

# Religious Fundamentals

That every Muslim should know about

Muhammad bin Sulaiman At-Tamimi

الواجبات المتحتمات  
المعرفة على كل مسلم ومسلمة

**Religious Fundamentals**  
that every Muslim  
should know about



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Supervised by:  
**ABDUL MALIK MUJAHID**

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By:

**Muhammad bin Sulaiman At-Tamimi**

Translated by:

**Masud-ul-Hasan**

Revised by:

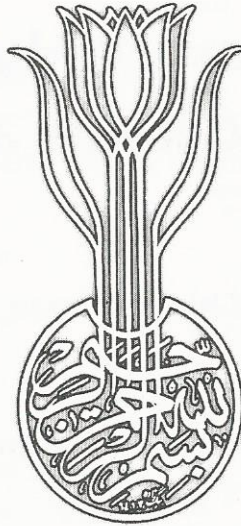
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**In the Name of Allâh  
the Most Beneficent, the Most Merciful**

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## Publisher's Note

This brief treatise entitled *Religious Fundamentals* is based on the work of Sheikh-ul-Islam Muhammad bin Sulaiman At-Tamimi. It expounds *Tauhid*, *Shirk* and *Nifâq* from the Islamic point of view.

In the modern times in which atheism and apostasy are dominant, it is needed to resort to Islam so that we may save ourselves from the man-made philosophies which affect our monotheistic creed and cultural values.

Thus all of us should acquire knowledge of Islam and act upon it devoutly for Allah's pleasure. May Allah bless all those who contributed in bringing out the booklet.

**Abdul Malik Mujahid**  
General Manager  
Maktaba Dar-us-Salam

## Three Basic Principles

The three basic principles of which every Muslim must be aware are:

Knowledge about his/her *Rabb* (Lord), knowledge about his/her religion (Islam) and knowledge about his/her Prophet (Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم).

If it is asked: Who is your *Rabb*? Your answer is: My *Rabb* is Allah Who created and reared me and all the worlds by His grace. My worship is solely for Him. In fact, there is none to be worshipped besides Allah.

If it is asked: What is your religion? Your reply is: My religion is Islam which implies submission to Allah by recognition of His Oneness, obedience to His Orders and avoidance of *Shirk* (polytheism) and its adherents.

If it is asked: Who is your Prophet? Your answer is : My Prophet is Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم , son of Abdullah bin Abdul Muttalib bin Hashim. Hashim was a Quraish tribesman and Quraish was an Arab tribe. The Arabs are the descendants of Isma'il, son of Ibrahim Al Khalil (the friend of) Allah. (may Allah's mercy and blessing be upon them and our Prophet).

## Source of Religion

The source of religion depends on two things:

**First:**Enjoining the people to worship Allah Who is alone without partner, enticing others to do so, befriending them for it and regarding them as disbelievers if they renounce it.

**Second:** Warning against the *Shirk* in the worship of Allah, treating harshly for it, bearing hostility for it and regarding them as disbelievers who commit it.



## Conditions of Testimony

There are seven conditions of the Testimony of Faith in Allah known as “There is no God except Allah”:

1. Knowledge of its meaning with both negative and affirmative aspects.
2. Certitude with perfect knowledge which negates all the doubts and suspicions about it.
3. Sincerity and purity of intention in contradiction to *shirk*.
4. Truthfulness which negates the falsehood and prohibits hypocrisy.
5. Love of and devotion to the Testimony of Faith and its requisites, and rejoicing at it.
6. Submission to its prerequisites which include obligatory acts of worship to be dedicated to Allah alone and seeking His pleasure.
7. Acceptance which in contradiction to rejection or denial of the testimony of faith.

## Evidences from the Qur’ân and Sunnah

### Evidence of Knowledge:

Allah the Almighty said:

[محمد: ١٩]

﴿فَاعْلَمْ أَنَّهُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ﴾

“So know (O Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم) that *La ilaha illa-Allah*. (There is no true God but Allah).” (47:19)

And Allah said:

“...Except those who bear witness to the truth (i.e. the Oneness of Allah), and they know (the facts about the Oneness of Allah)”.(43:86)

“They know by their hearts what they utter by their lips.

On the authority of Uthman رضي الله عنه it is reported that Allah’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم said:

«مَنْ مَاتَ وَهُوَ يَعْلَمُ أَنَّهُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ دَخَلَ الْجَنَّةَ»

“Whosoever (of my followers) died knowing (fully well) that there is no true God but Allah, he would enter Paradise.” (Bukhari, Muslim)

### Evidence of Certitude:

Allah said:

﴿إِنَّمَا الْمُؤْمِنُونَ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا بِاللَّهِ وَرَسُولِهِ ثُمَّ لَمْ يَرْتَابُوا وَجَاهَدُوا بِأَمْوَالِهِمْ وَأَنْفُسِهِمْ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ أُولَئِكَ هُمُ الصَّادِقُونَ﴾ [الحجرات: ١٥]

“Only those are the believers who have believed in Allah and His Messenger, and afterward doubt not but strive with their wealth and their lives in the Cause of Allah. Those! They are the truthful.”(49:15)

The condition of their belief in Allah and His Messenger was that they did not doubt or suspect. As for the doubtful, they are the hypocrites.

On the authority of Abu Hurairah رضي الله عنه who said that Allah’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم said:

«أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَأَنِّي رَسُولُ اللَّهِ لَا يَلْقَى اللَّهُ بِهِمَا عَبْدٌ غَيْرَ شَاكٍ فِيهِمَا إِلَّا دَخَلَ الْجَنَّةَ»

“I testify that there is no true God except Allah and that I am Allah’s Messenger. Any slave who will meet Allah with this testimony without any doubt in it will certainly enter Paradise.” (Bukhari)

In another version:

«لا يلقى الله بهما عبدٌ غيرَ شاكٍ فيهما فيُحجَبَ عن الجنةِ»

“Any slave who will meet Allah with this testimony without any doubt in it will not be kept away from Paradise.”

The part of a lengthy *Hadith* narrated by Abu Hurairah رضي الله عنه is:

«مَنْ لَقِيَ مِنْ وَرَاءِ هَذَا الْخَائِطِ يَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ مَسْتَيْقِنًا بِهَا قَلْبُهُ فَبَشِّرْهُ بِالْجَنَّةِ»

“Whom you meet behind this wall testifying that there is no true God but Allah, believing in it by his heart, give him glad tidings of entering Paradise.”

### Evidence of Sincerity:

Allah the Almighty says:

[الزمر: ٣]

﴿أَلَا لِلَّهِ الدِّينُ الْخَالِصُ﴾

“Surely the religion (i.e. worship and obedience) is for Allah only.” (39:3)

And He says:

[البينة: ٥]

﴿وَمَا أُمِرُوا إِلَّا لِيَعْبُدُوا اللَّهَ مُخْلِصِينَ لَهُ الدِّينَ حُنَفَاءَ﴾

“And they were commanded not but that they should worship Allah, being sincere in devoting the religion to Him.” (98:5).

On the authority of Abu Hurairah رضي الله عنه who quoted Prophet Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم as having said:

«أَسْعَدُ النَّاسِ بِشَفَاعَتِي مَنْ قَالَ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ خَالِصاً مِنْ قَلْبِهِ أَوْ نَفْسِهِ»

“The luckiest person who will have my intercession (on the Day of Judgement) will be the one who said ‘There is no true God except Allah’ sincerely from his heart or soul.” Bukhari

Utban bin Malik رضي الله عنه narrated Prophet Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم as having said:

«إِنَّ اللَّهَ حَرَّمَ عَلَى النَّارِ مَنْ قَالَ: لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ يَبْتَغِي بِذَلِكَ وَجْهَ اللَّهِ عِزًّا وَجَلًّا»

“Verily Allah has forbidden the Hell-fire for those who say ‘There is no true God except Allah,’ seeking by this declaration the pleasure of Allah.” Bukhari

Nasai has collected in his book entitled *Al-Yum wal-Lailah* “the day and the night” a *Hadith* of two Companions who narrated that the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم said:

«مَنْ قَالَ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ. لَهُ الْمُلْكُ وَلَهُ الْحَمْدُ وَهُوَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ مُخْلِصاً بِهَا قَلْبَهُ. يُصَدِّقُ بِهَا لِسَانَهُ إِلَّا فَتَقَّ اللَّهُ لَهَا السَّمَاءَ فَتَقَّا حَتَّى يَنْظُرَ إِلَى قَائِلِهَا مِنْ أَهْلِ الْأَرْضِ. وَحَقَّ لِعَبْدٍ نَظَرَ اللَّهُ إِلَيْهِ أَنْ يُعْطِيَهُ سؤَالَهُ»

“Whoever (of my followers) said ‘*La ilaha illa Allah, wahdahu la sharika lahu, lahul mulk wa lahul hamd, wa huwa ala kulli shaien Qadeer.* (There is no true God but Allah. He is the only One Who has no partners with Him. For Him is the kingdom and to Him belong all praises. He is Omnipotent over everything)’ sincerely at his heart and testifying with his tongue, Allah will tear open the sky for this declaration, and He will look at the speaker among the



inhabitants of the earth. And a slave whom Allah sees has the right to be granted his request.”

### Evidence of Truthfulness:

Allah says:

﴿ أَحْسِبَ النَّاسُ أَنْ يُتْرَكُوا أَنْ يَقُولُوا ءَامَنَّا وَهُمْ لَا يُفْتَنُونَ ۚ وَلَقَدْ فَتَنَّا الَّذِينَ مِنْ قَبْلِهِمْ فَلَيَعْلَمَنَّ اللَّهُ الَّذِينَ صَدَقُوا وَلَيَعْلَمَنَّ الْكٰذِبِينَ ﴾ [العنكبوت: ٢-٣]

“Do people think that they will be left alone because they say ‘We believe,’ and will not be tested? And We indeed tested those who were before them. And Allah will certainly make known those who are true and will certainly make known those who are liars.” (29:2-3)

And He says:

﴿ وَمِنَ النَّاسِ مَنْ يَقُولُ ءَامَنَّا بِاللَّهِ وَيَأْتُونَ الْآخِرَ وَمَا هُمْ بِمُؤْمِنِينَ ۚ يُخٰدِعُونَ اللَّهَ وَالَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا وَمَا يُخٰدِعُونَ إِلَّا أَنْفُسَهُمْ وَمَا يَشْعُرُونَ ۚ فِي قُلُوبِهِمْ مَرَضٌ فَزَادَهُمُ اللَّهُ مَرَضًا وَلَهُمْ عَذَابٌ أَلِيمٌ بِمَا كَانُوا يَكْذِبُونَ ﴾ [البقرة: ٨-١٠]

“And of mankind there are some (hypocrites) who say ‘We believe in Allah and the Last Day’ while in fact they believe not. They (think to) deceive Allah and those who believe, while they only deceive themselves, and they perceive not! In their hearts is a disease (of doubt and hypocrisy), and Allah has increased their disease. A painful torment is theirs because they used to tell lies.” (2:8-10)

Mu’adh bin Jabal رضي الله عليه narrated from the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم:

«مَا مِنْ أَحَدٍ يَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَأَنْ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ صِدْقًا مِنْ قَلْبِهِ إِلَّا حَرَّمَهُ اللَّهُ عَلَى النَّارِ»



There is none who testifies ‘*La ilaha illa Allah wa anna Muhammadan abduhu wa Rasuluhu* (There is no true God except Allah and Muhammad is His slave and His Messenger)’ truthfully from his heart, Allah will forbid the Hell-fire for him.” (Bukhari, Muslim)

﴿ وَمِنَ النَّاسِ مَن يَخُذُ مِن دُونِ اللَّهِ أَندَادًا يُحِبُّونَهُمْ كَحُبِّ اللَّهِ وَالَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا أَشَدُّ حُبًّا لِلَّهِ ﴾  
[البقرة: ١٦٥]

### Evidence of Love:

Allah the Almighty said:

“And of mankind are some who take some (associates for worship) besides Allah as rivals; they love them as they love Allah. But those who believe love Allah more (than anything else).”(2:165)

And He said:

﴿ يَتَأْتِيهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا مَن يَرْتَدَّ مِنكُمْ عَن دِينِهِ فَسَوْفَ يَأْتِي اللَّهَ بِقَوْمٍ يُحِبُّهُمْ وَيُحِبُّونَهُ أَذِلَّةٌ عَلَى الْمُؤْمِنِينَ أَعِزَّةٌ عَلَى الْكَافِرِينَ يُجَاهِدُونَ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ وَلَا يَخَافُونَ لَوْمَةَ لَائِمٍ ﴾  
[المائدة: ٥٤]

“O you who believe! whoever from among you apostates from his religion (Islam), Allah will bring a people whom He will love and who will love Him, humble towards the believers, stern towards the disbelievers, fighting in the Way of Allah, and never afraid of the blame of the blamers.” (5:54)

Anas رضي الله عنه narrated that Allah’s Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم said:

«ثَلَاثٌ مَنْ كُنَّ فِيهِ وَجَدَ حَلَاوَةَ الْإِيمَانِ: أَنْ يَكُونَ اللَّهُ وَرَسُولَهُ أَحَبَّ إِلَيْهِ مِمَّا سِوَاهُمَا وَأَنْ يُحِبَّ الْمَرْءَ لَا يُحِبُّهُ إِلَّا لِلَّهِ وَأَنْ يَكْرَهُ أَنْ يَعُودَ فِي الْكُفْرِ بَعْدَ إِذْ أَنْقَذَهُ اللَّهُ مِنْهُ كَمَا يَكْرَهُ أَنْ يُقَدَّفَ فِي النَّارِ»

“Whoever possesses the following three qualities will have the sweetness (delight) of Faith:

1. To love Allah and His Messenger (Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم) more than anything else.
2. To love a person only for Allah’s sake.
3. To hate to return to disbelief as he hates to be thrown into the Fire.”

### Evidence of Submission:

Allah the Almighty said:

[الزمر: ٥٤] ﴿وَأَنِيبُوا إِلَىٰ رَبِّكُمْ وَأَسْلِمُوا لَهُ﴾

“And turn in repentance to your Lord and submit to Him (in Islam).” (39:54)

And He said:

[النساء: ١٢٥] ﴿وَمَنْ أَحْسَنُ دِينًا مِّمَّنْ أَسْلَمَ وَجْهَهُ لِلَّهِ وَهُوَ مُحْسِنٌ﴾

“And who can be better in religion than one who submits his face (himself) to Allah and he is a well-doer.” (4:125)

He also said:

﴿وَمَنْ يُسَلِّمْ وَجْهَهُ إِلَى اللَّهِ وَهُوَ مُحْسِنٌ فَقَدِ اسْتَمْسَكَ بِالْعُرْوَةِ الْوُثْقَىٰ﴾

[لقمان: ٢٢]

“And whosoever submits his face (himself) to Allah while he is a well-doer, then he has grasped the most trustworthy handhold (i.e. la ilaha illa Allah). There is no true god except Allah.” (31:22)

And He also said:

﴿ فَلَا وَرَبِّكَ لَا يُؤْمِنُونَ حَتَّىٰ يُحَكِّمُوكَ فِي مَا شَجَرَ بَيْنَهُمْ ثُمَّ لَا يَجِدُوا فِي أَنفُسِهِمْ حَرَجًا مِّمَّا قَضَيْتَ وَيُسَلِّمُوا تَسْلِيمًا ﴾ [النساء: ٦٥]

“But no, by your Lord, they can have no Faith until they make you (O Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم) judge in all disputes between them and do not find in themselves any resistance against your decisions and accept (them) with full submission.” (4:65)

The Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم said:

« لا يؤمن أحدكم حتى يكون هواه تبعاً لما جئت به »

“None of you can be a true Muslim until his desire is submissive to what I have brought.”

This is indeed the perfect submission and its purpose.

### Evidence of Acceptance:

Allah the Almighty said:

﴿ وَكَذَٰلِكَ مَا أَرْسَلْنَا مِن قَبْلِكَ فِي قَرْيَةٍ مِّن نَّذِيرٍ إِلَّا قَالَ مُتْرَفُوهَا إِنَّا وَجَدْنَا آبَاءَنَا عَلَىٰ أُمَّةٍ وَإِنَّا عَلَىٰ آثَرِهِمْ مُّقْتَدُونَ ۝ قُلْ أُولَٰئِكَ جَحَّتْ بِأَهْدَىٰ مِمَّا وَجَدْتُمْ عَلَيْهِ آبَاءَكُمْ قَالُوا إِنَّا بِمَا أُرْسِلْتُمْ بِهِ كَافِرُونَ ۝ فَانقَمْنَا مِنْهُمْ فَانظُرْ كَيْفَ كَانَ عَاقِبَةُ الْمُكذِبِينَ ﴾

[الزخرف: ٢٣-٢٥]

“And similarly, We sent not a warner before you (O Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم) 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.’ (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. So We took revenge of them, then see what was the end of those who denied.’ (43:23-25)

And He said:

﴿إِنَّهُمْ كَانُوا إِذَا قِيلَ لَهُمْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ يَسْتَكْبِرُونَ ۝ وَيَقُولُونَ إِنَّا لَتَارِكُوا آلَ الْهَيْهَاتَ الشَّاعِرِ  
تَجْتَنُونَ﴾

“Truly when it was said to them: ‘There is no God except Allah’, they puffed themselves up with pride (i.e. denied it). And (they) said: ‘Are we going to abandon our gods for the sake of a mad poet?’”  
(37:35,36)

Abu Musa رضي الله عنه narrated from the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم who said:

«مَثَلُ مَا بَعَثَنِي اللَّهُ بِهِ مِنَ الْهُدَى وَالْعِلْمِ كَمَثَلِ الْغَيْثِ الْكَثِيرِ  
أَصَابَ أَرْضًا فَكَانَ مِنْهَا نَقِيَّةٌ قَبِلَتِ الْمَاءَ فَأَنْبَتَتِ الْكَلَّاءَ وَالْعُشْبَ  
الْكَثِيرَ. وَكَانَتْ مِنْهَا أَجَادِبُ أُمْسَكَتِ الْمَاءَ فَنَفَعَ اللَّهُ بِهَا النَّاسَ  
فَشَرِبُوا وَسَقَوْا وَزَرَعُوا وَأَصَابَ مِنْهَا طَائِفَةٌ أُخْرَى إِنَّمَا هِيَ قِيعَانٌ  
لَا تُمْسِكُ مَاءً وَلَا تَنْبِتُ كَلًّا. فَذَلِكَ مَثَلُ مَنْ فَقَهُ فِي دِينِ اللَّهِ وَنَفَعَهُ  
مَا بَعَثَنِي اللَّهُ بِهِ فَعَلِمَ وَعَلَّمَ وَمَثَلُ مَنْ لَمْ يَرَفِعْ بِذَلِكَ رَأْسًا وَلَمْ  
يَقْبَلْ هُدَى اللَّهِ الَّذِي أُرْسِلْتُ بِهِ»

“The example of guidance and knowledge with which Allah has sent me is like abundant rain falling on the earth. Some of it was fertile soil that absorbed rain-water and brought forth vegetation and grass in abundance. (And) another portion of it was hard and it held the rain-water and Allah benefited the people with it and they utilized it for drinking and irrigating (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 Allah’s religion (Islam) and gets benefit (from the knowledge) which Allah has revealed through me and



learns and then teaches it to others. The (last example is that of a) person who does not take Allah's guidance revealed through me. (He is like that barren land.)”

## Factors which Nullify Islam

The factors which nullify Islam are ten:

1. Polytheism in the worship of Allah, as Allah said:

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

[النساء: ١١٦]

"Verily Allah forgives not (the sin of) setting up partners in worship with Him, but He forgives whom He pleases sins other than that." (4:116)

And He said:

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

[المائدة: ٧٢]

"...Verily whosoever sets up partners in worship with Allah, then Allah has forbidden Paradise to him, and the Fire will be his abode. And for the wrongdoers (polytheists) there are no helpers." (5:72)

It also includes animal sacrifice for other than Allah i.e. for the *jinn* (demon) or on the grave.

2. He who sets up intermediaries between him and Allah, supplicating them and asking them to intercede on his behalf with Allah and putting trust in them, is an infidel (disbeliever): according to the consensus of the scholars.
3. He who does not hold the polytheists to be disbelievers or doubts their infidelity or holds their belief to be valid is also an infidel.
4. He who believes that the guidance of others is more



perfect than that of Prophet Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم and the law of others is better than his is like the one who prefers the rule of false gods to Allah's rule, and thus he is an infidel.

5. He who hates anything of what the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم has brought, though he acts on it, is an infidel.
6. He who ridicules anything of the religion of Prophet Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم or the reward or punishment, is a disbeliever. Allah said:

﴿ قُلْ أَبِاللَّهِ وَآيَاتِهِ وَرَسُولِهِ كُنْتُمْ تَسْتَهْزِئُونَ ۝ لَا تَعْتَدُوا قَدْ كَفَرْتُمْ بَعْدَ إِيمَانِكُمْ ﴾  
[التوبة: ٦٥-٦٦]

“Say: Was it at Allah (عز وجل) and His *Ayât* (proofs, evidences, verses, lessons, signs, revelations, etc.) and His Messenger (صلى الله عليه وسلم) that you were mocking? Make no excuse; you have disbelieved after you had believed.” (9:65,66)

7. Sorcery which includes dissuasion or deflection and affection or attachment. He who does it or likes it is an infidel. Allah said:

﴿ وَمَا يُعَلِّمَانِ مِنْ أَحَدٍ حَتَّى يَقُولَا إِنَّمَا نَحْنُ فِتْنَةٌ فَلَا تَكْفُرْ ۗ ﴾ [البقرة: ١٠٢]

“...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)’.” (2:102)

8. Supporting polytheists and aiding them against Muslims. Allah said:

﴿ وَمَنْ يَتَّخِمْ مِنْكُمْ فِتْنَةً فَإِنَّهُمُ مِنَ الْغَافِلِينَ ۗ ﴾ [المائدة: ٥١]

“...And if any amongst you takes them (as *Auliya*), then surely he is one of them. Verily Allah guides not those people who are unjust (polytheists).” (5:51)

9. He who believes that some people are exempted from obeying the *Shariah* of Muhammad (صلى الله عليه وسلم), as *Khidr* was exempted from following the Law of Musa (Moses) عليه السلام, is an infidel.
10. Disregard of Allah's religion by neither learning it nor acting upon it. Allah said:

﴿ وَمَنْ أَظْلَمُ مِمَّنْ ذُكِّرَ بِآيَاتِ رَبِّهِ ثُمَّ أَعْرَضَ عَنْهَا إِنَّا مِنَ الْمُجْرِمِينَ مُنْتَقِمُونَ ﴾  
 [السجدة: ٢٢]

“And who does more wrong than he who is reminded of the *Ayât* (proofs, evidences, verses, lessons, signs, revelations, etc.) of his Lord then he turns aside therefrom? Verily We shall exact retribution from the *Mujrimun* (criminals, disbelievers, polytheists, sinners etc.)” (32:22)

There is no difference between the joker and the serious person in respect of these nullifiers except the one who is under duress. All of them are most dangerous and most common. So a Muslim should be cautious about them and fear them for himself. We seek refuge with Allah from the causes of His wrath and severe punishment.

### ***Tauhid* (the Oneness of Allah or Islamic Monotheism) and its categories**

(It implies the belief in the Oneness of Allah according to the teachings of Islam which state that Allah is alone, without partners. For Him is the Sovereignty and all praises. He neither begets nor is begotten; nor He has any rival or associate in His Dominion).

1. توحيد الربوبية *Tauhid Ar-Rububiyah* (Oneness of the Lordship):

Although the pagans in the time of Allah's Messenger Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم believed in it, they were not entitled

to enter the fold of Islam. Rather, the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم fought them and made their blood and property violable (because they set up idols like Lat, Uzza and Manat as partners with Him). *Tauhid Ar-Rububiyah* is the assertion of Allah's Oneness in all His actions as the Qur'anic verse has indicated:

﴿ قُلْ مَنْ يَرْزُقُكُمْ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ وَالْأَرْضِ أَمَّنْ يَمْلِكُ السَّمْعَ وَالْأَبْصَرَ وَمَنْ يُخْرِجُ الْحَيَّ مِنَ الْمَيِّتِ وَيُخْرِجُ الْمَيِّتَ مِنَ الْحَيِّ وَمَنْ يُدَبِّرُ الْأَمْرَ فَسَيَقُولُونَ اللَّهُ فَقُلْ أَفَلَا تَتَّقُونَ ﴾

[يونس : ٣١]

“Say: ‘Who provides for you from the sky and 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: ‘Allah.’ Say: ‘will you not then be afraid of Allah’s punishment (for setting up rivals in worship with Allah)?’” (10:31)

(It means that Allah caused all the things to exist. He sustains and maintains the creation by Himself. He is the sole Lord of the universe and has no need of anyone to help Him. There are so many verses on the subject but we have quoted only one for clarification.)

## 2. توحيد الالهية *Tauhid Al Uluhiyah* (Oneness of the worship):

This is what has been controversial in various stages of time until now. It implies the belief that Allah is the only One God Who deserves all acts of worship such as: invocation, vow, animal sacrifice, hope, fear, trust, desire, awe and repentance. Each of them is supported by the evidences from the Qur’ân.

## 3. توحيد الذات و الاسماء و الصفات *Tauhid 'Al-Dhât wa Al Asmaa wa Assifât* (Oneness of Allah’s Self, His Names and Attributes):



(It means affirmation of all Divine Names and Attributes of Allah in the same meaning without deviation, similitude, alteration. etc.):

﴿قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ ۝ اللَّهُ الصَّمَدُ ۝ لَمْ يَكُنْ لَكَ يَوْمَ يُولَدُ ۝ وَلَمْ يَكُنْ لَكَ كُفُوًا أَحَدٌ﴾  
[الإخلاص: ١-٤]

“Say (O Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم): He is Allah, (the) One. Allah is the Self-Sufficient Master Whom all creatures need. He begets not, nor was He begotten. And there is none coequal or comparable unto Him.”(112:1-4)

Allah also said:

﴿وَلِلَّهِ الْأَسْمَاءُ الْحُسْنَىٰ فَادْعُوهُ بِهَا ۖ وَذَرُوا الَّذِينَ يُلْحِدُونَ فِي أَسْمَائِهِ سَيُجْزَوْنَ مَا كَانُوا يَعْمَلُونَ﴾  
[الأَنْفَال: ١٨٠]

“And (all) the Most Beautiful Names belong to Allah; so call on Him by them, and leave the company of those who deviate or deny His Names. They will be requited for what they used to do.” (7:180)

He also said:

﴿لَيْسَ كَمِثْلِهِ شَيْءٌ ۖ وَهُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْبَصِيرُ﴾  
[الشورى: ١١]

“...There is nothing like unto Him; and He is the All-Hearer, the All-Seer.” (42:11)

## **Shirk (Polytheism) and its Categories**

The opposite of *Tauhid* is *Shirk* which means – in Islamic terminology – the act of associating partner with Allah.

There are three types of *Shirk* (polytheism):

### **1. Ash-Shirk Al-Akbar (major polytheism)**

The major polytheism is to devote any form of worship to anyone other than Allah. Allah will never forgive it, nor He

accept with it any good deed as Allah the Almighty said:

﴿ إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يَغْفِرُ أَنْ يُشْرَكَ بِهِ وَيَغْفِرُ مَا دُونَهُ ذَلِكَ لِمَنْ يَشَاءُ وَمَنْ يُشْرِكْ بِاللَّهِ فَقَدْ ضَلَّ ضَلَالًا بَعِيدًا ﴾  
[النساء: ١١٦]

“Verily Allah forgives not (the sin of) setting up partners with Him, but He forgives whom He pleases sins other than that. And whoever sets up partners with Allah has indeed strayed far away.” (4:116)

The Almighty also said:

﴿ وَقَالَ الْمَسِيحُ يَبْنَىٰ إِسْرَائِيلَ أَعْبُدُوا اللَّهَ رَبِّي وَرَبَّكُمْ إِنَّهُ مَنْ يُشْرِكْ بِاللَّهِ فَقَدْ حَرَّمَ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ الْجَنَّةَ وَمَأْوَهُ النَّارُ وَمَا لِلظَّالِمِينَ مِنْ أَنْصَارٍ ﴾  
[المائدة: ٧٢]

“...And the Messiah (Jesus) said: ‘O children of Israel! worship Allah, my Lord and your Lord.’ Verily whosoever sets up partners (in worship) with Allah, then Allah has forbidden Paradise to him and the Fire will be his abode. And for the wrongdoers (polytheists) there are no helpers.” (5:72)

He the Almighty further said:

﴿ وَقَدِمْنَا إِلَىٰ مَا عَمِلُوا مِنْ عَمَلٍ فَجَعَلْنَاهُ هَبَاءً مَنْثُورًا ﴾ [الفرقان: ٢٣]

“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.” (25:23)

The Almighty further said:

﴿ لَئِنْ أَشْرَكَتَ لِيَحْبِطَنَّ عَمَلُكَ وَلَتَكُونَنَّ مِنَ الْخَاسِرِينَ ﴾ [الزمر: ٦٥]

“...If you ascribe partners (in worship to Allah), then surely (all) your deeds will be in vain and you will certainly be among the losers.” (39:65)



He the Almighty also said:

﴿وَلَوْ أَشْرَكُوا حَبِطَ عَنْهُمْ مَا كَانُوا يَعْمَلُونَ﴾ [الأنعام: ٨٨]

“...And if they had ascribed partners (in worship to Allah), all that they used to do would have been of no benefit to them.” (6:88)

### The major polytheism (*Shirk Akbar*) has four sub-categories:

1. Polytheism in invocation (i.e., supplicating other than Allah), as He the Almighty said:

﴿فَإِذَا رَكِبُوا فِي الْفَلَكِ دَعَوْا اللَّهَ مُخْلِصِينَ لَهُ الدِّينَ فَلَمَّا نَجَّاهُمْ إِلَى الْبَرِّ إِذَا هُمْ يُشْرِكُونَ﴾ [العنكبوت: ٦٥]

“And when they embark on a ship, they invoke Allah, making their faith pure for Him only; but when He brings them safely to land, behold, they ascribe partners (to Allah).” (29:65)

2. Polytheism in intention, will and purpose, as the Qur’ānic verse states:

﴿مَنْ كَانَ يُرِيدُ الْحَيَاةَ الدُّنْيَا وَزِينَتَهَا نُوَفِّ إِلَيْهِمْ أَعْمَالَهُمْ فِيهَا وَهُمْ فِيهَا لَا يُبْخَسُونَ ۚ أُولَٰئِكَ الَّذِينَ لَيْسَ لَهُمْ فِي الْآخِرَةِ إِلَّا النَّارُ وَحَبِطَ مَا صَنَعُوا فِيهَا وَبِطُلُّ مَا كَانُوا يَعْمَلُونَ﴾ [هود: ١٥-١٦]

“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. They are those for whom there is nothing in the Hereafter but the Fire, and vain are the deeds they did therein. And of no effect is that which they used to do.” (11:15,16)

3. The polytheism in obedience (i.e. showing readiness to

comply with the orders of others in disobedience to Allah): Evidence thereof is Allah's Statement:

﴿ اتَّخَذُوا أَحْبَابَهُمْ وَرَهْبَتَهُمْ أَرْبَابًا مِن دُونِ اللَّهِ وَالْمَسِيحَ ابْنَ مَرْيَمَ وَمَا أُمِرُوا إِلَّا لِيَعْبُدُوا إِلَهًا وَاحِدًا لَّا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ سُبْحٰنَهُ عَمَّا يُشْرِكُونَ ﴾  
[التوبة: ٣١]

“They (Jews and Christians) took their rabbis and their monks to be their lords besides Allah, (by obeying them in things which they made lawful or unlawful according to their own desires without being ordered by Allah) and (they also took as their lord) Messiah, son of Mary, while they (Jews and Christians) were commanded (in the Torah and the Gospel) to worship none but One God (Allah) – there is no true God except He. Praise and glory is to Him (Far above is He) from having the partners they associate.”(9:31)

Its interpretation undoubtedly refers to the obedience of religious scholars (*Ulama*) and other people of knowledge in disobedience to Allah, and not to supplicating them. As the Prophet رضي الله عنه صلى الله عليه وسلم explained it to Adi Ibn Hatim that worship here meant obedience to them in their sinful acts.

4. The polytheism in love (i.e. showing love to others which is due to Allah alone), as Allah said:

﴿ وَمِنَ النَّاسِ مَن يَتَّخِذُ مِن دُونِ اللَّهِ أَندَادًا يُحِبُّونَهُمْ كَحُبِّ اللَّهِ ﴾

[البقرة: ١٦٥]

“And of mankind are some who take some associates (for worship) besides Allah; they love them as they love Allah.” (2:165).

## 2. *Ash-Shirk Al-Asghar* (minor polytheism)

The minor polytheism is *Riyaa* (show-off), as Allah said:

﴿فَمَنْ كَانَ يَرْجُوا لِقَاءَ رَبِّهِ فَلْيَعْمَلْ عَمَلًا صَالِحًا وَلَا يُشْرِكْ بِعِبَادَةِ رَبِّهِ أَحَدًا﴾  
[الكهف: ١١٠]

“...So whoever hopes for the Meeting with his Lord, let him work righteousness and associate none as a partner in the worship of his Lord.” (18:110)

### 3. *Ash-Shirk Al-Khafi* (invisible polytheism)

The invisible polytheism was explained by the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم:

«الشرك في هذه الأمة أخفى من دبيب النملة السوداء على صفاة سوداء في ظلمة الليل»

“The invisible polytheism in this Ummah is more hidden than the track of a black ant on a black stone in a dark night.”

Its expiation according to the Prophet’s saying is:

«اللهم إني أعوذ بك أن أشرك بك شيئاً وأنا أعلمُ وأستغفرُك من الذنب الذي لا أعلمُ»

“O Allah! verily I seek refuge with You against ascribing partner to You knowingly; and I beg Your forgiveness for the sin which I do not know.”

### ***Kufr* (Disbelief) and its Categories**

*Kufr* (disbelief) is of two categories:

#### 1. *Al-Kufr Al-Akbar* (major disbelief)

The *Kufr* which casts one out of *Islam* is called the major disbelief. It is of five types:

1. *The Kufr of denial*, as Allah said:

﴿ وَمَنْ أَظْلَمُ مِمَّنِ افْتَرَىٰ عَلَى اللَّهِ كَذِبًا أَوْ كَذَّبَ بِالْحَقِّ لَمَّا جَاءَهُ ۗ أَلَيْسَ فِي جَهَنَّمَ مَثْوًى لِّلْكَافِرِينَ ﴾  
 [العنكبوت: ٦٨]

“And who does more wrong than he who invents a lie against Allah or denies the truth (Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم and his doctrine of Islamic Monotheism and this Qur’ân) when it comes to him? Is there not a dwelling in Hell for disbelievers?” (29:68)

2. *The Kufr of arrogance* associated with recognition of truth, according to Allah’s Statement:

﴿ وَإِذْ قُلْنَا لِلْمَلَائِكَةِ اسْجُدُوا لِآدَمَ فَسَجَدُوا إِلَّا إِبْلِيسَ أَبَىٰ وَاسْتَكْبَرَ وَكَانَ مِنَ الْكَافِرِينَ ﴾  
 [البقرة: ٣٤]

“And (remember) when We said to the angels: ‘Prostrate yourselves before Adam.’ And they prostrated except *Iblis* (*Satan*); he refused and was proud and was one of the disbelievers (disobedient to Allah).” (2:34)

3. *The Kufr of doubt* which is also defined as *Kufr of Suspicion* (Scepticism). The evidence is Allah’s Statement:

﴿ وَدَخَلَ جَنَّتَهُ وَهُوَ ظَالِمٌ لِّنَفْسِهِ ۗ قَالَ مَا أَظُنُّ أَن تَبِيدَ هَذِهِ أَبَدًا ۖ وَمَا أَظُنُّ السَّاعَةَ قَائِمَةً وَلَئِن رُّدِدْتُ إِلَىٰ رَبِّي لَأَجِدَنَّ خَيْرًا مِّنْهَا مُنْقَلَبًا ۖ قَالَ لَهُ صَاحِبُهُ وَهُوَ يُحَاوِرُهُ أَكَفَرْتَ بِالَّذِي خَلَقَكَ مِن تُرَابٍ ثُمَّ مِن نُّطْفَةٍ ثُمَّ سَوَّكَ رَجُلًا ۗ لَّيَكْفُرًا هُوَ اللَّهُ رَبِّي وَلَا أُشْرِكُ بِرَبِّي أَحَدًا ۗ ﴾  
 [الكهف: ٣٥-٣٨]

“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. 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’. His companion



said to him during the talk with him: ‘Do you disbelieve in Him Who created you out of dust, then out of *Nutfah* a drop of semen, then fashioned you into a man? But as for my part (I believe) that He is Allah, my Lord and none shall I associate as partner with my Lord.’” (18: 35-38)

4. *The Kufr of disregard*, as highlighted by Allah’s Statement:

﴿وَالَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا عَمَّا أُنذِرُوا مُعْرِضُونَ﴾ [الأحقاف: ٣]

“...And those who disbelieve turn away from that whereof they are warned.” (46:3)

5. *The Kufr of hypocrisy* implies hypocritical disbelief. Allah the Almighty says:

﴿ذَلِكَ بِأَنَّهُمْ ءَامَنُوا ثُمَّ كَفَرُوا فَطُبِعَ عَلَى قُلُوبِهِمْ فَهُمْ لَا يَفْقَهُونَ﴾ [المنافقون: ٣]

“That is because they believed, and then disbelieved. Therefore their hearts are sealed, so they understand not.” (63:3)

## 2. *Al-Kufr Al-Asghar* (minor disbelief)

The minor disbelief which does not cast one out of Islam. It is ingratitude, as Allah said:

﴿وَضَرَبَ اللَّهُ مَثَلًا قَرْيَةً كَانَتْ ءَامِنَةً مُطْمَئِنَّةً يَأْتِيهَا رِزْقُهَا رَغَدًا مِّن كُلِّ مَكَانٍ فَكَفَرَتْ بِأَنْعُمِ اللَّهِ فَأَذَاقَهَا اللَّهُ لِيَاسَ الْجُوعِ وَالْخَوْفِ بِمَا كَانُوا يَصْنَعُونَ﴾ [النحل: ١١٢]

“And Allah 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 Allah (with ingratitude). So Allah made it taste the extreme of

hunger and fear because of that which they (its people) used to do.” (16:112)

## Nifâq (Hypocrisy) and its Categories

Hypocrisy is of two kinds:

### 1. Hypocrisy in Belief

Hypocrisy in belief is of the following six types and its adherent will be among the lowest level people in the Hell-fire:

1. Denial of the Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم.
2. Denial of a part of something which the Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم has brought (to the mankind).
3. Hating the Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم.
4. Hating some of the Divine Message presented by the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم.
5. Rejoicing at the disgrace of Islam.
6. Disliking the victory of Islam.

### 2. Hypocrisy in deeds

Hypocrisy in deeds is of five types, as the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم said:

«آيَةُ الْمُنَافِقِ ثَلَاثٌ: إِذَا حَدَّثَ كَذِبًا. وَإِذَا وَعَدَ أَخْلَفَ. وَإِذَا أُؤْتِمِنَ خَانَ»

“The signs of a hypocrite are three: when he speaks, he tells a lie; when he promises, he breaks it; and when he is entrusted, he proves to be dishonest.”

In another version it is added:

«وَإِذَا خَاصَمَ فَجَرَ. وَإِذَا عَاهَدَ غَدَرَ»

“When he disputes (or quarrels), he behaves immorally; and when he makes a pact, he acts treacherously.”

### Meaning of *Tâghût* and its leaders

The first of what Allah ordained the human beings is the denial of *Tâghût* and belief in Allah. Read Allah’s Statement:

﴿ وَلَقَدْ بَعَثْنَا فِي كُلِّ أُمَّةٍ رَسُولًا أَنِ اعْبُدُوا اللَّهَ وَاجْتَنِبُوا الصَّلَاطِغُوتَ ﴾

[النحل: ٣٦]

“And verily We have sent among every *Ummah* (community, nation) a Messenger (proclaiming): ‘worship Allah (Alone) and avoid *Tâghût* (false deities etc).’”(16:36)

The meaning of disbelief in *Tâghût* is that you should believe in nullity, vanity and falsity of anyone other than Allah; abandon it, abhor it and condemn its adherents and bear hostility against them.

The meaning of belief in Allah is that you should believe that Allah is the sole true God to be worshipped without partners. You should dedicate all forms of worship to Allah alone, denying thereby every other deity. Further, you should love sincere people (in the worship of Allah) and befriend them. You should also hate the adherents of polytheism and bear hostility against them. In fact, this is the *Religion* of Ibrahim (Abraham) عليه السلام . Whoever deviates from it, he will make fool of himself. This is a good example for us which is illustrated in the Qur’ân:

﴿ قَدْ كَانَتْ لَكُمْ أُسْوَةٌ حَسَنَةٌ فِي إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَالَّذِينَ مَعَهُ إِذْ قَالُوا لِقَوْمِهِمْ إِنَّا بُرَءُوكُمْ

مِنْكُمْ وَمِمَّا تَعْبُدُونَ مِن دُونِ اللَّهِ كَفَرْنَا بِكُمْ وَبَدَا بَيْنَنَا وَبَيْنَكُمُ الْعَدَاوَةُ وَالْبَغْضَاءُ أَبَدًا

[الممتحنة: ٤]

حَتَّىٰ تَوَدُّوا بِاللَّهِ وَحْدَهُ ﴾

“Indeed there has been an excellent example for you in Ibrahim and those with him, when they said to their people: verily we are free from you and whatever you worship besides Allah, we have rejected you, and there has started between us and you hostility and hatred for ever until you believe in Allah alone” (60:4)

*Tâghût* is a wide term which is applied to every thing that is worshipped with its consent or followed or obeyed besides Allah and His Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم. Its plural is *Tawâghût*. They are many, but main among them are the following five:

1. Satan the accursed who calls the people to worship other than Allah. The proof is Allah’s Statement:

﴿الَّذِينَ آتَوْا عَهْدَ إِلَيْنَا لَمَّا آتَيْنَاهُمُ الْبَيْتَ بِنِعْمَةِ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِمْ ثُمَّ عَدُّوا عَلَيْهِمْ عَهْدَهُمْ فَطَفَافَةً عَلَيْهِمْ وَأَنفُسِهِمْ يَاسَ أَعْمَى﴾  
 [يس : ٦٠]

“Did I not ordain for you, o children of Adam, that you should not worship Satan. Verily he is a plain enemy to you”. (36:60)

2. The tyrant who changes the Laws of Allah (Islamic Rule). The evidence is Allah’s Statement:

﴿الَّذِينَ يَدْعُونَ إِلَى الْبَغْيِ وَيُرِيدُونَ أَن يُكْفَرُوا بِهِمْ وَيُقَرِّبُونَ إِلَى الْغَيْبِ السَّيِّئِ أَن يَصْطَلِحُوا بِهِمْ فَيُضَلُّوا بِهِمْ وَأَنَّ إِلَهُهُمُ الْغَيْبُ الْبَاطِنُ﴾  
 [النساء : ٦٠]

“Have you seen those (hypocrites) who claim that they believe in which has been sent down to you and which was sent down before you, and who wish to go for judgement (in their disputes) to the *Tâghût* (false judges etc.) while they have been ordered to reject them. But Satan wishes to lead them far astray.”



3. A person who rules by the laws other than what Allah has revealed. The proof is Allah's Statement:

﴿ وَمَنْ لَمْ يَحْكَمْ بِمَا أَنْزَلَ اللَّهُ فَأُولَئِكَ هُمُ الْكَافِرُونَ ﴾ [المائدة: ٤٤]

"...And whosoever does not judge by what Allah has revealed, such are the *Kafirun* (disbelievers — of a lesser degree as they do not act on Allah's laws)." (5:44)

4. Whoever claims to share Allah's Knowledge of *Ghaib* (unseen, absent, invisible ect.). Evidence is Allah's Statement:

﴿ عَالِمُ الْغَيْبِ فَلَا يُظْهِرُ عَلَى غَيْبِهِ أَحَدًا ۚ إِلَّا مَنِ ارْتَضَىٰ مِنْ رَسُولٍ فَإِنَّهُ يَسْلُكُ مِنْ بَيْنِ يَدَيْهِ وَمِنْ خَلْفِهِ رَصَدًا ﴾ [الجن: ٢٦-٢٧]

"(He Alone) is the All-Knower of the *Ghaib* (the Unseen), and He reveals to none His *Ghaib* except to a Messenger (from mankind) whom He has chosen. Then He makes a band of watching guards (angels) to march before him and behind him." (72:26,27)

Another Statement is:

﴿ وَعِنْدَهُ مَفَاتِحُ الْغَيْبِ لَا يَعْلَمُهَا إِلَّا هُوَ وَيَعْلَمُ مَا فِي الْبَرِّ وَالْبَحْرِ وَمَا تَسْقُطُ مِنْ وَرَقَةٍ إِلَّا يَعْلَمُهَا وَلَا حَبَّةٌ فِي ظِلْمَةٍ الْأَرْضِ وَلَا رَطْبٌ وَلَا يَأْسٌ إِلَّا فِي كِتَابٍ مُبِينٍ ﴾ [الأنعام: ٥٩]

"And with Him are the keys of the *Ghaib*; none knows them but He. And He knows whatever there is in the land and in the sea. Not a leaf falls but he knows it. There is not a grain in the darkness of the earth nor anything fresh or dry but is written in a Clear Record." (6:59)

5. A person who is worshipped with his consent, in lieu of

Allah. The proof is Allah's Statement:

﴿ وَمَنْ يَقُلْ مِنْهُمْ إِنِّي إِلَهٌ مِّنْ دُونِهِ فَذَلِكَ نَجْزِيهِ جَهَنَّمَ كَذَلِكَ نَجْزِي الظَّالِمِينَ ﴾  
[الأنبياء: ٢٩]

“And if any of them should say: ‘verily I am an *ilah* (a god) besides Him (Allah),’ such a one We will recompense with Hell. Thus We recompense the wrong-doers Polytheists.”(21:29)

It should be known that human being cannot be a true believer unless he denies and condemns the *Tâghût*. The evidence to this effect is Allah's Statement:

﴿ فَمَنْ يَكْفُرْ بِالطَّاغُوتِ وَيُؤْمِنْ بِاللَّهِ فَقَدِ اسْتَمْسَكَ بِالْعُرْوَةِ الْوُثْقَىٰ لَا انْفِصَامَ لَهَا وَاللَّهُ سَمِيعٌ عَلِيمٌ ﴾  
[البقرة: ٢٥٦]

“...Whoever disbelieves in *Tâghût* and believes in Allah, then he has grasped the most trustworthy handhold that will never break. And Allah is All Hearer, All-Knower.”  
(2:256)

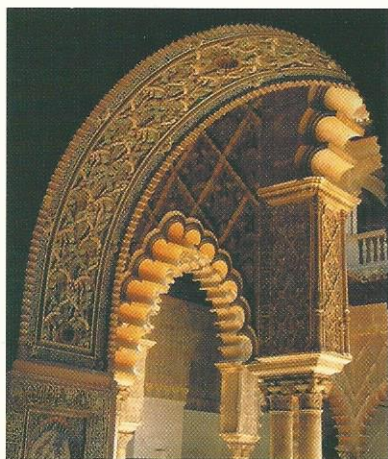
The right guidance is the religion of Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم whereas the deviation therefrom is the religion of Abu Jahl. ‘The most trustworthy handhold is to testify that there is no true God except Allah. This testimony involves both negation and affirmation: it negates the devotion of any form of worship to anyone other than Allah and confirms dedicating them the to Allah, the One without any partner.

(All praises are due to Allah by Whose grace the good deeds are accomplished and performed)

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