

ISLAMIC STUDIES , TEST : 2

Q1. Write about - the ... Islamic state?

Ans. DEFINITION OF HUMAN RIGHTS:

The United Nations UDHR (Universal Declaration of Human Rights) defines human rights as; "Human rights are the moral principles that are universal throughout the world despite some ones caste, creed, religion, ethnicity or colour."

DEFINITION OF MINORITIES:

According to the United Nations minorities are defined as, "A group of people that are numerically less in population" are called minorities. We can identify minorities based on their religion, history, culture etc.

RIGHTS OF MINORITIES IN AN ISLAMIC STATE:

In an Islamic state 'Zimmi' is the word used for minorities. Islam is very clear about the rights of minorities and grant them more rights as compared to the majority.

The rights of minorities in an Islamic state are given below.

2. RIGHT TO LIVE:

According to Islam every human has a right to live.

"To kill an innocent man is like killing the whole humanity."
(Al-Maida 5:32)

This ayat sheds light on the fact that Islam is the religion of peace and grants full right for an individual to live.

2. EQUALITY AMONG HUMANS:

In Islamic point of view all humans are made equal despite their facial features.

"And we created you from 1 soul"
(4:1)

3. FREEDOM OF RELIGION:

Islam gives full freedom of choosing religion.

"There is no compulsion in Islam"
(Al-Baqarah 2:256)

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This sheds light on the fact that Islam cannot be implemented by force but through one's own will.

5. RIGHT TO JUSTICE:

According to Islam no favoritism can be done, and justice should be served.

"And when you judge between people, judge with fairness"
(An Nisa 4:58)

6. RIGHT OF HONOUR:

According to Islam no human is capable of given one honour or taking it but it is in Allah's hand.

"You honour whom you will, and humble whom you will"
(Al-Imran 3:26)

7. RIGHT TO EDUCATION:

Every human in the world should get education and gain knowledge. He can shed light on this right through Prophet (PBUH) hadith, which states that;

"Seek knowledge even if you have to go to China."
Hadith.

8. POLITICAL RIGHTS:

In an Islamic state Muslims and non-Muslims have the same political rights and can both vote.

9. RIGHT TO PROFESSION:

Minorities can opt for any kind of profession in an Islamic state.

Other than having these rights minorities also have duties to fulfill in an Islamic state.

• DUTIES OF MINORITIES:

Following are the duties that are made obligatory on minorities while living in an Islamic state.

1. Minorities have to pay tax called "Jizya" instead of Zakat.
2. They cannot preach their religion openly.
3. They cannot abuse any prophet.
4. They cannot perform spy or treason activities.

Q2. What is the diff. . . civilization?

Ans: CIVILIZATION:

The word civilization has been derived from 2 words, 'civil' which means people and 'ization' which means advancement, hence civilization literally means the advancement of people.

ACCORDING TO WILL DURANT:

According to Will Durant civilization is defined as; "The civilization is a social order promoting cultural creation.

Civilization has 4 core elements;

1. Economic prosper provision.
2. Political organization.
3. Moral obligation.
4. Pursuit of knowledge and arts."

CHARACTERISTICS OF CIVILIZATION:

Following are some of the characteristics of civilization;

1. Cities.
2. Central governments.
3. Complex religion.
4. Social classes.
5. Writing.
6. Arts and architecture.

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CULTURE:

The literal meaning of culture is 'saqafat', saqafat is an Arabic word which means to educate, to flourish. The word culture is derived from Arabic word 'cultura' which means 'to grow'.

The contextual meaning of culture is 'the collective way of life.'

DEFINITION:

According to Macdonald culture is; "A set of values, beliefs, behaviours and material objects that together constitute a people's way of life."

TYPES:

There are 2 types of culture.

1. Material culture.
2. Non-material culture.

1. MATERIAL CULTURE:

Material culture include tangible things such as;

1. Cloths.
2. Jewelry.
3. Guns.

2. IMMATERIAL CULTURE:

Immaterial culture include things - that are not tangible like;

1. Belief.
2. Values.
3. Religion.

DIFFERENTIATION:

While culture is the collective way of life, a set of belief, behaviour and material objects, civilization is the advancement of people in different sectors of life like economical, political, moral etc.

IMPORTANT FEATURES OF ISLAMIC CIVILIZATION:

There are some very distinct feature of Islamic civilization mentioned below.

1. TAWHID:

Islamic civilization has a unique concept of tawhid, that no other civilization has. Tawhid means the oneness and uniqueness of Allah, that there is only one supreme leader. Prophet (PBUH) said;

"Islam is like a gate and the gate of that gate is tawhid!"

2. EQUALITY:

Equality is one of the very basic concept of Islamic civilization, that also lays its foundation.

"He made you from 1 soul"
(Al-Quran, 4:1)

3. TOLERANCE:

Islamic civilization not only tolerates followers of other religion but also guard their place of worship.

"For you it's your deen, for us it's our deen."

(Al-Kafirun)

4. SOCIAL JUSTICE:

As Islam has a special importance of human equality and brotherhood therefore social justice has a special place in the structure of Islam.

5. DIGNITY OF MAN:

God has created man as his representative. The entire philosophy of Islam is based on human creation and dignity.

6. TAKWIYAH ALNAFS (SELF PURIFICATION).

The purification of soul is the most important theme in Islamic ideology.

"He who purifies it will indeed be successful, and he who corrupts it is sure to fail".
(As Shams)

CONCLUSION:

Culture and civilization are 2 distinct concepts, where culture is set of ideas, beliefs and civilization is the advancement of humans. Islamic civilization has some of the most distinct concepts as compared to other civilization.