

ALLAH

The Only True God and Creator of All

The Qur'ân, the Divine Revelation from the only God, Cherisher and Sustainer of the worlds (Qur'ân 56:80), repeatedly tells us that there is no god but Allâh 1[1]. Allâh (*Subhanahu wata'ala*, meaning: the Exalted, Most Glorious) Alone claims for universal divinity. He I Alone commands mankind to know that there is no god but He. Allâh the Almighty says in His Book:

"And your Allâh is one Allâh; there is no god but He, Most Gracious Most Merciful." (Qur'ân, 2:163)

"Here is a Message for mankind: Let them take warning there from, and let them know that He is (no other than) One Allâh. Let men of understanding take heed." (14: 52)

" Allâh! There is no god but He (the) Rabb2[2] (the Only Cherisher and Sustainer) of the Throne Supreme!" (27: 26)

"O mankind! Call to mind the grace of Allâh unto you! Is there a Creator other than Allâh to give you sustenance from heaven or earth? There is no god but He. How then are you deluded away from the Truth? (35:3)

"Verily, your Allâh is One, Rabb of the heavens and of the earth and all between them and Rabb of every point at the rising of the sun!" (37:4-5)

"Know, therefore, that there is no god but Allâh, and ask forgiveness for your fault..." (47: 19)

For the clear guidance of all mankind, Allâh the Most High mentions in many parts of His Book that He Alone is our God. Indeed, there is no god but Allâh. He is the Living, the Self-Subsisting, the Supporter of all (3: 2), and the One Who gives life and death (3:156; 6:95; 15:23). Allâh is the Creator of all things. He is the One, the Supreme and Irresistible (13: 16).

Belief in Allâh requires that we refrain from assigning partners to Him (6:22, 13:36 and 60:12) as well as saying things about Allâh of which we have no knowledge (7: 33). He is Allâh, the One, not one in a Trinity (5:72), nor one of two (16:51). He has no begotten son (2:116; 6:100; 10:68; 19:35) nor is He begotten (112: 3). Nor does He have consort nor daughters (6:100-

101; 16:57; 37:149-157). Verily, Allâh has no partner (6:163). No vision can grasp Him, but His grasp is over all vision; He is Subtle, Well Aware (6:102, 103).

The Only One Worthy of All Praises

Furthermore, the Qur'ân contains many praises to Allâh — the Only One worthy of all praises (31:26). The most beautiful names or attributes belong to Him (7:180). Ask yourself the following sensible questions: Is there anyone besides Allâh, who claims to be the *Rabb* (Only God, Cherisher and Sustainer) of the Worlds (i.e., this present world and the world in the Hereafter)? Who has ever claimed ownership of all things in heaven and earth, except Allâh? Has anyone, except Allâh, ever claimed to be the Only One Free of all wants, Worthy of all praise, Master of the Day of Judgment and the Only Deity? Do you know of anyone, except Allâh, who claims to be the Only Creator, Who begets not nor was He begotten, and none is comparable unto Him? If your answer to any of these challenging questions is "None"; then, accept the veracity of the following *ayaat* (Qur'anic verses), as divine words coming from the Only True God, Allâh:

In the Name of Allâh, Most Gracious, Most Merciful. All praises belong to Allâh, the Rabb (Only God, Cherisher and Sustainer) of the Worlds: Most Gracious, Most Merciful; Master of the Day of Judgment. You Alone we worship, and You Alone we seek for help. Guide us to the straight Way, the way of those on whom You have bestowed Your Grace, not (the way) of those who earned your anger and who went astray. (1:1-7)

Allâh! None has the right to be worshipped but He, the Ever Living, the One Who Sustains and protects all that exists. Neither slumber nor sleep can overtake Him. His are all things in the heavens and on earth. Who is he that can intercede with Him, except with His permission? He knows what happens to them (His creatures) in this world, and what will happen to them in the Hereafter. And they will never compass anything of His Knowledge except that which He wills. His Throne extends over the heavens and the earth and He feels no fatigue in guarding and preserving them. For He is the Most High the Supreme (in glory). (2:255)

"All Praises and thanks be to Allâh Who, (Alone) created the heavens and the earth and made the darkness and the light. Yet those who reject Faith hold (others) as equal with their Rabb." (6:1)

"But if they turn away say: 'Allâh suffices me: There is no god but He: On Him is my trust - He is the Rabb of the Throne (of Glory) Supreme!'" (9:129)

"Say: 'Call upon Allâh or call upon Rahman (the Most Beneficent), by whatever name you call upon Him (it is well), for to Him belong the Most Beautiful Names. Neither speak your Prayer aloud nor speak it in a low tone but seek a middle course between.' And say: 'Praises belong to Allâh Who begets no son and has no partner in (His) dominion: nor is He low to have protector. And magnify Him for His greatness and glory!'" (17:110-111)

"To Allâh belong all things in heaven and earth: verily Allâh is He (Who is) free of all wants worthy of all praise." (31:26)

"Glory to your Rabb, the Rabb of Honor and Power! (He is free) from what they ascribe (to Him)! And Peace on the Messengers! And praises to Allâh the Rabb of the Worlds." (37:180-181)

"Then Praise be to Allâh, the Rabb of the heavens and Rabb of the earth, the Rabb of all the worlds! To Him is Glory throughout the heavens and the earth: and He is Exalted in Power, Full of Wisdom!" (45:36-37)

Whatever is in the heavens and on earth does declare the Praises and Glory of Allâh: to Him belongs Dominion and to Him belongs Praise: and He has power over all things. It is He Who has created you; and of you are some that are Unbelievers and some that are Believers: and Allâh sees well all that you do. He has created the heavens and the earth in just proportions and has given you shape and made your shapes beautiful: and to Him is the final Goal. He knows what is in the heavens and on earth: and He knows what you conceal and what you reveal. Yes, Allâh knows well the (secrets) of (all) hearts. (64:1-4)

Blessed be He in Whose hands is Dominion: and He has Power over all things. He Who created Death and Life that He may test which of you is best in deed: and He is the Almighty, Most Forgiving. He Who created the seven heavens one above another; you can see no fault in the creation of the Most Gracious. Then look again: Do you see any flaw? (67:1-3)

"Say: `He is Allâh the One. The Eternally besought of all. He begets not nor was He begotten and there is none comparable unto Him.'" (112: 1-4)

The above verses are just few of the many enlightening verses in the Qur'ân that show how Allâh stresses His unique divinity. The Qur'ân consistently guides mankind to the Oneness of Allâh: Who Alone is our God, Creator and Provider and Who Alone deserves all praises and beautiful attributes.

The Only One Worthy of True Worship

We must firmly believe that Allâh is the only One worthy to be worshipped. Both the Qur'ân and the *Sunnah* (Traditions and Practices, which include the *Ahâdîth* or Teachings of Prophet Muhammad) emphasize the fact that Only Allâh deserves our true worship. True prayer is due to Him alone (13:14). We have to worship Allâh alone (6:102, 103; 11:1-2), because He commands us to worship Him. For your guidance, try to reflect on the following *Ayât* (Verses). Has anyone, except Allâh, persistently claimed for Divinity, and commanded us to serve or worship no one but Him? Allâh the Almighty says in the Qur'ân:

"Serve Allâh and join not any partners with Him: and do good to parents, kinsfolk, orphans, those in need, neighbors who are near, neighbors who are strangers, the companion by your side, the wayfarer (you meet), and what your right hands possess; for Allâh loves not the arrogant the vainglorious." (4:36)

"That is Allâh your Rabb! There is no god but He, the Creator of all things; then you worship Him: and He has power to dispose of all affairs. No vision can grasp Him, but His grasp is over all vision; He is Subtle well-aware." (6:102-103)

"Verily, I am Allâh: There is no god but I: So serve Me (only), and perform regular prayers for My remembrance." (20:14)

". . . (This Qur'ân is) a Book, with verses basic or fundamental (of established meaning) — further explained in detail — from One Who is Wise and Well-Acquainted (with all things). (It teaches) that you should worship none but Allâh." (11:1-2)

You should accept that only Allâh consistently claims for Divinity. Verily, Allâh is our God. He Alone deserves our true worship. You should worship Allâh ; because, He makes it very clear in the Qur'ân that the very purpose why He has created us is to worship Him throughout our lives. He I tells us:

"I have created not the jinn and men except that they should worship Me (Alone). I seek not any provision from them nor do I ask that they should feed Me. Verily, Allâh is the All-Provider, Owner of Power, Most Strong." (51:56-58)

"So glorify the praises of your Rabb and be of those who prostrate themselves (to Him). And worship your Rabb (Sustainer) until there comes unto you the Hour that is certain (i.e., death)." (15:98-99)

Signs of Allâh

Allâh the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful has sent down the Qur'ân as a mercy to the believers (the Muslim). It is the complete guidance to all who sincerely believe and worship Him. It explains all things, a guide and a mercy to all who believe in His absolute oneness (7:52 and 16:89). For your guidance, accept the invitation to believe and worship Allâh as your Creator and Sustainer. Contemplate and ponder upon all His creations, including you. The following are some of the numerous very enlightening Qur'ânic Verses on the Signs of Allâh:

Among His Signs is this that He created you (Adam) from dust; and then behold you are men scattered (far and wide)! And among His Signs is this that He created for you mates from among yourselves that you may dwell in tranquility with them and He has put love and mercy between your (hearts); verily in that are Signs for those who reflect. And among His Signs is the creation of the heavens and the earth and the variations in your languages and your colors: verily in that are Signs for those who know. And among His Signs is the sleep that you take by night and by day and the quest that you (make for livelihood) out of His Bounty: verily in that are Signs for those who hearken. And among His Signs He shows you the lightning by way both of fear and of hope and He sends down rain from the sky and with it gives life to the earth after it is dead: verily in that are Signs for those who are wise. And among His Signs is this that heaven and earth stand by His Command: then when He calls you by a single call from the

earth behold you (straightway) come forth. To Him belongs every being that is in the heavens and on earth: all are devoutly obedient to Him. It is He Who begins (the process of) creation; then repeats it; and for Him it is most easy. To Him belongs the loftiest similitude (We can think of) in the heavens and the earth: for He is Exalted in Might Full of Wisdom. (30: 20-27)

"Among His Signs are the Night and the Day and the sun and moon. Adore not the Sun and the Moon but adore Allâh Who created them if it is Him you wish to serve." (41:37)

"Verily in the heavens and the earth are Signs for those who believe. And in the creation of your selves and the fact that animals are scattered (through the earth) are Signs for those of assured Faith. And in the alternation of Night and Day and the fact that Allâh sends down Sustenance from the sky and revives therewith the earth after its death and the change of the winds are Signs for those that are wise. Such are the Signs of Allâh which We rehearse to thee in truth: then in what exposition will they believe after (rejecting) Allâh and His Signs?" (45:3-6)

The Rationale for Believing in the Absolute Oneness of God

The belief in *Tawhîd* (absolute Oneness of God) in Islâm is the most logical idea that every rational individual could ever think of. Simply because, should there be two, three or more "gods" then, the entire universe would have been in chaos as a result of the competition of and struggle for power among "gods." Allâh the Exalted says:

"If there were, in the heavens and the earth, other gods besides Allâh, there would have been ruin in both! But glory to Allâh, the Rabb of the Throne: (High is He) above what they attribute to Him." (21: 22)

"No son did Allâh beget nor is there any god along with Him: (if there were many gods) behold each god would have taken away what he had created and some would have overcome over others! Glory to Allâh (He is free) from the (sort of) things they attribute to Him!" (23:91)

The belief in *Tawhîd* in Islâm, therefore, is the absolute Truth. Indeed, it is a divine message that the whole mankind must know and respond by accepting Islâm. It is for your salvation that you should believe in the absolute Oneness of Allâh. Allâh will never guide you if you do not believe in Him as the Only One worthy of true worship. If you continue associating partners with Allâh and join others in worship with Him, all your good deeds will be in vain. If you die rejecting Allâh, He will not forgive you and you will be among the losers. Allâh the Almighty says:

"This is the Guidance of Allâh. He gives that guidance to whom He pleases, of His servants if they were to join other gods with Him, all that they did would be vain for them." (6:88)

And indeed it has been revealed to you (O Muhammadr), as it was to those (Allâh's Messengers) before you: "If you join others in worship with Allâh, (then) surely (all) your deeds will be in vain, and you will certainly be among the losers." (39:65)

The concept of God in Islām is the most logical and rational that any sensible person can ever think of. Verily, Allāh is the One and Only True God. He is the Only God, Cherisher and Sustainer of the Worlds. If you still doubt Allāh's claim for Unique and Supreme Divinity, then contemplate deeply on the following very enlightening verses:

"Say: 'Will you worship besides Allāh something, which has no power either to harm or benefit you? But Allāh s He Who hears and knows all things.'" (5:76)

"Do they indeed ascribe to Him as partners things that can create nothing but are themselves created? No aid can they give them nor can they aid themselves! If you call them to guidance they will not obey. For you it is the same whether you call them or you hold your peace! Verily, those whom you call upon besides Allāh are servants like you. Call upon them and let them listen to your prayer if you are (indeed) truthful!" (7:191-194)

"Say: 'Praise be to Allāh and Peace on His servants whom He has chosen (for His Message). (Who) is better? Allāh or the false gods they associate with Him?'" (27:59)

"Is it a Falsehood gods other than Allāh that you desire? Then what is your idea about the Rabb of the Worlds?" (37:86-87)

If you cannot give a better concept of God and His Divine attributes than what the Qur'ān tells us, then accept Allāh as your *Rabb* (Sustainer) as He is the *Rabb* of the Worlds. Verily, Allāh is the Only True God:

"That is because Allāh is the (only) Reality and because whatever else they invoke besides Him is Falsehood; and because Allāh He is the Most High Most Great." (31:30)

He is Allāh, besides Whom there is no (other) deity, knowing the unseen and the visible. He is the Mercy-giving, the Merciful! He is Allāh, besides Whom there is no (other) deity, the Sovereign, the Holy, (the Source of) Peace, the Secure, the Preserver, the Powerful, the Irresistible, the Grandiose. Glory be to Allāh ahead of anything they may associate (with Him)! He is Allāh, the Creator, the Evolver, the Shaper, His are the Finest Names. Everything in Heaven and Earth celebrates Him. He is the Powerful, the Wise. (59:22-24)

For your divine guidance, believe in Allāh as the One and Only True God. Sincerely accept Him as your only *Rabb* worthy to be worshipped. Fear His eternal punishment for those who reject Faith:

"As to those who reject Faith, I will punish them with severe chastisement in this world and in the Hereafter nor will they have anyone to help." (3:56)

"But those who disobey Allāh and His Messenger and transgress His limits will be admitted to a Fire, to abide therein. And they shall have a humiliating punishment." (4:14)

"Those who reject Faith and deny Our signs will be companions of Hell-Fire." (5:9-10)

"...But those who reject Allāh and deny Our Signs, they are the companions of Hell-Fire."
(57:19)

"Who does greater wrong than who forges falsehood against Allāh, even as he is being invited to Islām? And Allāh guides not those who do wrong." (61:7)

If you can not sincerely accept the Truth, then seek Allāh's help and guidance to protect you from the evil whisper of Satan. Allāh is our *Rabb* (2:21-22) and Protector (2:257). He guides us to seek His protection from Satan's influence. The Almighty says:

"If a suggestion from Satan assail your (mind), seek refuge with Allāh; for He hears and knows (all things). Verily, those who fear Allāh, when a thought of evil from Satan assaults them, they remember Allāh, and (indeed) they then see (aright)!" (7: 200-201)

"Say: `I seek refuge with the Rabb and Cherisher of mankind, the King (or Ruler) of mankind, the God (or Judge) of mankind — from the mischief of the Whisperer (of Evil), who withdraws (after his whisper) (the same) who whispers into the hearts of mankind — among jinn and among men.'" (114:1-6)

For your eternal salvation, sincerely believe in Allāh as the Only True God of all the worlds (mankind, jinn, animals and all creatures). Allāh Alone deserves all the unique qualities and supreme attributes of God. Verily, Allāh is the One and Unique God. He is the Only One worthy of true worship. Therefore, worship Him Alone and associate no one with Him.

[1] Allah is an Arabic term, which connotes the One and Only True God. Even among Christian Arabs, they always use the word Allah when they mean God. Allah is not only the God of the Muslims. Allah is the true God of all mankind (Qur'ān, 114:3). He is the universal God of all. The term Allah has no plural word unlike the word God. It signifies absolute Oneness of God. Hence, it is a must to use the word Allah instead of God.
[2] Note: Some Muslim scholars say that the best translation of "*Rabb*" is "Lord". I retain the original Arabic word "*Rabb*" to mean "the Only God, Cherisher and Sustainer", because the word "Lord" has human connotations. Christians not only use the term "Lord" to refer to Jesus Christ but also to other human beings. It refers to "a person having great power and authority; ruler and master." In Great Britain "Lord" refers to "a) a nobleman holding the rank of baron, viscount, earl, or marquis; member of the House of Lords; (Qur'ān, and) b) a man who by courtesy or because of his office is given the title of Lord, as a bishop, the son of a duke, or a Lord mayor." This is to avoid associating partners with Allah. Verily, Allah the Creator of all (Qur'ān, 2:29, 117; 6:73) and the Only God, Cherisher and Sustainer of the Worlds (Qur'ān, 1:2; 39:75) has no partner (Qur'ān, 6:163). There is nothing whatever like unto Him (Qur'ān, 42:12). Allah is the One, the Eternal, Absolute; He begets not, nor is He begotten; and there is none like unto Him (Qur'ān, 112:1-4).