

Q No. 2.

Islamic Civilization has a unique identity. Elaborate its characteristics.

1- INTRODUCTION

Civilization:

It is the process by which a society or place reaches an advanced stage of social and cultural development and organization. Sociologists defined it as an advanced state of human society containing highly developed forms of government, culture, industry and common social norms.

Every civilization poses different and unique characteristics. Since Islam is not just a religion it is a code of life, so it has unique identity and a unique set of characteristics in its civilization. Islam provides a complete civilization with features like its own systems, social norms, culture like no other religion.

2- CHARACTERISTICS OF ISLAMIC CIVILIZATION:

Islamic civilization has unique characteristics that provides a code for living as a society. The characteristics of Islamic Civilization are following.

a. Tawhid:- Oneness of Allah

The primary feature of Islamic civilization is belief in Oneness of God (Allah). A belief that there is no deity except All-Mighty Allah and He alone is worthy of worship and all kinds of

praise. He has no beginning and no end and created everything from scratch. He provides sustenance for all living creatures. Tawhid can be ~~chata~~ categorized into three forms-

i. Tawhid - Oneness in Person (توحيد الذات)

It is believing that Allah is the only one worthy of praise and worship and He alone created this universe without any partner. As the Surah Ikhlas mentioned:

"Say: He is Allah - the only one. Allah - the ~~sur~~ sustainer needed by all. He has never had offsprings nor was he born. And there is none comparable to him" (Surah Ikhlas - 1-4)

Surah Ikhlas mentions that Allah is the only one who is the sustainer and who never ~~ere~~ gave birth to anyone nor born and no one can ~~hold~~ be held comparable to Him

ii. Oneness in Attributes (توحيد الصفات)

Allah is the only one worthy of all attributes. He is The King, All-Mighty, The Most Merciful, The Creator and as Muslims we have a firm belief in that. As Allah mentioned in Quran:

"And to Allah belong the best names, so invoke Him by them"

(Surah Al-A'araf)

Islamic civilization hold firm belief that Allah has the is the worthy of all the attributes and has the best names.

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iii) Oneness in Action (توحيد في الفعل)

Allah has created this entire universe and all the creatures in it alone. He is the Creator and Sustainer of everything. He does not need any help from anyone nor that anyone is worthy of help against Him. As Surah Maidah mentions that sovereignty of everything belongs to Allah.

"To God belongs the sovereignty of the heavens and the Earth and what lies in them, and He has power over everything."

(Al-Maidah)

Islamic civilization's first and primary belief is in the Oneness of Allah in person, attributes and actions and no believer can negate it.

b- Self - Purification - Tazkiyah tun-Nafs

Tazkiyah is an Arabic word, literally translated to purifying something and Tazkiyah tun Nafs refers to the act of purifying soul from all kinds of evils thoughts and deeds. One of the primary motive of Muslim's life is to submit to his Creator and worship Him - As Allah mentioned in Quran.

"I did not create the jinn and the humans except to worship me" ~ (Az-Zariyat)

And to completely submit to Allah, one needs to purify his soul because without purification, he cannot worship Allah out of pure love. The key feature of Islamic civilization is to help believers purify their souls so that they can completely submit to Allah. Self purification not only help individual but also help the society to attain unity and blessings of Allah. Hazrat Muhammad (S.A.W) primary duty was to purify people's soul to help them to knowledge and wisdom. as said in Surah Al-Jumu'ah:

"It is he who sent among the unlettered a messenger from themselves; reciting His revelations to them and purifying them, and teaching them the Scripture and Wisdom; although they were in obvious error before that" ~ (Al-Jumu'ah)

Self-purification is the basis for success in both worlds and Islamic civilization. helps people to achieve it.

c. Dignity of Man

Islam propagates the dignity of human beings and Islamic civilization incorporates it. Allah has created humans in the best form and regarded/favoured them over his other creatures. He endowed humans with wisdom - a characteristic only exclusive to them. Allah mentions in surah bani israel:

"We have honored the Children of Adam, and ^{carried} created them on land and sea, and provided them with good things and greatly favoured them over many of those We created."

(Bani-Israel - 70)

Allah has ordered angels to prostrate before Adam and He Himself mentions His love for human beings. The love and honor is greatly propagated in Islamic civilization, it teaches how important a man is and how every other creature is created for his service.

d. Equality:

Islam propagates equality. In Islamic civilization no one is superior to other on the basis of race, tribe, color, caste or creed and the only thing that distinct us is piety in the sight of Allah as he mentioned in Quran

"O people! We created you from a male and a female, and put you in tribes, that you may know one another. The best among you in

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The sight of Allah is the one who is the most righteous. Allah is all knowing, well-experienced."

(Al-Hujrat - 13)

The messenger prophet Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W) also mentioned it in his last sermon and stressed that no one is superior to anyone, we all are equal in the sight of Allah. ~~and~~ In Islamic civilization, not only Muslims but also non-Muslims are given equal rights to live their lives.

e. Social Justice:

Islamic civilization instill social justice that no one to be considered superior in terms of wealth and social status and will not be awarded any opportunities and privileges. Everyone is equal in society and justice is to be served above the social status of a person.

f. Moral Values

Islamic civilizations teaches us high moral values like dignity, piety, truthfulness, tolerance, just, kindness, generosity etc. - A person with only high morals must be the leader of the civilization. A person whose character reflects the characters of Prophet (S.A.W), the person praised by Allah himself.

"And you are of a great moral character" (Al-Qalam)

Hazrat Muhammad (S.A.W) described as a person with good values as someone who is good in his conduct.

"The best of you is the best among you in conduct"

(Bukhari and Muslim)

Islamic civilization preaches good moral values and a person who poses these can rule the society.

g. Rule of Law:

It is an extremely important feature of Islamic civilization that must be upheld at all costs to maintain law and order.

Rule of law refers that no one is above law prescribed by Shariah and Muslims are bound to follow every law that is formulated for their betterment in an Islamic society provided that it does not contradict with Shariah. Islam puts great emphasis on it so that no powerful could get away with what he has done and everyone enjoys equality in the eyes of law.

CONCLUSION

Islamic civilization is a unique civilization that upholds the principles of equality, social justice, rule of law and moral values like no other civilizations. It

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bounds people to a system where everyone is treated equally and justly without any discrimination.

Q.No.1

Elaborate human rights in The context of farewell sermon of Prophet (S.A.W)

INTRODUCTION:

Human rights have always been emphasized by Quran and Prophet (S.A.W) - The Messenger of Allah (S.A.W) not only throughout his life emphasized on the rights of people through his words and actions but also mentioned it in his last sermon.

Human Rights in Islam:

Right in Arabic translates to "haqq" meaning legal right of a person given to him by Shariah (Islamic law). Haqq plural is huquq. In Islam there are two types of huquq i.e. - huquq Ullah (Rights of Allah) involving worships not exclusive to any individual. The other one is huquq ul-ibad (Rights of people) these rights are exclusive to individuals given to them by Shariah including right to property, dignity etc.

Islam has given rights to people at the time when people with lower status were treated inhumanely and powerful had all the power.

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The Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W) has always treated other people with respect and equal to him despite their color, race or status. He remained the flag bearer of human rights all his life, before and after Prophethood. His last sermon delivered at during Hajj is considered the first charter of Human rights in mankind's history.

Human Rights in context to farewell sermon:

Hazrat Muhammad (S.A.W) gave his farewell sermon during Hajj. The sermon highlighted many important aspects of Islam and one of them is human rights. He (S.A.W) put stress on the importance of human rights and how one should always ensure that the rights of his fellow humans are protected and respected. His last sermon is considered the first charter of human rights in history. The key takeaways are as follows-

1. Sanctity of Life and Property:-

Hazrat Muhammad (S.A.W) emphasized that a person's life and property are as important as the holy month of R. Dhul-Hijjah and the holy place of Arafat. He said-

"Your blood and your property are as sacred as this Day and this Month and this city"

The sanctity of life and property

important human rights and anyone who strip someone of this right is guilty of great offense.

2. Rights of Women.

In The last sermon, Prophet (S.A.W) repeatedly mentions to be mindful in treating women. He said (S.A.W)

"O people! Fear Allah concerning women.

Verily you have taken them on The security of Allah and have made their persons lawful unto you by words of Allah.....

If your wives refrain from impropriety and are faithful to you, clothe and feed them suitably."

He repeatedly mentioned to be fearful of Allah when dealing with women and those who are your wives taken on The security of Allah, treat them properly.

3. Rights of Husbands.

In addition to rights of wives Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W) also advised wives to treat their husbands with respect and honour.

He ^(S.A.W) said

"It is incumbent upon them (wives) to honor their conjugal rights and not to commit impropriety which if they do, you have the authority to chastise them, yet not severely"

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Hazrat Muhammad (S.A.W) mentioned that women should be faithful to their husbands and if they commit impropriety, husbands have the right to deal with them but not severely -

CONCLUSION:

Human rights is one subjected that has been emphasized in Islam at several stages and Hazrat Muhammad (S.A.W) has been a best example in his conduct with other people. He taught about the rights of other people all his life and even preached about it in his last sermon.