

# **The Idol Worshipping Polytheist Accepted Allaah as the Real Creator**

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From: Yaa Allaah Madad (Oh Allaah Help! (pg.64-68)

Trans: Abu Khuzaimah Ansaari

The saying “Calling upon others for help whilst accepting Allaah is the real creator is not shirk.”

Then we say in this case we have to accept polytheism has never existed and Allaah (and we seek refuge in such a claim) was haphazard in referring to people as polytheists.

The Quraan has clearly repeatedly mentioned the polytheists of Arabia were the first people to be addressed with the message of Tawheed, they accepted that Allaah alone was the creator and owner of the heavens and earth and who controlled the universe but yet even with this the Quraan declared them to be polytheists. However the question arises why were they held to be polytheists whilst still believing in Allaah. Concentration on this point is what exposes the reality of shirk.

The idols and false gods of the polytheists of Arabia who they considered as deities, were in actual fact as they believed, from the creation of Allaah. However with this they claimed, because these people were pious and beloved with Allaah they had a special status with him and therefore possessed some special rites. So they worshipped them because they had some rights that belonged to Allaah, they would say we only mean to seek closeness to Allaah

via them and call upon them as intermediaries, intercessor and seek help from them.

The Quraan itself mentions these statements of the polytheists. It says in Soorah Yoonus,

**“And they worship besides Allaah things that hurt them not, nor profit them, and they say: "These are our intercessors with Allaah...” (Soorah Yoonus 10:18)**

In another place

**“...And those who take Auliya (protectors and helpers) besides Him (say): "We worship them only that they may bring us near to Allaah...” (Soorah az-Zumar 39:3)**

The authentic ahadeeth mentions the polytheists of Arabia during the period of Hajj would say,

**“But one (we) associate with you, you possess mastery over him, but he does not possess mastery (over you)....” (Saheeh Muslim)**

### **The 5 Statues from the time of Nooh (Alayhis-Salaam) and the Narration of Saheeh al-Bukhaari**

The clarification of Ibn Abbaas is in Saheeh al-Bukhaari concerning the 5 statues that were worshipped during the time of Nooh (Alayhis-Salaam) who are mentioned in the Quraan (in Soorah an-Nooh) and they were idols of righteous people from amongst the people of Allaah

The names (of the idols) formerly belonged to some pious men of the people of Noah, and when they died Satan inspired their

people to prepare and place idols at the places where they used to sit, and to call those idols by their names. The people did so, but the idols were not worshipped till those people (who initiated them) had died and the origin of the idols had become obscure, whereupon people began worshipping them.” (Saheeh Bukhaari (2/732)

Nonetheless we know from the clear exposition of the Quraan, hadeeth and companions that the polytheism of the polytheists of Arabia was to take the righteous people as their helpers and fulfillers of needs after their deaths. They began to give food on their names and celebrated anniversaries at their shrines. As we know in reality they believed Allaah was the real creator and when they were faced with greater difficulties they would abandon their idols and return to the only and real creator. The Quraan itself has testified to this, for example when they were unable to find an apparent helper when travelling in sea they would only call upon Allaah and abandon their self formulated pious people and gods.

**“And when they embark on a ship, they invoke Allaah, making their Faith pure for Him only, but when He brings them safely to land, behold, they give a share of their worship to others” (Soorah al-Ankaboot 29:65)**

and at another place

**“And when harm touches you upon the sea, those that you call upon besides Him vanish from you except Him (Allaah Alone). But when He brings you safely to land, you turn away (from Him). And man is ever ungrateful” (Soorah al-Israa 17:67)**