

**CLASS:-11TH,
HISTORY NOTES
CHAPTER:- 4**

CENTRAL ISLAMIC ISLANDS

RISE OF ISLAM :-

Modern Islam

- By twenty-first century there are over 1 billion Muslims living in all parts of the world.
- They are the citizens of different nations with different languages and dresses.

Early Islam

- United in its observance of the *sharia* in ritual and personal matters
- It was defining its religious identity.
- Islam laid special stress on the principle of equality and believed that all men are the descendants of Allah.
- Islam strongly opposed idol worship.
- Reciting *Kalma* (holy chants), *Namaz* (prayer), *Roza* (fast), *Zakat* (alms tax) and *Hajj* are five pillars of Islam.
- Even tribes outside Mecca considered the *Kaba* holy and installed their own idols at this shrine, making annual pilgrimages (*hajj*) to the shrine.

Social Scenario – Before Prophet Muhammad

- Before 612 AD – **Jahiliyyah** is an Islamic concept of the period of time and state of affairs in Arabia before the advent of Islam. It is often translated as the “**Age of Ignorance**”.
- The **Jahiliyyah** age was age of the tribes.
- In the seventh century, prior to rise of Islam, Arabia was socially, economically, politically and religiously backward. Arabia was dominated by Bedouins, a nomadic tribe moving from dry to green areas.
- Institution of slavery was prevalent, trade was not developed, tribes indulged in loot and plunder.
- The principle of ‘**Might is Right**’ due to lack of central authority.

- **Change in Social scenario – After Prophet Muhammad (After 612 AD)**

- In Medina, Muhammad created a political order from all three sources which gave his followers the protection they needed as well as resolved the city's ongoing civil strife.
- The umma was converted into a wider community to include polytheists and the Jews of Medina under the political leadership of Muhammad.
- Muhammad consolidated the faith for his followers by adding and refining rituals and ethical principles.
- The community survived on agriculture and trade, as well as an alms tax (**zakat**).
- In addition, the Muslims organised expeditionary raids (**ghazw**) on Meccan caravans and nearby oases. These raids provoked reactions from the Meccans and caused a breach with the Jews of Medina.
- After a series of battles, **Mecca** was conquered and Muhammad's reputation as a religious preacher and political leader spread far and wide.
- Muhammad now insisted on conversion as the sole criterion for membership of the community.
- Medina became the administrative capital of the emerging Islamic state with Mecca as its religious centre.
- The **Kaba** was cleansed of idols as Muslims were required to face the shrine when offering prayers.
- Muhammad was able to unite a large part of Arabia under a new faith, community and state.