

ISLAMİYATQUESTION # 01Islam: A COMPLETE CODE OF LIFE1. INTRODUCTION:

Islam is a divine religion, a divine revelation, and a complete code of life. Islam is not just a religion that gives spiritual and moral guidance but it also covers all possible facets of human life, such as social-political, religious, economic, moral and spiritual. Islam is all-encompassing religion, which gives man identity, meanings to its true existence, defines purpose of a man's life on earth, gives a ray of hope, and free humans from all doubts and superstitions. Islam is unique from all other religions of the world as those religions do not answer the purpose of human's life and provide guidance about how to spend life while Islam gives a clear set of rules, principles and laws to spend life in peace and cohesion. Therefore, to spend a life of peace and stability following beliefs of Islam could prosper a society on the footings of development.

ii. WHAT IS ISLAM :

Islam is an Arabic word, derives from a word 'silm' or 'salam' which means peace, from which word comes 'Aslama' meaning "he submitted, he resigned". So, Islam's lexical meaning is the complete submission to Allah, it means resignation to the cause of Allah. It basically means:

"Entering into a condition of peace and security with God, through allegiance and surrender to him"

Islam : its meaning and message
(Khusheed Ahmed)

Islam is an act of surrender to Allah, it was revealed to Holy Prophet (PBUH). It is one and only true religion, Islam brings peace to humankind. It came at a time when people of Quraish and makkah was drowned in the darkness and ignorance as quoted by Herbert J. Muttis:

"In Muhammad's Arabia, there was no state, there were only scattered independent tribes and towns. The prophet formed his own state, and he gave it a sacred law of Allah"

III. Basic Characteristics of Islam, Proving it as a Complete Code of Life:

Islam guides all aspects of life, it brings all aspects of life together that they become unity. It provides guidance in every aspect of life. It creates harmony and balance in social life of people. Islamic teachings provide set of principles about how to spend life that includes; Justice, Brotherhood, Equality, social stability, simplicity, kindness, unity, social service, family life, education, property rights, inheritance rights, women status and self-identity.

Islam is a balance in life matters, the basic characteristics of Islamic ideology is explicitness, and highly realistic attitude towards problems of modern day life. Islam is a full-fledged movement with its some prominent features as follows:

1. Islam is based on Divine Revelati on:

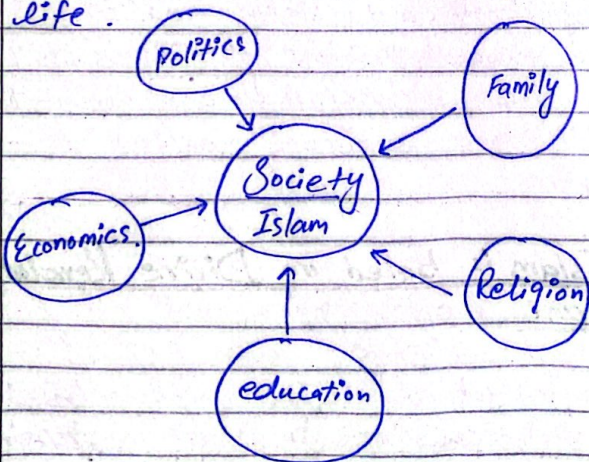
Islam is such a religion which is based on divine revelation, It is not a religion in the minds of some saints as other religions are i.e., Buddhism, Confucianism, Hinduism, Sikhism etc. It is such a

divine religion based on true history of divine revelation as quoted by Beernaed Lewis:

66 Unlike other religion which were craddled in mystery, Islam was born within full light of history. Its roots are on surface level."

II. Islam is DEEN-I-KAMIL

Islam is a deen-i-kamil, a complete code of life. It does not leave any loophole where one cannot get guidance in any matter of life. Indeed it covers all the institutions of human society. As society is composed of 5 institutions, it gives directions in all matters of social life.



3. Islam Provides a Middle Path:

Islam is the only religion which is a balance of fair and justice, It is a religion of softness and harshness in matters. It offers mid-way in all of the matters of ~~is~~ common life. As Holy Prophet (SAW) said:

“Midway in every action is the best of all”.

(Bukhari)

Islam is a religion of Golden mean. It always gives freedom and liberty in all matters of life while other religions of the world are too strict in some matters.

4. Islam is a Socio-moral Code:

Islamic system is a balanced combination of social values and morality. It covers all matters of social life, such as education, unity, brotherhood, kindness, justice, rights, peace, social stability, tolerance, courtesy, self-determination, self-identity, dignity of men, social welfare, appreciation, reverence and rule of law. Like all other religions there is no distinction among its followers. Everyone in Islam is brother to other and every one is treated

with equal rights and dignity.

5. Islam is a religion of Unity and Brotherhood:

Islam is the only religion who does not discriminate people on the basis of their castes, races, colors, and ethnicities. As Quran cleared this ambiguity in Surah Hujrat as:

يا ايها الناس اقلنا من ذكر دانسي وجنات
شعوباً وقبائل لتعارفوا ان اكرمكم عند الله
لتقوى فان الله عليه خبير

“O you people! (who believe) we created you from a male and female and divided made you in tribes and chiefdoms so that you may know each other, and the best deed near Allah is purity, indeed Allah is All-knowing and All-wise”

Similarly, the last sermon of Hazrat Muhammad (SAW) also gives the same lesson that

“There is no distinction of a white over black and a white black over white except piusness”.

So, near Allah being pious is the only standard to classify people. While, other religions divide people on the basis of castes and races, for example, Hinduism

6. Faith is the Central Point:

To get enter into the circle of Islam, faith is the only key. When a person gets entered in Islam. He or she must ensure complete faith in Allah, its Rasools, Books, Angels and Day of resurrection.

A muslim must proclaim by tongue and by his heart that he has complete faith on Allah and Islamic values and Hazrat Muhammad (SAW) as the last Prophet.

اشهد ان الله الله وحده لا شريك له
اشهد ان محمداً عبده ورسوله
عمر الرسول الله ﷺ

7. Islam is the only Religion which is free from all doubts and Superstitions.

Islam is the complete and authentic religion and it is completely based on divine revelation. Therefore, it is free of all doubts and superstitions of the past. There is no element of Shirk. It has written law in the form of Holy Quran as Allah says:

(Yaseen) القرآن الحكيم

"And this is the Quran, The Wise"

Quran provides answers of all human mind ambiguities. Similarly, Hadith

sign of Holy Prophet (SAW) also a full-fledged teaching how to spend life. Besides, the life of Holy Prophet (SAW) is a model for everyone.

8. Islam is Universal and Permanent Principle:

One of the most important features of Islam is that it is a universal deen and there is no change in it. Allah completed its revelation to Holy Prophet (SAW) in 23 years and made it clear that there will be no change in a single word as Holy Prophet (SAW) said in his last sermon.

“O People! Listen to me, today the religion is ended, and Allah has chosen this religion (Islam) for you, there will be no prophet after me. So keep yourself protected from evil thoughts.”

Similarly, Allah says in Quran:

الْيَوْمَ أَكْمَلْتُ لَكُمْ دِينَكُمْ وَأَتْمَمْتُ عَلَيْكُمْ نِعْمَتِي وَرَضِيتُ لَكُمُ الْإِسْلَامَ دِينًا

“This day I have perfected your religion for you and completed my favour upon you and completely have chosen for you Islam as your religion.”

While all other religions are not present in their actual form today, like Christianity, Judaism etc.

9. Islam emphasis on knowledge.

Islam is the modern religion that pulled humanity from the darkness and forced people to seek knowledge. For example, Hazrat Jibrael, when came with first message of Allah, he said: اقرأ (meaning Read).

Islam does not restrict knowledge to only a class, it offers freedom to everyone to get knowledge as Hazrat Muhammad (SAW) said:

"Seek knowledge! No matter if you have to travel to China"

+

"Seeking knowledge is necessary / obligatory for every muslim woman and man"

(Bulghari)

Hence, it proves the statement that Islam gives liberty to everyone to get necessary knowledge.

10. Gives answer of The question of Man's creation

All of the world's religions have failed

to answer the question of man's existence on the earth. While Islam is the only religion which answers that "man is the vicegerent of Allah on earth". His basic purpose is to create a peaceful society and to maintain social stability. When Allah created human, He told Angels to bow to human (Adam) which shows the dignity of man in Islam which is only possible in Islam.

دَا قَالِ بِكَ لِلْكَرَامَةِ إِنِّي بَارِكُ
فِي الْإِنْسَانِ خَلِيفَةً ۝

ii. Islam answers the creation of universe.

Science tried for many years to get answer of a question that how this universe is created, while Islam has given answer of this question some 1400 years ago. As Quran says,

دَعْوَالَّذِي خَلَقَ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضَ وَالشَّمْسِ وَالْقَمَرِ كُلِّ
فِي مَنَازِلٍ يُسَبِّحُونَ ۝

66 And it is He who created the nights and the day and the Sun and the moon, all heavenly bodies; in an orbit they are swimming?

CONCLUSION.

To conclude, it is undeniable to analyse that how beautifully Islam covers all perspective of human life by giving principles and set of rules to spend life on the earth peacefully. History tells that except Islam, not a single religion have capacity to covers all fields of social life or could answer questions of human existence of on earth. Thus, to be a successful nation, muslims should follow teachings of Allah and Rasool (SAW).

QUESTION # 02

DIPLOMATIC CAREER OF HAZRAT MUHAMMAD (SAW).

1. INTRODUCTION.

Diplomatic career of Holy Prophet (SAW) encompasses Muhammad's leadership over growing Muslim community, and

Correspondence with the rulers of other nations in and around Arabia.

Hazrat Muhammad (SAW) explored modern strategies and tactics while dealing with other national leaders. His strategies includes, sending letters with his seal, visiting other nations, sending and receiving envoys, arrangements for non-foreign nationals envoys, Presents to envoys, Protocols and care of Envoys and making Peace agreements. The major written correspondence of Holy Prophet (SAW) includes letters to Heecutes, Ichuau, the Negus, and others. Besides, Hazrat Muhammad (SAW) also signed Peace treaties while staying in Makkah and Madinah for the establishment of Peace. Hence, the life of Holy Prophet (SAW) and his diplomatic strategies are a role model and path-finder for modern day leaders and diplomats.

I. DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITIES OF HOLY PROPHET (SAW) AT MAKKAH

While staying in Makkah, Hazrat Muhammad (SAW) participated in a lot of diplomatic activities such as:

1. Hilf-ul-Fudul:

Hilf-ul-fudul was an alliance created by Makkans including Hazrat Muhammad (SAW) and other chiefs and members of other tribes.

In this alliance, chiefs and other members of tribes pledged to

1. Respect the principles of Justice
2. Collectively intervene in conflicts to establish justice and peace.
3. To make pact imperative and sacred.

↳ After proclamation of Islam, Hazrat Muhammad (SAW) acknowledged the validity of this pact and stood against injustice.

Hilf-ul-fudul was signed to end endless series of wars between multiple tribes of Quraish and other Arab tribes.

Therefore, Hazrat Muhammad (SAW) acted as a prudent leader and signed a pact to contain peace in Makkah.

2. Muslim Migration to Abyssinia:

When Quraish started opposition of Holy Prophet (SAW) on the public preaching of Islam. They started offend muslim tribes in Makkah, therefore, it was decided to move to Abyssinia. Then, in 615, Hazrat Muhammad (SAW) decided to send 15 muslims to emigrate to

Abyssinia to receive Protection under (Negus). This movement opened a new trading prospect and diplomatic foresight of Prophet (PBUH).

Quraish sent Amr-ibn-Al-Aas and Abdullah bin Abi Rabi'a to pursue Muslims. Muslims reached Jafar ibn Abi Talib and as Hazrat Muhammad (SAW) mentioned: they spoke of (PBUH) and quoted some verses of Quran related Islam and Christianity from Sura Maryam.

The King (Nagusi) was impressed, therefore, he let Muslims stay in the Abyssinia.

Above example shows how prudently Holy Prophet (SAW) settled his people in other city.

3. JOURNEY TO TAIF:

Early in 619, The Holy Prophet (SAW) travelled to Taif to convene chieftain (mainly of Banu Tharif) to convert to Islam. The reasons behind this journey were the negative response of Quraish to Islam, their sense of insecurity and demise of Abu Talib and Hazrat Khadija. Though, Taif people trusted Holy Prophet (SAW), so hastily but still

never curse them, instead prayed for their guidance as they do not know. Hazrat Jibrael asked Holy Prophet (SAW) to crush them between two mountains but Holy Prophet (SAW) with his sharp mind and diplomatic qualities asked for patience and tolerance.

4. AAM-UL-WUFUD: YEAR OF DELEGATES

Allama Suleman Nadwi, highlighting the abilities of Holy Prophet SAW says that:

⁶⁶ Prophet (SAW) used to have long discussion with chiefs and told them of his struggle for Propagation of Islam⁶⁹.

Hazrat Muhammad (SAW) used his eloquence and intelligence to convince delegates which he received during (9.A.H) and treated all of them with kindness and affection and convinced them to accept Islam peacefully.

5. AL-AGBA PLEDGES. (620-621)

During a travel, a few people come in contact with Holy Prophet SAW and

were very impressed and they thought that the revolutionary personality of Holy Prophet (SAW) could bring peace in Madinah. Therefore, they asked for help. and first pledge of Al-Aqaba happened in which 12 men pledged to obey Holy Prophet (SAW) and to stay away from sinful acts. Similarly, the second pledge occurred when 75 people met with Prophet (SAW) and accepted conditions of obedience, enjoining good and forbidding war and evil.

These examples, show how beautifully, Muhammad (SAW) with his diplomatic skills convinced people to accept Islam.

5. REFORMATION OF MADINA.

Madinah was a home of multi national where two tribes of Arab Pagan, Aus and Khazraj and 3 Jewish tribes; Banu Qaynah, Banu Nazir, and Banu Sawayd used to fight. Hazrat Muhammad (SAW) with his prudence and sharp intelligence impressed both of the tribes and convinced them to enter into a treaty of unity and united community and they will help each other to resolve ongoing

disputes and conflicts. No one would try break treaty and would follow conditions to maintain peace.

6. Mithaq-e-Madinah.

In 622, Holy Prophet (SAW) migrated to Madinah with followers (immigrants). All of them were welcomed by Ansars of Madinah. Together, they established first mosque in Madinah. After reaching Madinah, Hazrat Muhammad (SAW) signed a treaty (a constitution of Madinah a unilateral declaration which was designed exclusively to deal with civil and political relations of citizens.

Through (Mithaq-e-Madina), Hazrat Muhammad (SAW) envisioned a peaceful society, as quoted by (Bernard Lewis)

“The community at Madinah became a new kind of tribe with Prophet (SAW) as its Sheikh & Leader, while at the same time having a religious character.”

Because of this peaceful pact to maintain harmony and peace, Aws and Khazraj tribes accepted Islam, resulted into increasing influence of Muhammad (SAW) into Madinah.

2. Hudaibiyah

Hudaibiyah was another diplomatic activity of excellence, it happened in (628) AH. When Hazrat Muhammad (SAW) was onto a journey to perform Umrah and Quraish sent their men to halt them. Hazrat Muhammad (SAW) used his prudence and diplomatic intelligence and sent envoys to Quraish people for negotiations while avoiding fights.

After peaceful negotiation, they came to an agreement and Uthman bin Affan was chosen for pledge under a tree.

This was called "pledge of Good Pleasure" and not to flee whatever decision he made. With this pledge a peaceful treaty was signed with Quraishites that they will not halt Muslims to perform Umrah and Hajj next time.

Conditions:

Quraishiite put some conditions such as:

- ① Muslims will go back until following year
- ② Pact of mutual non-aggressiveness will be held between both parties.
- ③ Holy Prophet (SAW) promised to return to Makkah without performing Umrah

Therefore, muslims pilgrimages. Sacrifices their animals and went back to madinah and Hazrat Muhammad (SAW) was bading well for future.

The brilliant result of this peaceful pact showed in 8 A.H when All of the mackkan people embraced Islam.

9. Correspondance with multiple kings.

Hazrat Muhammad (SAW) wrote letters to different kings and emperors to invite them to accept Islam. Prophet (SAW) send envoys with His stamped letter, here are some details of letters of Hazrat Muhammad (SAW).

- i - Letter of King of Abyssinia.
- ii - Great Ruler of Persia.
- iii - Letter to ruler of Rome.
- iv - Letter to ruler of Egypt.
- v - Letter to Governor of Bahrain.
- vi - Letter to Governor of Yamana.
- vii - Letter to King of Oman.

A few of recipients kings accepted the invitation such as, governor of Bahrain and Oman, while a few read the letter but did not accept Islam.

However, King of Persia tore apart letter of Holy Prophet (SAW).

But, this diplomatic activity presents a picture of high morality and knowledge of Holy Prophet (SAW) and His Prudence in dealing International relations.

9- Delegates to other countries:

Hazrat Muhammad (SAW) kept sending envoys to different areas with the message of Islam. However, some of them were killed by kings and rulers but Holy Prophet (SAW) never brutally treated any envoy of countries.

Instead he build inns and guest houses for foreign Envoys. while, taking care of Envoys to His fullest.

10. Present giving to Envoys.

Hazrat Muhammad (SAW) started a tradition of gift giving to foreign delegates with important and expensive gifts to show a sense of hospitality.

11. Sending Economic Aids

Hazrat Muhammad (SAW) also set examples of sending economic aids even His enemies and gave them a positive gesture of peace and cooperation always. He also signed peace treaty to end anarchy of ignorant time and asked foreign delegates for help in research about Islam.

CONCLUSION:

Putting all of this discussion in a nut shell, it can be analyzed that the diplomatic activities of Holy Prophet (SAW) has set such a remarkable set of examples that if today's world would follow those examples and tacticts then they would be able to end conflicts and disputes.

QUESTION #03

REFORMS & ADMINISTRATION OF 2ND CALIPH

1. INTRODUCTION:

Hazrat UMER (RA) was the second caliph of Islam. The history is full of examples and incidents of courage and high-morality and administration of Hazrat Umer (RA). Hazrat Umer (RA) belonged to Adi Family. He was a person who was against Islam and Hazrat Muhammad (SAW) prayed for (Him) to get entered into the circle of Islam. Hazrat Umer (RA) played a commendable role to expand muslim empire and the establishment of Administrative system of Islam. He set such a systematic system of management and administration that western nations found themselves optionless except following his patterns.

2. Holy Prophet SAW's Pray For Hazrat Umer (R.A)

“O Allah! strengthen Islam with either Umar bin al-Khattab or Umar bin al-Hisham whomsoever

You please 99

Above mentioned Pray of Holy Prophet (SAW) shows that He was aware of capabilities and abilities of Hazrat Umer (R.A). Therefore, He Prayed to help strengthening Islam.

III. ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS OF

HAZRAT UMER (RA)

Throughout Islamic History, One can find thousands of initiatives and reforms done by Hazrat Umer (RA) and those reforms helped in expansion of Islamic state, while putting it on a systematic and administrative footings.

1. Pioneer of Islamic Democracy:

Hazrat Umer (RA) is considered Pioneer of Islamic democracy for the first time. West which considers itself modern does not know that the system which they evolved around 19th and 20th century was basically set by Hazrat Umer (RA) for the very first time in human history.

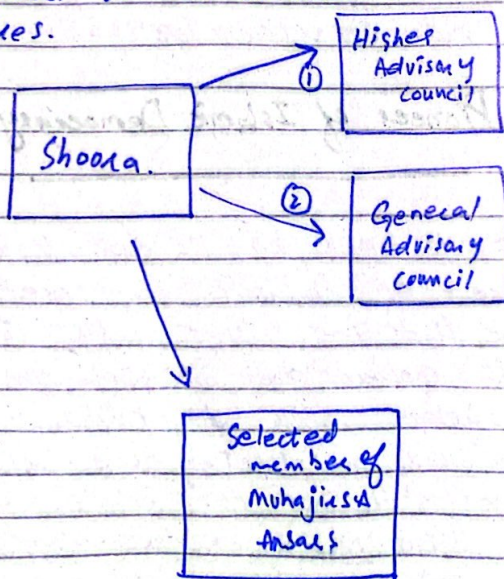
As Quoted by Syed Ameer Ali;

"During the 30 years that the Republic lasted, the policy derived its character chiefly from Umar both during his lifetime and after his death."

So, Hazrat Umar (RA) set such an unparalleled and unmatched example of democracy in the history of mankind.

2. DEVELOPMENT OF CONSULTATION SHOORA.

Hazrat Umar (RA) for the first time made a council of ministers named as Majlis-i-Shoora or consultation Shoora. It was divided into 3 types.



The first council consists of members like :

- 1 - Hazrat Uthman (RA)
- 2 - Hazrat Abdul Rahman bin Auf
- 3 - Ubayy bin Kaab
- 4 - Maad bin Jabal
- 5 - Zaid bin Thabit
- 6 - Talha
- 7 - Zubair
- 8 - Hazrat Ali (RA)

The second council consisted of:

- 1 - Ansaar and Muhajirs.
- 2 - Chiefs of various clans and tribes.

While, the third assembly was having members from Muhajirs and Ansaar.

Hence, a constitution was also developed by this council to administer Islamic state systematically.

3. Way to call Council:

Hazrat Umar (RA) devised a way of calling all the members of councils on the day of Jumah on

"As-Sala-tul-Juma".

Additionally, it was a habit of

Hazrat Umar to offer 2 Rakat
nafl before shower.

4. Provincial Administration.

Hazrat Umar (RA) also did
developments in provincial administration.
Wali (governors) were selected to
run machinery of administration
at provincial level. Walis were
chief administrators in their
provinces and they were also given
salaries.

Besides, under Provincial administra-
tion, a few other officers were
also established, such as.

- 1- Treasury.
- 2- Revenue collectors.
- 3- Chief Police officers.
- 4- The civil Judge. (Al-Qadi)

5. POLICE DEPARTMENT & Administration.

Hazrat Umar (RA) was the first
Head of state who established
police department throughout
the history.

Police officer was called as
sahib-ul-Ahdath and
police department was termed

as Ahlath.

Hazrat Umei (RA) was also the first person who brought concept of Prisons.

He bought five houses in Makkah and used them as Jail.

Similarly, in various provinces, jails were made.

5. BAIT-UL-MAL & REVENUE ADMINISTRATION.

During reign of Hazrat Umei (RA), the department of Baitul-Mal or treasury enlarged exponentially.

He reformed system on the basis of justice and equality.

The sources of revenue generation were:

- 1 - Jizya (defence Tax)
- 2 - Zakat (Poor tax)
- 3 - Khiraj (Land Tax)
- 4 - Ushr (Special land tax)
- 5 - Booty (income from conquered areas).

6 - Tax on non-muslims merchants and traders.

Hazrat Umei (RA) for the first time introduced tax on non-muslims merchants and traders.

Similarly, to avoid corruption and illegal means and deeds, Hazrat Umar imposed a strict check and balance system and officers of treasury were given high salaries, so that they must not get greedy because of poor salaries.

7. CONSTRUCTION OF MASJIDS and SCHOOLS:

Hazrat Umar (RA) ordered all walis in their respective provinces and cities to build schools and masjids for religious instruction and education of muslim children.

He made 4000 new masjid and extended masjid Haram.

He also covered Kaaba with Egyptian (lith) and Masjid-i-Nabvi was also extended.

8. Introduction of Islamic Calendar.

For the very first time, Hazrat Umar started Islamic calendar and its date was fixed with Hijrah (migration) of Holy Prophet (PBUH).

It was named as^h Hijrah calendar.

9. REGULATED ARMY,

Hazrat Umar (RA) regulated institute of Army by encouraging muslims to join Army. Regular armies were also established, mercenaries were divided into regular and irregular classes.

Army persons were paid well and their families were also given allowances.

Moreover, Contonments were built in Madinah, Kufa, Mosul, Fustat, Damascus, Hims, Jordan, Palestine and Ramla.

10. Establishment of Islamic Centres to preserve Islamic culture:

Hazrat Umar (RA) constructed Islamic Centres to preserve Islamic civilization and culture in different cultures. He also preserved traditions of Holy Prophet (SAW) for the next generation.

CONCLUSION.

Hazrat Umar (RA)'s splendid personality is unmatched throughout history.

Even Holy Prophet (SAW) once said:

“If there were to be a prophet after me he would have been Umar bin Al-Khattab”

(Tirmidhi)

That shows, what a remarkable and confident personality was Hazrat Umar (RA) was. He set such an example of administration that history could not provide such a detailed and systematic revolutionary reforms in past. He was such a prudent person that today's world followed his practices and made most think of greatness of Hazrat Umar (R.A.)