
True adherence to Islaam is cause of victory and salvation in Hereafter

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the Name of Allaah the most Kind the most Merciful

All praise be to Allaah Alone, and peace and blessings be upon His Messenger, and his family and Companions.

Allaah (عزوجل)¹ created all creatures to worship Him Alone, with no partner or associate. He revealed His Books and sent His Messengers to order this and call to people to it. Allaah (سبحانه)² says: **[And I (Allaah) created not the jinn and mankind except that they should worship Me (Alone).]** He (سبحانه) also says: **[O mankind! Worship your Lord (Allaah), Who created you and those who were before you so that you may become al-Muttaqoon (the pious).]** And He (عزوجل) says: **[Alif-Laam-Raa. [These letters are one of the miracles of the Qur'aan and none but Allaah (Alone) knows their meanings]. (This is) a Book, the Verses whereof are perfected (in every sphere of knowledge), and then explained in detail from One (Allaah) Who is All-Wise Well-Acquainted (with all things). (Saying) worship none but Allaah. Verily, I (Muhammad (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ)) am unto you from Him a warner and a bringer of glad tidings.]** And Allaah (سبحانه) also says: **[And verily, We have sent among every Ummah (community, nation) a Messenger (proclaiming): "Worship Allaah (Alone), and avoid (or keep away from) Taaghoot (all false deities i.e. do not worship Taaghoot besides Allaah)."]** And He (سبحانه) says: **[And We did not send any Messenger before you (O Muhammad (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ))³ but We revealed to him (saying): Laa ilaaha illa Ana [none has the right to be worshipped but I (Allaah)], so worship Me (Alone and none else)."]** These Ayahs (Qur'aanic verses) and their like all show that Allaah (عزوجل) only created al-Thaqalayn (humans and Jinn) to worship Him Alone, without partners; this is the real wisdom behind their creation. They also show that Allaah (عزوجل) has indeed revealed the Books and sent the Messengers for serving the same purpose. 'Ibaadah (worship) is submission to Allaah and humility before His Greatness, by carrying out His Commands and avoiding His Prohibitions, out of having 'Eemaan (Faith) in Him (سبحانه) and His Messengers, sincerity to Him in all deeds, and belief in everything that He and His Messenger, Muhammad (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ), informed us of. This is the essence and foundation of the Deen

¹ (عزوجل) (Azza wa Jaal) Glorified and Exalted be He

² (سبحانه) (Subhanahu) Exalted be He

³ (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) (sallallaahu 'alayhi wa sallam) May the peace and blessings of Allaah the Most High be upon him

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(religion) of Islaam, and the meaning of the testimony: "La ilaha illaallah (there is no true deity but Allaah)." It means that none is to be worshipped except Allaah. All acts of 'Ibaadah, including Du'aa' (supplication), reverential awe, hope, Salaah (Prayer), Sawm (Fast), sacrificing, vows, and others acts, should be done for the Sake of Allaah Alone and nothing of these should be dedicated to anyone other than Him, as enjoined by the above-mentioned Ayahs and the Saying of Allaah (عزوجل): **[And they were commanded not, but that they should worship Allaah, and worship none but Him Alone (abstaining from ascribing partners to Him)]** And His Saying (عزوجل): **[And the mosques are for Allaah (Alone): so invoke not anyone along with Allaah.]** And: **[Such is Allaah, your Lord; His is the kingdom. And those, whom you invoke or call upon instead of Him, own not even a Qitmeer (the thin membrane over the date-stone). If you invoke (or call upon) them, they hear not your call; and if (in case) they were to hear, they could not grant it (your request) to you. And on the Day of Resurrection, they will disown your worshipping them. And none can inform you (O Muhammad (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ)) like Him Who is the All-Knower (of everything).]** He (سبحانه) also says: **[And who is more astray than one who calls on (invokes) besides Allaah, such as will not answer him till the Day of Resurrection, and who are (even) unaware of their calls (invocations) to them? And when mankind are gathered (on the Day of Resurrection), they (false deities) will become their enemies and will deny their worshipping.]** And He (عزوجل) says: **[And whoever invokes (or worships), besides Allaah, any other ilaah (god), of whom he has no proof; then his reckoning is only with his Lord. Surely! al-Kaafiroon (the disbelievers in Allaah and in the Oneness of Allaah, polytheists, pagans, idolaters) will not be successful.]** In these Ayahs, Allaah (سبحانه) clarifies that He (سبحانه) is the Sovereign of everything. He declares that 'Ibaadah is His Exclusive Right Alone, and that all other deities worshipped besides or instead of Him, including the prophets, Aawliyaa' (pious people), idols, trees, stones, and others, possess no power over anything and do not hear those who supplicate to them, and even if they were to hear their Du'aa', they would not answer them. Allaah tells that performing 'Ibaadah to them is Shirk (associating others with Allaah in His Divinity or worship) and that He has doomed those who commit it to failure. He (سبحانه) also tells that no one is more astray than those who supplicate to other than Him, and that their Du'aa' will never be answered until the Day of Resurrection. These deities are inattentive to their Du'aa' and on the Day of Resurrection they will deny their 'Ibaadah, renounce it, and show hostility to it. This guidance is sufficient enough to shun us away from Shirk, warn us against it, and show the great loss and disastrous end of those who fall into it.

All these Ayahs teach us that worshipping other than Allaah is falsehood and that true 'Ibaadah belong to Allaah Alone. This is explicitly supported by the Words of Allaah (عزوجل): **[That is because Allaah — He is the Truth (the only True God of all that exists, Who has no**

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partners or rivals with Him), and what they (the polytheists) invoke besides Him, it is Baatil (falsehood).]⁴

Allaah (سبحانه) mentions in other parts of His Book that the purpose of creating all creatures is for them to know that Allaah is the Omniscient, the Omnipotent; that in the Hereafter He (عزوجل) will recompense His Servants, each according to their deeds. Allaah (عزوجل) says: **[It is Allaah Who has created seven heavens and of the earth the like thereof (i.e. seven). His Command descends between them (heavens and earth), that you may know that Allaah has power over all things, and that Allaah surrounds all things in (His) Knowledge.]** And He (سبحانه) says: **[Or do those who earn evil deeds think that We shall hold them equal with those who believe (in the Oneness of Allaah - Islaamic Monotheism) and do righteous good deeds, in their present life and after their death? Worst is the judgement that they make. And Allaah has created the heavens and the earth with truth, in order that each person may be recompensed what he has earned, and they will not be wronged.]**

Therefore, it is obligatory on every rational person to consider the purpose of their creation, to call themselves to account, and strive against themselves for the Sake of Allaah to fulfil His Rights and the rights of His Servants. They have to abstain from committing what is prohibited by Allaah to win happiness and a blessed outcome in this world and in the Hereafter. This knowledge is the most useful, the most important, the best and the greatest of all knowledge, because it is the basis of religion, the essence of the Message of all the Messengers (peace be upon them) and the substance of their Da'wah (Call to belief in and worship Allaah). This purpose will not be achieved and success through it will not be attained unless one has 'Eemaan in all Messengers (عليهم السلام)⁵ and especially in the head of them, their leader, master, and Seal; our Prophet Muhammad (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ). Believing in the Prophet Muhammad (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) necessitates believing in the truthfulness of everything he informed us of, obeying his commands, and abstaining from his prohibitions, and worshipping Allaah according to the Sharee'ah (Law) that He sent the Prophet (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) with. Likewise, every Ummah (nation based on one creed) to which Allaah sent a Messenger will not be judged to have true Islaam or complete 'Eemaan nor attain happiness and success, unless they have Tawheed (belief in the Oneness of Allaah), dedicate all acts of worship purely to Allaah (عزوجل) Alone, follow their Messenger (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ), and do not drift away from their Sharee'ah. This is the true Islaam that Allaah has chosen for His Servants, and has declared it to be His Religion, saying: **[This day, I have perfected your religion for you, completed My Favour upon you, and have chosen for you Islaam as your religion.]** He (عزوجل) also says: **[Truly, the religion with Allaah is Islaam.]** Thereby, an insightful person should realise that the essence of the Deen (religion) of Islaam and its basis are two rules:

⁴ Soorah al-Hajj

⁵ (عليهم السلام) Peace be upon them

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First: Not worshipping other than Allaah Alone, and this is the meaning of the Shahahdah (Testimony of Faith): "La ilaha illaallaah".

Second: Not worshipping Allaah, except according to the Sharee'ah of His Prophet Muhammad (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ).

The first rule nullifies all deities that are worshipped other than Allaah, and makes it known that the Deity Who has the Right to be worshipped is Allaah Alone. The second nullifies any of worshipping Allaah based on Ra'y (personal opinion) and Bid'ah (innovation in religion) totally unbidden and unsanctioned by Allaah. It also clarifies the invalidity of ruling by positive (man-made) laws and human opinions and that it is obligatory to rule by the Sharee'ah of Allaah in every matter. A Servant can never be a true Muslim unless they fulfil both of these rules. Allaah (عزوجل) says: **[Then We have put you (O Muhammad (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ)) on a (plain) way of (Our) commandment [like the one which We commanded Our Messengers before you (i.e. legal ways and laws of the Islaamic Monotheism)]. So follow you that (Islaamic Monotheism and its laws), and follow not the desires of those who know not.]⁶. [Verily, they can avail you nothing against Allaah (if He wants to punish you).] He (سبحانه) also says: **[But no, by your Lord, they can have no Faith, until they make you (O Muhammad (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ)) judge in all disputes between them, and find in themselves no resistance against your decisions, and accept (them) with full submission.]** And He (سبحانه) says: **[Do they then seek the judgement of (the days of) Ignorance? And who is better in judgement than Allaah for a people who have firm Faith.]** And He (عزوجل) says: **[And whosoever does not judge by what Allaah has revealed, such are the Kaafiroon (i.e. disbelievers of a lesser degree as they do not act on Allaah's Laws). And whosoever does not judge by that which Allaah has revealed, such are the Zaalimoon (polytheists and wrong-doers - of a lesser degree). And whosoever does not judge by what Allaah has revealed (then) such (people) are the Faasiqoon [the rebellious i.e. disobedient (of a lesser degree) to Allaah].]****

In addition, these Ayahs give the sternest warning and provoke the strongest repulsion against not judging by the Sharee'ah which Allaah has revealed. They teach the Ummah, both government and people, that it is obligatory on everyone to judge according to the Sharee'ah of Allaah, to submit to it, be satisfied with it, and beware of what contradicts it. The Judgment of Allaah (سبحانه) is the best and most just of all, and resorting to any judgment other than His is an act of Kufr (disbelief), wrongdoing, and Fisq (flagrant violation of Islaamic law). It is nothing else than the Judgment of the Jaahiliyyah (pre-Islaamic time of ignorance), which the Sharee'ah of Allaah came to nullify and revoke. Societies can never enjoy success, happiness, security, or stability unless their leaders judge according to the Sharee'ah of Allaah, execute His Rulings in dealing with His Servants, devote their words and deeds sincerely to Him, and trespass not the boundaries He set for His Servants. In this way,

⁶ Tafseer at-Tabaree

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everyone will gain success and honour in this world and in the Hereafter. They will also win victory over their enemies, protection from their scheming, and restoration of the stolen glory and past honour. Allaah (سبحانه) says: **[O you who believe! If you help (in the cause of) Allaah, He will help you, and make your foothold firm.]** And He (عزوجل) says: **[O you who believe! If you obey and fear Allaah, He will grant you Furqaan [(a criterion to judge between right and wrong), or (Makhraj, i.e. a way for you to get out from every difficulty)], and will remove from you your sins, and forgive you]** And He (سبحانه) says: **[Verily, Allaah will help those who help His (Cause). Truly, Allaah is All-Strong, All-Mighty. Those (Muslim rulers) who, if We give them power in the land, (they) enjoin Iqamat-as-Salaat [i.e. to perform the five compulsory congregational Salaat (prayers) (the males in mosques)], pay the Zakaat and they enjoin al-Ma'roof (i.e. Islaamic Monotheism and all that Islaam orders one to do), and forbid al-Munkar (i.e. disbelief, polytheism and all that Islaam has forbidden) [i.e. they make the Qur'aan as the law of their country in all the spheres of life].]** After Allaah (سبحانه) warns Muslims against taking Kaafirs (disbelievers) as Bitanah (advisors, consultants, protectors, helpers, friends, etc.) instead of the believers and informs us that they will not fail to do their best to corrupt Muslims, as they desire to harm them, He says: **[But if you remain patient and become al-Muttaqoon [the pious], not the least harm will their cunning do to you. Surely, Allaah surrounds all that they do.]**

This fundamental principle and major understanding was the first issue that the writers wrote about, and the main concern of the Du'ah (callers) to true guidance and the supporters of Al-Haqq (the Truth). It is the knowledge worthiest of being adhered to strongly and spread among all classes of people in society, so they understand its reality and abstain from what contradicts it.

I recommend my Muslim brothers, including the scholars and those responsible for Da'wah, to hold onto this important foundations and to write as much about it as possible in letters and articles, so it can be spread among all people and be known by the specialists and laypeople. That is due to its importance, necessity, and because of what has happened in most Islaamic countries due to ignorance of it, as has been witnessed in the case of exceeding the proper limits in glorifying graves, especially the graves of the so-called Aawliyyaa' (pious people), building Masjids (mosques) on these graves, and offering many acts of 'Ibaadah for their occupants, such as Du'aa', seeking their help, sacrificing, vowing, and other acts.

What has also happened in many Islaamic countries, due to ignorance of this fundamental principle, is that they rule according to man-made laws and human opinions and neglect the rulings of Allaah and His Messenger, which are the most just and the best of all.

We ask Allaah that Muslims be guided gently back to the right path; that He reforms their leaders, grants all Muslims success in adhering to His Sharee'ah, abiding by it, judging according to it, making it the judge, surrendering to it, being satisfied with it, and abstaining

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from what opposes it! Indeed, Allaah is the Guardian over this, and the One having power to do this. May peace and blessings be upon His Messenger, Muhammad, his family, his Companions, and those who follow his path and adhere to his guidance until the Day of Resurrection!