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**SUBJECT: ISLAMIC STUDIES**

**ASSIGNMENT #01**

**PRESENTED TO: Dr. Hafiz Muhammad Zubair**

QUESTION NO.01

***The purpose of our life is to seek our God, from a connection with Him, and make a constant effort to submit to His will. Discuss in detail how to achieve this objective?***

Allah has created mankind from one man and women and tribes came into existence. He has also sent messengers. It means that there is a purpose of life above which we have created by Allah. Now there are main points which will reveal the real purpose of life.

# **Life is a test:**

Allah says in Quran:

“(ALLAH) WHO HAS CREATED DEATH AND LIFE, THAT HE MAY **TEST YOU** WHICH OF YOU IS BEST INDEED.”

(Al-Mulk 67:2)

In simple words, life is like multiple choice questions. Adolf Hitler kill over 6 million Jews but he died once. Is it justice? Actual justice will be provided on the day of judgement. This word is an examination hall. The result of our test will be declared on the day of judgement. We have to pass this test. If someone fails in this test will be penalized by Allah and Hell is the only place for him. We have to do good deeds to pass this exam/test. The test paper will be taken away when you are dying. No more time will be given.

Sometimes, we do sins and even hurt people and we do not repent on our bad deeds. If we make **Toba**, Allah forgives us but if we hurt someone, we should say sorry to him because we have hurt a person not Allah. So, if the person forgives us, Allah will also forgive us. In Islam, suicide is haram.

In Quran, every suggestion for success in this test is discussed in detail.

# **Purpose of life:**

Allah says in Quran:

“AND I CREATED NOT THE JIN AND MANKIND EXCEPT THAT THEY SHOULD WORSHIP ME.”

It means that we should worship Allah to achieve success in this world and also on the day of judgement. We have to restrain us from hurting someone. If someone is rich, a president or a big man in this world but not the slave of Allah, he is the biggest looser in this world. Actually, successful man is one who is slave of Allah and obey all His commands.

We should have a proper approach towards the teachings of Islam. Every good or bad habit should be known near to us.

# **The most practical religion:**

Islam is the most practical religion than other religions. For example, cutting hands of a thieve, killing someone will be hanged and many more rules. These rules are equal for both poor and rich. “JUSTICE DELAYED IS JUSTICE DENIED.”

In Islam, there are two factors

1) Submission

2) peace

In order to pass through this exam, we have to follow all the teachings of Islam. Devil is also in this world to entice us towards bad deeds. His purpose is to make us unsuccessful. Therefore, we have to pass this test by following the teachings of Islam. Actual life is after the day of judgment where our result will be declared.

**Explanation with example:**

There was a carpenter the Quran tells us about. His name was Habeeb. He had accepted Islam from Muslim missionaries who came to their town. Learning that his people from the recess rejected the missionaries, he prepared to join them encouraging his people to embrace Islam as he himself had done.

Enraged by his declaration, the people of the village pounced on him and killed him. Hearing a call to enter the Jannah, he exclaimed, “Ah me! Would that my people knew.

For that my Lord has granted me forgiveness and has enrolled me among those held in honor!” So did the carpenter attain ultimate success and his people were eventually destroyed by mighty blast. They lost all they had labored to amass and lost eternal bliss(Q36:13-29).

**What is then success?**

Success from the Islamic perspective can be defined as a beneficial accomplishment. It is a remarkable achievement which benefits the achiever and benefits others here or hereafter.

A distinction should always be made between an achievement or accomplishment and success. Success is a profitable achievement. Success in itself is not success until it is beneficial. Success must have a positive impact. The Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W) once said about AbdurRahman bin ‘Awf, “what a remarkable achievement: a righteous man blessed with lawful wealth.” Wealth with righteousness is success because it would be spent in useful ways, while wealth without righteousness could spell a disaster. Wealth unlawfully acquired is never a success. It is rather a failure in disguise. The Prophet had said, “I was shown the Paradise, behold, most of the people inside are the poor.”

Wealth could be of possessions, knowledge, influence, experience and beauty. Each of these forms of wealth has the propensity to be spent in righteous or wicked ways. Therefore, our achievement in them is not success until it is profitable and the means to it is clean.

About some people, **Allah** says, “Do not let their possessions or their children impress you: through these Allah only intends to punish them in this world and for their souls to depart while they disbelieve,” Q9:55.

So wealth and children of the unbelievers will certainly become a source of punishment for them because of their infidelity to Allah even though those unbelievers would always see those possessions as success.

**Success must be inclusive, transitive**

Islam wants us to take a holistic approach to life. Every aspect of life works to complement and perfect the other. Such should be success. A person who is successful at work and is not successful in the family is not successful.

His failure in the family could cause him stress which will later affect his quality of work. They won’t be happy. And can there be success without happiness and fulfilment in your home? Your family is your life. It is your real world. It is here you build your future. You labor to build it and sustain it. No place like home.

Problems have always arisen between couples when there is no money to meet the basic needs. Likewise, one suffers stress when one is not fulfilled at his job. Stressors generally have negative impact on health and behavior. How can success have meaning with ill-health and disorderly behavior?

The life is meant to be lived and explored. Allah says, “It is He who created all that is on the earth for you…” Q2:29

It is recklessness to abandon to pursue spiritual growth because of material

Allah says, “Children of Adam, dress well whenever you are at worship, eat and drink [as We have permitted] but do not be extravagant: Allah does not like extravagant people. Say [Prophet], ‘Who has forbidden the adornment and the nourishment Allah has provided for His servants?’ Say, ‘They are [allowed] for those who believe during the life of this world: they will be theirs alone on the Day of Resurrection.’ This is how We make Our revelation clear for those who understand. Say, ‘My Lord only forbids disgraceful deeds – whether they be open or hidden – and sin and unjustified aggression, and that you, without His sanction, associate things with Him, and that you say things about Him without knowledge. There is a time set for every people: they cannot hasten it, nor, when it comes, will they be able to delay it for a single moment.”

A person who is successful at work and in the family is not really successful if he is at odd with his Lord.

Allah has created everything in pairs: male and female, right and wrong, day and night, happiness and sorrow, up and down, right and left, and this world and the Hereafter. It would be foolhardy to attain the best of this world and call it success while one is oblivious or negligent to his purpose of life and the primary assignment on earth which is to worship Allah through Islam.

Again, there are different types of success: intellectual, social, intellectual, material and spiritual success. Some are more important and more successful than others.

**Thousands of candles**

Whatever success you think you have made in life, it is not adequate until it is not only useful to you but also to others. Happiness is happiness only when it shared. Happiness that is not shared is either selfishness or callousness.

‘Thousands of candles can be lit from a single candle, and the life of the candle will not be shortened. Happiness never decreases by being shared.’ This is why Zakat is one of the pillars on which Islam rests. The Prophet said, “Charity never decreases wealth.” Impliedly, charity increases wealth. Yeah, givers never lack. Whatever goes around comes around; good begets good as evil begets evil. To be truly successful is to be useful to yourself and to others.

Now, what are the factors of success in Islam?

**Factors of Success**

Factors of Success according to the Qur’an and Sunnah include:

1. Knowledge.
2. Faith (Tawhid, ressala and Qiyama).
3. Tawakkul (Trusting Allah).
4. Taqwa (Being mindful of Allah, eschewing evils for the sake of Allah).
5. Jihaad (struggle for Excellence and moral perfection).
6. Shukr (Being grateful to Allah and appreciative of people)
7. Sabr (Patience, tolerance and perseverance).
8. 8. Dutifulness
9. 9.Cooperation
10. Planning

The end