

NDA Final Mock (Islamic Studies)

Q. NO. 01

Basic Beliefs Of Islam And The

Reformation Of The Life Of

Individual And Society Through Them

Introduction

Islam is not merely a set of rituals, it is a comprehensive worldview grounded in the firm beliefs called Aqaid. They shape human thought, conduct, and social organization. These beliefs provide moral direction, spiritual purpose, and social discipline. Among these aqaid, the belief in the 'Akhirat' or Hereafter occupies a central position. It gives meaning to human accountability and ultimate justice. These beliefs reform both individual and social life collectively.

Basic Beliefs of Islam

According to the Quran and Ahadith, Islam rests upon six fundamental beliefs. They include tauheed, belief in Angels, Belief in divine books, belief in Prophets, belief in the day of Judgment, and belief in divine decree.

Belief in The Oneness of Allah

(Tauheed)

It is the fundamental belief of Islam that Almighty Allah is the only sovereign of everything. It comprises the first part of the Kalima; i.e:

لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ

"None but Allah is worthy of worship".

The belief encompasses the uniqueness and the oneness of Allah

as a creator and sustainer: According to the Holy Quran;

"Say: He is Allah, the One."

- Surah Ikhlas

Belief in Angels (Malai'ka)

It is another important faith in Islam to believe on the existence of obedient, sacred, and unseen beings called Angels (Malai'ka). Jibrael, one of the strongest angels, was responsible for revelation on the Holy Prophet (SAW). Quran says;

"Over you are guardians,
noble scribes."

- Al-Quran

This refers to the angels called Kiraman Katibein who are responsible for recording deeds of everyone.

Belief In Divine Books

It refers to the belief of Muslims on the 4 Holy Books of Islam. These include Torah, Zabur, Injeel, and the Holy Quran. The last book of Allah, the Holy Quran, nullified all the other books and was revealed on the Holy Prophet (SAW). Quran says;

"And it (Quran) is the ultimate criterion."

- Al-Furqan

It also says;

"This is the Book in which there is no doubt."

- Surah Baqarah

Muslims should believe in all the 4 books but follow the teachings of ~~Islam~~ Quran as the Holy book of Islam.

Belief In Prophets

Islam tells Muslims to believe in the Prophets from Hazrat Adam (AS) to the Holy Prophet (SAW). Muslims are bound to believe that Prophet Muhammad (SAW) is the last prophet of Allah. It forms the second part of the Kalima.

وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ

"I bear witness that Muhammad (SAW) is His (Allah's) last messenger."

It is fundamental to believe in the Prophethood of the last Prophet (SAW) among others and follow his Sunnah.

Belief In The Divine Decree (Qadr)

It is compulsory for the Muslims to believe in the divine decree of Allah and His knowledge

of the unseen. Hazrat Muhammad (SAW) said;

"To believe in the destiny,
its good and its bad."

- Sahih Muslim

The Doctrine of Akhirah (Hereafter)

The belief in the Akhirah means to have faith in the life after death. It refers to the belief in the stages after life i.e:

1. Belief in death (Mawt)
2. Life of Barzakh
3. Resurrection
4. Accountability (Hisab)
5. Scale of deeds
6. Heaven (Jannah) and Hell (Jahannam)

Every person's life eventually comes

to death. After it there is a period between the judgment day and death called Barzakh. On the day of judgment everyone will be resurrected to live again and will face accountability for what they did on Earth. This will lead to their ultimate end of Jannah or Jahannam. Quran says:

"Every soul shall taste death, and you will be paid in full on the day of resurrection."

- Surah Al-Imran

Moral Accountability

Every person will be held accountable for his deeds in life whether good or bad. No matter how big or small, nothing will go unrewarded or unpunished.

Quran says;

"Whoever does an atom's
good (weight) must see it."

- Surah Al-Zalzalah

Reformation Of Individual life Through Islam

Sense of Purpose

Islam gives a sense of purpose and meaning to life. It (life) is based on moral values rather than nihilism and despair.

Patience and Gratitude

The concept of accountability in Islam releases the individuals of their need of worldly accomplishments. They gain patience and gratitude knowing their actions will be rewarded.

Reformation Of Society Through Islam

Justice In Society

Islam focuses on justices in society and has strict accountability for rulers who are unjust. Quran says:

"And when you just, do it with justice."

- Surah Al-Baqarah

Sense Of Harmony

Islam nullifies all worldly differences among people and promotes harmony through its practices such as salat.

Aik hi saff mai kharay hogaye
Mahmud o Ayaz,
Na koī banda raha, na koī
banda nawaz.

Conclusion

The basic beliefs of Islam especially the doctrine of Akhirah provides a powerful moral framework for Muslims to spend their life at both individual and social levels. It embeds social and spiritual accountability, justice, and purpose into the grassroot levels. These beliefs offer moral salvation as well as a sense of meaning and purpose to individual as well as collective life.

Q. NO. 02

Concept of Salat (Prayer) In Islam and Its Impacts on Social, Moral, and Spiritual Life Of An Individual

Introduction

Salat (prayer) occupies a central position in Islam and represents the most visible manifestation of a Muslim's faith in daily life. It is a comprehensive system of moral and spiritual discipline. It is the second pillar of Islam and connects the humans to their Creator. It also shapes the ethical and social conduct of Muslims. It is an institution in Islam that transforms Muslims from within.

Concept of Salat In Islam

Definition

literally, salat means 'supplication, connection, and devotion' to the Creator. It is a prescribed form of worship consisting of specific words and actions, performed at fixed times, with sincerity and humility. Quran says:

"Establish prayer for my
(Allah's) remembrance."

- Surah Taha

A central obligation

Salat is an obligation on every adult and sane Muslim. Every Muslim should offer salat 'five times a day'. These include Fajr, Duhr, Asr, Maghrib, and Isha. It was prescribed to Muslims

during Prophet's (SAW) journey of
Mairaj and is crucial to Islam.
According to a Hadith,

"Prayer is the pillar of
religion."

-Tirmidhi

Essential Features of Salat

Should be established
regularly 5 times a
day

Congregational
prayer is emphasized
for men

Removes all forms
of discriminations

Depicts the
submission of
Muslims to Allah.

Spiritual Impact of Salat

Strengthening Relationship With Allah

Salat establishes a continuous relationship with the creator. This regular practice enhances taqwa and strengthens the relationship between the creation and the creator. Quran says;

"Seek help through patience and prayer."

- Surah Al-Baqarah

Purification of The Soul

Salat is a repeated practice. It cleanses the heart from ignorance, greed, and heedlessness. Scholars describe Salat as 'the nourishment of soul and the light of the heart.'

Moral Impact of Salat

Prevention Of Immorality

Salat acts as a guidance and reminder to the creation of the limitations set by his creator for him to abide. Thus, acts as a moral shield against vice.

"Indeed, prayer restrains from shameful and unjust deeds."

- Al-Quran

Creates Ethical Discipline

Salat is a regular obligation & nurtures honesty, patience, and self-control. Thus, reinforcing the ethical consistency in public and private life.

"Perform Salat and stay on the right path."

- Al-Quran

Social Impact of Salat

Promotes Equality And Brotherhood

Prayer (Salat) is a congregational prayer, in which all human beings set aside their differences and stand shoulder to shoulder. Quran says;

"Indeed, the believers are brothers."

- Surah Hujurat

Social Cohesion Among Believers

Mosques serve as centers to foster communal harmony. Specific prayers like Eid prayer and Friday prayer promote collective identity among Muslims. It reinforces the concept of fraternity in the Islamic values.

Conclusion

Salat (prayer) is a comprehensive system of spiritual elevation, moral refinement, and social integration. By connecting the individual to Allah, its creator, prayer disciplines the behaviour and keeps him from going astray. When observed with sincerity, it becomes a powerful tool for personal transformation and social reform.

Q. NO. 03

Concept Of Human Dignity

In Islam

Introduction

Human dignity is a foundational principle of Islam. Contrary to pre-Islamic era,

where human worth was contingent, Islamic values reinforce the inherent concept of human dignity. In the matters of women, Islam is especially cautious and holds them in high regard. It does not only reinforce the concept, but also gives for ways of its implementation.

The Concept of Human Dignity In Islam

Universal Human Dignity

Islam ensures that dignity belongs to all human beings irrespective of their caste, color, creed, or any other form of discrimination. Quran says;

"Indeed, we have honored
the children of Adam."

- Surah Al-Isra

Equality of All Humans

Islam ensures non-discrimination among the humans based on any variations. Thus, ensuring their dignity equally. The Prophet (SAW), in his last sermon said;

"No Arab is superior than a non-Arab, neither a white is superior over a black..."

- Islam: Its meaning and message.

Status Of Women Before

Islam

Before Islam, women were held in very low regard. The practices like female infanticide, no share in inheritance, and polygyny were very common.

Quran greatly condemns these practices.

"And when the girl buried alive is asked for what sin she was killed."

- Surah Al-Takwin

Recognition Of Women's Dignity

In Islam

Spiritual And Moral Equality

Islam puts women and men on equal footing in faith, accountability and reward. Quran says;

"Indeed, the most honourable of you in the sight of Allah is the most righteous."

- Surah Al-Hujurat

It does not treat men and women unequally.

Right To Life

Islam imposed absolute prohibition of female infanticide and declared life as sacred irrespective of the gender. Quran says;

"Do not kill your children
for fear of poverty."

- Surah Al-Isra

Legal and Economic Rights

Islam ensured legal and economic rights for women. Such as the right to ask for divorce (khula) and the share in inheritance and dowry amount (Haq Mahir). Quran says;

"For men is a share of
what parents and relatives
leave, and for women
is a share."

- Surah An-Nisa.

Respect For Woman As A Mother

Motherhood is held in the highest moral status in Islam. Mothers are valued and hold immense respect in Islamic virtues. There's a Sahih Hadith that says;

“Paradise lies under the feet of mothers.”

Measures Adopted By Islam To Maintain And Protect Women's Dignity

Presence Of Legal Safeguards

Islam has given laws to protect the human especially women's dignity. These laws have been codified under family and Hudood laws. They include and regulate

the subjects of marriage, divorce, and inheritance. Hudood laws specifically deals with the protection of honor under anti-rape and adultery provisions.

Moral Framework

Islam provides moral framework for both men and women. Modesty is ~~pres~~ prescribed for both men and women. Quran says;

“And lower your gaze when you see them (women).”

- Surah An-Noor

This removes objectification and protects dignity in public life.

Educational Recognition

Seeking knowledge is obligatory in Islam for every man and

woman. It allows and promotes the active participation of Muslim women in education. E.g: Prophet (SAW) asked Hazrat Zayd (RA) to teach Hazrat Aisha (RA). He (SAW) also let women in Madina get education in the learning centers at Madina.

Conclusion

Islam has revolutionized the concept of human dignity. Women, in particular, are held in high regard in the Islamic values and teachings. Their dignity has been protected with moral values, legal rights, and active accountability. In order to further the cause, it has given mechanisms like khula and share in inheritance to protect the dignity of women.

Q. NO. 05

Role Of Ijtihad In Establishment Of Muslim Ummah And The Betterment Of Humanity

Introduction

Ijtihad refers to the independent juristic reasoning within the framework of Quran and Sunnah. Historically, it has been a dynamic force behind Islam's ability to guide changing societies. Far from being a rigid legal exercise, Ijtihad represents Islam's intellectual vitality and moral responsiveness. It plays a crucial role in revitalizing the Muslim Ummah and contributing meaningfully to the well-being of humanity at large.

The Scope And Concept Of Ijtihad

Ijtihad refers to the deriving of legal rulings for new situations not explicitly mentioned in primary sources i.e: the Quran and Sunnah while remaining faithful to their objectives.

Limitations Of Ijtihad

Ijtihad operates where the primary text is silent or open to interpretation. It does not override the clear injunctions of the primary sources of Quran and Sunnah.

Ijtihad In Establishment Of Muslim Ummah

Unity Through Adaptability

Ijtihad ensures and enables diverse interpretations of the issues at hand. It fosters cultural and regional harmony by broad interpretations of the questions. Quran says;

"And thus, We made you a Middle nation."

- Surah Al-Baqarah

Revival Of Political And Legal Thought

Ijtihad enables Islamic governance to address modern constitutionalism, human rights, and accountability. Early caliphs also used Ijtihad to ensure effective governance. For instance;

Hazrat Umar (RA) suspended Hadd during famine; decriminalizing offences such as robbery.

Socio-Economic Development

Ijtihad offers for social and economic development by introducing solutions for banking, finance, bioethics, and digital economies. It promotes justice-based economic systems compatible with modern realities and needs.

Ijtihad And Betterment Of Humanity

Ethical Guidance For Modern Challenges

Ijtihad aims at solving issues like climate change, AI,

and genetic engineering due to their moral questions. It bridges relation with contemporary ethics.

Promotion Of Universal

Values

Through Ijtihad, Islam ensures the implementation of the universal values of Justice (Adl), Human dignity, and social welfare. These values transcend religious boundaries and serve humanity at large.

Countering Extremism

The contextual reasoning of values neutralizes extremist misinterpretations of the Islamic narratives. This encourages the balance between text and reason while discouraging Islamophobia.

Scholars argue that absence of Ijtihad produces rigidity and extremism.

Contemporary Applications of Ijtihad

1. Islamic finance and banking as globally recognized ethical alternative.
2. Discourses on minority rights and gender justice.
3. Reasonings on riba and profits.

Conclusion

Ijtihad reveals the adaptive and neutral nature of Islam as an all encompassing and a holistic religion. It strengthens the Muslim Ummah internally and offers ethical leadership for

humanity. In a rapidly evolving world, the revival of disciplined and purpose-driven Ijtihad is indispensable. It aims at restoring unity and morals, while having extreme relevance in the contemporary world.