

Doctrine of life : A Necessity for Human Life

Din is a pivot of human life as it guides the humanity for what is right and wrong. Din is a complete code of life and translates the horizontal relation of man and Almighty Allah. Islam is our din which is an all-encompassing divine religions guiding the humanity about all of the religio-politico-socio-economic system. It is universally applicable without the bounds of time and space. The teachings of din are complete, preserved and plays an enormously important role of being the main central code of life. It is for all the beings around the world and not just limited to Muslims. Din is different from religion being the central important commandment guiding humans and not just a mere belief in a deity. Religion doesnot play as an ultimate solution for all the problems faced by the mankind.

Difference between Religion and Din:

Religion	Din
1. Religion is merely some sort of subjective experience and is concerned only with the so-called private relationship between God and man.	1. Deen is an objective reality and a system of collective life.
2. Religion means the belief in spiritual beings. Anthropologist - E.B. Taylor	2. Din means a divine religion and a complete code of life. An all encompassing religion that acts as a source of light in every rough and tumble of life.
It quenches man's thirst of curiosity	3. Din provides guidance to mankind.

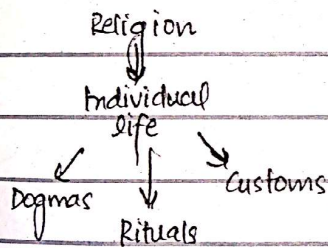
about mysteries of the universe.

4. It creates a mental satisfaction.

5. It teaches equality and dignity of mankind.

6. It leads to moral and ethical development of society.

7. Religion is narrower yet generalized in its teachings.



8. Polytheistic in nature.

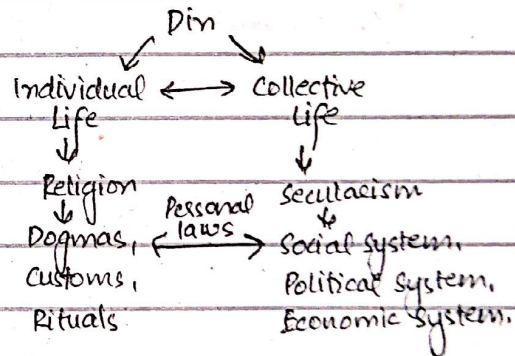
9. Separate spirituality from mundaneness.

4. It provides a clear path of life.

5. It leads mankind from depths of darkness to light.

6. It provides a spiritual cure to modern man.

7. Din has broader and specific teachings.



8. Monotheistic in nature.

9. Balance between materialism and spirituality is maintained by din.

Importance of Din in human life:

Din being the complete code of life guides human in every aspect of life. Din is given to follow if reward at the end and peace here in this life is required.

1. Guidance to mankind

Doctrine of life is given by Allah for the guidance of mankind. Man has the need to be guided otherwise he might get astray and will lose the original path to follow. Din plays its role in mediation between the man and Allah where Allah has sent down his commandments. These commandments guide man about the right and wrong and guides man. As in case of Prophet Adam (A.S), Allah through his commandments told him to follow the right path and not get astray. In Quran, it is clearly said that Din is guidance sent towards mankind in the form of Quran - The Holy Book of Allah.

ان هذا القرآن يهدي للتي هي اقوم

"Surely; this Quran guides you to what is most upright."
(Al-Isra)

2. Clear Path Provision

Allmighty Allah through his Din has provided not only Muslims but the whole mankind a clear path to follow. Obedience of Allah and His Prophet (PBUH) promises a better successful future in this life and the hereafter. Mankind have told about 'salat' in Quran as it a path which leads man towards Allah and prevents him from going towards any sin be it major or minor. The commandments and the clear path produces fear of Allah, piety, gratefulness, sincerity and honesty within the hearts of man. All of these values within a man prevents him to follow the excess of Satan rather encourages to follow clear path provided by Almighty Allah.

"I have left you upon a clear path, its clarity is the same in the night as the day. No one deviates from it after me for that he will be ruined."
(Hadith)

3. From darkness to light

In Quran Allah says,

هو الذي ينزل على عبده آيات بينت ليخرجكم من الظلمات إلى النور

"He is the One Who sends ^{down} clear revelations to the mankind to bring you out of the darkness to the light."

(Al-Hadid)

It clearly asserts that Din is sent down upon mankind and servants of Allah to show mankind the clear and straight path through His light of guidance. This light of guidance prevents Muslims to indulge in any wrongful acts. Allah's light of guidance is one thing that Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) told mankind to hold onto tightly and only this can lead them to ~~the~~ the reward of Hereafter.

4. Din as source of wisdom

In Surah Ya-Sin of Quran, Allah says:

يايسين ۝ والقرآن الحكيم ۝

Ya-Sin. By the Quran rich in wisdom.

(Ya-Sin)

Din is also a source of wisdom. In any issue of socio-political-economic culture of man today, Quran is a source of guidance. It consists of wisdom which can be used to solve any modern day problem. Din also has the concept of Ijtihad which ~~states~~ solves issues through modern day solutions. For example, the issue of Palestine if to be solved through Islamic and teachings of Din, Ijtihad and Quran are the ultimate solutions.

5. Din as path of choice

Din advocates free will and choice and is in way a tool to be used to force an individual

to accept Islam and follow the teachings of Din. Allah even commanded His Prophets to preach Din and not force anyone to accept it. In today's ~~world~~ Pakistan, a number of majorities exist including Hindus and Christians. In Sindh, the young ^{girls of} minorities are converted forcefully and made to marry some ~~landlord~~ forcefully. It is not only a violation of teaching of Din but that of human rights. For the forceful conversion, Allah Almighty says,

لا إكراه في الدين

"Let there be no compulsion in religion." (Al-Baqarah)

6. Din as complete code of life

Din has teachings from all contexts of life and for all mankind on Earth. Its limitation to only Muslims is negated by Allah. He even sent the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) for all mankind to follow as an example. The major issues of the world today including the Middle East Crisis can be solved by taking an example of Prophet (PBUH) for how he managed to establish cordial relations between tribes of Medina, Bano Qurayza and Bano Muslims there. All of the measures he took to resolve the problem were directly following Allah's commandments. So, Din can be used by all mankind to evade any modern day issue.

ونزلنا عليك الكتاب تبيانا لكل شيء وهدى ورحمة وبشرى للمسلمين

"And We have sent down to you the Book as clarification of all things and as guidance as mercy and good tidings for the Muslims." (Al-Nahl)

Din hence is an important aspect of human life and aligns the human life to a straight and clear path for success in this world and hereafter.

Definition

Dignity: from a Latin word 'dignitas'

quality of being worthy or honourable

Signifies his highest and noble position in a community

Merriam Webster

Quality or state of being worthy, honored or esteemed

Cambridge Dictionary

The importance and value that a person has, that makes other people respect them or makes them respect themselves

- Human dignity has been one of the central themes in Islamic teachings.

- Islam has given a distinct position to humanity by viewing humans as the noblest of creatures and man as the vicegerent of God on earth.

1. Mankind as crown of creatures and central figure in Universe:

ولقد كرّمنا بني آدم وعلّمناهم في البر والبحر ورزقناهم من الطيبات وفضلناهم على كثير ممن خلقنا تفصيلاً

"Indeed, We have dignified the children of Adam, carried them on land and sea, granted them good and lawful provisions, and privileged them far above many of Our creatures."

Al-Isra (17:70)

2. Man created in the Best Form:

"Indeed, We created humans in the best form."

لقد خلقنا الانسان في احسن تقويم

At-Tin (95:4)

3. Endowment of Knowledge:

- Knowledge, a divine favour from Allah

He taught Adam the names of all things.

وعلم آدم الاسماء.

Al-Baqarah (2:31)

4. Human beings are God Vicegerents on Earth:

'Remember' when Lord said to the angels, "I am going to place a successive 'human authority on Earth!"

واذ قال ربك للملكة انى جاعل فى الارض خليفة

5. Equality of Mankind

6. Prophet (PBUH) as Best Model of being Vicegerent of God on Earth:

Indeed, in the Messengers of Allah you have an excellent example.

Al-Ahzab (33:21)

لقد كان لكم فى رسول الله اسوة حسنة

Responsibilities of Man as Vicegerent of God:

1- Obedience to God

2- Purpose of Man's Life on Earth is Worship of God

I did not create jinn and humans except to worship Me.

Adh-Dhariyat (51:56)

3- Authority as trust to God

4- Administration of justice of Earth

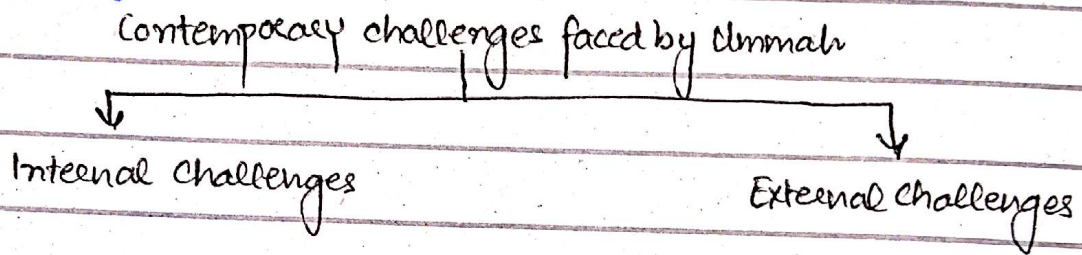
5- Individual Responsibilities as Vicegerent of God

(iii)

Muslim Ummah losing front seat:

Muslim Ummah of the world after emergence of West has started to lose their authority and power even though the world constitutes $\frac{1}{5}$ th of Muslim population. Their power can not be denied in the UN as they possess $\frac{1}{3}$ rd of membership of UN. Muslim Ummah comes from 57 sovereign states full of natural resources and vast territories. Yet, the exploitation of all these resources is not done properly. This chunk of population has started ^{to face} their downfall because of intellectual stagnation, lack in advancement of technology and domination of the West. Muslim Ummah faces severe challenges from within along with external factors which has altogether become a hurdle in the progression of Muslim society in the world.

Challenges faced by Muslim Ummah:



a. Internal contemporary challenges faced by Muslim Ummah:

① Intellectual Stagnation

Muslim Ummah is facing problems in the modern age not due to the religious issues rather intellectual stagnation. Muslim Ummah has forgot their golden era of achievements of Muslim scientists Al-Khawarizmi and Al-Beruni etc rather they have adopted Western way of life. Western political, economic and social system has brought a drift between the sovereign Muslim states and they are not on the road of progress altogether like their

glorious past.

② Exploitation of resources

Muslim Ummah is blessed with major resources including natural gas, oil, copper, jute, cotton and many other resources. World even in this modern age when talk of renewables make around 45% of energy from the oil and natural gas and Muslim world is unable to exploit these resources. They see towards the West to take benefit of their resources in exchange for their dollars. e.g. Saudi Arabia a major exporter of petrol and oil looks towards US for exploitation of its resources.

③ Lack in advancement of science and technology

Muslim Ummah has a golden history of being the father of many sciences and today it has lost all of its desire, passion and drive to excel in different emerging fields. We have failed to produce notable Nobel Prize winners. We lack in establishing universities and education centres of world class recognition. Only 2 to 3 countries of Pakistan comes above 500 in world ranking of universities. Turkey however is striving to promote itself in this field.

④ Importance of Materialism over Moral Values

Muslim Ummah today runs for the power. Power strife has made the countries forget about moral values Islam had taught us. Leaders of these 57 sovereign states run for power and they will do everything even if it requires killing of individuals. Palestine is not highlighted by Muslim Ummah today because of their cordial relations with the Western superpower to go for power and play in world affairs all alone.

⑤ Extremism and Terrorism within the Muslim countries

Muslim countries after 9/11 have faced the Western side labelling of ~~them~~ Muslims being terrorists and extremists. This has given rise to their concept of Islamophobia. This labelling by West has been conceived by the whole world and has made Muslim Ummah an extremist community. Muslim leaders have failed to take a stance against this concept and taken a measure to eradicate this concept as some terrorist organizations ISIS and Al-Qaeda in the name of Islam are spreading violence among the rest of the world.

⑥ Political Disunity

Leaders of the Muslim Ummah have all failed to be on the same page for the betterment of the community rather all are getting and becoming a part of sectarianism. This Shia vs Sunni debate has weakened the social fabric of the Islamic community and made one nation stand in front of the other rather than side by side.

b External Challenges faced by Muslim Ummah

① Colonization

Western world today too had colonized ~~over~~ the world especially Muslim countries through neo-colonialism. Muslim countries have a history of subjugation under Western rule which had taken away the unity, integrity and moral values of Muslim world completely influencing them. Colonization today in modern ages has not left Muslim Ummah and it has all destroyed the power of all Muslim countries.

② Globalization

West has the most advantage of this concept of globalization as all

world being connected is run because of Western economic and political system. West has all the time gaining benefits of suctioning the economy of Muslim world and made it all dependant of itself. Muslim Ummah now does not think of exploiting its resources or making their own financial bank to run economy according to the rules of Islam.

③ Failure of UN to solve issues of Muslim world

Middle East has been facing immense crisis. ~~the~~ between Genocide of Israel on Palestine, Syrian crisis along with the situation of Yemen is not covered from anyone and yet UN has failed to give a verdict on these issues because of the superpower of Western world. US being the hegemonic power of the world supports Israel to go on with these crisis. Muslim world is being paralyzed because of the western hegemonic acts as all Muslim nation demand for is the power and betterment of its own state.

④ Western Boggage of Domination

Muslim Ummah has been left crippled under the Western rule. Leaders have all been left devoid of their moral values and integrity. Not a single nation tried to face them and take a stand for Muslim Ummah. Today, Muslim Ummah is all dependent for economy running on the West. Muslim has failed to rebuild their own devastated Empire of all glory, due to advancement in technology, science and leading the world.

Solutions of the ~~Muslim~~ challenges faced by Muslims:

① Muslim Unity

"And hold firmly together the rope of Allah and do not be divided."

واعتصموا بحبل الله ولا تقروا
(Al-Imran)

The foremost solution to all the challenges today faced by Muslims is the unity of Muslims from all 57 sovereign states. Muslim Ummah need to come together to face all these challenges and devise necessary policies for the eradication of these challenges. Only unity as advised in Quran can bring the Muslim community their glorious and successful period back.

② Education and Development

"seek knowledge from the cradle to the grave." — Hadith

Excelling in education and development can bring back the honour of Muslims they once had. This will make them earn their status in the world. Muslim Ummah can take Turkey as example to set their priorities and regain their position in the field of education. Education, moreover will allow them get rid of the militant mindset and values engraved by them in young minds.

③ Ijtihad

Muslim Ummah as today is facing modern challenges regarding globalization and failure of their Islamic economic system values. Muslim countries ~~and~~ can do Ijtihad regarding this and all other contemporary issues to get back to the pure and straight forward Islamic economic system values. Ijtihad has been only given so as Islam is not a stagnant religion rather progressive. It helps them get rid of their problems and look for the concerned solutions using it.

④ Good Governance

Muslim Ummah had to take a step forward for the proper and good governance system in the world. The governance system of Hazrat Umar (R.A) ~~was~~ is a prime example. Good Governance can control the factors which mislead Muslims from the right path ordered by Allah Almighty.

⑤ Political and Economic Stability

Muslim world can exploit its resources by helping each other and giving each other opportunities by putting aside the political issues between the Muslim states. They can proceed to establish their own bank to implement economic system devised by Islam. Sectarian issues can only be addressed when there will be will between the governments to develop the Islamic world.

Conclusion:

Muslim Ummah being a major part of the world is losing its ground because of political and economic instability, western domination, lack in advancement and progression and many other factors. All of these factors though can only be solved when the Muslim world come focused as one single body while helping one another and bringing good opportunities for each other to the table. Internal will of the Muslim Ummah can make the win this world and in the hereafter.

ایک پس معلوم حرم کی پاسانی کیلئے
نیل کے ساحل سے لے کر تانجا کا سفر