

Date: _____

Day: _____

Name: Abeera Asim

Exam: Mocks - 2025

Subject: Islamic Studies

Date: 21st Jan. 2025

PART-II

Q.2. What is the concept of and importance of fasting in Islam? Moreover, explain the impacts it has on an individual and society at large?

Ans 2. •

FASTING :

Fasting is amongst the pillars of Islam, and made obligatory on 2nd Hijri.

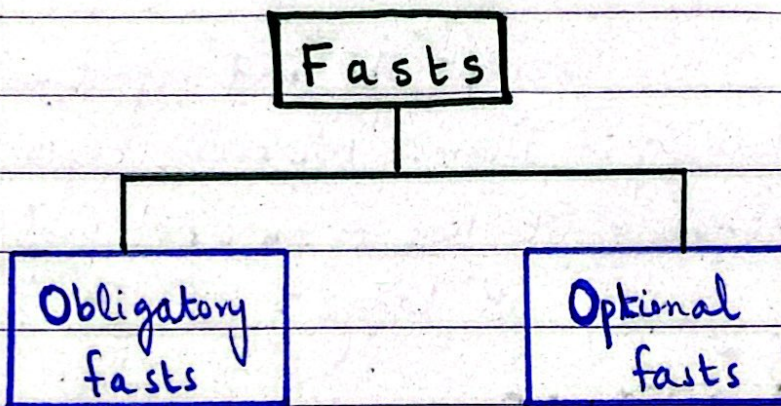
- Literal meaning: to intend to refrain from eating, drinking and wrong-doings from dawn to dusk.

- Contextual meaning: Contextually, the act of fasting (saum) refers to the abstaining of an individual from eatables and any sinful act. It is also necessary to

utilize the fasting hours for increased praying and worship.

TYPES OF FASTS:

Generally, there are two types of fasting, optional and the compulsory fasts.



Obligatory fasts are observed during the month of Ramadan. Leaving with without any valid reason is

considered a major sin in Islam, and needs to be made up for by then fasting later on.

Optional fasts are those that can be observed in accordance with one's own desires or convenience.

Examples:

- Fasting on 13th, 14th, 15th of every month (white days)
- Fasting every Monday and Thursday

IMPORTANCE OF FASTING IN ISLAM

Islam is a religion of peace. It teaches its followers the means to sustain a satisfactory yet upright life. Everything that it has taught its followers has a philosophy — a deeper meaning and understanding — to it. The act of fasting is important in a person's life. This is because:

- 1) Fasting is a basic pillar of Islam. Its obedience is crucial for every muslim.
- 2) It is amongst the five fundamentals of our religion — its adherence completes our faith.
- 3) It teaches the individuals about patience and piety.
- 4) It makes individual feel closer to Allah.
- 5) Instigates feelings of gratitude and thankfulness, giving man a profound gratitude

for all that God has bestowed upon them.

In the Holy Quran, it is said:

“O disbelievers! Fasting is made obligatory for you, as it was for those before you.”
(Al-Baqrah)

• IMPACTS OF FASTING:

There are numerous moral, social, religious and health benefits of fasting. These are seen both on an individual and collective level.

• ON AN INDIVIDUAL:

a. Completes his faith:

Since fasting is amongst the fundamentals of Islam, adherence to it completes an individual's faith.

b. Piety and God-fearing:

It instills feelings of gratitude and makes a person very pious.

Date: _____

Day: _____

pious and devoted.

c. Stronger bond with Allah:

Fasting instills feelings of increased love and sense of obligation with Allah. This further strengthens his faith in Allah as well.

d. Sympathy for the less-abled and poor:

It makes man aware about those who have to struggle with hunger and poverty. This helps create understanding and sympathy for all.

e. Increased chances of worship:

Since fasting is an overall peaceful experience, it also gives us a chance to engage in frequent worship. This is because any form of worship during Ramadan has an heightened level of reward, than if done on any other day.

f. Health benefits:

Refraining from eating excessively.

during the day has numerous benefits for our health as well.

• **ON THE SOCIETY:**

a. Increased desire to do Zakat:

Staying hungry from dusk till dawn instigates a sense of empathy for the poor and needy. Zakat is another pillar of Islam. Prophet (SAW) advised us to pay Zakat.

In the Holy Quran, Allah says:

وَأَقِمُوا الصَّلَاةَ وَآتُوا زَكَاةً

“And offer you prayers and pay Zakat”

• b. Enhanced brotherhood:

When the Muslims meet for their prayers 5 a day, it increases their love and brotherhood. It also brings an overall positive impact on the society.

c. Refrain from sinning and committing criminal offences:

Fasting makes a person God-fearing. Just like every good deed has an increased amount

Date: _____

Day: _____

of reward, every sin is also considered way worse. Hence, people tend to stay away from all kinds of wrongdoings.

d. Strengthens communal bonds:

It instills feelings of harmony and people live together with unity within a community.

e. Reduces inequalities prevailing in a society:

Fasting also reduces the existing inequalities in a society.

It promotes charity and feelings of brotherhood. This helps in circulation of wealth and the decrease in poverty levels of the poor and needy.

Fasting is an obligatory act of Islam. It has many social, moral, societal, health and even economic benefits. Its compliance is necessary for all of the believers in Islam.

Date: _____

Day: _____

Q 4. Analyze the Last Sermon of the Holy Prophet (SAW) as a comprehensive charter of human rights?

Ans (4)

THE LAST SERMON:

"The last sermon" is a religious speech delivered by the Holy Prophet Muhammad (SAW). He is the last messenger of Allah, and he has played a prominent role in spreading the religion of Islam.

The last sermon of the Prophet (PBUH) was delivered during his first and last pilgrimage.

The day was the 9th of Dhul Hijjah, during his 10th year of Hijrah. All the Muslims gathered near the mountain of Arafat and listened to the messenger while he gave them a final detailed guidance about

these religion and belief systems.

*

THE LAST SERMON AS A COMPREHENSIVE CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS

The sermon entailed briefings for the believers in context to all walks of life. It gave the muslim a comprehensive guide regarding the discourse of life-itself. From fulfillment of one's duties, to preaching justice, enforcing equality and instilling brotherhood, the preachings are all relevant till date. Along the lines of rights for all humans, the Prophet advised in the following domains:

• EQUALITY IN EXISTENCE:

The first emphasis that was put was on the equality of existence. In the eyes of our Creator, everyone is same and indistinguishable. The Prophet, during his sermon, said

Date: _____

Day: _____

that :

"An Arab has no significance over a non-Arab and a non-Arab has no significance over an Arab."

Meaning that everyone is equivalent in the eyes of the Divine, and no one has any superiority over another.

- **PROVISION OF THE BASIC RIGHTS:**

Each and everyone must be given their due rights. No one should be refrained from their freedom, dignity and the right to live with ease and peace.

- **RIGHTS OF SPOUSES:**

The Prophet emphasized on the fair treatment amongst the married individuals of their spouses. The men must take over their women and the women must obey their men.

• RIGHT TO EDUCATION:

It was made essential for all humans (muslims) to be learned and acquire knowledge. The last messenger said:

“Seeking of knowledge is obligatory for all muslims.”

• RIGHTS OF NEIGHBOURS:

It is our duty to look after our neighbours as well. One must be aware about their ease and grievances, and do their best to help them at a time of need. They must also maintain good ties with them and sustain harmony.

• RIGHTS OF CHILDREN:

The parents are obliged to take care of their children. They must feed them, provide for them, educate them, and eventually marry them off. Their upbringing and survival is dependant on

Date: _____

Day: _____

their parents.

• RIGHTS OF PARENTS :

It is made obligatory for children to obey their parents.

They must be respectful and kind to them. It is also

their duty to take care of them in their old age and make

dua for them. One should say:

“O Allah! Have mercy on them as they brought me up when I was little.”

• RIGHT TO JUSTICE :

Prophet (SAW) emphasized on the provision of justice and the establishment of rule of law. He put emphasis on treating of all with fairness and letting one get their due right in case of any unfairness or inequality.

Justice must prevail in a society to keep it united and instill harmony.

• RIGHT TO WEALTH:

One must not restrict wealth in the hands of the elite and promote classism. It is a due right of all to get their due share of wealth. Hence equality must be maintained. Other than that, one should support the needy by giving Zakat and other forms of charity as well.

The last sermon of the Holy Prophet (SAW) holds immense importance and relevance, amongst Muslims, till date. It sets out the understanding of the extent of freedom our religion gives us and makes everyone aware of their due rights, as well as duties.

Q3. Write a short note on:

1. The beauty of Islamic Culture.
2. The Concept of equality in Islam.

Ans (i) **CULTURE:**

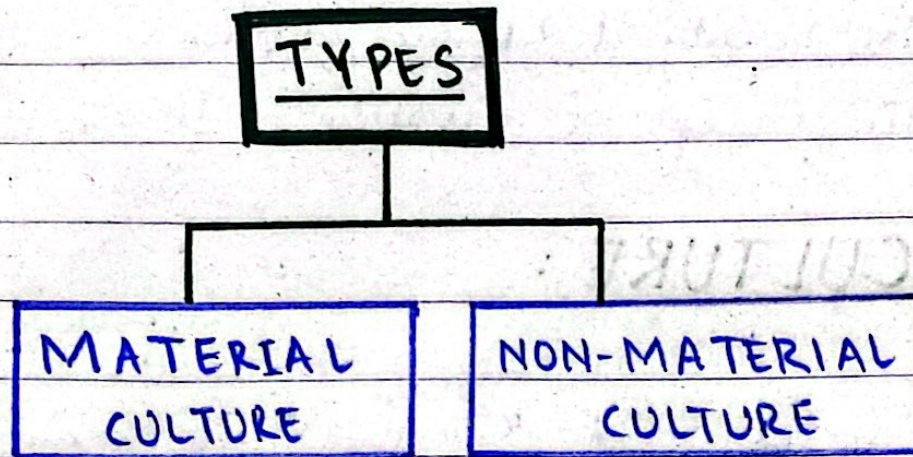
A "culture" comes from the Greek word "Kulture". It means "the characteristic morals, values and traditions of any individual religion or system."

Throughout our lives, we follow a specific religion or belief system. Each faith has its own culture and its own civilizations as well. In Islam, we have beautiful customs and norms that are a part of the lives of each of its followers.

ASPECTS OF CULTURE

A culture is made up of many things, which make it a unique and different one in its own way.

TYPES OF CULTURE :



makes up the physical/material components of a culture.

makes up the non-material features of a culture.

Examples

Food

Traditions

Jewellery

Values

Clothes

Norms

ISLAMIC CULTURE AND ITS BEAUTY

The culture of Islam has a lot of significance for the Muslims and the Ummah as a whole. It is a collection of all our beliefs, customs, traditions and our values system.

- **Material Culture :**

The material culture of Islam is comprised of :

1. **Clothing :**

Proper covered clothing for the women and decent attire for men - particularly shalwar and qameez. Wearing of veil and covering of heads by women is also encouraged.

2. **Jewellery :**

One can own precious jewels and wear gold. In many muslim countries, it is necessary for the men to gift their wives gold on the occasion of their marriage as well.

3. **Food :**

There are no restrictions on sea animals, excluding a few. But the killing of carnivores and other wild animals for eating is considered a sin. Other than that, enjoying

Date: _____

Day: _____

almonds, dates, figs, etc, are amongst the *sumnah*.

• NON-MATERIAL :

1. Traditions :

The traditions observed by the Muslims include the celebration of Eid, playing of animal on the occasion of Dhul-Hijjah, etc. These are all obligatory as well.

2. Values :

Islamic culture encourages the practice of honesty, living with dignity, maintaining cleanliness, speaking politely, greeting others, etc.

3. Norms :

Norms are a collective or shared belief in a society. In an Muslim society, feelings of love, sympathy, brotherhood and sisterhood, kindness are encouraged. Additionally, alot of emphasis is put upon maintaining unity

and peace.

Islamic culture promoted the most positive, healthy, peaceful and impactful practices. It is an embodiment of calmness, amicableness and harmony. It is a complete code of life and a religion perfected for all its followers.

(ii) EQUALITY:

Equality means the treatment of all human beings with fairness and justice. Like the practice of providing all with equal opportunities & even-handedness.

CONCEPT OF EQUALITY IN ISLAM

Islam is a religion of peace and peaceful co-existence. It encourages the prevalence of justice in all sectors

Date: _____

Day: _____

across all walks of life.

1. Equality in existence:

The foremost emphasis has been put on the equality of existence. In the eyes of our Creator, everyone is same and indistinguishable.

The Prophet (SAW) said that,

"An Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab, and a non-Arab has no superiority over an Arab"

meaning that in front of the Divine and Only Creator of the entire mankind, everyone is equivalent.

2. Provision of basic rights:

Each and everyone must be given their due rights.

In Islam, no one is deprived from their freedom and everyone is given

Date: _____

Day: _____

their right with ease and peace.

RIGHT TO EDUCATION :

It was made essential for all muslims to seek knowledge. No one should be deprived of their right to seek knowledge. Seeking of knowledge is obligatory for all muslims.

RIGHT TO WEALTH :

One must not restrict the wealth in the hands of the elite and the wealthy, and practice classism. It is a due right of all to get their share of wealth. Hence, equality must be maintained. Other than that, one should give Zakat and encourage other forms of charity.

5. RIGHT TO JUSTICE :

Prophet (SAW) emphasized on the provision of justice and the establishment of rule of law to maintain fairness & equality.

Islam is a complete code of code. It sets out the understanding of the extent of our freedom & equality, and makes us aware of our due rights in life.