

THE FOREMOST OBLIGATORY DUTIES EVERY MUSLIM MUST HAVE KNOWLEDGE ABOUT

By Imām Muḥammad Ibn 'Abdul-Wahhāb At-Tamīmī (May Allāh Have Mercy on Him)



العَقيدَةُ - الْمُسْتَوَى الأَوَّلُ Islamic Creed - Level One

الوَاجِبَاتُ الْمُتَحَيِّمَاتُ المَعْرِفَةُ المُعْرِفَةُ عَلَى كُلِّ مُسْلِم وَمُسْلِمَةٍ عَلَى كُلِّ مُسْلِم وَمُسْلِمَةِ لَيْهِ لَمْيَة مُسْلِم فَمُسْلِمَة لَشَه لَشَيخ محمد بن عبد الوهاب رحمه الله

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By Imām Muḥammad Ibn 'Abdul-Wahhāb (May Allāh Have Mercy on Him)

Translated & Annotated By Madrasah Al-Anṣār Online

Transliteration Guide

ب	b			ت	t			ث	th
ج	j			ح	ķ			خ	kh
د	d			د	d			ر	r
ز	Z			س	S			ش	sh
ص	ş			ض	ģ			ط	ţ
ظ	Ż			ع	4			غ	gh
ف	f			ق	q			ك	k
J	I			م	m			ن	n
ھ	h			و	w			ي	у
		٤	,			ö	h		
<u> </u>	3			<i>9</i>					i
-	a			-	u			7	
۲	ā			ئو	ū			جي	ī
ے	á			ـَوْ	aw			ئى	ay

We have used the above guide to transliterate any Arabic terms and names so as to make finding the correct pronunciation easier for the reader.

الوَاجِبَاتُ الْمُتَحَتِّمَاتُ المَعْرِفَةُ عَلَى كُلِّ مُسْلِمٍ وَمُسْلِمَةٍ

The Foremost Obligatory Duties Every Muslim Must Have Knowledge About

In the name of Allāh the Most Merciful the most Beneficial

الأصول الثلاثة

[Three Fundamental Principles]

الأصول الثلاثة التي يجب على كل مسلم ومسلمة معرفتها :وهي: معرفة العبد ربه ودينه ونبيه محمداً على الأصول

The three fundamental principles that are obligatory upon every Muslim male and female to have knowledge of are:

- 1) Knowledge of his Rabb (Lord),
- 2) Knowledge of his Religion,
- 3) Knowledge of his Prophet ...

[Who Is Your Lord?]

فإن قيل لك: من ربك؟

If it is asked: Who is your Rabb (Lord)?

Then say: My Lord is Allāh, the One who nurtured me and nurtured all of creation through His favours. My worship is solely for Him [alone], there being to me no [false] deity worshipped that is equal to Him.

[What Is Your Religion?]

وإذا قيل لك: ما دينك؟

If it is asked: What is your Religion?

Then reply: My religion is Islām; it is to submit to Allāh with recognition of His Oneness [Tawḥīd], obedience to His orders, and to disavow from Shirk [Polytheism] and its adherents.

[Who Is Your Prophet?]

وَإِذَا قِيلَ لَكَ : مِنْ نَبيِّكَ ؟

If it is asked: Who is your Prophet?

Then reply: He is Muḥammad, the son of 'Abdullāh, the son of 'Abdul-Muṭṭalib, the son of Hāshim. Hāshim was from the [tribe of] Quraysh, and Quraysh was from the Arabs. The Arabs are from the offspring of [the Prophet] Ismā'īl, son of [Prophet] Ibrāhīm, the close friend of Allāh. May Allāh send the best of His peace and blessings on him and on our Prophet [Muḥammad].

أصل الدين وقاعدته أمران

Fundamentals & Principles of the Religion

أصل الدين وقاعدته أمران:

The foundation of the religion and its principle are of two matters:

1) The command to worship Allāh alone without associating any partner with Him, inciting [calling others] towards that, allying [befriending] based upon it, and regarding those who renounce it [Tawḥīd] as disbelievers [Takfīr – to excommunicate].

2) Warning against Shirk [associating partners] in worshiping Allāh, being harsh [rejecting] for it, having enmity for it, and regarding those who commit it [Shirk] as disbelievers.

شروط لا إله إلا الله

Conditions of the Testimony of Faith [Lā ilāha ill-Allāh – There is no deity worthy of worship except Allah]

الأول: العلم بمعناها نفياً وإثباتاً.

1) Knowledge ['Ilm] of its meaning, related to rejecting and affirming.

2) Certainty [Yaqīn] with perfect knowledge of it, which negates all doubts and suspicions about it.

3) Sincerity [Ikhlāṣ - of intention] in contradiction of dishonesty.

4) Truthfulness [Şidq] in contradiction of lying.

5) Love [Muḥabbah] of what [the Testimony of Faith] consists of and what it indicates towards [who to show affection to and who not to], and to be pleased with it.

6) Submission [Inqiyād] to its rights [those matters we must submit to], which include the obligatory acts [of worship], to perform them sincerely for the sake of Allāh, and seeking His Pleasure.

7) Acceptance [Qabūl] in contradiction of rejection of the Testimony of Faith.

أدلة هذه الشروط من كتاب الله تعالى ومن سنة رسول الله

Evidences of These Conditions From the Book of Allāh [Qur'ān] & the Sunnah of the Messenger of Allāh

[Evidence for Knowledge]

دليل العلم:

Evidence for Knowledge:

Allāh the Most High says: "So know, [O Muḥammad], that there is no deity worthy of worship except Allāh."

And His saying: "But only those who testify to the Truth [can benefit]" i.e. testifying to Lā ilāha ill-Allāh.

"And they know." – with their hearts they affirm the Truth [which agrees with] that which they are saying with their tongues.

And [the evidence] from the Sunnah is the established narration in the Ṣaḥīḥ [in Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim] on the authority of 'Uthmān [may Allāh be pleased with him] when he reported that the Prophet said: "He who died knowing (fully well) that there is no deity worthy of worship except Allāh entered Paradise."

¹ **Reference:** Sūrah Muḥammad (47): 19.

² **Reference:** Sūrah az-Zukhruf (43): 86.

³ **Reference:** Recorded in Şaḥīḥ Muslim (no. 26).

[Evidence for Certainty]

ودليل اليقين:

Evidence for Certainty:

Allāh the Most High says: "Only those are the believers who have believed in Allāh and His Messenger, and afterward doubt not but strive with their wealth and their lives for the Cause of Allāh. Those! They are the truthful."

The condition for proving one's truthfulness in their belief in Allāh and His Messenger is that they do not have any doubts or suspicion. As for those who have doubts and suspicions, then they are from the hypocrites.

And [the evidence] from the Sunnah is the established narration in the Ṣaḥīḥ on the authority of Abū Hurayrah [may Allāh be pleased with him] when he reported that the Prophet said: "I bare testimony that there is no deity worthy of worship except Allāh and that I am His Messenger. The slave [of Allāh] who meets Allāh with these two [testimonies], having no doubt about them, will enter paradise." 5

And in another narration, it is mentioned: "No slave who meets Allāh with these two [testimonies], without harbouring any doubt about these two [truths], will be prevented from [entering] paradise." 6

⁴ **Reference:** Sūrah al-Ḥujurāt (49): 15.

⁵ **Reference:** Recorded in Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim (no. 27).

⁶ **Reference:** Recorded in Sahīh Muslim (no. 27).

وعن أبي هريرة أيضا من حديث طويل: منْ لَقيَتْ مِنْ وَراءِ هَذَا الحَائِطِ يَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ مُسْتَيْقَنَا هِمَا مِنْ قَلْبِهِ فَبَشَّرَهُ بِالْجُنَّةِ.

And on the authority of Abū Hurayrah [may Allāh be pleased with him], in a lengthy narration he reported that the Prophet said: "Go and give glad tidings of Jannah to whoever you meet who testifies 'There is no deity worthy of worship except Allāh', being whole-heartedly certain of it."

[Evidence for Sincerity]

ودليل الإخلاص:

Evidence for Sincerity:

Allāh the Most High says: "Surely, the religion [i.e. the worship and the obedience] is for Allah only...."

And His saying, Glorified be He: "And they were commanded not, but that they should worship Allāh, and worship none but Him Alone [abstaining from ascribing partners to Him]..."

And [the evidence] from the Sunnah is established in the narration in the Ṣaḥīḥ on the authority of Abū Hurayrah [may Allāh be pleased with him] when he reported that the Prophet said: "The happiest person who will have my intercession on the Day of Resurrection will be the one who said sincerely from the bottom of his heart 'There is no deity worthy of worship except Allāh.""

⁷ **Reference:** Recorded in Şaḥīḥ Muslim (no. 31).

⁸ **Reference:** Sūrah az-Zumar (39): 3.

⁹ **Reference:** Sūrah al-Bayyinah (98): 5.

¹⁰ **Reference:** Recorded in Şaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī (no. 99).

وفي الصحيح عن عتبان بن مالك عن النبي ﷺ: إِنَّ اللهَ حَرَّمَ عَلَى النّارِ مِنْ قَالَ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ يَبْتَغِي بِذَلِكَ وَجْهَ اللّهُ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ.

And in the authentic narration on the authority of 'Utbān ibn Mālik [may Allāh be pleased with him] who reported that the Prophet said: "Allāh has forbidden the [Hell] Fire for those who testify that there is no deity worthy of worship except Allāh, seeking Allāh's pleasure."

وللنسائي في" اليوم والليلة" من حديث رجلين من الصحابة عن النبي عَيْنَ : من قَالَ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَريكَ لَهُ، لَهُ المِلْكُ، وَلَهُ الحَمْدُ، وَهُوَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ، مُخْلِصًا بِهَا مِنْ قَلْبِهِ، يَصْدُقُ بِهَا لِسانَهُ . . . إِلَّا فَتَقَ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ أَنْ يُعْطيَهُ سُؤْلَهُ. السَّماءَ فَتَقًا، حَتَى يُنْظَرَ إِلَى قَائِلِها مِنْ أَهْلِ الأَرْضِ، وَحَقُّ لِعَبْدِ نَظَرٍ إِلَيْهُ اللَّهُ أَنْ يُعْطيَهُ سُؤْلَهُ.

And [Imām] an-Nasā'ī reports the narration on the authority of two companions that the Prophet said: "Whoever says, 'There is no deity worthy of worship except Allāh Alone, Who is without partner; His is the Dominion, and His is the Praise, and He is capable of all things,' with sincerity from his heart and confirmation from his tongue, Allāh opens up the sky cleaving it asunder in order to see the speaker of those words from among the inhabitants of the Earth, and it is a confirmed truth that whoever Allāh looks upon, He will give that which he asks for." 12

¹¹ **Reference:** Recorded in Şaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī (no. 5401)

¹² **Reference:** Recorded in 'Amal al-Yawm wal-Laylah (no. 28) by Imām an-Nasā'ī and by Imām Ibn Khuzaymah in Kitāb Tawḥīd (2/905) and he classed it as ṣaḥīḥ.

[Evidence for Truthfulness]

ودليل الصدق:

Evidence for Truthfulness:

Allāh the Most High says: "[1] Alif-Lām-Mīm. [2] Do people think that they will be left alone because they say, "We believe," and will not be tested. [3] And We indeed tested those who were before them. And Allāh will certainly make known [the truth of] those who are true, and will certainly make known [the falsehood of] those who are liars, [although Allāh knows all that before putting them to test]."¹³

And His saying: "[8] And of mankind, there are some [hypocrites] who say, 'We believe in Allāh and the Last Day,' while in fact they believe not. [9] They [think to] deceive Allāh and those who believe, while they only deceive themselves, and perceive [it] not! [10] In their hearts is a disease [of doubt and hypocrisy] and Allāh has increased their disease. A painful torment is theirs because they used to tell lies." 14

And [the evidence] from the Sunnah is established in the narration in the Ṣaḥīḥayn [al-Bukhārī and Muslim] on the authority of Muʻadh ibn Jabal [may Allāh be pleased with him] when he reported that the Prophet said: "There is none who testifies sincerely that there is no deity worthy of worship except Allāh and Muḥammad is His Messenger, except that Allāh, will forbidden the Hell-fire for him." ¹⁵

¹³ **Reference:** Sūrah al-'Ankabūt (29): 1-3.

¹⁴ **Reference:** Sūrah al-Baqarah (2): 8-10.

¹⁵ **Reference:** Recorded in Ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī (no. 128).

[Evidence for Love]

ودليل المحبة:

Evidence for Love:

Allāh the Most High says: "And of mankind are some who take [for worship] others besides Allāh as rivals [to Allāh]. They love them as they love Allāh. But those who believe, love Allāh more [than anything else]." ¹⁶

And His saying: "O you who believe! Whoever from amongst you turns back from his religion [Islām], Allāh will bring a people whom He will love, and they will love Him; humble towards the believers, stern towards the disbelievers, fighting in the Way of Allāh, and never afraid of the blame of the blamers...."

ومن السنة: ما ثبت في الصحيح عن أنس رضي الله عنه، قال: قَالَ رَسولُ اللهِ: ثَلاثُ مِنْ كُنَّ فِيه وَجَدَ حَلاوَةَ الْإِيمَانِ: أَنْ يَكُونَ اللهُ وَرَسولُهُ أَحَبُّ إِلَيْهُ مِمَّا سِوَاهما، وَأَنْ يُحِبَّ المَرْءُ لَا يُحِبُّهُ إِلَّا لِلهِ، وَأَنْ يُكُرَهَ اَنْ يَعودُ فِي الكُفْرِ بَعْدَ إِذْ أَنْقَذَهُ اللّهُ مِنْهُ كَمَا يَكْرَهُ أَنْ يَقْذِفَ فِي النّارِ.

And [the evidence] from the Sunnah is the established narration in the Ṣaḥīḥ on the authority of Anas ibn Mālik [may Allāh be pleased with him] when he reported that the Prophet said: "Whoever possesses the [following] three qualities will have the sweetness of faith: [1] The one to whom Allāh and His Messenger become dearer than anything else; [2] Who loves a person and he loves him only for Allāh's Sake; [3] who hates to revert to disbelief as he hates to be thrown into the Fire." 18

¹⁶ **Reference:** Sūrah al-Baqarah (2): 165.

¹⁷ **Reference:** Sūrah al-Mā'idah (5): 54.

¹⁸ **Reference:** Recorded in Şaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī (no. 6941).

[Evidence for Submission]

ودليل الانقياد:

Evidence for submission:

Allāh the Most High says: "And turn in repentance and in obedience with true Faith [Islamic Monotheism] to your Lord and submit to Him [in Islām] before the torment comes upon you, then you will not be helped." 19

And Allāh says: "And who can be better in religion than one who submits his face [himself] to Allāh [i.e. follows Allāh's Religion of Islamic Monotheism]; and he is a Muḥsin [a good-doer]."²⁰

And He says: "And whosoever submits his face [himself] to Allāh [i.e. follows Allāh's Religion of Islamic Monotheism], while he is a Muḥsin [good-doer], then he has grasped the most trustworthy hand-hold..." The handhold means the words Lā ilāha ill-Allāh - There is no deity worthy of worship except Allāh.

And Allāh says: "But nay, by your Lord, they will not truly believe until they make you [the Messenger of Allāh] judge of what is in dispute between them, and find within themselves no dislike of which you decide, and submit with full submission."²²

¹⁹ **Reference:** Sūrah az-Zumar (39): 54.

²⁰ **Reference:** Sūrah an-Nisā' (4): 125.

²¹ **Reference:** Sūrah Lugmān (31): 22.

²² **Reference:** Sūrah an-Nisā' (4): 65.

ومن السنة: قَوْلُهُ لَا يُؤْمِنُ أَحَدُكُمْ حَتَّى يَكُونَ هَوَاه تَبَعًا لِما جِئُتْ بِهِ. وهذا هو تمام الانقياد وغايته.

And [the evidence] from the Sunnah is the narration in which the Prophet says: "None of you [truly] believes until his desires are compliant to that which I have brought." This is the perfect [example] of submission and its purpose.

[Evidence for Acceptance]

ودليل القبول:

Evidence of Acceptance:

قوله تعالى: ﴿ وَكَذَلِكَ مَا أَرْسَلْنَا مِن قَبْلِكَ فِي قَرْيَةٍ مِّن نَّذِيرٍ إِلَّا قَالَ مُتْرَفُوهَا إِنَّا وَجَدْنَا آبَاءنَا عَلَى أُمَّةٍ وَإِنَّا عَلَى أَوْدِهِ عَلَى أُمَّةٍ وَإِنَّا عَلَى أَوْدِهِ مَّقْتَدُونَ (23) قَالَ أَوْلُوْ جِعْتُكُم بِأَهْدَى مِمَّا وَجَدتُمْ عَلَيْهِ آبَاءَكُمْ قَالُوا إِنَّا بِمَا أُرْسِلْتُم بِهِ كَافِرُونَ (24) فَانطَوْرُ كَيْفَ كَانَ عَاقِبَةُ الْمُكَذِبِينَ ﴾ فَانطَوْرُ عَيْفَ كَانَ عَاقِبَةُ الْمُكَذِبِينَ ﴾

The saying of Allāh the Most High: "[23] And similarly, We sent not a warner before you [O Muḥammad] to any town [people] but the luxurious ones among them said, "We found our fathers following a certain way and religion, and we will indeed follow their footsteps." [24] [The warner] said, "Even if I bring you better guidance than that which you found your fathers following?" They said, "Verily, we disbelieve in that with which you have been sent." [25] So We took revenge of them, then see what was the end of those who denied [Islamic Monotheism]." ²⁴

And His saying: "[35] Truly, when it was said to them, 'Lā ilāha ill-Allāh [there is no deity worthy of worship except Allah],' they puffed themselves up with pride [i.e. denied it]. [36] And [they] said, "Are we going to abandon our ālihah [deities] for the sake of a mad poet?"²⁵

²³ **Reference:** Recorded in Fatḥ al-Bārī (13/302), Ḥāfiẓ ibn Ḥajr said the narrators are trustworthy, on the authority of Abū Hurayrah [May Allāh be pleased with him].

²⁴ **Reference:** Sūrah az-Zukhruf (43): 23.

²⁵ **Reference:** Sūrah aş-Şāffāt (37): 35-36.

ومن السنة: ما ثبت في الصحيح عن ابي موسى عن النبي عَنْ الله يَ الله يَ

And [the evidence] from the Sunnah is the established narration in the Ṣaḥīḥ on the authority of Abū Mūsá [may Allāh be pleased with him] when he reported that the Prophet said: "The example of guidance and knowledge with which Allāh has sent me is like abundant rain falling on the Earth, some of which was fertile soil that absorbed rainwater and brought forth vegetation and grass in abundance. [And] another portion of it was hard and held the rainwater and Allāh benefited the people with it and they utilized it for drinking, making their animals drink from it and for irrigation of the land for cultivation. [And] a portion of it was barren which could neither hold the water nor bring forth vegetation [then that land gave no benefits]. The first is the example of the person who comprehends Allāh's religion and gets benefit [from the knowledge] which Allāh has revealed through me [the Prophet] and learns and then teaches others. The last example is that of a person who does not care for it and does not take Allāh's guidance revealed through me [He is like that barren land]."²⁶

²⁶ **Reference:** Recorded in Şaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī (no. 79).

نواقض الإسلام

Nullifiers of Islām

اعلم أن نواقض الإسلام عشرة:

You should know that the nullifiers of Islām are ten:

[1] Shirk [associating partners] in worshipping Allāh. Allāh Most High says:

Allāh Most High says: "Verily, Allāh forgives not that partners should be set up with him in worship, but He forgives except that (anything else) to whom He pleases..."²⁷

And Allāh says: "Verily, whosoever sets up partners in worship with Allāh, then Allāh has forbidden Paradise for him, and the Fire will be his abode. And for the Zālimūn [polytheists and wrong-doers] there are no helpers." ²⁸

Shirk [has many forms] including slaughtering animals to others besides Allāh, like those who slaughter to the Jinn or the graves.

[2] Whoever sets up intermediaries between himself and Allāh, supplicating to them, asking them to intercede on their behalf, and placing their ultimate trust in them, [has committed] disbelief according to the ijmā' [consensus of the scholars].

²⁷ **Reference:** Sūrah an-Nisā' (4): 48.

²⁸ **Reference:** Sūrah al-Mā'idah (5): 72.

[3] He who does not make Takfīr [excommunicate] of the polytheists, or doubts their disbelief, or holds their beliefs as valid [is a disbeliever].

[4] He who believes that the guidance of other than the Prophet is more complete than his guidance, or that the ruling of other than his is better than his ruling – for instance those who prefer the rule and legal decisions of Ṭawāghīt [idols and false deities] over the Prophet's rule – is a disbeliever.

[5] He who hates any part of what the Messenger of Allāh & came with, even if they act upon it, has disbelieved.

[6] He who mocks any aspect of the religion of the Messenger of Allāh **\$\oints\$**, or of any of its rewards or punishments, becomes a disbeliever. The proof is the saying of Allāh the Most High:

"If you ask them (about this), they declare: "We were only talking idly and joking." Say: "Was it at Allāh, and His Āyāt (proofs, evidences, verses, lessons, signs, revelations, etc.) and His Messenger that you were mocking?" (66) Make no excuse; you have disbelieved after you had believed."²⁹

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²⁹ Reference: Sūrah at-Tawbah (9): 65-66

[7] The practice of magic: This includes [for example] aṣ-Ṣarf [causing a rift between a husband and wife by turning his love for her into hatred], and al-'Aṭf [tempting a person to do things he dislikes using black arts]. The proof is the saying of Allāh the Most High:

"but neither of these two [angels] taught anyone [such things] till they had said, "We are only for trial, so disbelieve not [by learning this magic from us]." 30

[8] Supporting and aiding the polytheists against the Muslims. The proof is the saying of Allāh the Most High:

"And if any amongst you takes them as Awliyā', then surely he is one of them. Verily, Allāh guides not those people who are the Ṭālimūn [polytheists and wrong-doers and unjust]."³¹

[9] He who believes that some people are permitted to depart from the Sharī'ah of the Prophet Muḥammad , as al-Khiḍr was exempted from the law of Mūsá [peace be upon him], is a disbeliever.

[10] To avoid and turn completely away from the religion of Allāh the Most High, by neither learning it's teachings nor acting upon it.

³⁰ **Reference:** Sūrah al-Baqarah (2): 102.

³¹ **Reference:** Sūrah al-Mā'idah (5): 51.

The proof is the saying of Allāh the Most High:

"And who does more wrong than he who is reminded of the Āyāt [proofs, evidences, verses, lessons, signs, revelations, etc.] of his Lord, then he turns aside therefrom? Verily, We shall exact retribution from the Mujrimūn [criminals, disbelievers, polytheists, sinners, etc]."³²

It makes no difference whether such violations are committed as a joke [in a mocking manner], or in all seriousness, or out of fear, except for the one who is under compulsion [i.e. under severe torture and under threat of death, etc]. All of these violations are of the most dangerous of horrendous evils even though they may occur frequently. We seek refuge in Allāh from such beliefs and deeds which necessarily bring His wrath and most painful punishment.

³² **Reference:** Sūrah as-Sajdah (32): 22.

التوحيد ثلاثة أنواع

Tawhīd [Islamic Monotheism] Is of Three Categories

الأول: توحيد الربوبية:

[1] Tawḥīd ar-Rubūbīyah [The Oneness of the Lordship]:

وهو الذي اقر به الكفار على زمن رسول الله على وقاتلهم رسول الله على ولم يدخلهم في الإسلام، واستحل دماءهم وأموالهم، وهو توحيد الله بفعله تعالى، والدليل قوله تعالى:

The polytheists at the time of the Prophet acknowledged this kind of Tawhīd, but their acknowledgment did not bring them into Islām, and the Messenger of Allāh fought against them and declared that their blood and properties may be taken legally [under the conditions of Islamic law]. This Tawhīd is the Tawhīd of Allāh's actions, may He be Exalted. The proof is the saying of Allāh the Most High:

"Say [O Muḥammad]: "Who provides for you from the sky and from the earth? Or who owns hearing and sight? And who brings out the living from the dead, and brings out the dead from the living? And who disposes the affairs?" They will say: "Allāh." Say: "Will you not then be afraid of Allāh's Punishment [for setting up rivals in worship with Allāh]?"³³

The verses of Allāh [in the Qur'ān] on this subject are numerous.

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³³ **Reference:** Sūrah Yūnus (10): 31.

[2] Tawḥīd al-Ulūhīyah [the Oneness of Allāh's Divinity and of His exclusive right to be sincerely worshipped]:

This is the [category of] Tawhīd which has been the subject of controversy from ancient times until the modern era [the polytheists at the time of the Prophet did not believe that all worship should be directed to Allah Alone, but did believe that Allah is the Creator and Sustainer of the heavens and earth].

This is the Tawhīd of Allāh by the actions of His slave [directed to Him], like worshipping Him through:

- Ad-Du'ā' [supplication],
- o An-Nadhr [making oaths and vows],
- An-Naḥr [slaughtering],
- Ar-Rajā' [hope],
- Al-Khawf [reverential fear],
- o At-Tawakkul [trust and reliance],
- Ar-Raghbah [longing],
- Ar-Rahbah [dreading],
- Al-Inābah [turning repentantly].

All of these forms of worship [and many others] are evidenced from the Book of Allāh, the Qur'ān.

[3] Tawḥīd adh-Dhāt wal-Asmā' waṣ-Ṣifāt [the Oneness of Allāh's Exalted Being, His Names and Attributes]: Allāh the Most High says:

"Say [O Muḥammad]: He is Allāh, [the] One. [2] Allāh-uṣ-Ṣamad [The Self-Sufficient Master, Whom all creatures need, He neither eats nor drinks]. [3] He begets not, nor was He begotten; [4] And there is none co-equal or comparable unto Him."³⁴

وقوله تعالى:

And He the Most High says:

"And [all] the Most Beautiful Names belong to Allāh, so call on Him by them, and leave the company of those who belie or deny [or utter impious speech against] His Names. They will be requited for what they used to do."³⁵

وقوله تعالى:

And He the Most High says:

"There is nothing like unto Him, and He is the All-Hearer All-Seer." 36

³⁴ **Reference:** Sūrah al-Ikhlāş (112): 1-4.

³⁵ **Reference:** Sūrah al-A'rāf (7): 180.

³⁶ **Reference:** Sūrah ash-Shūrá (42): 11.

ضد التوحيد الشرك

The Opposite of Tawhīd Is Shirk [Polytheism]

وهو ثلاثة انواع: شرك اكبر، وشرك اصغر، وشرك خفي.

Shirk is of three kinds:

- 1) The Major or Greater Shirk,
- 2) The Minor or Lesser Shirk, and
- 3) The Hidden Shirk.

[First Type of Shirk: Major Shirk]

Major Shirk: Allah does not forgive Major Shirk, and He doesn't accept any good deed from those who commit it. Allah the Mighty and Majestic has said:

"Verily! Allāh forgives not [the sin of] setting up partners in worship with Him, but He forgives whom he pleases sins other than that, and whoever sets up partners in worship with Allāh, has indeed strayed far away." 37

وقال سبحانه:

And Allāh Most Exalted says:

"... But the Messiah ['Īsá - Jesus] said: "O Children of Israel! Worship Allāh, my Lord and your Lord." Verily, whosoever sets up partners in worship with Allāh, then Allāh has forbidden Paradise for him, and the Fire will be his abode. And for the Zālimūn [polytheists and wrong-doers] there are no helpers." 38

³⁷ **Reference:** Sūrah an-Nisā' (4): 116.

³⁸ **Reference:** Sūrah al-Mā'idah (5): 72.

وقال تعالى:

And Allāh the Most High says:

"And We shall turn to whatever deeds they [disbelievers, polytheists, sinners, etc.] did, and We shall make such deeds as scattered floating particles of dust." 39

وقال سبحانه:

And Allāh Glorified be He says:

"... If you join others in worship with Allāh, [then] surely [all] your deeds will be in vain, and you will certainly be among the losers." 40

وقال سبحانه:

And Allāh Glorified be He says:

"... But if they had joined in worship others with Allāh, all that they used to do would have been of no benefit to them." ⁴¹

³⁹ **Reference:** Sūrah al-Furqān (25): 23.

⁴º **Reference:** Sūrah az-Zumar (39): 65.

⁴¹ **Reference:** Sūrah al-An'ām (6): 88.

[Four Types of Major Shirk]

Major Shirk is of four categories:

[1] The first category of Major Shirk is Shirk ad-Du'ā' - Association in supplication – supplicating to others beside Allāh: The proof is the statement of the Most High:

"And when they embark on a ship, they invoke Allāh, making their Faith pure for Him only, but when He brings them safely to land, behold, they give a share of their worship to others." 42

[2] The second category of Major Shirk is Shirk an-Nīyah wal-Irādah wal-Qaṣd-Association in intention, desire and purpose: The proof is the statement of the Most High:

"Whosoever desires the life of the world and its glitter; to them We shall pay in full [the wages of] their deeds therein, and they will have no diminution therein." ⁴³

⁴² Reference: Sūrah al-'Ankabūt (29): 65.

⁴³ Reference: Sūrah Hūd (11): 15.

[3] The third category of Major Shirk is Shirk aṭ-Ṭā'ah - Association in obedience: The proof is the statement of the Most High:

"They [Jews and Christians] took their rabbis and their monks to be their lords besides Allāh [by obeying them in things which they made lawful or unlawful according to their own desires without being ordered by Allāh], and [they also took as their Lord] al-Masīḥ [the Messiah], son of Maryam [Mary], while they [Jews and Christians] were commanded [in the Tawrāh – Torah] and the Injīl [Gospel] to worship none but One Ilāh [Deity – Allāh] Lā ilāha illā Huwa [none has the right to be worshipped but He]. Praise and Glory be to Him, [far above is He] from having the partners they associate [with Him]."44

The interpretation undoubtedly refers to obedience towards the scholars and the people in sin, and not to supplicate to them, as explained by the Prophet to 'Adī ibn Ḥātim when he asked him, 'We do not worship them!', which means obedience to them in their sinful acts.

[4] The fourth category of Major Shirk is Shirk al-Muḥabbah - Association in loving Allāh: The proof is the statement of the Most High:

"And of mankind are some who take [for worship] others besides Allāh as rivals [to Allāh]. They love them as they love Allāh." 45

⁴⁴ **Reference:** Sūrah at-Tawbah (9): 31.

⁴⁵ **Reference:** Sūrah al-Bagarah (2): 165.

[Second Type of Shirk: Lesser/Minor Shirk]

The second category from the categories Shirk:

The second type of Shirk is the 'Lesser Shirk', like that of the Shirk of ar-Riyā' [showing off in worship to be seen and praised by the creation]. The proof is the statement of the Most High:

"So, whoever hopes for the Meeting with his Lord, let him do righteous deeds and associate none as a partner in the worship of his Lord." 46

The third category from the categories Shirk:

The Concealed Shirk is the Shirk mentioned by the Prophet # when he said:

"Shirk in this nation is more concealed and subtle than the footstep of the black ant on a black boulder in the darkness of the night." 47

The expiation [of the sin of this form of shirk] is as the Prophet # said:

"O Allāh! I seek refuge in you lest I associate anything with you while I know it, and I seek your forgiveness for what I do not know."48

⁴⁶ **Reference:** Sūrah al-Kahf (18): 110.

⁴⁷ **Reference:** Reported by al-Ḥākim who claimed it to be ṣaḥīḥ.

⁴⁸ **Reference:** Recorded in Adab al-Mufrad (no. 716).

الكفر كفران

Al-Kufr [Disbelief] Is of Two Kinds

The first kind of disbelief [is the greater form of Shirk – Shirk al-Akbar]: This [type of disbelief] takes one outside the Millah [religion]. It is of five categories:

[Major Disbelief]

[1] Kufr at-Takdhīb - Disbelief by denial and rejection of the Truth: The proof is the statement of Allāh the Most High:

"And who does more wrong than he who invents a lie against Allāh or denies the Truth [Muḥammad and his doctrine of Islamic Monotheism and this Qur'ān], when it comes to him? Is there not a dwelling in Hell for disbelievers [in the Oneness of Allāh and in His Messenger Muḥammad]?" 49

[2] Kufr al-Ibā' wal-Istikbār - Disbelief by arrogant refusal and pride: The proof is the statement of Allāh the Most High:

"And [remember] when We said to the angels: "Prostrate yourselves before Ādam.". And they prostrated except Iblīs [Shayṭān/Satan], he refused and was proud and was one of the disbelievers [disobedient to Allāh]." ⁵⁰

⁴⁹ Reference: Sūrah al-'Ankabūt (29): 68.

⁵⁰ **Reference:** Sūrah al-Bagarah (2): 34.

[3] Kufr ash-Shakk wa Kufr az-Zann - Disbelief by doubt and disbelief by suspicion: The proof is the statement of Allāh the Most High:

"And he went into his garden while in a state [of pride and disbelief] unjust to himself. He said: 'I think not that this will ever perish. [36] And I think not the Hour will ever come, and if indeed I am brought back to my Lord, [on the Day of Resurrection], I surely shall find better than this when I return to Him.' [37] His companion said to him, during the talk with him: 'Do you disbelieve in Him Who created you out of dust [i.e. your father Ādam], then out of Nuṭfah [mixed semen drops of male and female discharge], then fashioned you into a man? [38] But as for my part [I believe] that He is Allāh, my Lord, and none shall I associate as partner with my Lord.""51

[4] Kufr al-I'rāḍ - Disbelief by avoidance and turning away: The proof is the statement of Allāh the Most High:

"But those who disbelieve turn away from that whereof they are warned."52

⁵¹ **Reference:** Sūrah al-Kahf (18): 35-38.

⁵² Reference: Sūrah al-Aḥqāf (46): 3.

(5) Kufr an-Nifāq - Disbelief by hypocrisy – this is the hypocrisy related to one's belief: The proof is the statement of Allāh the Most High:

"That is because they believed, then disbelieved, therefore their hearts are sealed, so they do not understand." ⁵³

[The Lesser Disbelief]

The second kind of disbelief [is the lesser form of Shirk – Kufr al-Asghar]: This type does not take one outside the religion, and it is [called] Kufr an-Ni'mah [ingratitude of Allāh's blessings]. The proof is the statement of the Most High:

"And Allāh puts forward the example of a township [Makkah], that dwelt secure and well content; its provision coming to it in abundance from every place, but it [its people] denied the Favours of Allāh [with ungratefulness]. So, Allāh made it taste the extreme of hunger [famine] and fear, because of that [evil – i.e. denying Prophet Muḥammad] which they [its people] used to do."54

⁵³ **Reference:** Sūrah al-Munāfiqūn (63): 3.

⁵⁴ **Reference:** Sūrah an-Naḥl (16): 112.

أنواع النفاق

Types of Hypocrisy

النفاق نوعان: اعتقادي وعملي:

Hypocrisy is of Two Kinds:

- 1) Hypocrisy of belief.
- 2) Hypocrisy of action.

[Hypocrisy of Belief Is of Six Categories]

The Hypocrisy of Belief - Nifāq al-I'tiqādī: This [type] is of six categories, and anyone who commits one or more of these is from the lowest depths of the Hell-Fire:

First: Denial of the Messenger # [i.e. denial of the truth of his statements].

Second: Denial of any part of the Message which the Messenger ame with.

Third: Detesting [and hating] the Messenger .

Fourth: Detesting [and hating] any part of that which the Messenger # came with.

Fifth: Rejoicing at the disgrace of the religion of the Messenger [i.e. by the victory of the disbelievers over the believers].

Sixth: Being displeased by the victory of the religion of the Messenger # [i.e. at the spread of Islām and victory over its enemies].

[Hypocrisy of Action Is of Five Categories]

The Hypocrisy of Action - Nifāq al-'Amalī: This [type] is of five categories, the proof being from the saying of the Messenger of Allāh *****:

"The signs of a hypocrite are three: [1] Whenever he speaks, he tells a lie; and [2] whenever he promises, he breaks his promise; and [3] whenever he is entrusted, he betrays (proves to be dishonest)." 55

وفي رواية:

And, in another narration [we find the additional two categories]:

"...[4] when he disputes he transgresses, and [5] when he makes an agreement he violates it." ⁵⁶

⁵⁵ **Reference:** Recorded in Şaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī (no. 6095).

⁵⁶ **Reference:** Recorded in Şaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī (no. 34).

معنى الطاغوت ورؤوس أنواعه

The Meaning of Taghūt & Its Major Categories

Know, may Allāh have mercy on you [O Muslim seeking the Truth], that the first obligation upon [all] the sons of Ādam is the rejection of false deities [al-Kufr biṭ-Ṭāghūt], and the belief in Allāh [al-Īmān bil-Lāh]. The proof is the statement of the Most High:

"And verily, We have sent among every Ummah [community, nation] a Messenger [proclaiming]: "Worship Allāh [Alone], and avoid [or keep away from] aṭ-Ṭāghūt [all false deities, etc. – i.e. do not worship Ṭāghūt besides Allāh]."57

[Ways of Rejecting aṭ-Ṭāghūt]

The way of rejecting Taghūt is to believe that its worship is false and nullified, to leave and abandon it totally, to hate and detest it, to declare all those who practice it as disbelievers, and to become their enemies.

The meaning of believing in Allāh is to believe that Allāh is the One and Only Deity Who is worthy of worship, taking no deity besides Him, to sincerely worship Him with all the [prescribed] forms of worship, to refute and reject all other objects of worship, to love the people of sincere worship, making them your friends and allies, and to hate and despise the people of Shirk, making them your worst enemies.

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⁵⁷ **Reference:** Sūrah an-Naḥl (16): 36.

This is the religion [Millah] of Ibrāhīm [peace be upon him], that whoever deviates from, will only make a fool of himself. There is a good example of this [in the way of Ibrāhīm - peace be upon him] as Allāh has informed us in His saying:

"Indeed, there has been an excellent example for you in Ibrāhīm and those with him, when they said to their people, 'Verily, we are free from you and whatever you worship besides Allāh, we have rejected you, and there has started between us and you, hostility and hatred forever, until you believe in Allāh Alone'..."

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والطاغوت عام في كل ما عُبد من دون الله ورضي بالعبادة من معبود أو متبوع أو مطاع في غير طاعة الله ورسوله فهو طاغوت.

Aṭ-Tāghūt is a general term which is applied to everything and anything that is worshipped besides Allāh, and is pleased with that worship, following or obedience, which is besides the obedience towards Allāh and His Messenger, then that is a Tāghūt.

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⁵⁸ **Reference:** Sūrah al-Mumtaḥinah (60): 4.

[The Heads of Taghut]

The Tawaghit are many [and varied], but the heads [leaders] of the Tawaghit are five:

[1] Shayṭān [Satan/the devil] who calls man to worship others besides Allāh. The proof being the saying of Allāh Most Exalted:

"Did I not ordain for you, O Children of Ādam, that you should not worship Shayṭān [Satan]. Verily, he is a plain enemy to you." ⁵⁹

[2] The oppressive ruler, who changes the law of Allāh. The proof is the saying of Allāh the Most High:

"Have you seen those [hypocrites] who claim that they believe in that which has been sent down to you, and that which was sent down before you, and they wish to go for judgement [in their disputes] to the Ṭāghūt [false judges, etc.] while they have been ordered to reject them. But Shayṭān [Satan] wishes to lead them far astray." 60

⁵⁹ **Reference:** Sūrah Yāsīn (36): 60.

⁶⁰ Reference: Sūrah an-Nisā' (4): 60.

[3] Anyone who judges by other than what Allāh has revealed. The proof is the saying of Allah the Most High:

"And whosoever does not judge by what Allāh has revealed, such are the disbelievers." 61

[4] Anyone who claims knowledge of the unseen without revelation from Allāh [which is not possible, as knowledge of the unseen is only with Allāh].

The proof is the saying of Allāh the Most High:

"[26] [He Alone] the All-Knower of the Ghayb [unseen], and He reveals to none His Ghayb. [27] Except to a Messenger [from mankind] whom He has chosen [He informs him of unseen as much as He likes], and then He makes a band of watching guards [angels] to march before him and behind him." 62

⁶¹ Reference: Sūrah al-Mā'idah (5): 44.

⁶² **Reference:** Sūrah al-Jinn (72): 26-27.

وقوله تعالى:

Allāh the Most High says:

"And with Him are the keys of the Unseen [and Hidden]; none knows them except He. And He knows whatever there is in the earth and in the sea; not even a leaf fall but He knows it. There is not a grain in the darkness of the earth, nor anything moist [and fresh] or dry, [and hard] but it is written in a Clear Record-Book." [63]

[5] Anyone who allows himself to be worshipped and is pleased by such worship. The proof is the saying of Allāh the Most High:

"And if any of them should say, "Verily, I am an ilāh [a deity] besides Him [Allāh]," such a one We should recompense with Hell. Thus, We recompense the Ṣālimūn [polytheists and wrong-doers, etc.]." ⁶⁴

It should be known that no person becomes a believer [Mu'min] in Allāh except by rejecting Ṭāghūt. The proof is the saying of Allāh the Most High:

"Whoever disbelieves in Taghūt and believes in Allāh, then he has grasped the most trustworthy handhold that will never break. And Allāh is All-Hearer, All-Knower." ⁶⁵

⁶³ **Reference:** Sūrah al-An'ām (6): 59.

⁶⁴ **Reference:** Sūrah al-Anbiyā' (21): 29.

⁶⁵ **Reference:** Sūrah al-Bagarah (2): 256.

الرشد: دين محمد صلى الله عليه وآله وسلم، والغي: دين أبي جهل، والعروة الوثقى: شهادة أن لا إله إلا الله، وهي متضمنة للنفي والإثبات، تنفي جميع أنواع العبادة عن غير الله، وتثبت جميع أنواع العبادة كلها لله وحده لا شريك له.

The rightly guided way is the religion of Muḥammad [the Messenger of Allāh] , whereas deviation therefrom is the religion of Abū Jahl [the way of misguidance]. The most trustworthy handhold is the testimony of faith "Lā ilāha ill-Allāh" – there is no deity worthy of worship except Allāh – which includes within it a negation and affirmation; a negation of all that is worshipped other than Allāh, and an affirmation that all worship is only for Allāh alone, who has no partner.

والحمد لله الذي بنعمته تتم الصالحات. 66

All Praise is to Allāh by Whose grace good deeds are accomplished and performed.

[End of Booklet]

⁶⁶ **Reference:** The Arabic text was taken from شبكة مشكاة الإسلامية.

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