

Islamic Studies Test 3

QUESTION NO. 2

INTRODUCTION:-

Islam provides guidance for mankind in all walks of life be it political, judicial, social, religious, legal. Islam is a complete code of life. Allah Almighty has give comprehensive commands in all matter of human life. So, Muslims have a thorough social system established by the rules and principles of Islam, brought and taught by Holy Prophet (PBUH). It is comprised of basic fundamentals to establish by Islamic states and characteristics to be adopted by muslims.

FUNDAMENTALS OF SOCIAL SYSTEM OF ISLAM:-

The fundamentals of social system are very intricate, detailed and mandatory for the smooth functioning of a society. It includes all the essentials of a social life. Some of them are as follows:

1) COLLABORATION OF INDIVIDUAL, SOCIETY AND STATE:

The very first basis of the social system in Islam is the collaboration of an individual living in a society, with both the society and the state. It is the harmony (and) among all three parts of the system. A collaborative interaction that leads to the growth and development of the social system.

2) VALUE BASED SYSTEM:

The second fundamental would be the values and morals on which the society falls on.

The Islam provides a social system that is a value based system. Doing good and staying away from evil is its basis.

Upholding the basic principles of Islam is the creation of a value based social system. In Quran Allah has said, in the following content

"*Taqain* Enjoin what is good and forbid what is evil"

~ Al-Quran

3) MUTUAL COOPERATION AND BROTHERHOOD OF MANKIND

The social system in Islam promotes mutual cooperation and brotherhood among all the

members of the society. Love, mercy, justice, respect are some of the ways of collaboration.

In Quran Allah says

"Co-operate with all in what is good and pious but do not co-operate in what is sinful and wicked"

(al-Maidah)

4) TRAINING AND EDUCATION IN SOCIETY:

The last fundamental of the Islamic ^{social} system is the training and education of individuals in a society. Learning and preaching is an important aspect of the social system in Islam. Practising religion, training and gaining good education builds the social system of Islam.

CHARACTERISTICS OF SOCIAL SYSTEM OF ISLAM:

Following are some of the main characteristics of a social system of Islam

1) Equality of mankind:

All the individuals in a social system in Islam are equal before God and Law. No member enjoys higher status than other in a social system established on the principles of Islam. Holy Prophet (PBUH) in this context said:

"Muslims are like a building, each is an important constituent to other"

He (PBUH) also said,

"Muslims are like one body, if one part aches, the entire body feels the pain"

2) Structure of Social life:

"(Islam created a v.)"

Islam created a well-defined structural system of social life, with values like cooperation, mutual respect, social service, socialization and agreements. Holy Prophet (PBUH) said:

"Those of you who relieve someone of a pain in this world, God will relieve him of a pain on the Day of Judgement"

He (PBUH) also said:-

"Anyone who has no mercy for juniors and respect for senior is not among us"

Holy Prophet (PBUH) also stated.

"None of you is a firm believer if he does not (have for his fellow)" want the same for his fellow what he wants for himself"

2) Creation of Social Institutions:

Islam has created multiple social institutions for Muslims to form and uphold to spend their social lives with peace and harmony.

* Institution of Family.

Holy Prophet (PBUH) said that to maintain families with love, care and respect. He said to be very kind towards kin and parents.

"Be kind to your parents, especially your mother, she bears you weakness upon weakness"

* Institution of Marriage

The marriage is the basic unit of a social life and the only legal relationship between man and woman. Holy Prophet (PBUH)

"Marriage is my (Sunnah) and those who love my conduct should

follow my way"

He (PBUH) also mentioned

"Whoever among you can afford to marry, should do so, it keeps you modest and chaste."

* Rights of Neighbours.

Another right and responsibility of Muslims is towards their neighbours. To treat them with respect, kindness. Holy Prophet (PBUH) said,

"Let him who believes in God and the last day be generous to his neighbour"

3) Community building.

Allah talaah has ordained rights for the general members of the society to create a cohesive, harmonious and prosperous social system. Thus every member of the society should be treated

with kindness, respect, sincerity and honesty without any and all discrimination, stereotyping and hatred.

4) International Community:

To strengthen the social system in Islam, Allah has made international community and minorities, non-muslims an important part. They need to be treated as well as the Muslims are supposed to be in a just social system in Islam.

5) Position of Women:

Women hold a significant position in a social system in a society with alleviated status and rights as compared to pre-Islamic times. Women are supposed to be treated with

utmost respect and care in
a social system in Islam. Holy
Prophet (PBUH)

"The best among you is the
one who is kind to their
wives"

CONCLUSION:

The social system in Islam
is very thorough and elaborate. It
covers all facets of the society
and creates feelings of brotherhood
and unity among the members
of the society. Each and every
member enjoys its unique status
and has their own responsibilities
towards fellow members of the
society.

QUESTION 1:

INTRODUCTION:

Today, the muslim Ummah is facing tremendous challenges in the world. From disunity to stagnation to repercussions of extremism and fundamentalism, the muslim Ummah is in shambles with slow progress and development. Some effective steps are needed to improve the current situation of muslim world.

Muslim Ummah:-

Muslim Ummah is the collection of the entire muslim body of the world irrespective of nation, ethnicity, race and colour. Believing in oneness of God and finality of Prophethood (PBUH) being the basis of the Ummah.

CONTEMPORARY CHALLENGES OF MUSLIM UMMAH:

The Muslim Ummah is facing a number of issues and problems at present moment in the world. Many challenges are continuing from past but many are very new and modern. Some of them are as follows.

INTERNAL CHALLENGES

The internal challenges faced by the Muslim Ummah from within and among themselves are as follows.

1) Disunity among the Ummah

The Muslim Ummah is extremely divided and the divide is the largest it has

ever been in the Muslim history

The disunity does not allow a successful decision making and thus poor collaboration.

2) Stagnation in Growth:

The Muslim Ummah is stagnated as it has not grown and has not adopted change for the better. With the ~~is~~ fast moving world, the Muslim nations are far behind in adopting the change.

3) Fundamentalism and Extremism.

The rise of the three evils, Terrorism, Secularism and extremism in the Muslims nation around the world have stagnated the growth, badly impacted the economic and political systems of the country.

4) Middle East Crisis:

The Middle East is an ongoing crisis for decades now. From Arab Spring to the current Israeli genocide of the Palestinians, Middle East has been in a crisis for very long. This has completely broken down the peace among Muslim nations and have left the Muslim Ummah broken.

5) Poor adoption of Technology:

Muslims have been extremely slow in adopting Technology and the new ways of life. With no work on science, IT and the modern technology, Muslim Ummah (is very) became very backward and was left far behind in the world.

Challenges:

External Consequences

Some of the external challenges faced by Muslim Ummah are as follows;

1) After effects of Colonialism:

The colonialism has had far-reaching effects on the colonized areas. Muslims being the most colonized ~~to~~ are still bearing the ^{after} effects and negative impacts with colonially entrenched mindset. unable to get out of that slow mindset, unable to growth and break free.

2) Onslaught by West:

The Muslim Ummah continuously faces the onslaught by West. The destructive blows on Muslim Ummah in terms of Islamophobia, bigotry and intolerance makes it difficult

for Muslim nations to grow in a westernized and heavily influenced world.

3) Islamophobia:

The increase of Islamophobia in the western world has brought unique challenges like seclusion and stereotyping and discrimination against Muslim Nations. Also leads to violence against Muslims around the world.

4) Media Onslaught:

The media continuously portrays Muslims as evils and the bad people full of hatred towards humanity. The war-mongers of the society. This is the image of the Muslim Ummah in the world. Islam being a religion of extremists.

SOLUTIONS TO COUNTER

THE CHALLENGES:

The poor conditions and the disunited muslim Ummah need to be adopt effective strategies to improve the situation of the Muslim world. Some solutions are as follows:

1) Working on IT, science and technology:

Improving the technological and scientific standing of the muslim Ummah around the world. By spending time, energy and money on modern technology will improve the conditions for Muslim Ummah.

2) Removal of Sectarianism and Extremism:

By eradicating the three

evils of muslim world, sectarianism, extremism and terrorism. The social standing will improve. The political and economic conditions would improve and lead to betterment in the muslim nations

3) United Muslim Front:

The Muslim Ummah needs to remove sectarian, territorial and personal differences and think on behalf of the betterment of the entire muslim community. The collective decision making and unity is required to improve the present conditions of muslims.

4) Promoting real image of Islam through Media:

Using media as an information source and for clearing out the misconceptions about the muslims

later Targeting Islamophobia and other such discriminations against muslims. Portraying the true essence of Islam and the teachings of Holy Quran (PBUH) through social media and print media, and television is an essential steps towards growth of Muslim Ummah

CONCLUSION:

The Muslim Ummah being in shambles at the moment and facing multiple challenges both due to internal divide and external onslaught by west, it needs effective decision making and portrayal of positive image of Muslims in the world.