Introduction to Islam & its Basic Beliefs

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Introduction to Islam

- The word Islam is derived from the word *salama* سَلَمَ, which means peace or submission.

- In religious sense it means "Submission to the will of Allah SWT, believing in his oneness, complying his commands and denouncing polytheism."

- Islam is a complete code of life, which guides us in all aspects of our life.

- A Muslim must demonstrate his submission by worshipping him, following his commands and avoiding polytheism.

Islam as a *Deen*

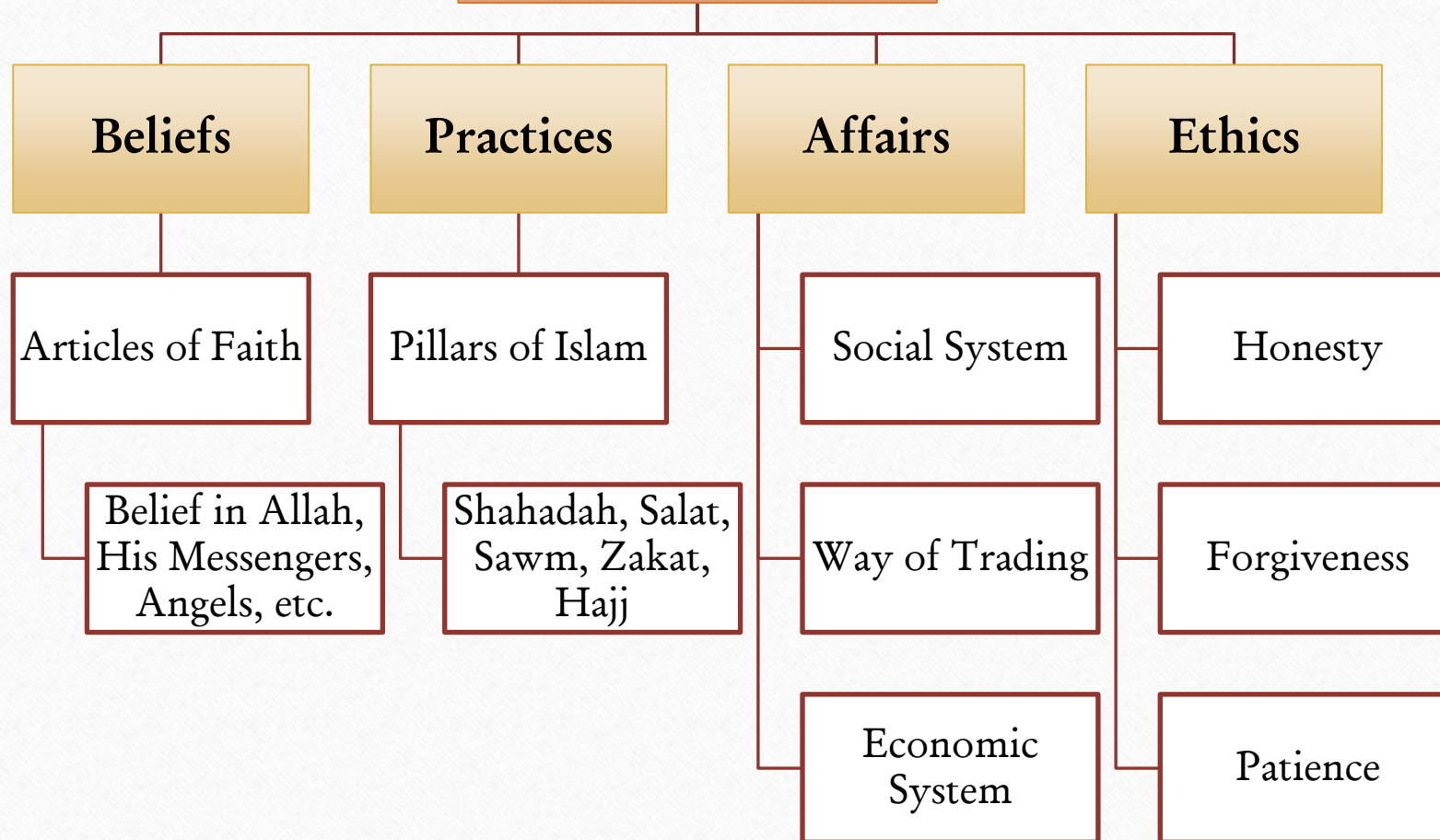- Islam is the only acceptable Deen in the sight of Allah (swt).

إِنَّ الدِّينَ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ الْإِسْلَامُ (آل عمران:19)

Truly, the (recognized) religion in the sight of Allah is Islam.

وَمَنْ يَبْتَغِ غَيْرَ الْإِسْلَامِ دِينًا فَلَنْ يُقْبَلَ مِنْهُ وَهُوَ فِي الْآخِرَةِ مِنَ الْخَاسِرِينَ (آل عمران:85)

And whoever desires other than Islam as religion - never will it be accepted from him, and he, in the Hereafter, will be among the losers.

Islam

Beliefs
- Articles of Faith
  - Belief in Allah, His Messengers, Angels, etc.

Practices
- Pillars of Islam
  - Shahadah, Salat, Sawm, Zakat, Hajj

Affairs
- Social System
- Way of Trading
- Economic System

Ethics
- Honesty
- Forgiveness
- Patience

Meaning of belief and its importance

- The Arabic word for belief is "Iman". It literally means "to believe" or "to put someone's trust in something or someone".

التصديق بجميع ما جاء به النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم

- In Islamic Terminology Iman is to testify all those things which surely has been brought by our Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ.

- Iman has three essential elements:
  - Sincere belief in the heart
  - Profession by the tongue
  - Performance of deeds by the physical parts of body

Conti...

- The relation of Islam to belief is same as a tree to its seed.
- No action is acceptable without the correctness of belief.

لا تدخلون الجنة حتٰی تؤمنوا (رواہ مسلم)

You will not enter paradise until you believe.

Basic Beliefs of Islam/Articles of faith

اٰمَنْتُ بِاللهِ وَمَلٰئِكَتِه وَكُتُبِه وَرُسُلِه وَالْيَوْمِ الْاٰخِرِ وَالْقَدْرِ خَيْرِه وَشَرِّه مِنَ اللهِ تَعَالٰى وَالْبَعْثِ بَعْدَ الْمَوْتِ

I believe in Allah ﷻ, His Angels, His Books, His Messengers, the Last Day, and in Taqdîr, that all good and bad is from Allah ﷻ the Most High and I believe in the resurrection after death.
(Taqdîr: Predestination)

Basic beliefs in Quran and Sunnah

لَيْسَ الْبِرَّ اَنْ تُوَلُّوْا وُجُوْهَكُمْ قِبَلَ الْمَشْرِقِ وَالْمَغْرِبِ وَلِكِنَّ الْبِرَّ مَنْ اٰمَنَ بِاللهِ وَالْيَوْمِ الْاٰخِرِ وَالْمَلٰئِكَةِ وَالْكِتٰبِ وَالنَّبِيّٖنَ (البقرة: 177)

It is not Al-BIRR (piety, righteousness, and each and every act of obedience to Allah etc.) that you turn your faces towards the east and (or) west (in prayers); but Al Birr is (the quality of) the one who believes in Allah, the Last Day, the Angels, the Book, the Prophets.

Conti...

➤ Hazrat Jibreel asked, tell me about Islam. The Prophet saw answered,

الإسلام أن تشهد أن لا إله إلاّ الله و أنّ محمّدا رسول الله، وتقيم الصلاة، وتؤتي الزكاة، وتصوم رمضان، وتحج البيت إن استطعت اليه سبيلا

"Islam is to testify that there is no god but Allah and Muhammad is the messenger of Allah, to perform the prayers, to pay the zakat, to fast in Ramazan, and to make the pilgrimage to the House if you are able to do so."

➤ He asked again, tell me about Iman. The Prophet saw said,

أن تؤمن بالله و ملائكته وكتبه ورسله واليوم الآخر و تؤمن بالقدر خيره و شرّه

"It is to believe in Allah, His angels, His books, His messengers, and the Last Day, and to believe in divine destiny, both the good and the evil thereof."