

PAKISTAN STUDIES

Mid Term Examination

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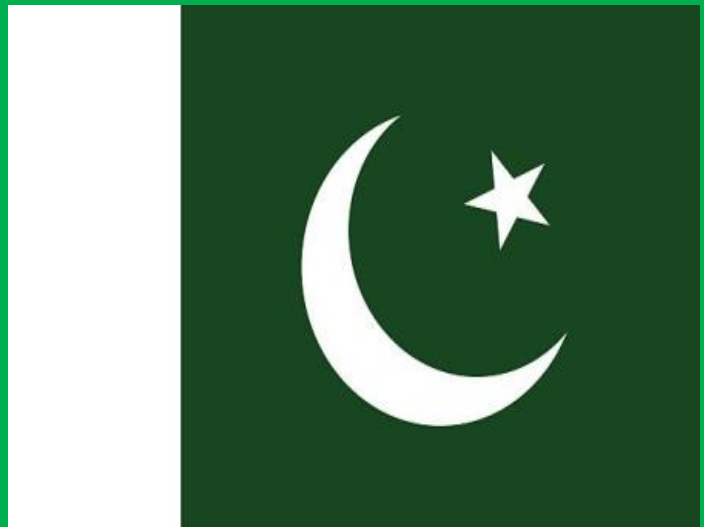
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Q. What do you know about Shah Wali Ullah ? Write the role of Shah Wali Ullah in Organizing the Muslim society in Sub continent :-



SHAH WALI ULLAH

INTRODUCTION OF LIFE:-

Shah WaliUllah's actual name was Qutubuddin but due to his spiritual virtues, he was called Walli Ullah (Friend of ALLAH). Shah Wali Ullah was born after 5 years of Death of Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb. He was born in a village near Delhi on 21st February, 1703. Shah Wali Ullah succeeded his father as the " Shaikh of the Madarassah " when he was just 17.He died on 10th August,1762. His son and successor Shah Abdul Aziz continued his mission at Madarassah Rahimiya in Delhi.

WORLD AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:-

Primary education of Shah Wali Ullah was completed under the guidance of and supervision of his grand father Sheikh Wajihuddin . After completing the home education, Shah Wali Ullah began to go to Maktab (school), completed Nazira (recitation of Quran by reading) and at the age of 7 years he also started to offer 5 namaz and fasting. At the early age of 15, Shah Wali Ullah mastered the major branches of Islamic learning. He acquired the knowledge about logic, Hadith and Fiqah specially but he also acquired the knowledge of Tib (eastern medicine). Shah Wali Ullah learned the subjects Mathematics, Oradatory and Algebra from his father Shah Abdul Rahim.

FAMILY BACKGROUND:-

Fore fathers of Shah Wali Ullah Sheikh Shamsuddin Mufti, came in this sub continent and settled in Rohtak during the initial period of Islamic rule. Shah Wali Ullah's Grand father Sheikh Wajiuddin, was a practical Islamic scholar but his fame was associated with the bravery in the battlefield, Shah Wali Ullah's Grandfather was the commander in the Army of Mughal Emperor Aurangzaib. Shah Wali Ullah's Father Shah Abdul Rahim, was a well known scholar and religious leader. Shah Abdul Rahim abondend sword and caughted pen, but his postion was also important but he could not obtain the position as his son Shah Wali Ullah got. But both the father and adopted the way of Islamic Shariyat.

The mark of identification of this family was the command over religious science of Islam but one of Shah Wali Ullah's Family member adopted the profession of a soldier after which the famous after which

the great and remarkable bravery deeds remained associated with the family of Shah Wali Ullah for a long time. After Shah Wali Ullah, His son and successor Shah Abdul Rahim continued his family's mission at Madrassah Rahimiya in Delhi.

SHAH WALI ULLAH PREACHING FOR MUSLIMS:-

Shah Wali Ullah, through his teaching and preaching made an impact on creating balance between religion and the world. He was aware of the world but activities related to religion were equally important. Shah waliullah knowledge was great. He wrote books on Hadith, morality, sociology, criticism and Fiqah. Shah Wali Ullah knew that revolt of marathas, sikhs, hindus, Nadir shah are dangerous for indian muslims. Shah wali ullah faught for the right of Muslims of india at that time. He influenced Muslims by his teachings. As a result Muslims were awakened and they realized their profit and loss. Shah Wali taught a lesson of courage to all enemies of Indian Muslims.

SHAH WALI ULLAH SUCCEEDED HIS FATHER:-

At the age of 15, Shah Wali Ullah became disciple of his father but two years after his father died and Shah Wali Ullah set on his seat of teaching and preaching at the age of 17. Shah Wali Ullah then succeeded his father as the sheikh of Madrassah Rahimiya in Delhi when he was just 17. Shah Wali Ullah continued his job successfully for 12 years.

IMPORTANT DREAM OF SHAH WALI ULLAH'S LIFE:-

He traveled to Harmain Sharif and offered Hajj twice. During stay in Madinah he acquired the degree of Hadith from religious scholar Sheikh Abu Tahir Ibrahim Madni. When he was going towards Mecca, he came to know about about the revolt of Marathas made the life of Indian Muslims difficult. Now in this type of critical situation in the Sub continent, he was suggested to stay in Mecca but he dreamed of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) who said:

“It has been decided about you to lead one of the groups of Muslim Nation”

After this dream he thought about that dream that a person whom Prophet (PBUH) wanted to lead the Muslim group, then how could I accept suggestion to stay in Mecca? In such a crises and chaos situation in Sub continent , he came back to Delhi in 1732. On return from Mecca he observed that Marathas, Sikhs, Hindus and Nadir Shah are the deadly enemies for Sub continent Muslims. Shah Wali Ullah observed that friendly foes were more dangerous than the open enemy.

ROLE OF SHAH WALI ULLAH IN ORGANIZING MUSLIM SOCIETY IN SUB-CONTINENT:-

1. REVIVALIST MOVEMENT OF SHAH WALI ULLAH :-

Muslims ruled the Sub continent for more than one thousand years. However when they deviated from golden principles of Islam, their powers and influence was declined by their enemies. Realizing this decline of Muslims, Shah Wali Ullah was one of those religious scholars who started Revivalist Movement for revival of Islamic teachings and values.

The Marathas started efforts to destroy Muslim rule in India from the period of Shah Jahan. Marathas used to attack Muslim population and burn their houses. Soon after the death of Emperor Aurangzaib Alamgir in 1707, Shah Wali Ullah was prepared to face cruelties of Marathas and Sikhs. Shah wali was also aware of Muslims carelessness and he know Muslims would lose their status.

Shah Wali Ullah then decided to revive Islamic teachings and values in India. Shah Wali Ullah wrote letters to several Muslim emperors to warn them about declining state of Muslim society. He also wrote letter to leader of Afghanistan, Ahmed Shah Abdali to save Muslims of Sub continent from the atrocities of Marathas. Shah Wali Ullah after reducing influence of Marathas, he invited Ahmed Shah Abdali in 1761 to attack India for providing relief to Indian Muslims ,then the ruler of Afghanistan Ahmed Shah Abdali inflicted a crushing defeat to Marathas

at third battle of Pani Pat, from which the the Marathas never recovered.

2. ENCOURAGEMENT FOR IJTEHAD:-

Shah Wali Ullah had a great thinking towards Ijtehad in Islam. He tried to give teachings of ijtehad to Muslims in the light of shariah in accordance Quran and Sunnah. He said that use of reasoning in Shariah is Ijtehad .He also imposed a restriction that ijtehaad can not be done by everyone. It is the right of Mujjahideen (path finders) who know the knowledge of Quran and Sunnah .

Shah wali ullah philosophy had a great impact on some more famous religious and political scholars such as Sir Syed Ahmed Khan, Maulana Shibli Naumani, Allama iqbal that later helped them to work for Muslims. The Ullamas belonging to Deo band were also very much impacted by Shah wali ullah because of Shah Wali Ullah impressive thinking towards Islam and Ijtehad.

3. REMOVED DIFFERENCES BETWEEN SUFIS AND SCHOLARS:-

At that time Muslim unity was in danger because of some mutual differences between Muslim Sufis and scholars. These differences were not good for Muslims of sub continent and for their development and prosperity. These differences were about various beliefs and theories amongst the Sufis and scholars.

Shah Wali Ullah realized that these differences are creating misunderstanding in Muslims so he wrote some famous books such as “Intibah Fi Salasil Aulia” and “Anfasul Arifeen” to create unity amongst Muslims. He presented the theory of Wahdat ul wajood that came near the theory of Wahdat ul Shahood and both were the same for erasing the mutual differences and misconceptions amongst the Muslims Sufis and Scholars.

4. CONTRIBUTION FOR TWO NATION THEORY:-

Shah Wali Ullah was against the concept of common nationalism because he also believed that Muslims and other religions are different and he was aware of cruelties against Muslims. He said identity of Muslims is Islam and no division on cast ,creed ,color ,culture ,languages.

Basically Shaikh Ahmad Sarhandi was the originator of Two nation Theory but Shah wali Ullah expended this theory in the concept of separate Nationalism.

5. SHAH WALI ULLAH SOLVED PROBLEMS AMONGST DIFFERENT SECTS:-

SHAH Wali ullah played a significant role to solve the disputes and difference of opinion amongst the followers of four different school of thoughts Hanafia ,Sahafai ,Humbli ,Maliki. He wrote a magazine “Insaaf Fi Bayaan Sababul Ikhtilaaf” despite the fact Shah Wali was not much in

the problems of the Fiqah but he tried best to solved problems amongst all Fiqah to create unity amongst Muslims of the Sub-Continent. He said that Imam and Mufti who gives fatwa has no right to give fatwa against basic teachings and principles of Islam which are unrepeatable. Nevertheless, one school of thought can accept the fatwa against other school of thought amongst the Fiqah.

6. MERITORIOUS WORK BY SHAH WALI ULLAH:-

Shah Wali Ullah's meritorious work was Persian translation of the Holy Quran with the title of "Fateh ul Quran" to give the correct meaning and understanding of Quran to people of that time because common language and mostly spoken language was Persian at period of Shah Wali Ullah. Later it was translated into Urdu by his son and others. He also wrote books on Hadith, Islamic Jurisprudence (Fiqh) and Tafseer (Exegesis). The most famous among there is his famous work was Hujjatul AL Baligha .The message of this work was that Islam is the universal religion. Islam guarantees progress and prosperity for the whole of man kind. After this bold step of Shah Wali Ullah he was given title of "kafir" by some opportunity scholars.

But Shah Wali said that is not craming of heart like parrot but it is for understanding the problems for human and Quran is a complete code of life so if a person cannot understand Arabic so it is difficult for him, so he can easily understand Quran's translation in his mother tongue. So, in his opinion Shah wali ullah said to his clerics that translation of Holy Quran must be done in all languages spoken in the world to spread the message of Islam all over the world.

7. CORRECTIVE THEORIES OF SHAH WALI ULLAH:-

Shah Wali Ullah theories of economic, social and political are explained under:

- a. Acquisition of the basic human rights is the right of every who his born without acknowledging his caste, colour , creed ,language.
- b. The ruler of the state has duty to take care of the citizens of the state and protect their rights which ALLAH has assigned to him. Their should be same life style and laws that must be implement on ruler and a common citizen. Their should be no difference between a ruler and a common person.
- c. No one can share the wealth of the nation so long he render labour for contributing wealth because labour is the actual base of wealth in any nation.

8. COMMUNITY SERVICES BY SHAH WALI ULLAH:-

Shah Wali Ullah neglected the opportunist scholars of Islam, who were putting wrong influence on Indian Muslims by Un Islamic practices and following many traditions of Hindus. Shah WaliUllah said that second Nikkah is the following of Sunnat e Rasool (PBUH).Therefore marriage of widow is not a deed to be looked down upon (marriage of widow was prohibited in Hindu mat).

Shah wali Ullah taught Muslims that amount of Mehar must not be beyond the limit of bride groom. Luxury expenses should be avoided. He also taught Muslims that other religions Festivals like (Hindu, Christmas, Diwali, Easter, Halloween) must be avoided as they are against teachings of Islam.

9. SHAH WALI ULLAH GAVE EDUCATION ON PROMOTION OF HADITH:-

Shah Wali Ullah wanted to promote Quran, Hadith and Sunnah according to that time for the sake of Islam and to spread Islam all over the Muslims of Sub-continent and give teachings to them about complete code code of Life Quran and Sunnah. After returning from Hajj ,he was devoted to promote teachings of Deen. He translated Hadiths compiled by Imam Malik in language of Arabic and Persian because he preferred the compilation of Imam Malik over Sahih Bukhari. He also compiled four books of short Hadiths for understanding models and examples of Rasool Allah (PBUH).

10. SHAH WALI ULLAH'S CONTRIBUTION FOR FAVOUR OF COMPLETION OF REVOLUTION:-

The period when people concerning the royal court were, without and labour, using the royal treasure while huge amounts were to be charged for the works of labourers, traders and peasants by taxes.

Shah Wali Ullah tried to solve this problem by Hujjatul AL Baligha which is his remarkable work in which he described downfall causes of Mughal Empire and amongst the top reasons are Shah parasti (Worshipping king) was the main chief cause because a Muslim should worship only Allah because no other thing is respectable and Bigger than Allah . Worshipping someone other than Allah is Shirk which is a bigger sin in religion of Islam . In the opinion of Shah Wali Ullah, the only one solution for this problematic situation was the complete and comprehensive resolution amongst the Muslims about Islam according to complete guidance of Quran and Sunnah.
