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Islamic Studies

PART-II

Question: 4

Explain the doctrine of Tauheed.
Discuss its importance in human life.

Introduction:

The doctrine of Tauheed, an Arabic term meaning "the oneness of Allah", is a foundational concept in Islam that underscores the belief in the absolute unity and uniqueness of God. This doctrine is not only theological but also deeply practical, shaping the worldview, ethics and daily practice of Muslims worldwide. Understanding Tauheed is essential for comprehending the essence of Islam and its profound impact on human life.

Definition of Tauheed:

Tauheed is the belief that there is only one God, Allah, who is the creator, sustainer and sovereign of the universe. It emphasizes that Allah is distinct from the transcendent above his creation, possessing unique attributes and qualities that set him apart from anything else.

Tauheed affirms that there is no deity worthy of worship except Allah, and he has no partners or associates in his divinity.

"Say, He is Allah [who is] one,
Allah, the Eternal Refuge,

He neither begets nor is born,
Nor is there to Him any equivalent"

Surah Al-Ikhlās

Categories of Tauheed:

Tauheed is often categorized into three main aspects.

1. Tauheed-ar-Rububiyah:

This aspect pertains to the oneness of Allah in His lordship, acknowledging that He alone is the creator,

He is alone is the Creator, Sustainer, and Controller of all things in the universe.

"That is Allah, you Lord; There is no deity except Him, the Creator of all things, so worship Him - And He is Disposer of all things"

Surah Al-Anam

2. Tauheed al-Ulubiyyah :

This aspect focuses on the oneness of Allah in worship, affirming that all acts of worship must be directed solely to Him, without associating any partners with Him.

"And your god is one God, There is no deity [worthy of worship] except Him, the Entirely Merciful"

Surah Al-Baqara

3. Tauheed al-Asma wa as-Sifat :

This aspect concerns the oneness of Allah is His names and attributes, recognizing that His names and attributes are unique to Him and cannot be likened to anything in creation.

9.05.2024

④

Importance of Tauheed in Human Life:

The doctrine of Tauheed holds significant importance in human life for several reasons:

(i) Spiritual Fulfillment:

Belief in Tauheed provides profound spiritual fulfillment by establishing a direct and intimate connection between individual and their Creator.

This connection fosters a sense of purpose, meaning and tranquility of life.

(ii) Moral Guidance:

Tauheed serves as a moral compass, guiding individuals towards ethical behavior and righteous conduct.

Believers, understood their actions are ultimately accountable to Allah, encouraging them to uphold justice, compassion and honesty in all aspect of life.

9-05-2024

3. Unity and Equality =

Tauheed promotes unity among believers by emphasizing the equality of all humanity before Allah.

- Regardless of race
- Ethnicity
- Social status

Individuals unite in their shared belief in the oneness of God, fostering a sense of brotherhood and solidarity within the Muslim community.

"O mankind, indeed we have created you from male and female and made you people and tribes that you may know one another"

Surah Al-Hujrat

4. Purpose and Direction :

Belief in Tauheed provides a clear sense of purpose and direction in life, reminding individuals of their ultimate goal of worshipping and obeying Allah. The awareness shapes their priorities, goals and aspirations guiding them towards a life of righteousness and piety.

9-05-2024

(6)

9-05-2024

5. Protection from Shirk:

Understanding Tauheed Safeguards individuals from shirk, the gravest sin in Islam which involves associating partners with Allah or attributing divine attributes to other beside Him.

By maintaining the purity of the monotheistic belief, individuals preserve their spiritual integrity and avoid spiritual deviation.

Summary of Ideas Presented:

In summary, the doctrine of Tauheed lies at the core of Islamic faith, exerting a profound influence on the beliefs, values and practices of Muslim worldwide. It is importance in human life cannot be overstated, as it provides spiritual fulfillment, moral guidance, unity, purpose and the protection from spiritual deviation, shaping individuals' lives in accordance with the teaching of Islam.

9.05-2024

(7)

Question: 5

How does Islam highlight the dignity of women and greatness by giving them all rights as human? Discuss.

Introduction:

Islam places great emphasis on the dignity and rights of women, affirming their equality with men as human beings and recognizing their inherent greatness. Through its teaching and principles, Islam grants women comprehensive rights and safeguards their dignity, acknowledging their vital role in society. This recognition is evident in various aspects of Islamic teachings, including legal, social and moral frameworks.

Understanding how Islam highlights the dignity of women and acknowledges their greatness involves examining teaching on gender equality, rights and responsibilities within the framework of Islamic principles and values.

9.05.2024

8 Rights of Women in Islam:

Islam highlights the dignity of women and acknowledges their greatness by granting them comprehensive rights as human beings.

Here's how Islam does so:

1. Equality before Allah:

Islam emphasizes that all human beings are created from a single soul, are therefore equal in their humanity. This equality before Allah forms the basis for recognizing the dignity and worth of women.

"The men and women are equal in the sight of Allah"

Surah Al-Hujurat

2. Equal Spiritual Status:

Islam affirms that women have equal spiritual responsibilities and opportunities for worship as men. Both men and women are obligated to fulfill religious duties such as; Salah, Sawm, Zakat, Hajj.

9-05-2024

(9)

There is no distribution/distinction in the reward of spiritual merit based on gender.

3. Rights to Education and Knowledge:

Islam encourages the pursuit of knowledge for both men and women. The Prophet Muhammad (SAW) emphasized the importance of seeking knowledge for all Muslims, regardless of gender. Women in early Islamic societies were (scholars, teachers, mentors) contributing significantly to the intellectual and cultural development of Muslim societies.

4. Respect and Honour:

Islam emphasizes the importance of respecting and honoring women. According to the Quran's; Believers to treat women with kindness, compassion and dignity. Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) also exemplified noble behavior towards women, advocating for their rights and dignified treatment in society.

(10)

9.05.2024

5. Protection from Exploitation and Abuse:

Islam prohibits the exploitation and abuse of women and emphasizes the importance of providing them with physical, emotional and financial security.

Islamic teaching condemns practices such as:

- Adultery
- Rape
- Domestic violence
- Forced marriage

Seeking to uphold the dignity and well-being of women.

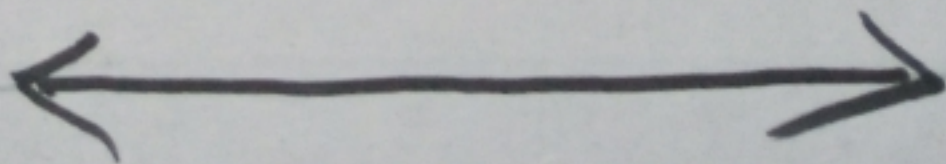
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(11)

Conclusion :

In conclusion, Islam stands as a beacon of dignity and greatness for women by granting them all rights as human beings. In upholding the dignity of women, Islam reinforces the profound truth that honoring and respecting women is not just a matter of social justice, but also a fundamental aspect of faith and righteousness.

Thus, Islam's recognition of women's right and greatness serves as a testament to its commitment to justice, compassion and equality for all human beings, regardless of gender.



9.05.2024

(12)

Question: 7

Religious and political extremism in the world as the outcomes of human rights and Islamophobia - Critically evaluate.

Introduction:

The rise of religious and political extremism is a significant global concern, often attributed to various socio-political factors. Among these two prominent factors are the suppressions of human rights and Islamophobia. This statement critically evaluates the assertion that these phenomena are primary drivers of extremism, while acknowledging the influence of these factors, it also explores the multifaceted nature of extremism, considering additional factors that contribute to its proliferation. By examining the complex interplay between suppression of human rights, Islamophobia and extremism, this analysis, seek to provide insight into the underlying dynamics.

Religious and political extremism, is a complex phenomenon influenced by various factors, including the suppression of human rights and Islamophobia.

1. Suppression of Human Rights:

Extremism often thrives in environments where the human rights are violated or suppressed.

When individuals or groups feel marginalized, oppressed or deprived of their basic rights, they may turn to extremism as means of expressing their grievances or seeking power.

2. Islamophobia:

Islamophobia, the irrational fear or prejudice against Islam and Muslims, can contribute to the radicalization of individuals who feel marginalized or discriminated against due to religious identity.

(14)

"And do not mix the truth with falsehood or conceal the truth while you know it"

Surah Al-Baqara

3. Complexity of Extremism:

The suppression of Human rights and Islamophobia can be contributing factors to extremism, it is essential to recognize that extremism is a multifaceted phenomenon with diverse root causes.

Extremist groups often exploit a range of grievances, real or perceived to recruit followers and advance their agendas, including the

- Religious
- Nationalist
- Ideological grievances.

(15)

4. Importance of Addressing Root Causes of Islamophobia:

To effectively counter extremism, it is a crucial to address the underlying root causes including;

- Suppression of human rights
- Islamophobia.

Governments and societies must work to promote inclusivity, tolerance and respect for diversity, ensuring that all individuals, regardless of their religious or cultural background, are treated with dignity and afforded equal rights and opportunities.

Combating Islamophobia requires challenging stereotypes, promoting interfaith dialogue and fostering greater understanding and empathy between different communities.

(16)

9.05.2024

Summary of the Ideas Presented:

The suppression of human rights and Islamophobia can contribute to religious and political extremism,

They are not the sole determinants.

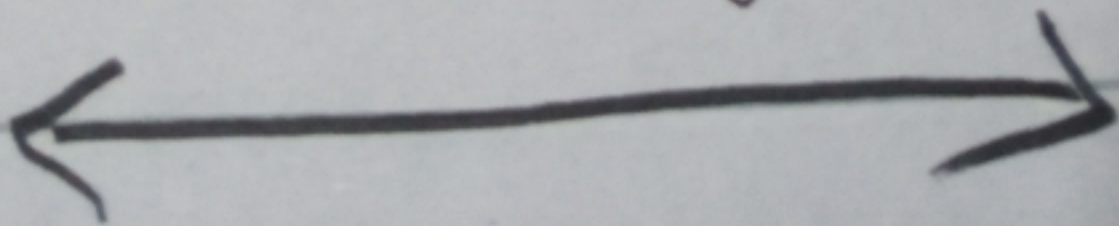
Extremism is a multifaceted phenomenon influenced by a range of factors, including socio-economic conditions, political grievances and ideological indoctrinations.

Addressing extremism requires a comprehensive approach that tackles its root causes while promoting

• Tolerance

• Inclusivity

• Respect the human rights.



(17)

Question: 8

Write short notes on the following:

- i. Ijma and Qiyas (Consensus and Analogy)

Introduction:

In Islamic jurisprudence, the principles of Ijma (Consensus) and Qiyas (Analogy) serve as essential tools for deriving legal rulings in situations where direct guidance from the Quran and Hadith may be insufficient or ambiguous.

These two principles represent foundational aspects of Islamic legal methodology, providing mechanisms for interpreting and applying Islamic law in diverse contexts.

Ijma :

Ijma (Consensus), reflects the collective agreement of scholars within the Islamic community.

Qiyas :

Qiyas (Analogy), involves reasoning by analogy to extend legal principles from established cases to address new or similar situations.

The Concept of Ijma :

- (i) It is considered one of the primary source of Islamic law.
- (ii) Ijma holds significant weight in Islamic jurisprudence because it reflects the collective agreement of the scholarly community.
- (iii) Scholar emphasizes that Ijma should be based on the consensus of qualified jurists who possess expertise in Islamic law and theology.
- (iv) Ijma is often used to resolve new legal issues or interpret ambiguous text in light of prevailing social, cultural and contextual considerations.

(19)

The Concept of Qiyas:

- (i) Qiyas entails identifying an original legal ruling (Asb) from the Quran, Hadith
- (ii) Qiyas allows Islamic jurists to extend legal principles from established cases to address contemporary issues or situations not explicitly addressed in traditional source.
- (iii) Qiyas is regarded as a tool for legal reasoning and interpretation, enabling the adaptation of Islamic law to changing social and technological contexts while maintaining its foundational principles.

(20)

9.05.2024

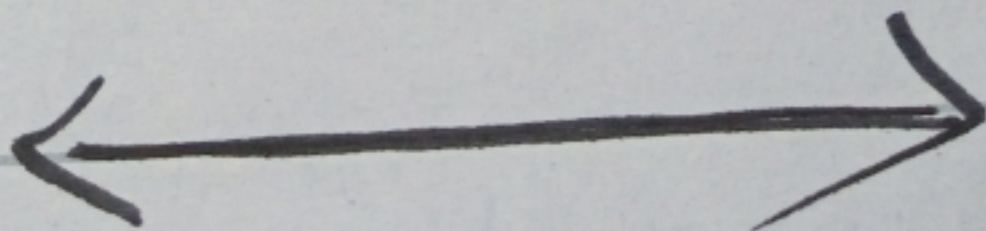
Summary of the Ideas Presented:

In Summary, Ijma (Consensus) and Qiyas (Analogy) are the integral components of Islamic legal methodology, providing mechanism for deriving legal ruling in situation when the Quran and Hadith

is explaining widely.

Together, these principles contribute to the dynamic nature of Islamic jurisprudence, allowing for the interpretation and applications of Islamic law in diverse context throughout

history.



(21)

ii. Responsibilities of Civil Servants in Islam

Introduction :

In Islam, the role of civil servants is imbued with profound responsibilities that reflect the principles of justice, accountability and service to society.

Civil Servants play a crucial role in governance and administration, entrusted with the task of upholding the values and ideas of Islam while serving the needs and interest of the community.

Key Responsibilities of Civil Servant in Islam:

These are the following characteristics of civil servant in Islam.

1. Upholding Justice:

Civil servants are expected to uphold justice in their duties and interactions with the public. Islam emphasizes the importance of fairness, equity and impartiality in governance and administration.

Civil Servant are tasked with ensuring the laws and regulations are applied fairly and that all individuals are treated equally before the law.

2. Serving the Public Interest:

Civil Servants have a duty to serve the public interest and welfare. Islam encourages altruism and selflessness in service to others, and Civil Servants are expected to prioritize the well-being and prosperity of society above personal interests or agendas.

3. Accountability and Transparency :

Civil Servants are accountable to both the government and the public for their action and decision. They are expected to fulfill their responsibilities conscientiously and to be answerable for their actions before both earthly authorities and ultimately before law.

4. Avoiding Corruption and

Abuse of Power :

Islam strictly prohibited corruption and abuse of power in all forms. Civil Servants are entrusted with authority and response to resources for the benefits of society. They must exercise the authority responsibly and ethically.

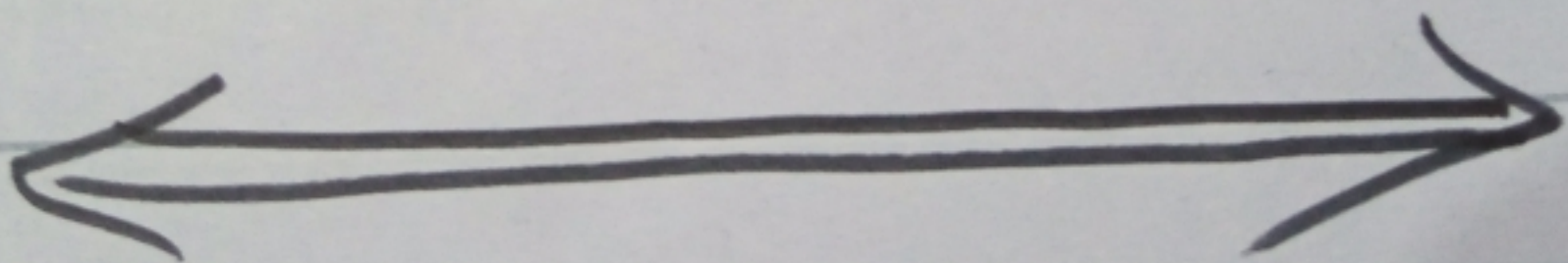
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24

Conclusion:

In conclusion, civil servants in Islam bear significant responsibilities centered on justice, service to society, accountability, integrity and respect for human dignity and rights.

By fulfilling these responsibilities conscientiously and ethically, **civil servants** play a crucial role in promoting goals, good governance, social justice, and the well-being of communities in accordance with the principles of Islam.



THE END