

ISLAMIAT

PART - II

Question no. 4

Islam is a complete deen that provides guidance in every sphere of life. By following the teachings of Islam, a person can never be led astray which will ensure his success in this life and hereafter. Islam has imposed a proper system of checks and balances to ensure that nobody is exploited and rights of all citizens are protected.

The system of sadka and zakaat plays a similar role where it ensures the circulation of wealth and provides prosperity of a society.

1) System of sadka and zakaat in Islam

Islam has stressed great importance of giving sadka and zakaat to poor. Its importance can be understood from the fact that it has been mentioned in Quran for 150 times. Sadka and Zakaat play key role in establishing peace in a society.

Zakaat is imposed on people who

have accumulated a certain amount of wealth. Then according to their wealth, they are bound to give a certain amount, which is equivalent to 2.5% of their total assets, to the poor. It is ~~not~~ mandatory to pay zakaat annually on yearly income and assets. On the other hand, sadka can be paid at any time of the year and any number of times. No specific amount is specified for sadka either. A person can give as much sadka as he wants according to his will. Through zakaat a person purifies his wealth. There are numerous social, moral and spiritual effects of zakaat which will be discussed below.

2) Social Effects of Sadka and Zakaat

Sadka and zakaat have profound impacts on a society including circulation of wealth, eradication of extreme poverty, increase in living standards, etc.

a) Circulation of Wealth

The system of sadka and zakaat ensure circulation of wealth. In this way, wealth does not accumulate among the few elites but instead

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it spreads across the society. The richer you are, the more zakat you will pay which ensure equity in a society.

b) Eradication of Extreme Poverty

Through the system of sadka and zakat, the wealth from the top trickles down to the very bottom. In this way nobody faces extreme poverty. This ensure peace in society.

c) Reduction in Crime Rate

When basic needs of people are fulfilled, they do not feel compelled to resort to crime. Desperation for survival often leads people to commit petty crimes. Since sadka and zakat promotes circulation of wealth, nobody faces perils of extreme poverty.

d) Rise in Living Standards

System of sadka and zakat improves overall living standards of a society. Those who normally live hand to mouth and are otherwise unable to improve their living conditions, get this golden opportunity through sadka and zakat.

3) Moral Effects of Sadka and Zakat

There are numerous moral effects of sadka and zakat as it eradicates love for wealth and inculcates sense of responsibility in a person.

a) Eradicates love for Wealth

As the person is bound to give specific amount of his wealth to poor, his love for wealth eradicates. He finds his real purpose on Earth. He lets go of the materialistic approach and works for the betterment of society.

b) Inculcates Sense of Responsibility

When Allah blesses a person with wealth, he feels a sense of responsibility towards poor. He becomes sympathetic to them. Then instead of becoming greedy, he spends that wealth in the poor.

c) Humility

When a person ~~sees~~ sees how blessed he is and how the One who has provided him with wealth also has the power to take it, he truly understands the real value of a human and becomes humble.

4) Spiritual Effects of Sadka and Zakat

A person develops a strong spiritual connection with Allah by given sadka and zakat. The person realizes his true purpose on Earth.

a) Reduces Love for Life

The system of sadka and zakat helps eradicate the desire for materialistic things and reduces love for life.

b) Realisation of true Purpose of Life

A person understands his true purpose on Earth is to serve humanity. In this way instead of accumulating wealth, he spends it for the betterment of society.

c) Submission to Allah

Giving sadka and zakat is an example of submitting to the orders of Allah. In this way, a person develops a strong connection with Allah.

5) Conclusions:

The system of sadka and zakat plays a crucial role in betterment of a society. Only through establishing this system can we ensure peace and prosperity.

Question no. 8

a) Accountability in Islam

As the world is an unjust place, Islam has established a system of ~~the~~ accountability that will ensure justice for all. Allah is all knowing. He sees everything. He knows what a person does in secret and in public. He has assigned two angels to every human being. One writes ~~to~~ all the good deeds a person performs and the other writes all his bad deeds. In this way, complete life of a person is being documented. On the day of Judgement, every person would be brought in the court of Allah. All their deeds would be placed before them and they would be answerable for each and every one of their deeds. Each and every one of the good deed would be rewarded while a person would be punished for each and every one of the bad deeds. This system of accountability ensures that Muslims follow the right path and stay away from bad deeds. It also ensures that a person does not go astray when no one is watching because Allah is always watching.

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b) Characteristics of Islamic Civilizations

Muslims ruled the world for as long as they followed the Islamic principles. As soon as they gave up those principles, they lost the power. Today the west is following more of the Islamic principles of governance than the Muslim countries. It is due to this reason that the west is successful today. Following were the characteristics of Islamic Civilizations:

1) Rule of Law

There was rule of law which ensured that nobody was above law. Everybody was equal in the eyes of law. There was no discrimination on the basis of caste, color or creed. All violators, no matter their status in society, were held accountable for their actions.

2) System of Accountability

Everybody was held accountable for their actions. Poor and rich were treated equally. Same punishment was imposed on all, no matter their status in society. This system of accountability ensured peace and helped in keeping the crime rate low.

3) Transparency

Transparency was ensured among government officials which discouraged corrupt practices. It also increased trust of people in government.

4) Equality for All

All citizens of the state were given equal opportunities irrespective of their gender, caste or religion. They were treated equally before law. This ensured peace and national integration.

5) Right Man for Right Job

They ensured that right man was appointed for the right job which resulted into prosperity in every field.

6) No Nepotism

Nepotism was discouraged and meritocracy prevailed in society. People were appointed solely on the basis of their skills and abilities which ensured success in every field.

8) Conclusion

If Muslims today adopt these qualities and principles, they will surely become successful.

in this life and Hereafter.

Question no. 5

Islam is indeed a complete code of life that provides guidance in every sphere. It is a flexible religion which transcends the concept of time. Islamic principles would always stay relevant.

Its flexibility can be understood by the concept of Ijtihad. It is a practice that ensure that all modern problems are addressed in the light of Quran and sunnah.

i) The Teachings of Quran Transcend Time

Allah, Himself, has taken the responsibility of protection ~~is~~ of Quran which means that the teachings of Quran will never change.

Moreover, these teaching would stay relevant forever. Quran will always be a beacon of light for the generations to come. It provides and will always provide guidance to people of all ages.

2) Concept of Ijtihad

Ijtihad is a process in which ullemas gather to discuss a certain issue and to provide its solution. According to the nature of issue, Ijtihad can be arranged at a national, regional or international level.

As the world is changing, new problems are arising so to tackle those problems and to provide their solutions in the light of Quran and Sunnah, ullemas gather to discuss. ~~His gathering~~ ~~to~~ they then come up with a solution that helps people make right choices. This process is known as Ijtihad.

3) Principles of Ijtihad

An Ijtihad can be of a national, regional or international nature depending on the issues being discussed. A national Ijtihad is bound on nationals of that state while the principles of international Ijtihad are ~~bindit~~ binding on all. This principle ensures unity among Muslims and helps curb polarization and dispute among them.

4) Importance in Modern Times

As the world is changing, new problems are arising which were never there in times of Holy Prophet (SAW). So to clear all confusions regarding ~~modern~~ modern issues, Islam has given us the system of Ijtihad. In this process, Ulemas gather and discuss modern problems and then provide their insight in the light of Quran and Sunnah for the world to follow. Following points emphasize the importance of Ijtihad in modern times:

a) Unity among Muslims

Ijtihad ensures that no dispute arises on the basis of difference of opinion. It helps curb down polarizations by providing a single path for all to follow. This ensures unity among Muslim nations and help them work together for their prosperity.

b) Ensures Relevancy of Quranic Teachings

Through the process of Ijtihad, modern problems are also addressed in the light of Quran and Sunnah which ensures the relevancy of Quranic teachings. In this way Quranic principles would always stay relevant for the generations to come.

c) Ultimate source of Guidance in all spheres

In this way, Islam becomes the ultimate source of guidance in all spheres of life. By the process of Ijtihad, it ensures that Muslims get the guidance even in the matters regarding modern problem. In this way Muslims stay updated and equipped to deal with any problem thrown their way.

5) Conclusion

The process of Ijtihad is a crucial element of Muslim societies. It helps Muslims to deal with modern problems. It also ensures peace among societies by curbing polarization.

Question no. 7

Islam provides guidance to Muslims in every sphere of life may it be personal, social, political, administrative, etc. By following those principles, Muslims can become successful in this as well as the life hereafter.

1) Principles of State Affairs and Good Society in the light of Islamic Teachings

Islam has provided such principles that can become epitome of society. By following those principles, society can ensure prosperity and success. Following are the principles of state affairs and good society as set down by Islamic teachings:

a) Rule of law

Government should ensure rule of all where all citizens are treated equally in the eyes of law. Same punishments are imposed on violators irrespective of caste, color and creed.

b) System of Accountability

There should be a proper system of accountability which ensures that every person is held accountable for his actions. This will decrease crime rate and ensure peace in society.

c) Transparency

A system of transparency should be imposed among government officials to ensure that no one falls prey to corrupt practices. This will help create trust among people on the government.

d) Equality For All

The government should ensure that all citizens are treated with equality. There are equal opportunities for all to grow and flourish. Everybody is equal before law. This will ensure peace and prosperity of a society.

e) Right person for Right Job

The government should ensure that right person is appointed for the right job so that all institutions are run with full efficiency and maximum outcome.

f) Meritocracy

A system of meritocracy should be implemented which would ensure that a person is appointed solely on the basis of his skills and abilities. The culture of nepotism should be highly discouraged as it corrodes any institution where it prevails.

2) Renaissance of Muslim Ummah

If the Muslims countries today start following the Islamic principles, then no power on Earth would be able to bring them down. They would be become so powerful that they would rise above

all. These Islamic principles are the golden rule for success in this life as well as hereafter. By following all these principles of rule of law, system of accountability, transparency, equality, etc, renaissance of Muslim ummah can be ensured.

3) Conclusion

The society which follows the Islamic principles provide room for people to grow which ultimately leads to their success. When people are at ease, they dedicate their energy towards fruitful activities contributing positively towards society. Therefore, the renaissance of Muslim ummah is possible by implementing Islamic principles in a society.