



# Eternal Guidance towards Emaan

Part 1

Dr. Thahira Iqbal DHMS/ BAIS/ MAIS

# ETERNAL GUIDANCE TO EMAN: (PART I)

(Compiled by Dr. THAHIRA IQBAL.

DHMS, 'BAIS' and MAIS:

Alima from INTERNATIONAL ONLINE UNIVERSITY: IOU.

**THIRD EDITION**

*Eman as shown by  
Our Prophet (ﷺ)*

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Chennai

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

IN THE NAME OF ALLAH THE MOST BENEFICIENT AND MERCIFUL

رَبَّنَا تَقَبَّلْ مِنَّا إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ

"RABBANA TAQABBAL MINNAA INNAKA ANTHA SAMEEYUL ALEEM"

*Oh, our Lord, except this from us.*

*Indeed, YOU are all Hearer and Knower}*

**"THE TRUE FAITH IS THE BELIEF AND SURRENDER IN THE ONE  
GOD: In Arabic, HE is called.**

**ALLAH"**

AND ALLAH SAYS IN THE QURAN

لَا تَعْبُدُوا إِلَّا اللَّهَ

**WORSHIP NONE BUT ALLAH: Al-Quran: 41:14**

About the author:

The Author, Dr Thahira Iqbal (a retired medical Practitioner), has been a mute witness all her life to the injustice meted out to Muslim women and the wrong concepts some hold in the name of Islam. She realized that the Holy Quran is the perfect Law book, which has answers, including ways for a peaceful life in this world.

She has been doing extensive study and research for the past 40 years about what the Quran and Sunnah of the Prophet really tell us:

Is it just a book with only morals, which lead you to Heaven?

or does it have any relevance to the way of life here in this world?

She found that it has the answer to all the problems in this worldly life, if only one follows it diligently.

The books she has written under the title 'Eternal Guidance' are the result of all that she has found in the Quran and the life of our dear Prophet, which, if followed sincerely, will help man attain the Grace of Allah as well as the peace that he surely lacks, in this world.

She is also a student of INTERNATIONAL ONLINE UNIVERSITY (IOU), graduated with a BA and MA (Islamic studies) at the age of 72, and was able to grasp quite a lot from the course of her studies

## **PART I**

### **ETERNAL GUIDANCE TO EMAAN (FAITH),**

#### TAWHEED (UNITY)

#### HOLD FAST TO THE ROPE OF ALLAH

"Hold fast to what has been inspired to you {the Quran}": -43: 43

And when the Messenger ﷺ came to them ...  
saying worship none but ALLAH." - 41: 14

"O Mankind! Worship your Lord (Allah),  
Who created you and those?  
Who, were before you so that you,  
may become Muttaqu'n (pious).  
Who made the earth a resting place,  
for you and the sky as a canopy,  
and sent down water from the sky  
and brought forth therewith fruits  
as a provision for you.  
Then do not set up rivals unto  
Allah, while you know"-2:21,22

*"Verily those who say: Our Lord is Allah and thereafter stand firm on it  
(Istiqam), on them shall come no fear nor shall they grieve."-*

*46: 13*

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The following counterquestions were asked by those who opposed my writings, and I thank them because I was able to answer them, enabling many doubts to be cleared (by the Grace of Allah Subhanat'alah) of which I would not have been aware otherwise.

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## Introduction

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

BISMILLAH IRRAHMAANIR RAHEEM

I START IN THE NAME OF ALLAH THE MOST BENEFICENT AND MERCIFUL

All the praise and thanks be to Allah, the LORD of the Aalameen, and peace be upon Mohammed ﷺ, the Last of the Prophets, and upon his family, his companions, and whoever follows him with benevolence until the Day of Resurrection.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Assalaamu Alaikum WA Rahmatullaahi wa Barkaatuhu.

Wa Assalaatu Assalaamu Alaa Rasu'lullah,

Many of my friends requested that I explain why innovations (Bid'ah) and seeking intercession from anyone other than Allah are wrong. They asked me if innovations are allowed in Islam. With the HELP OF ALLAH SUBHANWATA'ALA. I have tried to the best of my ability to answer them,

May Allahut'alah make this venture of mine useful for my brothers/sisters in Islam. It has taken 3 years to write and correct this Series of books. But, because of their busy schedules, getting the review of eminent scholars took another 2 years.

After I finished, our Imam Fayez Rahmaan advised me to divide the book into four parts according to the subjects they deal with. Hence, I have at present separated the subjects regarding Eeman, and the deviations caused due to Bid'ah, Intercession, and Sihr. Hope this will be useful for my brothers to read and grasp the meaning easily.

- All the ideas that have been projected are not, of my opinion, alone, but also of the great scholars I have mentioned from time to time. All the quotes and meanings are taken from the various translations of the Quran; namely: 'the Holy Quran of King Fahd International', 'The Noble Quran', 'Ibn Khathir', etc.

- To the best of my ability, I have tried to compile this narration with proof, as much as possible, from the verses of the Quran, and from only a few authentic Hadith to complement it.

- This is because there is room for debate where Hadith is concerned, while none can dispute anything mentioned in the Quran as inauthentic.

To understand what Allah really means when HE orders us to BELIEVE, and where to draw the line between Eman and Innovations, I have had to explain what exactly Eman (Faith) is, and how all the Bid'ah (innovation) and seeking intercession (shafa'at) lead us towards Shirk.

- All one has to do to differentiate between Innovations and Truth is to read the Quran with meaning and strive to live one's life according to it; the Sunnah (way of life) of our Beloved Prophet ﷺ.

- Our aim is not to divide, but to bring the whole Muslim Ummah under one umbrella of:

Believing and surrendering only to ONE Allah, *OUR ONLY LORD AND MASTER*, and,

*STRIVE* to live a righteous life as our dear Prophet ﷺ, *OUR ONLY LEADER AND ROLE MODEL*, has shown us. ***THIS IS ALL THAT ISLAM IS ABOUT.***

I pray to ALLAH that this article of mine will induce the Ummah to turn toward the Quran more and more, and live their lives according to the injunctions given BY ALLAH through our dear Prophet Mohammad ﷺ *instead* of following all other books which can easily mislead man astray. —Ameen.

However, after I finished, Allah guided me to study BAIS and MAIS through the ONLINE INTERNATIONAL COURSE under Dr. Bilal Philip. This has helped me increase my ability to do research for the truth.

Please note that when I write about the Ulema, I am not targeting them as a whole when I mention them. However, with due respect, I oppose only those Muftis and Maulvis who misguide the weak and ignorant from the firm belief in Allah Alone, to purchase a small gain in this world.

By the Grace of Allah, many of them are true pioneers of Faith who lead their followers through the straight Path of Islam with Constancy and Patience.

May Allah give them the strength to continue in their work.

*And those who blame us for causing division among the Muslims should realize that the division has already been caused. We are only trying to reunite the Ummah and calling them toward the Quran and its understanding.*

None can claim that calling towards the Quran is 'causing division'.

Nor do we have any lack of respect for our dear prophet and only leader: Muhammad ﷺ, *whom we love more than our lives.* All that we say is we should hold on to his teachings, respect him, and remember his way of life, every moment of our lives, to ensure that we are living according to his way of life.

But when it comes to asking for anything, we should ask none other than Allah, the Supreme. *That is the true criterion of Islam.*

**If we call on anyone else for help, other than Allah, those who are no more alive, or be dependent unduly on others, or venerate them thinking that they will intercede for us in the worldly affairs, with Allah, we are straying away from what Allahut'alah has commanded, which would lead mankind to chaos and ruin in society.**

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:**

I take this opportunity to thank all those who helped me correct any mistakes I had made. Whatever is correct is from Allah. I seek forgiveness from HIM for my mistakes. I also thank my children for encouraging me and allowing me complete freedom to dwell on this subject without causing any tensions.

I also thank the 'Sheikh Umar Khan of Al Fajr' and 'Imam Fayez Rahmaan of Anjuman (Chennai)', for their help in clarifying my doubts in various matters. They gave their precious time to go through this humble venture of mine with great enthusiasm and gave me great encouragement. (They have highly appreciated this book and wished that our Muslim Brothers and Sisters would get some benefit from it.)

I also wish to thank those who opposed my views for their vehement criticism of my work. When I gave the rough copy of this book for review, they demanded an explanation for many points that they felt were controversial. I thank them profoundly for their criticism, and by the Grace of Allah, I have been able to explain all of them. I have added them as 'Counter Questions'.

#### **REFERENCES:**

- The verses from the Quran have been quoted with— The number of the Surahh: the number of the verse. For e.g.: 'Surah Fatiha: verse 2' will be as 1:2
  - Most of the references are from the Quran. Hence, please note that I have not mentioned it in every in-text reference.
  - In some places, I have not quoted the verses of the Quran but only given the reference.
  - So that the flow of narration will not be interrupted, I have put some of the verses in a box for easy reference in some places.
- Please note that many verses in the Quran have similar warnings and advice. I have mentioned only a few. I advise my brothers and sisters to read the Quran with understanding, and Tafseer to obtain the full impact.
- The reference to Hadith and other sources has been given as footnotes wherever they are mentioned.
  - Also, references from other texts, like the Bible or the Old Testament, have been mentioned.
  - The source of information is given in-text or in footnotes.

## Part I

# EMAN

Eman (Faith) is the foundation of Islam and the base on which rests our hopes for Allah's Grace. Hence, every Muslim must gain thorough knowledge through it and not deviate from it.

*And, the main pillar of EMAAN (Faith) in Islam is;*  
*a. We worship none but Allah, and*  
*b. that we associate no partners with HIM, and*  
*c. that none shall take others as lords besides Allah...."-3: 64*

### 1. WHAT IS (EMAN) FAITH?

*Eman means to believe with the heart,  
 accepted by tongue, and practiced by limbs that:  
 There is NO GOD WORTHY OF WORSHIP, OTHER THAN ALLAH.*

Most of mankind accept that there is a Supreme Creator <sup>(29:61,63)</sup>. However, they worship or pray to others for help along with HIM. It is this aspect that differentiates Islam from other religions. i.e.: The people of various cultures pray to other than Allah, giving HIS attributes to other creations that were created by Allah, or those who are dead, and pray to them, asking them to help, thinking they are seeing and hearing us:

This Attribute of All-Seeing and All-Hearing is an attribute that only Allah possesses.

True Faith (Emaan) is to believe in the unseen,

- Accept that whatever Allah says in the Quran is true,
- Strive to follow the righteous way of life that HIS Messenger ﷺ had lived.
- Do not give HIS attributes to any other, nor give HIM any attributes of HIS Creations. And last but not least:
- *SURRENDER TOTALLY TO ALLAH ALONE, WITH THE FEELING THAT HE IS ALWAYS WATCHING US. (AL BASEER)*

Allah says: "The Messenger has believed in what was revealed to him from his Lord, and [so have] the believers. All of them have believed in Allah, His angels, His books, and His messengers, [saying], "We make no distinction between any of His messengers." And they say, "We hear and we obey. [We seek] Your forgiveness, our Lord, and to You is the [final] destination. "Al-Quran: 2: 285

آمَنَ الرَّسُولُ بِمَا أُنزِلَ إِلَيْهِ مِنْ رَبِّهِ وَالْمُؤْمِنُونَ كُلٌّ آمَنَ بِاللَّهِ وَمَلَائِكَتِهِ وَكُتُبِهِ وَرُسُلِهِ  
لَا نُفَرِّقُ بَيْنَ أَحَدٍ مِّنْ رُّسُلِهِ ۗ وَقَالُوا سَمِعْنَا وَأَطَعْنَا ۗ غُفْرَانَكَ رَبَّنَا وَإِلَيْكَ الْمَصِيرُ

This is the stand of a True Believer. For, to HIM is our return. If we truly have this Faith, we would avoid wrong deeds for fear of displeasing the Almighty to whom we have surrendered ourselves.

We believe that all the Messengers before our Prophet ﷺ brought the same message. That is why we find that all the righteous people from all religions fear the Supreme Creator and avoid evil deeds that will harm themselves and others. The only difference between them and us is that they have taken other gods along with the Supreme Creator, thinking they would help them in their worldly needs. However, they choose good deeds according to what they think is good. Their scriptures being interpolated by corrupt people before them led them to believe that that was the good deeds that they had to follow. This led them astray.

Hence, we must realize that only saying 'we believe' will not take us to Heaven. It is essential to do good deeds pleasing to Allah to attain HIS pleasure. And Allah sent us the guidance to differentiate between good and bad- the Quran, the Furqaan.

Allah says in Surah Ankabut [29:2], and many other verses, that we need not think that we can attain Heaven, just by saying we believe, and being called a Muslim, without being tested!

*HENCE, JUST BY BELIEVING IN ALLAH, WE NEED NOT BE SURE OF GETTING HEAVEN.*

If that had been the case, Iblis the great Deceiver (Satan), would have been the first to enter Heaven!!

Yes! He believed and knew that there was only ONE GOD!

Yet, he became cursed and rejected because *he was haughty and arrogant. Above all, he disobeyed Allah's order when asked to bow to Adam عليه وسلام*. —  
*A seemingly small sin!!!*

Even when he was cursed by Allah and thrown out as the 'Rajeem' (rejected), he did not repent. He **justified himself**, saying, being made of

fire, he was far superior to Adam (al), who was made of clay. He forgot that both were Allah's creations, and his duty was to obey Allah's Order. In his arrogance, he even forgot that fire could be put out by clay or wet mud!!!

He, in *his arrogance, jealousy, disobedience, egoism, and rebellion*, wronged himself and blamed Allah for throwing him out, while he was himself responsible for his degradation. All the above underlined characteristics, *if found in man*, are proof that he is under the influence of Satan.}

He even **challenged** Allah that he would mislead HIS worshippers, away from the true aim for which HE had created them: Shai'tan said, "I will take an appointed portion of your slaves. "And because YOU misled me, I shall adorn the path of error for them on the earth, and I shall mislead them all."—i.e., cheat them into doing evil deeds. - (Al-Quran: 4: 118,119//17: 61)

Allah accepted his challenge and gave him respite to try his best, till the Last Day; "to befool them gradually whom you can with your voice, and attack them with your cavalry--- Al-Quran: 17: 62

HE Declared: "Certainly, you shall have no authority over MY slaves, except those who follow you of the Gha'win (who go astray), and Hell is the promised place for them all." -- Al-Quran: 15:31-43; / 17: 63, 64}

i.e., 'You cannot mislead MY slaves'— *'those who worship ME [Alone] and do not call upon anybody else for help.'*

This proves that Shai'tan has power *over only those who follow their desires*, which *they think* is right. They are the ones who go astray under his influence. Allah tells us to beware of Shai'tan in the Quran, at least 45 times, and tells us to establish Salaat and to ask HIS and ONLY HIS HELP at every turn of life, to be saved from his evil misguidance.

On the other hand, Adam *(عليه وسلام)* was humble and sought repentance, by which he earned the forgiveness of Allah and the hope of return to HIM, if he lived on this earth, according to HIS command.

This makes us realize that man has to be humble, patient, not give way to temptations from Satan, and worship none other than Allah, if he has to regain the Heaven which is promised to him.

**THEREFORE, EMAAN MEANS WORSHIPING NONE BUT ALLAH,  
AND DOING GOOD DEEDS PLEASING TO HIM.**

## 2. IS IT ENOUGH TO SAY 'LA ILAAHA ILLALLAAHU'?

Many say: 'All who say "La Ilaaha Illallaahu, Mohammad-ur-Rasulullah" will **ultimately** reach Heaven.' I.e., if anybody who says; I believe in 'Allah is the Creator of the Universe and Mohammad ﷺ is HIS Messenger, "the Fire will not touch us but for a few numbered days."

These very same words were uttered by the Jews!!!!----- They were appointed the Chosen People of their time, when Moosa (عليه وسلام) was sent to redeem them from Pharaoh and idolatry. -(Al-Quran: 2: 80, 81 /// 3: 24 /// 2: 122)

But they later fell into arrogance and cruel behaviour towards others, and were cursed by Allah for their disobedience. Do they not realize that 'Ultimately' can mean any number of years? The least punishment in Hell will be a pair of slippers he is made to wear causes the brain to boil.

### Let us see what Allah says in the Quran about this.

Allah says in various verses about 'Muslims':

- ✓ "Do men think that they will be left alone, saying, 'We believe', and that they will not be tested? We did test those before them, and Allah will certainly know those who are true, from those who are false." 29:2-3
- ✓ "And among mankind is he who worships Allah as it were upon the edge: if good befalls him, he is content therewith; but if a trial befalls him, he turns back on his face. He loses both this world and the Hereafter. That is the evident loss. *He calls besides Allah, onto those who do not hurt him nor benefit him. (Idols, graves, nature, etc;) That...is straying far away indeed.* He calls unto him whose harm is nearer than his profit; certainly, an evil 'Moula' and certainly an evil friend (induced by Satan)." --22: 11-13
- ✓ "-----You have NONE besides HIM, as *a Wali or an intercessor*. Will you not then remember?" --- 32: 4
- ✓ "Lord of the East and the West, there is no god but HE. Take HIM therefore as your Wakeel {Disposer of affairs –Intercessor}."-- 73: 9
- ✓ "HE is the Everlasting, *La ilaaha illaa Huwa. Therefore, invoke HIM, making your worship EXCLUSIVELY for HIM ALONE. All praises to Allah, the LORD of the Aalameen.*" 40: 65

- ✓ “-Say, (O Mohammad) I am commanded to worship only Allah and not to join partners with HIM. To HIM I call and to HIM I return.” 13: 36
- ✓ “Obey Allah and HIS Messenger. But if they turn away, then Allah does not like the disbelievers” Al-Quran, 3:32.  
I.e., A true believer will never disobey Allah and HIS Prophet ﷺ.
- ✓ For such, “MY punishment is indeed the most painful torment” 15: 50
- ✓ “Therefore, Remember ME (At Every Step of Your Life). I Will Remember You. Be Grateful to ME, And Never Be Ungrateful to ME.”  
- 2: 152 فَادْكُرُونِي أَذْكُرْكُمْ وَاشْكُرُوا لِي وَلَا تَكْفُرُونِ -
- ✓ “O you who have believed, seek help through patience and prayer. Indeed, Allah is with the patient.” 2:153

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اسْتَعِينُوا بِالصَّبْرِ وَالصَّلَاةِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ مَعَ الصَّابِرِينَ

- ✓ “When MY slave asks you concerning ME, I am indeed nearby. I respond to the invocations of the supplicant when he calls on ME. So let them obey ME and believe in ME, so that they may be led right.”- 2:186
- ✓ “O you who believe, enter perfectly *in Islam* (By obeying all the rules and regulations of the Islamic religion) and follow not the footsteps of Shai’tan. Verily, he is to you a plain enemy.” — Al-Quran: 2: 208

i.e., If you want to be a believer, try to be a perfect Muslim, and do not choose what *you* desire (and think is good) and leave what *you* dislike. (One does not become a believer unless he refers to the Messenger ﷺ for judgment and submits to his decision wholeheartedly—Ibn Khathir)

- ✓ “O People of the Scriptures: Come to a word that is just between us and you, that: قُلْ يَا أَهْلَ الْكِتَابِ تَعَالَوْا إِلَى كَلِمَةٍ سَوَاءٍ بَيْنَنَا وَبَيْنَكُمْ

- a.. We worship none but Allah, -- **أَلَّا نَعْبُدَ إِلَّا اللَّهَ**
- b.. that we associate no partners with HIM, **وَلَا نُشْرِكَ بِهِ شَيْئًا**
- c.. that none shall take others as lords besides Allah....”  
- Al-Quran: -3: 64 --وَلَا يَتَّخِذَ بَعْضُنَا بَعْضًا أَرْبَابًا مِّنْ دُونِ اللَّهِ -

So, ‘LA ILAAHA ILLALLAAHU’- **لا إله إلا الله** - really means:

There is none worthy of worship other than Allah.

- ✓ “Say: O Allah, Possessor of the Kingdom, YOU give the kingdom (provision) to whom you will and YOU take the kingdom from whom you will, and

YOU endue with honor whom YOU will and

YOU humiliate whom YOU will.

In YOUR HAND is the good.

Verily, YOU have the ability to do all things." -- Al-Quran: 3: 26

*This is the way Allah has asked us to supplicate to HIM and HIM Alone!!*

If we deviate from this straight path shown by our Prophet ﷺ and the Commands given in the Quran, then we incur a great sin that Allah will never forgive.

This is because the Book sent by Allah through our Prophet is the latest and most authentic. Allah has promised to preserve it till the end of time. *It is the 'Latest Edition' of Allah's commands*, and disobeying them will incur on us a torment that we cannot imagine.

*So, beware of the Wrath of Allah.* For HE has warned: if you do not "Enjoin al Birr (piety and righteousness) and seek help from HIM in patience and Salat,

Then guard yourself against a Day when one soul shall not avail another,

Nor shall intercession be accepted for it (the soul),

Nor shall compensation be taken from him/her,

Nor shall anyone be helped (from outside)." — Al-Quran: 2: 44-48

---i.e., No amount of reading of the Quran or the Tasbeeh by your children, relatives, or friends will help you, **if you do shirk!** Nowhere has HE asked us to venerate or ask any other than HIM for help or intercession.

Islam does not promise a life without tribulations. On the other hand, it shows us how to react when trouble strikes. Allah tells us in many verses that there is none other than Allah who can help man when he faces problems. Seeking help from other idols, or the dead in the grave, is a great sin.

**Beware!!!**

*If we run after anything other than Allah for solace and help, we will be committing the unforgivable sin: SHIRK.*

Many verses in the Quran inform us that there is none worthy of worship other than. Please note that many verses have a repeated warning, where Allah commands the Prophet to say: "I am a clear warner to you"

### 3. WHAT IS SHIRK? HOW DID SHIRK COME ABOUT?

#### SETTING PARTNERS IN WORSHIP WITH ALLAH IS CALLED SHIRK IN ARABIC.

Allah mentions in the Quran: [7: 172-173] -- *that after HE created Adam* عليه وسلام, HE drew out all the offspring who would be created till the Last Day, and got them to testify that there is only ONE GOD, and should not take any partners with HIM in worship. This was so that we would not say, 'we did not know'. Thus, it is in the nature (Fitra of man), which arises as conscience, to make us realize that there is only:

*ONE GOD WHO CREATED US AND PROVIDES FOR US, THE ONLY ONE TO WHOM WE MAY TURN FOR HELP AT ALL TIMES, AND DO GOOD DEEDS PLEASING TO HIM.*

Allah had promised <sup>2:38</sup> to Adam (عليه وسلام) that HE would be sending Prophets in succession to warn them and guide them. "...and whoever follows MY Guidance, there shall be no fear on them nor shall they grieve." We must remember that Allah sent all the Messengers with *the same Message*, and there is no difference in it as far as the basic criterion is concerned. ---Al-Quran: 39: 65

Many other Surahs also mention some of the different Prophets and Messengers HE sent to teach man the correct concept of worshipping the ONE AND ONLY GOD – (IN ARABIC: ALLAH), AND TO DO GOOD DEEDS, i.e., THEY WERE ALL MUSLIMS:

That is why Allah tells us that one of the basic elements of Eman is:

Not to differentiate between any of the Prophets. --- Al-Quran: 2: 286

As long as Adam (عليه وسلام) was alive, he knew, and advised his children to pray only to Allah and NONE ELSE. But as generations passed, they forgot this. Allah says: *"Then we sent Messengers in succession. Every time they came to a nation, they denied him...so away with the people who believe not."* - 23:44

Though all of them knew that it was Allah who created the Universe, *they began to think themselves too sinful to approach HIM directly.*

➤ **Some people deviated from the worship of the ONE GOD because of their fear of Nature and began worshiping the Fire and Rain god. This is**

because they thought that Allah is everywhere and HE must be present in all these things too!

- Some feared that those who were dead had control over the living, and tried to appease them with offerings!!
- Some stuck onto their Prophets and Righteous Leaders in PERSON and forgot their teachings (as we are doing now). They began venerating them and the *later generations, built idols of these 'Holy ones'*, and began worshipping them. <sup>71:23</sup>,
- The saints themselves reiterated that we should seek guidance and help from Allah Alone and none else. However, those who followed them forgot their teachings and venerated the very 'Saints' (like our Auliya), hoping that Allah would accept their pleas, more than that of others. (By doing this, we too are deviating from the right path just as the Jews and Christians had done.)
- We find that when Nooh عليه وسلام (NOAH) was sent to preach the Oneness of Allah (Tawheed), his people said to each other, "Do not leave your gods, do not give up Wadd and Suwwa, nor Yagoth and Nasr." — <sup>71:23</sup>
- These names were of some righteous men of the tribes of Noah, and were initially greatly respected, and later considered as saints (Auliya). When these righteous men died, Satan inspired them to make statues of them and name them after those men. These statues were placed in their favourite meeting places as a reminder of their righteousness and to be respected. ---- A seemingly slight Bid'ah--innovation.

#### NOT ONE OF THOSE GENERATIONS WORSHIPPED THEM.

When that generation died, the purpose of those statues was forgotten and they began to worship them, at the inducement of Satan, while their teachings of Tawheed were ignored.'—<sup>1</sup>

This was repeated with most of the prophets whom Allah sent, who preached the same concept of Tawheed.

- Some declared that they believed in some of the Prophets, while rejecting the others. They wished to adopt a way in between. ---<sup>4: 150</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> {Ibn Khathir: Vol.10. Pg.188 / Sahi Bukhari Hadith, 4920}.

- Some Prophets, they considered, were the children of Allah, come down to earth to redeem the sufferings of man (e.g., the pagans and Christians)

- And some attributed the names of Allah to their idols or saints (Auliya). Allah prohibits attributing HIS names to any other. <sup>(3:64)</sup>

E.g., the pagans attributed HIS name Al-Lat, the female of Allah, Al-Uzza, from Al-Aziz (All Mighty), etc., to their idols. <sup>2</sup>

- Some venerated the very beings who were opposed to the caste system as incarnations [avatar] of God. (E.g., Buddha)

- Some joined the Jinn as Partners, and angels as daughters, and human beings as begotten sons of God <sup>6:100</sup>/ Allah curses them. <sup>9:30</sup>

- Allah declares: "And there are many angels in the heavens, whose intercession will avail nothing except after Allah has given leave for whom HE wills and pleases."- <sup>[53:26]</sup> We cannot decide whom HE will choose, because only Allah knows who they are.

- They refused to accept the teachings and revelations brought by the Prophets, as well as the Auliya and Imams, whom Allah sent after them, to inform that this was all SHIRK. -- Al-Quran: -2: 87

- While Allah declares that (it is): "Those who believe in Allah and HIS Messengers and make no distinction between any of them, WE shall give them their rewards, and Allah is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful." Al-Quran: 4: 152

I.e., one should believe that all the Messengers brought the same Message and there is no distinction in their Message of Tawheed.

"And WE did not send any Messenger before you (O Mohammed) without this inspiration to him that "There is no god worthy of worship but I; therefore, worship and serve ME." : 'La Ilaaha Illaa ANA, Fa'budooni' <sup>21:25</sup>

وَمَا أَرْسَلْنَا مِنْ قَبْلِكَ مِنْ رَّسُولٍ - إِلَّا نُوحِي إِلَيْهِ أَنَّهُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا أَنَا فَاعْبُدُونِ -

"Those who disbelieve, who deny Allah and HIS Messengers and wish to separate (faith) between Allah and HIS Messengers, --saying we believe in some and reject others- "...such are indeed disbelievers and WE have prepared for the disbelievers a humiliating torment." --- Al-Quran: 4: 150- 151

That is why HE orders us to say that "we believe in Allah, and that which has been sent to Ibrahim, Ismail, Ishaque, Yaqoob, and Al-Asbat...

<sup>2</sup> (Al-Quran: 53: 18-23 --Hadith-At-Tabari—13: 282.) / Ibn Kathir, pg 319, Vol. 9

*Moses, Jesus, and that which has been given to all the Prophets. We make no difference between any of them, and to HIM we have submitted (in Islam)."* Al-Quran: 2: 136

*"But when it comes to them from Allah, confirming what they have in their scriptures (to pray and ask help of none but Allah), they insolently defied and said, 'we will believe only what we have been sent and disbelieve what comes after it.'* -- Al-Quran: -2:91

They blindly followed what they saw their fathers doing. They did not know that what had been sent to their Prophets was corrupted and interpolated.

Thus, the people of Noah and most of the other prophets including Moosa (Moses), and Essa (Jesus) were led towards idol-worship, worshiping the idols of their relevant Prophets (Anbiya), who were sent to preach the doctrine of Tawheed, and the Saints (Auliya) who tried to explain this fact to them, as intermediaries.

Most of them stuck to the Messengers, venerating them and praising them to exaggeration, till, after a few generations, they (prophets) began to be termed as incarnations of God, or sons of God by their particular followers!

Thus, "the Jews called Uzair, son of God, and the Christians call Essa (al), (Jesus), son of Maryam (Mary), son of God. It is only what their mouths say, as those before them. Allah curses them." -- 9:30

*"And they say, The Most Beneficent (Allah) has begotten a son.' Glory to HIM! They are but honoured slaves. They speak not until HE has spoken, and they act on HIS Command."* Al-Quran: -21: 26, 27

It is important to note that this innovation occurred many years later, when their true message had been forgotten. This same exaggeration is why today some deviants refer to Imam Ali as GOD!

We fear that we, the followers of our dear Mohammed ﷺ, also will follow suit if we are not warned. *To remind us till the Last Day* is why our *Kalima Shahadah reiterates the fact that "There is none worthy of worship other than Allah and Mohammed ﷺ is the slave and Prophet of Allah. "*

*"Verily, Allah will never forgive setting partners in worship with HIM."* - 4: 116

#### 4. HOW WERE THE ARABS INDUCED TOWARDS IDOLATRY?

The Arabs were the followers of Ibrahim عليه وسلام and hence were initially Monotheistic. So, many traditions of Ibrahim عليه وسلام were followed by the Arabs. On one occasion, a pious chief of Khuzei, Amr bin Luhai, saw idols being worshipped in Syria and brought an idol of 'Hubal', *thinking it was a good innovation*, and placed it in the Kaaba. It is after this that idolatry flourished there, and by the time of our Prophet ﷺ, there were 365 idols in the precincts of the Kaaba!! This deviation caused them to self-devotion, seeking refuge in the idols, devoting food, and crops to them, etc." <sup>3</sup>

As days passed, the people of other scriptures thought they could do any wrong deeds; as their Prophets or saints would save them by interceding. This shamelessness we find all around us. This is what we find happening among some of us Muslims also. We cheat, backbite, slander, desert women, marry at will for lewd attractions and obscenity, etc. Why is all this happening?

- Do we think that we may do anything as long as we keep saying Salaat (mechanically) and roll the beads, our Prophet ﷺ or the saints (Auliya) will save us from Allah's wrath and the Hellfire?

- Do we think we can take Riba (Interest) and do other evil while Allah HIMSELF declares war from HIM and HIS Prophet ﷺ on whoever takes Riba? --- Al-Quran: 2: 279

- Or, do we feel that even Salaat is not essential, for our Auliya and saints will redeem us? We forget the teachings of our Prophet ﷺ that none can help us if we deviate from the right path.

We forget that whatever Allah has informed in the Quran about the Jews and Christians is not just a parable, for us to read and enjoy,

***BUT FOR US MUSLIMS TO BE AWARE OF, AND NOT REPEAT THE SAME MISTAKES THAT THEY DID IN THEIR TIME.***

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<sup>3</sup> (Seerah of the Prophet (ﷺ) 'The sealed Nectar' by Safi-ur-Rahmaan al-Mubarakpuri/ pg. 34 Ch.: religion of Arabs. 1st edition 1995)

## A. COUNTER ARGUMENT:

Q. The order for not doing Shirk is meant for the Disbelievers and not for us Muslims, for Muslims do not worship others with Allah.

Ans: But alas, many among us Muslims already are worshipping those in the graves and asking them for help!!

Just like they say: Jesus will bear our sins, those who mislead others for monetary benefit are telling them that 'we will bear your sins,' but Allah declares: "Verily they shall bear their loads and other loads beside their own and they will be questioned on the day for what they used to fabricate." -- Al-Quran: 29: 12-13

REMEMBER, THE QURAN ITSELF WAS SENT FOR US BELIEVERS AND NOT FOR THE DISBELIEVERS. WE MUST REALIZE THAT THOSE PEOPLE OF THE BOOK BEFORE US DID NOT WORSHIP THEIR HOLY ONES IMMEDIATELY, BUT ONLY AFTER MANY GENERATIONS DID THIS HAPPEN. THE SEED WAS LAID WHEN SOME OF THEM STARTED INNOVATING (Bid'ah) IDEAS, WHICH ARE NOT IN THE RELIGION, AND THE PRIESTS AND RABBIS DID NOT FORBID OR WARN THEM.

DO YOU KNOW THAT DECEMBER 25, AS THE BIRTHDAY OF CHRIST, WAS FIXED ONLY IN 440 A.D., 440 YEARS AFTER CHRIST? THIS WAS, IN FACT, THE DATE OF THE FESTIVAL OF PAGAN ROMANS. WHEN THE ROMANS ACCEPTED CHRISTIANITY, THEY APPOINTED THE DATE OF THEIR FESTIVAL ITSELF AS THE DAY OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST. THUS, CHRISTMAS IS NOT THE DATE OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST. THIS IS AN ACCEPTED HISTORICAL FACT—

THUS, THE COMPLETE CONCEPT OF CHRISTIANITY IS BASED ON THE ROMAN RITUALS AND DATES. THIS IS THE RESULT OF DEVIATING FROM THE RIGHT PATH SHOWN BY ALLAH. ALLAH HAS ORDERED MAN TO SURRENDER TO NONE OTHER BUT HIM, THROUGH ALL THE PROPHETS FROM THE BEGINNING, INCLUDING NOAH, IBRAHIM, MOOSA, ESSA [JESUS], ETC. (MAY PEACE BE ON ALL OF THEM).

EACH TIME THE PEOPLE FORGOT THE TRUE CONCEPT, A NEW PROPHET WAS SENT WITH REVELATIONS TO REMIND THEM. --- AL-QURAN: -2: 136-137

SIMILARLY, THE BIRTHDAY OF OUR PROPHET ﷺ WAS FIXED ONLY AFTER HUNDREDS OF YEARS OF HIS DEMISE. SOURCE: SPEECH BY SHEIKH SHUAIB SAYYED, AN AUTHORITY ON ISLAMIC HISTORY.

## 5. WHAT IS TAWHEED?

Many Muslims, the moment they hear the word ‘Tawheed’, shun it as something outside the criteria of Islam!!

They declare that the word Tawheed is not mentioned in the Quran. So, it is not in Islam, and therefore need not be adopted!!

They say this because they do not know what Tawheed really means.

Tawheed is nothing but the *ikhlas* (the realization) of the attributes of Allah, and to have Taqwah and Tawakkul on the

**ONE and ONLY Creator-Allah,**

**And not give HIS ATTRIBUTES to any other,**

**And, to be constant and firm in this Faith—Have Sabar.**

**The holy codes of Islam clearly indicate this.**

### Surahh Ikhlas (or Tawheed)

Tawheed was derived from the Arabic word ‘Wahada’, meaning to unite, unify, or consolidate.

It was first said by Mohammad ﷺ when he sent his emissary Muad ibn Jabal to Yemen as governor, saying: 'You will be going to Christians and Jews, so first thing is, you should unite them to the assertion of YUWAHHIDULLAH: ONENESS of Allah.' --Source: Bilal Philip

The Attributes of Allah are well defined in the Surah Al-Ikhlās (No. 112). This Surah tells us what and how to recognize Allah’s Attributes, which we cannot think any of HIS creations have. He is the CREATOR and SUSTAINER of the Universe, most concisely.

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ  
 قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ - اللَّهُ الصَّمَدُ - لَمْ يَلِدْ وَلَمْ يُولَدْ - وَلَمْ يَكُنْ لَهُ كُفُوًا أَحَدٌ

SAY: HE IS ALLAH, ONE AND ONLY, THE SELF SUFFICIENT (WHO FEEDS BUT IS NOT FED). HE IS NOT BEGOTTEN NOR HAS HE CHILDREN, AND

**THERE IS NONE COMPARABLE TO HIM**

This one Surah is sufficient to explain the attributes of Allah. The offerings and rituals done to please HIM are not what HE wants, but Ikhlas about how we should recognize and bow only to HIM and not consider or give HIS attributes to any other creation of HIS.

We should not consider anything living or dead as having any of HIS attributes. If we do so, we are committing the worst Shirk ever, a great sin HE will never forgive. This is because we cannot say we do not know. Allah has informed everything about HIM in the Quran and showed how to worship HIM Alone sincerely, through HIS final Messenger Mohammad ﷺ.

## 6. Holy codes of Faith: (the basis of Faith):

### 1st pillar

The following are the seven codes of Faith that have been enjoined for every Muslim. No one can be called a true believer if he does not accept these codes. Hence, it is taught from childhood, in all Madaaris (religious schools), and every child is supposed to memorize it.

It is known by the following names: the 5 Kalimah, Eman-Mufassil, and Eman-e-Muzammil. These Kalimah (words) have been compiled (from the Quran and Sunnah) by the scholars of India to be imbibed into the mind from childhood, to remember the importance of Tawheed.

In India, this has been diligently followed, and every child knows, or ought to know, it by heart. Alas! Unfortunately, they do not know the meaning. Today, however, some who teach Islam neglect these Kalima. They do not consider it very important. This leads to all the deviations in society.

These Kalimah (words) themselves prove the fact that Tawheed is not something invented recently, but is the very base of Islamic Jurisdiction:

كلمه طيب:

لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ مُحَمَّدٌ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ

--Kalima Taiyyab : La Ilaaha Illallaahu Muhammadur-Rasoolullah-

There is no deity (worthy of worship) except Allah, and Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah.

كلمه شهادت:----- The 2nd Kalimah Shahadat.

أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ - وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ - وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ -

Ash-hadu an la ilaaha Illallaahu Wahdahu la Sharika lahu WA Ashhadu anna Muhammadan Abdahu WA Rasooluhu.

I bear witness that there is no deity (worthy of worship) except Allah, *and HE is THE ONE AND ONLY, NONE ARE EQUAL TO HIM, and MUHAMMAD ﷺ IS HIS SERVANT AND HIS MESSENGER.*

كلمه تمجيد----- The 3rd Kalimah Tamjeed

سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ وَالْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ وَلَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ؛ وَاللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ؛ وَلَا حَوْلَ وَلَا قُوَّةَ إِلَّا بِاللَّهِ الْعَلِيِّ الْعَظِيمِ؛

Kalimah-u-Tamjeed: -Subahanallaahi Walhamdulillaahi, Wa La Ilaaha-Illallaahu Wallahu-Akbar-Wa Laa Hawla ,Wa Laa Quwwatta, Illaa Billaahil-Aliyyil-Azim.

'Glory be to Allah and Praise be to Allah and there is no deity except Allah, and Allah is the Greatest, and there is no Power and Might, except that which comes from Allah, the HIGHEST, the MAGNIFICENT.'

كلمه توحيد:----- The 4th Kalimah Tawheed

لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ، وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، لَهُ الْمُلْكُ وَلَهُ الْحَمْدُ يُوحِي وَيُؤْتِي -  
بِيَدِهِ الْخَيْرُ، وَهُوَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ؛

Kalimah-tut-Tawheed--- La Ilaaha Illallaahu Wahdahu La Shareeka Lahu, Lahu al-Mulku, Wa lahu al-Hamdu; Yoochi Wa Yumeetu; Be Yedihil-khairu, Wa Huwa A'la Kulli Shayyin Qadeer

There is no deity except Allah. HE is alone and has no partners. Unto HIM belongs the Kingdom, and unto HIM is due all Praise. HE grants life and causes death. In HIS hand lies the good. And HE has power over all things.

كلمة ردِّ كُفْرٍ:-----The 5th Kalimah Radda-Kufr- wa-Shirk

اللهم إني أَعُوذُ بِكَ، مِنْ أَنْ أُشْرِكَ، بِكَ شَيْءٍ- وَأَنَا أَعْلَمُ بِهِ وَأَسْتَغْفِرُكَ لِمَا لَا أَعْلَمُ بِهِ تَبْتُ، عَنْهُ وَتَبَّرَاتُ مِنَ الْكُفْرِ وَالشِّرِّ وَالْمَعَاصِي كُلِّهَا أَسَلَمْتُ وَأَمَنْتُ وَأَقُولُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ - مُحَمَّدٌ الرَّسُولُ اللَّهُ؛

Allaahumma, Inni A'uzubika Min an Ushrika, Bika Shaianw wa ana 'A'lamu Bihi, Wa Astagfiruka Lima La A'lamu Bihi; Tubtu 'Anhu 'Anhu Tabarraatu Minal-Kufri Wa Shirki Wal-Ma'asi Kulliha Aslamtu, Wa Aamantu Wa Aqoolu: Laa Ilaaha Illallaahu Mohammad Ur Rasu'lullah.

*O Allah, I verily seek your protection lest I join anything as partners with YOU, while I know of it; and seek your forgiveness from what I know not. I turn away from it and I am innocent of disbelief and joining partners with YOU, and all wrongdoings. I surrender to your will, and I have brought faith; and I also declare that there is no deity worthy of worship, except Allah. And Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah.*

### PILLARS OF EMAAN:

ایمان مُجَمَّل ---Eman Muzammil

أَمَنْتُ بِاللَّهِ كَمَا هُوَ بِأَسْمَائِهِ وَصِفَاتِهِ وَقَبِلْتُ جَمِيعَ أَحْكَامِهِ؛

I have brought Faith in Allah, as HE is with HIS names and HIS Qualities, and I have accepted all HIS commandments.

ایمان مُفَصَّل --- Eman Mufassil

أَمَنْتُ بِاللَّهِ، وَمَلَائِكَتِهِ، وَكُتُبِهِ وَرُسُلِهِ، وَالْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ،  
وَالْقَدْرِ خَيْرِهِ وَشَرِّهِ- مِنَ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى وَالْبَعْثِ بَعْدَ الْمَوْتِ؛

I have brought Faith in Allah, HIS Angels, HIS Books, and HIS Messengers and the Last Day, and in the Measure, the good of it and the evil of it is from Allah, and I believe in the raising after Death.

None will deny that these words are not articles of Faith and Taqwah and Tawakkul to the ONE and ONLY, are emphasized in them!

"Thus, Tawheed is to UNIFY Allah; in HIS Lordship, in HIS Worship, and HIS Names and Attributes. Not worship any other than HIM, nor call on any other than HIM for help."

When Islam spread throughout the world and began to imbibe the cultures of different people like Persia, India, Africa, where there was the danger of losing the true concept of Islamic Monotheism, it became necessary to join these Sifat under one word: Tawheed, so that, man may easily grasp the true concept of Islam.

***“Indeed, WE enjoined the people of the Book Clear,  
And enjoined to you: Allah’s Displeasure to fear.  
If you disbelieve (disobey), then to Allah belongs  
The heavens and the earth indeed.  
Of your Praises, HE is not in need.  
HE is RICH, and WORTHY OF PRAISE.” --- Al-Quran 4: 131  
It is you who need HIS Grace!!!***

## 7. TAQWAH

TAQWA MEANS FEAR OF DISPLEASEING ALLAH.

Allah tells us in the Quran:

“And among mankind, there are some who take others besides Allah as rivals. They love them as they (should) love Allah” -...and those who believe, love Allah more (than anything else) - Al-Quran 2: 165

When we love someone, we will do all we can to please him.

We will try our best not to displease him for fear that he may dislike us.

We feel satisfaction and peace when obeying all his commands.

This behavior, to be implemented in the highest degree, towards our ONE and ONLY Creator, Sustainer and Lord of the Last day, is what we call Taqwa---Piety.

Is there any greater loss than to lose the pleasure of our Creator and Sustainer?

The real Taqwa’ is a policeman inside us – Conscience {Al-Quran, 7:172-3}, which helps us to keep away from all evil deeds, with the fear of displeasing Allah. If every person has this Taqwa (piety) uncorrupted, there will be no corruption or terrorism in this world. He will think twice before opening his mouth to slander, backbite, tell lies, get angry, or boast and exult over his achievements. The only criterion for Allah to distinguish between two

human beings in status is the one with Taqwa. And the Quran itself is sent as guidance for only those who have Taqwa' -2: 2

Allah says: "That is the book, no doubt in it; a guidance for the Muttaqeen."

ذَٰلِكَ الْكِتَابُ لَا رَيْبَ ۚ فِيهِ هُدًى لِّلْمُتَّقِينَ -2:2

- "O mankind! worship your lord (Allah alone), who created you and those who were before you so that you may become Muthaqui'n (the pious)." - 2:21

- "O you who believe, have Taqwa of Allah as is his due and die not except as Muslims (one who surrenders)." — 3: 102

- "And take with you, provisions (for hajj), but the *best of provisions is 'Taqwah'.*"

- "And whoever holds firmly to Allah, then he is indeed guided to the right path." — 3: 101

- "Allah has promised those among you who believe and do righteous deeds, safety, security, and succession --- (if) they worship ME (alone) and, not associate anything with ME. - 24:55

- "Those who convey the message of Allah and fear HIM, and fear none save Allah. And sufficient is Allah as a Reckoner (of your deeds)" 33:39

- "And fear them not, *but fear ME.*" — 5:3

- "Call upon ME and I will respond to you." -40: 60

- "So, call upon your lord *exclusively* (purely for HIM)." 40: 65

- Worship none but Allah. Verily, I am unto you from HIM, a Warner, and a bringer of glad tidings. 11: 2

- "And whoever submits his face to Allah (Muslim), and he is a *good doer (Muhsin)*, then he has grasped the most trustworthy hand hold" — (31: 22).

And, "Those who convey the MESSAGE of Allah and fear HIM, and fear none save Allah. And Sufficient is Allah as a Reckoner." -- 33:39

We note that:

Allah will **not** forgive those who associate partners with HIM" - 4: 48

Allah will **not** forgive joining gods in worship with Him - 4: 116

- And, I repeat: the main pillar of EMAAN (Faith) in Islam is;

a. We worship none but Allah, and

b. that we associate no partners with HIM, and

c. that none shall take others as lords besides Allah...." Al-Quran -3: 64

This is what we call Tawheed.

- And our dear Prophet ﷺ has warned, 'O believers, SAVE yourselves from the Fire, for I have no power to cause you any benefit from Allah.' – [Hadith; Sahi Muslim; 1: 192]

Hence, it is our paramount duty that we must strive and struggle (do Jihad), to live a righteous life, every step of it--- The path, our dear and only leader, Prophet Mohammad ﷺ has shown us. -- Al-Quran: 29: 58,59

And refrain from doing anything wrong; **OUT OF FEAR OF DISPLEASING ALLAH**. This belief of Ikhlas should get embedded into every True Muslim if he wishes to receive the Grace of Allah. **THIS IS THE TAQWAH** which we Muslims must adopt, if we are those who obey Allah and HIS Messenger.

Many such verses in the Quran reiterate the same words to make it clear to the people that the Prophet ﷺ is a model and leader of the masses, and has been sent to warn them that setting partners with Allah is a great sin.

“So, flee to Allah. Indeed, I am a clear warner to you from Him.” 51: 50-51

فَقَرُّوا إِلَى اللَّهِ إِنِّي لَكُمْ مِّنْهُ نَذِيرٌ مُّبِينٌ

“And do not make [as equal] with Allah another deity. Indeed, I am a clear warner to you from Him.” 51: 51

وَلَا تَجْعَلُوا مَعَ اللَّهِ إِلَهًا آخَرَ إِنِّي لَكُمْ مِّنْهُ نَذِيرٌ مُّبِينٌ

AS TIME GETS TOUGHER, MY BELIEF IN ALLAH GROWS,  
INDEED, PATIENCE IS MY SHIELD, AND DUA IS MY SWORD!  
GIVE YOURSELF A CHANCE BY STUDYING THE GLORIOUS QUR'AN AND THE SUNNAH  
FOR YOU HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE, YET EVERYTHING TO GAIN, INCLUDING JANNAH

## 8. WHAT IS TAWAKKUL?

Allah has ordered us to put our full trust in HIM, that;

Whatever happens is by the will of Allah.

قُلْ إِنَّ صَلَاتِي وَنُسُكِي وَمَحْيَايَ وَمَمَاتِي لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ

“KHUL; INNA SALAATHI WA NUSUSKI, WA MAHYAEE, WA MAMAATI LILLAHI RABBIL AALAMEEN”

“SAY: INDEED, MY SALAAT AND SERVICE, MY SACRIFICE, AND MY LIFE AND MY DEATH ARE FOR ALLAH; THE LORD OF THE UNIVERSE. THERE IS NONE EQUAL TO HIM, AND I AM COMMANDED TO BE THE FIRST TO SUBMIT.” ---(Al-Quran: 6: 162- 163)

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فَلْيَتَوَكَّلِ الْمُتَوَكِّلُونَ - “ONE WHO SURRENDERS PUTS HIS TRUST IN ALLAH ALONE.” Al-Quran: 14: 12

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✓ *وَتَوَكَّلْ عَلَى الْحَيِّ الَّذِي لَا يَمُوتُ وَسَبِّحْ بِحَمْدِهِ وَكَفَى بِهِ بُدُوبِ عِبَادِهِ خَيْرٌ*

*“AND PUT YOUR TRUST IN THE EVER-LIVING WHO WILL NOT DIE, AND GLORIFY HIS PRAISES, AND SUFFICIENT IS HE AS THE ALL-KNOWER OF THE SINS OF HIS SLAVES”- (Al-Quran: 25: 58)*

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*”وَعَلَى اللَّهِ فَلْيَتَوَكَّلِ الْمُؤْمِنُونَ وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ*

*“WATAQULLAHA, WA ALALLAAHI FAL YATAWAKKULUL MU’MINOON*

*”SO, FEAR ALLAH AND LET THE BELIEVER PUT HIS TRUST IN ALLAH ALONE”*

**MANY MORE VERSES OF THE QURAN REMIND US:**

- ✓ *“NEVER GIVE UP HOPE OF THE MERCY OF ALLAH.”- 39:53*
- ✓ *“AND SUFFICIENT IS ALLAH AS A RECKONER” — 33:39*
- ✓ *AND PUT YOUR TRUST IN ALLAH AND SUFFICIENT IS ALLAH AS A WAKEEL”- 33:3*
- ✓ *“NO CALAMITY BEFALLS, BUT WITH THE PERMISSION OF ALLAH, AND WHOEVER BELIEVES IN ALLAH, HE GUIDES HIS HEART AND ALLAH IS ALL-KNOWER OF EVERYTHING.” — 64: 11*
- ✓ *“CERTAINLY NO ONE DESPAIRS OF ALLAH’S MERCY, EXCEPT THE PEOPLE WHO DISBELIEVE” ---12: 87*
- ✓ *“----IN ALLAH (ALONE) WE PUT OUR TRUST. ---- 7:89*

When the Hypocrites said, “The pagans have gathered in great numbers; therefore, fear them, our Prophet (ﷺ) and his followers answered:

**“HASBYALLAHU, WA NI’AMAL WAKEEL”**

Meaning: Sufficient is Allah as Helper for me, and HE IS THE BEST DISPENSER OF OUR AFFAIRS- (AL-QURAN, 3: 173 ---SAHI BUKHARI HADITH, VOL. 6, H. No. 86, 87)

This is the stand that Allah has ordered, and Mohammed (ﷺ) has directed. We should completely surrender to Allah in all our matters.

**THIS IS TAWAKKUL.**

This is the essence of Monotheism- worshipping the ONE and ONLY Originator, Creator, and Sustainer: ALLAH (in Arabic).

*IT IS THIS TAQWAH AND TAWAKKUL, ALLAH ENJOINS ON MAN, AND THIS IS WHAT APART FROM THE OTHER RELIGIONS MAKES US STAND. THIS MAKES US UNITED IN WORSHIPPING THE ONE AND ONLY ALLAH AND NOT ASSOCIATE ANY OTHER WITH HIM; WALLAH*

## 9. SABAR:

Allah tells us to “seek help in Patience (Sabar) and Salaat, and it is extremely heavy and hard except for the humble-minded, and Allah is with the patient.” -- Al-Quran: -2: 45 / 2: 153

The word ‘SABAR’ is mentioned in many places in the Quran.

Now, what is this, Sabar?

Is it only to bear sufferings and pain when one is inflicted?

No!

*SABAR MEANS, CONSTANCY DURING ADVERSITY AS WELL AS PROSPERITY.*

Allah says:

“Say, tell me, if the punishment of Allah comes to you suddenly or openly, will any be destroyed except the Zalimun? ...Therefore, whoever believes and does righteous deeds, upon such shall come no fear, nor shall they grieve.” -- Al-Quran: 6: 47, 48

### **WHAT DOES THIS VERSE MEAN?**

How can Allah say that only the wrongdoers will be destroyed?

Do we not see the destruction all around us?

Do we not find that all are equally affected?

Do we not find that many Muslims, too, are being killed or hurt?

Then, how can Allah say that we shall have no fear nor need we grieve?

- If we ponder, we will understand that a true believer is not affected inadvertently by the harm and destruction around him. Whether in adversity or prosperity, his behavior is the same.

- The calm tranquility and total Tawakkul are evident in his behavior and his face. He will never be unduly worried over problems which others find unbearable or unable to face.

- He knows that whatever happens is from Allah and that, if he completely surrenders to HIM, HE will surely show him a way out of his trouble.

- He knows what seems to be bad now may be good for him in the long run.

- On the other hand, a person who does not have this complete Faith is worried and depressed. He either begins to rant and scream or goes to the other extreme and commits suicide, unable to cope with the problems.

-Most often, he runs to other 'Auliya' (protectors) for solace, forgetting that Allah is our ONLY WALI! (Remember the 'Auliya' themselves had asked us to call upon ONLY ALLAH)

The full meaning of 'Sabar' is patience, perseverance, constancy, self-restraint, refusing to be cowed down - Tafseer No 502--- Holy Quran.

E.g.:

Once, Sheikh Abdul Khaddar Jeelani was giving a discourse (lecture) to his followers when a man came and informed him that all his ships were lost at sea.

He was quiet for a moment and then said,

**'Shukur Alhamdulillah.'** (Thanks, and all praises to Allah)

Then again, the same person returned to inform him that nothing was lost and all his wealth from the ships had returned. Again, he was quiet for a moment and said,

**'Shukur Alhamdulillah.'**

His companions asked, 'How could you thank Allah both the times?'

He answered,

'The first time I asked myself if I had any complaint with Allah for the loss, and I found that I did not have any regret for the loss. So, I thanked Allah for it.

The second time, I again checked if I had exulted myself for the bounty HE had bestowed on me. I found that I had not. So, I again thanked HIM.'

This is the correct method: be constantly patient in happiness and adversity.

This is the true SABAR that Allah and HIS Messenger have ordained.

**This is SABAR.** This is the indication of a true MUSLIM.

That is why Allah says <sup>(in 2: 155-157)</sup>: "And certainly WE shall test you with something of fear, hunger, and loss of wealth, lives, and fruits (of toil), but give glad tidings to the As-Saabireen. (That) Who, when afflicted with calamity, say: Truly! To Allah we belong and to HIM we shall return."— This firm conviction is called Sabar.

They are those who receive Allah's Blessings and Mercy. Such people will not run to anything other than Allah for Solace, nor will they worry unduly.

"The Arabic word Sabar implies many shades of meaning which it is impossible to comprehend in one English word. It implies;

- a. Patience in the sense of not being hasty but thorough,
- b. Patient perseverance, constancy, steadfastness, firmness of purpose,
- c. Systemic as opposed to spasmodic or chance action,

- d. A cheerful attitude of resignation and understanding in sorrow, defeat, or suffering, as opposed to murmuring or rebellion, but saved from mere passivity or listlessness, by the element of constancy or steadfastness."—

Tafseer No. 61 Holy Quran

*THIS IKHLAS- (BELIEF IN TAWHEED), AQLAKH- (GOOD CHARACTER), AND SABAR- (CONSTANCY) ARE THE CRITERIA OF ISLAM*

Our Prophet ﷺ strove to bring this *Taqwah and Tawakkul (Tawheed)* into the minds of his followers all his life. How painful it would be to him on the Last Day, when he sees that SOME OF his followers have deviated from what he taught them? Nowhere in the Quran has Allah asked us to call upon our Prophet ﷺ or ask for help from him ﷺ.

THIS TAQWAH AND TAWAKKUL HELP A BELIEVER TO MAINTAIN:

A. *TAWHEED AR-RUBUBIYYAH* -AFFIRMING THAT ALLAH IS ONE AND ONLY, WITHOUT PARTNERS IN HIS SOVEREIGNTY.

B. *TAWHEED AL-ULUHIYYAH*, -- NONE SHOULD BE WORSHIPPED BUT HIM, AND HE IS ALONE IN HIS RIGHT TO BE WORSHIPPED.

C. *ASMA E SIFAT*- AFFIRMING THAT HIS NAMES ARE INCOMPARABLE AND UNIQUE (IBN KHATHIR)  
*WE CANNOT CALL ANY OTHER AS ALL-KNOWING OR ALL-HEARING*

*ALLAH ALONE IS THE ALL-HEARING AND ALL-KNOWING*

AND WE CANNOT CALL ANYBODY EVERLASTING BECAUSE *ONLY ALLAH IS EVERLASTING.*

*IT ALL COMES DOWN TO THE FACT THAT WE CANNOT TALK TO, OR SEEK HELP FROM THOSE WHO ARE IN THE GRAVES, THINKING THEY ARE ALIVE AND CAN HEAR US. ---{Abu Dawood; Vol: 2/ H. No. 2037}*

### 10. EXAMPLES FOR TAWAKKUL:

- When the Pagan king persecuted the young men, just because they believed in one GOD (Tawheed), they hid in the cave and laid their trust in Allah. HE put them to sleep, and those who pursued them could not find them, although they were close to them. — Al-Quran: --18: 18

- Ibrahim (al) trusted fully that Allah would help him when he was being thrown into the fire, and Allah ordered:

“WE said, O fire, become safety and coolness upon Ibrahim.”- Al-Quran: 21: 69

قُلْنَا يَا نَارُ كُونِي بَرْدًا وَسَلَامًا عَلَىٰ إِبْرَاهِيمَ

HE changed the fire into coolness and comfort for him.

- Beebe Hagar (Hajara) agreed wholeheartedly to be left alone in the deserts of Mecca near the mounts Safa and Marwah when she realized that her husband was doing it with Allah’s order. --Hadith

- The Mother of Moosa (al) threw him into the river, putting her full trust in Allah when HE inspired her to do so. [“So did WE restore him to his mother that she might be delighted and not grieve, and she might know that the promise of Allah is true. But most of them know not.”]- Al-Quran: 28: 7-13

- When Moosa (al) rescued the Bani Israel and reached the shore of the sea with the enemy pursuing them, he kept his cool and put his trust only in Allah, saying, ‘Allah will not forsake me.’— (2:50) and the ocean split, making a pathway for them, and drowning those who came behind them!!

- When our Prophet ﷺ fled from Mecca to Medina, he hid in the cave (Torah) on the way, for 3 days, and the enemy could not find him even after they reached close to it. When Abu Bakr (ral) feared that they would be seen, he ﷺ said, ‘Do not fear, O my companion, we are not alone. Allah is with us.’--(9:40) Such was his Tawakkul – total surrender upon Allah.

- Last but not least, we all know that the city of Mecca was the epicenter of Business and trade for people from all around. All types of people converged in Mecca, bringing in wealth, and the city of Mecca depended on that revenue for its very existence. Despite this, when the order came from Allah:

“O, those who believe! The Mushriks are najas only, and so do not let them near the Haram (Mecca) after this year. And if you fear poverty, soon Allah will make you rich from HIS Bounty if HE wishes. Allah is All-Knowing and All-Wise” ---(Al-Quran: 9:28),

They immediately obeyed, putting their full trust in Allah. They forbade non-Muslims from entering the holy cities of Mecca and Medina. None hesitated to think that if they forbade the non-Muslims from entering Mecca, what would be their income? The ban on the disbelievers was immediately implemented. The revenue brought by the Hajjis sustained them for a while. And, so that the loss of business would not cause them poverty, Allah caused oil and gold to be discovered in the Middle East.

Today, despite a lack of hard work and academic education, they are able to live comfortably while the world around them is struggling with economic crisis and loss of revenues!!

### **Ah! Do we have such Tawakkul?**

Do we stop or give up our job if we find it against Islamic Injunctions?

Do we give up our wrong deeds and innovations? No!

What will happen?

How will we subsist if we give up Riba?

How will we live if we give up the Job at the Bank that deals in interest?

Can a business prosper without taking an interest?

What will happen if we give up our rituals to our Auliya and Peers (dead or alive)?

These are the thoughts that fleet through our minds when we even try to turn towards the path of Allah---Shai'tan makes us forget.

We forget that it is Allah who will provide us and none other.

We forget that it is Allah who has given us whatever we have--<sup>28: 57</sup>

"And it is not your wealth, nor your children that bring you nearer to US, but only he (pleases US) who believes, and does righteous deeds; for such (people), there will be a double reward for what they did, and they will reside in the high dwellings (of Paradise), in peace and security." <sup>(34:37)</sup>

"And certainly, WE shall test you with something of fear, hunger, loss of wealth, lives, and fruits (of labor), but give glad tidings to the As-Saabireen, who when afflicted with calamity say: 'Truly to Allah we belong and to HIM is our return'--- <sup>2: 155,156</sup>

The Prophet ﷺ said: *"When Allah loves someone, then He tests him: as for whoever is content, Allah will be pleased with him; and as for whoever is discontented, Allah will be displeased with him."* [As-Suyooti; al-Jami as-Sagheer]

"O mankind, you are those in need of Allah, while Allah is the Free of need, the Praiseworthy. <sup>35:15</sup>

### 11. EXAMPLE [FROM TODAY'S LIFE]:

You may say: Wow! Is it practically possible?

Can we live, just by putting our trust wholly in Allah at this age when so many tensions and problems seem to grip us?

**Yes!** If we put our trust wholly in Allah after trying our best, then we can rest assured that HE will help us and do only what is good for us.

Many have done so and are living with peace of mind.

Many a time we find that something has gone out of our hands and think, all is over. But, wonder of wonders! The problem vanishes away without even our realizing it, and, LO, we are saved.

Herewith I give an example of Tawakkul of those who were tested by Allah and have come unscathed from the adversity by their Taqwa and Tawakkul:

#### EXAMPLES:

1. I cannot help but remember an incident that happened about 50 years ago. I had a servant called Halima. She was a simple lady without the frills of high knowledge attached. She narrated to me how she had had 6 pregnancies, all ending in stillborn babies! When she got pregnant for the 7<sup>th</sup> time, all her neighbors advised her to approach some grave of a holy person— [Dargah or shrine] or go to some Maulvis to get a talisman (Taghut), so that this child at least may be born alive and well.

She refused in her simple way and said: 'If Allah wishes, let HIM give me a live child. Otherwise, I will accept the fact that Allah does not want me to have a baby!'

*Such was the 'Tawakkul and Taqwah and Sabar' that she had! And, wonder of wonders, the child was born alive and well. She is now staying with him, and he provides for her welfare.*

*The point to be noted is: If she had gone to the Dargah or Mazaar (shrine) also, she would have had the child, but she would have failed the test which Allah had placed for her, and would have lost her Eman (Taqwah). She would have thought she got the child only because she had approached the Mazaar!*

Everything happens only if and when Allah wishes, and when circumstances lead us to seek help from anything other than Allah, we tend to think that the reason for what we attained is that other source and not Allah's Grace Alone. - Al-Quran: --7: 190 / 9: 51

It is here that we have to be careful. We find people going to peers and the graves of holy people (Auliya) for a child, and even promise to grant some gift if they get it. Once they get the child, they fulfill the promise (Niyaz). *They think that it is because they prayed to Auliya to help them, they got what they wanted. On the other hand, when Allah orders, to ask only from HIM, they are not so sure; they are in doubt!!*

- ✓ Allah has said: "And who holds fast to the Book (Quran)— {i.e., live up to it,} and establishes Salaat (Namaz), WE shall never let go waste, the reward of those who do righteous deeds." *7: 170*
- ✓ "Say (O Muhammad): It is revealed to me that your Ilaah is only ONE ILAAH. Will you not then submit to HIS Will?" *21: 108*
- ✓ "So, flee to Allah. Verily I am a plain warner to you from HIM"-- *51: 50*

2. I must give yet another example here of my personal experience:

One of my nephews had a problem with his eye at the age of twelve. I took him to Dr. Agarwal, an eye hospital in Chennai. They told us *that the nerves of his eyes were getting weaker and he would lose his sight within ONE year*. One eye was already lost, and the other eye was losing its sight gradually. The power of that eye was '24 plus'!

His father was a staunch believer in Tawheed. He never gave up hope. Being regular in Salaat, he began pleading to Allah for his son, who, when he grew up, also followed suit and was staunch in Salaat. Many told them to go to some Dargah (Graves of holy men), or tie a thread (Tagoot), but they refused.

Wonder of wonders, today the boy is 50 years old, married, and has 2 children. His eyesight (one eye) is intact, and he has retained his sight, with the same power lens the doctors had given him when he was 12. And he is working and looking after his family of wife and two children. Both are now married.

The doctors at Agarwal, the ones who treated him, are full of wonder at how this miracle happened. This proves that "those who believe in Allah and hold fast to HIM; HE will admit them to HIS Mercy and Grace and guide them to HIMSELF by a straight path." --- [Al-Quran: 4: 175]

"CERTAINLY NO ONE DESPAIRS OF ALLAH'S MERCY,  
EXCEPT THE PEOPLE WHO DISBELIEVE." — Al-Quran: 12: 87

## 12. IMPORTANCE OF SALAAT

Many Muslims think that Salaat is 'only a Sunnah' of the Prophet ﷺ and we do not have to say our Salaat 5 times a day. Some claim that it is obligatory only for the rich! They claim that it is enough that we only think of Allah all the time. Zikr is to remember Allah, and we are ordered to keep our tongue moist with Zikr. Then why Salaat? Some even consider it for the old only! Who has the time for 5 times Prayers? Many verses of the Quran refute this claim:

Allah declares that except for those who say Salaat with humbleness, cleanliness, and the fear of whether their Ibaadah is reaching Allah, it is difficult for mankind to attain this Tawakkul, Sabar, and Taqwah. - - 2:45 / 2:53

- "O Mankind! Worship your Lord (Allah) who created you and those before you, so that you become Al-Muttaqun (righteous)" — 2: 21

“And Allah has enjoined on the believers, **Salaat at the fixed time.**” -- 4:103

- Salaat is the only act that was given to our dear Prophet ﷺ *directly*, in the seventh Heaven during Meraj. Allah says in the Quran:

- “And who holds fast to the Book (Quran)—i.e., live up to it, and establish Salaat (Namaz), WE shall never let go waste, the reward of those who do righteous deeds.” --- 7: 170

- And Salaat is the only duty that Allah has ordained on man, whether he is rich or poor, healthy, or sick, or even if travelling or in fear of being pursued by the enemy!!- 4: 101

- HE orders that if you find no water, use clean sand for Tayammum--“Allah does not wish to place you in difficulties, but to make it clear” (*that even in such cases you should not abandon Salaat*) - 5:6

- We need to say our Salaat in the proper method that Allah (sub) has ordained and our Prophet ﷺ has shown. 4: 102

- HE also tells us that HE created MAN and Jinni to worship HIM ALONE. 51: 56

- Allah explains that HE sent the Quran only for those who believe, have Taqwah, and *establish Salaat.* -2:3

- Salaat saves one from committing Fahisha (Obscene acts) and Munkar (evil deeds). - 29:45

- Allah appoints the Shaytan as Qareen (friend) for one who neglects Salaat, to make him feel what he does is right. *Thus, if we neglect the Salaat, we cannot differentiate between right and wrong and can easily be led astray from the right Path.* – (43: 36,37 / 19: 83)

- You should say your Salaat with humility and piety.

*For, Allah curses those "Woe to those who perform Salaat, ...who delay their Salaat from their fixed times and do deeds only to be seen---" --- 107: 4-7*

*- "---seek help in Patience (Sabar) and Salaat, ---" 2: 45*

### 13. HOW DID DIVISIONS ARISE IN ISLAM AND ARE THEY RIGHT OR WRONG?

A lot of controversy prevails about Innovations and Intercession among the Ummah. Are they part of Faith or not?

This is very important to discuss because, even if we deviate a wee bit from Allah and the path shown by our beloved Prophet ﷺ, we and our progeny will ultimately fall into the unforgivable sin: SHIRK, just as those before us have!

✓ "Verily, those who divide their religion and break up into sects, you (O Mohammad) have no concern in them in the least. Their affair is only with Allah, WHO then will tell them what they used to do." - 6: 159

✓ Our beloved Prophet ﷺ said after reciting the above: 'These people are those who invent new things (Bid'ah) in religion (out of their own desire), and the followers of the selfish desires of this Muslim nation, and their repentance will **not** be accepted by Allah (after death).' --Tafseer- Al Qurtubi, vol. 7: Pg. 150 "4

✓ Allah says that they (the people of the Book) did not divide, but only after the clear guidance had come to them. 10:92

Today, we are the 'chosen people' by Allah, and Clear and Eternal Guidance has come to us. HE has sent the Final Testament to us:

The religion of Ibrahim (al):

The religion of submission only to Allah, through our final Prophet Mohammad ﷺ. 2:132

And if we divide after the clear guidance –the Quran- has come to us, then we are far worse than those people of the Book, about whom Allah mentions in the Quran.

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<sup>4</sup> *He who innovates something in this matter of ours (i.e., Islam) that is not of it will have it rejected (by Allah)."* In another version in Muslim, it reads: "He who does an act which we have not commanded, will have it rejected (by Allah)." [Bukhari: 2697] > source [Islamqa.info.in](http://Islamqa.info.in) < /Sunnah.com

**And Allah warns,** “If anyone earns a fault or does a sin and blames it upon one that is innocent, he carries (on himself) a false charge and a flagrant sin.” - 4:112

This means that when those who are guilty of innovations attribute them to the actions of the Sahaaba or the imams (falsely), to justify their deeds, what a great sin they will carry against Allah!!

The Sahaaba would never have done anything against Allah and HIS Messenger ﷺ. Therefore, it would be a great sin if we innovate deeds and claim that we follow only what they did.

**And Allah curses:** “Then woe to those who write the Book with their own hands, and then say, ‘This is from Allah’, to traffic with it for a miserable price! —Woe to them for what their hands write, and for the gain they make thereby.” - 2:78-79 / 3:78

The books indicated here were the Torah and the Injeel. But, since the Hypocrites could not tamper with the latest Book of Allah---Quran, they have tried their hand in adding false and weak Hadith to mislead the Believers. And Allah warns us against these Hypocrites in many verses of the Quran: *That,*

- ✓ “Hypocrites will be in the lowest part of HELL” - 4:145
- ✓ “Indeed, they who conceal what Allah has sent down of the Book and exchange it for a small price, those consume not into their bellies except the Fire. Allah will not speak to them on the Day of Resurrection, nor purify them, and theirs will be a painful torment” — 2:174
- “Verily, those who conceal the clear proofs, evidences and the guidance, which WE have sent down, after WE have made clear for the people in the Book, they are the ones cursed by Allah and Cursed by the cursers (those who followed them will curse them)” -2:159 <sup>5</sup>

We must realize that what we innovate *matters in Religion* (Bid'ah), it will lead (is already leading) to shirk, which Allah and HIS Messenger ﷺ have warned us against.

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<sup>5</sup> Source: (Surah Al-Baqarah- 2: 13-20, 204, and also in various other Surahs, namely Surah Taubah, Surah Al-Munafiqoon, etc.);

Therefore, we must check whether the Hadith we follow is authentic.

The whole Surah Munafiqoon explains about the 'The Hypocrites' and Allah says that *whether the Prophet ﷺ asks forgiveness or not, it is the same for them*, because Allah will not guide the people who are transgressors. - 63:6

Allah tells us to beware of those who pretend to believe, and their flowery speech diverts you from the straight path---<sup>2:204</sup>, and Allah curses them. Surely, Allah certainly knew that the Hypocrites would cause divisions in the future, like the Jews and Christians did.

(This does not mean we can blame anyone who opposes our ideas as Hypocrites. Only Allah has the right to point them out. But we should be careful not to follow blindly anybody without verifying. —Sheikh Umar Khan)

Please also note that I do not say that all who advocate the validity of innovations are Hypocrites! All these innovations were initiated long ago by the Hypocrites, while in the present day, those who read such books supposedly written by 'Scholars', think it is authentic. This is what we have to be careful about.)

#### B. COUNTER ARGUMENTS:

WHEN WE CITE THE ABOVE VERSES, THOSE WHO OPPOSE ARGUE THAT: THESE VERSES ARE FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE OTHER BOOKS; NAMELY, TORAH AND INJEEL---THOSE DISBELIEVERS WHO DELIBERATELY REJECT THE FAITH AGAINST ALLAH. WHY! ARE WE ALSO NOT THE PEOPLE OF THE BOOK?

ARE WE NOT THE FOLLOWERS OF THE LAST TESTAMENT: QURAN?

IS NOT THE QURAN THE BOOK OF ALLAH? IS IT RIGHT TO DISTORT AND MISINTERPRET THE QURAN AND SAHIH HADITH ACCORDING TO THE CHANGING TIMES AND DEMANDS?

ARE WE NOT REJECTING FAITH WHEN WE DISOBEY ALLAH AND HIS MESSENGER DELIBERATELY?

WHILE THOSE WHO DELIBERATELY DISOBEY ARE THE ONES WHO INCUR THE ANGER OF ALLAH, AS MENTIONED IN SURAHH AL-FATIHA, ARE WE ALSO NOT DOING THE SAME WHEN WE DEFY THE LAWS OF ALLAH AND HIS MESSENGERﷺ?

**QUESTION 2:** DOES NOT THE BIBLE SAY: "DISOBEDIENCE IS ONLY DEFECTIVE FAITH AND NOT NEGATION OF FAITH, WHILE OBEDIENCE COMPLETES FAITH." THE BIBLE: JAMES 2:22

**ANS:** IS IT THE BIBLE THAT WE MUST FOLLOW? MOREOVER, IS IT RIGHT TO HAVE DEFECTIVE FAITH? WHEN ALLAH HAS DECLARED: "ENTER INTO FAITH PERFECTLY AND BE CONSTANT IN IT"? —AL-QURAN: 2: 208

### C. Counter Argument:

WHEN I WROTE: ARE WE NOT THE PEOPLE OF THE BOOK?

I GOT THE ANSWER: 'NO, WE ARE NOT THE PEOPLE OF THE BOOK'!!

**THEN WHAT ARE WE?**

ARE WE NOT GIVEN THE MOST AUTHENTIC BOOK: THE QURAN?

ALLAH SAYS IN SURAH MAIDA: THAT

"WE SENT DOWN **THE TORAH** TO MOSES, THEREIN WAS GUIDANCE AND LIGHT..." --V- 44

"AND IN THEIR FOOTSTEPS, WE GAVE ESSA SON OF MARYAM

**THE INJEEL** CONFIRMING THE TORAH"-V-46

"AND WE HAVE SENT DOWN TO YOU (O MOHAMMAD) THE BOOK –

**THIS QURAN**, IN TRUTH, CONFIRMS THE SCRIPTURE THAT CAME BEFORE IT... SO, JUDGE BETWEEN THEM BY WHAT ALLAH HAS REVEALED..." —V-48

SO? ARE WE NOT ALSO THE PEOPLE OF THE BOOK?

WAS IT NOT SENT FOR US TO FOLLOW? OR,

HAS THE QURAN BEEN SENT JUST TO BE READ DURING CALAMITIES AND TO DRIVE AWAY SATAN?

ALTHOUGH THE TERM 'AHLE KITAB' IN THE QURAN REFERS TO CHRISTIANS AND JEWS.

WE MUST REALIZE THAT WHATEVER IS MENTIONED ABOUT THEM IS,

**FIRST FOR US; A LESSON FOR US TO LEARN FROM, AND BE AWARE OF,**

**ANY COMMAND OR PROHIBITION FOR WHAT THEY NEGLECTED, AND WE ARE TO OBEY.**

#### D. COUNTER ARGUMENT:

Q. DID SECTS EXIST AT THE TIME OF MOHAMMED ﷺ?

ANS: INDEED, THERE WERE MANY HYPOCRITES DURING THE TIME OF OUR DEAR PROPHET ﷺ, WHO WERE TRYING TO CAUSE DIVISION IN THE RELIGION.

ALLAH HAS WARNED US ABOUT THIS THROUGH OUR PROPHET ﷺ.

AS LONG AS MOHAMMAD ﷺ WAS ALIVE, HE WAS ABLE TO PREVENT THIS DEVIATION.

THE MUSLIMS WERE STRONG IN TAWHEED AND NEVER WAVERED IN THEIR FAITH, WHATEVER THE CIRCUMSTANCES.

BUT SOON AFTER THE DEMISE OF OUR DEAR PROPHET ﷺ, THEY STARTED THEIR MISCHIEF WITH FULL SWING.

YET DURING THE RIGHTEOUS CALIPH'S REIGN, THE HYPOCRITES COULD NOT USE THEIR EVIL WAYS OF DECEPTION.

BUT AFTER THEM, THE GREED FOR THIS WORLD'S ATTRACTIONS MADE THE LATER RULERS GIVE UP THEIR STRICT WAYS OF ISLAM, AND THE HYPOCRITES WERE ABLE TO SUCCEED IN THEIR WORK.

"ALL THOSE WHO WORKED FOR THE DESTRUCTION OF ISLAM AND THE MISGUIDANCE OF ITS FOLLOWERS FROM THE TIME OF THE PROPHET ﷺ HAVE ATTEMPTED TO NEUTRALIZE THE CONCEPT OF TAWHEED. THIS IS BECAUSE IT REPRESENTS THE VERY ESSENCE OF ISLAM, BROUGHT BY ALL THE PROPHETS." — BILAL PHILIP.

THAT IS WHY ALLAH WARNS ABOUT HYPOCRITES AND TO BE AWARE OF THEM, IN VARIOUS VERSES OF THE QURAN.

E.G., THEY SAY THEY ARE OBEDIENT, BUT WHEN THEY LEAVE YOU, A SECTION OF THEM SPENDS THEIR NIGHT PLOTTING OTHER THAN WHAT YOU SAY-----"

- AL-QURAN: 4: 81

While Allah orders us to “hold fast all of you together to the Rope of Allah, the Quran.” 3:103

"And be not of those who were divided and differed among themselves after the guidance had come to them. (For,) It is they for whom there is an awful torment." - 3:105

*WHO IS ALLAH ORDERING ALL THIS FOR?*

*IS IT NOT FOR US MUSLIMS?*

Here I quote: ‘The problem with Islam is the clerical establishment that gained control over the Interpretation of the Quran and the Hadith: The anecdotes describing the words and deeds of Muhammad ﷺ passed on by his followers and their descendants. Less than two centuries after Muhammad’s ﷺ death, some 700,000 Hadith were circulating throughout the Muslim world. The great majority of these were unquestionably fabricated by individuals who sought to legitimize their own particular beliefs and practices and imbibed from other religions, by connecting them to the Prophet ﷺ.’

Many such practices came to be accepted as Islamic that were not at all in the Quran or the true tradition of the Prophet ﷺ. <sup>6</sup>

We find that all the Imams who founded the different Madhhabs were themselves *against their followers blindly following* their Madhhab. They declared that if any Hadith is found that contradicts the Quran and Sunnah, it should be cast away. <sup>7</sup>

*NO PERSON KNOWS WHAT IS KEPT FOR THEM OF JOY*

*AS A REWARD FOR WHAT THEY USED TO DO.”—*

*Al-Quran: 32: 15, 16, 17*

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<sup>6</sup> Source: ‘Understanding the evil of innovation; Bid’ah and Riyah.’

<sup>7</sup> Source: ‘Evolution of Fiqh’ by **Fawzan**

#### 14. HOW ARE WE TO KNOW WHICH IS THE AUTHENTIC HADITH?

Most of us ignore the meaning of the Quran and concentrate only on the different Hadith or books written (or supposed to have been written) by various Muftis or Salaf. Some may be authentic and others not. How can we know which is authentic?

By saying this, I am not saying that we should not follow any Hadith or Sunnah of our dear Prophet Mohammad ﷺ.

I only wish to warn my brothers and sisters that while most Hadith are true and to be followed, many fabricated or corrupted versions of Hadith mislead us from the Tawakkul and Taqwah that Allah has ordained.

We should realize that any Hadith that opposes the Quran is false.

#### NOTHING TAKES PRECEDENCE OVER THE QURAN. —Ibn Khathir

Hence, anything **that opposes the criteria of Islam**, given in the Quran, if found in Hadith, is false, or interpolated by the ignorant or the mischief makers—Hypocrites.

The Quran is the *only criterion* that decides whether what we do is right or wrong!

And Allah has ordered us, “O you who have believed, obey Allah and obey the Messenger and those in authority among you. *And if you disagree over anything, refer it to Allah and the Messenger*, if you should believe in Allah and the Last Day. That is the best [way] and best in result.” 4: 59

*And to verify the authenticity of the Hadith, we should clearly understand what the Quran says.* Unless we know the basics of Islam and the meaning of the latest Testament: the QURAN, we cannot differentiate between right and wrong.

It is incumbent for every believer to: 1] read, 2] understand, 3] implement, and 4] propagate what we learn from it.

And to follow the way our dear Prophet ﷺ has led his life. He led his life only *according to what the Quran says*. There is no other shortcut for attaining guidance for the straight path!

Allah asks: “*Then do they not reflect upon the Qur'an? If it had been from any other than Allah, they would have found within it much contradiction.*” 4: 82

أَفَلَا يَتَدَبَّرُونَ الْقُرْآنَ ۚ وَلَوْ كَانَ مِنْ عِنْدِ غَيْرِ اللَّهِ لَوَجَدُوا فِيهِ اخْتِلَافًا كَثِيرًا

**FALSE CLAIMS:**

*Those who declare that they have seen God often claim that they no longer need to pray and fast regularly as common people do, because they have risen spiritually above the plane of the masses. Satan has deceived them into believing they do so.*

*Once, when Sheikh Imam Abdul Khader Jeelani was engrossed in prayer, he saw a vision of a grand throne with bright light surrounding it, and a voice said: O Abdul Khader, I am your LORD. You have truly won my closeness. I have made lawful to you that which I have forbidden to others.'*

*The Imam asked 'Who are you? Are you Allah?'*

*When he got no reply, he said: 'Be gone. I seek refuge from you with Allah.'*

*The vision vanished, and a voice was heard: O Abdul Khader, you have defeated my strategy, by which I have misled over 70 such saintly worshippers.'*

*When he related the incident to his followers, they asked him, 'How did you know that it was Satan and not Allah?' He answered: 'I recognized that it was Satan by his claim that Allah had made lawful for me that which He had forbidden to others, because I knew that the divine law revealed to the Prophet ﷺ could not be cancelled or changed. I also realized who it was when Satan announced that he was my Lord, but was unable to confirm that; he was Allah, who is without any partner.'* --(at-Tawassul Wal-Waseelah, p. 28) ---source: Bilal Philips

*This incident proves that Salaat cannot be abandoned,  
NO matter who tells you to do so.*

**15. IS IT POSSIBLE FOR EVERY PERSON TO READ AND UNDERSTAND THE QURAN, WHICH IS IN A FOREIGN LANGUAGE?**

When we can learn a foreign language, English, to attain the knowledge of the world, why cannot we learn the Arabic Language to know what Allah says in HIS Law Book, the Quran?

- Can we not at least learn the translation given by the true Imams, which is based on Tawheed, to know whether our Muftis and other Maulvis are telling the truth?

- Can we not teach our children the Arabic language at an age when learning is easy?

Today, the internet provides various means to learn Arabic. Thus, we cannot say there are no teachers to teach. Moreover, scholars have classified most Hadith into Sahih, Hasan, and Dhaif. It is easy to check the authenticity of the Hadith.

However, when people stick adamantly to what they have already read and do not accept the truth, it leads to deviations. Moreover, when a cleric announces a Fatwa, we have the right to ask to quote the relevant verse in the Quran that supports it. (And we should check if the reference he gives is correct.)

Last but not least, we can easily identify that something is against the tenets of Islam; if we at least have a strong understanding of the true Basic Concept of Islam:

**'SURRENDER AND CALL UPON NONE OTHER THAN ALLAH---TAWHEED'**

The religious deeds are all the other 4 pillars of Islam, namely;

Salaat: Sujood and Ruku only for HIM,

Saum: Fasting for HIS sake,

Zakat: Purifying oneself from greed for wealth for Allah's sake) and,

Hajj: Pilgrimage to Mecca only for Allah's sake.

These four pillars are enjoined on us;

TO MAKE THIS CENTER PILLAR OF OUR FAITH OF TAWHEED STRONG.

But alas! Most of us are strong in most of the other four pillars of Islam, but not firm in Tawheed!

*Quotes:* 'This is because the books of Fiqh, which mention the Shari'ah and other pillars of Islam, do not mention 'TAWHEED' as it is considered a separate subject- Theology, and is neglected by those who teach the fundamentals of Islam'!! — Bilal Philip

**Thus, most of us who are not taught this do not consider Tawheed to be part of Islam!**

## 16. WHAT HAS ALLAH ORDERED MOHAMMAD ﷺ TO CONVEY TO MANKIND?

Allah has commanded our Prophet ﷺ to say:

- ✓ *“I am only a human being like you. It is inspired to me that your Ilaah, worthy of worship, is ONE Allah. One who hopes to meet his Lord must **do good deeds and set not partners in worship to HIM EVER.**” --18:110*
- ✓ *“So, call upon Allah, making your worship and do religious deeds, exclusively for HIM, however much the disbeliever may hate it.”1:5/39:2/40:14, 65)*
- ✓ *“Worship none but Allah. Verily, I am unto you from HIM a warner and a bringer of glad tidings.”- 11: 2*
- ✓ *“Verily, if I disobey my LORD, I am afraid of the torment of a great Day.” 39:13*
- ✓ *“Wretched is the name of disobedience after [one's] faith. And whoever does not repent, then it is those who are the wrongdoers. 49: 11*
- ✓ *“Or have they taken Auliya besides HIM? HE Alone is Wali ... The final decision is with Allah. Such is Allah my LORD in whom I put my trust, and to HIM I turn, in all my affairs and repentance.” - 42: 9-10.*
- ✓ *“Say: It is revealed to me that your ilah is only ONE ILAH (God- Allah). Will you then submit to HIS WILL (become Muslims and stop worshipping others with Allah)? - 21:108*
- ✓ *“So, flee **to** Allah (for all your needs), Verily, I am a plain warner to you from HIM”— 51:50*
- ✓ *And enough is Allah as Wali, and enough is Allah as Helper”. - 4:45*
- ✓ *“Say! {O Mohammed}; Verily, I am commanded to worship Allah (Alone) by obeying HIM and doing religious deeds exclusively for HIM, not to show off nor set up rivals with HIM in worship.” (39:11 /14: 52)*

*This shows that all our deeds (whether religious or not) should be done only for Allah and no one else.*

ARE WE FOLLOWING THIS?

- *“AND WE HAVE SENT YOU (O MOHAMMED) NOT, BUT AS A MERCY FOR THE UNIVERSE (RAHMATUL AALAMEEN).” 21: 107*

*This shows that Allah sent our dear Prophet ﷺ to the world as a mercy to all living creatures, including mankind, by inspiring him to convey the Doctrine of TAWHEED (Worshiping none other than HIM), which includes:*

- ✓ *TAQWAH (Fear of displeasing HIM) and*

- ✓ *TAWAQQUL (Submitting to HIS WILL), and*
- ✓ *Not attributing HIS Sifat or call for help to any other than ALLAH.*

And to warn them of the wrath of Allah, if we disobey HIM. Hence, when we hear about any Hadith, it is very important to check its authenticity and meaning, whether it goes against this Tawheed.

And Allah declares that none have achieved real faith until they make you (O Mohammad ﷺ) as judge in all disputes between them and find in their souls no resistance against your decisions, but accept them with the fullest conviction. — *Al-Quran: 4: 65*

i.e., one does not become a true believer unless one refers to the Messenger ﷺ (his Sunnah) for judgment and submits to his decision and does not do anything against it. — Ibn Khathir.

This means that we must accept whatever our Prophet ﷺ has told us as the final decision, and not decide on any matter on our own.

***ALLAH GIVES HOPE AND GLAD TIDINGS TO THOSE WHO SUBMIT ONLY TO HIM:***

- “Verily those who say, ‘our LORD is Allah’, and thereafter stood firm; on them shall be no fear nor shall they grieve.” -- *Al-Quran: 46; 13*
- “Religion is very easy, and whoever overburdens himself in his religion will not be able to continue in that way. So, you should not be extremists, but **try** to be near to perfection and receive the good tidings that you will be rewarded.” <sup>8</sup>
- “The believers are those who, when Allah is mentioned, feel a fear in their hearts and when Verses are recited unto them, they increase their Faith and they put their trust in their LORD and who perform Salaat and spend out of that WE have provided them. They are the believers and for them are grades of dignity with their LORD, and Forgiveness and a generous provision.” *Al-Quran, 8: 2-4*
- “O children of Adam! If there come to you Messengers from amongst you reciting to you the Verses, then whosoever becomes pious and righteous, **on them shall be no fear, nor shall they grieve.**” - *Al-Quran: 7:35*

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<sup>8</sup> (See *Fath-ul-Bari, Page 102, Vol 1*) - *Sahih al-Bukhari 39: Book 2, Hadith 32- Sunnah.com*

## 17. WHY IS IT SO IMPORTANT THAT WE STICK TO THE PATH SHOWED BY THE PROPHET ﷺ

*There is always the danger that Evil may seize us, even if we approach it out of curiosity. If we take an interest in it, we may become its worshipers or slaves. Thus, the wise man avoids it altogether, and enrolls among the Servants of Allah, and gets the good news of HIS Mercy and Good Pleasure.'*

*Tafseer No. 4268, the Holy Quran.*

E.g.:

> If we start to look at the rich and begin to yearn for their type of life, there is every chance that we will go to any extent to attain that position, even if it is against Allah's Command. And Allah warns in the Quran <sup>2:268</sup>

**Satan threatens poverty while Allah promises bounty from HIMSELF.**

> If we see others enjoying obscene acts and wonder why we cannot do the same, there is every chance that we will be caught in web of drugs, adultery and other illegal activities which will bring about our ruin in this world like diseases or loss of peace and draw upon us the wrath of Allah simultaneously. *(That is why we are told to beware of getting engrossed in what we see on the idiot box and the internet.)*

> If we think others are prospering, because they call upon their gods and find ourselves in poverty, we may begin to wonder why we, too, cannot call upon our great saints who had taught us our Faith to intercede for us.

> It is this that leads us to go to the graves of the Auliya and venerate them to the limit of asking their help; that is completely against the concept of Islam; **total surrender to Allah.**

> And do you think that Allah is unaware of what you do? To make you realize your own mistakes and lest you refuse to accept them in the Hereafter, Allah has appointed:

"Behold two (guardian angels) appointed to write down his doings; one on the right and one on the left. Not a word does he utter but this vigilant Guardian notes it down." - 50:16-18

"They are the Honorable writers; 'Kiraaman-Kaathibeen'. They know all that you do." - 82:11-12

## 18. WHAT DOES TAGHUT MEAN?

- *“Those who avoid Taghut and fall not into its worship, and turn in repentance to Allah- for them is the good news...” - 39:17*

*The word Taghut covers a wide range of meanings: it means anything worshipped other than or along with Allah Subhanat’alah; i.e., all the false deities. It may be Satan, idols, stones, sun, stars, angels, and human beings like Jesus, Messengers of Allah, who were falsely worshipped and taken as Taghut. Likewise, saints, graves, rulers, leaders, etc., are falsely worshipped or wrongly followed. -- Source- Footnote: Holy Quran.*

*Allah and all HIS Prophets, including Jesus [Essa (as)] and all the Auliya whom they worship, have themselves forbidden all this! i.e.*

- ✓ *If we think; only wealth will save us in this world,*
- ✓ *If we think that our health and strength alone will help us.*
- ✓ *If we think that only our sons will help us to achieve success here,*
- ✓ *Or even if we think or desire to add rituals or pictures of holy ones or ancestors, thinking that what we are already doing in the form of Salaat and Saum is not enough, or the rituals are better than that!!*
- ✓ *Thinking that a piece of black thread or a talisman, tied to the wrist or waist, will help us.*

*‘All this is induced by Satan and so the term Taghut is given also to Satan himself.’ —Ibn Khathir.*

*Whoever takes Taghut as helpers with Allah will only lead them from light (knowledge) towards darkness (ignorance). Al-Quran: 2: 257*

## 19. WHY SHOULD WE STICK TO TAWHEED?

Many argue:

When our Prophet ﷺ has declared that 'Allah has forbidden the Fire for those who say "LA ILAAHA ILLALLAH"', then why should we bother about all other things?

*IS IT SO?*

The truth is otherwise.

They only recite half the Hadith.

They think whatever they do, if they just say this 'Mantra', they can be redeemed and will not be thrown into the Fire!!!!

They completely ignore the fact that Allah has commanded: we should worship none other than HIM. Allah has forbidden us to pray to or ask anybody else's help, except HIM. And they forget that we should remember that our Prophet and all others before him prayed only to Allah and none else for salvation and help. Moreover,

WORSHIPPING ALLAH ALONE AND DOING GOOD DEEDS,  
SEEKING THE PLEASURE OF ALLAH IS THE BASIC CONCEPT OF ISLAM. <sup>60:1</sup>

> **HE knows what their breast conceals and what they reveal.** <sup>27: 74</sup>

"Allah knows the fraud of the eyes and all that the breasts conceal."

> "And Allah judges with Truth, while those to whom they invoke besides HIM, cannot judge anything. Certainly, Allah! HE is the All-Hearer and All-Seer" — 40: 19-20

> "Do they attribute partners to Allah, those who created nothing but themselves are created? No help can they give them, nor can they help themselves." — 7: 191-192

> And Allah says: <sup>46:5,6</sup> "And who is more astray than one who calls besides Allah, such as will not answer him till the Day of Resurrection, and who are even unaware of their calls to them?"

> "And on that Day when no soul shall have power (to help) another, for the command that Day will be (wholly) with Allah." - <sup>82: 19</sup>

> "...you are sufficient as a Reckoner against yourself this day" - <sup>17:14</sup>

> "It is **WE** who created man and **WE** know what he whispers to himself.

> "WE are nearer to him than his jugular vein."- <sup>50:16</sup>

**JUSTIFICATIONS:** Some people say, we ask the Auliya to intercede like we ask an influential person to intercede with the King or President. Why?

- Does not Allah know your inner self, that you need a recommendation to introduce yourself?
- How can we call upon anything other than Allah when HE has vehemently forbidden it?
- How can we call upon the very Auliya, who themselves have prohibited asking any other than Allah?
- And when the basic concept of Islam is
- "That we worship none but Allah, and
- That we associate no partners with HIM and
- That none shall take others as lords besides Allah"- 3: 64
- "The Day when no relative will avail another, nor any help can they receive. Except those, *on whom Allah has Mercy.*" - 44:41-42

And HE vehemently asserts that *"Of HIM seeks (Its need) every creature in the Heavens and on the Earth."* 55: 29

- And last but not least, Allah declares <sup>in 18:26</sup> that, "Allah, -With HIM is the knowledge of the unseen, of the heavens and the earth. How clearly, does HE see and hear (everything)! They have no Wali (helper, Disposer of affairs or Protector, etc.) other than HIM, and

**HE DOES NOT ALLOW ANY TO SHARE IN HIS DECISION AND HIS RULE."**

- How can it be just to treat the criminal and the pious on equal terms?
- How can it be right if the criminal gets away with his sins just because of some recommendations of a pious person?

All these verses clearly show that Allah will not tolerate anybody to intercede in HIS matters of judgment, *...unless HE gives permission to whom HE wishes, as to who should be interceded for and who should not be interceded.* — Al-Quran: 2: 256

- "And whoever does Evil, or wrongs himself but afterwards seeks Allah's forgiveness, he will find Allah oft-forgiving, Most Merciful"- 4:110
- But, "Verily Allah forgives not setting up Partners in worship with HIM, but forgives whom HE pleases other than that..."- 4: 116

There are many more such verses in the Quran if only one cares to go through it and tries to understand what it says!

**BE AWARE: IF ANY DO SHIRK, THEN ALL HIS DEEDS WILL GO TO WASTE.**

## 20. THEN HOW ARE WE TO STICK TO THIS TAWHEED?

Every waking hour of ours should be spent in the aim of increasing our good deeds for the pleasure of Allah Alone, *as our Prophet ﷺ has shown us, to get our 'Aamaal naama' in the right hand, which alone is going to save us from HELL.*

- *And Allah declares that "whoever submits his face to Allah and is a Muhsin (does good deeds according to what the Prophet ﷺ has shown, seeking Allah's Pleasure), then his reward is with Allah, on such shall be no fear nor shall they grieve."— 2: 112*

- *And HE has specifically ordered, "---Worship none but Allah and be dutiful, and good to parents, and kindred, and to orphans and Al-Masakeen (the poor), and speak good to people, and perform Salaat and give Zakat." 2: 83*

- And HE tells us to;

“CALL ON ME; I WILL ANSWER YOUR PRAYERS”— 40:60 وَقَالَ رَبُّكُمْ ادْعُونِي أَسْتَجِبْ لَكُمْ -

- Allah is waiting for us to turn to HIM and to answer our Prayers!!

- And has ordered our dear Prophet ﷺ to: “---Say; (O Mohamed),” I am commanded only to worship Allah (Alone) and not to join partners with HIM. To HIM (Alone) I call, and to HIM is my return.”— 13:36

- And HE asks us to turn to HIM as Ibrahim (al) said:

6: 79 - إِنِّي وَجَّهْتُ وَجْهِيَ لِلَّذِي فَطَرَ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضَ حَنِيفًا، وَمَا أَنَا مِنَ الْمُشْرِكِينَ،

- “I have turned my face towards my LORD, the Creator of the Heavens and the Earth, Upright- and I am not of those who set partners with Allah.”

- And Allah says to the Prophet ﷺ to: “Say: ‘If you **love Allah**, then **follow me**. Allah will love you and forgive you of your sins. And Allah is oft forgiving, Most Merciful.”- 3:31

- Allah commands: that HE has sent the Messenger among us reciting to us the Verses (of the Quran) and teaching us that which we did not know. 2: 152

*Therefore, it becomes incumbent on us to follow the way of life of our Prophet ﷺ, who showed practically how to implement the Laws given in the Quran.*

## 21. THE WAY OUR DEAR PROPHET ﷺ SHOWED:

Narrated Abu Huraira: When asked, 'What should I do to enter paradise?'

Prophet ﷺ replied: "Spread Salaam (peace), feed others, uphold ties of kinship, *and stand in prayer when people are sleeping, then you will enter Paradise.*" --- Hadith; Sahi Ahmed; 2: 295, 323, 324

Our Prophet ﷺ used to pray:

"I seek Refuge with YOU, By **Your Izzat** (Honor and Power) and,

"La Ilaaha Illa Anta": None has the right to be worshipped but *YOU, who does not die, while the Jinni and Human beings die.*" --Sahi Bukhari -Vol. 9. H. No. 480.

The Prophet ﷺ used to pray the **Sayyid ul-Istagfar**: <sup>9</sup>

اللَّهُمَّ أَنْتَ رَبِّي، لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا أَنْتَ خَلَقْتَنِي، وَأَنَا عَبْدُكَ، وَأَنَا عَلَىٰ عَهْدِكَ، وَوَعْدِكَ مَا اسْتَطَعْتُ،  
أَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنْ شَرِّ مَا صَنَعْتُ، أُبُوءُ لَكَ بِنِعْمَتِكَ عَلَيَّ وَأُبُوءُ بِذَنْبِي فَعَفِّرْ لِي، فَإِنَّهُ لَا يَغْفِرُ الذُّنُوبَ  
إِلَّا أَنْتَ،

Meaning: "O Allah! You are my LORD: None has the Right to be worshipped but you. You created me, and I am your slave, and I am faithful to my Covenant, and I promise to you as much as I can. I seek refuge with you from all the evil I have done. I acknowledge before you all the Blessings YOU have bestowed upon me, and I confess to YOU all my sins. So, I entreat YOU to forgive my sins, for nobody can forgive sins except YOU."

He ﷺ also said that "any who recites during the day,..with firm faith in it (understand and accept it), and dies on the same day, before evening or, at night and dies before morning, he will be of the people of Paradise."

This means that we must keep asking for forgiveness, after acknowledging to Allah all the sins we may have committed during the day with sincerity and conviction. Every day, we should introspect on ourselves if we have done any wrong and ask ALLAH to forgive us.

<sup>9</sup> Sunnah.com > : Sahih al-Bukhari 6306 - In-book reference: Book 80, Hadith 3

**a. THE WORDS OF ALLAH IN THE QURAN:**

“No person knows what is kept for them of joy as a reward for what they used to do.” — 32: 15, 16, 17

- “Verily, those who race to do good deeds, and live in awe for fear of their LORD (are the successful).” — 23: 56, 57

When asked, who were the ones who raced to do good deeds?

Our Prophet ﷺ explained: ‘They are those who fast, pray, and practice charity, and they are afraid that their good deeds may not be accepted by Allah, from them. It is these who race for good deeds.’-

- Practicing charity includes showing mercy to fellow neighbors, kith and kin, wayfarers, those companions by your sides who are in lower status than you, who restrain anger and forgive men (including your spouse), do not deal in Riba (interest), do wrong unknowingly or under sudden temptation, and immediately repent, and they do not repeat it, etc.; etc.; -- [Al-Quran: 2: 177 // 3: 134-135]

- O you who believe! Obey Allah and obey the Messenger ﷺ, that is the better and more suitable for final determination." --4:59

“So, those who rehearse the Book of Allah establish regular Salaat and spend in charity secretly and openly, WE have provided for them and they will enter the garden under which rivers flow.” --- Al-Quran: 35:29

- “You have indeed, in the Messenger of Allah, a beautiful pattern (to follow) for him whose hope is in Allah and the Last Day and remembers Allah much.” — Al-Quran: 33:21

- And, the reward for “Whoso obeys Allah and HIS Messenger Mohammed (ﷺ) then they will be in the company of those on whom Allah has BESTOWED HIS Grace, of the Prophets, the Saadhiqun, the Martyrs, and the Righteous. And, Ah! How excellent these companions are!” --4:69

THIS ORDER TO BELIEVE IN ALLAH AND OBEY HIS MESSENGER IS MENTIONED MORE THAN 93 TIMES IN THE QURAN. NOWHERE DOES HE SAY PRAY TO MOHAMMAD ﷺ.’

**ALL THE ABOVE VERSES ARE AIMED AT US: THE BELIEVERS.**

“And from [part of] the night, pray with it as additional [Tahajjud] for you; your Lord is expected to resurrect you to a praised station.” 17: 79

وَمِنَ اللَّيْلِ فَتَهَجَّدْ بِهِ نَافِلَةً لَّكَ عَسَىٰ أَنْ يَبْعَثَكَ رَبُّكَ مَقَامًا مَّحْمُودًا

## b. THE WORDS OF OUR PROPHET ﷺ.

Allah says *Surah An-Nisa, 4:115*: “Whoever opposes the Apostle after the right way has been clearly shown to him and follows other than the believer’s way, WE shall keep him in the path he has chosen and burn him in Hell; and what an evil destination?”

Thus, the only way to approach Allah is NOT by praying TO our Prophet ﷺ directly, but by following the path of our dear Prophet ﷺ.

- Muhammad ﷺ *said*: May I show you the gates of goodness?

1. Fasting is a screen from Hell

2. As-Sadaqah (Deeds of Charity) in Allah’s Cause extinguishes the sins as water extinguishes the fire.

3. Standing in prayers by a slave of Allah, the last part of the night: *-Abu Dawood and Tirimidhi]*

- “A group of people will keep following Allah’s Laws strictly, and they will not be harmed by those who disbelieve them or stand against them.” <sup>-10</sup>

- *Here we are wasting time and money on meaningless rituals which Allah and HIS Rasool ﷺ have vehemently disliked and forbidden. The final decision of all things is with Allah. We must warn those who tend to deviate even slightly from the straight path lest perhaps, they may stop in their tracks and ponder. - Al-Quran: 103:3*

- And Allah specifies that the Righteous are: “Only those

- 1) Those who believe in OUR Ayah (proofs, evidences, verses, lessons, signs, revelations, etc.)?
- 2) Those who, when they are reminded of them, fall prostrate and glorify the Praises of their LORD, and they are not proud (nor stubborn)
- 3) Their sides forsake their beds, to invoke their LORD in fear and hope, and they spend in charity out of what WE have bestowed on them.

- *Such will avail of the teachings and the beautiful pattern of the life of our dearest Prophet ﷺ.*

- **Nowhere** has our Prophet ﷺ said, ‘If you pray **TO** me or ask my help, you may get Paradise.’ (On the other hand, he ﷺ has told us to pray **FOR HIM** ﷺ, to Allah to raise him to the status of Maqaamam Mahmoodan. That is why we recite it after every Azaan.)

<sup>10</sup> *Sahih al-Bukhari 7460 (Book 97, Hadith 86) #716*

- This is the way our dear Prophet Mohammad ﷺ has shown us, and we are bound to obey him strictly if we are to attain the Grace of Allah.
- Allah says in [48:2] Quran “WE have given you (O Mohammed ﷺ) a Manifest victory that Allah may forgive you your sins of the past and future and complete HIS Favor on you and guide you on the Straight path.”
- Yet, Mohamed ﷺ used to offer night prayers till his feet became swollen. The As’haabi asked him: “Allah has forgiven you all your faults of the past and future. Why are you still spending so much time in prayer? “He ﷺ replied: “Should I not be a thankful slave of Allah?” - Sahi Bukhari Vol. 6. H. No. 360

When he ﷺ has taught us not to ask any other than Allah for help and forgiveness, is it right to disobey the very Prophet who suffered all his life for the sake of showing us how to live a life pleasing to Allah?

#### **E. COUNTER QUESTION:**

What sin did Mohammad ﷺ commit to be forgiven by Allah {48; 2}, when our dear Prophet was the most perfect of human beings?

**Answer:** When Allah says HE forgives ‘the past and future sins’, it means HE forgives faults, not great sins. It is the people who think that Allah will forgive any great sin, too, without their repenting for it.

Therefore, when Allah declares that he will forgive sins, it means small mistakes that, as a human being, our Prophet ﷺ may have committed, which are here referred to.

This is only to show that HE will not forgive great sins if deliberately done, unless they expiate for their sin as given in the Islamic Law, repent sincerely, correct themselves, and not repeat the sin knowingly <sup>3: 90,135</sup>

E.g., if one commits Zina of the eyes and immediately repents, he may be forgiven. But if he deliberately goes forward and does the crime of Rape or illegal sex, then he will be punished by the court of Law or by diseases and destruction in this world. Even then, if he does not repent, the more severe punishment is sure to come in the Hereafter! —<sup>4: 115</sup>

Allah warns in the Quran: "And whatever Misfortune befalls it is because of what your hands have earned, and HE pardons much." <sup>42: 30/ 43: 76//10: 44</sup>

*And HE will forgive whom HE wishes; none can be guided except by HIS Grace.*

Allah has set this condition for Forgiveness, so that we may not become arrogant and complacent but become humble, and induce us to seek HIS Forgiveness regularly and try to live the life as our Prophet ﷺ showed us.

## CONCLUSION:

From all the above, we come to know that Eman is the main pillar of Islam, and it means, calling upon Allah for all our worldly needs and sincerely surrender and seek forgiveness for all our previous sins we may have done with the hope that HE may forgive us and embrace us with HIS Grace.

Thus, even if we repeat the Tasbeeh a thousand times, we will not be redeemed unless our intention is pure. We will be forgiven only according to the intensity of our repentance and not according to the number of times we recite it.

This does not mean that we should not do Zikr. In fact, by keeping our mouth and heart moist with Zikr, we can avoid any bad thoughts from entering and taking root in our mind and body. But our thoughts should be engrossed in it and not wander while our lips recite it.

Many counter-argue that calling anything other than Allah for help with Allah, does not constitute Shirk, but only Haram. However, if we go through the Quran, we can easily realize that they are wrong. This is because Allah not only forbids us from asking those in the grave for help, but also forbids us to follow our desires, but OBEY Allah and HIS Prophet ﷺ. That is why we are seeking guidance from Allah in Surah Al-Fatiha.

Insha Allah, we can learn all about these innovations that lead to shirk in the next part of this Book, titled BID'AH. May Allah guide us through this world and save us from innovation, which can lead us astray. Ameen

**THUS:**

Every moment of our lives, we must be aware

Of every movement of our deeds, HE is Aware!

We must accept any problems that we may face

By way of loss of health, wealth, in the coming days

That Allah may impose on us, as a test

To check who among us is the best;

And if we are repenting for our sins.

We know that those are the patient who wins,

If he turns only to Allah for HIS Mercy,

Even when faced with an adversary.

Instead of running to others for security

We must seek only HIS Help with piety.

With humility, we should plead

for HIS forgiveness for our deed.

Then alone will Allah forgive us if HE wishes.

This is where we can attain the true riches

**Arrogance is the great sin we should avoid**

**and not make our lives of HIS Grace void.**

This leads us to peace of mind: This Eman,

Grants rewards here and in the Hereafter for every man,



