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Basic Principles of Islam





Islam is an Arabic word which means 'surrender'. This means to accept the power of Allâh, and follow His Commands. Happiness in this life and success in the life after death can only be obtained by obeying Allâh.

Islam is not only a religion, but a complete way of life. This means that it shows us how to live all aspects of our lives in the best possible way.

Chapter 1: Islam

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There are Five Pillars on which Islam stands. They are:

1. To firmly believe in the heart and declare:



Laa ilaaha illallaah, Muhammadur-Rasulullaah.

"There is no God but Allâh, and Muhammad is the Messenger of Allâh."

This is what is meant by Imâm (Belief).

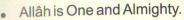
- 2. To pray five times a day (perform Salât).
- 3. To pay Zakât (obligatory charity).
- 4. To fast during the month of Ramadân.
- 5. To go on *Hajj* (pilgrimage) to Makkah once in a lifetime if one can afford it.

A person who accepts Islam is called a Muslim. It means 'one who surrenders'. A Muslim is required to do all that Allâh and His Messenger [Allâh's peace & blessings be upon him] have asked to do, and to keep away from doing things which Allâh and His Messenger [Allâh's peace & blessings be upon him] have told not to do.

Allâh and His Messenger [Allâh's peace & blessings be upon him] have told us to do good deeds like being kind to our parents, to help others who are less fortunate and to be kind to animals

Chapter 2: Allâh

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- . He is our Lord.
- He has created us and everything that is in the earth and the heavens.
- He has no partner.
- He has no mother or father, son or daughter.
- He is Eternal.
- There is nothing similar to Him.



In the Name of Allâh, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful.

"Say (O Muhammad): 'He is Allâh (the) One.

Allâh is Self-Sufficient. He begets not, nor was He begotten. And there is none comparable unto Him."

[Al-Ikhlâs, 112]



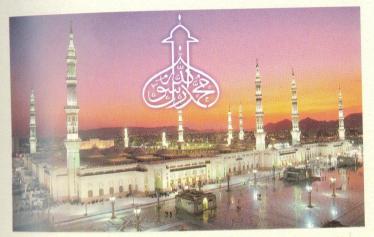


لَا إِلٰهَ إِلَّا اللهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيْكَ لَهُ، ۚ لَهُ الْمُلْكُ وَلَهُ الْحَمْدُ، وَهُوَ عَلَىٰ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيْر

Laa ilaaha illallaahu, wahdahu laa shareeka lahu, Lahul-mulku wa lahul-hamdu, wa Huwa 'ala kulli shay'in Qadeer.

"There is no God except Allâh Alone. There is no partner unto Him. To Him belongs sovereignty, and to Him belongs all praise, and He has power over all things."

- He knows everything.
- He sees everything.
- He hears everything.
- Nothing is hidden from Him.
- He is Kind and Loving. He is Gracious and Merciful.
- He is Clement and Forgiving.
- Allâh has Beautiful Names which indicate His Attributes.
- He is the One Who provides each and every one of His creation with the means to survive. He is the One Who has created everything for our survival like the earth in which crops grow, the sun which provides warmth, water which living things drink from, the air which they breathe and kindling for
- Muslims should turn only to Him in their times of need and sadness.
- Muslims should seek help only from Him.
- He is the One Who is worthy of worship. Nothing else should be worshipped but He. There is no greater sin than Shirk, which means to associate partners unto Allâh and believe that they can give us benefit or cause us harm, or worship or seek help from others besides Him.



(Muhammad is the Messenger of Allâh)



Muhammad [Allâh's peace & blessings be upon him] was the last Prophet. Allâh chose him to reveal His Last Message. He came with complete guidance for mankind. He received the Noble Qur'an from Allah through the Angel Jibril.