

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL OF TANZANIA
ADVANCED CERTIFICATE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION EXAMINATION

115/2

ISLAMIMC KNOWLEDGE 2

(For Both School and Private Candidates)

Time: 3 Hours

ANSWERS

Year: 2018

Instructions

1. This paper consists of section A, and B with total of nine questions.
2. Answer all questions in section A, and two questions in section B.
3. Section A carries sixty marks and section B carries forty marks.

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1. The life of Prophet Muhammad (s.a.w) as a clear proof of the existence of Allah

The life of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) offers compelling evidence for the existence of Allah through several aspects:

Firstly, his receipt of divine revelations, despite being illiterate, led to the compilation of the Qur'an, a text unparalleled in linguistic excellence and depth. This phenomenon suggests a source beyond human capability.

Secondly, the numerous miracles attributed to him, such as the splitting of the moon, serve as tangible signs supporting his prophethood and, by extension, the existence of a divine power.

Thirdly, his accurate prophecies about future events, many of which materialized during his lifetime and beyond, indicate access to divine knowledge.

Fourthly, his exemplary character and unwavering commitment to his mission, even in the face of adversity, reflect a profound connection with and guidance from Allah.

Lastly, the rapid and enduring spread of Islam, transforming societies and persisting through centuries, points to a divinely ordained mission beyond mere human endeavor.

2. The impact of belief in Allah's Qadar on shaping believers' attitudes

Belief in Allah's Qadar (divine decree) profoundly influences the attitudes and behaviors of believers in several ways:

Firstly, it fosters a sense of contentment and peace, as individuals recognize that all events occur by Allah's will, reducing anxiety over life's uncertainties.

Secondly, this belief encourages resilience and patience during hardships, understanding that challenges are part of Allah's plan and serve a greater purpose.

Thirdly, it promotes humility, as acknowledging that successes and failures are decreed by Allah diminishes arrogance and fosters gratitude.

Fourthly, believers are motivated to engage in righteous actions, knowing that while outcomes are predestined, they are accountable for their intentions and efforts.

Lastly, trust in Allah's Qadar enhances reliance on Him, leading to a balanced approach to life where one strives earnestly while accepting divine will.

3. Logical reasons justifying the inevitability of life after death

The concept of life after death is supported by several logical arguments:

Firstly, the inherent sense of justice observed in the world suggests a system where moral balances are ultimately maintained, implying an afterlife where deeds are recompensed.

Secondly, the universal human consciousness of accountability and the prevalence of moral codes across cultures point towards an intrinsic belief in a subsequent existence where actions are judged.

Thirdly, the observable cycle of life and death in nature, with continuous regeneration, mirrors the possibility of human resurrection after death.

Fourthly, the unfulfilled aspirations and injustices experienced in worldly life imply the necessity of another realm where ultimate justice and fulfillment are achieved.

Lastly, the teachings of prophets and religious scriptures across various traditions consistently affirm an afterlife, providing a historical and spiritual basis for its acceptance.

4. Strategies for Muslims to Eradicate Corruption in Society

Corruption, including bribery, is unequivocally condemned in Islam, as it undermines justice and societal integrity. Muslims can adopt several strategies to combat this vice:

Firstly, adhering strictly to Islamic teachings is paramount. The Qur'an and Sunnah explicitly prohibit corrupt practices, urging Muslims to embody honesty and integrity in all dealings. By internalizing these values, individuals can resist the temptations of corruption.

Secondly, education plays a crucial role. Raising awareness about the detrimental effects of corruption through sermons, workshops, and community programs can foster a culture of transparency and accountability. Knowledge empowers individuals to recognize and reject corrupt practices.

Thirdly, establishing robust institutional frameworks is essential. Muslim communities can advocate for and support the creation of independent anti-corruption bodies that enforce laws impartially, ensuring that offenders face appropriate consequences.

Fourthly, promoting social accountability can deter corrupt behavior. Encouraging community members to report unethical practices and protecting whistleblowers can create an environment where corruption is socially unacceptable.

Lastly, fostering economic justice is vital. Addressing economic disparities and ensuring equitable resource distribution can reduce the incentives for individuals to engage in corrupt activities out of necessity.

5. Analyzing the Effects of Divorce on a Community

Divorce, while permissible in Islam, can have profound impacts on a community:

Firstly, it can lead to social stigma, particularly for women. Divorced individuals may face judgment or ostracism, affecting their social interactions and mental well-being.

Secondly, children from divorced families might experience emotional and academic challenges. The disruption of the family unit can affect their sense of security and performance in educational settings.

Thirdly, divorce can result in economic hardships. Single-parent households often face financial strains, which can affect their quality of life and access to opportunities.

Fourthly, there may be an increase in social vices. Some divorced individuals, particularly women, might resort to unIslamic behaviors due to societal pressures or lack of support.

Lastly, the prevalence of divorce can undermine the institution of marriage. Frequent marital dissolutions may lead to a community-wide apprehension towards commitment, affecting family structures and societal cohesion.

6. Promoting Peace and Tranquility in the Community: The Role of Muslims

Muslims are encouraged to be ambassadors of peace, and they can adopt several approaches to foster tranquility in their communities:

Firstly, embodying the principles of justice and fairness in all interactions ensures that rights are upheld, and grievances are minimized, leading to harmonious relationships.

Secondly, engaging in interfaith and intra-community dialogues promotes understanding and reduces misconceptions, building bridges between diverse groups.

Thirdly, providing support for conflict resolution through mediation and counseling can address disputes amicably, preventing escalation and fostering reconciliation.

Fourthly, participating in community service and charitable activities addresses societal needs, reducing inequalities and fostering a sense of collective responsibility.

Fifthly, educating the youth on Islamic values of compassion, empathy, and respect can cultivate a generation committed to peace and social cohesion.

Lastly, leading by example in demonstrating patience, tolerance, and forgiveness can inspire others to adopt similar attitudes, creating a ripple effect of tranquility throughout the community.

7. Islamic Punishments for Specific Crimes

Islamic law, or Sharia, prescribes specific punishments for certain offenses, known as Hudud crimes, which are considered severe violations against the rights of Allah and society. These punishments are fixed and derived from the Quran and Hadith. The prescribed penalties for the mentioned crimes are as follows:

Highway Robbery (Hirabah): This crime involves banditry or armed robbery, threatening public safety and security. The Quran prescribes severe punishments, which may include execution, crucifixion, amputation of hands and feet on opposite sides, or exile, depending on the severity of the offense.

Theft (Sariqa): For theft, the punishment is amputation of the hand, intended as a deterrent against stealing. However, this is applied under strict conditions, ensuring that the theft was significant and not out of necessity.

Slander (Qadhf): Accusing someone of adultery without sufficient evidence is a serious offense. The prescribed punishment is eighty lashes, aiming to protect individuals' honor and deter false accusations.

Drinking Alcohol (Shurb al-Khamr): Consumption of intoxicants is prohibited in Islam. The punishment, derived from Hadith, is typically eighty lashes, serving as a deterrent to maintain societal order.

Adultery (Zina): Engaging in unlawful sexual intercourse carries severe penalties. For married individuals, the punishment is stoning to death, while unmarried offenders receive one hundred lashes. These strict measures underscore the importance of moral conduct and family integrity in Islamic society.

It's important to note that these punishments are subject to stringent evidentiary standards and are rarely implemented. The emphasis is on deterrence and upholding moral and social order.

8. Social Benefits of Performing Jamaa Prayers in the Mosque

Participating in congregational (Jamaa) prayers at the mosque offers numerous social advantages that strengthen the fabric of the Muslim community:

Fostering Unity and Brotherhood: Regular attendance brings together individuals from diverse backgrounds, promoting a sense of unity and collective identity among worshippers.

Encouraging Social Support: The mosque serves as a hub where community members can share personal challenges and receive emotional and practical support, fostering a caring environment.

Facilitating Knowledge Sharing: Congregational prayers often include sermons and discussions, providing opportunities for learning and spiritual growth, and keeping the community informed about religious and social matters.

Promoting Discipline and Punctuality: The fixed timings of prayers instill a sense of discipline and time management, beneficial in personal and communal aspects of life.

Enhancing Community Cohesion: Regular interactions during prayers help build strong relationships, reduce social isolation, and create a cohesive and resilient community.

These social benefits underscore the importance of Jamaa prayers in nurturing a supportive and well-connected Muslim society.