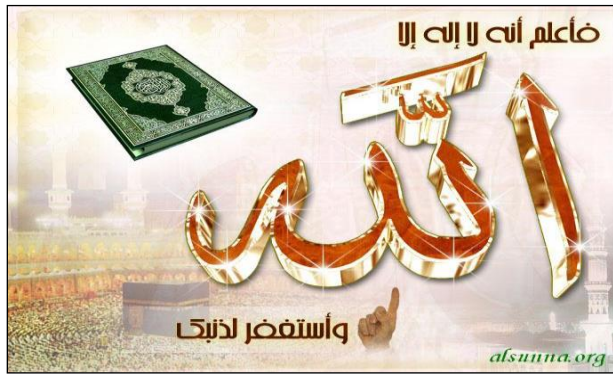


What is Islam?



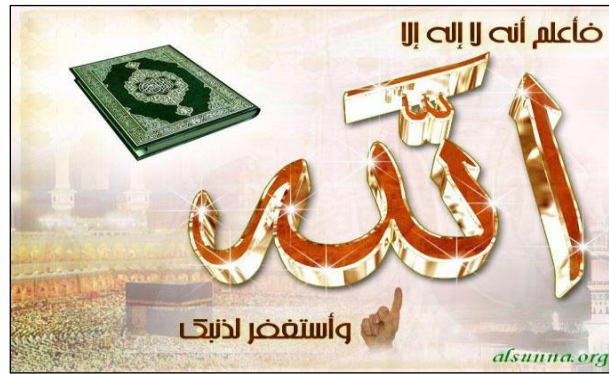
Linguistically, Islam means submission. According to Islamic terminology, Islam means a specified submission. It is the submission to what the prophet brought. This takes place by uttering the two testification of faith. Belief, on the other hand, linguistically means certitude. According to Islamic terminology, it means a specified certitude. It is to accept as true what the prophet brought. **The least of Belief is to believe in The Two Testifications Of Faith** (The two Shahadas).

Islam and Belief cannot be disassociated. One of them is not accepted without the other. Imam Abu Hanifah said in Al-Fiqh Al-'Akbar: "Islam is not acceptable without Belief and Belief is not accepted without Islam. They are like the front of something and its back."

Islam is the Religion of all the Prophets
The non-Muslim becomes a Muslim by believing in the Two Testifications of Faith and uttering (saying) them with the intention of leaving out blasphemy. To believe and say:

I Testify that "No one Deserves to be worshiped except Allah and I testify that Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah"
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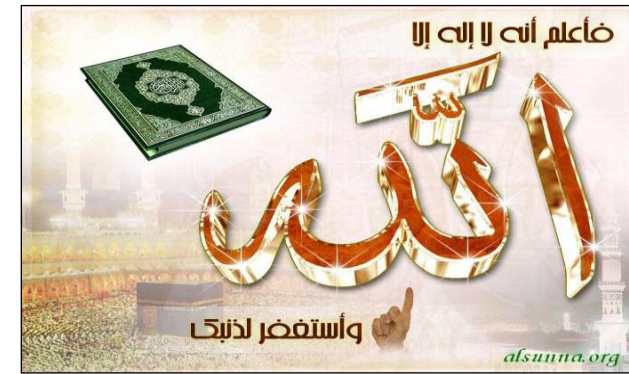
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Allah Created Everything

Everything that exists in this world is created by Allah (God). Allah has full power over all His creations.



Allah is not created; He existed always, having His attributes; He will never perish, nor will His attributes diminish. Among His attributes is that He has knowledge of all His creation, that He sees the seeable and that He hears the hearable, and His knowing, seeing and hearing are in no way similar to ours. Allah speaks and His Speech is not made up of language or sound, nor does it resemble the speech of man in any way. He does not need any of His creation for His existence and He does not resemble any of His creation in any way. This means that Allah is not a man or a woman; He is not "a Father" or "a Mother". He does not have a wife, a mother, a father, a son, or a daughter; He has no equal or partner. Allah does not divide into parts; no creation, including man, has "a part of Allah" in him, nor can any creation become like Allah. He is the only God.

Allah existed eternally before He created any place, such as Paradise (Heaven), the skies, earth, or any planets. Hence, we know He is now as He was before He created all these places; He does not need any place to exist in.

Allah has always known about every bit of His creation; there is no thing in His creation which escapes or defeats Him. No thing goes against the will of Allah. Both good and evil occur by His Will. However, Allah orders humans to do only the good; humans make the choice to obey or disobey Allah. Our ability to do good or evil is given to us by Allah, the Exalted. ■

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Humans & Jinn



Men and women are one of the creations of Allah. They are distinct from plants, animals, jinn, and angels. They were created after angels and jinn; the first man was created from clay. Allah puts a soul into man but in no way is man's soul Allah, or "a part of Allah". The first man was Adam and all human beings come from his family. Adam had no mother or father; he was created and given life by Allah. Allah created a wife for Adam who bore his children. **Allah created the human beings to order them to believe, profess the truth about Allah and His messengers, worship Allah only, and follow His orders during life on earth.** Some of mankind has and does worship Allah correctly, obeys His orders, and will be rewarded beyond imagination, some disobeyed. Some of mankind has not and will not worship Allah correctly and will be punished by Allah with severity in Hellfire.

Jinn are a distinct creation of Allah, who are invisible to humans. Allah created them from the pure flame of fire. They are male and female and have offspring. They exist here on earth and out of it. Like humans, some jinn worship Allah, but some do not. The ones who do not are known as the devils, whose head is Satan. As for Angels, they are not male or female and have no children. Allah created them from light. They never sin. They obey Allah in every matter, some write what we do and say. ■

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The Prophets of Allah

Prophets are the greatest men that ever lived. Prophets received Revelation from Allah and conveyed it to the people. The prophets received the Revelations and conveyed them exactly in the language Allah ordered. The language of the scriptures is created, but Allah's speech is not. A messenger is a prophet who comes with abrogating some of the laws brought by the previous messenger or receives a new set of laws. Prophets were intelligent, trustworthy, truthful, did not commit major sins and never left their Religion. Many prophets have lived in the past. Muhammad, (peace and blessings be upon him), who lived some 1400 years ago, was the last and greatest prophet.

Other prophets before Muḥammad include: Adam, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Ishmael, Jacob, Joseph (son of Jacob), David, Solomon, Moses, and Jesus, they all came with the religion of Islam, but different laws (Sharia).

Islam is the only true religion

The true scriptures were Revelations received by prophets. Moses and Jesus both received scriptures, but what are now called the Torah and the Bible have been tampered with by man and are not the true Revelations received by the great messengers Moses and Jesus. The only scripture which is unchanged and will never be changed is the Qur'an, which is the scripture Allah gave Muhammad, His last prophet, in clear and eloquent Arabic. Allah has promised to protect the Qur'an from any changes by man, and it has remained unchanged since it was received some 1400 years ago. Unlike the prophets before him who were sent to a particular people, Muhammad was sent to all people who lived at his time and all people who live after him until Judgment day when earth will be destroyed. ■

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The Hijrah Migration

The boundaries of Makkah appeared like the bright morning sun, when Prophet Muhammad the prophet of Guidance enlightened its valleys. But in the beginning of his call, the Prophet did not fight the blasphemers, rather he used to go around and call them to Islam and warn them from hellfire.

Only few believed in him and in al-Qur'an, but the blasphemers increased in their misguidance.

Bilal al-Habashiy was hit in the middle of the desert, humiliated and tortured till he bled. Despite the torture from the blasphemers, he kept calling the name of Allah: **Ahad, Aḥad** (Allah is one without a partner).

Later, a group had embraced Islam, they came from Taybah, and started spreading Islam. The idol worshippers plotted to kill our Prophet, so they gathered one from every tribe, following the imposturous devil. They stood at the door with swords & spears, but our Prophet walked away by them. Allah blinded them from seeing our Prophet, while he tossed soil on their heads. And so our Prophet was saved from the plot of the misguided

Along beside him, walked the honorable Master Abu Bakr as-Siddiq. They left Makkah, not cowardly, rather in obedience to Allah's orders. They entered Thawr cave. Then on its entrance a spider wove a web. After that two pigeons nested, then laid two eggs.

And with this, it appeared as no one ever entered that cave. Three days later, they came out safely and peacefully. They headed towards the coast until the flags started to appear. From Taybah, flags emerged, raised by the Muslims. Then the Prophet arrived and appeared like the Sun, & with a beautiful smiling face. Altogether they welcomed Prophet Muḥammad, who has the beautiful manners. Allah knows best. ■

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Jesus the Prophet of Allah

Imam al-Bukhariyy related that Prophet *Muhammad*, *sallallahu alayhi wa sallam*, said which means: “Prophets are like brothers from the same father with different mothers. Their Religion is one although their *Shari’ah* (rules of Religion) differed. I am the most deserving of Prophet *Isa*. There was no other prophet between us.”

Prophet *Isa*, like all the prophets of *Allah*, performed miracles. *Allah* sent all the prophets with miracles as a proof to their prophethood, so the people would witness, know about them, and believe in their prophethood. Many of Prophet *Isa*'s miracles were in curing illnesses, to be a stronger proof of his truthfulness, since the people at his time were famous for being knowledgeable in the field of medicine. Prophet *Isa* cured those with seemingly incurable illnesses. He formed the shape of bats from clay and then they would fly away a distance. Prophet *Isa* was a messenger of *Allah* revealed to convey to the people the religion of *Islam* and to call them to worship *Allah*, their Creator. Muslims believe in his prophethood and in his truthfulness in conveying that message. *Allah* made *Isa* speak as a baby, he said:

(قَالَ اِنِّي عَبْدُ اللّٰهِ اَتَانِي الْكِتَابَ وَجَعَلَنِي نَبِيًّا (30) وَجَعَلَنِي مُبَارَكًا اَيْنَ مَا كُنْتُ وَاَوْصَانِي بِالصَّلَاةِ وَالزَّكَاةِ مَا دُمْتُ حَيًّا (31) وَبَرًّا بِوَالِدَتِي وَلَمْ يَجْعَلْنِي جَبَّارًا شَقِيًّا (32) وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَيَّ يَوْمَ وُلِدْتُ وَيَوْمَ اَمُوتُ وَيَوْمَ اُبْعَثُ حَيًّا ((33)) which are verses 30-33 of *Surat Maryam* and mean: [I am a slave of *Allah*. He will reveal the Book to me and make me a prophet. He blessed me wherever I am. In the rules revealed to me there will be a special attention given to Prayers and *Zakat*. *Allah* predestined that I will be kind to my mother and not a tyrant with a bad ending. Peace was on me the day I was born. Peace will be on me on the day I will die and on the day I am raised alive again.]. *Allah* almighty, doesn't need anything and Exists without a place.■

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Mashita's Strong Iman

On Prophet Muhammad's journey in al-Isra' and al-Mi'raj, the Prophet smelled a very nice odor. He asked Jibril about this pleasant scent and Jibril informed him this good smell was coming from the grave of the woman whose duty used to be to comb Pharaoh's daughter's hair. This woman was a good, pious believer. One day, as she was combing Pharaoh's daughter's hair, the comb fell from her hand. At this she said, "Bismillah" "Pharaoh's daughter asked her, "Do you have a god other than my father?" **The woman said, "Yes. My Lord and the Lord of your father is Allah." Pharaoh's daughter told her father what had happened.**

Pharaoh demanded this woman blaspheme and leave Islam, but she refused. At that, Pharaoh threatened to kill her children. He brought a great pot of water and built a great fire under it. When the water boiled, Pharaoh brought her children and started to drop them into that pot one after the other. Throughout all this, the woman remained steadfast to Islam, even when Pharaoh reached her youngest child--a little boy still breast feeding--but she felt pity for him. At that, Allah enabled this child to speak. He said: **"O Mother, be patient. The torture of the Hereafter is far more severe than the torture of this life do not be reluctant, because you are right"**

At this the woman requested Pharaoh collect her bones and the bones of her children and bury them in the same grave. Pharaoh promised her that; then dropped her into that boiling water. She died as a martyr. The good odor the Prophet smelled coming from her grave is an indication of her high status.

May Allah accept our good deeds. May Allah make us among the pious on the Day of Judgment. And May Allah strengthen our Iman and make us stronger in defending the Religion of Islam. ■

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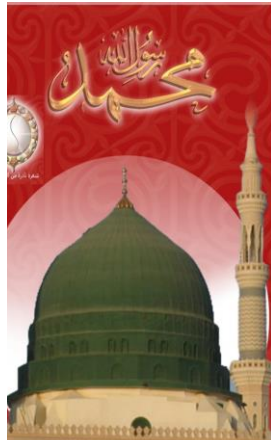
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Birth of the Beloved Prophet

On the 12th of Rabi[^] ul-[^]Awal of every year an honored and glorified memory shines over the whole world, and is commemorated by the entire Muslim world. Every honest Muslim participates in celebrating such an honorable memory to praise Allah for the blessing and endowment of Prophet Muhammad.

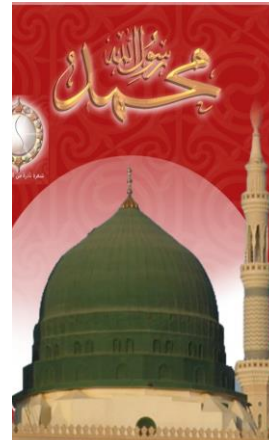


How can one not celebrate this birth that has changed the face of history. This birth was one of the best gifts that one can ever receive. It is because of this Prophet may Allah raise his rank that we became Muslims. What is better than becoming a Muslim is to remain steadfast to Islam and die as a Muslim. We thank Allah for this birth and for making us among the followers of this Prophet. Only those who have darkness in their hearts deny the permissibility of celebrating this birth, and forbid others from doing so. Scholars like Ibn Hajar, Ibn Diyah, Suyuti and others praised it. In fact it is the habit of the hundreds of millions of Muslims all over Asia, Africa, Europe, India, Bangladesh, Fiji, Indonesia, Yemen, Turkey, Pakistan, and the Americas. Only those who do not love him say that such celebrations are unlawful.

His Description: The Prophet was not extremely tall, nor was he short. He had a white complexion and black hair. The Prophet's hair was not straight rather it was curly and long down to his shoulders. His aroma was nicer than pure musk itself. He had a clear forehead, long eyelashes, broad shoulders and a firm stomach. It was narrated that seeing his face one would think that the sun is rising from it. He was not extreme nor an extremist, he never mistreated those who mistreated him; however, he used to pardon and forgive. Allah subhanahu wa ta[^]ala has given our Prophet the perfect of manners and the good traits, and has given him also a vast knowledge. ■

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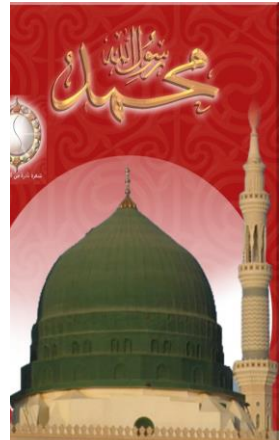


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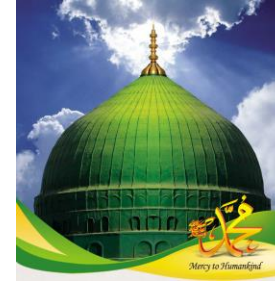
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الاحتفال بمولد النبي هو شكر لله



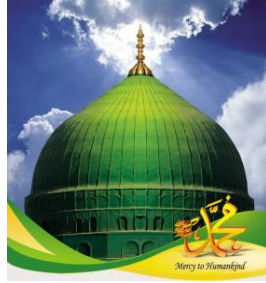
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حاكم إربل احتفالاً عظيماً أظهر فيه الفرح بهذه المناسبة فذبح آلافاً من الغنم وأطعم الفقراء. وقد أقره العلماء من فقهاء ومحدثين على ذلك وقبلوه واستحسنوه لأن ذلك ليس فيه مخالفة للشريعة، بل هذا مما يوافقها. نص على ذلك ابن حجر السيوطي وابن دحية والسخاوي، وغيرهم وهو سنة حسنة .

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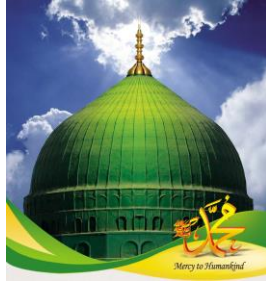
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Famous in Heaven, but Unknown on Earth - 'Uways al Qarniy



This story is about a pious man who was known for his kindness to his mother, and whom the Prophet praised in his hadith:
"إن خير التابعين رجل يقال له أويس بن عامر من قِرنٍ ثم من مراد، له والدَةٌ هو بها بر، كان به برص فأذهبَه اللهُ عنه إلا قدر درهم، فإذا لقيتموه فمروه فليستغفر لكم." وقال عنه: مجهول في أهل الأرض معروف في السماء، لو أقسم على الله لأبره.

In the hadith, the Prophet told us the best of the followers of the Companions was a man by the name of Uways Ibn Amir al-Qarniy, famous in Heaven But Unknown on Earth. He was known for his kindness to his mother. He had been inflicted with a disease (*Baras*) from which he was cured--except for a small spot. The Prophet ordered the companions, should they meet Uways al-Qarniyy, to ask him to make supplication to Allah to forgive them. This is what our Master Umar Ibnul Khattab did during his caliphate, he searched for Uways, when he found him our Master Umar, remembering the order of the Prophet, asked Uways to make supplication to Allah to forgive him. Out of his humbleness, Uways told Umar that Umar's supplication would more likely be answered since Umar had recently returned from performing Hajj, and has higher status than Uways.

Imam Umar told Uways about the order of the Prophet, and so Uways made supplication for him. Uways was a very humble person. Some of the children used to think he was a crazy because he was so poor and his clothing so old. Imam Umar told him he could get financial support for him. But Uways did not accept--despite his very poor situation and told Umar, "I prefer to be like other people." **Because of his kindness to his mother, Allah honored Uways by making him from those who's supplications are answered. We ask Allah to make us among the pious ones ameen. ■**

Famous in Heaven, but Unknown on Earth - 'Uways al Qarniy



This story is about a pious man who was known for his kindness to his mother, and whom the Prophet praised in his hadith:
"إن خير التابعين رجل يقال له أويس بن عامر من قِرنٍ ثم من مراد، له والدَةٌ هو بها بر، كان به برص فأذهبَه اللهُ عنه إلا قدر درهم، فإذا لقيتموه فمروه فليستغفر لكم." وقال عنه: مجهول في أهل الأرض معروف في السماء، لو أقسم على الله لأبره.

In the hadith, the Prophet told us the best of the followers of the Companions was a man by the name of Uways Ibn Amir al-Qarniy, famous in Heaven But Unknown on Earth. He was known for his kindness to his mother. He had been inflicted with a disease (*Baras*) from which he was cured--except for a small spot. The Prophet ordered the companions, should they meet Uways al-Qarniyy, to ask him to make supplication to Allah to forgive them. This is what our Master Umar Ibnul Khattab did during his caliphate, he searched for Uways, when he found him our Master Umar, remembering the order of the Prophet, asked Uways to make supplication to Allah to forgive him. Out of his humbleness, Uways told Umar that Umar's supplication would more likely be answered since Umar had recently returned from performing Hajj, and has higher status than Uways.

Imam Umar told Uways about the order of the Prophet, and so Uways made supplication for him. Uways was a very humble person. Some of the children used to think he was a crazy because he was so poor and his clothing so old. Imam Umar told him he could get financial support for him. But Uways did not accept--despite his very poor situation and told Umar, "I prefer to be like other people." **Because of his kindness to his mother, Allah honored Uways by making him from those who's supplications are answered. We ask Allah to make us among the pious ones ameen. ■**

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Handhala the Blessed by Prophet Muhammad's Blessings



Once upon a time, there was a child name "*Handhalah*" who lived during the time of Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him). Handhalah had a father that used to love him and take care of him, his name was *Hadhyam*.

One day *Handhalah* became sick, he had a swelling in his neck. So his father took him to go and see Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. When they saw the Prophet, his father said to him: "**I have sons and grandsons, some of them are adults and others still young children.**" Motioning to the young Handhalah next to him, he said: "This is the youngest."

So The Prophet brought this young child (Handhalah) next to him, and wiped on his head, and told him, "**Barakallahu feek,**" which means: 'May Allah bless you.' And amazingly Handhalah was cured from the swelling he had!.

Later, and after our Prophet Muhammad ﷺ had passed away, people started to come and See Handhalah! They used to bring to him a person with a swollen face or even a sheep with a swollen udder. Handhalah would place his hand on that part of his head where the Prophet wiped and blessed, then touch the swollen part of the person or even sheep and say "**Bismillah,**" and the swelling would be cured.

Subhanallah, Allah blessed this child by the blessings of the Prophet ﷺ and that child continued to bless other sick people by the will and power of Allah. This story was mentioned by Imam At-Tabaraniy and Imam Ahmad.

We ask Allah to grant us and you from the blessings of our beloved Prophet, and to gather us with Handhalah and the Prophet in Paradise ameen. ■

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The Story of Prophet Ibrahim Refuting the Planet Worshippers

The Prophets are the ideal examples to people. Allah beautified them with the good and praised attributes. He also protected them and purified them from having disgraceful attributes. None of the Prophets had doubt about Allah's existence, and none worshiped other than Allah.

All the Prophets were Muslims (worshipping one God) and they all believed that Allah existed eternally before the creations, and that He exists without being in a place, and does not need any of his creations.

Prophet Ibrahim never doubted about Allah's Existence. When Prophet Ibrahim saw that some of his people continued to worship the planets, he approached them with a smart way to refute them. One night when he saw the planet, Prophet Ibrahim said what Allah told about him: {هَذَا رَبِّي} this Ayah reads: [Hadha rabbi] Which means: {(Is) This: my Lord}!!. This was in objection to those who worshipped the planet!

This is called negative interrogative. So it was as if he said: "Is this my Lord per your false claim? Without a doubt Ibrahim already knew before that that Lordship and Godhood cannot be attributed to other than Allah. Because Allah said in al-Qur'an:

مَا كَانَ إِبْرَاهِيمَ يَهُودِيًّا وَلَا نَصْرَانِيًّا

وَلَكِنْ كَانَ حَنِيفًا مُّسْلِمًا وَمَا كَانَ مِنَ الْمُشْرِكِينَ

Ayah means: "Ibrahim was never a Jew or a Christian, yet he was a Muslim worshipper; he was never a blasphemer." (Al 'Imran 67).

By this approach Prophet Ibrahim refuted them in that how could you worship this thing that has a size and shape and changes? It comes and goes and it is created!! This thing cannot be God, you must worship Allah, the creator of all the creations whom does not change, He exists without a beginning, He is not like the creations in anyway. And Allah knows best. ■

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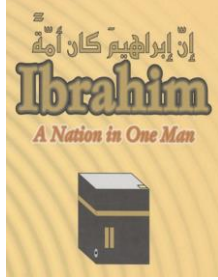
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The story of How Prophet Ibrahim Smashed the Idols

Allah sent the Prophets to guide the people, and so all the Prophets and messengers were guided and always had proper belief in Allah. Without a doubt all the prophets of Allah are cleared of lying. They don't lie; they don't commit big sins nor mean small sins.



One day, when Prophet Ibrahim saw his people worshipping the idols, he went to warn them and guide them but they would not accept. So he then came to them with a smart approach to refute them so they can realize that those idols don't deserve to be worshiped, they cannot create benefit or harm to anyone. So he went and smashed their idols and then hung the axe on the head idol. Then when his people came and saw the idols destroyed, they questioned him: "Who did this to our idols"? Prophet Ibrahim told them what is mentioned in the ayah:

قَالَ بَلْ فَعَلَهُ كَبِيرُهُمْ هَذَا فَاسْأَلُوهُمْ إِنْ كَانُوا يَنْطِقُونَ

The Ayah means: [The head idol (caused me to) **destroy the other idols, ask them, if they can speak**]!. Prophet Ibrahim in fact did not lie, rather he answered in a way to refute those idol worshippers.

He said this because the head idol was the one who caused Ibrahim to destroy the other idols. Ibrahim did that out of his enormous anger from the biggest idol since Ibrahim's people exaggerated in glorifying and beautifying its form, and so they worshipped it. But only Allah deserves to be worshipped. So in what he said, attributing the action to the big idol is **symbolic** and there is no lying in that. Allah said:

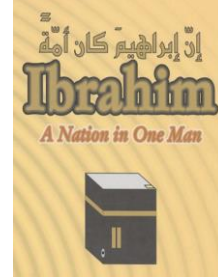
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The ayah means: [The people were at first one nation. Allah sent the prophets to give the good news and warn]

It is not permissible to attribute to the prophets lying, dishonesty, vileness, stupidity and dullness. They are impeccable from kufr (blasphemy), big sins and mean abject small sins before Prophethood and after it. ■

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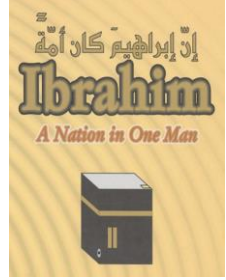
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The 13 Attributes of *Allah*

{لَيْسَ كَمِثْلِهِ شَيْءٌ ۖ وَهُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْبَصِيرُ}

Among the uncountable Attributes of Allah, there are thirteen which the scholars say are an obligation for the accountable Muslim to know. They are:

1. ***Al-Wujud* (Existence):** *Allah* exists; and all the creations stand as proof for the existence of *Allah*, there is no doubt in His existence. (See Surat *Ibrahim*: 10)
2. ***Al-Wahdaniyyah* (Oneness):** *Allah* has no partners. *Allah* is One without a partner or a comparison. *Allah* is One and not composed of pieces or parts, (*Al-Ikhlās*: 1)
3. ***Al-Qiyamu bin-Nafs* (Non-neediness of others):** *Allah* does not need any of the creations and all the creations are dependant upon *Allah*. (*Al-Ikhlās*: 2)
4. ***Al-Mukhalafatu lil-hawadith* (Non-resemblance to the creation):** *Allah* absolutely does not resemble the creation, He cannot be imagined. (*Ash-Shura*: 11)
5. ***Al-Qidam*, (Eternity):** *Allah*'s existence is without a beginning and is not subject to change. (*Al-Hadid*: 3)
6. ***Al-Baqa'* (Everlastingness):** *Allah*'s existence is without an end. (*Al-Hadid*: 3; *Ar-Rahman*: 27)
7. ***Al-Qudrah* (Power):** *Allah* has Power over all of the creations. (*Al-Baqarah*: 20)
8. ***Al-Iradah* (Will):** Everything exists by the will of *Allah*. (*At-Takwir*: 29; *Al-Qasas*: 68)
9. ***As-Sam*^ (Hearing):** *Allah* hears without an ear or any other organ or instrument. (*Ash-Shura*: 11)
10. ***Al-Basar* (Sight):** *Allah* sees without an eye or any other organ or instrument. (*Ash-Shura*: 11)
11. ***Al-Kalam* (Speech):** *Allah* has the Attribute of *Kalam* which is not like the created communication. *Allah*'s *Kalam* is not a voice, letter, words, language, gesture, or sound. (*Surat An-Nisa*': 164)
12. ***Al-Hayah* (Life):** *Allah* is alive without a material or spiritual body (soul). (*Al-Baqarah*: 255)
13. ***Al-Ilm* (Knowledge):** *Allah* has the absolute knowledge of everything. (*Al-Hadid*: 3;)

Allah does not resemble the creation in any way. Allah exists without a place. Whatever you imagine in your mind, Allah is different from that. ■

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10. ***Al-Basar* (Sight):** *Allah* sees without an eye or any other organ or instrument. (*Ash-Shura*: 11)
11. ***Al-Kalam* (Speech):** *Allah* has the Attribute of *Kalam* which is not like the created communication. *Allah*'s *Kalam* is not a voice, letter, words, language, gesture, or sound. (*Surat An-Nisa*': 164)
12. ***Al-Hayah* (Life):** *Allah* is alive without a material or spiritual body (soul). (*Al-Baqarah*: 255)
13. ***Al-Ilm* (Knowledge):** *Allah* has the absolute knowledge of everything. (*Al-Hadid*: 3;)

Allah does not resemble the creation in any way. Allah exists without a place. Whatever you imagine in your mind, Allah is different from that. ■

The True Story about Prophet Jesus

✓ **When Prophet ^Isa (Jesus) was 33 years old, the blasphemers among the offspring of Israel plotted to kill him, but Allah saved him from their harm. Ibn ^Abbas said:**

Prophet ^Isa was in session with twelve of his elite companions in a house. He told them that among them would be who would blaspheme in the future. Then he asked them, "Who among you would want to be made to look like me, be killed in my place, and be my companion in Paradise." The youngest among them stood up and said, "Me." Prophet ^Isa told him to sit, then repeated his same question. Again, the same young man said, "Me." Again, Prophet ^Isa told him to sit, then again asked the same question. After the same man volunteered for the third time, Prophet ^Isa received the Revelation that this young man would be the one who would be made to look like him and killed instead of him. Prophet ^Isa was raised to the sky from an opening in the ceiling of the house. **When the Jews came after Prophet ^Isa, they saw that young man, whom Allah made to look like ^Isa. They took him, thinking he was ^Isa, and crucified him.**

After Prophet ^Isa was raised to the sky, his nation lived following his guidance, teaching, and methodology for two hundred (200) years. However, the nation of Prophet ^Isa did not remain steadfast to *Islam*. Three hundred (300) years after Prophet ^Isa was raised to the sky, those who were following the ones who had perverted the teachings of Prophet ^Isa became very numerous, and those who were truly

following the Religion of *Islam* were few and weak. After some five hundred (500) years, none of the believing Muslims of ^Isa's nation were left. When Prophet *Muhammad* was revealed, he was the only Muslim worshipping only *Allah from* among the people of the earth. ■

عيسى ابن مريم عبد الله ورسوله قال تعالى إخباراً عنه:
(قَالَ إِنِّي عَبْدُ اللَّهِ ءَاتَانِي الْكِتَابَ وَجَعَلَنِي نَبِيًّا.
وَجَعَلَنِي مُبَارَكًا أَيْنَ مَا كُنْتُ وَأَوْصَانِي بِالصَّلَاةِ وَالزَّكَاةِ
مَا دُمْتُ حَيًّا. وَبَرًّا بِوَالِدَتِي وَلَمْ يَجْعَلْ لِي جَنَابًا سَمِيًّا.
وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَيَّ يَوْمَ وُلِدْتُ وَيَوْمَ أَمُوتُ وَيَوْمَ أُبْعَثُ حَيًّا)

قال رسول الله صلى
الله عليه وسلم:
"من يرد الله به خيراً
يُفِقَّهُهُ فِي الدِّينِ" رَوَاهُ
البخاري

Hadith means: "The person whom Allah willed to grant goodness, Allah makes him knowledgeable about the Religion." (al-Bukhariyy)

Q: What is the Personal Obligatory Knowledge?

A: Islamic Obligatory Knowledge is the knowledge that every accountable person is obligated to know. It includes the knowledge of Islamic Belief, cases of Islamic Law about Purification, Prayer, Fasting and the like. It also includes knowledge of the rules pertaining to dealings and contracts. One has also to learn the Obligatory Knowledge about the sins of the heart and body organs like the tongue, stomach, hands, private parts and the like.

Q: How Does One Become a Muslim?

A: One becomes a Muslim by believing in the Two Testifications of Faith and uttering them with the intention of leaving out blasphemy. The Two Testifications of Faith are: I bear witness that no one is God except Allah and I bear witness that Muhammad is the prophet of Allah.

Q: What is the Basic (Aqeedah) Islamic Belief?

A: One has to believe that the Creator, Allah, exists, and is not similar to anything. He is the only Creator and the only One Who deserves to be worshipped. He does not need anything and everything needs Him. God has Attributes of perfection that befit Him and any imperfection is not attributable to Him. Any imperfection, such as ignorance, place, direction, body, soul, organ, children, change or weakness, is not attributed to God. The rule is simple: Whatever you imagine in your mind, God is different from it. God sent messengers the first of them was Adam and the last one was Muhammad. All the messengers, including Jesus and Moses, were truthful, ordered their people to believe in One God, Allah, and not to associate any partner with Him. Hence, their Religion was the same: Islam.

Q: State Some of the Attributes (Sifat) of Allah?

A: God (Allah) has Attributes of perfection which befit Him. Some of these are Existence, Existence without a beginning, Existence without an end, Oneness, Non-resemblance to creations, non-neediness to creations, Life, Will, Power, Knowledge, Hearing, Sight and Speech without letters, sounds or languages.

اللَّهُ خَالِقُ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ، لَا يُشَبَّهُ
شَيْءًا، وَلَا يَجْتَازُ لَشَيْءٍ،
اللَّهُ موجود بلا مكان

This is: The Muslim's call !

We begin in the name of God, the One who created everyone. We
praise God Almighty, the One not in need of anyone.
We ask God to bless Muhammad, the last of God's Messengers. No
Prophet is born after him; he is the best of Islam's defenders.

God is our Creator, no one else creates.

The fact that God exists is not a question of debate.

God exists with no beginning and God is alive without an end.
God's life is not like our life; God does not descend or ascend.

God exists and is alive without being in a place.

God is not a body; God has neither hands nor face.

Whatever picture comes to your mind, be it a shape or light.
Know that this is not your Lord, the One with a great might.
God has power over all creation, nothing escapes God's sight.

God hears all that's hearable; God knows all, both wrong and right.
Everything which happens is by the will of God.
Whatever God wills to be shall be, both what's typical & odd.

God speaks without a tongue or lips; God orders, promises and
forbids. God reveals thing to the Prophets; telling others is what the
Prophets did. All Messengers are Prophets; they are the best of men.
To Prophets God revealed the message; some written with a pen.

Prophets always told the truth from birth until their death.
Prophets never blasphemed from birth until their last breath.
Great sins were never done by them nor a sin that's mean.
Prophets are the most beautiful men people have ever seen.
Every Prophet is a Muslim; all had the same belief.
Every Prophet told of Paradise and hellfire without relief.
Every person will either dwell in Paradise or in hell.

The dwelling is forever, so follow our Prophet well.
The Prophets lead the people on the path to Paradise.
Always follow Muhammad and take his good advice.
Before Muhammad were many noble Prophets true.

Jesus, Moses, Noah and Adam are names of only few.
We love God more than anyone and we love the Prophets all.
No one deserves worship except God, our Lord,;

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What is Islam?

I LOVE ISLAM

Islam is submitting to the creator, Allah
Islam is the religion of all Prophets of Allah
Islam is the only true religion accepted by God
Islam is a religion of peace and justice
Islam brought civilization to humanity
Islam is a way of life and proper living

لا إله إلا الله محمد رسول الله

**No one is God except Allah
Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah**

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This earth, planets and stars were all created by Allah at a point in time.

They did not always exist and they will perish by Allah's will. On a day which only Allah knows (not even the angels or prophets know it), Allah will make everything on earth and in the skies die (including angels, Satan, and all devils) and then He will resurrect them all and judge humans and jinns on what they did during their lives. Because humans and jinn made the choice to be believers or non-believers, pious or sinners, they will be rewarded or punished, by Allah's will, for what they believed, said, and did.

PARADISE (HEAVEN)

Those of mankind and jinn who believe correctly in Allah, and believe in the Messenger sent to them and profess their belief (i.e., becoming followers of the true Religion) and die with that status will dwell forever in Paradise, which Allah has created for them. The life in Paradise is better than

what any human living on earth can imagine. Those in Paradise will experience it in body and soul, but the body will be a new body with no defects. Paradise is not allegorical. It is very real and actual. There will be wonderful riches, foods, joy, and peace. People will be married and have interaction with one another. Those in Paradise will be in ranks according to their piety. Those who are rewarded with Paradise will never be sent out of it.

WHAT IS HELLFIRE

Hell, another creation of Allah, is the everlasting dwelling place for those of humans and jinn who rejected the revelations of the prophets. Hence, they disbelieved in Allah and His messengers. Hell is also a particular place and is not experienced here on earth. Its torture will not cease. The suffering will also be in body and soul. Some humans who were followers of the true Religion will suffer in Hell for some time, because they had sinned and did not repent of their sins during their lifetime. Being believers of the true Religion, they will get out of Hell after a time which Allah wills. Then they will enter Paradise and dwell there forever and receive no further punishment. Some believers of the true Religion who die as sinners will be forgiven by Allah on the Day of Judgment and will not go to Hell before entering Paradise.

LIFE AND DEATH

This life of a human or jinn always ends with death and there is no exception. Humans do not choose their race, sex,

parents, or birthplace and will not be held accountable for those aspects of their life on the Day of Judgment. No human is doomed to Hell because he was born as a certain sex or race. Allah the Merciful, has promised any human or jinn who dies as a follower of the true Religion will receive Paradise forever. Those people who truly never heard about the correct belief in Allah and any of the messengers during their entire lifetime and died in that state will not go to Hellfire. But those sane and pubescent people who have heard of the correct belief in Allah and His messenger and die not embracing this true Religion will dwell in Hell forever.

The correct belief in Allah has never changed and every prophet and messenger has said the same concerning belief in Allah: No one is God but Allah and mankind is to believe in Him and worship Him only. The prophet for the people on earth at present is Muhammad, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, and the laws for the present population are the laws that prophet Muhammad was given by Allah for mankind. There will be no new laws given, for there will be no new messenger.

Usually, the person is given one life in this world, so a person is wise to live this life correctly. No matter how appealing it is to some people, they will not "reincarnate" after they die. This and other false beliefs about mankind and Allah are whispered into human's minds by Satan and the devils, and some men are fooled into believing them.

SATAN

Satan, the first jinn, was present with the angels when Allah ordered him and the angels to bow down in respect before Adam. Satan did not bow down in respect. He objected to Allah and said he was better than Adam, because he was made from fire whereas Adam was made from clay. Because of this objection, Allah banished Satan. Satan vowed that he would try to persuade humans into false belief and worship and shameful conduct. Allah promised that Satan and those who follow him will be the inhabitants of Hell on the Day of Judgment.

Satan is man's accursed enemy and his vow to ruin many of mankind is not to be taken lightly. He attempts to confuse and ruin man by his prompting, making bad deeds seem good. A person is not sinful when Satan whispers to him; he is sinful if he believes and/or acts on the prompting. Although humans must believe that Satan exists and take the warning about him very seriously, we must remember that Allah has full power over Satan. Satan can do nothing against the will of Allah. When a believer of the true Religion strives to follow Allah's orders and asks Allah for protection from Satan, he should not doubt Allah's great protection and mercy.

RELIGION

There is only one true Religion--that of believing the correct belief in Allah and His messengers, worshipping Allah only, loving, respecting, and following the prophet of the time, and loving and respecting other

prophets. Every prophet and messenger followed and called people to the same Religion; this Religion is called ISLAM. A believer in Islam is called a MUSLIM. The meaning of Islam is "to submit to Allah". The meaning of the word Muslim is "one who submits to Allah." The name Allah is the name of the only true God. Although prophets and messengers spoke different languages, what they called people to was the same Religion. A person can declare that he believes and follows the true Religion--Islam--in any language, for belief is known to Allah regardless of the language. Those who say they are Muslim, yet deny the true belief in their heart, with their tongue, or by some actions, are surely not Muslim. Allah knows fully who are the ones who truly believe in Islam. Both messengers Moses and Jesus called their people to the true Religion--Islam--which is clearly described in the QUR'AN--the last and preserved scripture for all of mankind on earth.

JESUS

Jesus, may Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, is dearly loved by Muslims, for he is one of the greatest of messengers and he is one of the most loved creations to Allah. Jesus has no father; he was created within Mary, and the Muslims believe that his mother Mary is the best of all women.

By Allah's will, Prophet Jesus performed many miracles and was obedient to Allah in every way. Jesus spoke only the truth and his followers were Muslim. Never did Jesus say he was Allah, "the son of Allah", or that his

followers should pray to him or to anyone other than Allah. Jesus is a man, but had no father; Adam was a man but had neither a father nor a mother. The Qur'an tells us that the Jews did not crucify Jesus as some believe. He was not crucified at all, by Allah's will; Jesus was raised from the earth. Jesus is alive, and Allah will send Jesus back to the earth before the Day of Judgment. Jesus will attest that Islam is the true faith and that Prophet Muhammad, is the last messenger. He will follow the laws that Allah gave to Muhammad, and slay the one-eyed impostor. This is the truth, although some do not believe.

SINS

When a person goes against Allah's orders (which are conveyed by His messenger), this person has sinned. The worst sin is blasphemy, which is caused by any belief, saying, or action that contradicts Islam. When a person becomes Muslim he leaves all blasphemy. A Muslim must learn about all the types of blasphemy so to avoid committing any of them as he proceeds through life. If a Muslim commits blasphemy, he becomes non-Muslim and must become Muslim again. If he dies without becoming a Muslim, he will be in Hell forever in the Hereafter. If a Muslim commits a sin which is less than blasphemy and dies without repenting to Allah of the sin, then this sin is counted against him on the Day of Judgment. Similarly, if a Muslim follows Allah's orders, in obedience to Him, this is counted in his favor. All of this is known by Allah and no thing escapes Him.

When a Muslim commits sins, he must repent of them immediately. To repent of blasphemy, one must utter the Testification of Faith, clearing himself of the committed blasphemy. The Testification of Faith (Shahadatan) can be stated as follows:

"I testify that no one is God but Allah, and I testify that Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah."

For a sin less than blasphemy, one must stop doing the sin, regret having done it, and have the intention not to commit the same sin again. If the sin is stealing from a person, for example, then the stolen goods must be returned in addition. Allah is ever-merciful to the Muslim and no matter how many times he sins in his life, if he stops it, regrets having done it, and intends not to do it again, he will be forgiven by Allah. But for those who are non-Muslim, no matter what good things they do, those deeds are not to their credit in the Hereafter; they must first become Muslim.

A few examples of blasphemy are: believing that Allah has a son, worshipping an idol, and saying that Allah does not know everything. Some examples of sins less than blasphemy are: killing a person unjustly, adultery, drinking alcohol, and stealing. When a Muslim makes sincere repentance as was described, it is as if he did not sin, in that he will not be punished for what he repented of, for Allah is ever-merciful to the Muslims.

Also, when a person becomes a Muslim for the first time, Allah forgives all his past sins.

PRAYER

Upon the order of Allah, Prophet Muhammad commanded the Muslims to pray five times a day. This order applies since the lifetime of Prophet Muhammad until the Day of Judgment. The prayers have a specific format with the one praying praising and thanking Allah, asking for His help and guidance, and asking Him to bless the prophets and the pious Muslims. A Muslim knows that at any moment of his life he can ask Allah for help and guidance, and he is encouraged to do so, but this does not replace the five prescribed prayers, which have a specific format to be followed.

قال الله تعالى :
إِنَّ الَّذِينَ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ أَلْسَلَمُوا
وَمَا اختلف الذين أوثوا الكتب
إلا من بعد ما جاءهم العلم بغيا
بينهم ومن يكفر بغايت الله
فإن الله سريع الحساب
سورة الاحزاب

BECOMING A MUSLIM

A person becomes a Muslim by leaving all that contradicts the meaning of the following Testification of Faith, believing in the heart and declaring with the tongue:

"No one is God but Allah and Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah"

Believing in all this implies--Allah, the Creator, has perfect attributes, only Allah must be worshipped, Prophet Muhammad, the last prophet, was truthful in all that he

conveyed from Allah, all the prophets before him (the first of whom was Adam) conveyed the same message of belief to their people and are to be loved and respected, yet in no way do prophets (or any creation) have Allah's attributes.

A person can become Muslim, as aforementioned in the solitude of a forest or in a crowded subway; he does not need to go to a mosque or have Muslims witness his profession. Allah knows the hearts of His creation. However, when he becomes Muslim he may declare his belief to some fellow Muslims so he will be known as a Muslim among the people.

Anyone who has read this booklet must know if you are not already Muslim you must become Muslim immediately, for you do not know when you will die. To anyone who becomes Muslim while reading this paper, we advise you to seek knowledge as to the practice of Islam from a trustworthy Muslim teacher. As people go to college to be taught by those learned on different subjects, one should go to a learned Muslim to learn about the practice of Islam. There will always be more to learn and more ways to improve for a devoted Muslim, so arrogance is not a part of a good Muslim's life.

All praise is due to Allah, the Lord of the heavens and earth and Allah knows best.

 Islam

Find the Truth...

Knowledge, Faithfulness, Truthfulness..

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

The Attributes of Allah

Among the uncountable Attributes of Allah, there are thirteen which the scholars say are an obligation for the accountable (Mukallaf) Muslim to know. They are:

صفات الله الثلاث عشر في القرآن

الْوُجُودُ وَالْوَحْدَانِيَّةُ وَالْقَدَمُ أَيْ الْأَزَلِيَّةُ وَالْبَقَاءُ
وَقِيَامُهُ بِنَفْسِهِ وَالْقُدْرَةُ وَالْإِرَادَةُ وَالْعِلْمُ وَالسَّمْعُ
وَالْبَصَرُ وَالْحَيَاةُ وَالْكَلَامُ وَالْمُخَالَفَةُ لِلْحَوَادِثِ .

1. **Al-Wujud (Existence):** Allah exists; and all the creations stand as proof for the existence of Allah, there is no doubt in His existence. (Ibrahim: 10)
2. **Al-Wahdaniyyah (Oneness):** Allah has no partners. Allah is One without a partner or a comparison. Allah is One and not composed of pieces or parts, (Al-Ikhlās: 1)
3. **Al-Qiyamu bin-Nafs (Non-neediness of others):** Allah does not need any of the creations and all the creations are dependant upon Allah. (Al-Ikhlās: 2)
4. **Al-Mukhalafatu lil-hawadith (Non-resemblance to the creation):** Allah absolutely does not resemble the creation. (Ash-Shura: 11; Al-Ikhlās: 4)
5. **Al-Qidam, i.e., Al-Azaliyyah (Eternity):** Allah's existence is without a beginning and is not subject to change. (Al-Hadid: 3)
6. **Al-Baqa' (Everlastingness):** Allah's existence is without an end. (Al-Hadid: 3; Ar-Rahman: 27)
7. **Al-Qudrah (Power):** Allah has Power over all of the creations. (Al-Baqarah: 20)
8. **Al-Iradah (Will):** Everything exists by the will of Allah. (At-Takwir: 29; Al-Qasas: 68)
9. **As-Sam^ (Hearing):** Allah hears without an ear or any other organ or instrument. (Ash-Shura: 11)
10. **Al-Basar (Sight):** Allah sees without an eye or any other organ or instrument. (Ash-Shura: 11)
11. **Al-Kalam (Speech):** Allah has the Attribute of Kalam which is not like the created communication. Allah's Kalam is not a voice, letter, words, language, gesture, or sound. (Surat An-Nisa': 164)
12. **Al-Hayah (Life):** Allah is alive and does not die. Allah's life is without a material or spiritual body (soul). (Al-Baqarah: 255)

13. **Al-^Ilm (Knowledge):** Allah has the absolute knowledge of everything. (Al-Hadid: 3; Al-Mujadalah: 7)

Three Golden Rules:

الله لا يشبه شئاً. الله موجود بلا مكان

مهما تصورت ببالك فالله بخلاف ذلك

Allah does not resemble the creation in any way whatsoever. Allah exists without a place. Whatever you imagine in your mind, Allah is different from that.

Allah said in al-Qur'an:

{لَيْسَ كَمِثْلِهِ شَيْءٌ ۚ وَهُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْبَصِيرُ}

Ayah means: [Nothing is similar to Allah and He is attributed with Hearing and Sight]



Historical Events on Ashura'

The tenth of Muharram (Ashura ') is full of blessings and lessons, and that's why Allah made fasting the day of Ashura optionally Recommended matter per the Sahih hadith.

- On the day of Ashura '(tenth of Muharram) Allah forgave Prophet Adam,
- Allah saved Prophet Noah enabling his arch to land peacefully and victoriously,
- Allah saved Prophet Ibrahim from the tyrant Nimrod,
- Allah united Prophet Ya^qoob (Jacob) with his son Yussuf,
- Allah gave victory to Prophet Musa and split the sea for him and for the children of Israel and defeated Pharaoh (Fir^awn)
- Allah forgave Prophet Dawud and granted Prophet Sulayman great dominion.
- Prophet Yunus was safely out of the whale
- Allah cured Prophet Ayoub
- The Battle of Dhat ar-Riqa ^ occurred
- And on that day of Ashura', on Friday the year 61 after the hijrah, a great tragedy befell the Muslims, the killing of the grandson of the messenger of Allah peace be upon him, the killing of Imam Abu Abdullah al-Hussain the son of Imam ^ Aliy, who is the son of lady Fatimah (Radiallahu ^ Anha) the daughter of Prophet Muhammad (Sallallahu ^ Alayhi wa Sallam).

Allah knows best.

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- And on that day of Ashura', on Friday the year 61 after the hijrah, a great tragedy befell the Muslims, the killing of the grandson of the messenger of Allah peace be upon him, the killing of Imam Abu Abdullah al-Hussain the son of Imam ^ Aliy, who is the son of lady Fatimah (Radiallahu ^ Anha) the daughter of Prophet Muhammad (Sallallahu ^ Alayhi wa Sallam).

Allah knows best.

Historical Events on Ashura'

The tenth of Muharram (Ashura ') is full of blessings and lessons, and that's why Allah made fasting the day of Ashura optionally Recommended matter per the Sahih hadith.

- On the day of Ashura '(tenth of Muharram) Allah forgave Prophet Adam,
- Allah saved Prophet Noah enabling his arch to land peacefully and victoriously,
- Allah saved Prophet Ibrahim from the tyrant Nimrod,
- Allah united Prophet Ya^qoob (Jacob) with his son Yussuf,
- Allah gave victory to Prophet Musa and split the sea for him and for the children of Israel and defeated Pharaoh (Fir^awn)
- Allah forgave Prophet Dawud and granted Prophet Sulayman great dominion.
- Prophet Yunus was safely out of the whale
- Allah cured Prophet Ayoub
- The Battle of Dhat ar-Riqa ^ occurred
- And on that day of Ashura', on Friday the year 61 after the hijrah, a great tragedy befell the Muslims, the killing of the grandson of the messenger of Allah peace be upon him, the killing of Imam Abu Abdullah al-Hussain the son of Imam ^ Aliy, who is the son of lady Fatimah (Radiallahu ^ Anha) the daughter of Prophet Muhammad (Sallallahu ^ Alayhi wa Sallam).

Allah knows best.