

REL 279: ISLAMIC ETHICS
Midterm Review

- I. **IDENTIFICATIONS [30 points/15 minutes]**—For **three (3)** of the five items listed below, identify, contextualize and discuss their significance for the themes that constitute our study this semester. **NOTE:** For entries that involve more than one term, describe how one relates to the other(s).
1. Five-Value Scale
 2. Ibn Miskawayh
 3. Primordial Covenant-The Trust
 4. "Commanding good & forbidding evil"
 5. *Gulistan* (The Rose-Garden)
- II. **SHORT ANSWER QUESTION:** [30 points/15 minutes]—Answer only one (1) of the two questions listed below.
1. Write a commentary on Frederick Denny's statement "The ethical dimension of the Qur'anic message is very much intertwined with the vision of the holy community in its intimate relation with God and his Prophet (108)" that will explain its meaning and significance for our study this term.
 2. Compare and contrast the differences between the two major schools of Islamic Theology, the Asharites and the Mutazilities.
- III. **ESSAY QUESTION:** [40 points/20 minutes]—Answer only one (1) of the two questions listed below.
1. Fazlur Rahman argues that the "central aim of the Qur'an is to establish a viable social order" (37). He also argues that there is some "deep-seated moral fact that constitutes the eternal challenge for man and renders his life an unceasing moral struggle" (18). What does this viable social order look like? What is that deep-seated moral fact and how is life an unceasing moral struggle? Finally, how do these two ideas relate to one another? Provide concrete examples as necessary to elaborate on your commentary.

2. "In describing this concept of *adab*, the formation of the person, we are dealing, I believe, with one of the basic religious perspectives of *sunni-sufi* Islam" (Lapidus, 59). What is the concept of *adab*? How is it "formation of the person", and how is it one of the basic religious perspectives" of *sunni-sufi* Islam?

For tips, hints, guidelines, and instructions for Review, click [here](http://rizwanzamir.net/exams/) (http://rizwanzamir.net/exams/)