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**THE ESSENCE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE RELIGION OF ISLAM IN THE  
UPBRINGING AND PRESERVATION OF THE BEST MORAL QUALITIES OF A PERSON**

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**ABSTRACT:**

**This scientific article describes the characteristics and meaning of religion, which is a part of world culture and history of all peoples. The entire centuries-old history of mankind has developed within the framework of the development of culture, as well as national and world religions. The article describes the characteristics of the religion Islam, its essence and significance in the upbringing and preservation of universal values, the best moral qualities of a person.**

**KEYWORDS: Religion, world culture, Religion Islam, ethical and universal values, mercy, Muslim, Koran, Sunnah, Hadith, Sharia, Islamic ethics, tolerance.**

**INTRODUCTION:**

Religion, being an integral part of world culture and history of any nation, has influenced the minds and way of life of people for centuries. Many ethical and universal values, humanistic ideas, moral traditions and customs have survived to our time thanks to religion. The entire centuries-old history of mankind has developed within the framework of national and world religions. This applies to both morality, and various types of art: literature, music, architecture, fine and applied arts.

Islam combines the basic human virtues revered and respected by every nation. Islam has created an effective system of ethical laws, permissible and forbidden. Under Islam, the norms of a prosperous life of an individual and society are considered morally positive -

good, and actions brought to society are considered immoral - to be evil. In the area of social issues, Islamic teaching is based on mercy, nobility and responsiveness. In society, Islam pays special attention to nobility, learns various problems of relationships. In our relationships in a wider circle, there are questions and responsibilities towards loved ones and relatives. If you compare them, then you should arrange them in the following order, parents, spouse or spouse, children, relatives, neighbors, friends, acquaintances, orphans, people and animals in need of help. Islam seeks to create a virtuous person, a healthy family and a harmonious society. Islam (translated from Arabic "obedience", "surrender to Allah") is one of the most widespread religions in the world. The adherents of Islam are called Muslims (from Arabic Muslim-faithful). A Muslim is a person who believes in Allah, arranges his life according to the reason given to him by Allah, recognizing all the prophets, messengers of Allah, headed by Muhammad.

Religion Islam is one of the most widespread religions around the world. Islam is professed by more than a billion people (according to some estimates, up to 1 billion 300 million people). In fact, there are Muslim communities in over 120 countries. Muslims constitute the majority of the population in 35 states. In 28 countries, such as Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Morocco, Kuwait, Iran, Iraq, Pakistan and others, Islam is declared a state religion. The vast majority of Muslims live in West, South and Southeast Asia, and North Africa. The number of adherents of Islam is increasing not only due to the natural growth of the

population, among which it was traditionally widespread, but also due to the acquisition of new followers.

It should be noted that Islam acts as a powerful socio-cultural phenomenon, as an active political force. In historical terms, it is the result of the development of Arabian society in the period of transition from antiquity to the middle Ages, from the communal-clan system to class relations. Islam is the religion of the peoples living in the Central Asian region: Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan, Azerbaijan, and Kazakhstan. The zone of Islam in Russia is represented by the territory of the Volga and Urals with the Tatar and Bashkir populations, the North Caucasus, and a number of regions of Siberia. Islam spread to the territory of modern Uzbekistan in the late 7th - early 8th centuries as a result of the Arab conquests. On the basis of Islamic ideology, Central Asia has become one of the centers of Muslim civilization. Islam, having absorbed most of the local Zoroastrian ideas and values, became the basis of the culture and spirituality of the peoples inhabiting the territory of modern Uzbekistan.

Thus, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev at the 72nd session of the General Assembly of the United Nations (New York, September 19, 2017) noted "We consider the most important task to bring to the wide world community the truly humanistic essence of Islam, the sacred religion of primordial values. We strongly condemn and will never reconcile with those who place our great faith on a par with violence and bloodshed. Islam calls us to goodness and peace to preserve the true human principle. I would like to especially note the invaluable contribution to the development of Islamic and world civilization of a whole galaxy of outstanding representatives of the Central Asian Renaissance" [1].

In the 9th - 12th centuries, immigrants from Central Asia became representatives of the intellectual elite of the Muslim world. These were theologians - Imam al-Bukhari, al-Termezi, Sufis Nakshbandi and Yassavi, representatives of secular knowledge al-Fergani, al-Khwarizmi, Beruni, Farabi, Abu Ali ibn Sino and many others. The names of these scholars and their works are still revered in the Islamic world and far beyond its borders. Already in the initial period of the existence of the Muslim community, an idea was formed about the five most important provisions of the doctrine. These are the confession of faith (shahada), prayer (salat), fasting (saum), tax in favor of the poor (zakat) and pilgrimage (hajj).

Islam is the religion of the "People of the Book", the scriptures sent to people through the prophets. The Koran (from Arabic - Al Qur'an "- reading out loud", edification) is the holy book of Muslims [7]. The content of the Quran is the speech of Allah, with which he addressed Muhammad for 20 years. Under the third caliph Osman in 656, the final edition of the text of the Koran was drawn up, which was declared the most reliable and correct. There are 114 chapters (suras) in the Qur'an, and 6236 verses. Sura names are often taken from vivid phrases or plots, or the name in the text. Suras are divided into verses - rhymed, rhythmically completed phrases. Suras, or chapters of the Koran, are a collection of verses of a religious, philosophical, legal, poetic and everyday nature.

The Koran is the basis of Islam, for it establishes religious rites, legal and moral norms, way of life and rules of conduct for millions of Muslims. Without acquaintance with the Koran, it is impossible to understand the customs and traditions existing in the world of Islam.

The ideology of Islam is set forth in the holy books of Muslims: the Koran and Sunnah, the Koran is given by Muslim theologians as the

"word of God": for divine revelation and is perceived as "holy scripture."Sunnah (a collection of stories about the life of the Prophet Muhammad) is reflected in the book of the great hadith scholar of the Muslim world Imam al Bukhari "Al Jomi-as-Sahih". The Sunnah acts as a Muslim "sacred endowment". On the basis of the Koran and Sunnah, theologians have developed a set of legal norms of Muslim behavior. This collection was called Sharia (translated from Arabic, a clear path).

"Muslim way of life", "laws of faith", "right way" - this is the meaning of the concept of Sharia. Sharia is a set of prescriptions enshrined in the Koran and Sunnah, by which believers should be guided in all life situations in order to achieve moral perfection and worldly well-being. It is not only about the observance of the rituals, but also about the personal qualities, beliefs, and correct behavior of each Muslim. Sharia is the religious and ethical basis of fiqh - Muslim jurisprudence, which is the definition of specific rules of behavior. Islam puts a person in the conditions of good, creating social order without the participation of negative forces, affirming good manners and human virtue, and also recommends ways to eliminate bad skills.

With the help of Islamic principles, all life problems are filtered through a moral normative grid, which saves a person from the domination of selfish passions and desires. Thus, Islamic ethics contribute to the creation of colorful personalities with high moral and volitional qualities.

Islam strongly condemns racial discrimination and calls for equality among people, placing the person at the center of the universe [2].

The canons and principles of Allah listed in the Koran and introduced as an example in the life of Muhammad are obligatory for all people on earth, regardless of class, race and nationality. By implementing

these principles, genuine justice and equality are achieved.

Currently, the Muslim clergy especially focuses the attention of believers on the positive, moral meaning of Islam, arguing that the Muslim religion fights for the preservation of peace and friendship between peoples, for mutual support of people, warns a person against immoral acts, due to which the idea is emphasized that religion - the only means of education, preservation of the best moral qualities of a person.

To date, favorable conditions have been created for the implementation of the principle of freedom of conscience and the normal activity of Muslim organizations. The new realities of the social, political and spiritual life of society have had a great impact on Islam. The number of mosques is growing, the network of Muslim schools, madrasahs, academies, institutes is expanding, the number of publications is increasing. Currently, there are 1,800 mosques in Uzbekistan, most of them cathedral mosques. There are secondary and higher educational institutions in Bukhara and Tashkent, and madrasahs in many large cities. Since 1998, the Islamic University has been operating in Tashkent, which trains qualified personnel for the spiritual and religious sphere.

Additionally, in 1995, the International Islamic Research Center was established in Tashkent, which conducts research aimed mainly at studying the theory and history of Islam, translates religious writings, and investigates the life and work of prominent theologians. At present, where the resting place of the great thinker of the Muslim world Imam al-Bukhari is located, the International Research Center named after Imam Bukhari and the school of hadith studies operate. Every day, the creative ties of the believers of Uzbekistan with foreign Muslims are expanding in order to work together for the benefit of the world. Islam today, in the context of the

changed political picture of the world, has objective conditions not only for preservation as one of the leading religious' systems of the world, but also for some strengthening of its significance as an ideological banner in the matter of humane and harmonious development of society.

Summing up, for centuries, Islam has been a sacred faith and moral code for Muslims, as the center of primordial values and moral imperatives. Islam is the comprehension of Truth, the cultivation of the need for good deeds, it calls us to goodness and peace, the preservation of the true human principle.

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