

Purpose of Life



Meaning of Ibadah:The Arabic word '**Ibadah**' is derived from the same root as the word "**Abd**".

Abd means **servant** and **slave**.

A slave is a person who is totally dependent on the Master and he lives his whole life obeying his master.

Linguistically '**Ibadah**' means submission like a slave

Islamically '**Ibadah**' means **willing , complete and unconditional submission to the Will of Allah Almighty for seeking His Pleasure only.**

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Becoming slave of Allah has no similarity with this world's concept of slavery. Slavery introduced by man revolves around the idea of benefiting the masters and suppression of the slaves.

However, the concept of slavery to Allah Almighty revolves around the complete well-being of the slaves.

Allah Almighty being the Master introduces Himself with the names of Al-Rehman (The Most Merciful) and Al-Raheem (The Most-Compassionate).

In Islam any **act** like offering prayer, fasting, eating, drinking, visiting the sick, help the needy, attending a funeral, obeying the parents, joining ties of relationship with the relatives, seeking knowledge etc, is considered an act of worship if it meets the following conditions;

- (i) The act is permissible one,
- (ii) it is done with intention of seeking Allah's pleasure only,
- (iii) Performed according to the method of the Holy Quran and Sunnah of the Holy Prophet (SAWW).

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Example: Eating Meal can be an act of worship if,

- one eats with the intention of pleasing Allah by obeying His command of taking care of one's life
- one's earning is halal,
- the meal is halal,
- it is eaten according to etiquettes of eating mentioned in the Holy Quran and sunnah of the Prophet Muhammad (SAWW)

In this way eating will not only give us medical benefits, strengthen our iman and upgrade our morality in this world but it will also be source of reward in the life here-after (Aakhirah).

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Reality of tests of Life: we are put in different tests throughout our life span to measure whether we try to meet the purpose of life or not,
As Allah Almighty says in the surah **Al-Mulk verse: 2**,

الَّذِي خَلَقَ الْمَوْتَ وَالْحَيَاةَ لِيَبْلُوَكُمْ أَيُّكُمْ أَحْسَنُ عَمَلًا وَهُوَ الْعَزِيزُ
الْغَفُورُ ﴿٢﴾

“He is the One Who created death and life in order to test which of you is best in deeds.
And He is the Almighty, All-Forgiving.”

He puts everyone to the tests of life **according to one's capacity**. As Allah says,

لَا يُكَلِّفُ اللَّهُ نَفْسًا إِلَّا وُسْعَهَا ﴿٢٨٦﴾

**Allah does not burden a soul
beyond that it can bear.**

Surah Baqarah Ayat-286
(2:286)

Points to ponder

What is the meaning of capacity?

Who will analyse the level of capacity?

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Allah can test us both with good things as well as with unpleasant things. It can be by bestowing children, health, wealth, authority etc. or it can be by taking away of any of these blessings. Allah says in **Al-Baqarh:155** :

وَلَنَبْلُوَنَّكُمْ بِشَيْءٍ مِّنَ الْخَوْفِ وَالْجُوعِ وَنَقْصٍ مِّنَ الْأَمْوَالِ
وَالْأَنْفُسِ وَالْثَّمَرَاتِ وَبَشِّرِ الصَّابِرِينَ ﴿١٥٥﴾

“We will certainly test you with a touch of fear and famine and loss of property, life, and crops. Give good news to those who patiently endure.”



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How to Pass the Tests:

- Keep struggling in right direction sincerley,
- show patience,
- remain steadfast,
- stay positive
- trust their Lord
- Make frequent Duas
- Seek repentance from Almighty Allah for your sins
- Give charity

How tests pay off:

- Removal of Sins
- Sign of Allah's Love
- strenghtens Iman (Faith)
- Multiplication of Rewards
- Souces of foegivness on the Day of judgement
- Make us strong



**TESTS FROM
ALLAH, ARE TO
MAKE US BETTER,
WISER, KINDER
AND PIOUS
PEOPLE.**

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These are the major fields of life through which we have to prove ourselves as true worshipers of Allah Almighty:

- Moral and ethical ground
- Social ground
- Intellectual ground
- Political ground
- Economic ground

The Believers have to excel in all these fields and implement Allah's Laws in all these areas in order to benefit the humanity and all of the creations of Almighty Allah.

Conclusion:

Knowing your purpose enables you to live and act with integrity. It becomes easier to behave in accordance with your core values because you know who you are, what you are and why you are performing the role you have chosen.

The purpose of a believer's life is enslaving himself to Allah the Most -Gracious and the Most-Beneficent. He has to struggle throughout his life to please his Lord.

Becoming slave of the Most Merciful ends up in real happiness, comfort and success. It raises him in status and sets one free from any kind of other bondage.