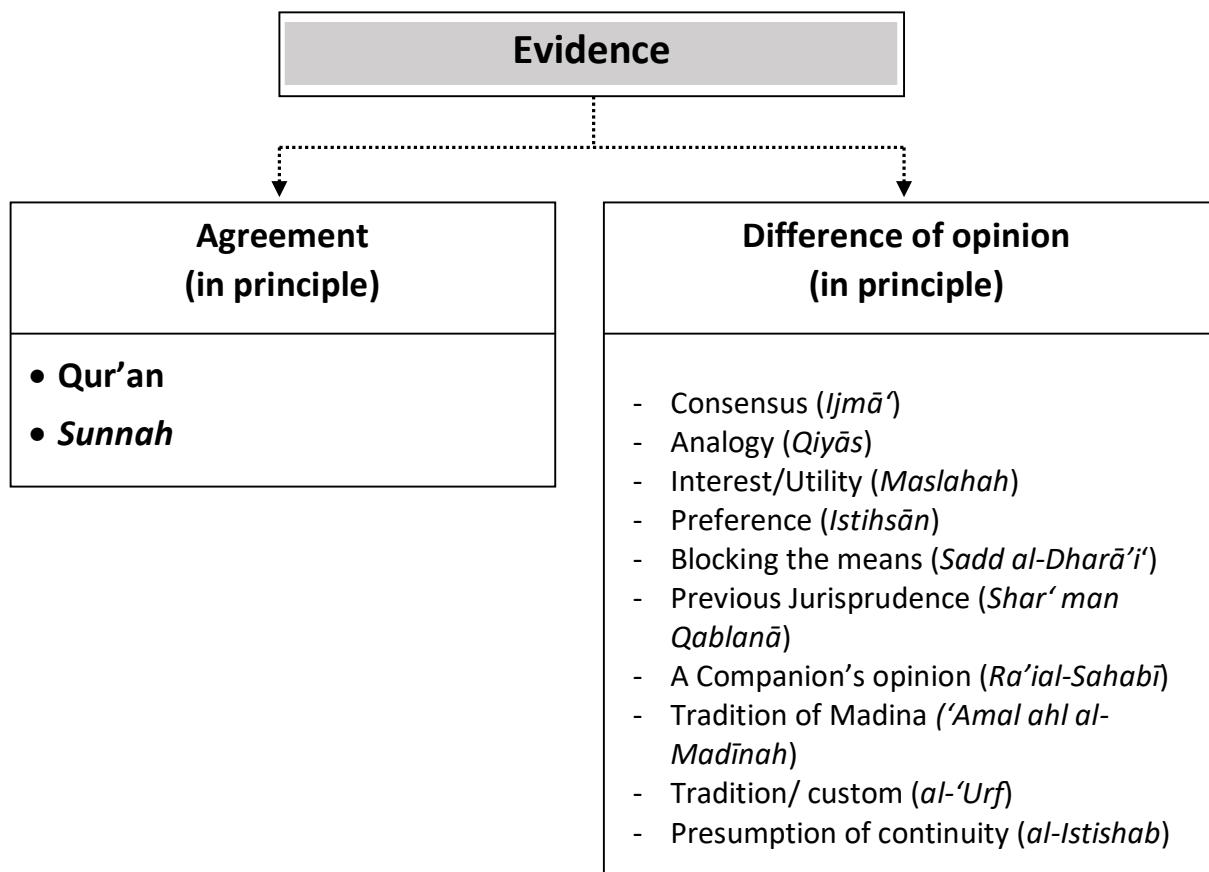


SOURCES OF EVIDENCE in ISLAMIC LAW

Islamic Jurisprudence uses primary and secondary sources of evidence to formulate law. 'Evidences' (*adillah*) are the sources and procedures that a school of law (*madhhab*) endorses in order to derive rulings. These are also called legislative tools. When primary sources contain indefinite meanings, secondary sources and tools may be used to provide evidence for a ruling. The various schools of Juristic thought (*Madhhabs*) differ regarding which secondary tools they endorse to provide evidence and how the endorsed tools are ranked in terms of prominence.



A chart of 'evidence' and classification according to their endorsement (in principle) within the Schools of Islamic law. (Source: Jasser Auda, *Maqasid al-Shariah as Philosophy of Islamic Law*, IIIT, Herndon, 2008, p.77)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. List those sources of *Shari'ah* (or evidences) which all scholars agree to in principle.
2. List those evidences or sources of *Shari'ah* on which some scholars or schools of juristic thought differ upon in principle regarding their validity or credibility.