

تعلمنا الإيمان قبل القرآن

WE LEARNED FAITH  
BEFORE THE QUR'AN

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FAITH



REFERENCE MANUAL

# بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

لا حول ولا قوة إلا بالله

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## SOURCE

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# AL SALAM ISLAMIC CENTER

## OVERVIEW OF AL SALAM ISLAMIC CENTER

Al Salam Islamic Center is an Islamic, non-profit center that is concerned with spreading Islamic values and developing religious awareness. It is supervised and monitored by the Department of Islamic Affairs and Charitable Activities in the Emirate of Dubai. It is a private center accommodating women and girls of all ages.

## MISSION | VISION | VALUES

**OUR VISION:** to be a global, Islamic leader

**OUR MISSION:** to lay the foundation of a balanced society, to build a renowned platform to serve the Noble Qur'an and Prophetic Sunnah, and to spread Islamic values across the world using the best of resources and means.

**OUR VALUES:** sincerity, excellence, certainty, gratitude

## SECTION ONE

## INTRODUCTION

## تعلمنا الإيمان قبل القرآن

WE LEARNED FAITH BEFORE THE QUR'AN

عَنْ جُنْدُبِ بْنِ عَبْدِ اللَّهِ، قَالَ كُنَّا مَعَ النَّبِيِّ ﷺ. صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ. وَنَحْنُ فِثْيَانٌ  
 حَزَاوِرَةٌ فَتَعَلَّمْنَا الْإِيمَانَ قَبْلَ أَنْ نَتَعَلَّمَ الْقُرْآنَ ثُمَّ تَعَلَّمْنَا الْقُرْآنَ  
 فَازْدَدْنَا بِهِ إِيْمَانًا

It was narrated that Jundub bin 'Abdullah said: We were with the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) and we were strong youths, so we learned faith before we learned Qur'an. Then we learned Qur'an and our faith increased there

Sunan Ibn Majah Book 1, Hadith 64

# NOTES



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## SECTION TWO

## THE MERITS OF ISLAM

## من محاسن الإسلام

- THERE IS NO DOUBT THE RELIGION OF ISLAM IS THE MOST COMPLETE, the best and the most accepted by the sound fitra (natural disposition) and the right mind.

أَلْيَوْمَ أَكْمَلْتُ لَكُمْ دِينَكُمْ وَأَتِمَمْتُ عَلَيْكُمْ نِعْمَتِي وَرَضِيتُ لَكُمُ  
الْإِسْلَامَ دِينًا فَمَنِ

This day, I have perfected your religion for you, completed My favour upon you, and have chosen for you Islam as your religion.<sup>1</sup>

- ISLAM IS THE ONLY RELIGION WHICH IS ABLE TO PROVIDE THE NEEDS OF BOTH BODY AND SOUL. It does not call for a person to toil in work such that he is like a machine, it does not call for a person to be overly spiritual such that he neglects this life, and it does not call for a person to indulge in temptations and materialism either.

<sup>1</sup> Surah Al Maeda [5:3]

- ISLAM IS THE ONLY RELIGION WHICH IS FREE FROM COMPLICATIONS AND CONTRADICTIONS.

﴿٨٢﴾ وَلَوْ كَانَ مِنْ عِنْدِ غَيْرِ اللَّهِ لَوَجَدُوا فِيهِ اخْتِلَافًا كَثِيرًا

Do they not then consider the Quran carefully? Had it been from other than Allah, they would surely have found therein much contradictions.<sup>2</sup>

- ISLAM IS THE ONLY RELIGION WHICH IS ABLE TO SOLVE THE MOST COMPLEX PROBLEMS OF HUMANITY. It contains the correct beliefs about Allah, the universe and the human being. It contains rules which organizes our life regarding different matters from worships, economic matters, dealings and relationships with others at different levels. And it contains manners which dignify a person and strengthen a society.
- ISLAM IS THE ONLY RELIGION WHICH IS ABLE TO CONVINCINGLY ANSWER THE QUESTIONS which baffle many humans: “why am I created? What is the way? And where will I go?”
- ISLAM IS THE MOST COMPLETE, MOST CORRECT AND BEST in beliefs, manners, worships, dealings, and rules which govern the self and rules as a whole. It is not a religion set up by a human, but it is a divine religion set up by Allah.

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<sup>2</sup> Surah An Nisa'a [4:82]



وَمَنْ أَحْسَنُ مِنَ اللَّهِ حُكْمًا لِقَوْمٍ يُوقِنُونَ ﴿٥٠﴾

And who is better in judgement than Allah for a people who have firm Faith.<sup>3</sup>

وَمَنْ يَبْتَغِ غَيْرَ الْإِسْلَامِ دِينًا فَلَنْ يُقْبَلَ مِنْهُ وَهُوَ فِي الْآخِرَةِ مِنَ

الْخَاسِرِينَ ﴿٨٥﴾

And whoever seeks a religion other than Islam, it will never be accepted of him, and in the Hereafter he will be one of the losers.<sup>4</sup>

- ISLAM IS A COMPLETE WAY OF LIFE WHICH BRINGS ABOUT A GOOD EXAMPLE of an advanced society and dignified human with the best and highest of manners. It brings about justice in a society and honor to humanity.

<sup>3</sup> Surah Al Maeda [5:50]

<sup>4</sup> Surah Aal Imran [3:85]

# NOTES



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## SECTION THREE

## FAITH

## الإيمان

Q: WHAT IS THE MEANING OF FAITH IN THE LANGUAGE AND THE RELIGION?

## FAITH IN THE LANGUAGE

## Belief

## FAITH IN THE RELIGION

1. Belief in the heart
2. Say it on the tongue
3. Act on it by the limbs
4. Faith increases with obedience and decreases with disobedience

## Q: WHAT ARE THE PILLARS OF FAITH WITH EVIDENCE?

### THE PILLARS OF FAITH ARE SIX

1. Belief in Allah
2. Belief in the Angels
3. Belief in the Books
4. Belief in the Messengers
5. Belief in the Last Day
6. Belief in the Decree – good and bad of it

### EVIDENCE FOR THE PILLARS OF FAITH

**قال (جبريل): فأخبرني عن الإيمان. قال أن تؤمن بالله، وملائكته، وكتبه ورسوله، واليوم الآخر، وتؤمن بالقدر خيره وشره.**

He (Jibreel) then enquired: "Tell me about Iman." He (صلى الله عليه) said: "It is to believe in Allah, His Angels, His Books, His Messengers and the Last Day and that you believe in preordainment (destiny), its bad and good consequences<sup>5</sup>".

<sup>5</sup> Riyadh As Saliheen, Muslim, Book 1, Hadith 60

## Q: DOES FAITH INCREASE OR DECREASE AND WHAT IS THE EVIDENCE?

- Faith increases and decreases. It increases with good deeds and decreases with sins.

### EVIDENCE FAITH INCREASES AND DECREASES

إِنَّمَا الْمُؤْمِنُونَ الَّذِينَ إِذَا ذُكِرَ اللَّهُ وَجِلَتْ قُلُوبُهُمْ وَإِذَا تُلِيَتْ عَلَيْهِمْ آيَاتُهُ زَادَتْهُمْ إِيمَانًا وَعَلَىٰ رَبِّهِمْ يَتَوَكَّلُونَ ﴿٢﴾

The believers are only those who, when Allah is mentioned, feel a fear in their hearts and when His Verses (this Quran) are recited unto them, they (i.e. the Verses) increase their Faith; and they put their trust in their Lord (Alone);<sup>6</sup>

لِيَزِدَادُوا إِيمَانًا مَعَ إِيمَانِهِمْ

That they may grow more in Faith along with their (present) Faith<sup>7</sup>

### EVIDENCE FAITH DECREASES

Part of a longer hadith:

وَذَلِكَ أَوْسَعُ الْإِيمَانِ

“and that is the weakest of faith.”<sup>8</sup>

<sup>6</sup> Surah Al Anfal [8:2]

<sup>7</sup> Surah Al Fat'h [48:4]

<sup>8</sup> Sunan an-Nasa'i 5008

## Q: WHAT ARE THE REASONS WHICH CAUSE FAITH TO INCREASE AND DECREASE?

### REASONS FAITH INCREASES

- To do what Allah commands from good deeds and worships of the heart, limbs and to give charity.
- Among the good deeds are:
  - Five obligatory prayers
  - Reciting the Qur'an
  - Remembering Allah
  - Supplicating to Him
  - Commanding to what is good and forbidding what is evil
  - Being dutiful to the parents
  - Connecting with family and relatives
  - Being good to the neighbors
  - Honoring the guest
- And other good deeds, including worships of the heart such as:
  - Fearing Allah
  - Hoping from Him
  - Loving Him
  - Being patient
  - Being grateful
  - Being pleased with Him
  - Returning to Him at all times
  - Entrusting Him

## REASONS FAITH DECREASES

- Committing sins
- Transgression
- Being heedless and not remembering Allah
- Mingling with bad companions

Q: HOW MANY LEVELS ARE THERE OF BELIEVERS AND WHAT ARE THEY?

## THE BELIEVERS ARE THREE LEVELS

1. **FOREMOST TO DOING GOOD** (السابقون الى الخيرات): they are the ones who established performing the obligations and what is recommended. They left what is prohibited and what is disliked.
2. **MODERATE** (مقتصدون): they are the ones who had shortcomings in performing the obligations and staying away from the prohibitions.
3. **WRONGING THEMSELVES** (ظالمون لأنفسهم): they are the ones who mixed good deeds with bad deeds, yet then there is no shirk (associating with Allah another partner).



# NOTES



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## SECTION FOUR

## PILLARS OF FAITH

## أركان الإيمان

Q: WHAT ARE THE PILLARS OF FAITH?

THE PILLARS OF FAITH ARE SIX

1. Belief in Allah
2. Belief in the Angels
3. Belief in the Books
4. Belief in the Messengers
5. Belief in the Last Day
6. Belief in the Decree – good and bad of it

## 1. BELIEF IN ALLAH (الإيمان بالله)

### WHAT DOES ALLAH AFFIRM ABOUT HIMSELF?

- **WE BELIEVE** in the Lordship of Allah that He is The Lord, The Reformer, The Nurturer, The Creator, The King, and The Disposer of all affairs.
- **WE BELIEVE** in the Divinity of Allah that He is the One True God whom we devote ourselves to and attach to Him out of love and magnification. He is The One truly worthy of being worshipped and anything else being worshipped besides Him is false.
- **WE BELIEVE** in the Names and Attributes of Allah as mentioned in the Qur'an and Authentic Sunnah. All His names are beautiful and all His attributes are complete and most high.
- **WE BELIEVE** in Allah's Oneness that He has no partner in His Lordship nor His Divinity nor His Names and Attributes. As Allah says:

رَبُّ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَمَا بَيْنَهُمَا فَاعْبُدْهُ وَاصْطَبِرْ لِعِبَادَتِهِ هَلْ تَعْلَمُ  
لَهُ سَمِيًّا ٦٥

Lord of the heavens and the earth, and all that is between them, so worship Him (Alone) and be constant and patient in

His worship. Do you know of any who is similar to Him? (of course none is similar or coequal or comparable to Him, and He has none as partner with Him). [There is nothing like unto Him and He is the All-Hearer, the All-Seer].<sup>9</sup>

- **WE BELIEVE** there is none like Him.

فَاطِرُ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ جَعَلَ لَكُمْ مِنْ أَنْفُسِكُمْ أَزْوَاجًا وَمِنَ  
الْأَنْعَامِ أَزْوَاجًا يَذُرُّكُمْ فِيهِ لَيْسَ كَمِثْلِهِ شَيْءٌ وَهُوَ  
السَّمِيعُ الْبَصِيرُ ﴿١١﴾

The Creator of the heavens and the earth. He has made for you mates from yourselves, and for the cattle (also) mates. By this means He creates you (in the wombs). There is nothing like unto Him, and He is the All-Hearer, the All-Seer.

لَهُ مَقَالِيدُ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ يَبْسُطُ الرِّزْقَ لِمَنْ يَشَاءُ وَيَقْدِرُ  
إِنَّهُ بِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ عَلِيمٌ ﴿١٢﴾

To Him belong the keys of the heavens and the earth, He enlarges provision for whom He wills, and straitens (it for whom He wills). Verily! He is the All-Knower of everything.<sup>10</sup>

- **WE BELIEVE** Allah speaks as He wills, whenever He wills, in whatever way He wills.

<sup>9</sup> Surah Maryam [19:65]

<sup>10</sup> Surah Ash Shura [42:11-12]

- **WE BELIEVE** His Words are the most perfect and complete in truthful news, justice in rulings, and goodness in speech. Allah says:

وَتَمَّتْ كَلِمَتُ رَبِّكَ صِدْقًا وَعَدْلًا

And the Word of your Lord has been fulfilled in truth and in justice.<sup>11</sup>

وَمَنْ أَصْدَقُ مِنَ اللَّهِ حَدِيثًا

And who is truer in statement than Allah?<sup>12</sup>

- **WE BELIEVE** the Qur'an is the Word of Allah which He truly spoke. He cast it to Gabriel who brought it down upon the heart of the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم).
- **WE BELIEVE** Allah is the Most High, above His creation, He is in the Highest Position Himself, and all of His attributes are the Most High. Allah says:

وَهُوَ الْعَلِيُّ الْعَظِيمُ

And He is the Most High, the Most Great.<sup>13</sup>

<sup>11</sup> Surah Al Ana'am [6:115]

<sup>12</sup> Surah An Nisa'a [4:87]

<sup>13</sup> Surah Al Bqarah [2:255]

- **WE BELIEVE** in all the Messenger (صلى الله عليه وسلم) informed us about Allah, that He comes down to the lowest heaven in a manner that suits His majesty in the last third of every night, and He says, "Is there anyone Who invokes me so I may respond to Him? Is there anyone Who asks me so I may give Him? Is there anyone Who seeks My forgiveness so I may forgive Him?".<sup>14</sup>
- **WE BELIEVE** Allah is pleased with what He ordained from actions and speech and hates what He has prohibited from actions and speech.
- **WE BELIEVE** in the following about Allah:

لَا تُدْرِكُهُ الْأَبْصَارُ وَهُوَ يُدْرِكُ الْأَبْصَارَ وَهُوَ اللَّطِيفُ  
الْخَبِيرُ ١٠٣

No vision can grasp Him, but His Grasp is over all vision. He is the Most Subtle and Courteous, Well-Acquainted with all things.<sup>15</sup>

- **WE BELIEVE** the believers will see their Lord on the Day of Judgement. Allah says:

<sup>14</sup> Sahih al-Bukhari 1145

<sup>15</sup> Surah Al An'am [6:103]

وَجُوهٌ يَوْمَئِذٍ نَّاطِرَةٌ ﴿٢٢﴾

Some faces that Day shall be Nadirah (shining and radiant).

إِلَىٰ رَبِّهَا نَاظِرَةٌ ﴿٢٣﴾

Looking at their Lord (Allah);<sup>16</sup>

- **WE BELIEVE** there is no one like Allah because of His perfect attributes.

لَيْسَ كَمِثْلِهِ شَيْءٌ ۗ وَهُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْبَصِيرُ ﴿١١﴾

There is nothing like unto Him, and He is the All-Hearer, the All-Seer.<sup>17</sup>

- **WE BELIEVE** in all that Allah has affirmed about Himself and what the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) has affirmed regarding His perfect Names and Attributes.
  - However we do not say or believe the attributes of Allah to be like the attributes of the creation.
  - We do not say “how is it that Allah’s so and so attribute..?”.
  - We do not negate any of the attributes which Allah has affirmed about Himself.


<sup>16</sup> Surah Al Qiyamah [75:22-23]

<sup>17</sup> Surah Ash Shura [42:11]



## WHAT DOES ALLAH NEGATE ABOUT HIMSELF?

- **WE BELIEVE** no sleep or slumber overtakes Him, for He has the perfect life, He is The Ever-Living Who never dies.
- **WE BELIEVE** He is not unjust to anyone due to His perfect justice.
- **WE BELIEVE** He is never heedless of the actions of His slaves due to His perfect watchfulness and encompassing of everything.
- **WE BELIEVE** nothing in the heavens or the earth can tire or disable Him due to His perfect knowledge and power.


 إِنَّمَا أَمْرُهُ إِذَا أَرَادَ شَيْئًا أَنْ يَقُولَ لَهُ كُنْ فَيَكُونُ

Verily, His Command, when He intends a thing, is only that He says to it, "Be!" and it is!<sup>18</sup>

- **WE BELIEVE** in negating all that Allah negated about Himself or which the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) negated about Him. This also includes not speaking about matters which Allah and the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) did not speak about.

<sup>18</sup> Surah Ya Seen [36:82]

## 2. BELIEF IN THE ANGELS (الإيمان بالملائكة)

- **WE BELIEVE** in the Angels whom Allah created. They worship Him and obey Him. Allah tell us they are:

بَلْ عِبَادٌ مُّكْرَمُونَ ﴿٢٦﴾

[the angels] are but honoured slaves.

لَا يَسْبِقُونَهُ، بِالْقَوْلِ، وَهُمْ بِأَمْرِهِ، يَعْمَلُونَ ﴿٢٧﴾

They speak not until He has spoken, and they act on His Command.<sup>19</sup>

Allah also says:

وَمَنْ عِنْدَهُ، لَا يَسْتَكْبِرُونَ عَنْ عِبَادَتِهِ، وَلَا يَسْتَحْسِرُونَ ﴿١٩﴾

And those who are near Him (i.e. the angels) are not too proud to worship Him, nor are they weary (of His worship).

يُسَبِّحُونَ اللَّيْلَ وَالنَّهَارَ لَا يَفْتُرُونَ ﴿٢٠﴾

They (i.e. the angels) glorify His Praises night and day, (and) they never slacken (to do so).<sup>20</sup>

- **WE BELIEVE** the Angels have been assigned tasks.

<sup>19</sup> Surah Al Anbiya [21:26-27]

<sup>20</sup> Surah Al Anbiya [21:19-20]

## AMONG THE ANGELS

- **JIBREEL** (Gabriel) who is entrusted with the Revelation. He takes it down from Allah to His Messengers and Prophets.
- **MIKAEEL** (Michael) is entrusted with rain and vegetation.
- **ISRAFEEL** is entrusted with blowing the Trumpet on the Day of Judgement. The first blowing will cause everyone to die and the second blowing is when the body and souls will be reunited.

## 3 . BELIEF IN THE BOOKS (الإيمان بالكتب)

- **WE BELIEVE** Allah sent down books upon His Messengers as proof to the people and to act on it where they will find judgement and purification in it.

## AMONG THE BOOKS WE KNOW

- The Great **QUR'AN** which Allah sent down upon Mohammed ( صلى الله عليه وسلم ).
- The **TAWRAT** (Torah) which Allah sent down upon Musa (Moses) (peace be upon him).
- The **INJEEL** (Gospels) which Allah sent down upon Eisa (Jesus) (peace be upon him).
- The **ZABOOR** (Psalms) which Allah gave to Dawud (David) (peace be upon him).

- **WE BELIEVE** the Qur'an is brought down by Allah on His Prophet Mohammed (صلى الله عليه وسلم) who is the Final Messenger.

هُدًى لِّلنَّاسِ وَبَيِّنَاتٍ مِّنَ الْهُدَىٰ وَالْفُرْقَانِ

A guidance for mankind and clear proofs for the guidance and the criterion (between right and wrong).<sup>21</sup>

وَأَنْزَلْنَا إِلَيْكَ الْكِتَابَ بِالْحَقِّ مُصَدِّقًا لِّمَا بَيْنَ يَدَيْهِ مِّنَ الْكِتَابِ وَمُهَيْمِنًا عَلَيْهِ

And We have sent down to you (O Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم) the Book (this Quran) in truth, confirming the Scripture that came before it and Mohayminan (trustworthy in highness and a witness) over it (old Scriptures).<sup>22</sup>

- Allah abrogated all of the previous books by revealing the Qur'an and He is in charge of protecting it from any changes because it will remain as a proof for the people until the Last Day.

إِنَّا نَحْنُ نَزَّلْنَا الذِّكْرَ وَإِنَّا لَهُ لَحَافِظُونَ

Verily We: It is We Who have sent down the Dhikr (i.e. the Quran) and surely, We will guard it (from corruption).<sup>23</sup>

<sup>21</sup> Surah Al Baqarah [2:185]

<sup>22</sup> Surah Al Maeda [5:48]

<sup>23</sup> Surah Al Hijr [15:9]

- As for the previous books, they were relative for a temporary time, but due to the changes made in them, they are abrogated when the next book is revealed.

#### 4. BELIEF IN THE MESSENGERS (الإيمان بالرسول)

- **WE BELIEVE** Allah sent Messengers to the creation.

رُسُلًا مُّبَشِّرِينَ وَمُنذِرِينَ لِئَلَّا يَكُونَ لِلنَّاسِ عَلَى اللَّهِ حُجَّةٌ بَعْدَ  
الرُّسُلِ وَكَانَ اللَّهُ عَزِيزًا حَكِيمًا

Messengers as bearers of good news as well as of warning in order that mankind should have no plea against Allah after the (coming of) Messengers. And Allah is Ever All-Powerful, All-Wise.<sup>24</sup>

- **WE BELIEVE** the first messenger is Nuh (Noah) (peace be upon him) and the last is Mohammed (صلى الله عليه وسلم). The best of all messengers is Mohammed (صلى الله عليه وسلم), then Ibrahim, then Musa, then Nuh (peace be upon him) and then Eisa (peace be upon him), son of Maryam – peace be upon them all.
- **WE BELIEVE** the legislation sent down upon Mohammed (صلى الله عليه وسلم) encompasses all the best elements of the previous legislations sent down upon the messengers.

<sup>24</sup> Surah An Nisa'a [4:165]

- **WE BELIEVE** all messengers are humans created by Allah and they have no attributes of Lordship whatsoever.
- **WE BELIEVE** they are all slaves of Allah whom He has honored by making them messengers, and by describing them and praising them for their servitude and worship to Him.
- **WE BELIEVE** Allah ended the message with the sending of Mohammed (صلى الله عليه وسلم) to all people.
- **WE BELIEVE** the legislation of Mohammed (صلى الله عليه وسلم) is the religion of Islam (submission to Allah alone) which Allah is pleased for His slaves and which Allah will not accept besides it. As He says:

إِنَّ الدِّينَ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ الْإِسْلَامُ

Truly, the religion with Allah is Islam.<sup>25</sup>

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<sup>25</sup> Surah Aal Imran [3:19]

## 5. BELIEF IN THE LAST DAY (الإيمان باليوم الآخر)

- **WE BELIEVE** Allah sent Messengers to the creation.
- **WE BELIEVE** the Last Day is the Day of Judgement when there will be no day after it. All the people will be resurrected and remain alive forever, either in an abode of delights or in an abode of painful torment.
- **WE BELIEVE** in the resurrection in which Allah will bring back to life all the dead. This will take place when the angel Israfeel will blow a second time in the trumpet.
- **WE BELIEVE** the book of records for each person will either be received from the right or from behind to the left.
- **WE BELIEVE** the scales will be placed on the Day of Judgement and no one will be wronged that Day.

فَمَنْ ثَقُلَتْ مَوَازِينُهُ، فَأُولَئِكَ هُمُ الْمُفْلِحُونَ ﴿١٠٢﴾

Then, those whose scales (of good deeds) are heavy, - these, they are the successful.

وَمَنْ خَفَّتْ مَوَازِينُهُ، فَأُولَئِكَ الَّذِينَ خَسِرُوا أَنفُسَهُمْ فِي جَهَنَّمَ

خَالِدُونَ ﴿١٠٣﴾

And those whose scales (of good deeds) are light, they are those who lose their own selves, in Hell will they abide.<sup>26</sup>

- **WE BELIEVE** in the Pool of the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) (The Kawthar) whose water is whiter than milk, sweeter than honey, and better smelling than musk.
- **WE BELIEVE** in the Sirat (bridge thinner than a hair and sharper than a sword) which is drawn over the hellfire. The people will have to cross it and they will pass it according to their deeds in this life.
- **WE BELIEVE** all that we have been informed about the Last Day in the Qur'an and Sunnah is sufficient for us.
- **WE BELIEVE** in the intercession of the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم).
- **WE BELIEVE** in paradise and the hellfire. Paradise is the abode of delights which Allah has prepared for the believing, pious slaves. The hellfire is the abode of torment which Allah has prepared for those who disbelieved and wronged themselves. Paradise and hellfire now exist and will not perish.

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<sup>26</sup> Surah Al Mu'minoon [23:102-103]



- **WE BEAR WITNESS** to paradise just as it has been witnessed by eyes or its description as mentioned in the Qur'an and Sunnah.
- **WE BEAR WITNESS** to the hellfire just as it has been witnessed by eyes or its description as mentioned in the Qur'an and Sunnah.
- **WE BELIEVE** in the trial of the grave when the deceased will be asked in their grave about their Lord, religion and prophet.

يُثَبِّتُ اللَّهُ الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا بِالْقَوْلِ الثَّابِتِ فِي الْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا  
وَفِي الْآخِرَةِ

Allah will keep firm those who believe, with the word that stands firm in this world (i.e. they will keep on worshipping Allah Alone and none else), and in the Hereafter.<sup>27</sup>

#### THE BELIEVER WILL SAY

- My Rabb is Allah
- My Religion is Islam
- My Prophet is Mohammed (صلى الله عليه وسلم)

<sup>27</sup> Surah Ibrahim [14:27]

## THE DISBELIEVER &amp; HYPOCRITE WILL SAY

The disbeliever and hypocrite will say: “I do not know, I heard the people say something so I said it.”

- **WE BELIEVE** in the delight of the grave for the believers.
- **WE BELIEVE** in the torment of the grave for the wrongdoers and disbelievers.

## 6. BELIEF IN THE DECREE – GOOD AND BAD OF IT (الإيمان بالقدر خيره وشره)

- **WE BELIEVE** in the decree, good and bad, which Allah has decreed for the creation according to His perfect knowledge and wisdom.
- **WE BELIEVE** Allah has given the slaves free will and ability to act. The wrongdoer cannot blame Allah's decree for his disobedience.
- **WE BELIEVE** evil is not attributed to Allah because of His perfect mercy and wisdom. Thus there is no evil in His decrees. As the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) said: “Evil is not attributed to You”<sup>28</sup>

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<sup>28</sup> Sunan an-Nasa'i 897

# NOTES



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## SECTION FIVE

## TAWHEED

## التوحيد

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

## Q: WHAT IS TAWHEED?

- **TAWHEED:** it is to single out Allah in worship, lordship, divinity, and names and attribute.

## Q: HOW MANY TYPES OF TAWHEED ARE THERE AND WHAT ARE THEY?

## THREE TYPES OF TAWHEED

1. **TAWHEED AR ROOBUBIYAH (ONENESS OF LORDSHIP):** to believe in singling out Allah Ar Rabb with creation, providing, and disposing of all affairs. It is to single out Allah Ar Rabb with His actions alone with no partners.

2. **TAWHEED AL ULOOHIYA (ONENESS OF DIVINITY):** to single out Allah in worship alone with no partner.
3. **TAWHEED AL ASMA' WA SIFAAT (ONENESS OF NAMES AND ATTRIBUTES):** to single out Allah alone with the Names and Attributes as He has confirmed in the Qur'an and Sunnah. There is no one who joins Him in any of His names and attributes. His names and attributes are not negated, nor changed, nor do they resemble the creations.

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

لا إله إلا الله

### THERE IS NO ONE WORTHY OF WORSHIP BUT ALLAH

Q: WHAT IS THE WORD OF TAWHEED AND THE STRONGHOLD WHICH THERE IS NO SALVATION EXCEPT BY IT?

- The **WORD OF TAWHEED** is: "There is no one worthy of worship except Allah and Mohammed is the Messenger of Allah" (لا إله إلا الله محمد رسول الله).

Q: WHAT DOES "THERE IS NO ONE WORTHY OF WORSHIP" (لا اله الا الله) AFFIRM AND NEGATE?

- **THERE IS NO ONE WORTHY OF WORSHIP (لا اله):** is **negation**.

This is to negate anything worshipped besides Allah and nullifying its worship.

- **EXCEPT ALLAH (الا الله):** is **affirmation**. This is to affirm the worship of Allah alone with no partners.

Q: WHAT IS THE EVIDENCE TO SINGLE OUT ALLAH ALONE IN WORSHIP IN THE QUR'AN AND SUNNAH?

#### EVIDENCE IN THE QUR'AN

وَإِذْ قَالَ إِبْرَاهِيمُ لِأَبِيهِ وَقَوْمِهِ إِنَّنِي بَرَاءٌ مِّمَّا تَعْبُدُونَ ﴿٢٦﴾

And (remember) when Ibrahim (Abraham) said to his father and his people: "Verily, I am innocent of what you worship,

إِلَّا الَّذِي فَطَرَنِي فَإِنَّهُ سَيَهْدِينِ ﴿٢٧﴾

"Except Him (i.e. I worship none but Allah Alone) Who did create me, and verily, He will guide me."<sup>29</sup>

<sup>29</sup> Surah Az Zukhruf [43:26-27]

## EVIDENCE IN THE SUNNAH

عَنْ أَبِي مَالِكٍ، عَنْ أَبِيهِ، قَالَ سَمِعْتُ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ يَقُولُ " مَنْ قَالَ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَكَفَرَ بِمَا يُعْبَدُ مِنْ دُونِ اللَّهِ حَرَّمَ اللَّهُ مَالَهُ وَدَمَهُ وَحِسَابُهُ عَلَى اللَّهِ ".

I heard the Messenger of Allah (صلى الله عليه وسلم) say: He who professed there is no god but Allah and made a denial of everything which the people worship besides Allah, his property and blood became inviolable, and Allah is the one to account him.<sup>30</sup>

Q: WHAT IS THE MOST MAJESTIC COMMAND COMMANDED BY ALLAH AND WHAT IS THE GREATEST PROHIBITION?

- The **MOST MAJESTIC COMMAND** commanded by Allah is to single Him out alone (**tawheed**) in worship.
- The **GREATEST PROHIBITION** is to commit **shirk** (to associate with Him in worship).

<sup>30</sup> Sahih Muslim 23



## Q: WHAT IS THE IMPORTANCE OF THE WORD OF TAWHEED?

### THE WORD OF TAWHEED IS

- The origin and **FOUNDATION** of the religion. By it the heavens and the earth are established and all the creations have been created. As Allah says:

وَمَا خَلَقْتُ الْجِنَّ وَالْإِنْسَ إِلَّا لِيَعْبُدُونِ ﴿٥٦﴾

And I (Allah) created not the jinns and humans except they should worship Me (Alone).<sup>31</sup>

- It is the key to **SALVATION** from the hellfire and the way to winning paradise.
- It is the **HEAVIEST ON THE SCALE** on the Day of Judgement.

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<sup>31</sup> Surah Adh Dhariyat [51:56]

## شروط لا إله إلا الله

### CONDITIONS OF "THERE IS NO ONE WORTHY OF WORSHIP EXCEPT ALLAH"

	CONDITION	EVIDENCE
01	<p><b>KNOWLEDGE</b> which banishes <b>IGNORANCE</b> (العلم المنافي للجهل)</p>	<p>فَاعْلَمْ أَنَّهُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ</p> <p>So know that La ilaha ill-Allah (none has the right to be worshipped but Allah)<sup>32</sup></p>
02	<p><b>CERTAINTY</b> which banishes <b>DOUBTS</b> (اليقين المنافي للشك)</p>	<p>إِنَّمَا الْمُؤْمِنُونَ الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا بِاللَّهِ وَرَسُولِهِ ثُمَّ لَمْ يَرْتَابُوا</p> <p>Only those are the believers who have believed in Allah and His Messenger, and afterward doubt<sup>33</sup></p>
03	<p><b>ACCEPTANCE</b> which banishes <b>REJECTION</b> (القبول المنافي للرد)</p>	<p>إِنَّهُمْ كَانُوا إِذَا قِيلَ لَهُمْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ يُسْتَكْبِرُونَ</p> <p>Truly, when it was said to them: La ilaha ill-Allah "(none has the right to be worshipped but Allah)," they puffed themselves up with pride (i.e. denied it).<sup>34</sup></p>

<sup>32</sup> Surah Mohammed [47:19]

<sup>33</sup> Surah Al Hujurat [49:15]

<sup>34</sup> Surah As Saafat [37:35]

فَلَا وَرَبِّكَ لَا يُؤْمِنُونَ حَتَّىٰ يُحَكِّمُوكَ فِيمَا شَجَرَ بَيْنَهُمْ  
ثُمَّ لَا يَجِدُوا فِي أَنفُسِهِمْ حَرَجًا مِّمَّا قَضَيْتَ وَيُسَلِّمُوا  
تَسْلِيمًا ﴿٦٥﴾

04

SUBMISSION which  
banishes LEAVING  
(الانقياد المنافي للترك)

But no, by your Lord, they can have no Faith, until they make you judge in all disputes between them, and find in themselves no resistance against your decisions, and accept (them) with full submission.<sup>35</sup>

05

TRUTHFULNESS which  
banishes LYING  
(الصدق المنافي للكذب)

وَمِنَ النَّاسِ مَن يَقُولُ ءَامَنَّا  
بِاللَّهِ وَيَوْمَ الْآخِرِ وَمَا هُمْ بِمُؤْمِنِينَ

And of mankind, there are some (hypocrites) who say: "We believe in Allah and the Last Day" while in fact they believe not.<sup>36</sup>

06

SINCERITY which  
banishes  
ASSOCIATION  
(الإخلاص المنافي للشرك)

فَاعْبُدِ اللَّهَ مُخْلِصًا لَهُ الدِّينَ

So worship Allah (Alone) by doing religious deeds sincerely for Allah's sake only,

أَلَا لِلَّهِ الدِّينُ الْخَالِصُ

Surely, the religion (i.e. the worship and the obedience) is for Allah only.<sup>37</sup>

07

LOVE which banishes  
HATE  
(المحبة المنافية للبغض)

ذَٰلِكَ بِأَنَّهُمْ كَرِهُوا مَا أَنزَلَ اللَّهُ فَأَحْبَطَ أَعْمَالَهُمْ

That is because they hate that which Allah has sent down (this Quran and Islamic laws, etc.), so He has made their deeds fruitless.<sup>38</sup>

<sup>35</sup> Surah An Nisa'a [4:65]

<sup>36</sup> Surah Al Baqarah [2:8]

<sup>37</sup> Surah Az Zumar [39:2-3]

<sup>38</sup> Surah Mohammed [47:9]

## IMPACTS OF BELIEF IN ALLAH

1. **MAGNIFICATION OF ALLAH.** This will push a person to fulfill the obligations and leave the prohibitions.
2. **LOVE OF ALLAH.** Also love of obedience, love of people of believe and love of remembering Allah.
3. **FEAR OF ALLAH.** This brings about magnifying, loving, submitting and attaching to Allah alone in times of difficulties.
4. **ENTRUSTING ALLAH** and firmness of the heart in times of fear.

الَّذِينَ قَالَ لَهُمُ النَّاسُ إِنَّ النَّاسَ قَدِ جَمَعُوا لَكُمْ فَأَخَشَوْهُمْ  
فَزَادَهُمْ إِيمَانًا وَقَالُوا حَسْبُنَا اللَّهُ وَنِعْمَ الْوَكِيلُ ﴿١٧٣﴾


Those (i.e. believers) unto whom the people (hypocrites) said, "Verily, the people (pagans) have gathered against you (a great army), therefore, fear them." But it (only) increased them in Faith, and they said: "Allah (Alone) is Sufficient for us, and He is the Best Disposer of affairs (for us)."

فَانْقَلَبُوا بِنِعْمَةٍ مِّنَ اللَّهِ وَفَضْلٍ لَّمْ يَمَسَّهْمُ سُوءٌ

So they returned with Grace and Bounty from Allah. No harm touched them.<sup>39</sup>

<sup>39</sup> Surah Aal Imran [3:173-174]


5. **SHYNESS IN FRONT OF ALLAH**, He sees us when we disobey Him.
6. **SINCERITY** in worship of Allah.
7. **PIETY** towards Allah and following His legislation.
8. **ATTAINING PARADISE** and safety from the hellfire.
9. **FORGIVENESS OF SINS**.


 وَإِنِّي لَغَفَّارٌ لِّمَن تَابَ وَءَامَنَ وَعَمِلَ صَالِحًا ثُمَّ اهْتَدَىٰ

And verily, I am indeed Forgiving to him who repents, believes (in My Oneness, and associates none in worship with Me) and does righteous good deeds, and then remains constant in doing them, (till his death).<sup>40</sup>

10. **TRUTHFULLY FOLLOWING** the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم)

قُلْ إِن كُنتُمْ تُحِبُّونَ اللَّهَ فَاتَّبِعُونِي يُحِبُّكُمْ اللَّهُ وَيَغْفِرْ لَكُمْ ذُنُوبَكُمْ وَاللَّهُ غَفُورٌ رَّحِيمٌ


 غَفُورٌ رَّحِيمٌ

Say (O Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم to mankind): "If you (really) love Allah then follow me (i.e. accept Islamic Monotheism, follow the Quran and the Sunnah), Allah will love you and forgive you of your sins. And Allah is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful."<sup>41</sup>

<sup>40</sup> Surah Ta Ha [20:82]

<sup>41</sup> Surah Aal Imran [3:31]

# NOTES



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## SECTION SIX

## SHIRK AND ITS DANGERS

## الشرك وخطره

Q: WHAT ARE THE TYPES OF SHIRK?

THERE ARE TWO TYPES OF SHIRK

1. Major shirk
2. Minor shirk

Q: DEFINE MAJOR SHIRK, ITS RULING, DEPICTIONS OF IT, AND ITS IMPACTS.

FIRST: DEFINITION OF MAJOR SHIRK

- To take a rival with Allah and make him equal in Allah's Lordship, Divinity or Names and Attributes.

SECOND: ITS RULING

- It is the greatest nullifier of one's Islam, the most major of all major sins, and the greatest injustice.



## إِنَّ الشِّرْكَ لَظُلْمٌ عَظِيمٌ

Verily! Joining others in worship with Allah is a great Dhulm (wrong) indeed.<sup>42</sup>

### THIRD: DEPICTIONS OF MAJOR SHIRK

1. To believe a creation knows the unseen (except what Allah has already revealed to His Messengers)
2. To direct any type of worship to other than Allah such as supplication, seeking refuge, seeking help through the dead, offering a sacrifice, or vowing to other than Allah.
3. To believe the rules of mankind are better than the rules of Allah or are equal to each other.
4. To believe Allah is Three in One.
5. To worship the graves by calling on the dead, seeking their help, sacrificing for them, and making vows on their behalf.

### FOURTH: IMPACTS OF MAJOR SHIRK

1. The one who dies on major shirk and did not repent while he was alive is not forgiven.

إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يَغْفِرُ أَنْ يُشْرَكَ بِهِ، وَيَغْفِرُ مَا دُونَ ذَلِكَ لِمَنْ يَشَاءُ

<sup>42</sup> Surah Luqman [31:13]

Verily, Allah forgives not that partners should be set up with him in worship, but He forgives except that (anything else) to whom He pleases, and whoever sets up partners with Allah in worship, he has indeed invented a tremendous sin.<sup>43</sup>

2. Outside the fold of Islam.
3. Deeds are not accepted from the one who is committing shirk with Allah.
4. It is forbidden for a Muslim to marry a Mushrik (one who associates with Allah another partner).
5. The one who dies on shirk would not be washed, shrouded, prayed upon or buried in the graveyards of the Muslims.
6. Eternal hellfire if one dies on major shirk and did not repent during his lifetime. May Allah protect us.

إِنَّهُ مَنْ يُشْرِكْ بِاللَّهِ فَقَدْ حَرَّمَ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ الْجَنَّةَ وَمَأْوَهُ النَّارُ وَمَا لِلظَّالِمِينَ مِنْ  
 أَنْصَارٍ ٧٢

Verily, whosoever sets up partners in worship with Allah, then Allah has forbidden Paradise for him, and the Fire will be his abode. And for the Dhalimun (polytheists and wrong-doers) there are no helpers.<sup>44</sup>

7. All his deeds will be nullified

<sup>43</sup> Surah An Nisa'a [4:48]

<sup>44</sup> Surah Al Maeda [5:72]

## Q: DEFINE MINOR SHIRK AND MENTION SOME OF ITS DEPICTIONS.

### FIRST: DEFINITION OF MINOR SHIRK

- It is what has been mentioned in the Qur'an and Sunnah as being shirk though it has not reached the level of major shirk.

### SECOND: DEPICTIONS OF MINOR SHIRK

1. Riya': to perform a worship but use it as a means to show-off to others or to hope to be praised by others, whether they praise the person or not.
2. To swear by other than Allah.
3. To say "Whatever Allah wills **AND** so and so wills".

## SUPPLICATION FOR PROTECTION FROM HIDDEN SHIRK

يا أبا بكرٍ، لَلشِّرْكَ فيكم أخفى من دَبِيبِ النَّمْلِ والَّذي نفسي بيده ، لَلشِّرْكَ أخفى من دَبِيبِ النَّمْلِ ، ألا أدُّلك على شيءٍ إذا فعلته ذهب عنك قليله و كثيره ؟ قل : **اللهم إني أعوذ بك أن أشرك بك و أنا أعلم ، و أستغفرُك لما لا أعلم**

O Abu Bakr, verily shirk is more hidden than an ant crawling. By the One Whom my soul is in His Hands, verily shirk is more hidden than ant crawling. Shall I not lead you to something, if you do it than it will remove from you the little and much from it (shirk)? Say, **“O ALLAH I SEEK REFUGE WITH YOU THAT I SHOULD ASSOCIATE WITH YOU WHILE I KNOW AND I SEEK YOUR FORGIVENESS FOR WHAT I DO NOT KNOW.”**<sup>45</sup>

تم بحمد الله

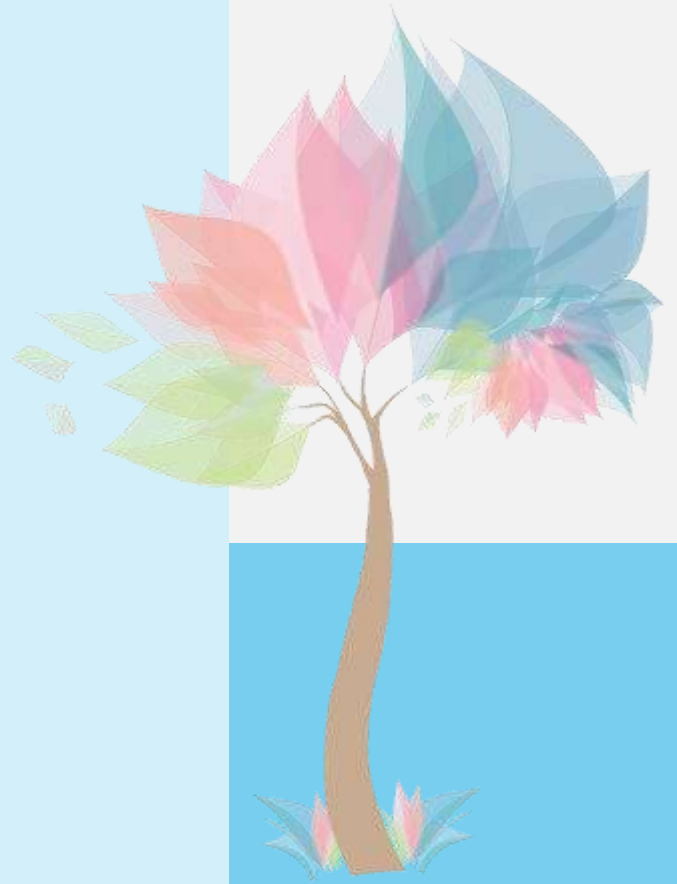
<sup>45</sup> Sahih Al Adab Al Mufrad 551, Authenticated by Al Albani as Sahih

# NOTES



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