

PRESERVATION OF INTELLECT AND WEALTH

AS FUNDAMENTAL GOALS OF THE SHARIAH

RECAP OF PREVIOUS LESSONS

- The goals of Islamic Law are called Maqasid al-Shariah.
- The primary goal is the attainment of benefit and the prevention of harm.
- The goals are divided into necessities, needs and luxuries.
- The Shariah revolves around the protection of the five necessities – faith, life, intellect, wealth and family.
- This week we will discuss the protection of intellect and wealth.

PRESERVATION OF INTELLECT

- Intellect is a fundamental of life that is necessary for living a good life and contributing to society.
- Consciousness, free will and intellect are all gifts from Allah.
- Our ability to choose between good and evil makes us responsible for our deeds.
- Anything that compromises our intellect is prohibited.
- Muslims need to always be in their senses so they can fulfil their responsibilities.

EXAMPLES OF PRESERVATION OF INTELLECT

- The most commonly quoted example is the prohibition of alcohol.
- The Shariah does not hold children, mentally ill people and sleeping people responsible for their deeds.
- Drugs are included in the prohibition of alcohol.
- Prescription drugs are also prohibited unless necessary.
- The need for education also falls under preserving the intellect.

PRESERVATION OF WEALTH

- The right of wealth and property ownership is a fundamental right in the Shariah.
- In order for humans to live, access to resources and wealth is necessary.
- The Shariah has placed several systems to protect people's rights of wealth and property ownership.
- The Shariah has also placed several systems to balance the economy and assist the poor.

EXAMPLES OF PRESERVATION OF WEALTH

- The prohibition of stealing is the most obvious example of the preservation of wealth.
- The Shariah allows a free market economy with a few restrictions.
- The Shariah prevents abuse of the system by promoting charity, justice and fairness.
- The Islamic economy allows people to grow rich, but Zakah ensures they do not leave others behind.

PRACTICAL BENEFITS

- We must avoid any habits and hobbies that mess with our minds and weaken our intellect.
- Lifelong education is a MUST for every believer.
- Muslims should aim for Ihsan in their businesses and finance.
- That Ihsan should extend to others by way of charity, job creation, fairness to employees, and mentoring.
- An ummah that is strong mentally and financially can rise up and become powerful again.