رَبِّ زِدْنِي عِلْمًا

Oh Allah! Increase me in knowledge

5

Islamic Studies For Children



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AQIDAH

Articles of Imaan

Imaan is the second element of our religion. There are Six Articles of Imaan, which are belief in Allah, in His Angels, in His Books, in His Messengers, in the Last Day, and in Qadr.

Meaning: I believe in Allah, His Angels, His Books, His Messengers, the Day of Judgment and the Predestiny the good of it and bad of it.

Imaan in Allah has been covered in the previous levels. You can refer to them to refresh your memory.



Imaan in the Angels

The meaning of having Imaan in Angels is we believe that they exist and they are the creation of Allah that worship Him. Furthermore, they do not disobey Allah in any of His commands and they only do what they have been commanded to do and nothing else.

No one knows how many Angels there are except for Allah who created them. We can understand the vast number of them from the Prophet Muhammad Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam telling us about it during The Night Journey.

During the Prophet's Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam Night Journey and ascension to the Heavens He was shown "Al-Bait-Al-Ma'mur" (the much frequented house in the seventh heaven) and He was informed that 70,000 angels perform Tawaf will never get the oportunity to do the Tawaf again there every day, and they (meaning that each day a different group of 70,000 angels perform Tawaf)

The most famous Angels are:

- A. Jibreel (Gabriel) Alayhis Sallam is the one who brought the revelation to the Prophets.
- B. Mika'eel (Michael) Alayhis Sallam is the one who brings the rain.
- C. Israfeel (Raphael) Alayhis Sallam is the one who will blow the trumpet (Sur) at the end of times.
- D. Munkar and Nakeer Alayhimus Sallam are the two angels that will question the people in their graves.

There are also two Angels that stay with us and record everything they do. They are with us and watch over us all the time, recording our activities throughout the day and the night.

There are specific Angels who are appointed to take our souls and cause us to die by the command of Allah. This is a reminder for us to be aware and be prepared for our hereafter. There are other Angels who will protect us from harm, so we must be grateful and thankful to Allah for that too.

We have been commanded by our beloved Prophet Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam to make our rows during the Salah as the rows of Angels are, as He Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam said:

"Wouldn't you like to line up as the Angels line up before their Lord? They complete the first row, then the next, and keep close together."

(Tabarani)

The benefit of correct Imaan in Angels will have a positive effect on the believers attitude towards the creator themselves and the creation in some of the following ways:

- It increases our Imaan in Tawhid Knowing that Allah has the sole power of creation and He has wisdom behind all things beyond our intellect and sight.
- It increases our understanding of the Greatness of Allah That He has created the Angels perfect and no-one knows their number except Allah. That Allah has created each one with unique roles, responsibilities and physical appearance.
- Having this Imaan shows there is a connection between us and the Angels and that without the command of Allah nothing can harm nor protect us.
- This article of Imaan shows the honour blessed to us as human beings. Allah has given us free Will and that Angels have no free will. When we follow Allah's command we are indeed better in the sight of Allah than the Angels as we have chosen to worship Allah from

our own free choice.

• To know the characteristics of Angels - this increases the love of Allah in our hearts and it will make us aware of our shortcomings in our sayings and actions. Their worship inspires us to imitate them in increased actions of worship and good.

- Having the knowledge that the Angels are recording what we do, will keep us away from harmful sayings and actions that take us away from the mercy of Allah.
- Knowing about them will encourage us do those actions which make the Angels make Du'a for us.

To be remembered amongst them is an honour as the Prophet Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam taught us:

If a person remembers Me in private, I will remember him with the Angels. If a person remembers Me at a gathering, I will remember him at a gathering which is better and bigger than that one.

[Tabarânî]

- 1. What is the meaning of having Imaan in Angels?
- 2. What happened during The Night Journey that gives us an idea of how many Angels there are?
- 3. Who are the most famous Angels and what are their duties?
- 4. In what way have we been commanded to imitate Angels in their actions?
- 5. What are the benefits of having correct belief in Angels?

Imaan in the Messengers

Allah is The Most Merciful. Ar-Rahmaan and Ar-Raheem are among his attributes. They both contain the meaning of mercy.

It is from the mercy of Allah that He has sent the Messengers from amongst us to guide us so we do not go astray. The Messengers received the guidance from Allah through revelation. The Angel Jibreel Alayhis Sallam brought these revelations to them.

The Messengers guided people, they gave the glad tidings of Jannah to those who were obedient and they warned against the punishment of Hell to those who were disobedient. All the Messengers reminded the people to believe in the Tawhid of Allah, and to keep away from Shirk.

The Messengers of Allah are the most honorable of Almighty Allah's creation to have belief in all of them is an article of our Imaan. Allah Almighty has sent a Messenger to every nation. There were more than 120,000 in number but we do not know all of their names and number. May Allah send his peace and blessings upon all of them.

Among them are 5 who are well known as "U'lul-Azam" the Messengers of inflexible Will. These Messengers faced the harshest difficulties when conveying the message of Tawhid to the people but this did not deter them rather they remained steadfast upon on their purpose. They are:

- 1. Nuh (Noah) Alayhis Sallam.
- 2. Ibrahim (Abraham) Alayhis Sallam.
- 3. Musa (Moses) Alayhis Sallam.
- 4. Isa (Jesus) Alayhis Sallam.
- 5. And Muhammad Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam.

Imaan in the Books

As a guidance for the people, Allah has sent His books to the Prophets which every Muslim must believe in. There were many Books but we only know a few of them by name:

- A. Zaboor (Psalms of David) revealed to the Prophet Dawood Alayhis Sallam.
- B. Tawrah (Old Testament) revealed to the Prophet Musa Alayhis Sallam.
- C. Injeel (New Testament) revealed to the Prophet 'Isa Alayhis Sallam.
- D. Qur'an The last revelation from Allah, revealed to the Prophet Muhammad Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam.

Muslims must believe that the books of the previous Prophets were true at the time of their revelation, however over time the people changed and distorted the message and the texts of these books and, as such, the original revelation is lost. Of the previous books that are present, we do not know what is correct in them from the original content and what has been distorted by the people.

It is only the Qur'an which has not been amended or changed for over 1400 years because it is the guidance for the whole of mankind and all those who will come until the Day of Judgment. Moreover Allah Himself has taken the responsibility of protecting this noble book. Allah says:

إِنَّانَحُنُ نَزَّ لُنَا الذِّكُرَ وَ إِنَّا لَهُ لَحَافِظُونَ

"Surely We have revealed the Reminder and We will most surely be its guardian". (Surah 15 Al-Hijr: Verse 9).

For Muslims it is obligatory to follow the Noble Quran and the Hadith of the Prophet Muhammad Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam. The guidance and teachings He has given us is enough for us to take us to Jannah.

If someone innovates something new into the religion thinking it is something good, and that act is not from the Quran and Sunnah of the Prophet Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam, despite how sincere the indivual may be, then he is doing an act of religious innovation (Bid'ah). One does not get any reward for committing Bid'ah. Rather this act is a misguidance which will take a person to Hell. May Allah save us from it.

Hadith of Aisha - Whoever bring something into this religion will have it rejected. (Muslim)



- 1. What did the Messengers guide people to?
- 2. How many Messengers and Prophets have been sent?
- 3. Who are the U'lul-Azam Messengers?
- 4. Name four of the books with the names of Prophets they were revealed to?
- 5. What is the belief of Muslims about the previous books?
- 6. What is the saying of Almighty Allah about protecting the Noble Quran?
- 7. What is a Bid ah?
- 8. What did the Messenger Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam say about Bid'ah?



Sayidul-Alstigfar

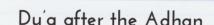
اَللَّهُمَّ أَنْتَ رَبِي لاَ إِلهَ اللَّا أَنْتَ، خَلَقُتنِي وَأَنَا عَبُدُكَ، وَ أَنَا عَلَى عَهُدِكَ وَ وَعُدِكَ مَا استَطَعْتُ، وَ أَنَا عَلَى عَهُدِكَ وَ وَعُدِكَ مَا استَطَعْتُ، أَعُوذُ بِكَ مِن شَرِّ مَا صَنعُتُ، أَبُوءُ لَكَ بِنِعُمَتِكَ عَلَيَّ، أَعُوذُ بِكَ مِن شَرِّ مَا صَنعُتُ، أَبُوءُ لَكَ بِنِعُمَتِكَ عَلَيَّ، وَ أَعُوذُ بِكَ مِن شَرِّ مَا صَنعُتُ، أَبُوءُ لَكَ بِنِعُمَتِكَ عَلَيَّ، وَ أَعُوذُ بِكَ مِن شَرِّ مَا صَنعُتُ، أَبُوءُ لَكَ بِنِعُمَتِكَ عَلَيَّ، وَ أَعُوذُ بِكَ مِن شَرِّ مَا صَنعُتُ، أَبُوءُ لَكَ بِنِعُمَتِكَ عَلَيَّ، وَ وَأَبُوءُ لَكَ بِنِعُمَتِكَ عَلَيَّ، وَ وَأَبُوءُ لَكَ بِنِعُمَتِكَ عَلَيَّ مَا صَنعُتُ اللَّهُ لَا يَعْفِرُ الذُّنُوبَ اللَّا أَنْتَ وَاللَّهُ اللَّهُ اللَّهُ

O Allah, You are my Lord, none has the right to be worshipped except You, You created me and I am Your servant and I promise to abide by your covenant as best I can, I take refuge in You from the evil of which I have committed. I acknowledge Your favours upon me and I acknowledge my sins, so forgive me, for verily none can forgive sins except You.

Seeking Protection from Harm

بِسمِ اللَّهِ الَّذِي لَايَضُرُّ مَعَ اِسُمِهِ شَيءٌ فِي الأَرُضِ وَلَا فِي السَّمَاءِ وَهُوَ السَّمِيْعُ الْعَلِيْمُ

In the Name of Allah, with Whose Name nothing on the earth or in the heavens can cause harm, and He is the All-Hearing, the All-Knowing.



أَللَّهُمَّ رَبَّ هَذِهِ الدَّعْوَةِ التَّامَّةِ، وَالصَّلَاةِ الْقَائِمَةِ، وَالْمَلَاةِ الْقَائِمَةِ، وَعَدْتَهُ. آتِ مُحَمَّداً الْوَسِيلَةَ وَالْفَضِيلَةَ، وَابْعَثْهُ مَقَاماً مَحْمُوداً الَّذِي وَعَدْتَهُ.

O Allah , Lord of this perfect call and established prayer. Grant Muhammad Sallallahu Alayhi wa Sallam the intercession and favour, and raise him to the honoured station You have promised Him.

When Wearing a New Garment

اَللَّهُمَّ لَکَ الْحَمَٰدُ أَنْتَ كَسَوْتَنِيهِ، أَسُأَلُکَ مِنُ خَيْرِهِ وَ خَيْرِ مَا صُنِعَ لَهُ، وَ أَعُوذُ بِکَ مِنُ شَرِّ هِ وَ شَرِّ مَا صُنِعَ لَهُ

O Allah, for You is all praise, You have clothed me with this (i.e. the garment), I ask You for the good of it and the good for which it was made, and I seek refuge with You from the evil of it and the evil for which it was made.

Du'a for Seeking the Goodness of this World and the Hereafter

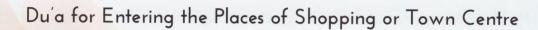
Our Lord! Give us in this world that which is good and in the Hereafter that which is good, and save us from the torment of the Hellfire

Du'a for Concluding a Gathering and Departing

How perfect You are O Allah, and I praise You. I bear witness that none has the right to be worshipped except You. I seek Your forgiveness and turn to You in repentance.

Du'a for the Sajdah During Recitation of the Noble Quran

I bow my face in Sajdah to the One who created it, made these ears and placed these eyes, it is all from His Might and Power, Allah is the Most Honoured, the Perfect Creator"



اَللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَسُأَلُكَ خَيْرَ هَذِهِ السُّوقِ، وَخَيْرَ مَافِيهَا، وَ أَعُوذُبِكَ مِنُ شَرِّهَا وَ شَرِّ مَا فِيهَا، اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَعُوذُ بِكَ أَنُ أُصِيبَ فِيهَا يَمِينًا فَاجِرَةً أَوُ صَفُقَةً خَاسِرَةً

O Allah! I ask you for the goodness of this market the goodness of what is inside it, and I seek your refuge from its evil and the evil inside it. O Allah I seek your refuge from being cheated or from facing a bad deal.

Du'a when Visiting the Cemetery

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُم أَهُلَ الدِّيَارِ مِنَ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَ الْمُسلِمِينَ، وَ الْمُسلِمِينَ، وَ الْمُسلِمِينَ، وَ إِنَّا إِنْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ بِكُمُ لَلَاحِقُونَ، نَسُأَلُ اللَّهَ لَنَا وَ لَكُمُ الْعَافِيَةَ

Peace be upon you all, O inhabitants of these dwellings (i.e. the graves), amongst the Believers and the Muslims. Indeed we are, Allah willing, soon to follow you (to die also), we ask Allah for our well-being and for you too.

HADITHS

1) The Danger of Ascribing Partners to Allah

قَالَ رَسُولُ اللهِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيهِ وَ سَلَّمَ مَنُ لَقِيَ اللهَ لاَ يُشُرِكُ بِهِ شَيْئًا دَخَلَ النَّجَنَّةَ وَ مَنُ لَقِيَهُ يُشْرِكُ بِهِ دَخَلَ النَّارَ

The Messenger of Allah, Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam said:

"Whoever dies while not ascribing partners to Allah will enter Paradise and whoever dies while ascribing partners to Allah enters the Hellfire".

صحيح مسلم . كِتَاب الْإِيمَان . باب من مات لا يشرك بالله شيئًا دخل الجنة ومن مات مشرِّكًا دخل النار

Sahih al-Bu

Sahih Mus

Sunan Abu Da

Jama'i at-Tir

Sunan Nas

S_{unan} ibn N

Al Mawa

Musnad Ahr

Sunan al-Do

Sahih ibn Kh





قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَ سَلَّمَ مَنُ عَلَّقَ تَمِيمَةً فَقَدُ أَشُرَكَ

The Messenger of Allah, Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam said:
"Whoever wears an amulet has committed Shirk"
مسند أحمد . مسند السميين . عقبة بن عا مر الجهني . من علق تميمة فقد اشرك

5) Supplicating to Allah

قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَ سَلَّمَ مَنُ لَمُ يَدُعُ اللَّهَ سُبُحَانَهُ غَضِبَ عَلَيْهِ

The Messenger of Allah, Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam said:

If one does not ask from Allah (Supplicate to Allah), He will get angry with him."

سنن ابن ماجه، كتاب الدعاء ، باب فضل الدعاء

Sahih al-Bu

Sahih Mus

Sunan Abu Da

Jama'i at-Tir

Sunan Na

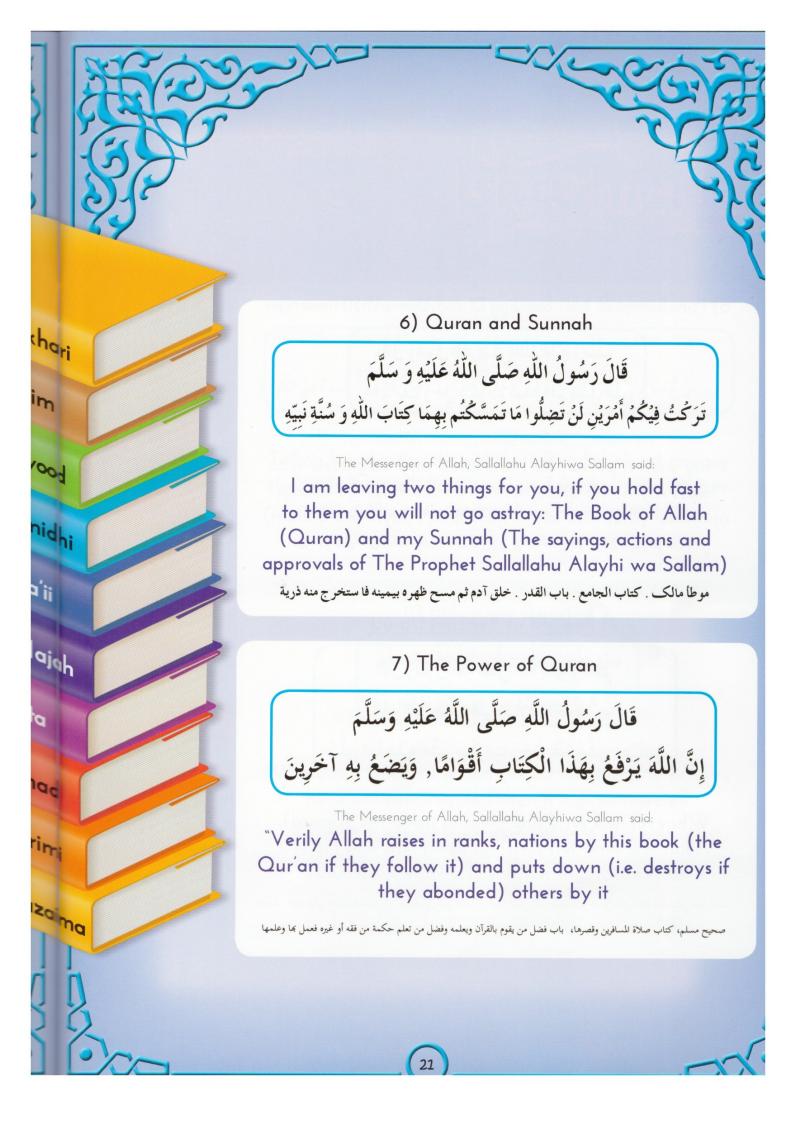
Sunan ibn 1

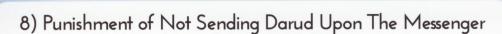
Al Mawa

Musnad Ah

Sunan al-Di

Sahih ibn Kh





قَالَ رَسُولُ اللهِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَ سَلَّمَ رَغِمَ أَنُفُ رَجُلٍ ذُكِرُتُ عَنُدَهُ فَلَمُ يُصَلِّ عَلَيَّ

The Messenger of Allah, Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam said:

May such a person be humiliated and disgraced who hears my name and does not invoke Allah's blessings upon me (that is to say - Sallallahu Alayhi wa Sallam) سنن الترمذي . كتاب الدعوات . باب قول رَسُولَ اللهِ صَلَى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَ سَلَمَ رغم انف رجل

9) Reward of Sending Darud

قَالَ رَسُولُ اللّهِ صَلَّى اللّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَ سَلَّمَ مَنُ صَلَّى عَلَيَّ صَلاَةً وَاحِدَةً صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ عَشُرَ صَلَوَاتٍ وَحَطَّ عَنْهُ عَشُرَ خَطِيئَاتٍ

The Messenger of Allah, Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam said:

Whoever will send one blessing upon me (Darud), Allah will send ten blessings upon him and He will erase from him ten sins (from their account).

مسند أحمد باقي مسند المكثرين . من صلى علي صلاة واحدة صلى الله عليه عشر صلوات و حط عنه عشر خطيئات

Sahih al-Buk Sahih Mush Sunan Abu Daw

Jama'i at-Tirn

Sunan Nas

Sunan ibn M

Al Mawat

Musnad Ahm

Sunan al-Dar

Sahih ibn Khu



FIQH

Detailed knowledge of understanding as well as how to act upon Islamic practices

Prayer during a Journey

Almighty Allah wants to grant us with ease in all of our affairs. Our beloved Prophet Muhammad Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam, whenever facing a choice between two matters, He Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam would always chose the easier option.

One of the things that is made easy for us is our obligatory prayers when we are travelling and on a journey.

To make matters easy for us, a four Rakah prayer can be shorten by two Rakah when we are travelling. So our Dhur, Asr, and Isha prayers can be performed by performing only two units rather than four, when we are travelling. Moreover it is allowed to combine Dhur and Asr prayers, and also Maghrib and Isha prayers together when we are travelling. Between the start time of Dhur and end of Asr. At the start of Magrib and end of Ishaa we can combine these prayers at any time. This is a gift of ease from Allah and Allah loves his gifts to be utilised.



Prayer of the Sick Person

Another ease from Almighty Allah is for people with health difficulties.

The prayer is normally performed standing. However, if someone is not able to stand due to his unfortunate physical or medical problem, then he can perform the prayer while seated. If however sitting is not possible, then the prayer can be performed lying down. If even lying down is not possible, then the prayer can be performed with the movement of the head or just the eyes. May Allah grant us the best of Imagn and health.



- 1. Which prayers can be combined when travelling?
- 2. At what times can we combine the prayers?
- 3. How can you offer your prayer, if you are physically unwell?

The Funeral Prayer

Islam gives immense respect to the human soul whether it is alive or deceased. When someone passes away there are certain requirements to ensure that we take care and give a respectful burial for the person.

The body needs to be washed and covered from head to toe in three or five white cloth sheets. Then the funeral prayer is performed. The funeral prayer is completed from start to finish in the standing position only. There is no ruku or sajdah.

How to perform the Funeral Prayer:

- · Step One
- Say Allahuakbar and recite Surah Fatiha and a short surah.
- · Step Two
- Say Allahuakbar and recite the Darood of Ibrahim as it is read in Tashahud.
- · Step Three
- Say Allahuakbar and then recite the Du'as for the deceased.
- Step Four

Say Allahuakbar the fourth and final time the funeral prayer will be concluded by saying "AssalamualikumWarahmatullah".

- 1. How is the body prepared for the funeral?
- 2. How to perform the funeral prayer?
- 3. What are the Du'as for the deceased to be made during the funeral prayer?
- 4. What is the meaning of the Du'as in the funeral prayer?



1) Du'as for the Deceased to be read. (After the 3rd Takbeer)

اَللَّهُمَّ اغُفِرُ لِحَيِّنَاوَ مَيِّتِنَا وَ شَاهِدِنَا وَ غَائِبِنَا وَ صَغِيرِنَا وَكَبِيرِنَا وَذَكرِنَا وَ أُنْثَانَا اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرُ لِحَيِّنَاهُ مِنَّا فَأَحُيهِ عَلَى الْإِيمَانِ اَللَّهُمَّ لاَ تَحُرِمُنَا أَجُرَهُ وَلاَ تُضِلَّنَا بَعُدَهُ اللَّهُمَّ مَنُ أَحُييُتَهُ مِنَّا فَأَحُيهِ عَلَى الْإِيمَانِ اَللَّهُمَّ لاَ تَحُرِمُنَا أَجُرَهُ وَلاَ تُضِلَّنَا بَعُدَهُ

(سنن ابن ماجه بشرح السندي . كتاب الجنائز . اللهم اغفر لحينا و ميتنا و شاهدنا و غائبنا)

- O Allah forgive those of us who are still alive and those who have passed away, those present (in the congregation) and those who are absent, and our young and the elderly, our male and female groups.
- O Allah, whomever you wish to keep alive from amongst us make him live according to Islam and whomever you wish to die from amongst us, let them die in the state of having Imaan (being a Muslim).
- O Allah, do not deprive us the reward given to him, and do not let us go astray after him.

2) Du'as for the Deceased to be read. (After the 3rd Takbeer)

اللَّهُمَّ اغُفِرُ لَهُ وَارُحَمُهُ وَ عَافِهِ وَاعْفُ عَنُهُ وَأَكْرِمُ نُزُلَهُ وَوَسِّعُ مُدُخَلَهُ وَ اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرُ لَهُ وَالتَّلُحِ وَالبَّرَدِ وَنَقِّهِ مِنُ الْخَطَايَا كَمَا نَقَيْتَ الثَّوْبَ اللَّبيضَ اغْسِلُهُ بِالْمَاءِ وَالثَّلْحِ وَالبَرَدِ وَنَقِّهِ مِنُ الْخَطَايَا كَمَا نَقَيْتَ الثَّوْبَ اللَّبيضَ مِنَ الدَّنسِ وَ أَبُدِلُهُ دَارًا خَيْرًا مِنُ دَارِهِ وَأَهُلًا خَيْرًا مِنُ أَهُلِهِ وَزَوُجًا خَيْرًا مِنُ الدَّنسِ وَ أَبُدِلُهُ دَارًا خَيْرًا مِنُ دَارِهِ وَأَهُلًا خَيْرًا مِنُ أَهُلِهِ وَزَوُجًا خَيْرًا مِنُ زَوْجِهِ وَ أَدْخِلُهُ الْجَنَّةَ وَ أَعِذُهُ مِنْ عَذَابِ الْقَبْرِ وَ مِنْ عَذَابِ النَّارِ مِنْ زَوْجِهِ وَ أَدْخِلُهُ الْجَنَّةَ وَ أَعِذُهُ مِنْ عَذَابِ الْقَبْرِ وَ مِنْ عَذَابِ النَّارِ

صحيح المسلم . كتاب الجنائز . باب الدعاء للميت في الصلاة

O Allah forgive him and have mercy upon him and keep him safe and protected and excuse him for his faults, and grant him a respectable place in Heaven, and make his grave spacious, and wash him with water, snow and ice and purify him of all his sins like a piece of white cloth is cleared from dirt, and grant him a new home better than his (previous) home and a family better than his (previous) family and a spouse better than his (previous) spouse, and allow him to enter paradise, and protect him from the punishment of the grave and the punishment of the Hellfire".

The Eid Prayer

In Islam, there are two days prescribed for celebrations by the Prophet Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam every year.

When the Prophet Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam migrated to Madina Tayibah He noticed people were celebrating so He enquired about it.

"What are these two days?" They said, "These are two days we used to play in, in our Jahiliyah. (time of ignorance)" The Prophet said, "Allah has replaced them with two better days: Eid Al Adhaa and Eid ul Fitr". (Abu Dawou)

This hadith makes it clear that we are not allowed to make any day of religious celebration because Allah has replaced it with something better the two days of Eid.

They are known to us as Eid ul-Fitr and Eid ul-Adha. Both of these days of Eid come after performing two pillars of Islam. Eid ul-Fitr comes after fasting the full 9th month of the Islamic calendar - Ramadhan, while Eid ul-Adha comes after performing the main Hajj rituals during Dhul-Hijjah. Allah from his infinite mercy forgives many people during these days of Eid. On the day of Eid, Muslims perform a special prayer after the sun rises, and this can be performed up until the time of Dhur salah on the day of Eid.

When we go for the Eid prayer it is highly recommended to perform Ghusl, wear nice clothes, apply perfume and walk if possible towards the place of the Eid prayer, taking one route there and a different route when returning home. It is also Sunnah to eat a few dates before leaving your home for Eid Ul-Fitr and not to eat at all until after the prayer of Eid Ul-Adha. While going towards the place of the Eid prayer we are recommended to say Takbeerat, which men should say loudly and women should say with a low voice.

The Takbeerat of Eid is as follows:

اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ ، لاَ إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَ اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ ، اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ وَ لِلَّهِ الْحَمُدُ

Allah is the Greatest, Allah is the Greatest, there is no god but Allah, and Allah is the Greatest, and All Praise and Gratitude belong to Allah.

The Eid prayer is exceptional in that there is no Adhaan or Iqamah given, as well as being prohibited to perform any Sunnah prayer before the Eid prayer begins, at the place of the prayer. The Prayer itself is performed slightly differently at the beginning of each Rakah.

The Eid prayer consists of two Rakah.

- The first rakah will start as the normal prayer with "Takbiratul Ihram" (Saying Allahu Akbar).
- Then seven extra Takbeerat (Allahu Akbar) will be said before the formal recitation of Surah Al-Fatiha and another surah. Among the recommended Surahs are Surah (No.50) Qaaf and Surah (No.87) Aa'la.
- Then the first rakah will be completed as normal.
- After standing for the second rakah five extra Takbeerat will be said, then Surah Al-Fatiha and another surah will be recited. Among the recommended Surahs are Surah (No.57) Al-Qamar and Surah (no.88) Al-Ghashiyah.
- Then the rest of the prayer will be completed as normal.

After completing the prayer, the Imam will give a Khutbah which the congregation will listen to. After completing the Khutbah the congregation will share greetings of Eid with each other, with family and friends. This is also an opportunity to meet Muslims from other parts of the world to greet them and share the joy of Eid.

- 1. In which months are the two days of Eid?
- 2. How do you prepare for the Eid prayer?
- 3. How is the Eid prayer exceptional?
- 4. What is the Takbeerat of Eid?
- 5. How do you perform the Eid prayer?

Halal and Haram

Halal and Haram are Arabic words. According to Islamic law Halal simply means "permitted", "allowed" or "lawful". The opposite to Halal is Haram, which simply means "not permitted" "not allowed" or "unlawful". As Muslims we learn what is Halal and Haram from our two sources of guidance, the words of Allah in the Noble Quran, and the guidance of the Messenger Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam. As Muslims we believe that only Allah and the Messenger Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam have the authority to tell us what is Halal and Haram.

Allah Almighty says:

Those who follow the Messenger, the unlettered Prophet, whom they find mentioned in their own (scriptures),- in the law and the Gospel;-for he commands them what is just and forbids them what is evil; he allows them as Halal what is good (and pure) and makes it Haram for them what is bad (and impure). (Al-Araf7:157)

In addition to Halal and Haram there are a few things which do not have clear indications from the Quran and the Sunnah of the Prophet Sallallahu Alayhi wa Sallam. These things are known in Islamic Law as "Mushtabah" which means doubtful. A Muslim is required to keep away from doubtful matters to safeguard their Imaan.

As mentioned in the following Hadith:

"The halal is clear and the haram is clear, and between them are matters unclear that are unknown to most people. Whoever is wary of these unclear matters has protected his religion and honour. And whoever indulges in them has indulged in haram. It is like a shepherd who herds his sheep too close to a preserved sanctuary, and they will eventually graze in it. Every king has a sanctuary, and the sanctuary of Allah is what He has made haram. There lies within the body a piece of flesh. If it is sound, the whole body is sound; and if it is corrupted, the whole body is corrupted. Verily this piece is the heart."

(al-Bukhari & Muslim)

Halal and Haram is used to determine whether or not something is lawful in Islam. The subject of Halal and Haram is very wide. However, what is related to food and drink shall be explained here. The meaning of Halal food is "The food which is allowed for Muslims to consume according to Islamic law". Opposite to this would be Haram food, that is food which is not allowed for Muslims to consume according to Islamic law.

Below is the list of food items which are Haram:

1. Meat from swine (pig) - pork, ham, gammon, bacon, etc

2. Pork-based products and by-products - sausages, as well as food items that have ingredients in them that are derived from pig sources, e.g. gelatine - can be found in jelly, some marshmallows, jelly gum sweets, etc.

3. Animals that are improperly slaughtered, or are already dead before slaughtering in the following ways:

- a. The one which has died a natural death
- b. The one which has fallen to its death
- c. The one which has died as a result of being gored by a horned animal.
- d. The one which has died of strangulation
- e. The one which has been battered to death
- 4. Animals killed in the name of anyone other than Allah.
- 5. Intoxicants (e.g. alcohol, recreational and illegal drugs).
- 6. Most carnivorous animals, birds of prey as well as land animals without external ears (i.e., snakes, reptiles, worms, insects etc.)
- 7. Blood and blood by-products (sometimes used as an ingredient)
- 8. Foods contaminated with any of the above products.

Animals such as cows, sheep, goats, chickens, ducks, etc., are Halal, but they must be slaughtered according to Islamic rites in order to be permissible for consumption.

The procedure is as follows: the animal must be slaughtered by a Muslim, Christian, or Jewish person and in the name of God/Allah alone.

The animal should be laid down on the ground or held if it is small and its throat should be slit with a very sharp knife to make sure that the three main blood vessels are cut. While cutting the throat of the animal, the person must pronounce the name of Allah or recite a supplication which contains the name of Allah, such as

"Bismillah Allah-u-Akbar". In the name of Allah, Allah is the Greatest.

The animal is then hung up to drain all the blood out of it.

All meat from the sea is considered to be Halal. Moreover fish does not need to be slaughtered.

As Muslims we should maximize our efforts to avoid items that are Haram. The sin of consuming Haram products is severe.



Not only is consuming alcohol Haram but in the following Hadith we can understand that being part of the alcohol making process is also Haram.

Allah's Messenger Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam cursed ten people in connection with wine and other intoxicants:

- 1. The wine-presser,
- 2. The one who has it pressed,
- 3. The one who transports it,
- 4. The one to whom it is transported,
- 5. The one who sells it,
- 6. The one who benefits from the price paid for it,
- 7. The one who buys it,
- 8. The one who serves it,
- 9. The one for whom it is bought.
- 10. And the one who drinks it,

This Hadith shows the importance of keeping away from Haram and makes it clear that Muslims cannot even trade with items that are Haram.

- 1. What does the word Halal and Haram means?
- 2. How do we know what is Halal and Haram?
- 3. Why it is important to stay away from doubtful matters?
- 4. What animals are Haram to eat?
- 5. What animals are Halal to eat?
- 6. How should an animal be slaughtered?
- 7. Who are the 10 people that the Prophet cursed in connection with alcohol?

ISLAMIC CHARACTER

Islamic Clothing and Modesty

Islam not only teaches its followers to adopt modesty but it also prohibits its followers from all things and ways which lead to immodesty.

Men and women have been given clear guidance about how they can obtain modesty. By practising these guidelines, a person can benefit not only himself but his family, friends, fellow neighbours and the wider community. Adhering to the rules of modesty can contribute to having a healthier and safer society.

Men and women are required to physically cover everything of themselves which may bring them embarrassment or shame. The parts which need to be covered are referred to as "Awrah". The Awrah for men and women changes according to the situation.

In normal circumstances the Awrah of a man refers to the parts of the body between the navel and the knees which must be covered when in public, whereas a woman is required to cover from her head to toe with the option of not covering her hands and face.

Islamic decency also requires for both men and women to not wear tight fitting clothing that reveals the body shape.

In Ritual Prayer:

A man is required to cover his parts of the body between the navel to the knees and to also cover his shoulders. A woman should cover her entire body excluding her face and her hands.



In Privacy:

It is recommended that in general a person should cover his or her private parts even when alone in private and remain in modest clothing. There are exceptions such as when taking a shower or going to the bathroom.

In Front of a Mahram

A man needs to cover his Awrah while a woman can show her face, head, neck, hands, forearms, feet and calves while covering the rest.

In Front of Children

If the child understands what the Awrah is, then it is not considered permissible for a man or woman to uncover their Awrah in front of any child.

Islam prohibits all the ways which bring someone closer to sinful and evil deels and that which leads to falling into sin.

To avoid this:

- Men and women have been commanded to lower their gaze as appropriate.
- It is not permissible for non-mahram men and women to be alone together.
- It is not permissible for non-mahram men and women to talk to each other in a seductive voice or in an inappropriate way. Rather they should speak firmly, in a plutonic and respectful way without engaging in unnecessary talk.
- It is not permissible for women to put perfume on in public places, and thereby attract the attention of men.

- 1. What is Awrah for men and for women?
- 2. To avoid falling into sin, what has Islam prohibited for men and women?

ULOOMUL HADITH

The literal meaning of the word "Hadith" in the Arabic language is talk, conversation, report, or statement. In the terminology of Islamic Law the word Hadith refers to "The Sayings, Actions, and Approvals" of our beloved Prophet Mohammad Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam. Hence the term "UloomUl Hadith" stands for "The sciences of Hadith".

Four different types of Hadiths:

- The sayings of the Prophet Sallallahu Alayhiwa
 Sallam are called "Hadith Qawli" "حدیث قولی".
- The actions of the Prophet Sallallahu Alayhiwa
 Sallam are called "Hadith Fe'li" "حدیث فعلی".
- And the approvals of the Prophet Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam are called "Hadith Taqreeri" "حدیث تقریری".
- If the beloved Prophet Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam said in his Hadith Qawli that "Almighty Allah says" then this Hadith is known as "Hadith al Qudsi" "حدیث القدسی".

Sahih al-Bukh Sahih Muslin Sunan Abu Dawa Jama'i at-Tirm

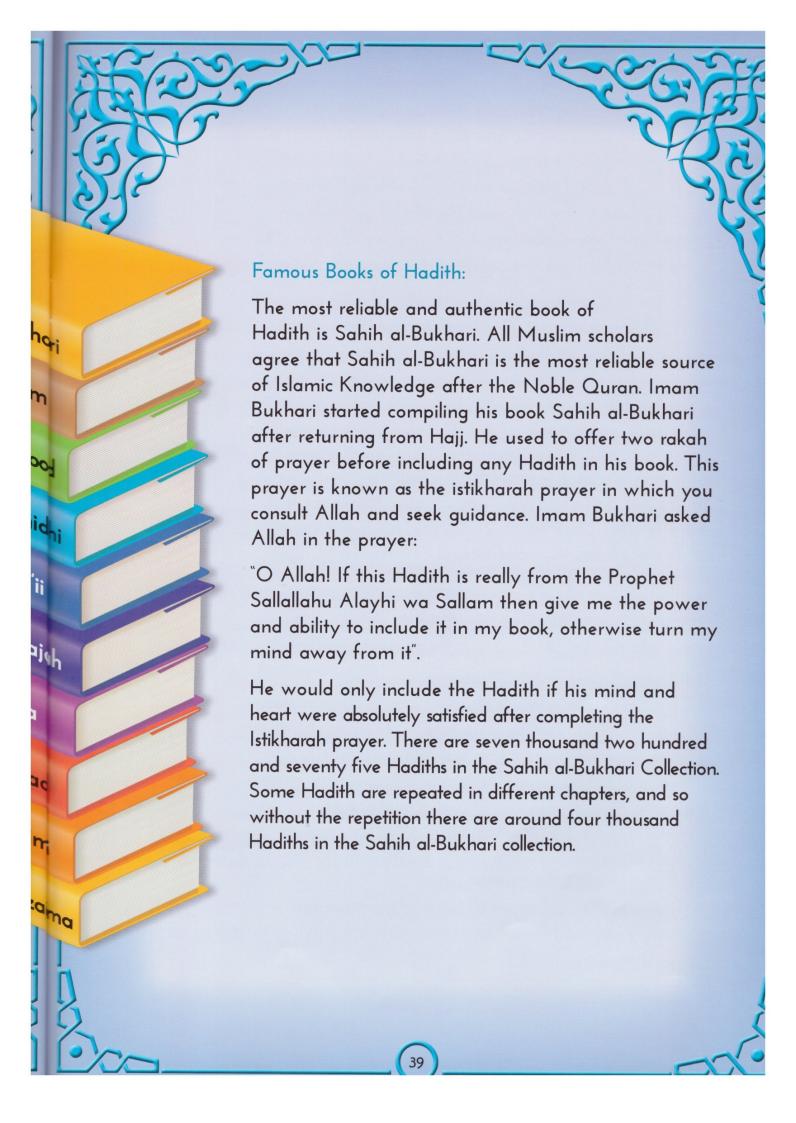
Sunan Nasa Sun

Sunan ibn Mo Al Mawatto

Musnad Ahm

Sunan al-Dar

Sahih ibn Khu:



After Sahih al-Bukhari the most authentic and reliable book of Hadith is Sahih Muslim. Sahih Muslim was compiled by Abdul Husayn Muslim bin Hajaj Kushairi. It contains nine thousand Hadiths of our beloved Prophet Muhammad Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam. All the Hadith in his book are considered to be authentic and correct.

Other famous books of Hadith collections include:

- · Al Mawatta Imam Malik
- Sunan Abu Dawood
- Jama'i at-Tirmidhi
- Sunan Nasa'ii

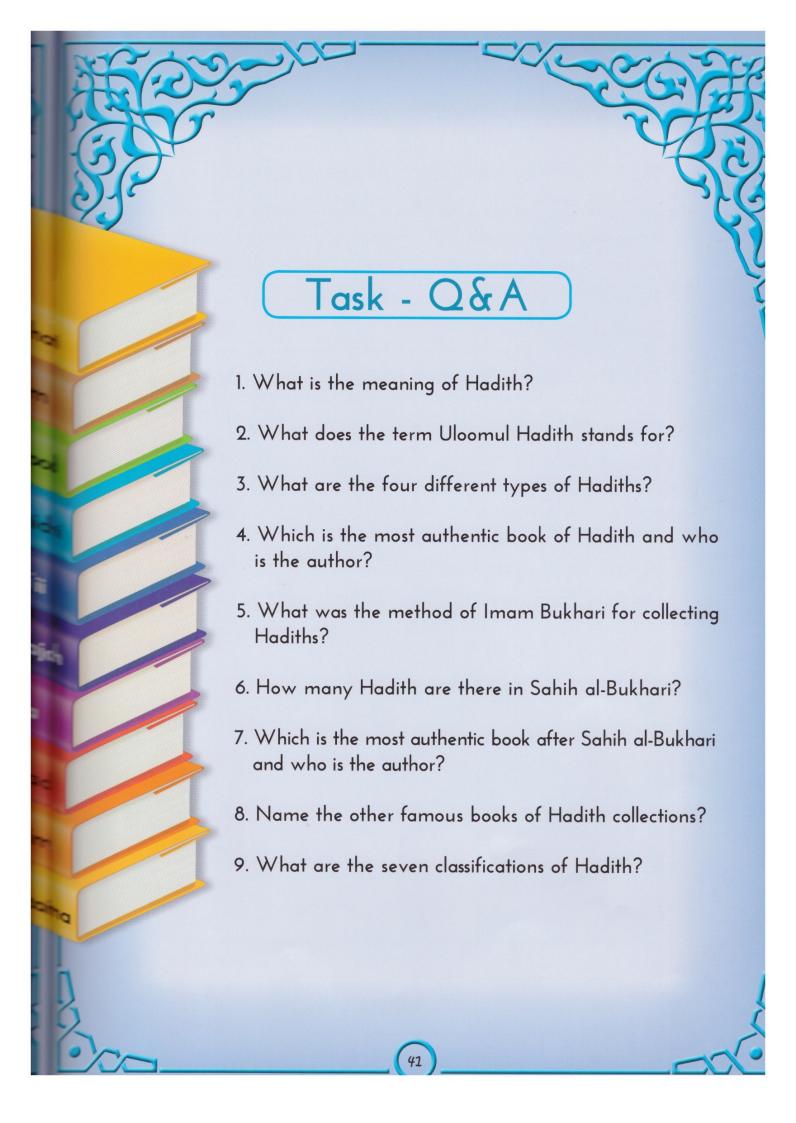
Imam Bukhari and Imam Muslim had strict rules to identify the authenticity of any Hadith. However Imam Bukhari's rules were more stringent. This is the reason that the authenticity, validity and correctness of any Hadith is known as follows.

The seven classifications of Hadith are:

- The Hadith which is narrated in both Sahih al-Bukhari and Sahih Muslim.
- 2) Then the Hadith which is narrated only in Sahih al-Bukhari.
- 3) Then the Hadith which is narrated only in Sahih Muslim.
- 4) Then the Hadith which meets the authenticity conditions set by Imam Bukhari and Imam Muslim both.
- 5) Then a Hadith which meets the authenticity conditions set by Imam Bukhari.
- 6) Then a Hadith which meets the authenticity conditions set by Imam Muslim.
- 7) Then a hadith narrated to be true by the authors of the books of Hadith, other than Imam Bukhari and Imam Muslim.

Sahih al-Bukh Sahih Muslin Sunan Abu Dawa Jama'i at-Tirm Sunan Nasa Sunan ibn M Al Mawatto Musnad Ahma Sunan al-Dari

Sahih ibn Khuz



SEERAH

The Prophet Muhammad: A Mercy for all Creation

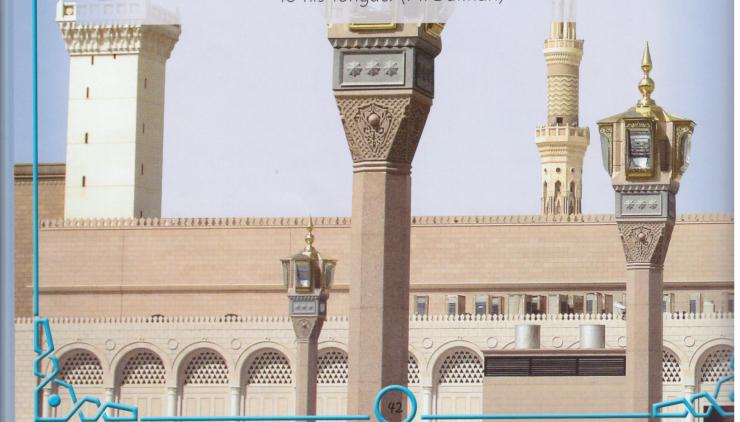
Allah's Messenger Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam was the kindest of men in the same way as he excelled all others in courage and valour. Being extremely kind-hearted, his eyes brimmed with tears at the slightest sign of inhumanity.

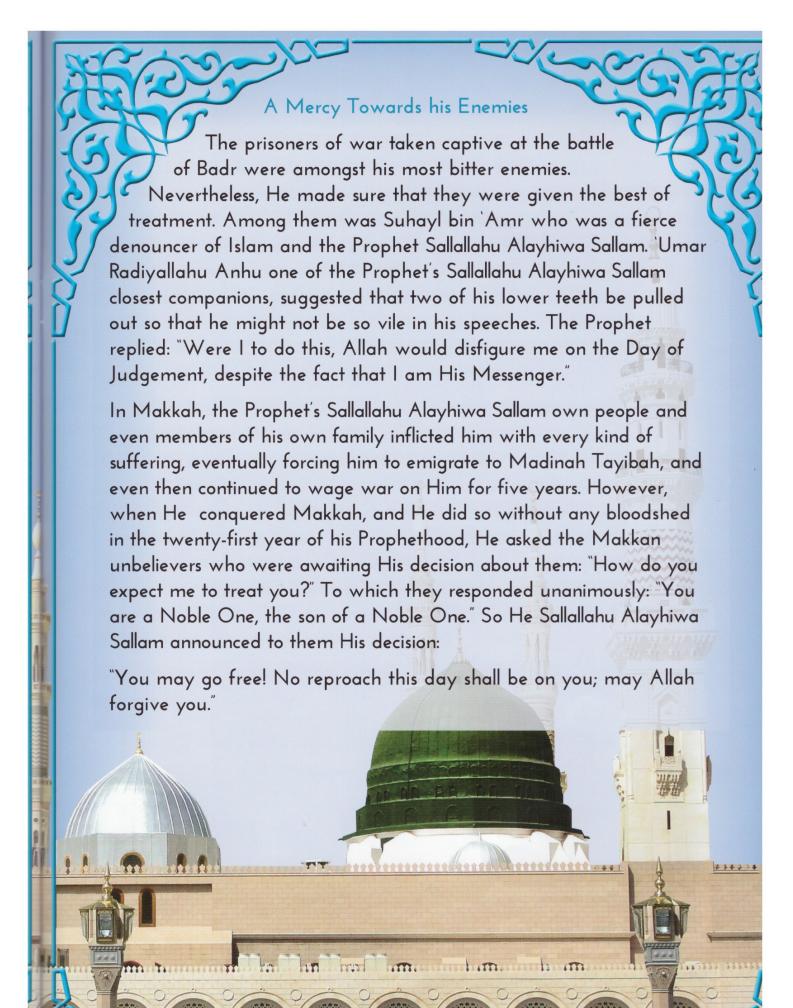
A Mercy for the Believers

The Messenger's Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam compassion towards the believers was of the utmost degree. The Quran describes his compassion in the following verse, which means:

"There has certainly come to you a Messenger from among yourselves. Grievous to Him is what you suffer; [He is] concerned over you [i.e., your guidance] and to the believers is kind and merciful." (At-Toubah 9:128)

Sa'd bin 'Ubaadah once became ill, so Allah's Messenger visited him in his house. On seeing his faithful companion in a pitiful state, he was moved to tears. Then, he said: "Allah does not punish because of tears, nor because of grief, but he punishes because of this."-and he pointed to his tongue. (Al-Bukhari)







The Prophet Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam was sent as a mercy to the entire creation of Almighty Allah. In normal circumstances of war there is no mercy, but the teachings of the Prophet are so merciful even during the state of war, may Allah have His peace and blessing upon Him. Below are some of the examples of these teachings:

- · Do not commit treachery, or deviate from the right path,
- · You must not mutilate dead bodies,
- · Neither kill a child,
- · nor a woman,
- · nor the elderly,
- Bring no harm to the trees,
- nor burn them with fire, especially those that bear fruit,
- · Slay none of the enemies livestock,
- You are likely to pass by people who have devoted their lives to monastic services; leave them and their monasteries alone.



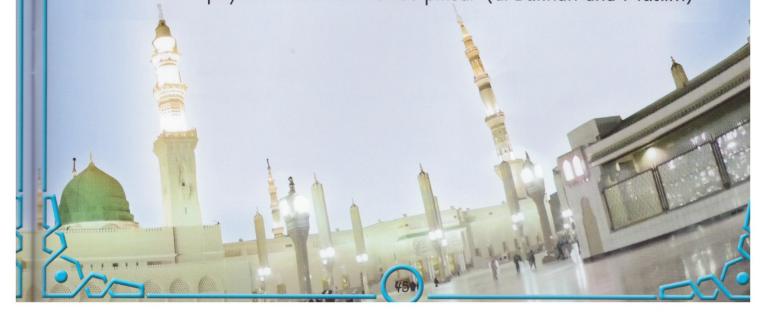
A Mercy for Women

Prophet Muhammad Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam was also very kind and compassionate towards women. Women were very badly treated in those times. The Noble Prophet Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam gave them honour and dignity on a par with men from their own community. 'Umar Radiyallahu Anhu reported: "We did not have much regard for women while we were at Makkah, but they were better treated in Madinah Taybah. Allah's Messenger Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam established women's rights through his sayings and commandments, which improved their position and status."

A Mercy for Children

Allah's Messenger Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam was particularly compassionate towards children. When he saw a child crying, he sat beside him or her and shared his or her feelings. He felt the pain of a mother for her child more than the mother herself. Once he said: "I stand in prayer and wish to prolong it. However, I hear the crying of a child and cut the prayer short for the anxiety which the mother is feeling." (al-Bukhari)

He would take children in his arms and embrace them. He was once hugging his beloved grandsons, Hasan and Hussain, when Aqrah bin Haabis told him, 'I have ten children. So far, I have not kissed any of them.' Allah's Messenger Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam responded: "The one with no pity for others will not be pitied." (al-Bukhari and Muslim)



A Mercy for Animals

His compassion encompassed not only human beings, but also animals.

The Prophet forbade his companions to keep the livestock and riding animals hungry or thirsty and not to disturb or to overburden them. He commanded that kindness and putting them at ease were meritorious acts tending to bring man nearer to Allah. Abu Hurairah reports the Prophet Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam as saying: "A traveller who was thirsty, saw a waterwell on the way. He got inside the waterwell and when he came out he saw a dog licking mud due to thirst. The man realised that the dog was as thirsty as himself, so he got into the well again, filled his leather sock with water and carried it out holding it with his teeth. Thus, he quenched the thirst of the dog. Allah was pleased with this act of kindness and pardoned the man of his sins." The Companions asked: "O Messenger of Allah is there recompense in the matter of beasts and wild animals also?" The Prophet Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam replied: "There is recompense in regard to every creature that has a living heart."

'Abdullah bin' Umar Radiyallahu Anhu related that the Prophet Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam said: "A woman was cast away to hell only because she had withheld food and water from her cat and refused to set it free so that the cat might satisfy its hunger by eating worms and insects."

Once on return from a military campaign, a few Companions took away the chicks of a bird from their nest to stroke them. The mother bird came back and when it could not find its chicks in the nest, it began to fly around screeching. When informed of the matter, Allah's Messenger Sallallahu Alayhiwa Sallam became angry and ordered the chicks to be put back in the nest.

(Abu Dawood)

Conclusion

The love, compassion and teachings of Allah's Messenger Sallallahu Alayhi wa Sallam for all kinds of creatures is true, correct and fit for their existence. He was sincere and balanced in his love and compassion. He was more compassionate than any other person. He was a Prophet raised by Allah, the Creator and Sustainer of all beings, for the guidance and happiness of conscious beings - mankind and jinn - and the harmony of existence. Therefore, he lived not for himself but for others; he is a mercy for all the worlds.

- 1. How was the mercy of the Prophet for the believers?
- 2. How was his behaviour toward his enemies?
- 3. How did the Prophet show mercy to his people when he returned to Makkah?
- 4. What are the merciful teachings of the Prophet during war?
- 5. What is the saying of Umar about the Mercy of the Prophet towards women?
- 6. What did the Prophet do to the prayer when he heard the child crying?
- 7. What is the recompense between beasts and wild animals?



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