

QUESTION 1:-

Introduction:

The concept of self-purification (in Islamic society) is of utmost importance and holds significant value for the Islamic civilization and the Islamic society as a whole with its unique impact on the individual life and collective impacts on the society. Quran and Hadith have described its importance in the life of a muslim.

Self-Purification:

Self Purification also known as Tazkiyah al-Nafs. It is a important concept in Islam.

The literal meaning of "Nafs"
is spirit or self. The literal
meaning of Tazkiyah is
"purification and cleanliness". Thus
the meaning "purification
self and soul" is correct.
The concept is the purification of
oneself from the evils of
this world.

Importance in light of Quran:

Allah talaah has talked about
Nafs in the Quran as
follows

"And remember your lord
within yourself"

~ al-Quran

Similarly, Quran has described
its importance in the following ayat

about purifying oneself

"He who purifies it will indeed be successful, and he corrupts it is sure to fail"

~ al-Quran

This is clearly depicting the importance of cleaning your spirit from evil and succeeding.

Importance of Self-Purification in Islamic Society

Self-Purification does not have only spiritual impacts and ~~no~~ benefits. Rather it ~~helps~~ holds utmost value in the Islamic society as it impacts both the individual and collective lives of individuals in a society and state. There are a number

of benefits for adopting the acts of self-purification that improves the Islamic society and the well-being of its inhabitants.

Benefits in Individual life

The benefits of an individual in a society collectively improves the Islamic society overall.

The impacts are as follows

* Purification of Self from Evil inclinations:

An individual does not indulge in evil acts and refrain from all and any untidy acts that could impact him or the society.

* Increase in pure and social acts:

The individual involves himself with acts that help him to improve his moral conduct and spiritually enhance his personality.

* Inner Peace:

An individual gains peace and tranquility that allow him to navigate life in a better and moral way.

* Individual development

An individual, after adopting acts of self-purification develops a strong personality and progresses in life both mentally, spiritually, career wise and socially.

Collective Benefits to Society

The collective benefits of the self-purification to society are as follows

* Increased Cooperation among members:

Self-purification helps to improve the level of cooperation among individuals in a society and improves unity among Muslims that help in coordination and betterment of Islamic state

* Urge to do good:

Self-purification positively impacts on individual and all the members of the society to do collective good for the

growth of the society overall.

* Control over Ego and Anger.

The collective control over ego and anger helps to improve the well-being of an individual and the overall society. The individuals within a society, or to say Muslim society, are able to progress and grow due to control over their worldly egos and anger.

* Improved levels of Charity.

The increase in charity due to the self-purification of members of society improves the financial situation of the society and removes poverty from the society.

* Adoption of Justice and Merit:-

The concepts of Justice and merit are promoted and adopted within a society as individual repair from inequality, injustice and violation of merit and human rights. Thus the society improves over all.

Conclusion:-

All the individual acts of self-purification leads to benefits individually and collectively as a whole. These actions then holds great importance for the Islamic society as a whole.

QUESTION 2

Introduction:

Islam has given rights to minorities and non-muslims as it has bestowed rights to muslims. Islam gave unprecedented rights for every individual living in an Islamic State whether it be a muslim or non-muslim or belonging to any specific minority or religion. No individual is superior to any other religion based on its colour, creed, religion or race according to Allah.

Status of Minorities in Islamic State:

Allah has bestowed an equal

status to the non-muslims in
Islam and in a Islamic state
All the minorities enjoy full
citizenship in an Islamic
state. Some of them are
as follows

* Equal Citizenship:

All non-muslims and minorities
hold equal status and citizenship
in the eyes of Islam. In the
Quran Allah has said and
its content is

"No Arab is superior over
non-arab, no ajami is
superior over ajami. The
superior among you is
the one who is the most
piety"

* Protection against Enemies.

All the non-muslims and minorities are given protection against enemies and wrong-doers in an Islamic state. In the charter of Medina, the Holy Prophet (PBUH) brought the Jews ^{of Muz} and Christians of Najran under his protection against the enemies and other tribes and states.

* Freedom to Worship and Tolerance

The non-muslims were given freedom to worship and were allowed to freely practice their religion without any discrimination against them. The spirit of tolerance were upheld towards the non-muslims in an Islamic state.

* Payment of Jizya:

The non-muslims were made to pay jizya and tax to keep the Islamic state to keep them protected and to bestow them equal rights as muslims. The jizya is supposed to be less than the zakat paid by muslims.

* Exemption from Zakat:

The non-muslims are not exempted from zakat as this is only applicable to muslims to pay zakat to contribute to poverty alleviation in the society and to create a system of charity for the poor and needy in an Islamic state.

* Exemption from Military Service:

The non-muslims are exempted

from military service and are not made to take part in defence of the society. But if any non muslim volunteer takes part in the defence of the state, he is to be given equal rights as that of a muslim soldier.

Conclusion:

The Islamic state gives non-muslims and minorities the same right or maybe more than that of a muslim citizen of the society. Prophet (PBUH) made all the members of the society as equal citizens of the Islamic state and gave equal status and rights to all.