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QUESTION 1

1) INTRODUCTION:

The word civilization refers to the collective material, intellectual, moral, and social achievements of a society. The Islamic civilization, guided by Quran and Sunnah, has been subject to great influences by the western civilization. These influences ranged from political systems, to adoption of modern science and technology, western financial ~~systems~~ and economic models, social movements and cultural exchanges through globalisation and modern media. Thus, the impacts of the western civilization on the Islamic civilization are manifold, not all positive.

2) DECIPHERING THE CONCEPT OF CIVILIZATION:

According to Will Durant, the american philosopher, a civilization consists of:

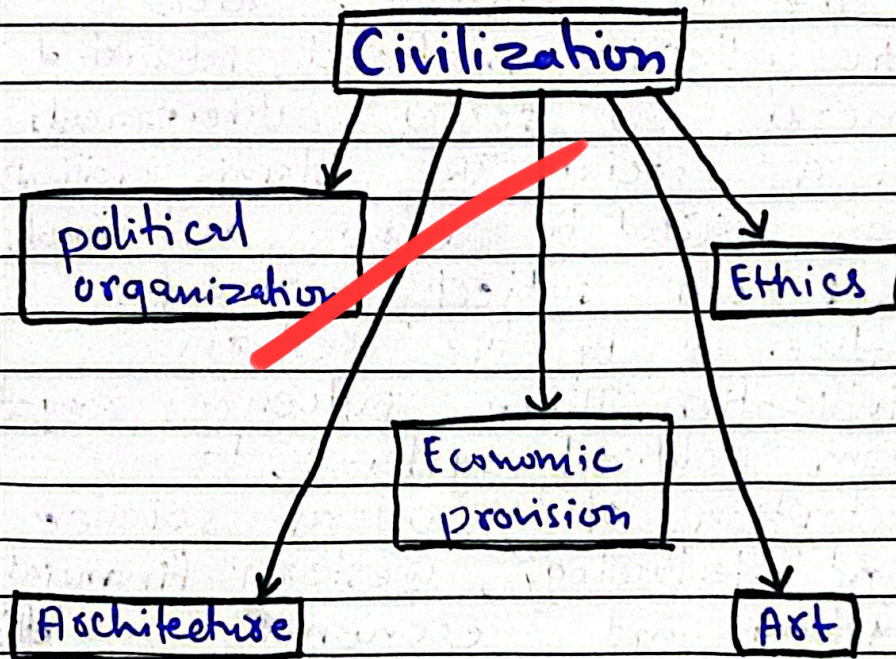
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- 1) Political organization
- 2) Economic provision
- 3) Ethics and morality
- 4) Art and Architecture



3) IMPACT OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION ON MUSLIM SOCIETIES:

3.1) Adoption of modern science and technology.

Western advancements in science, and medicine, and engineering have influenced muslim societies such as Artificial intelligence tools such as ChatGPT, Gemini, IVF medicine etc.

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3.2) Adoption of western political systems:

Syed Abul Ala Maududi believed that western political models undermine Islamic moral and social order. Thus adoption of concepts of constitutionalism, democracy, and nation-states has affected the governance models in muslim countries.

3.3) Adoption of western educational system:

Western education systems such as Cambridge school system, western-style universities and curriculum are prevalent in Muslim societies today.

3.4) Adoption of western legal reforms:

Western legal codes influenced modern legal systems in many muslim countries. An example is Pakistan's civil and criminal codes which were influenced by the British legal system.

3.5) Adoption of western economic models:

Capitalism, financial institutions such as International monetary fund, banking systems such as US led - SWIFT and global trade have reshaped muslim economies.

A case in point is the adoption of interest, which is forbidden in Islam.

|| Allah has permitted trade
and forbidden Riba (interest)
(Al-Baqarah : 275) ||

3.6) Adoption of western media and communication:

The printing press, digital media, and mass communication transformed islamic societies. A case in point is the 2011 Arab spring wave which was exacerbated through social media.

3.7) Western industrialization and engineering marvels - dependency on west, Western industrial models

influenced labour, production and urbanization and worsened social inequality. It also made muslim societies dependent on the west. A case in point is the Revo Dig project in Balochistan, Pakistan.

3.8) Permeation of western concept of ~~Human~~ woman empowerment:

The western concept of woman empowerment and gender equality has influenced social discourse in muslim societies such as the #MeToo movement. Allah says in the Quran:

“And women have rights similar to those over them”.

(2:228)

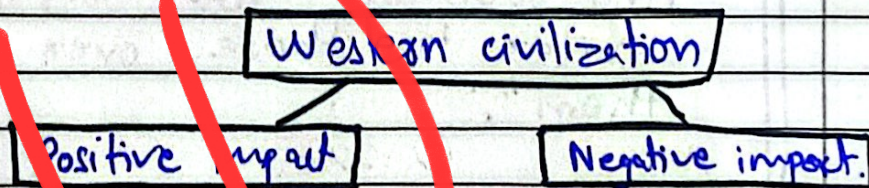
3.9) Western social movements as a cause of spiritual crisis in muslim societies:

According to Syed Hossein Nasr, philosopher and theologian, western secular worldview

has impacted islamic spirituality and resulted in a loss of sacred knowledge. A case in point is the western idea of civil liberties and human rights.

3.10) Adoption of western cultural values; western cultural invasion:

Western dress code, food, art, music, philosophy, and lifestyle dominate muslim societies today, which has been criticized by Malik Bennabi, philosopher, due to muslim decline and their intellectual dependence on the west.



4) CONCLUSION:

Therefore, the western civilization has impacted society in various manners, some of which positive, some negative. The revival of islamic culture and civilization

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lies in its ~~and~~ intellectual
independence from western
ideals.

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