

## **What is Religion**

### **Religion:**

“A particular system of faith and worship”.

**or**

“A pursuit or interest followed with great devotion”.

### **In other words:**

“The belief in and worship of a superhuman controlling power, especially a personal God or gods”.

### **Emile Durkheim Defined Religion as:**

Religion is a unified system of beliefs and practices related to sacred things.

### **EMILE DURKHEIM (1858-1917)**

A French Philosopher and Professor of Physics. He was a great Sociologist. He introduced a new science called Social Physics. His Book Name is, “**In the Elementary form of Religious Life**” (1912).

### **Johnston (1975) Defines Religion as:**

System of Beliefs and Practices by which a group of people interpret and responds to what they feel is supernatural and sacred.

### **Scientific Definition of Religion:**

“Religion is a social-cultural system of designated behaviors and practices, morals, worldviews, texts, sanctified places, prophecies, ethics or organizations that relates humanity to supernatural, transcendental, or spiritual elements”.

### **Islamic Definition of Religion:**

“Religion which is also known as Din is an all-round movement in the light of faith in Allah and a sense of responsibility for the formation of thought and belief, for the promotion of high principles of human morality for the establishment of good relations among members of the society and the elimination of every sort of undue discrimination”.

Kingsley Devi's, Emile Durkheim and other western considered religion as great power which maintain society and individuals.

**Unifying:**

All religions stress such basic virtues as **Honesty** and **Consideration for others**.

**Examples:**

Examples of a few common Religion are as follows:

- Islam
- Christianity
- Hinduism
- Buddhism

**Elements of Religion:**

Following are the Elements of Religion:

- **Concept of God**

The most important element of Religion is Concept of God which is present in every Religion of the World.

- **Emotions & Emotional Attachment with Ideology of Religion**

Emotions lead human beings to search for the truth, to find protection against odd.

When man faces problems, looks to natural events, earthquake, floods, disasters He seek the supernatural power of Allah.

- **Ritual:**

All religions observe “**Ceremonial Practices**” called Rituals.

In Islam prayer to God, Animal sacrifice on Eid-ul-Adha, Other Religions also offer sacrifices, the activities of performing Haj, to recite Holy Quran and Reciting Holy Books etc. all are Religious Rituals.

Marriage is also a Religious Ritual.

- **Belief:**

It is extended form of believe.

It belongs to Faith not to reasons. Belief in one God, Life after Death, Prophet’s Sacred Books are the elements of Faith in Islam.

## **Role of Religion in Human Life:**

1. Religion helps to make judgment of right and wrong
2. Religion removes fear and anxiety
3. It is a path which takes us true destination.
4. Religion create social solidarity
5. Religion preserves values and morality system
6. Religion gives sense of purity and cleanliness
7. Religion provides the identity of a person
8. Religion create relationship between Creator and men
9. Sanction for the Principles of Morality
10. Power to Endure Adversities of Life
11. Encounter with Ideological Vacuum
12. An Aid to the Progress of Science and Knowledge
13. Fight against Discrimination

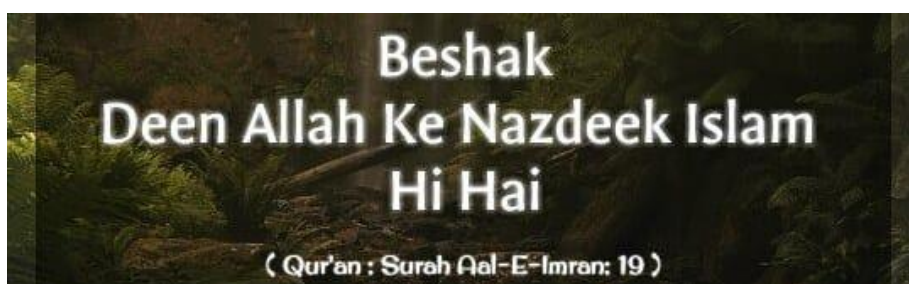
## **ISLAM AS BEST RELIGION IN THE WORLD**

A question arises in the mind of almost every person and that question is:

### **Why Islam is the best religion in the world?**

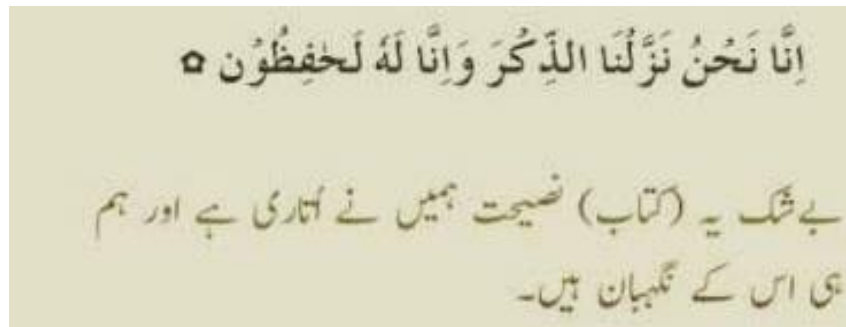
The Following are some concepts that prove that Islam is the best religion in the world:

1. Not multiple gods but Oneness of God.
2. Allah subhanahu wa Tala selectd Islam as a favorite and best Deen.
3. The concept of halal and haram is Present only in Islam
4. Al Qura'n



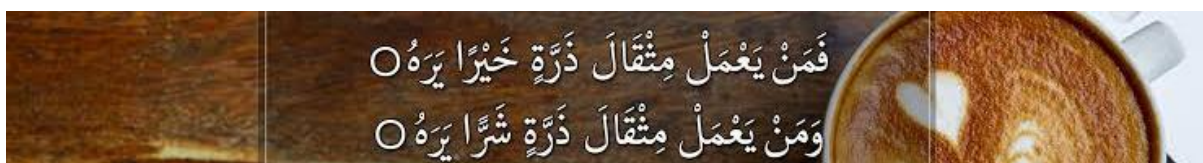
5. Islam likes logic and wisdom.
6. Islam promotes well doing and welfare.
7. Islam disallow wrong doings.
8. Islam provides goodness and mannerism even in dealing with each other's and with other People who are non-Muslims.
9. There is great respect for human rights and women rights which are not given by other religions.
10. Pakeezgii only belongs to Islam.
11. There is reward and punishment system in Islam
12. Islamic teaching is preserved in the form of Quran. Whereas other sacred books may be altered.

#### Al Qur'an 15.9



13. Islam invites to conquer the earth sky and universe.
14. Islam is easy and love spreader religion.
15. Islam is such Religion which gives respect to dead or dead body. In many religion they keep it on hill as in kafirstan, Dead body is eaten up by fierce birds and In Hinduism it is burnt.
16. It provides complete code of ethics and a dastoor in form of holy Quaran.
17. Islam offers traveler rights. Neighbor rights. Servant rights elder and youngest Rights.
18. A verse says, "jis nay zaray barabar b naikii ki Wu paa lay ga and jis nay Zara baraber b zulum kiuya wo b paa lay ga".

#### Surah Al Zilzalah 7-8



19. We are accountable in front of Allah.

20. In Islam there is a proper system of charity as in form of zakat sadqaat and help. Zakat is considered as one of 5 important pillars of Islam.

21. Islam disallows cast and Creed system which is common in all other ism whereas only piousness is the standard of superiority in eye of Allah.

22. The best fight in Islam is Jihaad bil Nafas, western usually knows this fight as self-righting process.

23. Islam promotes forgiveness as best act.