

Question no. 1

1. Introduction

The concept of Tawhid is a cornerstone of the Islamic faith. Believing in the unity of the Almighty is expressed in the Quran a multiple times. To completely understand its essence, it is essential to identify the different types of Tawhid. Only then can its significance in the daily lives of believers be truly appreciated. Moreover, this fundamental concept has its impacts in the individual and societal lives of Muslims. The following discussion would discuss these aspects in detail.

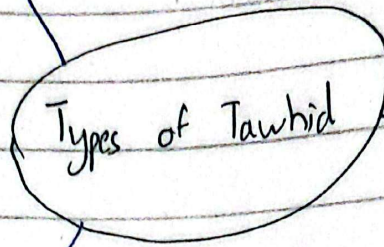
2. Defining the concept of Tawhid

Tawhid is the concept of Unity of Allah

قل هو الله احد
له يد ولا يولد ولا يكن له
شركوا احد

3. Types of Tawhid

Tawhid ul Rabobiyah



Tawhid
al
Risalah

Tawhid al Asma fis Sifaat

a. Tawhid ul Rabobiyah

This the Unity of Allah as illustrated in Surah Ikhlas.

- Say he is ~~Alhah~~ One and Only ◯
He begets not and nor is he begotten ◯
And there is none like unto him

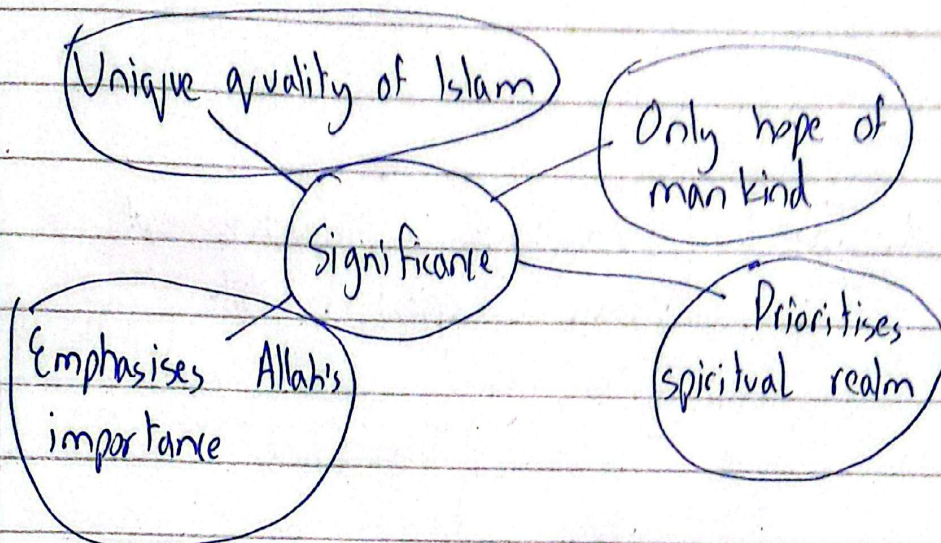
b. Tawhid al Asma fis Sifaat

The Unity of Allah in attributes. He alone is worth of names like ar Raheem, ar Rehman.

c. Tawhid al Risalah

Allah alone is worthy of worship. No entity apart of him is worthy of being associated with him. He alone is the sustainer of this world and the entity responsible for this universe.

4. Significance of Tawhid



a. Unique quality of Islam

It is only Islam that places such a heavy significance on the Almighty. His reverence is incomparable with other religions.

b. Emphasises importance of the Almighty

A believer is nothing without the aid of his God. He requires Allah's

blessings to succeed in this life. Without them, a man would be unable to fully enjoy life.

c. Allah as the only hope of mankind

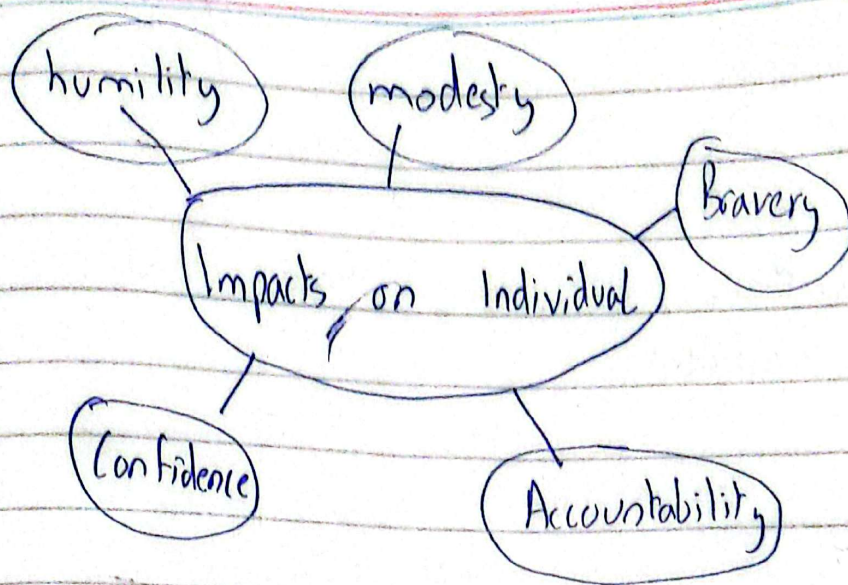
An unshaken belief in Allah's supremacy is a core tenet of Islam. His help is required for the success of Muslims.

d. Tawhid emphasises importance of an individual's spiritual life

The contemporary capitalist world has made people extremely materialistic. The concept of Tawheed touches on a more fundamental spiritual aspect of life.

5. Impact of Tawhid on Individual Life

Tawhid has immense impacts on a person's individual life. Belief in Allah's unity emboldens a person and makes him attain extraordinary qualities. A believer's firm belief in Tawhid is necessary for this.



a. Instills humility in the heart of a believer

Believing in Allah's supremacy grounds a person's arrogance. His conviction in Allah grows stronger and he becomes more humble and grateful.

b. Teaches modesty to a Muslim

Acknowledging Allah's superiority instills modesty in a believer. The believer acknowledges the presence of Allah in his daily activities. The believer then attains modesty in life.

c. Remembers after life in each aspect of this temporary world

Believing in Allah's oversight makes

a person worry about his after life.
He does not do wrongs this way

d. Makes a person brave and confident

لا اله الا الله

- There is no God but one.

Muslims ascribe to this belief and do not worry about worldly losses; Instillates bravery

e. Constant fear of accountability

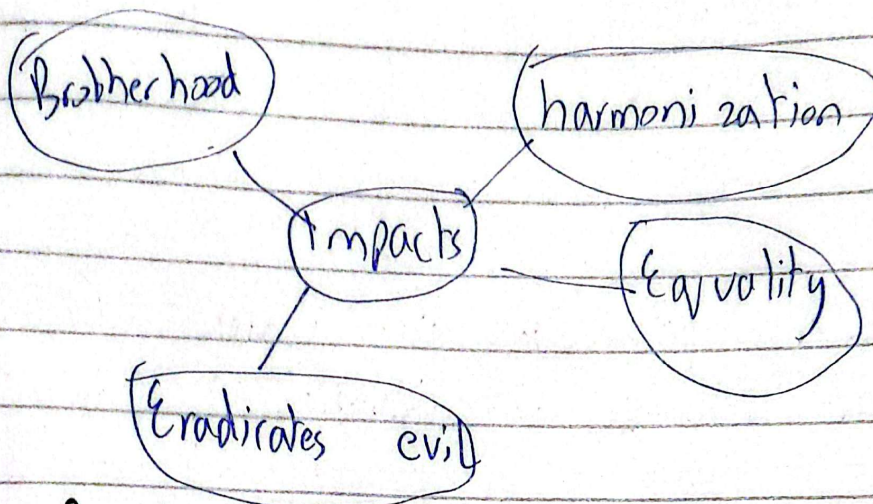
Muslims are more concerned about the outcomes of their intentions. Fear of accountability prevents them from doing wrong and harming those beneath them.

f. Recognizes ~~kind~~ kindness as a virtue

Kindness stems from adherence to the belief of Allah's Tawhid. Believers know their actions are accountable in front of Allah. They try to emulate the divine quality of kindness and become kind to fellow Muslims.

6. Impact of Tawhid on the Society

There are several societal benefits compared with individual benefits



a. Promotes universal brotherhood among the ummah

All Muslims adhere to ideology of Tawhid. This promotes unity in the collective self. This manifests itself as the brotherhood in Ummah

b. Eradicates evil that is deeply entrenched in society.

Fear of Allah establishes peace in society. Evils like gambling, drinking etc. are done away with when Muslims remember Allah.

c. Catalyzes harmonization of the society at large

Difference in individual opinions are forgone due to the collective effect of Tawhid. This catalyzes harmonization is a multiethnic multicultural society in the contemporary world.

d. A prism to view society as a means of salvation

Believing in Allah's rewards if believers help fellow believers is an outcome of Tawhid. Helping their brethren would ensure salvation in the hereafter.

e. Incentivizes welfare among the Muslim Ummah

Allah's gaze is continuous and everlasting. Muslims recognize this and carry out welfare projects to help their fellows in need. Consequently Muslims prioritize welfare for not worldly gains but for the hereafter.

7. Conclusion

To sum it up, Tawhid or Unity of Allah is a fundamental concept of Islam. This core tenet manifests itself in an individual's bravery, humility, modesty and accountability. Moreover its societal effects of promoting unity in the Ummah, creating welfare states, and kindling kindness in the collective psyche of Ummah are necessary for the modern globalised world.



1. Introduction

The Prophet (PBUH) was the greatest military strategist the world has ever seen. His anticipatory tactics helped him win many battles despite Muslim's less strength of Muslim army. He employed a proactive outlook on both the planning and battle field. Moreover, he introduced new concepts in battles and reduced the overall casualty inflicted on humanity. Many of his military stratagems can be emulated in the contemporary world and several renowned military leaders have appreciated his skills in battles. The following discussion would revolve around the characteristics of military strategy in the light of the Holy Prophet's Sirah.

2. Objectives of warfare in Pre-Islam Era

Before the advent of Islam, battles were waged on petty issues to signify a tribe's strength. Pride was rampant. Wars had no principles. Women and children were not spared. In this

actual Hobbesian world, pre-Islam Arabia was embroiled in frequent feuds with no end in sight.

2. How did the Holy Prophet alter the Objectives of Wars

The Holy Prophet (PBUH) was a blessing to the battle hardened Arabs. He revolutionized the concept of military strategy as is evident in his Sirah.

a. Battles were fought for the sake of Survival

The Holy Prophet never instigated any battle with his rivals. He only resorted to arms when it was absolutely essential for survival.

b. Invoked Allah's help with the process of Dua

Unlike the other Arabs, the Holy Prophet prayed to Allah for his help in the battlefield. This amplified the morale of

his army and they fought relentlessly.

c. Established rules of war

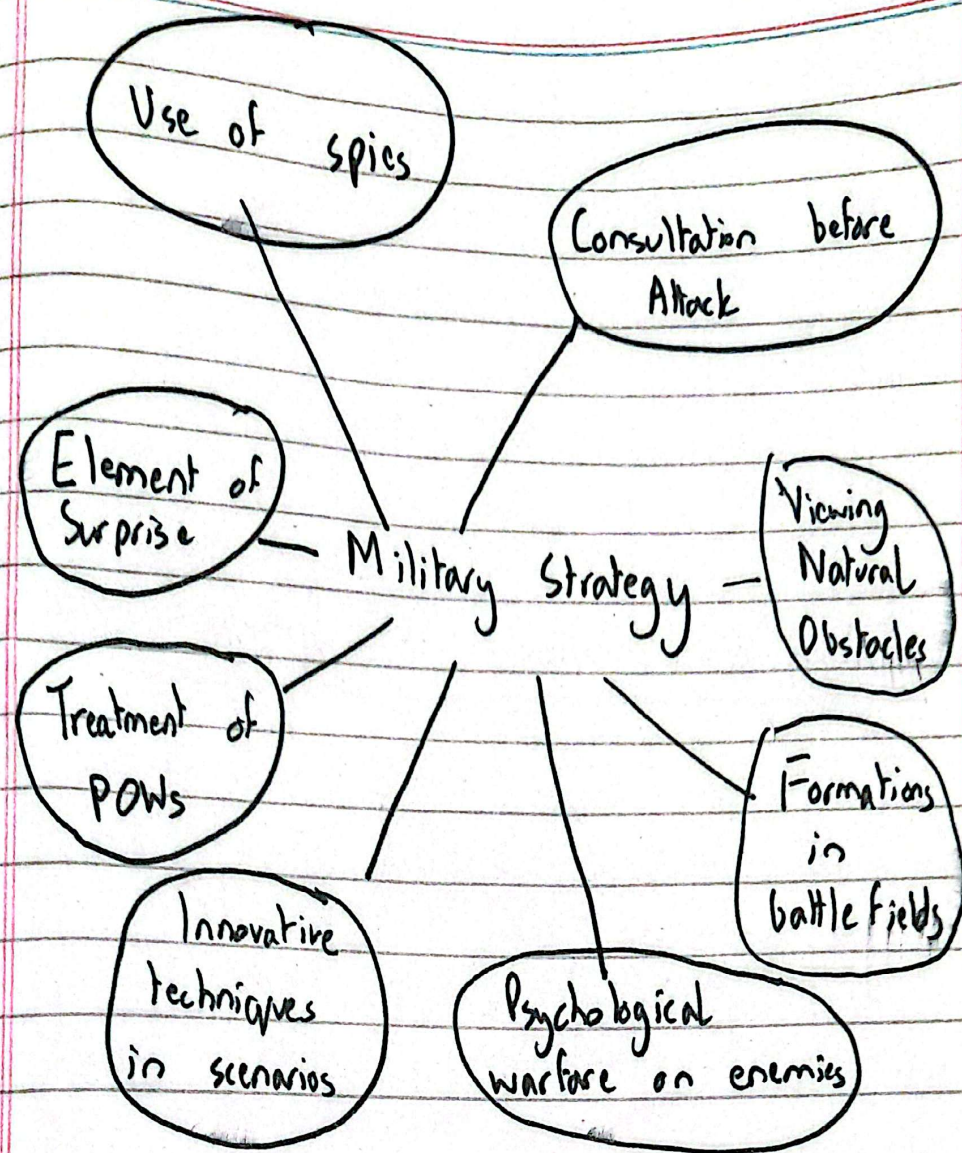
The Prophet fought his battles systematically. He laid out clear rules.

1. No harm to the elderly
2. Women were to be spared
3. Children were to be spared.
4. No trees were to be cut
5. No crops were to be destroyed.

In many ways, the aforementioned rules mimic the modern Geneva Convention on the rules of war. Hence, the Prophet preceded this modern norms by 1400 years.

3. Characteristics of Military Strategy of the Prophet

He employed many qualities which ultimately led to the survival of the minority Muslims in Arab.

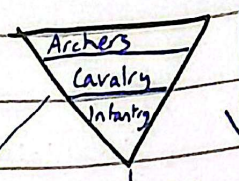


1. Use of spies before battle

Prophet actively utilized spying to gain a strategic edge over rivals. He sent H. Khuzaima as a spy before the Battle of Trench to understand Meccans' battle plan.

2. Formations in battlefields.

He organised cavalry, ~~and~~ infantry and artillery.


 Attack in this direction
 Spearheaded approach - perfect for offense
 Slope is easier to defend - This led to success in Badr despite being outnumbered 313 Muslims vs 1000 Meccans.

3. Relying on element of surprise

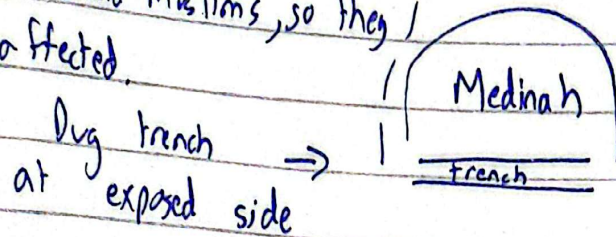
In the battles, Prophet used to keep his plans to himself; shared them with only top commanders. In this way, the enemy could not be alerted. They ^{Muslims} were ^{never} taken by surprise and won ~~the battles~~ many battles utilizing this strategy.

4. Consultation before Attack

Before all battles, he used to consult with his commanders. The digging of the trench at Battle of Khandaq was on the suggestion of Salman Faris. Hence, he respected their opinions and this led to repeated Muslim triumphs over enemies.

5. Analyzing Natural hurdles

He chose the Badr battle field by camping early and occupying wells. This led to his enemies being left facing the sun during battle. They were blinded by the sun. The sun was behind Muslims, so they were unaffected. Secure on three sides



6. Innovative techniques in changing scenarios

At Uhud, he ordered archers to keep alert at the top of mound of Uhud. Their disobedience led to the Muslim defeat. At Khandaq, a trench was dug. Similarly, a siege was laid at Khyber. So, according to the changing scenario, different approaches were used.

7. Psychological Warfare on Enemies

At the start of Badr, Meccans were psychologically defeated when three of their commanders were defeated by Muslims. During the conquest of Mecca, campfires were spread all over the Muslim camp; Meccans mistook this for a larger army.

8. Minimum Casualties in Wars

According to Montgomery Watts, in nearly ~~216~~ ~~battles over~~ 20 years of Prophethood, only 1058 casualties took place (799 non-Muslims, 258 Muslims). Hence the rate of casualties was extremely low. Yet, Islam emerged as the dominant force in the end.

9. Treatment of Prisoners of War

At Badr, 70 Meccans were captured. Contrary to the prevalent custom of making them slaves, Prophet gave them freedom after they taught 10 ~~star~~ children each. Moreover, treatment was extremely humane.

4. Views of Contemporary Leaders regarding Prophet's Military Prowess

Napoleon Bonaparte expressed admiration for Prophet's military strategy by noting the skills he used in Medina. In 'Mohammed at Medina', Montgomery Watts appreciates the treatment meted out to Prisoners of War.

by Prophet. Even Golda Meir, the Israeli ex-Prime Minister expressed admiration of the Prophet's sword collection; the Prophet prioritized security even in times of peace.

5. Conclusion

The Prophet PBUH is an ideal personality in all aspects of life.

لقد كان نكر في رسول الله
أسوة حسنة - (القرآن)

Indeed in the Messenger of Allah, ye have a beautiful pattern of conduct.

انك لعل خلق عظيم
- And ye are of sound character

The military strategy of the Prophet depicts his farsightedness and intelligence. His way of handling difficult military scenarios with ease led him to be the most supremely successful individual in both religious and secular aspects (Michael Hart in the 100). His use of spying,

consultation, psychological warfare were ahead of his time. Moreover, he even cared about the treatment of Prisoners of War and effects on non combatants and the environment. Hence, the Prophet's military expertise was indeed supremely successful.

