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ISLAMIC STUDIES

Question 2

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

Introduction:

The doctrine of ~~Akhrot~~ Akhiraah or in other words, the belief in the day of judgement holds immense significance in the religion Islam and ~~its~~ ~~the~~ among the ummah of Prophet P.B.U.H. Furthermore, it also aids muslims in different aspects of their life and helps them to tread on the path ~~of~~ set by the Allah for them.

Explanation of the Doctrine of Akhiraah

The doctrine of Akhiraah or the believe in final judgement is one of the cardinal aspect of Islam. As per the Kalma ~~discuss~~ mentioned below, it's becomes evident cardinal aspect becomes evident:

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أشهد بالله وملائكته ورسوله
واليوم الآخر والقدر ^{خبره} شره من الله تعالى
وأبديت بعد الموت

I believe in Allah, and in the angels,
and the messengers, and in the final
judgement, and that anything good or bad
comes from Allah Almighty, and in life
after death.

Deciphering the Term 'Akhirah':

'Akhirah' as per the Islamic perspective
refers to life after death. The akhirah
could be shiny and happy for those
who act as per Islamic guidelines, whereas
it could become worse for the evil doers.
Allah Almighty says in the Quran

كل نفس ذائقة الموت

Every soul shall taste death

- Al - Quran

The word 'ذائقة' in the very specific
ayah above refers to taste. It means

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that those involved in good deeds will have a better taste of it in the akhirah, whereas the ones involved in persistent pattern of sins will fall ~~at~~ in the category of those having a bad taste. Hence, the souls will either go to land in 'Illieen' or 'Sijeen' depending on their deeds.

Importance of Doctrine of Akhirah in Human Life:

The 'Doctrine of Akhirah' plays an integral role in protecting the muslims from transgressing:

Fear of God: The Path of Piety

The doctrine of Akhirah instills in one the fear of god. It awakens the soul regarding the right and wrong.

In addition to this, it keeps one conscious of their rights and duties per Islamic principles. In the Qur'an Allah

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says

يا ايها الناس اتقوا ربكم الذى
خلقكم من نفس واحدة

O humanity! Be mindful of your
Lord who created you from
a single soul.

The Consciousness of Right or Wrong:

The consciousness of Akhirah
and the belief in final judgement
enables man one to differentiate between
right and wrong. It keeps one's eye
open to the fact that Almighty Allah
is watching and no one ^{that} can ^{one} should
not transgress. For instance, Allah says
in the Qur'an

Do 'Do not transgress'

Al-Quran.

Besides, Allah again mentions in the Qur'an

تأمرون بالمعروف والنهي عن المنكر

enjoining good and forbidding evil

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The Temporary Existence of the Worldly Life

Furthermore, the doctrine of 'Akhirah' holds value in human's life by enabling one to persistently ponder upon the idea that the worldly life is a temporary ^{existence} place and that the final and the everlasting abode is the one after death. Such as in the Qurán Allah Almighty says:

وما الحياة الدنيا الا متاع الزور

And the worldly life is merely an illusionary pleasure.

Al-Qurán.

Soul's Fight Against the Worldly Desires

The sense of Akhirah instills in one the idea of repelling the bodily & evil desires and ~~is~~ attaining the love of Allah. As a fact, the body has an internal battle where the soul

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yearns for the love of Almighty Allah and the body - the physical existence - yearns for the desires that are displeasing To Allah Almighty. Thus, the consciousness of punishment and reward in the Akhirah - that emanates from this very doctrine - enables one to tread on the path loved by Allah. Allah says in the Qur'an:

"For the Mohsineen there is guidance and mercy in the Qur'an"

Al-Quran.

Moreover, it ~~is not the~~ ~~user~~ makes one realize that it is Allah who brings ease in lives and not the temporary worldly desires. Hence, the doctrine of Akhirah makes one feel the peace that comes with submission to Allah. Allah says in the Qur'an:

إِذَا بَلَغَ الْإِنْسَانُ نَجْوَ الْقُلُوبِ

Indeed! In the remembrance of Allah the heart finds peace.

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Strengthens the Believe in Allah and His Greatness:

In addition of to the peace of soul, the doctrine of Akhirah also strengthens one's believe in God Almighty Allah's greatness. It enables one to completely surrender to Allah - to submit one's will and align it to the will of the Almighty. For instance, multiple Surahs reflect the greatness of Allah, Surah Akhlas reflects the strength of Allah in a very beautiful manner:

قل هو الله احد

Say he is Allah the one

الله الصمد

Allah is eternal and absolute

ولم يولد ولم يكن له كفوا احد

He neither begets nor is born

and there is no one comparable to him.

- At-Quran .

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Conclusion:

In a nutshell, the doctrine of Akhiah holds immense importance in life of humans. It awakens the consciousness of humans regarding Allah and the boundaries set by him. Besides, it keeps one intact with the thought of Allah and religion Islam.

Question 5

Describe status and rights of women...

Introduction:

Islam is a complete code of life and has provided rights to women. The status of women is sacred within the boundaries of Islam. Furthermore, the Quran and Sunnah has emphasized the importance of women, and placed them at top in, ~~regard~~ bringing them in equal position to men.

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Pre-Islamic Status of Women: Jahiliyah and Suppression of Women

Before the arrival of Islam, the environment of Arabia was fraught with ignorance. Women were considered as a suppressed faction. People feared the birth of daughters. Furthermore, there was no concept of property possession of women. Heart wrenching tales of the era of Jahiliyah includes the burying of daughters alive. Allah in the Qur'an says:

وَلَا تَقْتُلُوا ^{اولادكم} اطفالكم خشية اطلاق عنن نرقيم
 وَاِيَّاكُمْ اِنْ قَتَلْتُمْ خَطَا كَبِيرًا

And do not kill your children due to the fear of poverty. We alone provide for them and for you (as well). Indeed! The killing of them is a major sin.

Status of Women After the Arrival of Islam:

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After the arrival of Islam, women got the status and rights. These rights cannot be taken away from them. These are obligatory upon every muslim to take care of the rights that are given to women. In a hadith, Prophet P.B.U.H says

Hadith

The rights of women are sacred

Women and Equality:

Islam promotes the idea of equality and that everyone stands below the umbrella of equality. Hence, Islam emphasizes that women are equal to men.

إيها الناس اتقوا ربكم الذي خلقكم
من نفس واحدة

O humanity! Be mindful of your
Lord who created you from
a single soul.

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Furthermore, the farewell sermon of Prophet PBUH also reflects the importance of women and equality. In the sermon Prophet PBUH said

'Be good to your wives'

Women and Education :

Furthermore, Quran and Sunnah also emphasizes on the importance of education for ~~at both~~ every faction of society. In the following Hadiths reflect the idea

Hadiths

~~Verity~~ I

- Education is obligatory for ~~to~~ every Muslim.

Behaviour towards women:

The Quran and Sunnah emphasizes on the softness towards women. This is evident from Prophet's PBUH life. ~~He~~ As he was a walking Quran, his

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softness towards women was quite noteworthy. Hazrat Ayesha RA reports that 'When Prophet PBUH would see Fatima (his daughter) approaching him, he would stand up and would welcome her warmly, and make her sit in the place where he would be sitting'.

Furthermore, Prophet PBUH used to console his wives and guide them. Additionally, one of a story from Prophet's PBUH life best explains the importance of women. When the Islam was revealed upon Prophet PBUH, he came to Khadija RA (his first wife) and said: "cover me! cover me! I feel threat to my life." This reflects that who his first priority was and how ~~much~~ the importance that he gave him.

Rights of Women:

The west provided rights to women in the 1960; however, Islam

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gave rights to women 1400 years ago. This shows that Islam gave importance to women right after from the beginning. One of the story from Prophet's PBUH life reflects the importance of women, when daughter of Prophet PBUH, Ruqayya A.S., was sick, her husband wanted to participate in the battle of Badr. However, Prophet PBUH said the asked following words him to stay with Ruqayya and that he will get the share of one who participated in Badr.

Right to Property: Women's ^P Possession,

Islam gave the right of property to women. Before this the women weren't allowed to have any possessions of property and land. They faced suppression at the hands of men. However, after the arrival of Islam, the portion of property was set for

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women. Furthermore, Allah says in the Qur'an:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا لَا تَأْكُلُوا
أَمْوَالَكُمْ بَيْنَكُمْ بِالْبَاطِلِ

O Believers! Don't devour
one another's possessions
wrongfully.

- Al-Qur'an

Conclusion:

Hence, Islam has given immense rights to women and brought them equal to men. Islam negates suppression of women. It promotes women rights and have made them sacred. The Qur'an and Sunnah is filled with the importance of women in Islam.

Question 6

Elucidate the Quramic teaching of 'la tufsidu fil arz'...

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Introduction:

-Quran Islam promotes peace and tranquility and repels terror and evil. The Quranist ^{teachings} persistently emphasizes on the idea of 'La tufsidu fil arz' لا تفسدوا في الارض. This idea is important to consider in today's context.

Understanding 'La Tufsidu Fil Arz':

In order to understand the Arabic phrase, translation must be done taken into consideration. Quran persistently mentions this phrase.

لا تفسدوا في الارض

Do not spread corruption in the world

بعد اصلاحها

After it has been ~~per~~ eradicated.

Hence, Quran emphasizes on the fact to not spread evil after in the

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earth.

Practical Examples in Today's World:

Wars Taking over the World

One of the major example of today's world is that of Gaza being attacked by Israel. ~~Under~~ Islam discourages such evil acts and encourages muslims to ~~act~~ stand against it. ~~It prevents~~

Corruption at Climax in Modern world

Furthermore, the crisis ~~is~~ of corruption that has engulfed different regions is yet another example. Islam promotes justice and negates corruption. Today's muslim world often experience corrupt rule of corrupt leaders. Hence, apply the guidelines set by Islam can help bring peace.

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In a nutshell, Islamic teachings project the idea of not spreading evil. It promotes well being. Today's world is fraught with evil that can be eradicated by inculcating guidelines provided by Islam.