

# ISLAM IS YOUR BIRTHRIGHT

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## **Publisher's Note**

As our Prophet Muhammad had said that every child is born on its nature, it is his parents that make him a Jew or a Christian, we observe that the followers of different faiths use to consider their own faith to be the most true one in comparison to other faiths.

In fact, the matter of adopting a religion is a birthright of every person, and when someone attains the age of understanding, he should look into the matter of his religion. As there are many religions in the world and each claiming to be the only true one, some have a greater number of followers than others that are not so widespread.

It is in the interest of each person to make a comparative study of religions and choose for himself the best he has found. Similarly, he should also check his religion as regards the misconceptions that took their place in every religion. Keeping the religion pure and safe from all types of additions and changes is also a person's duty for his own sake.

In this book, the author has discussed some vital questions that arise in the mind of a person when he looks upon the religions for a critical study:

Is it necessary to adopt a religion? What is the criteria to judge a religion?

How to differentiate between a false and a true religion?

How to check the pure teachings of a religion against the additions that took place by the passage of time and by the misbehavior of irresponsible clerics and the so-called scholars?

... and likewise.

We hope that this book will help a lot to a person who gives serious attention to a matter such as religion, and he must do so because religion is a matter that should be given serious attention.

In the end all praise is due to Allah, and upon Him we depend.

**Abdul-Malik Mujahid**  
General Manager  
Darussalam

## **ISLAM is Your Birthright**

Each person is born in a religious environment that is not of his/her own choice. From the very beginning of human existence in this world, they are assigned the religion of their family or the ideology of the state. By the time individuals reach their teens they usually accept the beliefs of their parents or that of their particular society.

However, when some people mature and are exposed to other beliefs and ideologies, they begin to question the validity of their own beliefs. Seekers of truth often reach a point of confusion upon realizing that believers of every religion, sect, ideology and philosophy all claim to have the one and only correct religion or ideology. There are only three possibilities. They are either all correct or all wrong or only one is correct and the rest are wrong. They cannot all be right since all religions are different from each other in their fundamentals. Furthermore, the majority claims that they alone are correct and the rest are wrong. On the other hand, to claim that they are all wrong is to deny that God revealed His Will to humankind. This proposition is absurd to those who believe in a Wise Creator. So, which religion is the right one and how can the seeker of truth know it? This is the subject of the booklet in your hands.

In beginning one's search for which religion is true, one should keep four things in mind:

First, God gave us abilities and intellectual powers to make the crucial decision: What is the true religion?

Second, God, the Most Compassionate, did not leave us to go astray without any guidance. Indeed, He sent us Prophets with Scriptures to show us the right path.

Third, seeking the true religion should be the most important thing in one's life because the everlasting life to come depends on it. [The Bible, in its present form, confirms that seeking the truth is the main cause for salvation. It states in John 8:32 - "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." Muslims believe that the existing form of the Bible contains facts of the original truth though it has been significantly altered]

Fourth, one can determine the true path and make a rational and correct decision only if emotions and prejudices, which often blind one to reality, are put aside.

## The Purpose of Creation

Have you ever wondered about the reason for our existence? Have you ever wondered why we die, and where we go after death? What will happen to us in the end? Have you ever asked yourself why God made the earth and all that is in it under man's dominion? Why were the night and the day, and the sun and the moon created? What are we supposed to do during our lifetime? Were we created just to eat, drink, and enjoy ourselves before we die? As one poet put it:

I do not know whence I have come.

I saw my feet walking on the road.

As they please I go and stop.

What am I doing here?

How did the road find me?

I do not know! I do not know! I do not know!

God has emphasized in many Verses of the Quran [Quran is the Holy Book revealed to Prophet Muhammad (Peace and Blessings of Allah be upon him). Elaborate definition of Quran is explained on page 22] that He did not create us without purpose. He said:

*"What! Do you think that I created you simply in jest? And that you would not be returned to Me?"*  
*[Please note that any quotation in this booklet from the Quran is the closest meaning to its translation from Arabic. It is not the text itself] (The Believers 23: 115)*

He also said:

*"What! Does man think that he will be left to roam at his will?" (The Resurrection 75:36)*

In addition, He said:

*"Do people think that they will be left to say: 'We believe,' and they will not be held accountable?"*  
*(The Spider 29:2)*

Indeed, God has created human beings for a purpose and with a reason: to worship Him Alone (monotheism). He said:

*"I have not created the jinn and humankind except only to worship Me. I don't require provision or feeding from them. Surely Allah [As per Quran, 'Allah' is the proper name for 'God'] is the All-Provider, Owner of power, the Most Strong." (The Winds that Scatter 51:56-58)*

In fact, all Prophets told their people to worship God alone (monotheism) and shun worshipping His creation (paganism and polytheism). God said:

*"We assuredly sent among every people a Messenger with the command: Worship Allah and avoid worshipping false gods." (The Bee 16:36)*

Prophet Abraham (peace be upon him), for example, believed in One God, who had no partner. Anyone who holds a different understanding of God than this has contradicted the religion of Abraham and follows falsehood. God says in the Quran:

*"And who rejects the religion of Abraham makes fool of himself" (The Cow 2: 130)*

Prophet Jesus was reported in the Gospels to have said:

*"It is written: 'Worship the Lord your God and serve Him only'." (Luke 4:8)*

Prophet Jacob (peace be upon him) also said (in the Quran) to his people:

*"Indeed, those which you worship besides Him are only names that you and your forefathers have established, for which Allah has sent down no authority. The command belongs only to Allah. He has commanded that you worship none but Him. That is the right religion, but most people do not understand." (Joseph 12:40)*