

STUDY GUIDE

# CONCEPT OF GOD IN MAJOR WORLD RELIGIONS

BY DR ZAKIR NAIK



**AL HIDAAYAH**  
**الهداية**

The Guidance for Humanity

Based on the Glorious Qur'an and Authentic Hadith



## COURSE OUTLINE

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### Course Topics

01. Introduction
02. Categorization of major world religions
03. Concept of God in Hinduism
04. Concept of God in Sikhism
05. Concept of God in Zoroastrianism
06. Concept of God in Judaism
07. Concept of God in Christianity
08. Concept of God in Islam
09. Attributes of God
10. All religions ultimately believe in monotheism
11. Tawheed
12. Shirk
13. Conclusion

### COURSE OBJECTIVES

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01. To realize the fact that religion is an integral part of human existence
02. To analyze the concept of God in major world religions by referring to its holy scriptures
03. To know that all religions ultimately believe in monotheism in the light of its holy scriptures
04. To learn about the unique concept of God in Islam – Tawheed



## QUESTION AND ANSWER BUCKET

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### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Transcripts

Posts

### ASSESSMENT

Multiple Choice Questions

Matching columns

True or False

### COURSE DURATION

Video	- 3 hours 45 min
Study Guide	- 35 min
Posts	- 15 min
Assessment	- 10 min
Total Duration	- 4 hours 45 min

LESSON 1

**CATEGORIZATION OF  
MAJOR WORLD RELIGIONS**





# 01

## INTRODUCTION

### 01

#### RELIGION IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF HUMAN EXISTENCE

One of the distinguishing features of our civilization is the presence of a large number of religions and ethical systems. Humankind has always sought to understand the reasons for creation and his own place in the scheme of things. Arnold Toynbee studied the history of man through the ages and put his findings in a monumental work consisting of ten volumes. He summarized that in the history of man, religion stood at the center. In an article in The Observer on October 24, 1954 he wrote:

**“I HAVE COME BACK AT THE BELIEF THAT RELIGION HOLDS THE KEY TO THE MYSTERY OF EXISTENCE.”**

Religion, According To The Oxford Dictionary Means,

**“BELIEF IN A SUPERHUMAN CONTROLLING POWER ESPECIALLY IN A PERSONAL GOD OR GODS ENTITLED TO OBEDIENCE AND WORSHIP.”**



A common feature of all major religions is the belief in a Universal God or Supreme Divine Authority that is Omnipotent and Omniscient. Followers of all major religions believe that the God they worship is the same God for them as well as for others.

Marxism, Freudianism and other 'non-religious' beliefs tried to attack the roots of organized religions. But these in turn, developed into belief systems themselves. For instance, when communism was adopted by many countries of the world, it was preached with the same commitment and fervor that characterizes the act of preaching and propagation of religions.

Thus, religion is an integral part of human existence.

*The Glorious Qur'an says in the following verse:*

قُلْ يَأَهْلَ الْكِتَابِ تَعَالَوْا إِلَىٰ كَلِمَةٍ سَوَاءٍ يَسِّرَنَا وَيَسِّرْكُمْ أَلَا نَعْبُدَ إِلَّا  
الَّهُ وَلَا نُشْرِكَ بِهِ شَيْئًا وَلَا يَتَّخِذَ بَعْضُنَا بَعْضًا أَرْبَابًا مِّنْ دُونِ اللَّهِ فَإِنْ  
تَوَلُّوْا فَقُولُوا أَشْهَدُوا بِأَنَّا مُسْلِمُونَ

**Say: "O People of the Book! Come to common terms as between us and you: That we worship none but Allah; that we associate no partners with him; that we erect not, from among ourselves, Lords and patrons other than Allah." If then they turn back, say ye: "Bear witness that we (at least) are Muslims (bowing to Allah's Will)."'**

Al Qur'an 3:64

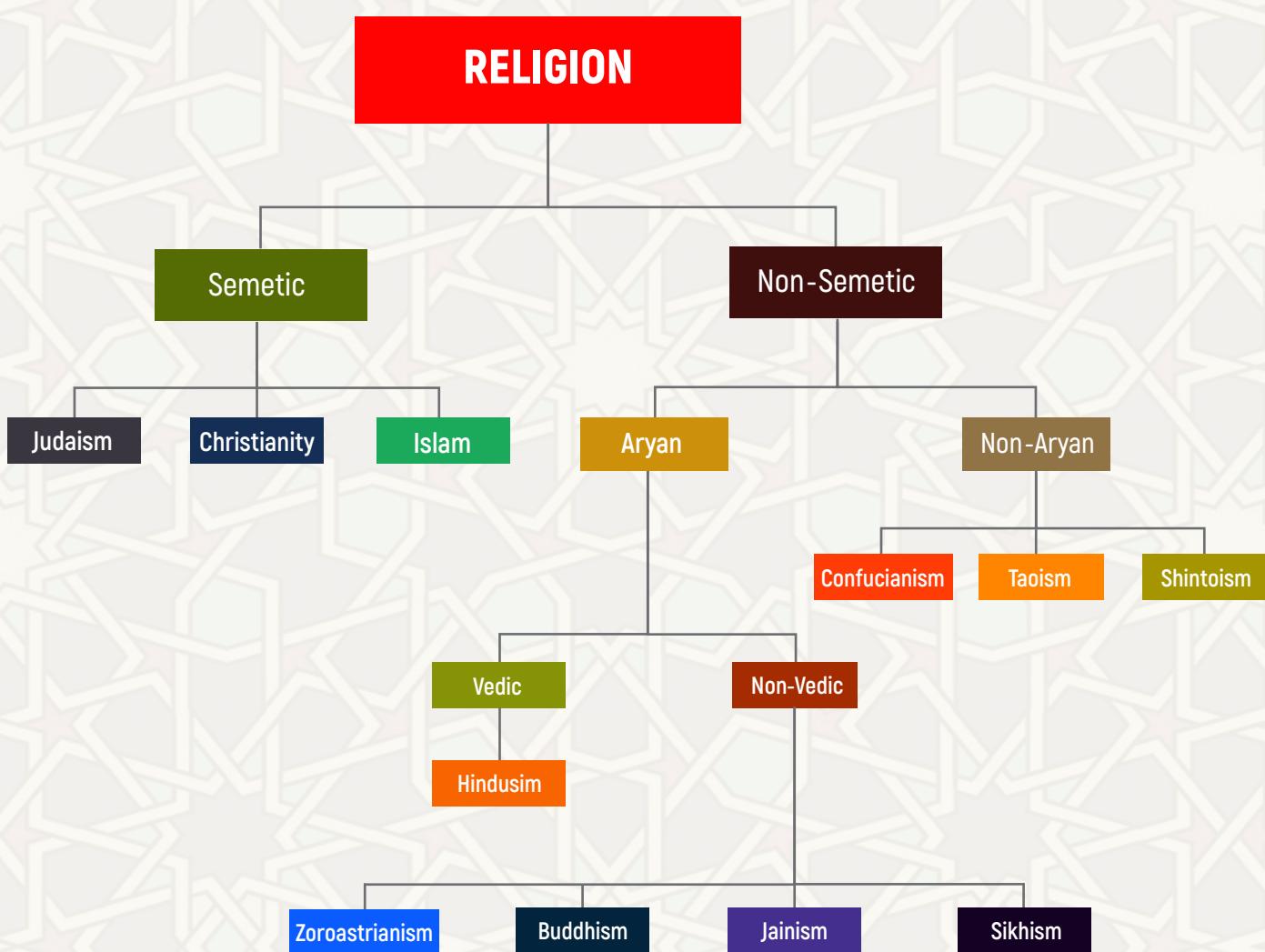


The study of various religions has been an extremely rewarding experience for me. It has reaffirmed the belief that God created every human soul with some knowledge of His existence. The psychological constitution of man is such that he accepts the existence of the Creator, unless he has been conditioned to believe the contrary. In other words, belief in God requires no condition, while a rejection of God does.



02

## CATEGORIZATION OF MAJOR WORLD RELIGIONS





Religions of the world can be broadly categorized into Semitic religions and non-Semitic religions. Non-Semitic religions can be divided into Aryan religions and non-Aryan religions.

## 01 SEMITIC RELIGIONS

Semitic religions are religions that originated among the Semites. According to the Bible, Prophet Noah (pbuh) had a son called Shem. The descendants of Shem are known as Semites. Therefore, Semitic religions are the religions that originated among the Jews, Arabs, Assyrians and Phoenicians. Major Semitic religions are Judaism, Christianity and Islam. These religions are Prophetic religions that believe in Divine Guidance sent through prophets of God.

## 02 NON-SEMITIC RELIGIONS

Non-Semitic religions are further subdivided into Aryan and non-Aryan religions:



## A Aryan religions

Aryan religions are the religions that originated among the Aryans, a powerful group of Indo-European speaking people that spread through Iran and Northern India in the first half of the second Millennium BC (2000 to 1500 BC).

Aryan religions are further subdivided into Vedic and non-Vedic religions. The Vedic religion is given the misnomer of Hinduism or Brahminism. The non-Vedic religions are Sikhism, Buddhism and Jainism. Almost all Aryan religions are non-prophetic religions.

Zoroastrianism is an Aryan, non-Vedic religion, which is not associated with Hinduism. It claims to be a prophetic religion.

## B Non-Aryan religions

Non-Aryan religions have diverse origins. Confucianism and Taoism are of Chinese origin while Shintoism is of Japanese origin. Many of these non-Aryan religions do not have a concept of God. They are better referred to as ethical systems rather than as religions.



## 03

## MOST AUTHENTIC DEFINITION OF GOD IN ANY RELIGION

The concept of God espoused by a religion cannot be judged by merely observing the practice of its followers. It is quite common for the followers of many religions to be ignorant of the concept of God in their scriptures. It is therefore better to analyze the concept of God in any religion by referring to its holy scriptures.

LET US UNDERSTAND THE CONCEPT OF GOD IN MAJOR WORLD RELIGIONS BY ANALYZING WHAT THEIR SCRIPTURES HAVE TO SAY ABOUT IT.

LESSON 2

**CONCEPT OF GOD  
IN HINDUISM**





03

## CONCEPT OF GOD IN HINDUISM

The most popular among the Aryan religions is Hinduism. 'Hindu' is actually a Persian word which stands for the inhabitants of the region beyond the Indus Valley. However, in common parlance Hinduism is a blanket term for an assortment of religious beliefs, most of whom are based on the Vedas, the Upanishads and the Bhagavad Gita.

01

### COMMON CONCEPT OF GOD IN HINDUISM

Hinduism is commonly perceived as a polytheistic religion. Indeed, most Hindus would attest to this, by professing belief in a multitude of gods. Some Hindus believe in the system of three gods while some Hindus actually believe in the existence of thirty-three crore i.e. 330 million gods. However, learned Hindus who are well-versed with their scriptures insist that a Hindu should believe in and worship only one God.

The major difference between the Hindu and the Muslim perception of God is the common Hindus' belief in the philosophy of Pantheism. Pantheism considers everything, living and non-living to be divine and sacred. The Hindus therefore consider the trees, the sun, the moon, the animals and even the human beings as manifestations of God. For the common Hindu, everything is God.



Islam, on the contrary, exhorts man to consider himself and his surroundings as examples of divine creation rather than as divinity itself. Muslims therefore believe that everything is God's i.e. God with an apostrophe 's'. In other words, we believe that everything belongs to God. The trees, the sun, the moon and everything in this universe belong to God.

### ***The Glorious Qur'an exhorts:***

تَعَالَوْا إِلَى كَلِمَةٍ سَوَاءٍ بَيْنَنَا وَبَيْنُكُمْ

—


**“Come to common terms as between us and you”**

### ***The first common term is:***

الَّا نَعْبُدُ إِلَّا اللَّهُ

—


**“that we worship none but Allah”**

SO, LET US TRY AND FIND COMMONALITY BY ANALYZING BOTH HINDU AND ISLAMIC SCRIPTURES.



## 02

### BHAGAVAD GITA

*The most popular among all the Hindu scriptures is the Bhagavad Gita. Consider the following verse from the Gita:*



“Those whose intelligence has been stolen by material desires surrender unto demigods and follow the particular rules and regulations of worship according to their own natures.”

Bhagavad Gita 7:20

## 03

### UPANISHADS

*The Upanishads are also considered sacred scriptures by the Hindus. Consider the following verses from the Upanishads:*

A

“Ekam evaditiyam”



“He is One only without a second.”

Chandogya Upanishad 6:2:1



[B]

**“Na Casya Kascij Janita Na Cadhipah”**



**“Of Him there are neither parents nor Lord.”**

Svetasvatara Upanishad 6:9

[C]

**“Na Tasya Pratima Asti”**



**“There is no likeness of Him.”**

Svetasvatara Upanishad 4:19

*Compare the above verses with the following verses of the Glorious Qur'an:*

وَلَمْ يُكُنْ لَّهُ كُفُواً أَحَدٌ



**“And there is none like unto Him.”**

Al Qur'an 112:4



لَيْسَ كَمِثْلِهِ شَيْءٌ



**“There is nothing like Him.”**

Al Qur'an, 42:11



**“Na samdrse tisthati rupam asya, na caksusa pasyati kas canainam.”**



**“His form is not to be seen, no one sees Him with the eye.”**

Svetasvatara Upanishad 4:20

**The above verse from the Upanishad alludes to the inability of man to imagine God in a particular form.**

***The Glorious Qur'an refers to this aspect in the following verse:***

لَا تُدِرِّكُهُ الْأَبْصَرُ وَهُوَ يُدْرِكُ الْأَبْصَرَ وَهُوَ أَلَّطِيفُ الْخَيْرِ



**“No vision can grasp Him, but His grasp is over all vision: He is above all comprehension, well acquainted with all things.”**

Al Qur'an 6:103



# 04

## THE VEDAS

**Vedas are considered the most sacred amongst all the Hindu scriptures. There are 4 main Vedas. Rig Veda, Yajur Veda, Sam Veda and Atharva Veda.**

### A

#### Yajur Veda

i

“Na tasya Pratima asti”



“There is no image of Him.”

Yajur Veda 32:3

*It further says: “As He is unborn, He deserves our worship.”*



“There is no image of Him whose glory verily is great. He sustains within Himself all luminous objects like the Sun etc. May He not harm me, this is my prayer. As He is unborn, He deserves our worship.”

The Yajur Veda by Devi Chand M. A., pg 377



ii



**“He is bodiless and pure.”**

**Yajur Veda 40:8**



**“He hath attained unto the Bright, Bodiless, Woundless, Sinewless, the pure which evil hath not pierced. Far-sighted, wise, encompassing, he self-existent hath prescribed aims, as propriety demands, unto the Everlasting Years.”**

**Yajur Veda Samhita by Ralph I.H. Griffith, pg 538**

iii



**“Andhatama pravishanti ye asambhuti mupaste”**

**“They enter darkness, those who worship natural things”, for example air, water, fire, etc. “They sink deeper in darkness those who worship Sambhuti.” Sambhuti means created things, for example table, chair, idol, etc.**

**Yajur Veda 40:9**



iv

It also mentions a prayer stating:



**“Lead us to the good path and remove the sin that makes us stray and wander.”**

**Yajur Veda 40:16**

B

## Atharva Veda

i

“Dev maha osi”



**“God is verily Great.”**

**Atharvaveda 20:58:3**

ii



**“Verily, Surya, thou art great; truly, aditya, thou art great. As thou art great indeed thy greatness is admired: Yea, verily, great art thou, O God.”**

**Atharva Veda Samhiti – Vol 2, William Dmicht Whitney, pg 910**



**A similar message is given in the Qur'an in Surah Ra'd**



**“He is the Great, the Most High.”**

The Qur'an 13:9

## C Rig Veda

i

The oldest of all the Vedas is Rig Veda. It is also the one considered most sacred by the Hindus.



**“Sages (learned Priests) call one God by many names”.**

Rig Veda 1:164:46

ii

The Rig Veda gives no less than 33 different attributes to Almighty God, many of these are mentioned in Rig Veda Book II hymn 1.



Amongst the various attributes given in Rig Veda, one of the beautiful attributes mentioned in Rig Veda Book II verse 2 for Almighty God is 'Brahma'. 'Brahma' means 'The Creator.' Translated into Arabic this word means 'Khaliq'. Muslims can have no objection if Almighty God is referred to as 'Khaliq' or 'Creator' or 'Brahma'. However, Muslims definitely do not subscribe to the view that 'Brahma' is Almighty God who has four heads (Nauzubillah), Muslims take strong exception to it. Describing Almighty God in anthropomorphic terms also goes against the following verse of Yajurveda:

**"Na tasya Pratima asti"**



Another beautiful attribute mentioned in the Rig Veda Book II hymn 1 verse 3 (R.V. 2:1:3) is Vishnu. 'Vishnu' means 'The Sustainer'. Translated into Arabic it means 'Rabb'. Again, Muslims can have no objection if Almighty God is referred to as 'Rabb' or 'Sustainer' or 'Vishnu'. But the popular image of Vishnu among Hindus is that of a God who Has four arms, with one of the right arms holding the 'Chakra' i.e. a discus and one of the left arms holding a 'conch shell', riding a bird or reclining on a snake couch. Muslims can never accept any image of God. As mentioned earlier this also goes against Yajur Veda chapter 40 verse 19.



iii

Consider the following verses from the Rig Veda:

**“Ma chidanyadvi shansata”**



**“O friends, do not worship anybody but Him, the Divine One.”**

**Rig Veda 8:1:1**

(Rig Veda Samhiti – Vol 9, pg 1 and 2 by Swami Satyaprakash Sarasvati and Satyakam Vidhyalankar)

iv



**“The wise yogis concentrate their minds; and concentrate their thought as well in the Supreme Reality, which is Omnipresent, Great and Omniscient. He alone, knowing their functions, assigns to the sense organs their respective tasks. Verily, great is the glory of the Divine Creator”.**

**Rig Veda 5:81**

(Rig Veda Samhiti – Vol 6, page 1802 and 1803 by Swami Satyaprakash Sarasvati and Satyakam Vidhyalankar)



## D Brahma Sutra of Hindu Vedanta

*The Brahma Sutra of Hindu Vedanta is:*

“Ekam Brahm, dvitiya neste neh na neste kinchan”  
“There is only one God, not the second; not at all,  
not at all, not in the least bit.”

THUS, ONLY A DISPASSIONATE STUDY OF THE HINDU  
SCRIPTURES CAN HELP ONE UNDERSTAND THE CONCEPT  
OF GOD IN HINDUISM.

LESSON 3

**CONCEPT OF GOD  
IN SIKHISM**





04

## CONCEPT OF GOD IN SIKHISM

Sikhism is a non-Semitic, Aryan, non-Vedic religion. Though not a major religion of the world, it is a branch or offshoot of Hinduism founded by Guru Nanak at the end of the 15th Century. It originated in the area of Pakistan and North West India called Punjab meaning the land of the five rivers. Guru Nanak was born in a Kshatriya (warrior caste) of a Hindu family but was strongly influenced by Islam and Muslims.

01

### DEFINITION OF SIKH AND SIKHISM

The word 'Sikh' is derived from the word 'Sisya' meaning disciple or follower. Sikhism is a religion of 10 Gurus, the First Guru being Guru Nanak and the 10th and the last being Guru Gobind Singh. The sacred book of Sikhism is Sri Guru Granth also called Adi Granth Sahib.



## 02

### THE FIVE K'S

Every Sikh is supposed to keep the five K's which also serve as his identity.

i

Kesh - uncut hair; which all the Gurus kept

ii

Kangha - comb; which all the Gurus kept

iii

Kada - metal or steel bangle; for strength and self-restraint

iv

Kirpan - dagger; for self defense

iv

Kaccha - special knee length underwear or underdrawer for agility

## 03

### MULMANTRA: THE FUNDAMENTAL CREED OF SIKHISM

The best definition that any Sikh can give regarding concept of God is Sikhism is quote the "Mul Mantra" – the fundamental creed of Sikhism, which occurs at the beginning of Guru Granth Sahib.



**“There exists but one God, who is called the true, the creator, free from fear and hate, immortal not begotten, self-existent, Great and Compassionate.”**

**Sri Guru Granth Sahib – Vol 1 Japuji, verse 1**

Sikhism enjoins on its follower's strict monotheism. It believes in only One Supreme God who is, in the unmanifest form called '**Ek Omkara**'.

***In the manifest form He is called as Omkara and has several attributes such as:***

**KARTAR – THE CREATOR**

**SAHIB – THE LORD**

**AKAL – THE ETERNAL**

**SATTANAMA – THE HOLY NAME**

**PARVARDIGAR – THE CHERISHER**

**RAHIM – THE MERCIFUL**

**KARIM – THE BENEVOLENT**

**He is also called 'Wahe Guru' – the One true God.**

Besides Sikhism being strictly monotheistic, it does not believe in Avataravada – the doctrine of incarnation. Almighty God does not incarnate Himself in what is known as Avatara. Sikhism is also strongly against idol worship.



## 04

## GURU NANAK INFLUENCED BY KABIR

Guru Nanak was influenced by the sayings of Sant Kabir so much that several chapters of Shri Guru Nanak Sahib contain couplets of Sant Kabir.

One of the famous couplets of Sant Kabir is,

**“Dukh mein sumirana sabh karein sukh mein karein na koye Jo sukh mein sumirana karein to dukh kaye hoye”**

“Everyone remembers God during trouble, but no one remembers Him during peace and happiness. The one who remembers God during peace and happiness why should he have trouble?”

*Compare this with the following verse of the Qur'an:*

وَإِذَا مَسَ الْإِنْسَانَ ضُرٌّ دَعَا رَبَّهُ مُنِيبًا إِلَيْهِ ثُمَّ إِذَا خَوَّلَهُ نِعْمَةً  
مِنْهُ نَسِيَ مَا كَانَ يَدْعُوا إِلَيْهِ مِنْ قَبْلُ وَجَعَلَ لِلَّهِ أَنَدَادًا



“When some trouble touches man, he cries unto his Lord, turning to Him in repentance. But then He bestows a favour upon him from Himself, he forgets that for which he cried for before, and he sets up rivals to Allah.”

Al Qur'an 39:8

LESSON 4

**CONCEPT OF GOD  
IN ZOROASTRIANISM**





05

## CONCEPT OF GOD IN ZOROASTRIANISM

Zoroastrianism is an ancient Aryan religion which originated in Persia more than 2500 years ago. Though it has relatively few adherents, less than one hundred and thirty thousand in the whole world, it is one of the oldest religions. The Iranian Prophet Zoroaster was the founder of Zoroastrianism (also commonly known as Parsism). The sacred scripture of the Parsis is the Dasatir and Avesta.

God in Zoroastrian religion is known as 'Ahura Mazda' 'Ahura' means 'the Lord' and 'Mazda' means 'the Wise' hence 'Ahura Mazda' means 'the Wise Lord' or 'the Wise God'. Ahura Mazda stands for a strict form of Monotheistic God.

01

### QUALITIES OF GOD ACCORDING TO DASATIR

i

He is One

ii

Nothing resembles Him

iii

He is without an origin or end

iv

He has no father or mothers, wife or son



- v** Without a body or form
- vi** Neither the eye can behold Him, nor the power of thinking can conceive Him
- vii** He is above all that you can imagine of
- viii** He is nearer to you than your own self

## 02

## QUALITIES OF GOD ACCORDING TO AVESTA

**According to Avesta, the Gathas and the Yasna give the various characteristics to Ahura Mazda such as:**

i



### Creator

(Yasna 31:7 & 11) (Yasna 44:7) (Yasna 50:11)  
(Yasna 51:7)



ii



**Most Mighty – the Greatest**  
(Yasna 33:11) (Yasna 48:3)

iii



**Beneficent – ‘Hudai’**  
(Yasna 33:11) (Yasna 48:3)

iv



**Bountiful – ‘Spenta’**  
(Yasna 43:4,5,7,9,11,13,15) (Yasna 44:2)  
(Yasna 45:5) (Yasna 46:9) (Yasna 48:3)

LESSON 5

**CONCEPT OF GOD  
IN JUDAISM**





06

## CONCEPT OF GOD IN JUDAISM

Judaism is one of the major Semitic religions. Its followers are known as Jews and they believe in the prophetic mission of Prophet Moses (pbuh).

01

### BOOK OF DEUTERONOMY

*The following verse from Deuteronomy contains an exhortation from Moses (pbuh):*

i

#### **"Shama Israelu Adonai Ila Hayno Adna Ikhad"**

It is a Hebrew quotation which means,



**"Hear, O Israel: The Lord, our God is one Lord."**

The Bible – Deuteronomy 6:4



## 02

## BOOK OF ISAIAH

*Consider the following verses from the Book of Isaiah:*

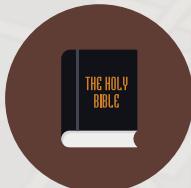
i



**"I, even I, am the Lord; and beside me there is no saviour."**

The Bible – Isaiah 43:11

ii



**"I am Lord, and there is none else. There is no God besides Me."**

The Bible – Isaiah 45:5

iii



**"I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like Me."**

The Bible – Isaiah 46:9



## 03

### JUDAISM CONDEMNS IDOL WORSHIP

*Judaism condemns idol worship in the following verses:*

i



**“Thou shalt have no other gods before Me. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor see them; for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God...”**

The Bible – Exodus 20:3-5

*A similar message is repeated in the Book of Deuteronomy:*

ii



**“Thou shalt have none other gods before me. Thou shalt not make thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that in the earth beneath, or that is in the water beneath the earth. Thou shalt not bow down thyself unto them, nor serve them; for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God...”**

The Bible – Deuteronomy 5:7-9

LESSON 6

**CONCEPT OF GOD  
IN CHRISTIANITY**





07

## CONCEPT OF GOD IN CHRISTIANITY

Christianity is a Semitic religion, which claims to have more than two billion adherents all over the world. Christianity owes its name to Jesus Christ (pbuh). Jesus (pbuh) is also a revered figure in Islam. Islam is the only non-Christian Faith that prescribed faith in Jesus (pbuh).

01

### POSITION OF JESUS (PBUH) IN ISLAM

*Before we discuss the concept of God in Christianity let us examine the position of Jesus (pbuh) in Islam:*

- [i] Islam is the only non-Christian faith, which makes it an article of faith to believe in Jesus (pbuh). No Muslim is a Muslim if he does not believe in Jesus (pbuh).
- [ii] We believe that he was one of the mightiest Messengers of Allah (swt).
- [iii] We believe that he was born miraculously without any male intervention, which many modern day Christians do not believe.



iv

We believe that He gave life to the dead with God's permission.

v

We believe that He healed those born blind, and the lepers with God's permission.

02

## JESUS (PBUH) NEVER CLAIMED DIVINITY

One may ask, if both Muslims and Christians love and respect Jesus (pbuh), where exactly is the parting of ways? The major difference between Islam and Christianity is the Christians' insistence on the supposed divinity of Christ. A study of the Christian scriptures reveals that Jesus (pbuh) never claimed divinity. In fact, there is not a single unequivocal statement in the entire Bible where Jesus (pbuh) himself says, "I am God" or where he says, "worship me". In fact, the Bible contains statements attributed to Jesus (pbuh) in which he preached quite the contrary.

Consider the following statements in the Bible, attributed to Jesus Christ (pbuh):



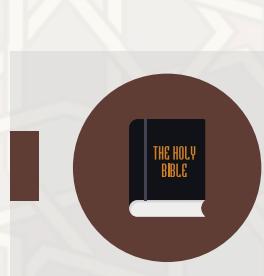
**“My Father is Greater than I”**

The Bible – John 14:28



**"My Father is Greater than all"**

The Bible – John 10:29



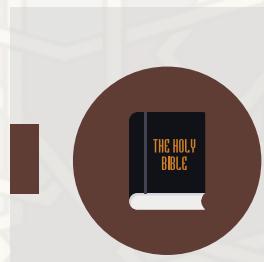
**"...I cast out devils by the spirit of God..."**

The Bible – Matthew 12:28



**"...I with the finger of God cast out devils..."**

The Bible – Luke 11:20



**"I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge; and my judgement is just; because I seek not my own will, but the will of the Father, which hath sent me."**

The Bible – John 5:30



## 03

### THE MISSION OF JESUS CHRIST (PBUH) – HE CAME TO FULFILL THE LAW

Jesus (pbuh) never claimed divinity for himself. He clearly announced the nature of his mission. Jesus (pbuh) was sent by God to confirm the previous Judaic law. This is clearly evident in the following statements attributed to Jesus (pbuh) in the Gospel of Matthew:

**“Think not that I came to destroy the law, or the Prophets; I did not come to destroy, but to fulfill. For verily, I say unto you, till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.”**

**“Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least Commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the Kingdom of Heaven; but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the Kingdom of Heaven.”**

The Bible – Matthew 5:17-20

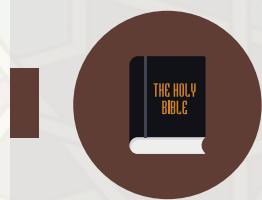




## 04

### GOD SENT JESUS (PBUH)

***The Bible mentions the prophetic nature of Jesus' mission in the following verses:***



**“.. and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father’s which has sent me.”**

The Bible – John 14:24



**“And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou has sent.”**

The Bible – John 17:3



## 05

## JESUS (PBUH) REFUTED EVEN A REMOTE SUGGESTION OF HIS DIVINITY

*Consider the following incident mentioned in the Bible:*



“And, behold, one came and said unto him, “Good master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?”

And he said unto him, “Why callest thou me good? There is none good but one, that is, God; but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments.”

The Bible – Matthew 19:16-17

The above statements from the Bible refute the Christian dogma of divinity of Jesus (pbuh) and of salvation through the sacrifice of Jesus (pbuh). Jesus (pbuh) exhorts keeping the commandments as the means to achieve salvation.



06

## JESUS (PBUH) OF NAZARETH – A MAN APPROVED OF GOD

*The following statement from the Bible supports the Islamic belief that Jesus (pbuh) was a Prophet of God.*



“Ye men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know.”

The Bible – Acts 2:22

07

## THE FIRST COMMANDMENT IS THAT GOD IS ONE

The Bible does not support the Christian belief in trinity at all. One of the scribes once asked Jesus (pbuh) as to which was the first commandment of all, to which Jesus (pbuh) merely repeated what Moses (pbuh) had said, namely:

**“Shama Israelu Adonai Ila Hayno Adna Ikhad”**

This is a Hebrew quotation, which means:



**Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord.”**

The Bible – Mark 12:29

LESSON 7

**CONCEPT OF GOD  
IN ISLAM**





08

## CONCEPT OF GOD IN JUDAISM

Islam is a Semitic religion, which has about 2 billion adherents all over the world. Islam means "submission to the will of Allah". Muslims accept the Qur'an, as the word of God revealed to Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him). Islam states that Allah (swt) sent messengers and prophets throughout the ages with the message of the Oneness of God, and accountability in the Hereafter. Islam thus makes it an article of faith to believe in the earlier prophets, starting with Adam, and including Noah, Abraham, Ishmael, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, David, John, Jesus and many others (may peace be on them all).

01

### THE MOST CONCISE DEFINITION OF GOD

قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ  
اللَّهُ الصَّمَدُ  
لَمْ يَلِدْ وَلَمْ يُوْلَدْ  
وَلَمْ يَكُنْ لَّهُ كُفُواً أَحَدٌ

1. “Say: He is Allah, The One and Only.”
2. “Allah, the Eternal, Absolute.”
3. “He begets not, nor is He begotten.”
4. “And there is none like unto Him.”

Al Qur'an 112:1-4





The word 'As Samad' is difficult to translate by one or two words in English. It means 'absolute existence', which can be attributed only to Allah (swt), all other existence being temporal or conditional. It also means that Allah is not dependent on any person or thing but all persons and things are dependent on Him.

## 02

## SURAH IKHLAAS – THE TOUCHSTONE OF THEOLOGY

Surah Ikhlaas (Chapter 112) of Glorious Qur'an, is the touchstone of theology. 'Theo' in Greek means God and 'logy' means study. Thus 'Theology' means 'study of God' and to Muslims this four lines definition of Almighty God serves as the touchstone of the study of God. Any candidate to divinity must be subject to this 'acid test'. Since the attributes of Allah (swt) given in this chapter are unique, false gods and pretenders to divinity can be easily dismissed using these verses.

## 03

## WHAT DOES ISLAM SAY ABOUT 'GOD-MEN'?

India is often called the land of 'god-men'. This is due to the abundance of so-called spiritual masters in India. Many of these 'babas' and 'saints' have a large following in many countries. Islam abhors deification of any human being.

To understand the Islamic stand towards such pretenders to divinity let us analyze one such 'god-man', Osho Rajneesh.



## A Osho Rajneesh

Rajneesh was one among the multitude of 'spiritual teachers' produced by India. In May 1981 he went to the United States and established a town called 'Rajneeshpuram'. He later fell afoul of the U.S. and was arrested and asked to leave the country. He came back to India and started a commune in Pune which is now known as the 'Osho' commune. He died in 1990. The followers of Osho Rajneesh believe that he is Almighty God. A visitor to the 'Osho commune' in Pune will find the following epitaph on his tombstone:

*"Osho – never born, never died; only visited planet earth between 11th December 1931 to 19th January 1990".*

They forget to mention that he was not given visa for 21 different countries of the world. The followers of Rajneesh see no problem in their 'god' visiting the earth and requiring a visa to enter a country!

## B 'Bhagwan Rajneesh' put to the Test of Surah Ikhlaas

Let us put this candidate to divinity, Bhagwan Rajneesh, to the test of Surah Ikhlaas, the touchstone of theology:

i

The first criterion is "Say, He is Allah, One and Only." Is Rajneesh one and only, No! There are many people like Rajneesh who claim divinity. Some disciples of Rajneesh may still hold that Rajneesh is one and only.



ii

The second criterion is, 'Allah is Absolute and Eternal'. Rajneesh was surely not absolute and eternal, he died in 1990. We know from his biography that he suffered from diabetes, asthma, and chronic backache. He alleged that the U.S. Government gave him slow poison in jail. Imagine Almighty God being poisoned! Rajneesh was neither absolute nor eternal.

iii

The third criterion is 'He begets not, nor is He begotten'. We know that Rajneesh was born in Jabalpur in India and had mother as well as a father who later became his disciples.

In May 1981 he went to the US and established a town called 'Rajneeshpuram'. He later fell afoul of the West and was finally arrested and asked to leave the country. He came back to India and started a commune in Pune which is now known as the 'Osho' commune. The followers of Osho Rajneesh believe that he is Almighty God.

A visitor to the "Osho Commune" in Pune will find the following epitaph on his tombstone: "Osho - never born, never died; only visited the planet earth between 11th December 1931 to 19th January 1990."

They forget to mention that he was not granted visa for 21 countries of the world. Can a person imagine a 'God' visiting the earth and requiring a visa to enter a country! The Archbishop of Greece said that if Rajneesh had not been deported, they would have burnt his house and those of his disciples.



iv

The fourth test, which is the most stringent, is "There is none like unto Him". The moment you can imagine 'God' or compare 'God' to anything then he (the candidate to divinity) is not God. It is not possible to conjure up a mental picture of the One True God. We know that Rajneesh was a human being with a white flowing beard. He had two eyes, two ears, one nose, and one mouth. Photographs and posters of Rajneesh are available in plenty. The moment you can imagine what god is, he is not God. We know, many are tempted to make anthropomorphic comparisons to God.

What is the concluding remark to this section of "acid test"? This said test cannot be passed by anyone except the One True God.

## 04

### BY WHAT NAME DO WE CALL GOD?

The Muslims prefer calling 'Allah', instead of the English word 'God'. The Arabic word, 'Allah', is pure and unique, unlike the English word 'God', which can be played around with.



If you add 's' to the word God, it becomes 'Gods', that is the plural of God. Allah is one and singular, there is no plural of Allah. If you add 'dess' to the word God, it becomes 'God-dess' that is a female God. There is nothing like male Allah or female Allah. Allah has no gender. If you pre-fix 'tin' before the word God, it becomes 'tin-God' i.e., fake God. Allah is a unique word, which does not conjure up any mental picture nor can it be played around with. Therefore, the Muslims prefer saying 'Allah', but sometimes while speaking to the non-Muslims we may have to use the inappropriate word God for Allah. Since the intended audience of this book is general in nature, consisting of both Muslims as well as non-Muslims, I have used the word God instead of Allah in several places in this study guide.

## 05

### GOD DOES NOT BECOME A HUMAN BEING

Some people argue that God can do everything, then why cannot He take human form? If God wishes He can become a human being. But then He no longer remains God because the qualities of God and human beings in many respects are completely incompatible. The following points will show the absurdity of the idea of God becoming a human being.

**A**

God is immortal and human beings are mortal. You cannot have a God-man i.e. an immortal being, and at the same time and in the same entity. It is meaningless.



**B**

God does not have a beginning while human beings have a beginning. You cannot have a person, not having a beginning and at the same time having a beginning.

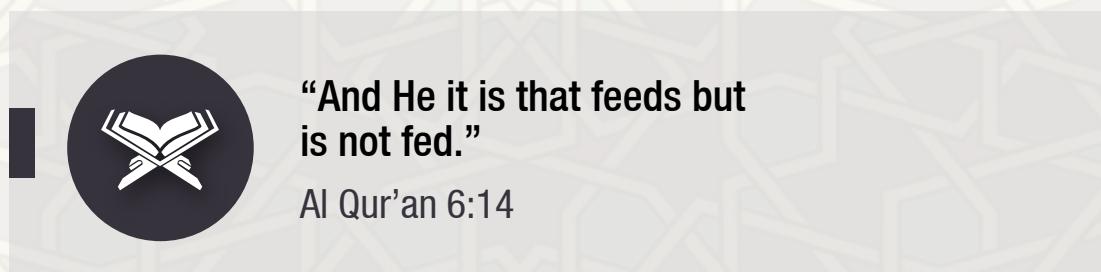
**C**

Human beings have an end. You cannot have a being, which has no end and an end at the same time. It is meaningless.

**D**

God Almighty does not require to eat whereas human beings require nourishment to sustain life.

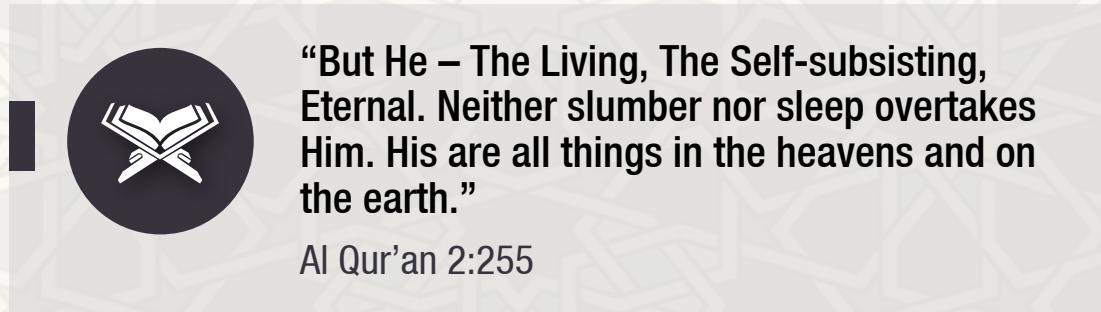
وَهُوَ يُطْعَمُ وَلَا يُطْعَمُ



**E**

God does not require rest or sleep while human beings cannot go indefinitely without rest.

اللَّهُ الْقَيُّومُ لَا تَأْخُذُهُ سِنَةٌ وَلَا نَوْمٌ لَهُ مَا فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ وَمَا فِي الْأَرْضِ





# 06

## WORSHIP OF ANOTHER HUMAN IS USELESS

If the idea of God becoming human is unacceptable, we must also agree that there is therefore no sense in worshiping another human. If God becomes a human form, He ceases to be God and possesses all the qualities of a human. For example, if a brilliant professor meets with an accident and suffers irreparable loss of memory, it would be foolish on the part of his students to continue to take lessons from him in his subject.

Moreover, if God takes human form, the same human cannot later become God, since human beings, by definition, do not possess the power to become God. The worship of God in a human form is therefore a logical fallacy and should be abhorred in all its forms.

*That is the reason why the Qur'an speaks against all forms of anthropomorphism.*

لَيْسَ كَمِثْلِهِ شَيْءٌ وَهُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْبَصِيرُ

|



**“There is nothing like Him, and He is the All-Hearer, the All-Seer.”**  
 Al Qur'an 42:11



# 07

## GOD DOES NOT PERFORM UNGODLY ACTS

The attributes of Almighty God preclude any evil since God is the fountainhead of justice, mercy and truth. God can never be thought of as doing an ungodly act. Hence we cannot imagine God telling a lie, being unjust, making a mistake, forgetting things, and such other human failings. Similarly, God can do injustice if he wants but He will never do it because being unjust is an ungodly act.

### A

#### God does not do injustice

إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يَظْلِمُ مِثْقَالَ ذَرَّةٍ



**“Allah is never unjust in the least degree.”**

Al Qur'an 4:40

***God can be unjust if he wants, but the moment God does injustice He ceases to be a God.***



## B

### God does not forget nor does He make mistakes

God will not forget anything because forgetting is an ungodly act, which reeks of human limitations and failing. Similarly God will not make a mistake, because making mistakes is an ungodly act.

لَا يَضِلُّ رَبِّي وَلَا يَنْسَى



“.....my Lord never errs, nor forgets.”

Al Qur'an 20:52

## C

### God performs Godly acts

i

He has power over all things: The Islamic concept of God is that God has power over all things. The Qur'an says in several places:

إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلَىٰ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ



“For verily Allah has power over all things.”

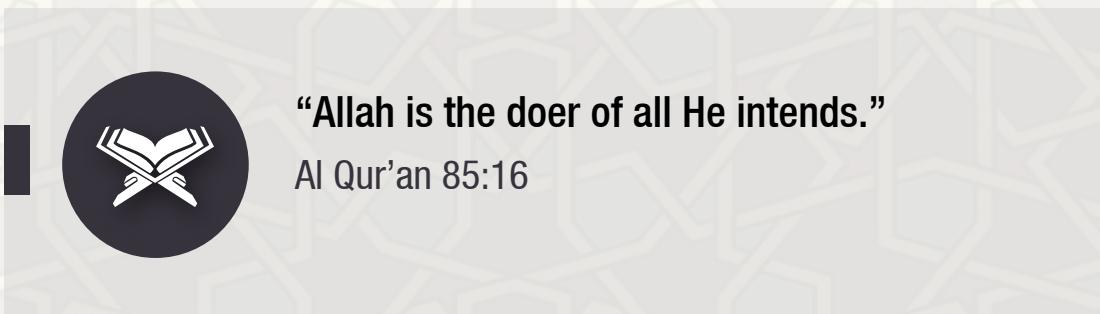
Al Qur'an 2:106, 2:109, 2:284, 3:29, 16:77, 35:1



ii

Further the Glorious Qur'an says:

فَعَالٌ لِّمَا يُرِيدُ



***We must keep in mind that Allah intends only Godly acts and not ungodly acts.***

## 08

### ANTHROPOMORPHISM

Many religions at some point believe, directly or indirectly in the philosophy of anthropomorphism i.e. God taking a human form. Their contention is that Almighty God is so pure and holy that He is unaware of the hardships, shortcomings and feelings of human beings. In order to set the rules for human beings He came down to earth in the form of a human. This deceptive logic has fooled countless millions through the ages. Let us now analyze this argument and see if it stands to reason.



## A

### The Creator prepares the instruction manual

Allah (swt) has endowed us humans with reasons and intelligence. We invent and manufacture appliances for specific purposes. Laptops for instance are manufactured in large numbers. It has never been suggested that in order to understand what is good for the laptop the manufacturer should become a laptop himself. One simply assumes that the manufacturer will publish an instruction manual, since he has complete knowledge of his product. In short the instruction manual gives the dos and don'ts for the machine.

If you think of the human being as a machine, it is indeed a complex creation of Allah (swt). Our Lord and Creator Allah (swt) need not come in the form of a human being to know what is good or bad for the human beings. He only has to reveal the instruction manual to mankind. The Qur'an is the instruction manual for human beings.

Moreover, Allah (swt) will call this creation to account on the Day of Judgment. It therefore stands to reason, that the Creator informs us about the dos and don'ts of life.

## B

### Allah chooses Messengers

Allah (swt) need not come down personally for writing the instruction manual. Over the ages Allah has chosen men in every nation to deliver the Divine message. Such chosen men are called as messengers and prophets of God.



## C

### Some people are 'blind' and 'deaf'

Despite the absurdity of the philosophy of anthropomorphism, followers of many religions believe in and preach it to others. Is it not an insult to human intelligence and to the Creator who gave us this intelligence? Such people are truly 'deaf' and 'blind' despite the faculty of hearing and sight given to them by Allah.

صُمْ بُكْمٌ عُمْيٌ فَهُمْ لَا يَرْجِعُونَ



**"Deaf, dumb, and blind, they will not return (to the path)."**

Al Qur'an 2:18



**"Seeing they see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand."**

The Bible – Matthew 13:13

*A similar message is also given in the Hindu Scriptures in the Rig Veda:*



**"There may be someone who sees the words and yet indeed do not see them; may be another one who hears these words but indeed does not hear them."**

Rig Veda 10:71:4

*All these Scriptures are telling its reader that though the things are made so clear, yet they divert away from the truth.*

LESSON 8

# TAWHEED





09

## ATTRIBUTES OF GOD

01

TO ALLAH BELONG THE MOST  
BEAUTIFUL NAMES

قُلِ ادْعُوا اللَّهَ أَوِ ادْعُوا الرَّحْمَنَ أَيَّاً مَا تَدْعُوا فَلَهُ الْأَسْمَاءُ الْحُسْنَىٰ



**“Say: Call upon Allah or Call upon Rahman: By whatever name you call upon Him, (it is well): for to Him belong The Most Beautiful Names.”**

Al Qur'an 17:110

A similar message regarding the beautiful names of Allah is repeated in the Qur'an in: Surah Al A'raaf, 7:180, Surah Taha, 20:8 and Surah Al Hashr, 59:23-24

The Qur'an gives no less than 99 different attributes to Almighty God and the crowning one is Allah. The Qur'an refers to Allah as Ar Rahman (Most Gracious), Ar Raheem (Most Merciful) and Al Hakeem (All Wise) among many other names. You can call Allah by any name but that name should be beautiful and should not conjure up a mental picture.



## 02

## EACH ATTRIBUTE OF GOD IS UNIQUE AND POSSESSED BY HIM ALONE

Not only does God possess unique attributes, but also each attribute of Almighty God is sufficient to identify Him. I shall clarify this point in detail. Suppose we take the example of a famous personality, say astronaut Neil Armstrong.

If someone says Neil Armstrong is an American, the attribute of being American possessed by Neil Armstrong is correct but not sufficient to identify him. Similarly, Neil Armstrong is an astronaut. The attribute of being an astronaut is not unique to Neil Armstrong. To identify the person uniquely we must look for a unique attribute. For example, Neil Armstrong was the first human to set foot on the moon. So when one asks, who was the first man to set foot on the moon, the answer is only one, i.e. Neil Armstrong. Similarly, the attribute of Almighty God should be unique e.g. Creator of the Universe. If I say creator of the building, it may be possible and true but it is not unique. Thousands of people can make a building, so there would be no difference between man and God. But each attribute of Allah points to None but Allah.

*For example:*

**“Ar Raheem” – The Most Merciful**

**“Ar Rahman” – The Most Gracious**

**“Al Hakeem” – The Most Wise**

So when one asks, who is “Ar Raheem” – The Most Merciful, there can be only one answer, i.e. Almighty Allah.



## 03

### ONE ATTRIBUTE OF GOD SHOULD NOT CONTRADICT WITH OTHER ATTRIBUTES

To continue with the earlier example, if somebody says Neil Armstrong is an American astronaut who is only four feet tall, the attribute (American astronaut) is correct, but its associated quality (only four feet tall) is false. Similarly, if someone says that God is the Creator of the Universe with one head, two hands, two feet, etc. The attribute (Creator of the Universe) is correct, but the associated quality (in the form of human being) is wrong and false.

## 04

### ALL ATTRIBUTES SHOULD POINT TO THE ONE AND SAME GOD

Since there is only one God all the attributes should point to one and the same God. To say that Neil Armstrong was an American astronaut who first set foot on the moon, but his the second was Edwin Aldrin is wrong. Both have Unique Qualities. Similarly, to say that the Creator is one God, and the Cherisher is another God is absurd because there is only one God with all these attributes combined together.



# 05

## UNITY OF GOD

Some polytheists argue by saying that the existence of more than one God is not illogical. Let us point out to them that if there were more than one God, they would dispute with one another, each God trying to fulfill his will against the will of the other Gods. This can be seen in the mythology of the polytheistic and pantheistic religions. If a 'God' is defeated or unable to defeat the others, he is surely not the one true God. Also popular among polytheistic religions is the idea of many Gods, each having different responsibilities. Each one would be responsible for a part of man's existence e.g. a Sun god, a Rain god etc. This indicates that one 'God' is incompetent of certain acts and moreover he is also ignorant of the other Gods' duties and responsibilities. There cannot be an ignorant and incapable God. If there were more than one God it would surely lead to confusion, disorder, chaos and destruction in the Universe. But the universe is in complete harmony.

لَوْ كَانَ فِيهِمَا إِلَّا اللَّهُ لَفَسَدَتَا فَسُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ  
رَبِّ الْعَرْشِ عَمَّا يَصِفُونَ



**"If there were, in the heavens and the earth, other gods besides Allah, there would have been confusion in both! But glory to Allah, the Lord of the Throne: (High is He) above What they attribute to Him!"**

Al Qur'an 21:22



If there were more than one God, they would have taken away what they created.

مَا أَتَّخَذَ اللَّهُ مِنْ وَلَدٍ وَمَا كَانَ مَعْهُ مِنْ إِلَهٍ إِذَا لَذَّهَبَ كُلُّ إِلَهٍ بِمَا خَلَقَ وَلَعَلَّا بَعْضُهُمْ عَلَى بَعْضٍ سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ عَمَّا يَصِفُونَ



**“No son did Allah 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 lorded it over others! Glory to Allah! (He is free) from the (sort of) things they attribute to Him!”**

Al Qur'an 23:91

Thus, the existence of One True, Supreme, Almighty God, is the only logical concept of God.

There are a few religions like Buddhism and Confucianism, which are agnostic religions. They do not comment on God. They neither confirm nor deny the existence of God. There are other religions like Jainism, which are atheistic religions, and which do not believe in the existence of God.



10

## ALL RELIGIONS ULTIMATELY BELIEVE IN MONOTHEISM

01

TO ALLAH BELONG THE MOST  
BEAUTIFUL NAMES

All major religions that believe in the existence of God ultimately, on a higher level, believe in one supreme God. All religious scriptures actually speak about monotheism i.e. belief in only One True God.

### People change scriptures for their benefit

By the passage of time most of the religious scriptures have been distorted and changed by people for their own benefits. The creed of many religions has thus been distorted from monotheism to pantheism or polytheism.

فَوَيْلٌ لِّلّذِينَ يَكْتُبُونَ الْكِتَابَ بِأَيْدِيهِمْ ثُمَّ يَقُولُونَ هَذَا مِنْ عِنْدِ اللَّهِ  
لِيَشْرُوا بِهِ ثَمَّا قَلِيلًا فَوَيْلٌ لَّهُمْ مَمَّا كَتَبْتُ أَيْدِيهِمْ وَوَيْلٌ لَّهُمْ  
مِّمَّا يَكْسِبُونَ

“Then woe to those who write the book with their own hands, and then say: “This is from Allah,” to purchase with it for a little price! Woe to them for what their hands do write, and for the gain they make thereby.”

Al Qur'an 2:79





11

# TAWHEED

## 01 DEFINITION AND CATEGORIES

Islam believes in 'Tawheed' which is not merely monotheism i.e. Belief in one unique God, but much more. Tawheed literally means "Oneness" i.e. "Asserting oneness" and is derived from the Arabic verb 'Wahhada' which means to unite, unify or consolidate.

***Tawheed can be divided into 3 categories:***

- [i] Tawheed Ar Ruboobiyah
- [ii] Tawheed Al Asmaa Was Sifaat
- [iii] Tawheed Al Ibaadah or Uloohiyyah
- [A] Tawheed Ar Ruboobiyah (maintaining the Oneness of Lordship)

The first category is 'Tawheed Ar Ruboobiyah'. 'Ruboobiyyah' is derived from the root verb "Rabb" meaning Lord, Sustainer and Cherisher.



Therefore 'Tawheed Ar Ruboobiyyah' means maintaining the Oneness of Lordship. This category is based on the fundamental concept that Allah alone caused all things to exist when there was nothing. He created or originated all that exists out of nothing. He alone is the sole Creator, Cherisher, and Sustainer of the complete universe and all between it, without any need from it or for it.

## B

### Tawheed Al Asmaa Was Sifaat (maintaining the Oneness of Allah's Names and Attributes)

The second category is 'Tawheed Al Asmaa Was Sifaat' which means maintaining the Uniqueness of Allah's Names and Attributes. This category is divided into five aspects:

#### i

Allah (swt) should be referred to as described by Him and His Prophet (pbuh)

Allah (swt) must be referred to according to the manner in which He and His prophet have described Him without explaining His names and attributes by giving them meanings other than their obvious meanings.

#### ii

Allah (swt) must be referred to as He has referred to Himself

Allah (swt) must be referred to without giving Him any new names or attributes. For example, Allah (swt) may not be given the name al-Ghaadib (the Angry One), despite the fact that He has said that He gets angry, because neither Allah (swt) nor His messenger have used this name.



iii

Allah (swt) is referred to without giving Him the attributes of His creation,

In a reference to God, we should strictly abstain from giving Him the attributes of those He has created. For instance, in the Bible, God is portrayed as repenting for his bad thoughts in the same way as humans do when they realize their errors. This is completely against the principle of Tawheed. God does not repent and He does not commit any mistakes or errors.

لَيْسَ كَمِثْلِهِ شَيْءٌ وَهُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْبَصِيرُ



**“There is nothing like Him, and He is the All-Hearer, the All-Seer.”**

Al Qur'an 42:11

Although hearing and seeing are human qualities, when attributed to the divinity they are without comparison in their perfection, unlike when associated with humans who require ears, eyes, etc. and who are limited in their sight and hearing.

iv

Men should not be given any attribute of God

To refer to a human with the attribute of God is also against the principle of Tawheed. For example, referring to a person as one who has no beginning or end (eternal).

**v**

Allah's (swt) Names cannot be given to His creatures

Some divine names in the indefinite form, like 'Raoof' or 'Raheem' are permissible names for men as Allah (swt) has used them for Prophets; but 'Ar Raoof' (the Most Pious) and Ar Raheem (the Most Merciful) can only be used if prefixed by 'Abd' meaning "slave of" or "servant of", i.e. 'Abdur Raoof' or 'Abdur Raheem'.

**C**

## Tawheed Al Ibaadah or Uloohiyah

'Tawheed Al Ibaadah' means maintaining all kinds of worship or Ibaadah for Allah (swt) alone.

**i**

Definition and meaning of 'Ibaadah'

Ibaadah is derived from Arabic word 'Abd' meaning slave or servant. Thus Ibaadah means servitude and worship. Salaah is one of the highest forms of Ibaadah i.e. worship but is not the only form. People misunderstand that worship of Almighty God only means ritual prayers and servitude. Following the commandments of God and abstaining from things He has forbidden is also Ibaadah (worship) and this worship is only due to Allah (swt) alone and to no one else.



ii

All three categories to be followed simultaneously

Only believing in the first two categories of Tawheed without implementing Tawheed Al Ibaadah is useless. The Qur'an gives the examples of 'Mushrikeen' (idolaters) of the Prophet's time who confirmed the first two aspects of Tawheed.

قُلْ مَنْ يَرْزُقُكُمْ مِّنَ السَّمَاءِ وَالْأَرْضِ أَمْنَ يَمْلِكُ السَّمْعَ وَالْأَبْصَرَ وَمَنْ يُخْرِجُ الْحَيَّ مِنَ الْمَيِّتِ وَيُخْرِجُ الْمَيِّتَ مِنَ الْحَيِّ وَمَنْ يُدْبِرُ الْأَمْرَ فَسَيَقُولُونَ اللَّهُ فَقْلٌ أَفَلَا تَتَقَوَّنَ



Say: "Who is it that Sustains you (in life) from the sky and from the earth? Or who is it that Has power over hearing and sight? And who is it that brings out the living from the dead and brings out the dead from the living? And who is it that rules and regulates all affairs? They will soon say "Allah". Say, "Will you not then be afraid (of Allah's punishment)?"

Al Qur'an 10:31

*A similar example is repeated in Surah Zukhruf of the Qur'an:*

وَلَئِنْ سَأَلْتَهُمْ مَنْ خَلَقَهُمْ لَيَقُولُنَّ اللَّهُ فَإِنَّمَا يُوقَنُونَ



"If thou ask them, Who created them, they will certainly say, Allah: how then are they deluded away (from the Truth)?"

Al Qur'an 43:87



The pagan Makkans knew that Allah (swt) was their Creator, Sustainer, Lord and Master. Yet they were not Muslims because they also worshiped other gods besides Allah (swt). Allah (swt) categorized them as "Kuffar" (Disbelievers) and "Mushrikeen" (idol worshipers and those who associate partners with God).

وَمَا يُؤْمِنُ أَكْثَرُهُم بِاللَّهِ إِلَّا وَهُم مُشْرِكُونَ



**“And most of them believe not in Allah without associating (others as partners) with Him!”**

Al Qur'an 12:106

Thus, Tawheed Al Ibaadah i.e. maintaining worship for only One is the most important aspect of Tawheed. He alone deserves worship, and He alone can grant benefit to man for his worship.



12

# SHIRK

01

## DEFINITION

The omission of any of the above-mentioned categories of Tawheed or deficiency in the fulfillment of any criteria of Tawheed is referred to as 'Shirk'. Shirk literally means sharing or associating partners. In Islamic terms it means associating partners with Allah (swt) and is equivalent to idolatry.

02

## SHIRK IS THE GREATEST SIN WHICH ALLAH (SWT) WILL NEVER FORGIVE

*The Qur'an describes the greatest sin in Surah An Nisaa':*

إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يَغْفِرُ أَنْ يُشْرِكَ بِهِ وَيَغْفِرُ مَا دُونَ ذَلِكَ لِمَنْ يَشَاءُ وَمَنْ يُشْرِكُ بِاللَّهِ فَقَدِ افْتَرَى إِنَّمَا عَظِيمًا



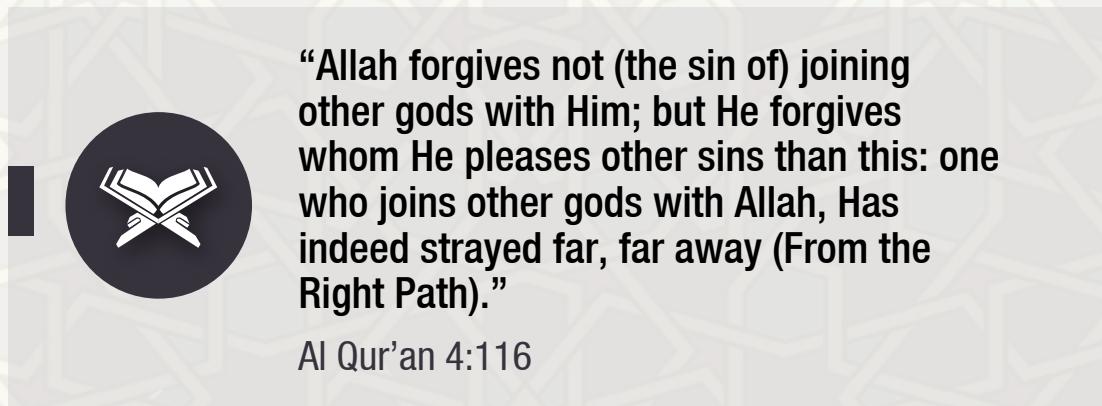
**“Allah forgives not that partners should be set up with Him; but He forgives anything else, to whom He pleases; to set up partners with Allah is to devise a sin most heinous indeed.”**

Al Qur'an 4:48



**The same message is repeated in the same Surah:**

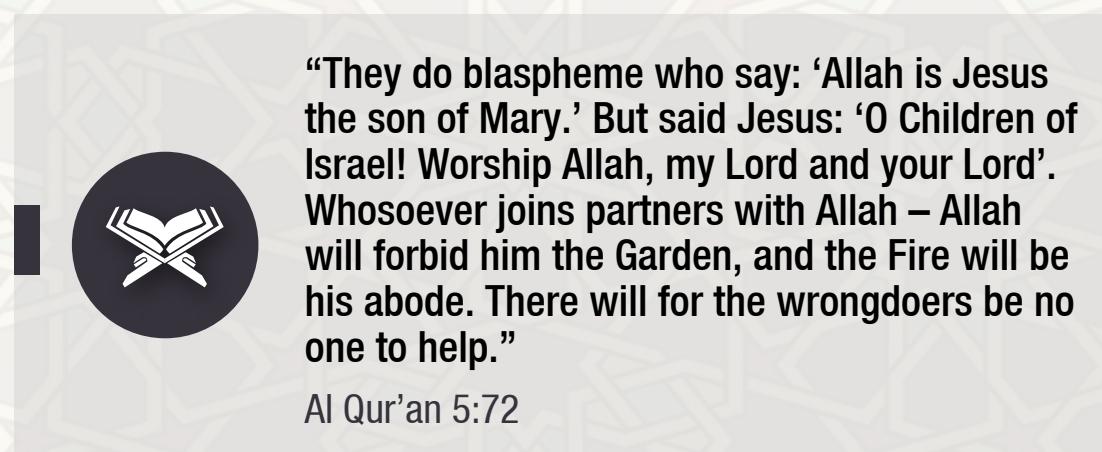
إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يَغْفِرُ أَنْ يُشْرِكَ بِهِ وَيَغْفِرُ مَا دُونَ ذَلِكَ لِمَنْ يَشَاءُ وَمَنْ يُشْرِكْ بِاللَّهِ فَقَدْ ضَلَّ ضَلَالًا بَعِيدًا



# 03

## SHIRK LEADS TO HELLFIRE

لَقَدْ كَفَرَ الَّذِينَ قَالُوا إِنَّ اللَّهَ هُوَ الْمَسِيحُ ابْنُ مَرْيَمَ وَقَالَ الْمَسِيحُ يَأْتِنِي إِسْرَائِيلُ أَعْبُدُوا اللَّهَ رَبِّي وَرَبَّكُمْ إِنَّهُ مَنْ يُشْرِكْ بِاللَّهِ فَقَدْ حَرَّمَ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ الْجَنَّةَ وَمَا وَمَأْوَاهُ الظَّارُ وَمَا لِلظَّالِمِينَ مِنْ أَنْصَارٍ





## 04

## WORSHIP AND OBEDIENCE TO NONE BUT ALLAH (SWT)

قُلْ يَأَهْلَ الْكِتَبِ تَعَالَوْا إِلَى كَلِمَةٍ سَوَاءٍ بَيْنَنَا وَبَيْنَكُمْ أَلَا نَعْبُدَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ  
وَلَا نُشْرِكُ بِهِ شَيْئًا وَلَا يَتَّخِذَ بَعْضُنَا بَعْضًا أَرْبَابًا مِّنْ دُونِ اللَّهِ فَإِنَّ  
تَوَلَّوْا فَقُولُوا اشْهَدُوا بِأَنَّا مُسْلِمُونَ



**Say: “O People of the Book! Come to common terms as between us and you: That we worship none but Allah; that we associate no partners with him; that we erect not, from among ourselves, Lords and patrons other than Allah.” If then they turn back, say ye: “Bear witness that we (at least) are Muslims (bowing to Allah's Will).”**

Al Qur'an 3:64



13

## CONCLUSION

وَلَا تَسْبُوا الَّذِينَ يَدْعُونَ مِنْ دُونِ اللَّهِ فَيَسْبُوا اللَّهَ عَدُوًا بِغَيْرِ عِلْمٍ



**“Revile not those whom they call upon besides Allah, lest they insult Allah in their ignorance.”**

Al Qur'an 6:108

وَلَوْ أَنَّمَا فِي الْأَرْضِ مِنْ شَجَرَةٍ أَقْلَمُ وَالْبَحْرُ يَمْدُدُهُ مِنْ بَعْدِهِ سَبْعَةُ  
أَبْحُرٍ مَا مَنِيفَدَتْ كَلِمَاتُ اللَّهِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَزِيزٌ حَكِيمٌ



**“And if all the trees on earth were pens and the ocean (were ink), with seven oceans behind it to add to its (supply), yet would not the Words of Allah be exhausted (in the writing): for Allah is Exalted in Power, full of Wisdom.”**

Al Qur'an 31:27



يَأَيُّهَا النَّاسُ صُرِبَ مَثْلُ فَأَسْتَمِعُوا لَهُ إِنَّ الَّذِينَ تَدْعُونَ مِنْ دُونِ  
اللَّهِ لَنْ يَخْلُقُوا ذَبَابًا وَلَوْ أَجْتَمَعُوا لَهُ وَإِنْ يَسْلُبُهُمُ الْذَّبَابُ شَيْئًا لَا  
يَسْتَنِقُذُوهُ مِنْهُ ضَعْفَ الْطَّالِبِ وَالْمَطْلُوبُ

“O men! Here is a parable set forth! Listen to it! Those on whom, beside Allah, you call, cannot create (even) a fly, if they all met together for the purpose! and if the fly should snatch away anything from them, they would have no power to release it from the fly. Feeble are those who petition!”

Al Qur'an 22:73

AND ALL PRAISE BE TO ALLAH, THE LORD, CREATOR, CHERISHER AND SUSTAINER OF ALL THE WORLDS.

**QUESTION  
& ANSWER  
BUCKET**





01

THE CHRISTIAN CONCEPT OF GOD IS TRINITY – THE FATHER, THE SON AND THE HOLY GHOST, BUT THESE THREE ARE ONE. DOES THIS MEAN THAT THEY BELIEVE IN ONLY ONE GOD?

## 01 'TRINITY' NOT IN THE BIBLE BUT IN THE QUR'AN

The word 'Trinity' does not exist anywhere in the whole Bible but it is mentioned in the Glorious Quran:

وَلَا تَقُولُوا ثَلَاثَةٌ أَنْتُمْ إِلَّا أَنْهُوا لَكُمْ إِنَّمَا أُلَلَّهُ إِلَهٌ وَحْدٌ



**"Say not "Trinity": desist: it will be better for you: for Allah is one Allah."**

Al Qur'an 4:171

لَقَدْ كَفَرَ الَّذِينَ قَالُوا إِنَّ اللَّهَ ثَالِثُ ثَلَاثَةٍ وَمَا مِنْ إِلَهٍ إِلَّا إِلَهٌ وَحْدٌ  
وَإِنْ لَمْ يَنْتَهُوا عَمَّا يَقُولُونَ لَيَمْسَنَ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا مِنْهُمْ عَذَابٌ أَلِيمٌ



**"They do blaspheme who say: Allah is one of three in a Trinity: for there is no god except One Allah. If they desist not from their word (of blasphemy), verily a grievous penalty will befall the blasphemers among them."**

Al Qur'an 5:73



## 02 THE CLOSEST VERSE REGARDING TRINITY IN THE BIBLE HAS BEEN THROWN OUT

**The Verse in the Bible which is closest to Trinity and is often quoted by Christian missionaries is:**



**"For there are three that bear record in heaven, the father, the word and holy ghost; and these three are one."**

**The Bible – 1 John 5:7**

In the Revised Standard Version of the Bible, revised by 32 Christian Scholars of the highest eminence backed by 50 different cooperating denominations, this verse which is the keystone of the Christian faith has been removed as an interpolation, as a fabrication, as a concoction. It has not been expunged by the Muslims or non-Christian Scholars but by 32 Christian Scholars of the highest eminence backed by 50 different cooperating denominations because according to them this verse does not exist in the original manuscripts. We Muslims must congratulate the galaxy of Doctors of Divinity who have been honest enough to eliminate another lie from the English R.S.V. Bible thus bringing it closer to the teachings of Islam and the Glorious Quran, which says:



قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ



**“Say: He is Allah, the One and Only”**  
Al Qur'an 112:1

## 03 JESUS (PBUH) NEVER CLAIMED DIVINITY

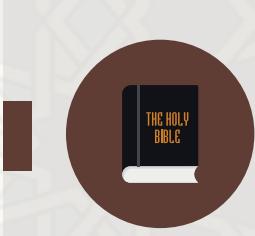
Jesus (pbuh) never spoke about Trinity i.e. three in one but he said:

**"Shama Israelu Adonai Ila Hayno Adna Ikhad"**

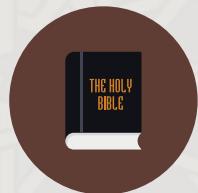
It's a Hebrew quotation which means:



**"Hear, O Israel, The Lord our God is one Lord."**  
The Bible – Mark 12:29

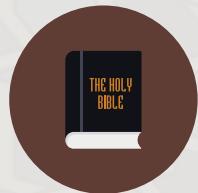


**"My Father is Greater than I"**  
The Bible – John 14:28



**"My Father is Greater than all"**

The Bible – John 10:29



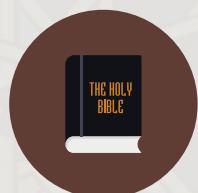
**"... I cast out devils by the spirit of God..."**

The Bible – Matthew 12:28



**"... I with the finger of God cast out devils ..."**

The Bible – Luke 11:20



**"I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I Judge and my Judgement is just; because I seek not my own will, but the will of the father whic hath sent me."**

The Bible – John 5:30



## 04 THE CATECHISM OF THE CHURCH

**A**

According to the Catechism of the Christian Church, "Father is a person, the son is a person and the Holy Ghost is a person but they aren't three persons but one person." Person, person, person but not 3 persons, but one person! What language is this?  $1+1+1=3$  not 1.  $1\times 3=3$  and not 1. What makes a person different than the other person, it's his personality.

**B**

If we have 3 identical triplets and if one of them commits murder, can we hang the other? The answer is 'no' because he is a different person having a different personality.

**C**

When the Christians speak about the Father in heaven they have a certain mental picture in mind of an elderly man somewhat like Santa Claus sitting on one of the planets with earth as his footstool. When they speak about the son, they have a certain mental picture in their mind. A tall handsome man who has a beard and long hair somewhat like Geoffrey Hunter in the film 'King of Kings' one who did the role of Jesus (pbuh). When they speak about the Holy Ghost they have a certain mental picture in mind like that of a dove that came upon Jesus (pbuh) when he was baptised or like a spirit at the feast of Pentecost. If we ask the question to the Christian that how many mental pictures do they have when they speak about Trinity they say only one. They are lying to you, because  $1+1+1=3$  and not 1.



03

- A. IF ALL THE MAJOR RELIGIONS AND SCRIPTURES SPEAK ABOUT ONE GOD THEN DOES IT IMPLY THAT ALL THESE RELIGIOUS SCRIPTURES I.E. BIBLE, VEDAS ETC. ARE THE WORD OF GOD?
- B. AND DOES IT FURTHER IMPLY THAT WHICHEVER RELIGION YOU FOLLOW BE IT ISLAM OR HINDUISM OR CHRISTIANITY, IT IS ONE AND THE SAME?

## 01 REVELATION SENT IN EVERY PERIOD

لِكُلِّ أَجَلٍ كِتَابٌ



**“For each period is a book (revealed).”**

Al Qur'an 13:38

## 02 FOUR REVELATIONS OF GOD MENTIONED BY NAME IN THE QUR'AN

By name, only four revelations of God are mentioned in the Qur'an i.e. Tawrah, Zaboor, Injeel and the Qur'an.

Tawrah is the revelation which was given to Moses (pbuh)  
 Zaboor is the revelation which was given to David (pbuh)  
 Injeel is the revelation which was given to Jesus (pbuh) and  
 Qur'an is the last and final revelation which was given to the last and final Messenger Muhammad (pbuh).



## 03

## ALL THE PREVIOUS REVELATIONS SENT ONLY FOR THEIR PEOPLE

All the revelations that came before the Qur'an were only sent for their own people and were to be followed only for a particular time period.

## 04

## THE QUR'AN SENT FOR WHOLE HUMANKIND

Since the Qur'an is the last and final revelation, it was not sent only for the Muslims or the Arabs but it was sent for the whole of humankind.

الرِّكَابُ أَنْزَلْنَاهُ إِلَيْكَ لِتُخْرِجَ النَّاسَ مِنَ الظُّلْمَاتِ إِلَى  
النُّورِ يَأْذِنُ رَبِّهِمْ إِلَى صِرْطِ الْعَزِيزِ الْحَمِيدِ



**“Alif Laam Raa. A book which We have revealed unto thee, in order that thou mightest lead mankind out of the depths of darkness into light...”**

Al Qur'an 14:1



هَذَا بَلَاغٌ لِلنَّاسِ وَلَيُنَذِّرُوا بِهِ وَلَيَعْلَمُوا أَنَّمَا هُوَ إِلَهٌ وَحْدَهُ  
وَلَيَذَّكَّرَ أُولُوا الْأَلْبَابُ



“Here is a Message for mankind: let them take warning therefrom, and let them know that He is (no other than) One God: let men of understanding take heed.”

Al Qur'an 14:52

شَهْرُ رَمَضَانَ الَّذِي أُنْزِلَ فِيهِ الْقُرْءَانُ هُدًى لِلنَّاسِ وَبَيِّنَاتٍ  
مِّنَ الْهُدَىٰ وَالْفُرْقَانِ



“Ramadhaan is the (month) in which was sent down the Qur'an, as a guide to mankind, also clear (Signs) for guidance and judgement (between right and wrong).”

Al Qur'an 2:185

إِنَّا أَنْزَلْنَا عَلَيْكَ الْكِتَابَ لِلنَّاسِ بِالْحَقِّ فَمَنِ اهْتَدَ فَلِنَفْسِهِ  
وَمَنْ ضَلَّ فَإِنَّمَا يَضِلُّ عَلَيْهَا وَمَا أَنْتَ عَلَيْهِمْ بِوَكِيلٍ



“Verily We have revealed the Book to thee in Truth, for (instructing) mankind.”

Al Qur'an 39:41



## 05

### WHICH REVELATION SENT TO INDIA?

The question that arises is “which revelation of God was sent to India and whether we can consider the Vedas and the other Hindu Scriptures to be the revelations of God?” There is no text in the Qur'an or Sahih Hadith mentioning the name of the revelation that was sent to India. Since the names of the Vedas or other Hindu scriptures are nowhere to be found in the Qur'an and Sahih Hadith, one cannot say for sure that they were the revelations of God. They may be the revelation of God or may not be the revelation of God.

## 06

### EVEN IF THE VEDAS WERE THE WORD OF GOD, TODAY YOU HAVE TO FOLLOW THE QUR'AN

Even if the Vedas and the other scriptures were the revelations from God, they were only meant for people of that time and were to be followed only for that particular period of time. Today all human beings through out the world including India should only follow the last and final Revelation of God, i.e. the Qur'an. Moreover, since all the previous revelations were not meant to be followed for eternity, there was no need for God to preserve them in their original form. There is not a single religious scripture of any of the major religions which claims to be the word of God and has maintained its pure original text and is free from alteration, adulteration and interpolation. Since the Glorious Qur'an is to be followed for eternity, Allah (swt) has taken upon Himself to maintain its original purity and guard it from corruption.



إِنَّا نَحْنُ نَزَّلْنَا الْذِكْرَ وَإِنَّا لَهُ لَحَفِظُونَ



**“We have, without doubt, sent down the Message; and We will assuredly guard it (from corruption).”**

Al Qur'an 15:9

## B. REGARDING THE QUESTION, CAN YOU BE A CHRISTIAN, HINDU, MUSLIM, AND IS IT ONE AND THE SAME. NO, IT'S NOT THE SAME.

If you analyse, the Glorious Qur'an mentions in Surah Aali Imran ch. 3 verse no. 52 that Jesus (peace be upon him) was a Muslim. Same thing is mentioned in the Bible:



**“I seek not my will but the will of my Father”**

The Bible – John 5:30

If you translate into Arabic not my will but God's will, it is nothing but Islam. Jesus (pbuh) was a Muslim.

The Glorious Qur'an mentions in Surah Aali Imran ch. 3 verse 67 that Abraham (pbuh) was not a Jew or a Christian, he was a Muslim.



Today, if you have to choose any religion, the Glorious Quran proclaims:

إِنَّ الْدِّينَ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ أَكْلَمُ



“The only religion acceptable in the sight of Allah is Islam.”

Al Qur'an 3:19

Though the other religions speak about monotheism, only monotheism is not sufficient, one has to also believe in Tawheed. One has to do Ibadah of Allah (swt).

وَمَنْ يَتَّخِذُ غَيْرَ الْإِسْلَامِ دِيَنًا فَلَنْ يُقْبَلَ مِنْهُ وَهُوَ فِي الْآخِرَةِ مِنَ الْخَاسِرِينَ



“If anyone desires any other religion besides Islam – submitting the will to Allah – it will not be accepted of him and in the hereafter he'll be among the losers.”

Al Qur'an 3:85



04

CHRISTIANS EXPLAIN THE CONCEPT OF TRINITY AS WELL AS THAT GOD CAN TAKE HUMAN FORM BY GIVING THE EXAMPLE THAT WATER CAN BE PRESENT IN 3 STATES. AS SOLID LIKE ICE, LIQUID AS WATER AND GAS AS VAPOUR YET IT IS ONE AND THE SAME WATER. SIMILARLY A PERSON CAN ALSO BE A FATHER, A BROTHER, A BUSINESSMAN AT THE SAME TIME, BUT YET HE IS ONE AND THE SAME PERSON. SO WHY NOT THE FATHER, THE SON AND THE HOLY SPIRIT?

I agree that water can be present in three 3 states that is solid, liquid and gas, as ice, water and vapour but in all the three states the matter is the same i.e. H<sub>2</sub>O and contains 2 atoms of hydrogen and one atom of oxygen. The material and components are the same only the form of matter differs. Water remains H<sub>2</sub>O in the form of solid i.e. ice. It remains H<sub>2</sub>O in the form of liquid i.e. water. It remains H<sub>2</sub>O in the form of gas i.e. vapour. In case of Trinity besides the form changing even the components and material differ. Father is God, Jesus is Man, and the Holy Ghost is a spirit and all three are not made up of the same matter or component. Man contains flesh and bones. God and Spirit do not contain flesh and bones. Man requires to eat etc. God doesn't require to eat. No wonder Jesus (pbuh) in the last supper in the upper room said:



**39 "Behold my hands & feet that it is I myself, handle me and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have"**

**40 "And when he had thus Spoken, he shewed them his hands and his feet."**



**41 "And while they yet believed not for Joy and wondered, he said unto them, Have ye here any meat?"**

**42 "And they gave him a piece of a broiled fish, and of the honey comb."**

**43 "And he took it and did eat before them"**

The Bible – Luke 24:39-43

## 01

## SAME PERSON CAN BE A FATHER, BROTHER AND A BUSINESSMAN

A

Regarding the 2nd example that a human being can be a father, a brother and a businessman at the same time so why can't God be father, son and holy ghost. I do agree that the human being can be father, brother and a businessman at the same time but suppose the sister of that man tells him a secret but natural even the father and the businessman will know about it. But Jesus (pbuh) said:





**“But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in the heaven, neither the son, but the father”.**

The Bible – Mark 13:32

**Here the knowledge of the hour is only known to the father and not to the son indicating that God and Jesus Christ (pbuh) are not one and the same person.**

**B**

**Human can be a father, a brother, and a businessman at the same time but if the brother dies, even the father and the businessman will die. So when the Christians say that Jesus (pbuh) died on the Cross they will also have to agree that God and the Holy spirit died too.**



05

## ALLAH IS THE MOST APPROPRIATE NAME FOR GOD SO BESIDES QUR'AN IS IT MENTIONED IN ANY OTHER RELIGIOUS SCRIPTURES?

Here the knowledge of the hour is only known to the father and not to the son indicating that God and Jesus Christ (pbuh) are not one and the same person.

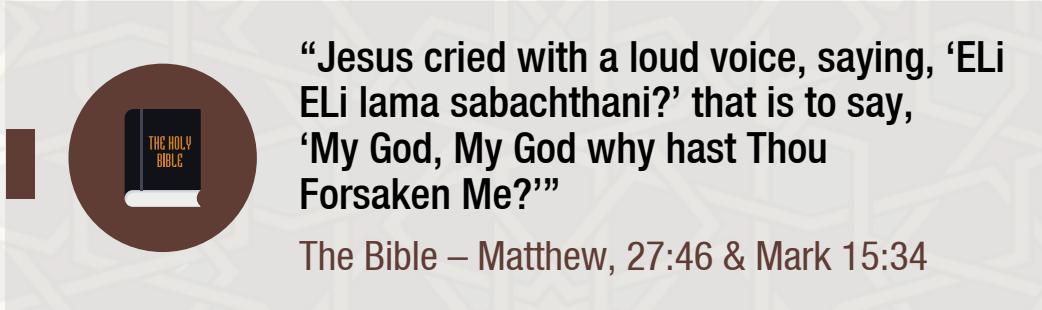
### 1A ELOHIM, EL, ELAH, ALAH

In the Bible, God is very often referred to as ‘Elohim’ in the Hebrew language. The ‘im’ in the ending is a plural of honour and respect and God is referred to as ‘El’ or ‘Elah’ in the English Bible with commentary, edited by Reverend C. I. Scofield. ‘Elah’ is alternatively spelled as ‘Alah’. The difference in spelling is only of a single ‘L’. Muslims spell Allah as ‘Allah’ while the Reverend has spelled it as ‘Alah’ and they pronounce it as ‘Elah’. Muslims pronounce it as Allah. Hebrew and Arabic are not western but eastern sister languages therefore we say it should be pronounced as ‘Allah’ and not as ‘Elah’. When I was in school, I was taught ‘D - O’ is do, ‘T - O’ is to. What is ‘G - O’? It is ‘go’ and not ‘gu’. ‘N - U - T’ is nut, ‘C - U - T’ cut; ‘B - U - T’ is but, what is ‘P - U - T’? Not ‘pat’ but it is ‘put’. If you ask “Why?” The answer is “It is their language.” If I have to pass I have to say ‘P - U - T’ is ‘put’ and not ‘pat’. Similarly the right pronunciation for A - L - L - A - H is Allah.



## B JESUS (PBUH) CRIED OUT 'ALLAH', 'ALLAH' WHEN HE WAS PUT ON THE CROSS

**According to the Bible when Jesus (pbuh) was put on the cross he uttered these words:**



**"Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, 'ELI ELI lama sabachthani?' that is to say, 'My God, My God why hast Thou Forsaken Me?'"**

The Bible – Matthew, 27:46 & Mark 15:34

**Does this sound like Jehovah! Jehovah! Why has thou forsaken me? Does it sound like Abba Abba?**

**The answer is 'No'. Hebrew and Arabic are sister languages and if you translate 'ELI ELI lama sabachthani' into Arabic it is 'Allah Allah Lama Taraktani', does it sound similar?**

**This statement of Jesus (pbuh), 'ELI ELI lama sabachthani' is preserved in its original Hebrew in each and every Biblical translation which is available in more than 2000 different languages of the world and in each and every of them, 'Allah' is present.**



## 02 'ALLAH' IN SIKHISM

**One of the names by which Guru Nanak Sahib referred to God is 'Allah'.**

## 03 'ALLAH' IN HINDU SCRIPTURES

### A Rig Veda

In the Rig Veda which is the most sacred scripture of the Hindus, one of the attributes given to God Almighty in Book 2 Hymn 1 verse 2, is 'Illa' which if pronounced properly is the same as Allah.

### B 'Allo' Upanishad

Amongst the various Upanishads one of the Upanishads is named as 'Allo' Upanishad in which God is referred to as 'Allah' several times.



06

**IT IS MENTIONED IN THE BIBLE THAT JESUS SAID, “I AND MY FATHER ARE ONE.” DOES THIS NOT IMPLY THAT HE CLAIMED DIVINITY?**

In order to know the answer, we need to read this verse “I and my father are one” in context, which is from Gospel of John Chapter 10 Verse 30. The context begins from Verse 23:

23 “And Jesus walked in the temple in Solomon's porch.”

24 “Then came the Jews round about him, and said unto him, How long dost thou make us to doubt? If thou be the Christ, tell us plainly.”

25 “Jesus answered them, I told you, and ye believed not: the works that I do in my Father's name, they bear witness of me.”

26 “But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I said unto you.”



27 “My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:”

28 “And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.”

29 “My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand.”

30 “I and my Father are one.”

The Bible – John 10:23-30



**One in what? In their Omniscience? In their Nature? In their Omnipotence? No! One in purpose! That once a believer has accepted faith, the Messenger sees to it that he remains in faith, and God Almighty also sees to it that he remains in faith.**

**This is the purpose of the "Father" and the "son" and the "Holy Ghost" and of every man and every woman of faith. Let the same John explain his difficulty:**

**21 That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.**

**22 And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one:**

**23 I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.**

**The Bible – John 17:21-23**





If Jesus is "one" with God, and if that "oneness" makes him God, then the traitor Judas, and the doubting Thomas, and the satanic Peter, plus the other nine who deserted him when he was most in need will be Gods. Will the Christians accept Jesus (pbuh) along with his disciples as Gods? Will they believe in the Concept of 13 Gods i.e. Jesus (pbuh) and his 12 disciples?

**It is further mentioned in the Bible:**

**31 Then the Jews took up stones again to stone him.**

**32 Jesus answered them, Many good works have I shewed you from my Father; for which of those works do ye stone me?**

**33 The Jews answered him, saying, For a good work we stone thee not; but for blasphemy; and because that thou, being a man, makest thyself God.**



**34 Jesus answered them, Is it not written in your law, I said, Ye are gods?**

**35 If he called them gods, unto whom the word of God came, and the scripture cannot be broken;**

**36 Say ye of him, whom the Father hath sanctified, and sent into the world, Thou blasphemest; because I said, I am the Son of God?**

**The Bible – John 10:31-36**



**Jesus (pbuh) clearly mentions: "Ye are gods". He is obviously quoting from the Psalms:**



**"I have said, ye are gods: and all of you are the children of the most High."**

The Bible – Psalms 82:6

**Jesus (pbuh), continues:**



**"If he (i.e. God Almighty) called them gods, unto whom the word of God came (meaning that the prophets of God were called 'gods') and the scripture cannot be broken..."**

The Bible – John 10:35

In other words he is saying: "you can't contradict me!" Jesus knows his Scripture; he speaks with authority; and he reasons with the Jews that: "If prophets of God are being addressed as 'gods' in the Old Testament, with which you find no fault, then why do you take exception to me?

Hence, the expression "I and my Father are one," was very innocent, meaning nothing more than a common purpose with God.



07

HINDU PANDITS AND SCHOLARS AGREE THAT THE VEDAS AND OTHER HINDU RELIGIOUS SCRIPTURES PROHIBIT IDOL WORSHIP BUT INITIALLY BECAUSE THE MIND MAY NOT BE MATURED THEREFORE AN IDOL IS REQUIRED FOR CONCENTRATION WHILE WORSHIPPING. AFTER THE MIND REACHES HIGHER CONSCIOUSNESS, THE IDOL IS NOT REQUIRED FOR CONCENTRATION. HOW DO WE RESPOND TO THIS?

## 01 MUSLIMS HAVE REACHED THE HIGHER LEVEL OF CONSCIOUSNESS

**Muslims have reached the higher level of consciousness.** If an idol is required for concentration only in the initial stages and not later on when the mind reaches higher consciousness then I would like to say the Muslims have already reached the state of higher consciousness because when we worship Allah (swt) we do not require any idol or statue.

## 02 CHILD ASKS WHY DOES IT THUNDER?

One of the Swami argued that when our child asks us, “Why does the sky thunder?”, we reply that “aaee ma chakki pees rahi hai”, “the grandmother is grinding flour in the heaven”; because he is too young to understand. Similarly in the initial stages people require an idol for concentration.



In Islam we don't believe in telling a lie, even if it's a white lie. I will never give such a wrong answer to my child because later on when he goes to school and learns that the thundering sound after lightning is due to the expansion of rapidly heated air, he will either think that the teacher is lying or later on when he understands the fact he will conclude that the father is a liar. If you feel that the child may not understand certain difficult things you should simplify the answer rather than give a wrong fictitious reply. If you, yourself do not know the answer, you should have the guts to be truthful and say 'I don't know'. But many children nowadays will not be satisfied with this answer. If this answer was given to my son, he would say "Abba (father), why don't you know?" This will compel you to do your homework and thus educate yourself as well as your child.

## 03

### THOSE IN STANDARD ONE REQUIRE IDOL FOR CONCENTRATION ( $2 + 2 = 4$ WILL REMAIN SAME IN STANDARD ONE AND TEN)

Some pundits while trying to justify idol worship say that in standard one the student is initially taught to worship God by concentrating with the help of an idol but later on when he graduates he no longer requires the idol to concentrate while worshipping God. A very important fact to be noted is that only if the fundamentals of any particular subject is strong, then only will he be able to excel in future.

For example, a teacher of mathematics in standard one teaches the students that  $2 + 2 = 4$  irrespective whether the student passes school or does graduation or does a Ph. D. in mathematics, the basics of  $2 + 2 = 4$  will yet remain the same, it will not change to 5 or 6. In higher standards the student, besides addition may learn about Algebra, Trigonometry, Logarithm, etc. but the fundamental of addition will yet remain the same. If the teacher in standard one itself teaches the fundamentals wrong, how can you expect the student to excel in future?



**It is the fundamental principle of the Vedas regarding the concept of God that He has got no image, so how can the Scholars even after knowing this fact keep silent at the wrong practice being done by people. Will you tell your son who is in standard one that 2 plus 2 is not equal to 4 but 5 or 6 and only confirm the truth after he passes school? Never. In fact if he makes a mistake you will correct him and say it is 4 and not wait till he graduates; and if you don't correct him initially you will ruin his future.**



# 08

**IF WE CANNOT ATTRIBUTE ANY FORM OR GENDER TO ALLAH. WHY THEN WHEN MUSLIMS SPEAK OF ALMIGHTY GOD OR AS WRITTEN IN THE HOLY QURAN, ALLAH IS ALWAYS REFERRED TO AS 'HE'?**

## 01 NO NEUTER GENDER IN ARABIC

In most of the languages we have three genders – Masculine, Feminine and Neuter genders. But in Arabic we have only 2 genders – Masculine and Feminine. There is no Neuter gender.

A

'Huwa' in Arabic means 'He' or 'It'

B

'Hiya' in Arabic means 'She' or 'It'

C

There is no specific Neuter gender in Arabic

## 02 WHY 'HUWA' USED INSTEAD OF 'HIYA' WHEN BOTH MEAN 'IT'

There are certain rules for using feminine gender in Arabic:

A

'Either specific word for female, for example 'Ummun' for 'mother'.

B

If the Arabic word ends with 't' for example 'mirwahatun' which means fan (Allah does not end with a 't').

C

Anything which is dual in pairs for example 'ainun' for eyes, 'yadun' for hands (Allah is singular).



09

**WHY DIDN'T GOD CREATE ONE RELIGION FOR EVERYBODY SO THAT PEACE WOULD HAVE PREVAILED ON THIS EARTH? DID HE KNOW IT BEFOREHAND OR HE NEVER KNEW THAT THESE PROBLEMS ARE GOING TO OCCUR?**

إِنَّ الْدِينَ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ إِلَّا إِسْلَامٌ



**“The only religion acceptable in the sight of Allah is Islam.”**

Al Qur'an 3:19

**ISLAM MEANS SUBMITTING YOUR WILL TO ALMIGHTY GOD**

All the messengers or prophets of God that came right from Adam (pbuh) later Noah, Moses, Jesus, Muhammad (pbut), all the prophets, 124,000 in number as mentioned by Prophet Muhammad (pbuh), preached the same religion – Islam.

The basic message that all these messengers taught was One-ness of God. He does not beget, He has no parents and there's nothing like unto Him. But due to passage of time the teachings of the messengers got corrupted. The scriptures that came before the Qur'an got changed.



**Moreover, all the revelations that came before the Qur'an were only meant for a particular group of people for a particular time period and hence were not preserved by Almighty God. Since the Qur'an is the last and final revelation of Almighty God sent for the whole of humanity, Allah (swt) took it upon Himself to preserve it from all corruptions.**

إِنَّا نَحْنُ نَزَّلْنَا الْذِكْرَ وَإِنَّا لَهُ لَحَافِظُونَ



**“We have, without doubt, sent down the Message; and We will assuredly guard it (from corruption).”**

Al Qur'an 15:9

**ALMIGHTY GOD SENT ALL THE MESSENGERS TO PREACH ONLY ONE RELIGION I.E. SUBMITTING YOUR WILL TO ALMIGHTY GOD, IN ARABIC – ISLAM.**

**Jesus Christ (pbuh) never came to preach Christianity. The word Christianity doesn't exist in the Bible. The word 'Christian' was the nickname given to the followers of Jesus (pbuh) at Antioch as mentioned in the Bible – Book of Acts 11:26.**

CONCEPT OF GOD IN MAJOR WORLD RELIGIONS

101



**In fact, Jesus Christ (pbuh) preached Islam.**



**“I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me.”**

The Bible – John 5:30

**Jesus Christ (pbuh) said, not my will but my Father's will i.e. God's will. In Arabic he preached nothing but Islam.**

**Similarly, if you read Bhagavad Gita, Shri Krishna said that you have to submit your will to God.**



**“Abandon all varieties of dharmas and simply surrender unto Me (Almighty God) alone.”**

Bhagavad Gita 18:66

**In Arabic, he is asking everyone to accept Islam.**

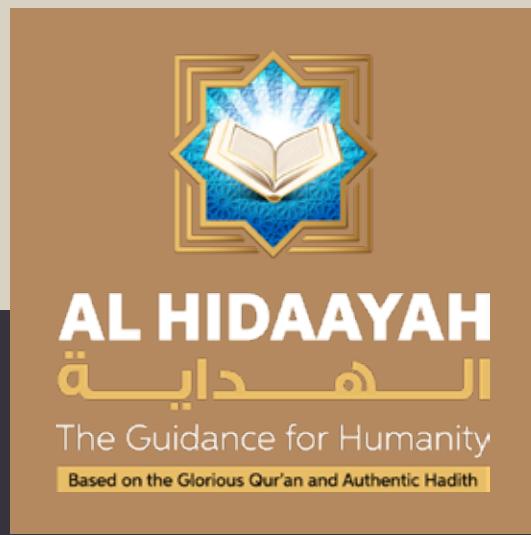
**The conclusion is that all the messengers taught nothing but submitting your will to Almighty God.**



إِنَّ الدِّينَ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ أَكْلَمُ



Thus, all humankind should go back to the religious scriptures, go back to the commandments of Almighty God and submit one's will to Him and only then we will be following the straight path.



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