

QUESTION1) Introduction:-

Islam is not only a religion that provides the guidelines on how to worship or how to increase the spirituality but a complete deen that encapsulates all the necessary principles that are required for normal functioning of human societies. It provides the basis for the Islamic culture, and guides in civilizational aspects to its followers. Thus Islamic civilization that started since its advent and has been continuing till now, though experiencing ebbs and flow in different times. It has some of the very prominent features that distinguish it from other civilizations.

2) Difference b/w culture and civilization

2.1 Definition:-

Civilization is the forms, traits and characteristics that a large number of people built over a long time. It refers to both government and societal level.

Whereas culture is somewhat defining characteristics and traits that any society showcased over some period of time.

2.2 Scope:-

Civilization has both the tangible and non tangible aspects. For instance, civilization contains cities, infrastructures, art and architecture besides to the things like customs, traditions, dressing, music — things that are in the domain of culture.

2.3 Effects of other factors

Culture can exist with the other cultures at the same time and may vary with time to time. Further it can mould or change itself when its people undergo any demographic transition. This is not the case in civilization, as they contain its foundational elements which cannot be changed like tribe

2.4 Example:-

a) Civilization:- Andus valley civilization, Mesopotamian civilization and Islamic civilization.

b) Culture:- Kalash valley's culture, Harappa's culture.

3) SALIENT FEATURES OF ISLAMIC CIVILIZATION

3.1) Tauheed: Basis of Islamic civilization

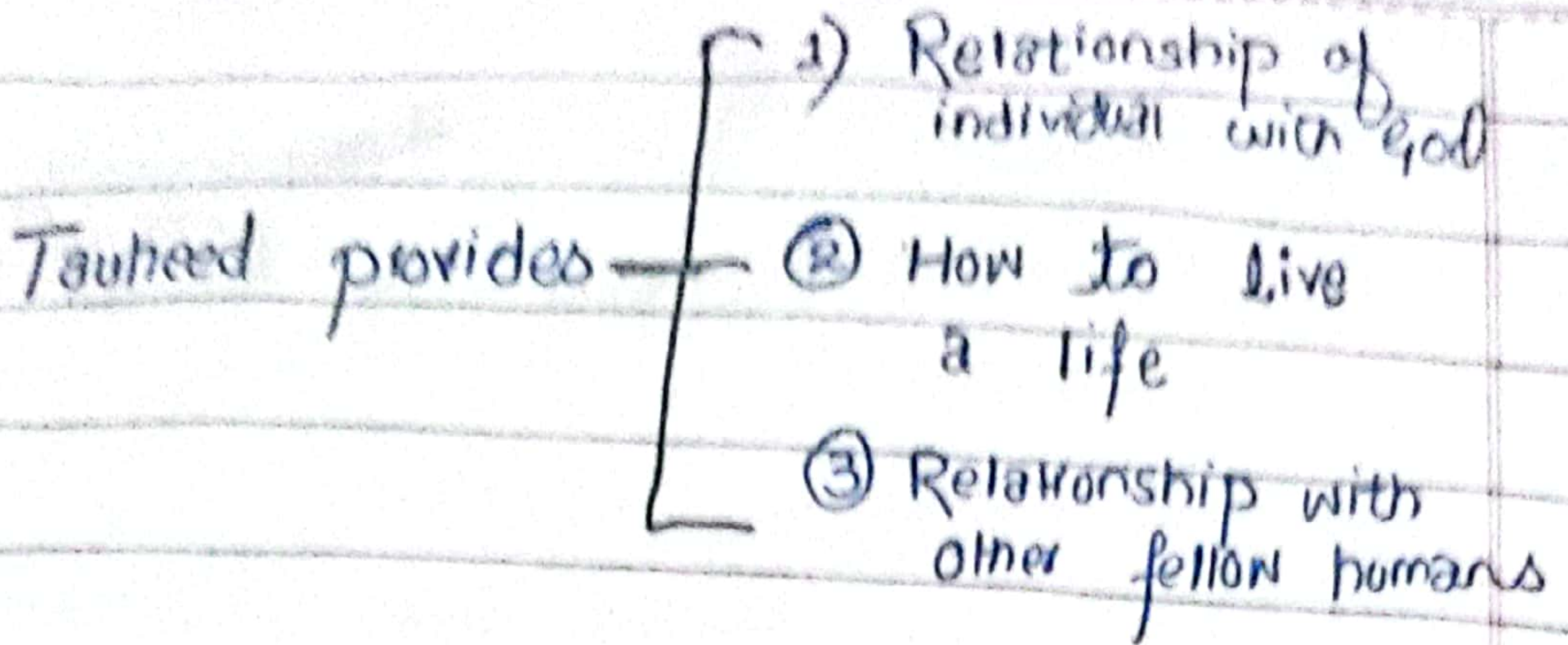
Tauheed is the distinctive aspects of Islamic civilization. One enters in Islam only when he believes in the shahada Kalma

"There is no God but Allah, and Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) is the messenger of Allah" (Kalma Shahadah)

And also Allah say

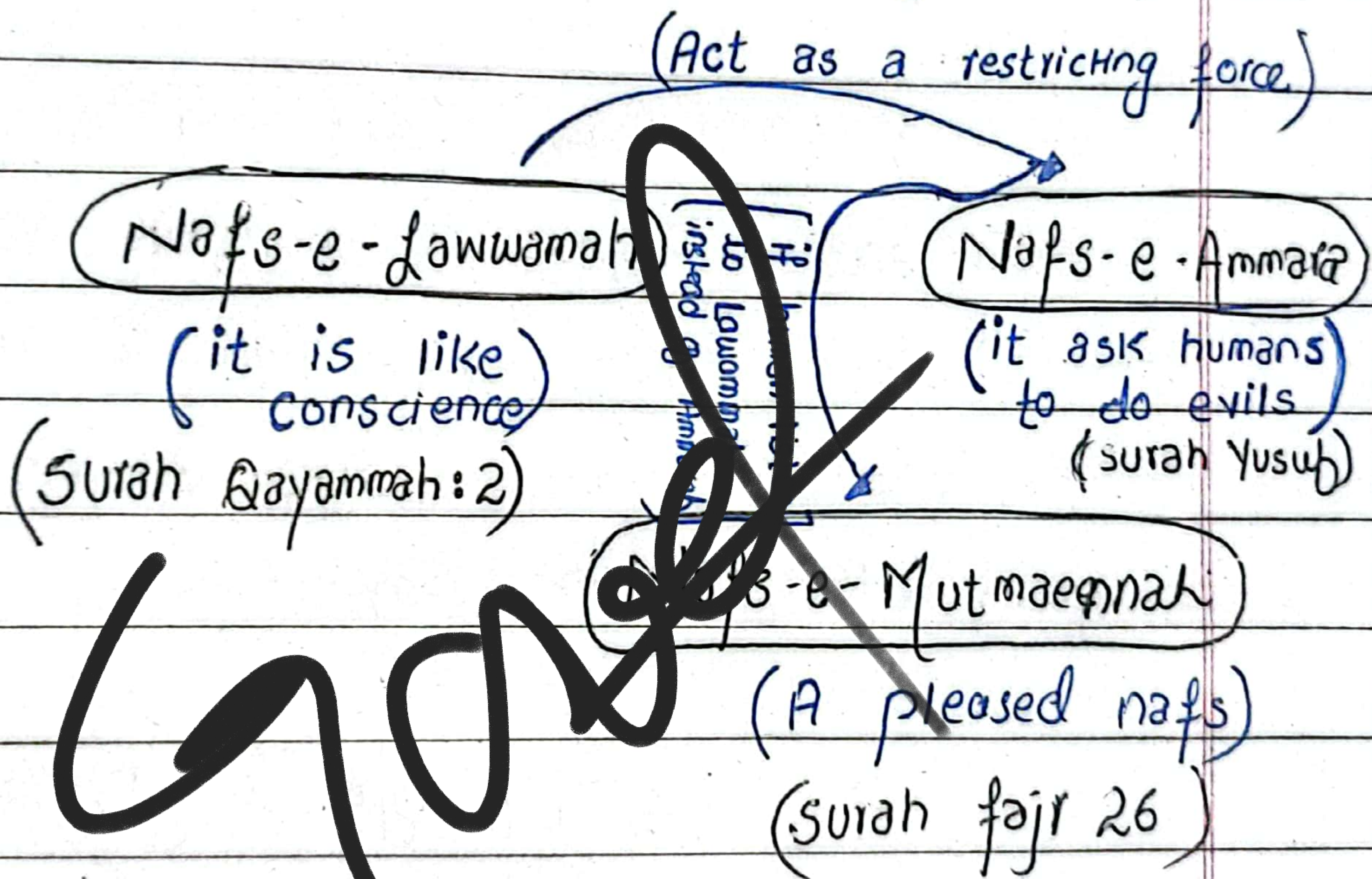
قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ ①

Translation: "Say He is Allah, (who) is one" ("Surah Akhlas", 1)



3.2) Self-purification

Another aspect of Islamic civilization is that it provides the way of achieving "Tazkiyah"



3.3) Social Justice

Islamic civilization

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also incorporates means for achieving social justice in the society. This can be seen from the example of Prophet (PBUH) asking the prisoners of Badr to teach 10 children as an ransom

3.4) Equality: A striking feature of Islamic civilization

"There is no superiority of Arab over non Arab, and non Arab over Arab, nor black over white, nor white over black except piety."

Source: Prophet (PBUH) last sermon, 632

3.5) Universality: The defining feature of Islamic civilization

Islam has God, which is the Lord and sustainer of whole the world. It has the Prophet (PBUH) who was sent as a mercy for whole of the humanity of the world. It has the book, which serves as a guide for each and every human that will come till the doomsday. Thus its universality aspect is self-defining

3.6) Tolerance: A distinguishing aspect

لَا إِكْرَاهَ فِي الدِّينِ

"There is no compulsion in the religion" (Surah Al Baqra: 256)

3.7) Learning as an compulsive and integral part

Another aspect is that

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Islam ordain its followers
to learn from each
and every person. Thus
Islamic civilization has learnt
itself from many of the
different scholars, individuals
and civilizations

قُلْ كُلٌّ يَسْتَوِي السَّالِفِينَ يَلْمُونَ
وَالزَّالِمِينَ لَا يَعْلَمُونَ ۝

"Say, are those who know
equal to those who do not know?"

(source: Al Quran)

QUESTION:- 2

a) ① Introduction:-

Islam is the
religion that has also
been called as the "Religion

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of "Fitrat" (Nature) since its advent.
It is because it has all the necessary concepts that are crucial for maintaining the dignity of man. Just like mother nature cure all of its constituents and things, with due care, Islam being the religion of nature take care all of the things that are necessary for the equal dignity and respect of mankind.

2) How mankind has granted a unique dignity to mankind

(a) Superiority over other creatures

وَلَقَدْ كَرَّمْنَا بَنِي آدَمَ

"Indeed we honoured the sons of Adam

Source: (Al-Auran, Surah Al-A'ooraf)

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Thus by calling "Ashraf-ul-Makloqat" (the most superior among all the creatures), Allah has honoured the mankind.

2.2) Equality of all mankind

Allah in the Quran (surah Al-Hujrat) made clear that Islam doesn't ~~have~~ allowed any racial, colour, ethnic, or any kind of superiority — except by piety (taqwa) — of any one to the other. All the mankind is totally equal.

2.3) Life sanctity of human:-

Allah says in the Quran "Who has killed one person except in retaliation or disorder, ~~has~~ is like, he killed whole human (removing) (source:- Al-Maeda:32)

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Thus the sanctity of human life is as much that Allah consider and equate with the killing of whole humanity.

2.4) Special emphasis on women's rights

Before Islam there are no rights of women. They are devoid from the economic rights. They are not taken on board during their marriage settlement. They are treated as the third-grade citizen. In some cases they even buried them alive at the time of their birth. It is the Islam that has not gave them property, economic and business rights but also the social and individual rights. This emphasisation can be seen in Prophet (PBUH) last sermon.

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2.5) Provides beautiful family relationship

It is the Islam who has provided only a beautiful relationships of father, brother, sister, mother, daughter and others

(Al-Quran): وَالْوَالِدِينَ إِحْسَانًا

Surah Bani-Isral

And treat your parents in a favoured manner

Thus it also to perform rights and duties of each other.

2.6) Equal access to all the favours of name

In Islam there is no concept of arbitrary punishments, or limited access to certain ones to favours of name

as there is the case
in Hindu caste system.

3.7) Guaranteed human rights

UNO in its document
UHCR has mostly that
provisions that our Prophet (PBUH)
has guaranteed in his
last sermon

3.8) Inviolability of fundamental rights

Islam doesn't allow
anyone to infringe on
the rights of other and
also doesn't allow over
to do so on any
individual right

