



Conditions for Acceptable Deeds

Introduction

Every deed is not acceptable in the view of Allah (SWT). Allah (SWT) accepts only those deeds which are performed in the state of Emaan (Faith), with Ikhlāas (sincere intentions) and according to Shar'iah (Qur'an and Sunnah). Allah (SWT) mentioned clearly in the Qur'an, its translation is given as,

“And whoever seeks a religion other than Islam, it will never be accepted of him, And in the Hereafter he will be one of the losers.” [Al-Imran: 85]

The final and ultimate religion near Allah (SWT) is Islam, Allah (SWT) will not accept anything from those who did not accept Islam. The reward for any action will be according to the intentions, if a person recites Salat for His appreciation from people, he will get nothing from Allah (SWT) in return. Similarly, a Shaheed (martyred) in the name his own fame will also face nothing but the anger of Allah (SWT) and so on.

Deeds in the Name of Allah (Ikhlāas)

The deeds done in loneliness and for the sake of Allah (SWT) are the best and the most accepted one near Allah (SWT). Pharisaism is not acceptable in Islam. Allah (SWT) recommends and rewards the acts and deeds performed for Him alone. If a person performs an act with expecting the reward from Allah (SWT) ignoring the voices of others about his work, then he will definitely be rewarded by Him.

Whereas if a person's good deeds are affected by the words of his friends and people around, he will although become famous among them for his acts, but will get nothing as a reward from Allah (SWT). Allah (SWT) says,

“And whosoever does not content with the Messenger (PBUH) after guidance has been made clear to him, and follows the way other than the way of the believers, We shall leave in the path he has chosen, And land him in hell, What an evil destination.”
[Al-Nisa: 115]

Islam is a complete religion, one does not need to add something into it or subtract from it. To add into this argument, let's see an example of a person who with full attention to Allah (SWT) wants to perform prostration three times in every Rakat of Fajar payer instead of two tomes, or he wants to pray three Rakat for Fajar prayer instead of two. Will his deeds be acceptable in the view of Allah (SWT)? No will be the definite answer. Allah (SWT) has made every act according to His own wish. We cannot change it according to our wishes no matter how much purer our intentions may be to perform it. If a person does anything with his own wish, he will be considered out of Islam at once.

Along with the purity of intentions, the strict following of the Shari'ah is also necessarily required for the recommendation of Allah (SWT) and for His rewards.

A group of companions came to the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) home, they inquired about the living style of the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) after listening about it, they inspired and one of them said he would fast for the rest of his life, one said I would pray all night for every single day of his life, one claimed to remain single in his life. When the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) when listened to their wows He (PBUH) became distressed and His (PBUH) face turned red and forbade them to perform these deeds and led them a balanced way of life which is His (PBUH) Sunnah.

The Concept of Biddah

An act that looks like Sha'riah, proof of which does not exist in the Quran and Sunnah, doing it with the intention to get nearer to Allah (SWT) and to seek reward from Allah (SWT) is known as a Biddah. Every biddah is going astray, and every astray is in hellfire. Similarly, Fiqh (jurisprudence) is the knowledge of extracting the laws and provisions from the Quran and Sunnah. We must and have to perform the authentic acts endorsed by Shar'iah only.

Once Hazrat Jibrael (AS) came and asked the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) when would the hour (death) come? Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) said: "Allah (SWT) knows better about it. He (PBUH) mentioned some signs about it".

Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) said, "Whoever does any action that is not in accordance with this matter of ours (Islam), Will have it rejected." **[Sahih Muslim]**

In our society, people named different things with different backgrounds as a religion and has made it sacred because they never got through the authentic books, refused to listen to the learned men, prohibited the reciting Quran daily has turned them to this level.