

The Five Pillars of Islam

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Abstract. *Over 20% of the world's population are Muslims, who are people that practice the Islamic faith. Islam, in Arabic, means "submission," specifically to God. Those who submit to God are called Muslims. Muslims strengthen their faith through the regular religious duties called the Five Pillars of Islam: Shahadah, Salah, Zakat, Sawm, and Hajj. These five pillars of Islam are meant to unite believers globally in fellowship.*

Keywords: *The five pillars – the declaration of faith (shahada), prayer (salah), alms-giving (zakat), fasting (sawm) and pilgrimage (hajj) – constitute the basic norms of Islamic practice. They are accepted by Muslims globally irrespective of ethnic, regional or sectarian differences.*

Abstrak. *Lebih dari 20% populasi dunia adalah Muslim, yang merupakan orang-orang yang mempraktikkan agama Islam. Islam, dalam bahasa Arab, berarti "ketundukan," khusus kepada Tuhan. Mereka yang tunduk kepada Tuhan disebut Muslim. Umat Islam memperkuat iman mereka melalui tugas-tugas keagamaan reguler yang disebut Lima Pilar Islam: Shahadah, Salah, Zakat, Sawm, dan Haji. Kelima pilar Islam ini dimaksudkan untuk menyatukan orang percaya secara global dalam persekutuan.*

Kata kunci: *Lima pilar – deklarasi iman (shahada), doa (salah), sedekah (zakat), puasa (saw) dan ziarah (hajj) – merupakan norma dasar praktik Islam. Mereka*

diterima oleh Muslim secara global terlepas dari perbedaan etnis, regional atau sektarian.

BACKGROUND

Almost as soon as the Arab armies of Islam conquered new lands, they began erecting mosques and palaces and commissioning other works of art as expressions of their faith and culture. Many aspects of religious practice in Islam also emerged and were codified. The religious practice of Islam, which literally means "to submit to God", is based on tenets that are known as the Five Pillars (arkan), to which all members of the Islamic community (umma) should adhere.

KAJIAN TEORITIS

Not only the pillars of faith in Islam, there are also pillars of Islam, where there are 5 pillars in it and include creed, prayer, fasting, paying zakat, and going on Hajj for those who can afford it. This pillar is not only known at a glance or only spoken on the lips.

The pillars of Islam are also one of the ways for Muslims to carry out the main beliefs. In addition, there are also pillars of faith which also contain what Muslims believe in building religious foundations.

RESEARCH METHODS

The research approach method used in this study is a qualitative approach. Qualitative research is research that brings closer to the quality or most important thing of the nature of an item or thing. This research was obtained from several internet pages, then analysed and studied in depth for the references used. This research, explains about the pillars of Islam.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Today most Muslims only utilize a very minimum sets of Islamic texts mainly related to personal worship such as prayer, fasting and Hajj yet most of these Muslims do not even realize the reality and totality of these worship and why they are called pillars of Islam. If they really understood this and embraced the understanding in their hearts the Ummah would be powerful and prosperous today.

The prophet of Islam has prescribed these five things as the foundation of Islam and they are:

Faith, prayer, fasting, Zakat and Hajj for the Sunnis and prayer, fasting, Zakat, Hajj and Imamate for Shia. These five things contain the totality of the religion of Islam as we shall see.

Faith

The first thing before any action or behavior takes place from a human agent is to utilize the ideology or worldview on which the human agent exists on. Human mind is like a memory with a processing unit which runs program it installs. These programs are ideological unit or worldviews which shape and guide human thought and activities. The purpose of the first pillar of Islam is to make your ego (kibriya nafs) submit to a higher power. When you are your God you do what you want and the consequences you fear are as much as you fear of your material harm, but by faith in a higher power you submit yourself to this power. Islam defines this power and the living God. So Islamic faith prepares you and establishes a platform of thought utilization before you act in this world. Without faith all other activities are null and void to God with respect to the hereafter success and God's pleasure. So Islamic faith is the very first step towards God because at this point you are submitting your ego, your race, your tribe, your nationality, your class and your family under God's system and guidance. Nothing is above or more important than God.

Prayer

Once you have mentally prepared yourself by submitting to God in your heart it is time to take the next step through prayer. The five times prayers remind the

Muslim that his or her life means a life defined by Islam, in every capacity of their lives. Islam is not something partial to social life and followed occasionally as social formalities. The prayer obligates that you have to invoke God by making the religion sincere for Him. This is both personal and collective achievement. Personally, you cannot continue in haram beliefs and acts while invoking God so you must not live a double life, one during prayer and one when outside prayer. In political side the Muslim leaders too must not live a double life. Their policies must be Islamic just like their prayer. They must establish Islamic rule, laws and protocols and then their Islam will be sincere when praying. Prayer such as Jum'a prayer is a place for raising Muslim issues and problems of their society and governance as the Prophet and His ahl bayt did. The Friday prayer thus also acts as a social problem-solving event. So, considering all these collectively the prayer protects the Muslim from evil and thus the second pillar.

This nature of prayer can be established from Quran. Let's look at Quran 11:87:

"They said, "O Shu'ayb, does your prayer command you that we should leave what our fathers worship or not do with our wealth what we please? Verily, you are the forbearer, right-minded!" (They said this sarcastically).

Worshipping of forefathers would be similar to ideological foundation such as secularism, racism, nationalism etc. i.e., godless TRADITION as an authority and economic would be dismantling capitalist corporate economic and financial system.

Fasting

Fasting teaches us self-sacrifice, patience for God and in God. That is why Imam Khomeini said:

"If our enemies besiege us economically, we are the children of 'Ramadhan". It also teaches us to feel for the poor, the needy and of their hunger. It prepares us by some suffering and hardship for Jihad and encourages us with perseverance and

determination. This is all true for the sincere fasting which is free from all the faults that Islamic texts identified. Only a sincere fasting will teach you and prepare you.

Zakat

Zakat as the foundation of Islamic socio-political welfare and taxation under the supervision of the Islamic state through state appointed zakat collector as mentioned in Quran 9:60. Zakat is the principle Islamic tax even though there are other types of Islamic taxes to be paid. Zakat ensures that the wealth is not stuck only among the rich rotting in their bank accounts. Islamic economic system centered around the Zakat proposes a welfare system of exhaustive taxation models for both Muslims and non-Muslims. Such a system is designed to minimize the inequality gap by maintaining a quantified wealth flow between the rich and the poor. Welfare economy such as proposed by Islamic system is based on the idea that not everyone will become champions and not everyone will become successful in business and knowledge.

Hajj

Hajj is the symbol of accepting God's authority and rejecting the tyrants and persecutors as stated in Quran 9:3. Hajj is the preparation to be ready to abandon world for God and it is also a preparation to travel to the next life. Hajj is also a symbol of Islamic unity of Humanity that under God all humanity is one through faith and servitude. Malcolm X highlighted this when in 1964 he stated "There were tens of thousands of pilgrims, from all over the world. They were of all colors, from blue-eyed blondes to black-skinned Africans. But we were all participating in the same ritual, displaying a spirit of unity and brotherhood that my experiences in America had led me to believe never could exist between the white and the non-white."

Imamate

The pillar and light of Islamic Ummah. Without this Muslims have been disunited since the demise of Prophet of Islam. Imamate in Islam is the concept of leadership in which both political and religious leadership conjoins. All prophets

were imams but not all imams prophets hence prophets are greater than imams. God appointed, as he did on Children of Israel, twelve Imams through Prophet of Islam, and these twelve Imams are successors of Prophet Muhammad. Prophetic succession is a necessity for religious consistency, coherency and Islamic political unity. It is a religious necessity because the successor of prophet has the duty to clarify and interpret religion in its complete existence. Apart from giving religious interpretation they also are political leaders implementing the divine rule from God and the prophet. They are the ones to keep the Muslims united and coherent in their political existence. Imams are sinless and cannot err in their acts because they like Prophets are guide of their community. It was the Imams who empowered Islam by their knowledge, policies and piety. These twelve imams trained countless scholars both Shia and Sunni teaching in whether religious, scientific, philosophical or mathematical disciplines who empowered the Muslim empires. The twelfth Imam is waiting for the correct atmosphere to be created to come out. The prelude to such an atmosphere started since 1979 Islamic revolution and today various Islamic resistances in the middle east have risen. According to Hadiths prophecies, Iraq will be the first place for Imam Mahdi's movement to emerge. Imam Mahdi will establish and complete the divine caliphate on earth.

CONCLUSION

The pillars of Islam must be practised by everyone who is Muslim so that it can be used as a sign or benchmark for someone's Islam. The pillars of Islam as the basis of Islamic religious knowledge, have been taught from an early age so that Muslims understand better and can apply it in their daily lives. The pillars of Islam are the foundation or foundation for Muslims who must always be practised so that their faith is always maintained during their lives.

In the implementation of the pillars of Islam, there are certain conditions so that they can make it mandatory, sunnah or not obliged to do it if they do not meet the requirements.

Prophet Muhammad sallallaahu 'alaihi wa sallam once said,

"Islam is built on five things, namely the creed laa ilaaha illallah and Muhammadan Rasulullah, upholding prayer, performing zakat, hajj and fasting Ramadan". (HR. Al-Bukhari and Muslim)

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