

Asrar Ullah

1

National Officers Academy
Islamabad

Islamic Studies Test 02

Date: 01/11/2025

Question No: (1) → (B)

(I) Introduction:

Culture and civilization are central to understanding the structure and function of a society. They play a vital role in shaping individual personality and as well as society. Culture and civilization have been the factors contributing in identification of any society. In Islam, both culture and civilization are uniquely shaped by Tawhid, the Oneness of God, and the guidance from the

- Holy Quran and Hadith, influencing moral conduct, social cohesion and governance.

(II) Culture:

The shared beliefs, values, customs, and norms of a society, which are learned and transmitted from one generation to the next, as seen in the festivals like Eid and traditional clothing.

(III) Definition of Civilization:

An advanced stage of human society, characterised by organized social, political and economic system, along with developed culture, science, technology, law and the arts.

(IV) Islamic Culture:

The system of moral, ethical, spiritual and social practices rooted in Islam, which shapes personal behaviour,

community life, education and artistic expression, as present in Muslim family values and Islamic Calligraphy.

(V) Islamic Civilization:

A highly organized and advanced society based on Tawhid, the Oneness of Allah, and guided by Quran and Sunnah, exemplified by Baghdad and Cairo.

(VI) Characteristics of Islamic Culture:

Islamic culture has bestowed Muslims with a particular structure of living based on the belief of Tawhid and guidance from the Quran and Hadith. The following salient features of Islamic culture are as:

① Guidance from the Quran and Sunnah:

The Muslim societies and Islamic culture are

shaped by the guidance of Quran and Sunnah. These two are the basic sources of Islamic law (Shariah) and covers all aspects of life, including the other characteristics of Islamic culture.

② Centrality of Tawhid:

The presence of belief of Tawhid, the Oneness of God/Allah, is the most essential ingredient that completes individual's faith and spirit of a Muslim society. The Holy Quran says:

"There is none like unto Him."

The Quran further states:

"Allah is He besides Whom there is no god, the Everlasting, the Self-Subsisting. Slumber does not overtake Him nor sleep. Whatever is in the heavens and on earth is His."

Tawhid shapes the Muslim society in a comprehen-

sive and meaningful way.

③ Respect for Knowledge and Scholars:

The Islamic culture emphasises on getting knowledge and reveals much gratitude to the scholars or learned figures. As Islam promotes education and makes it compulsory to get for every human, regardless of gender.

④ Moral and Ethical Values:

Islamic culture teaches the moral values such as honesty, integrity, loyalty, equality so that a society is shaped well and constructive to produce more disciplined individuals. As stated in hadith:

"All of you are from Adam, and Adam was from dust."

This demonstrates that Islamic culture promotes social equality.

⑤ Hospitality and Generosity:

Islamic culture provides hospitality and generosity as other values which distinguish Muslims and their societies from others. The Holy Prophet (PBUH) said about hospitality as:

"Whoever believes in Allah and the Last Day should honour his guest."

"Whoever spends in the way of Allah is like a seed that grows in seven spikes and in each spike there is hundred grains."

⑥ Integration of Faith and Daily Life:

Islam integrates the daily life activities with basic belief of Tawhid, guidance of Quran and Sunnah and other essential parts of it such as offering prayer, fasting in the month of Ramadhan el-celba.

⑦ Aesthetic and Artistic Sensibility:

Islamic culture praises the work of artists and calligraphers keeping in view the teachings of Quran and Sunnah. It fosters the value of religion based work that conveys meaning and message to the Muslims.

⑧ Family and Community-Oriented Ummah:

Islamic culture instills the social and moral values in the families and communities of Muslims as:

i) Islam teaches the lesson of brother and Unity.

"The believers are but brothers, so make peace between your brothers and fear Allah that you may receive mercy."

ii) Islam ensures the guarantee of religious freedom.

"There shall be no compulsion in religion as the truth stands out clearly from falsehood."
(Al-Quran)

(VII) Conclusion:

In short, Islamic culture is the system of social, economic, spiritual and political practices rooted in Islam, which entirely stand on belief in Oneness of Allah (Tawhid) and the guidance of Quran and Sunnah. The characteristics covers all the social and moral values that shape the Muslim society and make it different in many aspects of life.

Question 02 (B)

(I) Introduction:

Islamic civilization is crucial to understand the structure and function of Muslim society. It shapes the individual identity and constructs a society that owns self-established systems either that is social, economic ~~and~~ or political. It emphasises on the belief of Tawhid, the Oneness of Allah and the guidance of Quran and Sunnah.

(II) Definition of Islamic Civilization:

A highly organized and advanced society based on the concept of Tawhid and guidance of Quran and Sunnah, exemplified by Baghdad and Cairo.

Therefore, Islamic civilization can contribute

significantly in the personality development as such figures are the output of a particular environment existing in the society.

(III) Role of Islamic Civilization in Personality Development:

Islamic civilization teaches moral values and social responsibilities to individuals. It builds a distinct system such as social, political and economic that guide the masses to make their personalities. The following are the vital features of a personality that are the results of Islamic Civilization:

① Humility and Modesty:

Islamic civilized society conveys the teachings of humility and modesty to individuals that shapes their personality.

② Self-Purification (Tazkiyah):

Islam teaches Muslims to purify their hearts and souls through worship, fasting, charity and repentance. As a personality development needs to cleanse the heart and follow the right path.

"He has succeeded who purifies his heart and he has failed who corrupts it." (Al-Quran)

③ Good Character:

Muslims are emphasised to adopt good character by being good in all actions and to show compassion and kindness to others. As Islamic Civilization establishes such qualities which are highlighted in Quran and Hadith as:

"Do good deeds, indeed Allah loves the doers of good." (Al-Quran)

"The best among you are those who are most beneficial

: to others." (Hadith).

④ Sense of Equality and Justice:

Islamic civilization provides the concept of social equality and justice, similarly, a personality nourished in such environment favours and supports equality for all and justice.

"None have superiority over others except by piety and good deeds." (Hadith)

"--when you judge between them to judge with justice." (Al-Quran)

⑤ Patience and Perseverance:

Muslims are commanded to remain patient and Islamic civilization has developed this in human society and individuals character building. As Quran states:

"The patient will be rewarded

without any accounts."

⑥ Honesty and Loyalty:

Islamic civilization develops the personality by building impressive qualities such as honesty and loyalty as:

Hazrat Abu Bakr (RA) was too much loyal to the Holy Prophet (PBUH). He accompanied the Prophet at the hard times of leaving Makkah. It depicted his unmatched loyalty.

⑦ Respect for Diversity:

Personalities are developed by Islamic civilized societies in such a way that they accept diverse culture and variations such as innovations. Even such figures live comfortably with people of different religion or sects, in spite of having too criticizing opinions against one another.

(IV) Conclusion:

Islamic civilization develops personalities that favour justice, promote equality, spread goodness, be tolerant and patient, respect the diversity and religious freedom which make such personalities more ideal and alluring.