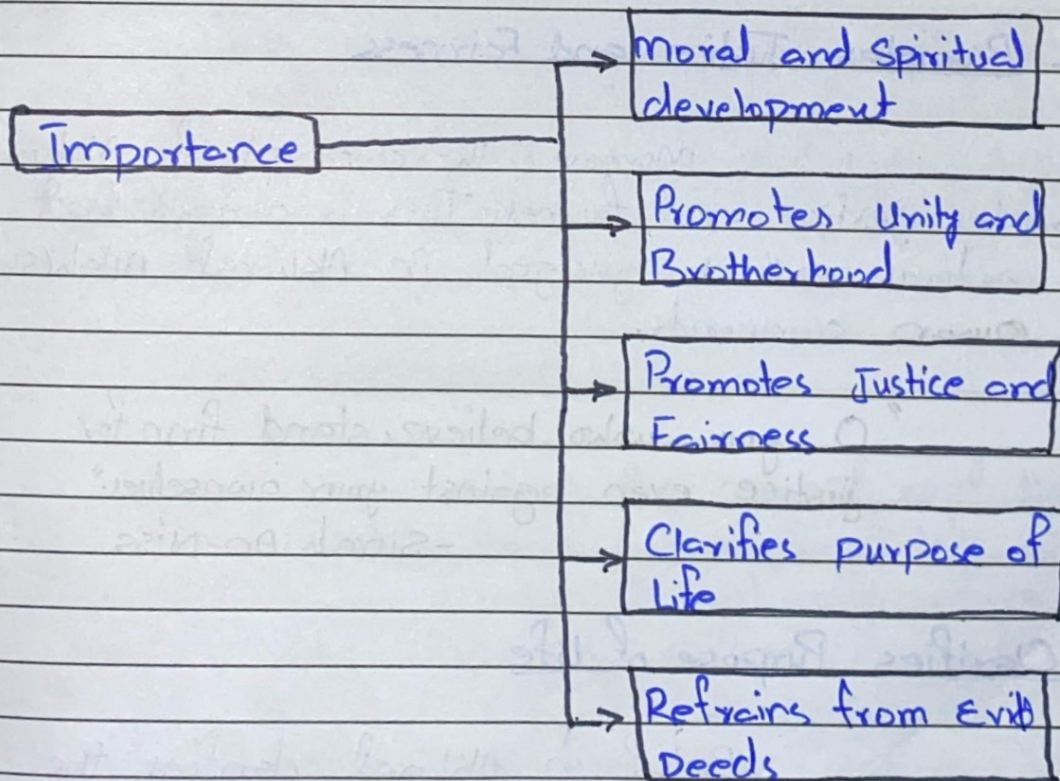


Islamic StudiesQ₂:-(i) Introduction

The concept of Akhirat is among the six essential pillars of Islam. In simple terms it means that after death, humans will again be revived in their actual form and be brought in front of Allah Almighty to be held accountable for all his conducts and deeds performed during lifetime. This concept of accountability by Supreme Lord instills feeling of responsibility to Allah Almighty. The importance of this concept ranges from promoting brotherhood, uplifting moral and spiritual development; promotion of justice and fairness; and to restrain individual from evil deeds.

(ii) Importance of Belief in Akhirat

a- Moral and Spiritual Development

As rightly said by Prophet (PBUH), 'the best among you are those who wish for their brother same, what you wish for yourself.' These teachings of Prophet (PBUH) combined with belief in Akhirat serves in moral and spiritual development of an individual. It promotes good behavior, stops person from hating and retains from rage etc.

b- Promotes Unity and Brotherhood

The concept of Akhirat when understood in light of Quran which states that, 'Muslims are not but brothers to one another'; gives direction to humans that we should live in harmonious manner and develop friendly ties as ordered by Allah in His (swt) Noble Book. This order will also be enquired on the day of Akhirat.

c- Promotes Justice and Fairness

Moreover, the concept of Akhirat promotes justice and fairness. This is certain that all actions will be judged in Akhirat. Allah (swt) in Quran commands,

"O you who believe, stand firm for justice even against your own selves."

- Surah An-Niss

d- Clarifies Purpose of Life

Belief in Akhirat clarifies the purpose of life to human. It is commanded

by Allah Almighty that,

"I do not create the jinn and mankind except to worship me."

- Al Quran

These verses clarify the purpose of life and the belief in Akhirat makes a person stick to this purpose.

e- Refrains from Evil Deeds

Almighty Allah in Noble Quran says that,

"So whoever does an atom weight of good will see it, and whoever does an atom weight of evil will see it."

- Surah Az-Zalzalah, Quran

This command along with belief in Akhirat helps person to stick to good deeds and refrain from evil as everything is seen by Allah and will be asked on the day of Akhirat.

III - Conclusion

To sum up, the concept and belief in Akhirat instills sense of responsibility and accountability in human. It not only refrains an individual from committing evil deeds but also clarifies the purpose of life, promotes unity and brotherhood, and helps in moral and spiritual development. Hence proving an essential part of

Islamic belief and betterment of individual and society as a whole.

Q4:-

(i) Introduction

The concept of Islam as a Deen means that it encompasses not only rituals and prayers but also political, economic and social system. The political system of Islam is build to ensure rights of citizens, whether they are muslim or not. It plays an essential role in creating a just state and society as its system contains a permanent leadership, promotes justice and equality, creates a tolerating society, ensures keeping of trusts and promotes living in peace. If adopted in true spirit, this system will undoubtedly create a society of peace.

(ii) How Islamic Political System Create Just State and Society

- A permanent system
- Promotes Justice and Equality
- Creates a Tolerating Society
- Rendering Trusts
- Protection of Rights
- Peaceful Coexistence

a- A Permanent system

Islamic political system that is based on concept of Khilafat ensures a permanent system. With a single individual with authority who fulfills all the criteria, Islamic system is believed to be best among all existing systems. The best example is that during the period of Holy Prophet (PBUH) in Medina, the society existed peacefully without any crisis and all decisions were made based on consensus and respected by all.

b- Promotes Justice and Equality

Islam, that itself is based on justice and equality has the best form of political system. Allah orders in Quran that,

"Indeed Allah orders justice and good conduct."

- Al Quran

Justice in itself means protecting everyone and providing equality. The instance of emphasis of equality can be observed from 'Last Sermon' of Prophet (PBUH) in which He (PBUH) stated that all Muslims are equal and no one has an edge over another. Thus, Islamic political system ensures justice and equality.

c- Creates a Tolerating Society

The best example of this ~~to~~ to be mentioned is the peaceful coexistence of

Jews and Muslims of Medina. Holy Prophet (PBUH) in Medina conducted an agreement with Jews that ensured peaceful coexistence and tolerance towards one another. This implies that Islamic political system emphasizes a tolerant society which proves it to be the best form of government.

d. Rendering Trusts

Allah (SWT) commands in Quran that

"Indeed, Allah commands you to render trusts to those whom they are due and when you judge between people to judge with justice."

- Al-Quran

The above verses emphasize the importance of trusts in Islamic society and therefore in Islamic political system, no person is wrongly judged and trusts are rendered.

e. Protection of Rights

In Islam, rights are given a lot of emphasis. Allah (SWT) in Quran mentions rights of not only humans but also of animals. In Islamic political system, the rights of every individual are protected. The best example of this is from the event of Holy Prophet (PBUH)'s life before Prophethood. A Yemeni man came to trade to Makkah, as he had no ally there, a person from Quraish refused to pay him during which

prophet (PBUH) intervened and made sure that the rights of that trader are not violated. Giving these proves that Islamic political system protects rights of everyone.

f. Peaceful Coexistence

Islamic political system ensures that rights of no individual are violated, it moreover makes sure that the society lives in peace with justice and tolerance.

(III) Conclusion

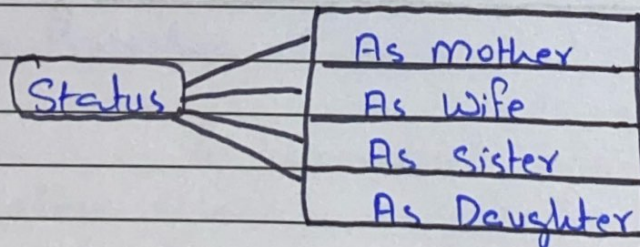
Islamic political system ensures peaceful coexistence, promotes justice and equality, protects rights of all and renders trusts. The overall amalgamation of these characteristics ensure that a just society and state are established. Moreover, the concept of leadership in this system ensures effectiveness and efficiency making this system best to be enforced.

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Q5:-

(I) Introduction

In the age of ignorance before Islam where women were regarded as a disgrace and most of the time burnt alive, Islam emerged as a light for guiding those ignorant people. It not only gave rights to servants and common people but, also ensured rights of most vulnerable, women. Islam uplifted the status of women in society, it gave her so much dignity that Prophet (PBUH) stated that, "Heaven lies in the feet of mother." Not only the status but, Islam gave women many rights including right to trade and engage in business, right to inheritance, right to seek Khula, right to get education and right to safety.

(II) Status of Women in Islamic Society1- Status of Women as mother

As a mother, Islam dignifies a woman. It can be observed from the teachings of Holy Prophet (PBUH) that, 'Do good and serve your mother. Then your mother, Then your mother,

and then your father." This emphasize the importance of mother. The status given to mother is that she should never be misbehaved.

b- Status of Women as wife

Moreover, Islam provides women numerous rights in shape of wife. It is responsibility of man to take care and protect his wife.

Allah (SWT) commands in Quran that, 'Man are the protectors and maintainers of women.' This emphasize the important status granted to women by Islam.

c- Status of Women as Sister

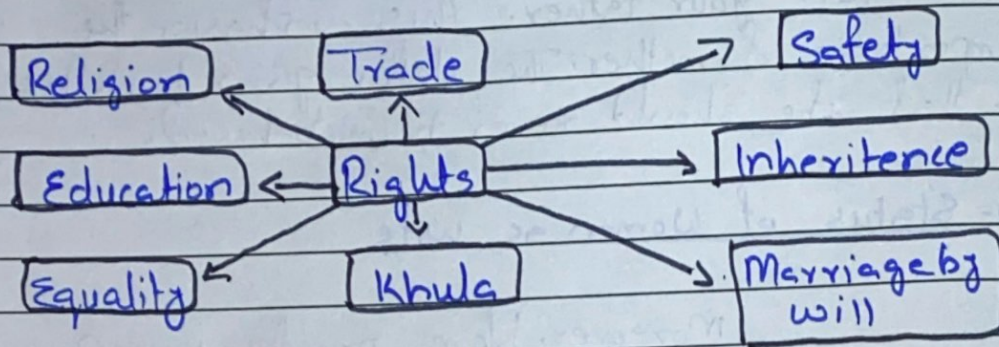
Islam emphasize the respect and protection for women as sister. Moreover, it provides women a share in property of parents.

d- Status of women as Daughter

In Islam, the daughters are dealt with much love and care. It can be observed from life of Prophet (PBUH) that when Hazrat Ali (RA) asked for marriage with daughter of Holy Prophet (PBUH). The Prophet (PBUH) himself asked for her will if she wants to marry or not, this emphasizes the status of women as daughters.

(III) Rights of Women in Islamic Society

Islam guarantees numerous rights for women and emphasizes society to protect them, following are some of rights of women;



a- Right to Trade

Islam permits women to trade and do business. The best example can be taken that of Prophet (PBUH) marrying Bibi Khadija (RA). She did trade and Prophet (PBUH) himself conducted her trade which inspired Her (RA) to marry Him (PBUH).

b- Right to Safety

As ordered in Quran that, 'Men are protectors of women'; it is certain that Islam guarantees a woman right to safety.

c- Right to Profess Religion

Islam permits women to profess religion and creates no distinction in any practice.

d- Educational Right

Islam encourages all to receive education as quoted to Prophet (PBUH), 'Seek knowledge even if you were to go to China'. This ensures that all men and women are permitted to gain education.

e. Right to Equality

Islam ensures equality. It provides women right to equality. As Quran puts it, 'And those who do good - whether male or female - be wronged in the least.' This emphasises equality.

f. Right in Inheritance

Islam guarantees women right in property of her husband and father. This signifies the importance of women and their rights. Quran in Surah An-Nisa clearly states the rights of inheritance.

g. Right to Marry by Will

Islam ensures that no marriage is forced upon women and provides right to marry by will. The best instance is Prophet (PBUH) asking his daughter's permission before her marriage.

h. Right to seek Khula

Islam provides women right to seek Khula if marriage is not working for her or if her husband does not fulfill her legal wishes.

(iv) Conclusion

To sum up, Islam provided women numerous rights encompassing right to marry by -

her will, right to seek khulz, rights get education, right to inheritance and much more. Moreover, it dignified the status of women that was once regarded low to men before the emergence of Islam.

X _____ X

Q7:-

(1) Introduction

Islam emerged as a dominating superpower during the time of Holy Prophet (PBUH) and rightly guided Caliphs. However, its decline began after that period. There are many reasons for that decline including sectional divisions, distance from Islamic laws and Sunnah, westernization of lifestyle and corrupt practices. However, to address these challenges for a better status of ummah uniform laws should be adopted, brotherly ties should be promoted, concepts of nationalism should be disregarded, and Islamic judicial system should be enforced.

(II) Causes of Decay of Status of Ummah

a- Sectional Divisions

The core reason for decay of ummah's unity is that Muslims are divided into different sects. This creates intolerance and feeling of enmity towards one another.

The best example is that of Saudi Arabia and Iran's ties.

b- Distance from Islamic teachings

Another reason for dismal condition is swinging away from Islamic teachings of justice, equality, tolerance and truthfulness. This contribute to decay in status of ummah.

c- Westernization

Muslims globally can be observed to follow steps of West. They have incorporated their lifestyle and thus forgot their own teaching and are more tilted toward western education instead of Islam.

d- Nationalisation

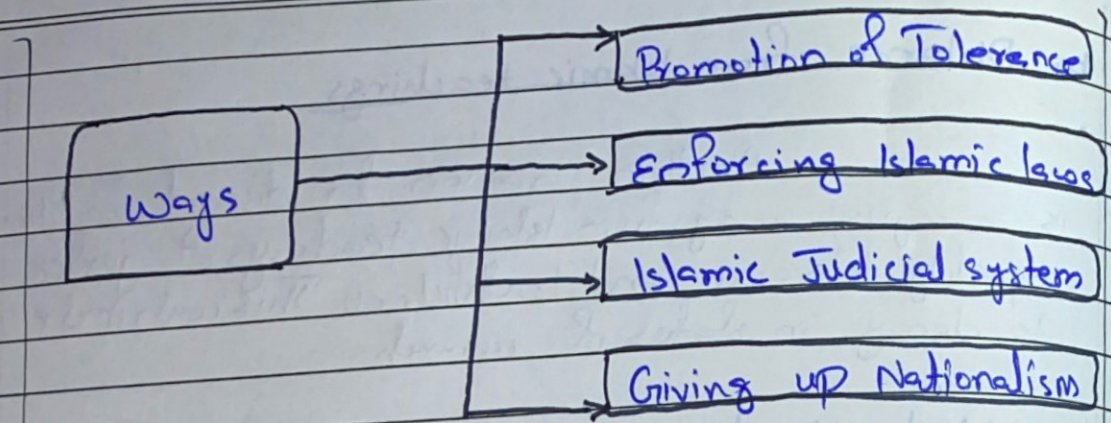
Islam provides concept of ummah, there is no concept of nationalism however, Muslims are involved in promoting only their nationalistic identity rather than identifying themselves as ummah.

e- Self Interest

Moreover, Muslims globally are found to be interested in accumulation of wealth and serving their own interest. This cause the decay in status of ummah.

(iii) Ways to Address Decaying Status of Ummah

The status of ummah has deteriorated overtime however, there are certain ways to revive the same glory:



a- Promoting Tolerance

To curb division among Ummah scholars and religious leaders should promote tolerance towards one another. This will reduce sectional divisions and make ummah more stronger.

b- Enforcing Islamic laws

Muslim countries should enforce Islamic system of law so that there is uniformity and consistency in laws. This will create sense of equality as leaders are also held accountable in Islamic legal system strengthening the countries and states of Ummah.

c- Adopting Islamic Judicial system

Instead of following and enforcing modern laws, Islamic judicial system should be introduced for punishments of all kinds of offences. This will ensure a just society and deter wrongful acts. Thus elevating status of ummah.

d- Giving up Nationalism

In an Islamic society, there should only be the concept of ummah, nationalistic tendencies should be discouraged as they promote sense of arrogance and enmity.

(iv) Conclusion

The strong system of Islamic unity had decayed and there are several reasons that contributed to its downfall. The core reasons being rising nationalism, distance from Islamic teachings, westernization and practices involving self interest. However, this issue can be addressed in some extent with enforcing equal and uniform laws, promoting tolerance, enforcing Islamic laws and applying Islamic judicial system. This will ensure that the decaying society is revived and again rose to its glory.

x ————— x
(THE END)