

Articles of Faith

Belief in Oneness of Allah

- ❑ Tawheed = 'Unification'
- ❑ It is declaration that Allah is one in his person, dominion and attributes.
- ❑ Fundamental belief in all previous religions.
 - 📖 Ref: "So know that there is no deity except Allah..." [47:19]
- ❑ There are 3 aspects of Oneness that Muslims are supposed to believe in.
 1. Oneness of the Lordship of God (Tawheed-e-Rububiyah) is belief in Allah as the only Originator, Sustainer, Cherisher, Almighty and The Provider. This negates the possibility of any partner in Allah's lordship:
 - 📖 Ref: "praise is to Allah, Lord of the worlds" [01:02]
 - Allah is the only one who provides us with sustainable environment and other bounties:
 - 📖 Ref: And the earth - We have spread it and cast therein firmly set mountains and caused to grow therein [something] of every well-balanced thing" [15:19]
 - Even Pagans of Makkah used to believe in this aspect of Oneness:
 - 📖 Ref: "If you asked them, "Who created the heavens and earth and subjected the sun and the moon?" they would surely say, 'Allah' Then how are they deluded?" [29:61]
 2. Oneness in worship of God (Tawheed-e-Uloohiyat) is belief in Allah as only one liable to be worshiped.
 - 📖 Ref: "It is You we worship and You we ask for help" [01:05]
 3. Oneness of the names and attributes of God (Tawheed-e-Asmaa Wa-Sifaat) is believing that Allah is simply exclusive in his qualities and attributes. Allah is only 'Al-Muh'Yi' (Giver of Life) 'Al-Mumeet' (Giver of Death) 'Al-Khaliq' (the Creator) 'Al-Baseer' (All-Seeing) etc.
 - 📖 Ref: "He is Allah, other than whom there is no deity, the Sovereign, the Pure, the Perfection, the Bestower of Faith, the Overseer, the Exalted in Might, the Compeller, the Superior..." [59:23]
 - Allah does not resemble with any of his creation in person, power, dominion or attributes:
 - 📖 Ref: ""There Is Nothing Like unto Him." [42:11]
- ❑ Evidences of Oneness of Allah.
 - 📖 Ref: "...how can He have a son when He has no consort..." [06:101]
 - 📖 Ref: "Had there been within the heavens and earth gods besides Allah, they both would have been ruined..." [21:22]
- ❑ Shirk (Polytheism) means considering partners with Allah in his person, powers, dominion, qualities or attributes.
 1. Polytheism of Lordship of God (Shirk-e-Rubibiyah)
 2. Polytheism of Worship (Shirk-e-Uloohiyah)
 3. Polytheism of Names and Attributes (Shirk-e-Asmaa wa Sifaat)
- ❑ Though, Allah (SWT) loves his creation equal to seventy mothers but Shirk is a sin that ignites Allah's wrath.
 - 📖 Ref: "Verily! Allah will not pardon those who associate a partner with Him..." [04:116]



Q (b) Why is associating partners with God (shirk) regarded as a great sin? [4] [J/2013]

Points to be covered

- Because belief in one God is the fundamental teaching of Islam and all other previous religions. Associating partners with Allah (SWT) is against the basic principles of almost all religions and logic.
- Shirk is belief that the source of power, harm and blessings comes from others besides Allah and it is taking away Allah's uniqueness and declaring others equal in attributes of Allah.
- This would lead to destruction of all pillars of Islam as Prayer, Fasting, Hajj and Zakat all are performed for Allah's orders but shirk will take away the essence of worship and relation between creation and Allah which will ultimately affect the life in this world and hereafter.

Q (b) How does belief in Oneness of Allah impacts Muslims' lives today? [4]

Points to be covered

- Belief in Oneness of Lordship of Allah turns believers into confident human beings who do not care for people's opinion and devote their life for the cause of Allah.
- Belief in Oneness of worship of Allah helps believers finding a true God who is truly worthy of worship. Monotheist does not have to wander around in search of truth as connects and worships the true God avoiding shirk and associating partners with Allah.
- Belief that Allah is Unique in His names and attributes impacts Muslims lives to a great extent.
 1. Al-Wakeel (The Disposer) makes believers rely on Him
 2. Al-Razzaq (The Provider) frees them from financial worries.









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Belief in Angels

- Allah (SWT) created 3 types of creatures.
 1. Free will to choose between good and bad: Humans/Jinns
 2. Pure evil: Shayateen
 3. Pure Good: Angels
- Belief in Angels is necessary for Muslims and it's the 2nd Article of Faith.
 -  Ref: "And whoever disbelieves in Allah, His angels, His books, His messengers, and the Last Day has certainly gone far astray" [4:136]
- Angels have supernatural power to keep order in the functioning of the universe.
- They don't deviate in the slightest from the path of God.
- Angels first questioned the creation of Adam (RA) but later they were inspired by him.
 -  Ref: "And when We said unto the angels: Prostrate yourselves before Adam, they all prostrated" [2: 34].
- Arab polytheists belief = Angels were daughters of Allah.
 -  Ref: "Indeed, those who do not believe in the Hereafter name the angels female names" [53:27]
- They assist and support Prophets and their followers.
- Angels descended to support Muslims in Battle, Badr, Trench, Hunain and other battles.
 -  Ref: "Remember when you all cried out for help from your Lord, and so you were answered thus: "Indeed, I will reinforce you with a thousand angels, rank after rank." [08:09]
- Angels are truly uncountable in number. It is described in a Hadith that 70 thousand Angels visit their Kaabah named 'Bait-ul-Ma'moor' Every day and leave, never returning to it again.
- Jibra'il: Leader of Angels, Revelation (can mention incidents), Assists Prophets, Accompanied Prophet (PBUH) at Mairaj and other occasions.
 -  Ref: "And it is surely the revelation of the Lord of the worlds. The trusted Spirit has brought it down to your heart, in order that you might be one of the warners, in clear Arabic speech." [26: 192-195]
- Mikael: is in charge of supervising all of the creatures and rain/food etc.
- Israfil: is in charge of blowing the trumpet by the permission of Allah when it is due.
- Izrael: "Malak-ul-Maut" (Angel of Death).
- 'Kiraman Katibin' (Honorable Recorders) record deeds.
 -  Ref: "And indeed, there are over you scribes, generous and recording. They know what you do." [82: 10-12]
- Munkar-Nakir: questions in grave.
- Ridhwan: Keeper of Paradise.
- Maalik: Keeper of Hell.
- Angels who guard men are appointed to protect men from troubles and misfortunes by the permission of Allah.
- Angels who pray for men are appointed to pray for believers by the permission of Allah.

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Q (b) Discuss the importance of Jibrail in comparison to other Angels. [04] [N/2010]

Points to be covered

- Other Angels have Particular duties/limited area of work.
- Jibrail (AS) is Arch Angel. With different important duties.
 - ✓ He Revealed Quran to Prophet Muhammad (PBUH)
 - ✓ He Accompanied Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) during Mairaj
 - ✓ He assisted Nooh (AS) in building ship, delivered good news to Marry and Hazrat Zakaria, also reported to have supported/assisted Hazrat Esa (AS) and Ibrahim (AS) in different Tasks.
 - ✓ He descended in human form several times to deliver Allah's message. The most important visit is mentioned in "Hadith of Jibrail" in which he asked some questions from Prophet (PBUH) just to teach companions who were present.
 - ✓ He descends to earth along with other angels on the Night of Qadar.

📖 Ref: "The angels and the Spirit descend therein by permission of their Lord for every matter" [97: 4]

Q (b) How does belief in Angels affect daily lives of Muslims. [04]

Points to be covered

- Believer in Angels does not fear anyone else except Allah as he knows that Allah has assigned Angels to protect him.
- Believer in Angels becomes righteous as he knows that Allah has assigned Angels to maintain record of his deeds.
- Believer in Angels is more cautious about afterlife preparations as he knows that he will be asked question in grave by Munkar-Nakeer.
- Belief in Angels strengthens Muslims' belief in Allah and his control over universe.









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Belief in Books

- Disobedience of Iblis and his challenge to misguide humanity.
- Allah's protective shield for humanity against Satan: Divine Books and Prophets.
- Believing in Holy Books is the third Article of Faith.
- It is necessary for Muslims to believe in certainty and divine status of all other Books along with Holy Quran.
 "He has sent down upon you, [O Muhammad], the Book in truth, confirming what was before it. And He revealed the Torah and the Gospel" [3: 3]
- sent Prophets as living examples to be followed and supported them with written scriptures containing divine guidance for mankind.
 Ref: "And who believe in what has been revealed to you, [O Muhammad], and what was revealed before you" [2: 4].
- These divine Books contain the guidance and solution for spiritual, moral, social, economic, physical, mental and political problems.
 As described by Hazrat Abdullah bin Abbas: "Recite Quran, it contains the knowledge of past and future"
- The basic content of all books is almost same. They all contain teachings about Oneness, Prophet-hood, Barzakh, Judgement Day, Resurrection, Heaven and Hell and motivation for doing good deeds while restraining from bad deeds.
 "And We did not send any messenger except [speaking] in the language of his people to state clearly for them" [14: 4]
- This means that Prophets were sent to every nation and possibly a lot of them brought written scriptures for their nations which must be in their native languages. As Muslims, we should believe in all of them. Quran approves previous scriptures.
 Ref: "And We have revealed to you, [O Muhammad], the Book in truth, confirming that which preceded it of the Scripture and as a criterion over it" [5: 48]
- TORAH: It was given to Hazrat Moses (Musa). The Quran mentions that it was sent to the Israelites.
- PSALM (Zabur): It was sent to Hazrat Dawood (David).
- GOSPEL (Injil): It was sent to Hazrat Esa (Jesus). Gospel as a word means good news. It tells the life story of Hazrat Esa and gives some ethical advice. It does not have legal arrangements. Since Christians accept Torah also as a holy book, they take Torah as reference for legal arrangements. Christians call Torah as Old Testament and Gospel as New Testament. They brought together some parts from Torah, Gospel and Psalms and called it the Holy Book.
- The Quran: is the last holy book sent to the last Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH) through revelation chapter by chapter and verse by verse in 23 years. With the Quran, the chain of heavenly books was completed and the other books were abrogated.
 "This day have I perfected your religion for you, completed my favor upon you, and have chosen for you Islam as your religion." [05:03]
- Allah (SWT) claimed the responsibility of Safe guarding Quran which ensures that there won't be a minor change in Holy Quran.




**Q (b) All revealed books were sent by God. What in your opinion makes the Qur'an unique? [4]
[N/2014]**

Points to be covered

- Quranic Teachings are beyond era, area, nation or language. Unlike other books it will remain source of guidance for humanity till the day of judgement.
- Most probably all other books have been distorted or are instinct. Quran will always be secured as Allah (SWT) has taken the responsibility of safeguarding Quran.
 Ref: "Indeed, it is We who sent down the Qur'an and indeed, We will be its guardian" [15:09]
- Unlike previous books, language of Quran is very much alive and used today that makes its understanding easy.
- Number of memorizers of Quran makes it unique from other books.

(b) Briefly Explain why Allah revealed different books from time to time. [04] [N/2011]

Points to be covered



- Allah Revealed Zabur to David (AS), Torah to Moses (AS), Injil to Jesus (AS), Quran to Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and some Booklets (Suhuf) to Ibrahim (AS) and Moses (AS).
 Ref: "And We did not send any messenger except [speaking] in the language of his people to state clearly for them..." [14:04]
- Except Quran they all were meant for a particular time period or community and their teachings would get outdated and need for another book would arise.
- Another most important factor was distortion in books that resulted in need of new books.

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Belief in Prophets

- Disobedience of Iblis and his challenge to misguide humanity.
- Allah's protective shield for humanity against Satan: Divine Books and Prophets.
 -  Ref: "For We send our messengers only to give good news to the righteous people and to warn the evil doers" [06:48]
- Allah does not punish any nation without sending a prophet so he could guide them towards right path.
 -  "And never would We punish until We sent a messenger" [17:15]
- Characteristics of Prophets: human beings, they receive natural birth (With few exceptions) like other human beings; they ate, drank and breathe. They had families, friends and other relationships.
- Another important thing about Prophet hood is that it cannot be earned or asked. Prophets are the best among people and they are chosen ones.
 -  "That is the bounty of Allah, which He gives to whom He wills, and Allah is the possessor of great bounty. [62:4]
- Prophets are innocent. They don't sin.
- Prophets are given miracles to dominate the trends of their time:
 - ✓ Miracle of stick by Moses (RA) to defeat magic.
 - ✓ Miracle of healing by Jesus (RA) to defeat medical science of his time.
 - ✓ Miracle of beautiful voice of David (RA) to defeat trend of music.
 - ✓ Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) broke the pride of Arabs about their linguistic superiority by Quran that is a master piece of Arabic Grammar.
- Total: 124000
- Mentioned in Quran: 26
- Names and titles of some:
 1. Adam (AS) = the father of humanity
 2. Noah (AS) = the second Adam
 3. Moses (AS) = The speaker of Allah
 4. Abraham (AS) = The friend of Allah
 5. Ismail (AS) = the sacrificed in the name of Allah
 6. Yousuf (AS) = his story is declared the best among all stories.
 7. Younus (AS) = he was swallowed alive by a giant fish.
 8. Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) = The seal of Prophethood.
 -  Ref: "Those messengers - some of them We caused to exceed others" [2:253]
- But nobody is allowed to compare them with each other as all of them are equally respected to us. No Muslim can be Muslim without believing and giving mandatory respect to all previous prophets.
 -  Ref: "We make no distinction between any of them, and we are Muslims [in submission] to Him" [2:136]
- A very important thing to be remembered about Prophets is that Allah has sent Prophets in every region of this world as everyone needed divine guidance equally.
 -  Ref: "And We did not send any messenger except [speaking] in the language of his people to state clearly for them..." [14:4]

Q (b) How are these prophets and their messages important for Muslims? [4][N/2013]

Q (b) Explain how this belief influences the daily living of a Muslim. [4][J/2009]

Points to be covered

- Prophets Taught the lesson of Oneness, that teaches not to fear any power except Allah. This leads to a better life.
- Prophets brought the message of Peace, Harmony and Brotherhood. All of them have the same basic thoughts that promoted love.
- Prophets brought the codes of conduct and guidelines to live a life that ensures success in this world and hereafter.
- Prophets demonstrated and preached morals and good character and set role models for humanity.
 -  Ref: "There has certainly been for you in the Messenger of Allah an excellent pattern" [33:21]



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Belief in Resurrection and Last Day

- Theory of decay: everything is going towards end.
- Believing in The Day of Judgment and Resurrection and then life in here after is the fundamental part of Articles of Faith.
 - "Every soul will taste death. And We test you with evil and with good as trial; and to Us you will be returned" [21:35]
- Death = end of life in this world = start of life in Barzakh.
- Death Qiyamat-e-Sughra or lesser judgment.
- Munkar and Nakir ask questions about God, Religion and Prophet (PBUH). This brief test decides whether his stay in Barzakh will be a reward or Punishment.
 - Hadith: "The grave is one of the gardens of Paradise, or one of the pits of Hell." [Al-Tirmidhi Hadith 5352]
- This explains the scenario of Life in Barzakh very well.
 - Hadith: "Verily the grave is the first step in the stages of the Hereafter. If one finds salvation at this stage, the succeeding stages become easy for him. And if he does not find salvation at this stage, what follows this stage is very hard upon him. I have never seen a site more horrible than that of the grave." [Al-Tirmidhi Hadith 132]
- The Day of Judgment (Qiyamah) will take place after some of the signs mentioned in Hadiths of Holy Prophet (PBUH) some of them are:
 1. The Smoke
 2. Rise of Dajjal
 3. Sunrise in the west
 4. The descent of Jesus son of Mary (AS)
 5. Gog and Magog.
- But no one is aware about the exact timing of The Day of Judgment.
 - "People ask you concerning the Hour. Say," Knowledge of it is only with Allah. And what may make you perceive? Perhaps the Hour is near." [33:63]
- Blow of trumpet by Israfil and destruction of everything.
 - Ref: "When the earth is shaken with its [final] earthquake" [99:1]
- For a very long unspecified time, there won't be any other creature alive except Allah almighty.
- 2nd trumpet = Resurrection.
- Everyone will gather at Hashr as there is a name of Allah Almighty "Hashir".
 - Ref: "And [that they may know] that the Hour is coming - no doubt about it - and that Allah will resurrect those in the graves" [22:7]
- This day will be very horrible as it is mentioned in some books that it will be as long as 50 thousand years.
- No one would even think about his friends, family and relatives.
- Record of deeds compiled by the appointed angels (Kiraman Katibeen) will be uncovered.
 - Ref: "So whoever does an atom's weight of good will see it, And whoever does an atom's weight of evil will see it." [99:7-8]
- Meezan = weighing good and bad deeds.
- Record of deeds in right hand = Confirm Jannati (don't write this in paper please :D)
- Record of deeds in left hand = straight to Hell.
- Crossing the bridge of Sirat, bridge over Hell, whoever crosses it will go to Paradise.
- Some transitions from Hell to Paradise.
- Death will be brought in form of sheep and slaughtered. Eternal lives.



Q (b) Why is the belief in resurrection important to Muslims in their daily living?[4][J/2010]

Q (b) How does this belief affect the daily living of Muslims? [4][J/2015]

Points to be covered

- Every other belief depends upon belief in Resurrection and last day. When people have fear of accountability they will be cautious about other beliefs as well.
- Belief in resurrection is the greatest source of righteousness. As it reminds people about transparent and just accountability, that makes them think and reflect.
- This encourages Muslims to have patience on losses of this temporary world as eternal and stable life is yet to come.



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Belief in Predestination and Decree

- ❑ It is necessary for Muslims to believe in Allah's Predestination and Decree that everything is ordained by Him.
 - 📖 In Hadith of Jibrail, when he asked Prophet (PBUH) about Faith, He answered: "To believe in Allah, his Angels, his Books, his Messengers, the Last Day and to believe in divine Preordainment, both the good and bad of it"
- ❑ The word "Qadha" Means: To legislate, to decide or to conclude while the word "Qadar" means: to value, to esteem or to measure.
 - 📖 Ref: "Indeed, all things we created with predestination" [54:49]
- ❑ Lauh-e-Mehfooz is a safe place where Allah recorded each and everything.
 - 📖 Hadith: The first thing which Allah created was Pen. He commanded it to write. It asked: What should I write? He said: Write the Decree (Al-Qadr). So, it wrote what had happened and what was going to happen up to eternity. [Al Tirmidhi hadith 94]
- ❑ Predestination asks us to believe that Allah's unlimited knowledge.
 - 📖 Ref: "Allah has encompassed all things in knowledge" [65:12]
- ❑ Everything is working as per the commands and will of Allah Almighty.
 - 📖 Ref: "Do you not know that Allah knows what is in the heaven and earth? Indeed, that is in a Record. Indeed that, for Allah, is easy" [22:70]
- ❑ It is necessary to believe that nothing can occur without the will of Allah.
 - 📖 Ref: "His command is only when He intends a thing that He says to it, "Be," and it is" [36:82]
- ❑ There are 3 types of creatures.
 1. Pure Evil: Shayateen
 2. Pure Good: Angels
 3. Choice of good and bad: Humans and Jinns.
- ❑ Believing in predestination doesn't mean that humans do not have any choice and it also does not declare us totally free from any planning or bounding.
 - 📖 Someone asked the same question from Hazrat Ali (R.A) he said lift up your foot and keep standing; he did it without any problem. He then asked him to lift up his both feet and keep standing. He could not. Hazrat Ali (R.A) said that that's your answer. We are not 100 % free nor we are 100 % bound.
- ❑ Factors that change destiny:
 - ❖ Invocation: "Invocation can even alter your destiny" [Hadith]
 - ❖ Hardwork: "A man gets what he strives for." [53:39]
- ❑ Types of destiny:
 1. 'Taqdeer-E-Mubram' cannot be changed.
 2. 'Taqdeer-E-Muallaq' can be altered.

(b) To what extent does this belief affect the daily living of Muslims? [4][J/2011]

Points to be covered

- Knowing that Allah is the only planner and controller of this universe makes Muslims righteous and motivate them to build strong relation with Allah.
- It teaches them not to get depressed over worldly possessions or losses as everything is a mere test written by Allah (SWT).
- Muslims develop habit of seeking Allah's help.
- This belief indirectly emphasizes on the importance and significance of invocation.



Topic: Articles of Faith

Sub Topic: Belief in Oneness of Allah

Q (a) Outline the Muslim teaching about the belief in the oneness of God (tawhid).

[10]

Structure of Answer

Para 1:

- Literal Meaning of Tawheed.
- General Introduction as the fundamental teaching of Islam.

Para 2:

- 3 Aspects of Oneness (Tawheed)
 1. Oneness of the Lordship of God (Tawheed-e-Rububiyat)
 2. Oneness in worship of God (Tawheed-e-Uloohiyat)
 3. Oneness of the names and qualities of God (Tawheed-e-Asmaa Wa-Sifaat)

Para 3:

- Evidences of Tawheed (Oneness)
- Shirk (Polytheism)

Answer

- Literal meaning of Tawheed is 'Unification' It is declaration that Allah is one in his person, dominion and attributes.
- Belief in Oneness of Allah is not only the fundamental teaching of Islam but it has always been the base of every religion from Adam till Jesus. All the previous books and scriptures lay too much emphasis on belief in Oneness of Allah. Quran being final book of Allah Highlights the importance of believing in Oneness of Allah and presents evidences for it.
 - ❖ Ref: "So know, that there is no deity except Allah..." [47:19]
- There are 3 aspects of Oneness that Muslims are supposed to believe in.
- Oneness of the Lordship of God (Tawheed-e-Rububiyat) is believing in Allah as the only The Originator, The Sustainer, The Cherisher, The All Mighty and The Provider. This negates the possibility of any partner in Allah's lordship:
 - ❖ Ref: "praise is to Allah, Lord of the worlds" [01:02]Allah is the only one who provides us with sustainable environment and other bounties:
 - ❖ Ref: And the earth - We have spread it and cast therein firmly set mountains and caused to grow therein [something] of every well-balanced thing" [15:19]Even Pagans of Makkah used to believe in this aspect of Oneness:
 - ❖ Ref: "If you asked them, "Who created the heavens and earth and subjected the sun and the moon?" they would surely say, 'Allah' Then how are they deluded?" [29:61]
- Oneness in worship of God (Tawheed-e-Uloohiyat) is believing in Allah as only one liable to be worshiped. This believe requires believers to understand that all types of worship are only due to Allah. Being our Originator, Cherisher and Sustainer He is the only power who is worthy to be worshiped.

- ❖ Ref: "It is You we worship and You we ask for help" [01:05]
- ❖ Ref: "And I did not create the jinn and mankind except to worship Me." [51:56]
- Oneness of the names and qualities of God (Tawheed-e-Asmaa Wa-Sifaat) is believing that Allah is simply exclusive in his qualities and attributes. Allah is only 'Al-Muh'Yi' (Giver of Life) 'Al-Mumeet' (Giver of Death) 'Al-Khaliq' (the Creator) 'Al-Baseer' (All-Seeing) etc.
 - ❖ Ref: "He is Allah, other than whom there is no deity, the Sovereign, the Pure, the Perfection, the Bestower of Faith, the Overseer, the Exalted in Might, the Compeller, the Superior..." [59:23]
 Allah does not resemble with any of his creation in person, power, dominion or attributes:
 - ❖ Ref: ""There Is Nothing Like unto Him." [42:11]
- Allah (SWT) never wants his creation to believe in him blindly. Actually, He motivates us to ponder over his signs of perfect creation and come to a logical conclusion about Oneness of Allah.
 - ❖ Ref: "...how can He have a son when He has no consort..." [06:101]
 - ❖ Ref: "Had there been within the heavens and earth gods besides Allah, they both would have been ruined..." [21:22]
- Shirk (Polytheism) means considering partners with Allah in his person, powers, dominion, qualities or attributes. Though, Allah (SWT) loves his creation equal to seventy mothers but Shirk is a sin that ignites Allah's wrath.
 - ❖ Ref: "Verily! Allah will not pardon those who associate a partner with Him..." [04:116]
 - ❖ Ref: "Allah has said: "Do not establish two Gods: He is the only One Allah, worth worshipping: then fear Me" [16:51]

(b) Why is associating partners with God (shirk) regarded as a great sin? [4] [J/2013]

Points to be covered in Answer

- Because belief in one God is the fundamental teaching of Islam and all other previous religions. Associating partners with Allah (SWT) is attacking the base.
- Shirk is believing that the source of power, harm and blessings comes from others besides Allah.
- This would lead to destruction of all pillars of Islam and will affect the life in this world and hereafter.

Topic: The Articles of Faith,

Sub Topic: Belief in Books and Prophets.

Q (a) Write descriptive account of the Muslim belief in the Revealed Books.

[10]

Structure of Answer		
Para 1	Para 2	Para 3
<input type="checkbox"/> General introduction as 3 rd Article of Faith.	<input type="checkbox"/> Need. <input type="checkbox"/> Content. <input type="checkbox"/> Connection.	<input type="checkbox"/> Names and Intro <input type="checkbox"/> Present status.
Answer		
<input type="checkbox"/> Iblis’s refusal to prostrate to Adam (AS). <input type="checkbox"/> His challenge that he will misguide humanity. <input type="checkbox"/> Allah’s answer that He will guide them back by sending Books and Prophets. <input type="checkbox"/> Believing in Holy Books is the third Article of Faith. There are 4 famous books and some unnamed booklets of Hazrat Ibrahim (AS) and Hazrat Musa (AS). <input type="checkbox"/> It is necessary for Muslims to believe in certainty and divine status of all other Books along with Holy Quran. 📖 “He has sent down upon you, [O Muhammad], the Book in truth, confirming what was before it. And He revealed the Torah and the Gospel” [03:03]		
<input type="checkbox"/> Books were necessary to clarify dos and don’ts. <input type="checkbox"/> Books have been sent as a syllabus of exam that is being conducted and result will be declared on Judgement day. <input type="checkbox"/> Believing in that divine guidance and acting upon it is the key to success herein and hereafter. <input type="checkbox"/> These divine Books contain the guidance and solution for spiritual, moral, social, political and other problems. <input type="checkbox"/> All books generally and Holy Quran particularly has amazing knowledge which doesn’t get out dated. 📖 As described by Hazrat Abdullah bin Abbas: “Recite Quran, it contains the knowledge of past and future” <input type="checkbox"/> The basic content of all books is almost same. They all contain teachings about Oneness, Prophet-hood, Barzakh, Judgement Day, Resurrection, Heaven and Hell and motivation for doing good deeds while restraining from bad deeds. 📖 “And We did not send any messenger except [speaking] in the language of his people to state clearly for them” [14: 4] <input type="checkbox"/> This means that Prophets were sent to every nation and possibly a lot of them brought written scriptures for their nations which must be in their native languages. As Muslims, we should believe in all of them. Quran approves previous scriptures. 📖 Ref: “And We have revealed to you, [O Muhammad], the Book in truth, confirming that which preceded it of the Scripture and as a criterion over it” [5: 48]		
<input type="checkbox"/> TORAH: It was given to Hazrat Moses (Musa). The Quran mentions that it was sent to the Bani Israel. <input type="checkbox"/> PSALM (Zabur): It was sent to Hazrat Dawood (David). <input type="checkbox"/> GOSPEL (Injil): It was sent to Hazrat Esa (Jesus). Gospel as a word means good news. It tells the life story of Hazrat Esa and gives some ethical advice. Since Christians accept Torah also as a holy book, they take Torah as reference for legal arrangements. They brought together some parts from Torah, Gospel and Psalms and called it the Holy Bible. <input type="checkbox"/> The Quran: is the last holy book sent to the last Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH) through revelation chapter by chapter and verse by verse in 23 years. With the Quran, the chain of heavenly books was completed and the other books were abrogated. 📖 “This day have I perfected your religion for you, completed my favor upon you, and have chosen for you Islam as your religion.” [05:03] <input type="checkbox"/> Allah (SWT) claimed the responsibility of Safe guarding Quran which ensures that there won’t be a minor change in Holy Quran. <input type="checkbox"/> But there are possibilities of editing and alteration in previous books as they were not guarded by Allah and even their followers did not put true efforts to ensure safety of their divine books.		



Q (a) Write about Muslims’ belief in Prophets.

Structure of Answer		
Para 1	Para 2	Para 3
<input type="checkbox"/> General introduction as 4 th Article of Faith.	<input type="checkbox"/> Purpose <input type="checkbox"/> Characteristics <input type="checkbox"/> Qualities <input type="checkbox"/> Miracles.	<input type="checkbox"/> Number of Prophets <input type="checkbox"/> Names and Specialties <input type="checkbox"/> Comparison <input type="checkbox"/> Prophets for every nation.
Answer		
<input type="checkbox"/> Iblis’s refusal to prostrate to Adam (AS). <input type="checkbox"/> His challenge that he will misguide humanity. <input type="checkbox"/> Allah’s answer that He will guide them back by sending Books and Prophets. 📖 Ref: “For We send our messengers only to give good news to the righteous people and to warn the evil doers” [06:48]		
<input type="checkbox"/> Believing in all Prophets is an integral Article of Faith, instructed by Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and Allah (SWT).		
<input type="checkbox"/> Prophets guide humanity. <input type="checkbox"/> They establish connection between Allah and His creation. <input type="checkbox"/> Allah does not punish any nation without sending Prophets. 📖 “And never would We punish until We sent a messenger” [17:15]		
<input type="checkbox"/> Prophets are human beings. <input type="checkbox"/> Every single one of them received natural birth (With few exceptions) like other human beings; they ate, drank and breathe. They had families, friends and other relationships. <input type="checkbox"/> Another important thing about Prophethood is that it cannot be earned or asked. 📖 “That is the bounty of Allah, which He gives to whom He wills, and Allah is the possessor of great bounty. [62:4]		
<input type="checkbox"/> Prophets were perfect human beings in every sense. Theoretically, they’re Innocent and even before getting the rank of Prophethood their early lives were also perfect. Like prophet Muhammad (PBUH) in his early 40 years used to be called truthful and trustworthy.		
<input type="checkbox"/> Prophets have miracles and their miracles dominate the trend of their respective era. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Like in the Era of Moses, magic was the trend. So, Moses was given the Miracle of Stick that would turn into a snake in order to dominate their magical powers. ✓ Jesus dominated the trend of superior medical science by treating incurable diseases and resurrecting the dead ones by Allah’s command. ✓ Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) broke the pride of Arabs about their linguistic superiority by Quran that is a master piece of Arabic Grammar. 		
<input type="checkbox"/> According to a tradition 124000 thousand Prophets were sent by Allah (SWT). But Quran only mentions 26 of them with different duties, books, suhuf (Booklets), shariah and different distinctions.		
<input type="checkbox"/> Like Moses is called Speaker of Allah as he spoke to Allah Almighty while he was at mount Toor. Abraham is called Grand Father of Prophets as there were hundreds of Prophet in Abraham’s family. Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) was the seal of Prophets while Hazrat Adam was the first one. 📖 Ref: “Those messengers - some of them We caused to exceed others” [2:253]		
<input type="checkbox"/> But nobody is allowed to compare them with each other as all of them are equally respected to us. No Muslim can be Muslim without believing and giving mandatory respect to all previous prophets. 📖 Ref: “We make no distinction between any of them, and we are Muslims [in submission] to Him” [2:136]		
<input type="checkbox"/> A very important thing to be remembered about Prophets is that Allah has sent Prophets in every region of this world as everyone needed divine guidance equally. 📖 Ref: “And We did not send any messenger except [speaking] in the language of his people to state clearly for them...” [14:4]		
<input type="checkbox"/> Their Books or stories might be extinct but we are supposed to believe in them and keep in Mind that they all carried a same message that included belief in the oneness of God, Good Conduct and Belief in life after death.		

Articles of Faith

Belief in Resurrection and Last Day

Q (a) What do Muslims believe about the Day of Resurrection and Judgment? [10]

<u>Structure of Answer</u>		
Para 1	Para 2	Para 3
<input type="checkbox"/> General introduction as 5 th Article of Faith.	<input type="checkbox"/> Life in Barzakh. <input type="checkbox"/> Qiyamah. <input type="checkbox"/> Resurrection.	<input type="checkbox"/> Final Accountability. <input type="checkbox"/> Heaven and Hell.

Answer

- This is the universal truth that every starting has an ending. Every creation has extinction. Only Allah Almighty is eternal except him everyone and everything is unstable.
- Believing in The Day of Judgment and Resurrection and then life in here after is the fundamental part of Articles of Faith. This belief is so important that it is widely discussed in Quran along with the belief in Allah himself which explains its importance.
 - “Every soul will taste death. And We test you with evil and with good as trial; and to Us you will be returned” [21:35]
- When a person dies, he goes to Barzakh and from the very next moment of his death his Qiyamat-e-Sughra or lesser judgment begins on him. Two angels Munkar and Nakir who have been appointed by Allah, will visit dead and ask questions about God, Religion and Prophet (PBUH). This brief test decides whether his stay in Barzakh will be a reward or Punishment.
 - Hadith: "The grave is one of the gardens of Paradise, or one of the pits of Hell." [Al-Tirmidhi Hadith 5352]
- This explains the scenario of Life in Barzakh very well.
 - Hadith: “Verily the grave is the first step in the stages of the Hereafter. If one finds salvation at this stage, the succeeding stages become easy for him. And if he does not find salvation at this stage, what follows this stage is very hard upon him. I have never seen a site more horrible than that of the grave.” [Al-Tirmidhi Hadith 132]
- The Day of Judgment (Qiyamah) will take place after some of the signs mentioned in Hadiths of Holy Prophet (PBUH) some of them are: The Smoke, Dajjal, The rising of the sun from the west, The descent of Jesus son of Mary (AS), The Gog and Magog, Landslides in three places, one in the east, one in the west and one in Arabia at the end of which fire would burn forth from Yemen. But no one is aware about the exact timing of The Day of Judgment.
 - “People ask you concerning the Hour. Say," Knowledge of it is only with Allah. And what may make you perceive? Perhaps the Hour is near." [33:63]
- The day of Judgment will start with blow of trumpet by Hazrat Israfil (AS) and there will be horrible scenarios everywhere. Finally, This Universe will be destroyed as it is described in many verses of Quran.
 - Ref: “When the earth is shaken with its [final] earthquake” [99:1]
- For a very long unspecified time, there won't be any other creature alive except Allah almighty.
- With the 2nd trumpet all will rise again and will gather at the ground of Arafaat. This gathering is called Hashr as there is a name of Allah Almighty “Hashir”.
 - Ref: “And [that they may know] that the Hour is coming - no doubt about it - and that Allah will resurrect those in the graves” [22:7]
- This day will be very horrible as it is mentioned in some books that it will be as long as 50 thousand years. No one would even think about his friends, family and relatives. Record of deeds compiled by the appointed angels (Kiraman Katibeen) will be uncovered.
 - Ref: “So whoever does an atom's weight of good will see it, And whoever does an atom's weight of evil will see it.” [99:7-8]

- ❑ Whoever gets his record in right hand from the front will be successful. Whoever will be given it in left hand from backside will be doomed. According to this just accountability people will be designated to Heaven or Hell.
- ❑ When everyone will be placed in Heaven and Hell, death will be brought forward In form of any animal and will be slaughtered in front of everyone. This will mark the death of death, and later on everyone has to live in their designated place forever.

Q (b) Why is the belief in resurrection important to Muslims in their daily living?[4][J/2010]

Q (b) How does this belief affect the daily living of Muslims? [4][J/2015]

Points to be covered

- Every other belief depends upon belief in Resurrection and last day. When people have fear of accountability they will be cautious about other beliefs as well.
- Belief in resurrection is the greatest source of righteousness. As it reminds people about transparent and just accountability, that makes them think and reflect.
- This encourages Muslims to have patience on losses of this temporary world as eternal and stable life is yet to come.

Belief in Predestination and Decree

Q (a) Write an account of Muslims’ belief in Predestination and Decree. [10]

Q (a) What does the statement ‘There is no ability or power except through Allah’ tell you about Muslim belief in Allah’s predestination and decree? [10]

Para 1	Para 2	Para 3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ General Intro as 6th article of Faith. ▪ Introduction of Qadar and Qadha. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Loh-E-Mahfooz. ▪ Substantial Concepts of Predestination. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Humans’ free will ▪ Conclusion.

Answer

- It is necessary for Muslims to believe in Allah’s Predestination and Decree that everything is ordained by Him. He is the only one who determines the fate of every individual and this whole universe.
 - 📖 In Hadith of Jibrail, when he asked Prophet (PBUH) about Faith, He answered: “To believe in Allah, his Angels, his Books, his Messengers, the Last Day and to believe in divine Preordainment, both the good and bad of it”
- The word “Qadha” Means: To legislate, to decide or to conclude while The word “Qadar” means: to value, to esteem or to measure.
 - 📖 Ref: “Indeed, all things we created with predestination” [54:49]
- Lauh-e-Mehfooz is a safe place. Too much details are not mentioned anywhere about Lauh-e-Mehfooz. But it’s the place where Allah recorded each and everything. In other words, Lauh-e-Mehfooz is a screen where Allah’s knowledge and info is displayed.
 - 📖 Hadith: The first thing which Allah created was Pen. He commanded it to write. It asked: What should I write? He said: Write the Decree (Al-Qadr). So, it wrote what had happened and what was going to happen up to eternity. [Al Tirmidhi hadith 94]



- Predestination asks us to believe that Allah's knowledge is well-acquainted, and his knowledge encompasses each and everything.
 📖 Ref: "Allah has encompassed all things in knowledge" [65:12]
 - Everything is working as per the commands and will of Allah Almighty.
 📖 Ref: "Do you not know that Allah knows what is in the heaven and earth? Indeed, that is in a Record. Indeed that, for Allah, is easy" [22:70]
 - It is necessary to believe that nothing can occur without the will of Allah.
 📖 Ref: "His command is only when He intends a thing that He says to it, "Be," and it is" [36:82]
-
- There are 3 types of creatures. First ones are Shayateen (Devils) they are pure evil. They cannot do any good. 2nd ones are angels they are pure goodness they cannot attempt any sin. Humans have been given all two and they have been given a chance to choose his way wisely by getting help from Messengers, Books and by using common sense. That's why They are supreme beings.
 - Believing in predestination doesn't mean that humans do not have any choice and it also does not declare us totally free from any planning or bounding.
 📖 Someone asked the same question from Hazrat Ali (R.A) he said lift up your foot and keep standing, he did it without any problem. He then asked him to lift up his both feet and keep standing. He could not. Hazrat Ali (R.A) said that that's your answer. We are not 100 % free nor we are 100 % bound.
 - If we were 100 % bound Prophet would never have said this:
 📖 Hadith: "Invocation can even alter your destiny"
 - But there are two types of Qadr. 'Taqdeer-E-Mubram' this is finalized and it can never be changed even with invocation. 'Taqdeer-E-Muallaq' can be changed with invocation.
 - So, Belief in Predestination and Divine Decree is a fundamental part of Articles of Faith. Without believing in it no one could be called a Muslim.

(b) To what extent does this belief affect the daily living of Muslims?

[4]

Points to be covered

- Knowing that Allah is the only planner and controller of this universe makes Muslims righteous and motivate them to build strong relation with Allah.
- It teaches them not to get depressed over worldly possessions or losses as everything is a mere test written by Allah (SWT).
- Muslims develop habit of seeking Allah's help.
- This belief indirectly emphasizes on the importance and significance of invocation.

UMAR KHAN
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