

Affection and Aversion
(*Al-Walaa' and Al-Baraa'*)

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We hope that Muslims will get benefitted from it and adopt the necessary measures to act upon the orders of our religion.

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Al-Walaa' and Al-Baraa'

(Affection for the Believers and Aversion with the Disbelievers)

All praise is due to Allāh, and may Allāh's peace and blessings be on His Messenger, his household, Companions and all those who followed him in obedience until the Day of Resurrection.

Al-Walaa' wal-Baraa', or *Al-Mu'waaalah wal-Mu'aadah*, have become among the abandoned subjects in Islam for many Muslims in the present time, because they think that this aspect is not a part of the Islamic Creed and acts of worship. Hence, they place their love, affection, aid and obedience with the disbelievers and defend them using their tongues and hands, while refraining from offering their *Walaa'* to the believers. Consequently, we wrote this short article about this important subject, asking Allāh to benefit with it those who are unaware of the significance of the creed of *Walaa'* and *Baraa'* in Islam.

The Meaning of *Walaa'* and *Baraa'*

Yuwaalee and *Walaa'* are derived from the word *Muwaalah*, which means to love. Therefore, when you love someone, you will have offered him your *Walaa'*, meaning you bring him close to your heart. Also, *Wilaayah* is the opposite of '*Adaawah* (enmity), while *Tawallee* is one of the strongest types of *Walaa'*, and it refers to obedience and following. Allāh said,

﴿إِنَّمَا سُلْطَانُهُ عَلَى الَّذِينَ يَتَوَلَّوْنَهُ وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ بِهِ مُشْرِكُونَ﴾

“His power is only over those who *Yatawallaawnahu* [obey and follow him (Satan)], and those who join partners with Him (Allāh) [i.e. those who are *Mushrikoon* (polytheists)].” (16:100)

Also, *Tawallee* sometimes means to give

aid and support. Allāh said,

﴿إِنَّمَا يَنْهَكُمُ اللَّهُ عَنِ الَّذِينَ قَاتَلُوكُمْ فِي الدِّينِ وَأَخْرَجُوكُم مِّن دِيَارِكُمْ وَظَاهَرُوا عَلَىٰ إِخْرَاجِكُمْ أَن تَوَلَّوهُمْ وَمَن يَتَوَلَّهُمْ فَأُولَٰئِكَ هُمُ الظَّالِمُونَ﴾

“It is only as regards those who fought against you on account of religion, and have driven you out of your homes, and helped to drive you out, that Allāh forbids you to *Tawallahum* (support or befriend them). And whosoever *Yatawallaahum* (supports them), then such are the *Thaalimoon* (wrongdoers those who disobey Allāh).” (60:9)

The word *Mu'aadah* comes from the words '*Adaa*, '*Aada*, *Yu'aadee* and '*Adaawah*, meaning enmity, disfavor and feelings in the heart to harm and take revenge. Therefore, the '*Adu* (enemy) is the opposite of *Sadeeq* (friend).

Walaa' and *Baraa'* (or *Mu'aadah*) in Islamic Terminology

From the meanings we gave for the words *Walaa'* and *Baraa'*, we conclude that the origin of *Walaa'* means to love, while the origin of *Baraa'* (or *Mu'aadah*) refers to hatred. These two feelings result in a host of actions and feelings in the heart and on the part of the senses, entailing giving aid, support, compassion, help, *Jihaad* and *Hijrah* (migration), or the opposite of these meanings in the case of *Baraa'*.

Muslims are required by Allāh to offer their full *Walaa'* to the believers and their full *Baraa'* from the disbelievers.

The Status of the Creed of *Walaa'* and *Baraa'* in Islam

The creed of *Walaa'* and *Baraa'* has a high status in Islam, as is evident in the following points.

1. The creed of *Walaa'* and *Baraa'* is a part of the implications of testifying that there is no deity of worship except Allāh and that Muhammad is the Messenger of Allāh, which implies *Baraa'* from everything and everyone being worshipped except Allāh.
2. The creed of *Walaa'* and *Baraa'* is the strongest tie of *Eemaan* (Faith). The Prophet ﷺ said,

«أَوْثَقُ عُرَى الْإِيمَانِ الْمُوَالَاةُ فِي اللَّهِ،
وَالْمُعَادَاةُ فِي اللَّهِ، وَالْحُبُّ فِي اللَّهِ وَالْبُغْضُ
فِي اللَّهِ»

“The strongest tie of Faith consists of *Walaa'* for Allāh, *Mu'aadah* for