and underprivileged groups of the society by ^{providing} providing them with financial assistance.

Zakat helps to diminish poverty and hunger from the society:

Zakat helps to diminish poverty and hunger from the society by the following ways

- ① Zakat is required to be paid by every single individual with a certain amount of wealth, gold, silver or cattle.
- ② Zakat is directly aimed at poor, the needy and not everyone is eligible to receive zakat.
- ③ Zakat cannot be paid to non-muslims. It can be given to the widows, orphans and the poor.
- ④ Zakat helps improve the living conditions of the poor.
- ⑤ Zakat is required to be paid annually during month of Ramadan to include the down-

laddened segments of the society
in the blessings of Ramadan
and festivities of Eid.

⑥ Zakat promotes and creates
an essence of charity among
all the individuals in the
society.

⑦ ~~Zakat~~ The concept that the
original ownership is with Allah
and the human beings have
secondary ownership of his belongings.
Thus every Muslim should receive
some part of these belongings.

⑧ Zakat creates the circulation of
money in the society and helps
encounter hunger in the society.

Conclusion:

(All of these) The importance
of Zakat can be understood by
the positive implications it has
on the society and especially

its crucial role in alleviating
~~Zakat~~ - poverty and hunger from
the society.

QUESTION 2 :-

Tactics of War of Prophet Muhammad (SAW)

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) is
an example for ~~us~~ ^{muslims} in all
walks of life, be it ~~that~~ his
peacemaking, his tolerance and
forgiveness, his acts of preaching,
as a war strategist or as an
educator. Prophet Muhammad is
exemplary in his doings. Though
he promoted peacemaking but
when war was needed to safeguard
Islam and its followers. He
participated in many wars and
waged war against the non-

believers in the name of Allah.

He was the greatest and noblest war strategist in the history of mankind.

Military Tactics:

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) adopted unique and effective war tactics to defeat his opponents. He participated in 27 Expeditions, and following are some of the strategies adopted by Prophet (PBUH)

① Division of Responsibility:

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) would assign duties and roles to individuals in a war and would order not to move from their ^{given} posts or violate their responsibilities.

He ordered Muslims archers to stay on the Mountain of Uhud during the war.

②) Secrecy in Planning:

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) remained secretive while planning his war strategy and used to take counsel from his most worthy Sahabas. He used to be careful in planning the defense and attack.

③) Finding out Enemy's plans:

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) would try to find out the enemy's planning and would adopt accordingly.

④) Deploying Spies:-

The Holy Prophet (PBUH) had deployed spies in enemy bases to receive information about their preparation and planning.

⑤ Unique defense mechanism.

Holy Prophet maintained a unique defense mechanism to safeguard against the armies of non-believers that used to be so big in numbers.

Example:- Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) ordered to dig trench in the Ghazwa Khandaq as a defense mechanism.

⑥ Practicing his War Principles-

Holy Prophet (PBUH) had established war rules and principles that were mandatory for all of his followers to adopt. These were rules for combats and non-combats, his non-violation of treaties and not to disrespect dead bodies, women, children, worship places and many more.

⑦ Division in Segments:

Holy Prophet (PBUH) used to divide his army into different segments. Such as the vanguards and the rearwards and the left right groups and the front archers.

⑧ Openness to Peace making talks and conciliation.

Prophet (PBUH) was always open to dialogue and reconciliation talks between him and his opponents. As Allah ^{fallah} has made peace making superior to confrontation. He would always adopt it if a ~~the~~ situation arises.

At A Sataba told:

"If there would be two course of action, the easier (non-confrontational) and a harder (confrontational). Prophet (PBUH) would take the easier (non-confrontational)"

Conclusion:

Holy Prophet was a great war strategist and had the most unique tactics of his time. Everyone can learn from his skills of war waging and if a need arises of peacemaking too.

(b) Introduction:-

When Holy Prophet migrated to Medina from Makkah in 622. He was accompanied by many of his Sahabis who had already reached Medina.

Upon his arrival, a pact was signed between Ansars of Medina and the Muhajirs of Makkah which is called Mithaq-e-Medina.

It was the very first written social contract in the history of Muslim world.

Importance of Mithaq-e-Medina:-

The part of Medina called Mithaq-e-Medina holds great importance in the history of Muslim world. Its important features are as follows

① Social Contract:-

It was a social contract between the Ansars of Medina and Muhajirs of Makkah

② Written Constitution:-

It was the very first written constitution in the history of Muslim world. It established the basis of ^{Islamic} state of Medina.

③ Promoted Brotherhood and Unity:

The Mithaq-e-Medina promoted brotherly relations among different

tribes of Muslims in Medina and promoted Unity among the Muslim world / Ummah that continued and had positive impacts in the coming years.

④ Led to Peace Pacts with Jews:-

The peace accords between Muslim tribes led to peace accords with Jews too. Thus peace prevailed among the different tribes in Medina.

⑤ Improved diplomatic relations with foreign states:-

The stability and peace in Medina led to improved diplomatic relations with other foreign states as delegates came to Medina and bilateral talks improved the situations for all the parties involved.

⑥ Medina become Sacred Haram:

With all the muslims from different tribes and even ~~other~~ members of other religious communities lived together. Medina became the Sacred Haram for all the muslims. Many muslim delegations started visiting Medina to meet Holy Prophet (PBUH) to take guidance from him.

Conclusion :-

Mithaq-e-Medina was the very first pact held between muslims. It had great impacts on the muslim community in the following years. It has been held at high importance upto now, as it (was the) an ideal for muslim unity, brotherhood and community building.