

(Islamic studies mid term)

Short Questions/Answers

Q:1 Write the fundamental of Islamic beliefs?

Ans: The fundamental beliefs of Islam, known as the Five Pillars, are:

Shahada (Faith): Declaration of faith, acknowledging that there is no god but Allah, and Muhammad is his messenger.

Salah (Prayer): Performing ritual prayers five times a day, facing the Kaaba in Mecca.

Zakat (Charity): Giving a portion of one's wealth to those in need, typically 2.5% of savings.

Sawm (Fasting): Observing fasting during the month of Ramadan, abstaining from food, drink, and other physical needs from dawn to sunset.

Hajj (Pilgrimage): Making the pilgrimage to Mecca at least once in a lifetime for those who are physically and financially able.

Q:2 Define shirk?

Ans: Shirk is the Islamic concept of associating partners with Allah or attributing divine qualities to anyone or anything besides Allah. It is considered a major sin in Islam, as it goes against the central principle of Tawheed (the oneness **Sunnah** of God).

Q:3 Define Sunnah?

Ans: Sunnah refers to the teachings, actions, and approvals of the Prophet Muhammad, including his sayings, actions, and silent approvals. It serves as a significant source of guidance for Muslims on how to live their lives in accordance with Islamic principles and values.

Q:4:What is meant by khatam-e-nabuwat ?

Ans: Khatam-e-Nabuwat, in Islam, refers to the belief in the finality of Prophethood with the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him). It asserts that Muhammad is the last and final prophet sent by Allah to guide humanity, and no prophet will come after him. This belief is a fundamental tenet of Islamic faith and is mentioned in the Quran and Hadith literature. It signifies the completion and perfection of prophethood with Muhammad, sealing the line of prophethood.

Q:5 How many makki and madni surahs are in the Holy Quran?

Ans:The Quran is divided into chapters known as surahs, which are further categorized based on whether they were revealed in Makkah or Madinah. There are 86 Makki (Meccan) surahs and 28 Madani (Madinah) surahs in the Quran.

Q:6 Define Akedah?

Ans:“Akedah” is a Hebrew term referring to the binding of Isaac, a significant event in the Hebrew Bible (Old Testament) found in the book of Genesis. It recounts how Abraham was tested by God to sacrifice his son Isaac as a demonstration of his faith and obedience. However, at the last moment, God intervened and provided a ram as a substitute sacrifice, sparing Isaac’s life. This event is central to Jewish, Christian, and Islamic traditions and holds various theological interpretations across these faiths.

Q:7 Define Tauheed?

Ans: Tawheed, or Tauheed, is the Islamic concept of the oneness of God. It emphasizes the absolute unity and uniqueness of Allah in His attributes, lordship, and worship. Tawheed encompasses three aspects:

Tawheed al-Rububiyah: Oneness of Allah’s lordship, acknowledging that He is the sole creator, sustainer, and controller of the universe.

Tawheed al-Uluhiyyah: Oneness of Allah’s worship, recognizing that only Allah deserves to be worshiped and that all acts of worship must be directed to Him alone.

Tawheed al-Asma’ wa al-Sifat: Oneness of Allah’s names and attributes, affirming that Allah has unique names and attributes that belong only to Him, and avoiding any resemblance to His creation.

Tawheed is considered the cornerstone of Islamic faith and is the central theme of the Quran.

Q:8 Who took the responsibility of the preservation of the Holy Quran?

Ans: The responsibility of preserving the Holy Quran primarily fell upon Prophet Muhammad and his companions. During his lifetime, the Prophet meticulously conveyed the Quranic revelations to his companions, who memorized and recorded them. He appointed scribes to write down the revelations as they were received, ensuring their accurate preservation. After the Prophet’s death, his companions continued to uphold this responsibility, with many of them having memorized the Quran in its entirety. The first Caliph, Abu Bakr, ordered the compilation of the Quran into a single book form under the supervision of Zaid ibn Thabit, ensuring its preservation in written form. Throughout Islamic

history, scholars and communities have also played a vital role in preserving the Quran through memorization, written copies, and scholarly study, ensuring its preservation to this day.

Q:9 what was the previous name of Madina?

Ans: The previous name of Madina was Yathrib. After the Hijra (migration) of the Prophet Muhammad from Mecca to Yathrib, the city was renamed Madinat al-Nabi, meaning “City of the Prophet,” commonly shortened to Madinah.

Q:10 What is meant by Shia and Sunni?

Ans: Shia and Sunni are the two main branches of Islam. Sunni Muslims follow the Sunnah (traditions) of the Prophet Muhammad and accept the first four caliphs as his rightful successors. Shia Muslims believe in the leadership of Ali, the Prophet’s cousin and son-in-law, and his descendants, known as Imams, whom they regard as the rightful leaders of the Muslim community.

Long Question/Answers

Q:1 Write the descriptive history of the Holy Quran?

Ans: The Holy Quran, the sacred scripture of Islam, has a rich and intricate history that spans over fourteen centuries. It began with the revelations received by the Prophet Muhammad, starting in 610 CE when he was forty years old. These revelations continued until his death in 632 CE.

During his lifetime, Prophet Muhammad conveyed the Quranic verses orally to his companions, who memorized and recited them. Many scribes were also appointed to write down the revelations as they were received. The Prophet himself supervised this process to ensure accuracy.

After the death of the Prophet Muhammad, the Quranic revelations were compiled into a single book form during the caliphate of Abu Bakr, the first Caliph. This compilation was overseen by Zaid ibn Thabit, one of the Prophet’s scribes, and was completed around 634-644 CE.

Under the rule of the third Caliph, Uthman ibn Affan, copies of the Quran were standardized and distributed to different regions of the expanding Islamic empire to

prevent variations in recitation. This standardized version, known as the Uthmanic codex, became the basis for all subsequent copies of the Quran.

Throughout Islamic history, various scholars and communities have contributed to the preservation, study, and dissemination of the Quran. The Quran has been translated into numerous languages and has served as a source of guidance, inspiration, and spiritual reflection for millions of Muslims around the world.

Despite the passage of centuries, the Quran remains unchanged in its original Arabic text, a testament to its divine preservation according to Islamic belief. It continues to be revered as the final and complete revelation from Allah to humanity, offering guidance for all aspects of life.

Q:2 What are the lessons learned from surrah Al Hujurat?

Ans: Surah Al-Hujurat, the 49th chapter of the Quran, offers several important lessons for individuals and communities. Some of the key lessons include:

Respect and Courtesy: The surah emphasizes the importance of respect and courtesy in interpersonal relationships. It instructs believers to avoid mocking or insulting others and to speak to one another with kindness and consideration.

Avoiding Suspicion: Al-Hujurat cautions against suspicion and backbiting, urging believers to verify information before forming judgments and to refrain from spreading rumors or gossip.

Unity and Brotherhood: The surah promotes unity and brotherhood among believers, emphasizing that all Muslims are equal and should support one another. It discourages divisions and encourages reconciliation in case of conflicts.

Obedying Allah and His Messenger: It emphasizes the importance of obeying Allah and His Messenger (Prophet Muhammad), highlighting that true faith entails following the guidance of Islam in all aspects of life.

Importance of Knowledge: Surah Al-Hujurat underscores the significance of seeking knowledge and understanding, as ignorance can lead to misunderstanding and conflict.

Modesty and Humility: It encourages modesty and humility in behavior and speech, reminding believers to be mindful of their actions and to avoid arrogance or boastfulness.

Overall, Surah Al-Hujurat serves as a guide for building harmonious and respectful relationships within the Muslim community and beyond, while also emphasizing the importance of faith, knowledge, and humility in the pursuit of righteousness.

Q:3 Write down the initial difficulties of the Holy prophet PBUH?

Ans: The Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) faced numerous difficulties and challenges throughout his life, especially during the early years of his mission. Some of the initial difficulties he encountered include:

Persecution and Opposition: When the Prophet Muhammad first began preaching Islam in Mecca, he faced strong opposition from the Quraysh tribe and other powerful clans in the city. He and his followers were subjected to verbal abuse, social boycotts, and even physical violence.

Social Boycott: The Quraysh imposed a social boycott on the Prophet and his followers, isolating them from the rest of the community and restricting their access to food, trade, and basic necessities.

Loss of Support: The Prophet Muhammad lost the protection of his influential uncle, Abu Talib, and his beloved wife, Khadijah, within a short span of time. Their deaths left him emotionally and socially vulnerable, as they had provided him with support and protection.

Migration to Medina (Hijra): Due to escalating persecution in Mecca, the Prophet Muhammad and his followers were forced to migrate to the city of Medina in 622 CE. This

migration, known as the Hijra, marked a significant turning point in Islamic history but also involved risks and uncertainties.

Battle of Badr: In Medina, the Muslim community faced military threats from the Quraysh and other hostile tribes. The Prophet Muhammad led the Muslims in the Battle of Badr in 624 CE, where they faced a much larger enemy force. Although the Muslims emerged victorious, the battle was a test of their faith and resolve.

Despite these challenges, the Prophet Muhammad remained steadfast in his mission and continued to spread the message of Islam with patience, wisdom, and perseverance. His exemplary leadership and unwavering faith ultimately led to the establishment and expansion of the Muslim community.

Q:4 Write down the characteristics of the Holy prophet Muhammad PBUH?

Ans: The Holy Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) possessed numerous admirable characteristics, some of which include:

Honesty and Integrity: He was known as Al-Amin (the trustworthy) even before receiving prophethood, due to his honesty and integrity in all his dealings.

Mercy and Compassion: The Prophet Muhammad was characterized by his compassion and mercy towards all beings, including humans, animals, and the environment. He showed kindness and empathy in his interactions with others.

Humility: Despite his esteemed position as the final messenger of Allah, the Prophet Muhammad remained humble and modest. He did not seek worldly status or fame but focused on serving humanity and obeying Allah's commands.

Patience and Perseverance: Throughout his life, the Prophet Muhammad demonstrated immense patience and perseverance in the face of adversity and challenges. He endured persecution, opposition, and personal loss with fortitude and resilience.

Justice and Fairness: The Prophet Muhammad upheld principles of justice and fairness in all aspects of life. He treated people equitably regardless of their background, ethnicity, or social status and established a just society based on Islamic principles.

Wisdom and Prudence: He was endowed with profound wisdom and insight, which he applied in guiding his followers and resolving disputes. His teachings and decisions were characterized by wisdom and foresight.

Leadership: The Prophet Muhammad was an exemplary leader who inspired and guided his companions with wisdom, compassion, and integrity. He led by example and encouraged others to follow the path of righteousness.

Devotion to Worship: He devoted much of his time to worship, prayer, and spiritual reflection, setting an example for his followers in their relationship with Allah.

These are just a few of the many remarkable characteristics of the Holy Prophet Muhammad, whose life and teachings continue to inspire millions of people around the world.

Q:5 What are the lessons learned from surrah Al Furqan?

Ans: Surah Al-Furqan, the 25th chapter of the Quran, offers several important lessons for believers. Some of the key lessons include:

Guidance and Criterion: The surah emphasizes the Quran as a criterion between truth and falsehood, guiding humanity to the straight path. It encourages believers to hold firmly to the Quran as a source of guidance in all aspects of life.

The Mercy of Allah: Al-Furqan highlights the mercy of Allah towards His servants, offering hope and encouragement to believers. It underscores the importance of seeking Allah's mercy through repentance and righteous deeds.

Respect for Parents: The surah emphasizes the importance of respecting and obeying parents, highlighting their rights and the blessings associated with dutifulness towards them.

Rejecting Falsehood: Al-Furqan warns against following falsehood and idolatry, urging believers to shun false beliefs and practices. It calls for critical thinking and discernment in distinguishing truth from falsehood.

Patience and Perseverance: The surah praises the qualities of patience and perseverance, reminding believers of the rewards awaiting those who remain steadfast in faith and righteous deeds despite trials and tribulations.

Humility: Al-Furqan encourages humility and modesty in behavior and speech, cautioning against arrogance and boastfulness. It emphasizes the virtues of humility before Allah and in dealings with others.

Seeking Knowledge: The surah underscores the importance of seeking knowledge and understanding, praising those who reflect upon the signs of Allah in the universe and strive to increase their knowledge.

Overall, Surah Al-Furqan serves as a source of guidance, encouragement, and admonition for believers, urging them to uphold faith, righteousness, and moral integrity in their lives.

Q:6 What is hadith and Sunnah?

Ans: Hadith and Sunnah are two important concepts in Islam that play a significant role in understanding and practicing the religion.

Hadith:

Hadith refers to the recorded traditions, sayings, actions, and approvals of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him). These reports provide detailed guidance on various aspects of Islamic belief, practice, and behavior and serve as a supplementary source of authority alongside the Quran. Hadith collections are compiled by scholars based on their

authenticity and reliability. Scholars of Hadith meticulously scrutinize the chains of narrators (isnad) and the content (matn) of each hadith to determine its authenticity.

Hadith collections are categorized based on their content and reliability. The most trusted collections among Sunni Muslims include Sahih al-Bukhari and Sahih Muslim, followed by collections like Sunan Abu Dawood, Sunan al-Tirmidhi, Sunan al-Nasa'i, and Sunan Ibn Majah. Shia Muslims have their own collections of hadith, with the most prominent being the Four Books: Kitab al-Kafi, Man la yahduruhu al-Faqih, Tahdhib al-Ahkam, and Al-Istibsar.

Sunnah:

Sunnah, on the other hand, refers to the way of life or the practices of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him). It encompasses his actions, statements, and approvals, serving as a model for Muslims to emulate in their daily lives. The Sunnah embodies the Prophet's exemplary behavior and serves as a practical application of Islamic teachings found in the Quran.

Following the Sunnah is considered essential for Muslims seeking to live in accordance with Islamic principles and values. It provides guidance on various aspects of life, including worship, ethics, manners, interpersonal relations, and legal matters. Muslims strive to follow the Sunnah in both their individual and communal practices, aiming to align their lives with the example set by the Prophet Muhammad.

In summary, while Hadith refers to the recorded traditions of the Prophet Muhammad, Sunnah encompasses his practices and way of life. Together, they form integral components of Islamic teachings and serve as sources of guidance for Muslims worldwide.

Q:7 Write descriptively about categorizations of Hadith and books of Hadith ?

Ans: Categorizations of Hadith:

Based on Authenticity (Sahih, Hasan, Da'if): Hadith are classified into categories based on their authenticity, determined by the reliability of their chains of transmission (isnad) and the content (matn). Sahih (authentic) hadith are those with a chain of narrators known for their integrity and reliability, and they conform to the highest standards of authenticity.

Hasan (good) hadith are deemed reliable but fall slightly below the level of Sahih. Da'if (weak) hadith are considered less reliable due to deficiencies in their chains of transmission or content.

Based on Subject Matter (Fiqh, Aqeedah, Tafsir, etc.): Hadith are also categorized based on their subject matter. For example, hadith related to jurisprudence (fiqh) deal with legal rulings and practical matters of Islamic law. Hadith related to creed (aqeedah) focus on matters of belief and theology. Hadith related to exegesis (tafsir) provide explanations and interpretations of the Quranic verses, while hadith related to ethics (akhlaq) address matters of moral conduct and character.

Based on Narrators (Mutawatir, Ahad, Mashhur, etc.): Hadith are classified based on the number of narrators in their chain of transmission. Mutawatir hadith are those narrated by such a large number of reliable narrators that their authenticity is beyond doubt. Ahad hadith are those narrated by a smaller number of narrators but are still considered reliable. Mashhur hadith are those narrated by multiple narrators at each level of the chain but do not reach the level of Mutawatir.

Books of Hadith:

Sahih al-Bukhari: Compiled by Imam al-Bukhari, this collection is considered the most authentic book of hadith among Sunni Muslims. It contains over 7,000 hadith organized into chapters covering various aspects of Islamic faith, practice, and ethics.

Sahih Muslim: Compiled by Imam Muslim ibn al-Hajjaj, this collection is regarded as the second most authentic book of hadith among Sunni Muslims. It contains over 12,000 hadith categorized into chapters similar to Sahih al-Bukhari.

Sunan Abu Dawood, Sunan al-Tirmidhi, Sunan al-Nasa'i, Sunan Ibn Majah: These are known as the "Six Authentic Books" (Al-Kutub al-Sittah) and are considered among the most reliable collections of hadith after Sahih al-Bukhari and Sahih Muslim. Each book contains thousands of hadith categorized by subject matter.

Muwatta Imam Malik: Compiled by Imam Malik ibn Anas, this collection is one of the earliest books of hadith and is highly respected among Sunni Muslims. It includes hadith related to legal rulings (fiqh) and the practices of the people of Medina during the time of the Prophet Muhammad.

Shia Collections: Shia Muslims have their own collections of hadith, with the most prominent being the Four Books: Kitab al-Kafi, Man la yahduruhu al-Faqih, Tahdhib al-Ahkam, and Al-Istibsar. These collections contain hadith narrated by the Imams of the Ahl al-Bayt (the family of the Prophet).

Q:8 What is the purpose of Zakat?

Ans: The purpose of Zakat in Islam is multifaceted and serves both individual and societal objectives, reflecting the broader principles of social justice, compassion, and communal welfare. Here's a detailed explanation of its purposes:

Worship and Obedience to Allah: Zakat is a fundamental pillar of Islam, and its payment is obligatory for eligible Muslims. By fulfilling the obligation of Zakat, Muslims demonstrate their obedience to Allah and fulfill their duty as prescribed in the Quran and Sunnah.

Wealth Purification: Zakat serves as a means of purifying one's wealth by removing a portion of it and distributing it among those in need. It prevents the accumulation of wealth in the hands of a few individuals and promotes equitable distribution of resources in society.

Social Welfare and Poverty Alleviation: One of the primary purposes of Zakat is to address poverty and alleviate the suffering of the less fortunate members of society. It provides financial assistance to the poor, needy, destitute, and other vulnerable groups, helping them meet their basic needs such as food, shelter, clothing, and healthcare.

Solidarity and Brotherhood: Zakat fosters a sense of solidarity and brotherhood among members of the Muslim community. It encourages empathy, compassion, and support for those facing economic hardships, reinforcing the principle of mutual assistance and cooperation in Islam.

Redistribution of Wealth: Zakat redistributes wealth from the affluent members of society to those who are less privileged. It helps bridge the gap between the rich and the poor, promoting social cohesion and stability by reducing disparities in wealth and income.

Spiritual Growth and Self-Purification: Paying Zakat cultivates spiritual growth and self-purification by instilling qualities of generosity, humility, and gratitude in the hearts of believers. It teaches Muslims to detach themselves from the love of wealth and worldly possessions and to prioritize the welfare of others over personal gain.

Fulfillment of Rights: Zakat fulfills the rights of the poor and needy in society, ensuring that they receive their due share of resources and support. It also upholds the principle of justice by redistributing wealth in a fair and equitable manner.

Overall, Zakat serves as a mechanism for achieving economic justice, social welfare, and communal solidarity within the framework of Islamic teachings. It promotes the values of compassion, generosity, and social responsibility, contributing to the establishment of a just and compassionate society based on the principles of Islam.

Q:9 What are the ethical values of Islam?

Ans: Islam emphasizes a comprehensive ethical framework that encompasses various values and principles guiding the behavior and conduct of individuals in all aspects of life. Some of the key ethical values of Islam include:

Tawheed (Oneness of God): Central to Islamic ethics is the belief in the oneness of God (Tawheed), which shapes all aspects of a Muslim's life, emphasizing the importance of worshiping and obeying Allah alone.

Adherence to Divine Commandments: Muslims are called to obey the commandments of Allah as outlined in the Quran and the teachings of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), which provide guidance on moral conduct, interpersonal relations, and social justice.

Justice and Fairness: Islam places a strong emphasis on justice and fairness in all dealings and interactions. Muslims are encouraged to act justly and impartially, uphold the rights of others, and strive for equity and equality in society.

Compassion and Mercy: Compassion and mercy are central values in Islam, reflecting the attributes of Allah. Muslims are encouraged to show kindness, empathy, and generosity towards all beings, including humans, animals, and the environment.

Truthfulness and Honesty: Islam promotes truthfulness and honesty in speech and actions. Muslims are enjoined to speak the truth, fulfill their promises, and avoid deceit and falsehood in all dealings.

Humility and Modesty: Islam encourages humility and modesty in behavior and demeanor. Muslims are taught to be humble before Allah and to avoid arrogance, boastfulness, and pride.

Forgiveness and Patience: Islam teaches the virtues of forgiveness and patience in the face of adversity and conflict. Muslims are encouraged to forgive others, overlook faults, and respond to difficulties with patience and perseverance.

Respect and Courtesy: Islam emphasizes respect and courtesy in interpersonal relations. Muslims are instructed to treat others with kindness, dignity, and respect, regardless of differences in religion, ethnicity, or social status.

Responsibility and Accountability: Islam emphasizes personal responsibility and accountability before Allah for one's actions and choices. Muslims are encouraged to fulfill their obligations, fulfill their duties towards others, and strive for self-improvement and moral development.

Overall, the ethical values of Islam provide a comprehensive framework for leading a righteous and virtuous life, promoting individual and societal well-being, and fostering harmony and peace in the community.

Q:10 What are the characteristics of Momin mentioned in surrah Al Hujurat ?

Ans: Surah Al-Hujurat, the 49th chapter of the Quran, outlines several characteristics of a believer (Momin) that Muslims should embody in their lives. Some of these characteristics include:

Belief in Allah: A believer has strong faith in Allah, acknowledging His oneness, sovereignty, and authority over all creation.

Obedience to the Messenger: Believers follow and obey the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) in all matters, recognizing his guidance as essential for their spiritual and moral development.

Avoiding Hasty Judgment: Believers refrain from making hasty judgments and assumptions about others, seeking to verify information and give others the benefit of the doubt.

Avoiding Backbiting and Gossip: Believers abstain from backbiting, gossip, and spreading rumors about others. They speak only what is good and beneficial and avoid harming others with their words.

Maintaining Good Relations: Believers strive to maintain good relations with their fellow Muslims, fostering unity, brotherhood, and mutual respect within the community.

Avoiding Arrogance and Pride: Believers avoid arrogance, pride, and boastfulness, recognizing that true superiority lies in piety and righteousness before Allah.

Respecting Privacy: Believers respect the privacy and personal space of others, refraining from intruding into matters that do not concern them.

Enjoining Good and Forbidding Evil: Believers actively promote good deeds and virtues within the community while discouraging wrongdoing and evil practices.

Respecting Authority: Believers respect and obey legitimate authority figures within society, including leaders, scholars, and elders, as long as their commands do not contradict the teachings of Islam.

Avoiding Suspicion: Believers avoid suspicion and conjecture about others, giving them the benefit of the doubt and assuming the best of intentions.

Overall, the characteristics outlined in Surah Al-Hujurat serve as a guide for believers in their interactions with others, emphasizing the importance of faith, integrity, kindness, and respect in building a harmonious and virtuous community.

