

# Take Your Beliefs From the Qur'aan and Sunnah<sup>1</sup>

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1 Sunnah is the sayings of Prophet Muhammad (Salla Allah Alaih Wasallam).

## Introduction

Verily, all praise is due to Allaah, we praise Him and we seek His Aid and we ask His Forgiveness and we seek refuge with Allaah from the wickedness of ourselves and the evil of our deeds. Whomsoever Allaah guides, there is none can misguide him and whomsoever Allaah sends astray, there is none can guide him. And I testify that none is worthy of worship except Allaah, Alone, without partners and I testify that Muhammad is His slave and His Messenger. As for what follows, these are important questions in 'aqeedah which I have answered along with the evidences from the Qur`aan and hadeeth, so that the reader may rest assured that the answers are correct, because the belief in tawheed is the foundation of mankind's happiness in the life of this world and in the Hereafter.

By Allaah, I ask that He makes this work of benefit to the Muslims and that He make it purely for His sake.

Muhammad Ibn Jameel Zainoo.

# Pillars of Islaam

Jibreel (peace be upon him) said: “[Oh, Muhammad! Tell me about Islaam.](#)”

The Messenger of Allaah (peace be upon him) replied: “Islaam is:

1. To testify that none has the right to be worshipped except Allaah and that Muhammad is the Messenger of Allaah (i.e. that Allaah sent him to convey His Religion to mankind).
2. To establish prayer (i.e. to implement prayer with all its pillars, with repose and humility).
3. To pay zakaah. (If a Muslim owns more than 85 gms. of gold or its equivalent in money, he must pay 2.5% of it after one year. Other forms of wealth and property have their own set amounts to be paid upon them).
4. To fast the month of Ramadhaan (i.e. to abstain from food drink and sexual relations and all manner of sins from dawn until dusk).
5. And to make pilgrimage (Hajj) to the House (of Allaah, in Makkah) if you have the means to do so.”  
(Narrated by Muslim)

# Pillars of Eemaan

Jibreel said: “Then tell me about eemaan.” Allaah’s Messenger (peace be upon him) replied: “Eemaan is to believe in:

1. Allaah (i.e. to believe firmly that Allaah is the Creator, Who alone has the right to be worshipped and that He has Names and Attributes which befit His Majesty and He does not resemble His creation – “**There is nothing like Him**” (Soorah Ash-Shooraa 42:11) - ).
2. His angels (i.e. that they are created from light and that they implement the Commands of Allaah and that we do not see them).
3. His Books (i.e. the Tauraah, the Injeel, the Zaboor and the Qur`aan which abrogates all previous Revelations).
4. His Messengers (the first of whom was Nooh (peace be upon him) and the last of whom was Muhammad (peace be upon him)).
5. The Last Day (i.e. the Day of Resurrection when all of mankind will be held to account).
6. And to believe in Al-Qadar, the good and the bad of it (i.e. to accept all that Allaah ordains for us, at the same time undertaking the necessary action to achieve our objectives).” (Narrated by Muslim)

# The Right of Allaah Upon His Slaves

## Q.1 Why did Allaah create us?

A. He created us to worship Him and not to associate any partners with Him. The evidence for this is in the Words of Allaah, Most High in Soorah Az-Zaariyaat:

**“And I created the jinn and mankind not, except to worship Me”** (Soorah Az-Zaariyaat 51:56)

and in the words of the Prophet (peace be upon him): **“The right of Allaah upon the slaves is that they worship Him and do not associate any partners with Him.”** (Narrated by Al-Bukhaari and Muslim)

## Q.2 What is ‘ibaadah?

A. It is a comprehensive term for all those words and deeds which are loved by Allaah, such as du’aa` (supplication), salaah (prayer), Thabh (halaal slaughter) etc. Allaah says:

**“Say: Truly, my prayers, my sacrifice (i.e. slaughter) and my life and death are for Allaah, the Lord of the worlds”** (Soorah Al-An’aaam 6:162)

and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: Allaah, Most High says: **“My slave does not come nearer to Me with anything more beloved to Me than that which I have enjoined upon Him.”** (A Hadeeth Qudsiyy<sup>2</sup>, Narrated by Al-Bukhaari)

2 Hadeeth Qudsiyy: A hadeeth in which the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: “Allaah says...”

## Q.3 How do we worship Allaah?

A. We worship Him in the way in which He and His Messenger commanded us to do. Allaah, Most High says: **“Oh, you who believe! Obey Allaah and obey the Messenger and do not render vain your deeds”** (Soorah Muhammad 47:33)

and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“Whoever performs a deed which is not in conformity with this Religion of ours will have it rejected.”** (Narrated by Muslim)

## Q.4 Should we worship Allaah with fear and hope?

A. Yes, that is how we should worship Him. Allaah, Most High says, describing the Believers: **“They call upon their Lord in fear and hope”** (Soorah As- Sajdah 32:16)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“I ask Allaah for Paradise and I seek refuge with Him from the Fire.”** (An authentic hadeeth narrated by Abu Dawood)

## Q.5 What is ihsaan in worship?

A. Ihsaan is to worship Allaah with the knowledge that He sees you. Allaah, Most High says:

**“Who sees you (oh, Muhammad,) when you stand (in the night prayer) and your movements among those who prostrate (in the five daily prayers)”** (Soorah Ash-Shu’araa` 26:218-219)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“Ihsaan is to worship Allaah as though you see Him, for though you do not see Him, verily, He sees you.”** (Narrated by Muslim)

# Forms of Tawheed and its Benefits

## Q.6 Why did Allaah send the Messengers?

A. He sent them to call people to the worship of Allaah and to reject the worship of anything besides Him. Allaah, Most High says:

**“And We have surely sent to every people a Messenger (proclaiming) worship Allaah and avoid the taaghoot<sup>3</sup>”** (Soorah An-Nahl 16:36)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“The Prophets are brothers... and their Religion is one.”** (Narrated by Al-Bukhaari and Muslim)

3 Taaghoot: All that is worshipped besides Allaah and is happy to be worshipped, or every person who calls others to worship other than Allaah; and every taaghoot is a devil.

## Q.7 What is tawheed of Lordship?

A. It is to affirm His Oneness in all His works, such as creation, His disposal (of the affairs of the universe) etc. Allaah, Most High says:

**“All praise and thanks be to Allaah, the Lord of the worlds”** (Soorah Al-Faatihah 1:2)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“You (oh, Allaah,) are the Lord of the heavens and the earth.”** (Narrated by Al-Bukhaari and Muslim)

## Q.8 What is tawheed of worship?

A. It is to devote exclusively to Him all our acts of worship, such as du'aa` (i.e. supplication), halaal slaughter, vows etc. Allaah,

Most High says: **“And your God is one God. None has the right to be worshipped but He, the Most Beneficent, the Most Merciful”** (Soorah Al-Baqarah 2:163)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“Let the first thing to which you invite them be (the testimony): Laa ilaaha illallaah (None has the right to be worshipped except Allaah.”** (Narrated by Al-Bukhaari and Muslim) In Al-Bukhaari's version: “... to affirm Allaah's Oneness.”

## Q.9 What is tawheed of the Names and Attributes (of Allaah)?

A. It is to affirm the Names and Attributes by which Allaah has described Himself in His Book and those by which His Messenger has described Him in the authentic ahaadeeth, in truth, without allegory, without changing the meaning, without comparison with His creation and without negating them, such as His Ascension over the Throne, or His Descent (to the lowest heaven) or His Hand – in a manner befitting His Perfection, as He, Most High says:

**“There is none like unto Him, and He is the All-hearing, Allseeing”** (Soorah Ash-Shooraa 42:11)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“Allaah descends each night to the lowest heaven.”** (Narrated by Muslim) (He descends in a manner befitting His Majesty without resembling any member of His creation).

## Q.10 Where is Allaah?

A. Allaah is above the Throne, over the seventh heaven. He, Most High says: **“The Most Gracious (Allâh) rose over (Istawâ) the (Mighty) Throne (in a manner that suits His Majesty).”** (Soorah Taa Haa 20:5)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“Verily, Allaah wrote (out all things in) a Book... and it is with Him above the Throne.”** (Narrated by Al-Bukhaari and Muslim)

### Q.11 Is Allaah with us?

Istawaa: That is ascended, as reported by Al-Bukhaari .

A. He is with us by His Hearing, His Seeing and His Knowledge. Allaah, Most High says: **“He (Allaah) said: “Do not fear I am with you both – I hear and I see”** (Soorah Taa Haa 20:46)  
- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“Verily, you are calling upon One Who hears, Who is near and is with you (i.e. by His Knowledge).”** (Narrated by Muslim)

### Q.12 What is the benefit of tawheed?

A. It is salvation from punishment in the Hereafter, guidance in this world and forgiveness of sins. Allaah, Most High says: **“Those who believe and confuse not their belief with wrongdoing (i.e. shirk) – for them (only) is there security (from punishment) and they are (rightly) guided”** (Soorah Al-An’aam 6:82)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“The right of the slaves upon Allaah is that He will not punish those who do not worship others besides Him.”** (Narrated by Al-Bukhaari and Muslim)

### Q.13 What are the conditions for the acceptance of our deeds?

A. The conditions for the acceptance of deeds with Allaah are three:

1. Faith and belief in Allaah and affirmation of His Oneness. Allaah says: **“Verily, those who believe and work righteous deeds will have the Gardens of Al-Firdaws for their abode”** (Soorah Al- Kahf 18:107)  
- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“Say: “I believe in Allaah,” then be straightforward, upright and honest.”** (Narrated by Muslim)
2. Sincerity, which means to dedicate all one’s deeds purely and solely for Allaah, without showing off and without seeking repute from men. Allaah, Most High says: **“So invoke Allaah, making your worship purely for Him”** (Soorah Ghaafir 14:40)
3. That the deeds should be in accordance with that which Allaah’s Messenger brought (i.e. the Sunnah). Allaah says: **“So whatsoever the Messenger gives you, accept it and whatever he forbids you, abstain (from it)”** (Soorah Al-Hashr 59:7)  
- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“Whoever does any deed (in religion) which we have not commanded, it will be rejected.”** (Narrated by Muslim)

# Major Shirk

## Q.14 What is the greatest sin in the sight of Allaah?

A. It is to associate partners with Him, and the evidence for this is in Allaah's Words:

**“And (remember) when Luqmân said to his son when he was advising him: "O my son! Join not in worship others with Allâh. Verily! Joining others in worship with Allâh is a great Zûlm (wrong) indeed”** (Soorah Luqmaan 31:13)

- and when Allaah's Messenger (peace be upon him) was asked: **“Which is the greatest sin?” He replied: “It is to ascribe partners to Allaah, although it is He (Alone) Who created you.”** (Narrated by Al- Bukhaari and Muslim)

## Q.15 What is major shirk?

A. It is to direct one's worship to other than Allaah, such as invoking or supplicating false deities, seeking sustenance from the dead, or the absent from among the living. Allaah says: **“Invoke Allaah and do not associate partners with Him”** (Soorah An-Nisaa` 4:36)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“The greatest sin is associating partners with Allaah.”** (Narrated by Al-Bukhaari)

## Q.16 Does shirk exist among the Muslims today?

A. Yes, it does. The evidence for this is in Allaah's Words: **“And most of them believe not in Allaah, except that they attribute partners (to Him)”** (Soorah Yoosuf: 12:106)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“The Hour will not come until some communities from among my people join the polytheists and until idols are worshipped (by them).”** (Narrated by At- Tirmithi)

## Q.17 What is the ruling on supplicating the dead or those who are absent?

A. Supplicating the dead or those who are absent is a form of major shirk. Allaah says: **“And call not upon other than Allaah, who can neither benefit nor harm you, for if you did so, you would indeed be one of the wrong-doers”** (Soorah Yoonus 10:106)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“Whoever dies as one who supplicated partners besides Allaah, will enter the Fire.”** (Narrated by Al-Bukhaari)

## Q.18 Is du'aa` (i.e. supplication) a form of worship?

A. Yes, du'aa` is a form of worship. Allaah says: And your Lord said: **“Call upon Me and I will answer you; verily, those who scorn to worship Me, they will surely enter the Hell-fire in humiliation”** (Soorah Ghaafir 40:60)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“Du'aa` – that is worship.”** (Narrated by Ahmad, and At-Tirmithi said that it is hasan saheeh)

## Q.19 Do the dead hear supplications?

A. No, they do not. Allaah says:

1. **“Verily, you cannot make the dead to hear”** (Soorah An- Naml 27:80)
2. **“But you cannot make hear those who are in the graves”** (Soorah Faatir 35:22)

**Q.20 Should we seek help from those who are dead or those who are absent?**

A. No, we should not do so. Allaah, Most High says:

1. **“And those whom they invoke besides Allaah do not create anything, but are themselves created. (They are) dead, lifeless and they know not when they will be raised up”**(Soorah An-Nahl 16:20-21)
2. **“(Remember) when you sought the help of your Lord and He answered you”** (Soorah Al-Anfaal 8:9)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“Oh, you, the Ever-living, the Ever-lasting! Through Your Mercy I seek help.”** (A hasan hadeeth narrated by At-Tirmithi)

**Q.21 Is it permissible to seek help from other than Allaah?**

A. No, it is not permissible. The evidence for this is in Allaah’s Words:

**“It is You Whom we worship and it is Your Aid we seek”** (Soorah Al-Faatihah 1:5)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“When you ask, ask Allaah and when you seek help, seek it from Allaah.”** (A hasan-saheeh narration by At- Tirmithi)

**Q.22 May we seek help from the living?**

A. Yes, we may seek help from them in those things which they are able to do. Allaah, Most High says: **“Help you one another in righteousness and piety”** (Soorah Al-Maa`idah 5:2)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“Allaah helps the slave so long as the slave helps his brother.”** (Narrated by Muslim)

**Q.23 Is it permitted to swear an oath to other than Allaah?**

A. No, it is not permitted. Allaah says: **“My Lord! Verily, I have vowed to You what is in my womb to be dedicated to Your service”** (Soorah Aal ‘Imraan 3:35)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“Whoever vowed to obey Allaah, should do so and whoever vowed to disobey Him should not do so.”** (Narrated by Al-Bukhaari)

**Q.24 Is it permissible to slaughter an animal in any name besides that of Allaah?**

A. No, it is not permissible. The evidence for this is in Allaah’s Words: **“So pray to your Lord and slaughter (in His Name only)”** (Soorah Al-Kawthar 108:2)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“Allaah’s curse is upon one who sacrifices to other than Allaah.”** (Narrated by Muslim)

**Q.25 May we circumambulate the graves in order to get closer to Allaah?**

A. No, we may not circumambulate except around the Ka’bah. Allaah says: **“So let them circumambulate the Ancient House (i.e. the Ka’bah)”** (Soorah Al-Hajj 22:29)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“Whoever circumambulated the House (of Allaah) seven times it (i.e. his reward) will be as if he had freed a slave.”** (An authentic hadeeth narrated by Ibn Maajah)

**Q.26 What is the ruling on practising magic?**

A. Magic is kufr. 6 Allaah says: **“But the devils disbelieved by teaching mankind magic”** (Soorah Al-Baqarah 2:102)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: “**Avoid the seven grave sins: Associating partners with Allaah, magic...**” (Narrated by Muslim)

Kufr: Disbelief.

**Q.27. Should we believe the claims of the ‘arraaf (One who claims to have knowledge of the unseen ) and the fortuneteller to know the unseen?**

A. No, we should not believe them. Allaah says: Say: “**None in the heavens and the earth knows the unseen except Allaah**” (Soorah An-Naml 27:65)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: “**Whoever visited an ‘arraaf or a fortuneteller and believed in what he said, has disbelieved in what was revealed to Muhammad.**” (An authentic hadeeth narrated by Imaam Ahmad)

**Q.28 Does anyone have knowledge of the unseen?”**

A. No, none has knowledge of the unseen, except what Allaah revealed to the Messengers. Allaah says: “**(He Alone is) the Knower of the unseen and He reveals to none His unseen except to a Messenger whom He has Chosen**” (Soorah Al-Jinn 72: 26-27)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: “**None knows the unseen except Allaah.**” (A hasan narration by At-Tabaraani)

**Q.29 Is it permissible to wear charms such as a thread or a ring in the belief that they have curative powers?**

A. No, it is not permissible to wear them. Allaah, Most High says: “**And if Allaah seizes you with harm, none can remove it but He**” (Soorah Al-An’aaam 6:17)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: “**It will not increase you except in weakness; stay away from it, for if you were to die (while wearing it) you would never be successful.**” (Narrated by Al-Haakim, who said that it is authentic and Az-Zahabi agreed with him)

**Q.30 Should we wear beads, shells and such like (as a protection from al-’ain (The evil eye (of jealousy).))?**

A. No, we should not do so. Allaah says: “**And if Allaah seizes you with harm, none can remove it but He**” (Soorah Al-An’aaam 6:17)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: “**Whoever wore a talisman has committed shirk.**” (An authentic hadeeth narrated by Imaam Ahmad)

**Q.31 What is the ruling on acting upon laws which contradict Islaam?**

A. Acting upon laws which contradict Islaam is kufr, if the perpetrator claims that it is permissible to do so, or if he believes in their validity. Allaah says: “**And whoever does not judge by what Allaah has revealed, they are the disbelievers<sup>1</sup>**” (Soorah Al-Maa`idah 5:44)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: “**When their leaders do not rule by Allaah’s Book and pick and choose from what Allaah has revealed, Allaah causes conflict between them.**” (A hasan hadeeth narrated by Ibn Maajah and others)

1: This verse applies to all Muslims and not just to Muslim rulers as some imagine and according to the scholars of tafseer, the kufr mentioned here is that of action, not of the heart.



**Q.32 What should we do if Satan tempts us to ask the question: “Who created Allaah?”**

A. If Satan whispers this question to any of you, he should seek refuge with Allaah. Allaah says: **“And if an evil whisper from Satan tries to turn you away (oh, Muhammad) then seek refuge with Allaah. Verily, He is the All-hearing the All-seeing”** (Soorah Fussilat 41:36)

- and Allaah’s Messenger (peace be upon him) taught us to resist Satan’s deceptions by saying: which means: **“I believe in Allaah and His Messenger. Allaah is One, The Self-sufficient, He does not beget, nor was He begotten and there is no like unto Him.”** then he should spit over his left shoulder three times, seeking refuge from Satan. When this is done the temptation will pass, for it causes the devil to be sent away from him. (This is the essence of the authentic ahaadeeth narrated by Al- Bukhaari, Muslim, Ahmad and Abu Dawood)

**Q.33 What is the danger of major shirk?**

A. Major shirk condemns a person to eternal damnation in the Hell-fire, as Allaah says: **“Verily, whoever sets up partners with Allaah , Allaah has forbidden for him Paradise and his abode will be the Fire and for the wrong-doers there are no helpers”** (Soorah Al-Maa`idah 5:72)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“Whoever meets Allaah while associating anything with Him will enter the Fire.”** (Narrated by Muslim)

**Q.34 Is there any benefit in good deeds for one who commits shirk?**

A. No, there is no benefit in his deeds. Allaah says: **“But if they had committed shirk, all that they used to do would have been of no benefit to them”** (Soorah Al-An’aam 6:88)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: Allaah says: **“I have no need of partners, whoever does any deed in which he associates partners with Me, I will reject him and his shirk.”** (Narrated by Muslim)

# Minor Shirk

## Q.35 What is minor shirk?

A. Minor shirk is riyaa`. To perform good deeds in order to be seen by others, not for the sake of Allaah.

Allaah, Most High says: **“And whoever hopes to meet his Lord, let him perform righteous deeds and not associate none as a partner in the worship of his Lord”** (Soorah Al-Kahf 18:10)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“Verily, the thing which I fear most for you is minor shirk – riyaa`.”** (An authentic hadeeth narrated by Imaam Ahmad).

It is a form of minor shirk for a person to say: “Had it not been for Allaah and so-and-so...” or: “As Allaah and you will.” The Prophet (peace be upon him) said: Do not say: **“As Allaah wills and as soand- so wills”, instead say: “As Allaah wills, then as so-and-so wills.”** (An authentic hadeeth narrated by Abu Dawood)

## Q.36 Is it permitted to swear by other than Allaah?

A. No, it is not permissible to swear by other than Allaah. He, Most High says: Say: **“Yes, by my Lord, you will certainly be resurrected...”** (Soorah At-Taghaabun 64:7)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“Whoever swears by other than Allaah has committed shirk.”** (Narrated by Imaam Ahmad)

- and he (peace be upon him) said: **“Whoever swears, let him swear by Allaah or keep silent.”** (Narrated by Al-Bukhaari and Muslim)

# Seeking Intercession

## Q.37 By what means should we seek intercession with Allaah?

A. Seeking intercession is of two types: Permitted and prohibited.

1. That which is **permitted** and desired is through Allaah’s Names and His Attributes and through righteous deeds. Allaah, Most High says: “And to Allaah belong the most beautiful Names, so call upon Him by them” (Soorah Al-A’raaf 7:180)

- and He, Most High also says: “Oh, you who believe! Fear Allaah and seek the means of approach to Him” (Soorah Al-Maa`idah 5:35)

In his explanation of this verse, Ibn Katheer reported on the authority of Qataadah that it means: **Draw near to Allaah by obedience to Him and through the deeds which please Him.**

- And the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“I ask You by every Name which is Yours.”** (An authentic hadeeth narrated by Imaam Ahmad)

- He (peace be upon him) also said to the Companion who asked to be with him in Paradise: **“Help me in this matter by frequent prostration (i.e. frequent prayers – and this is a righteous deed).”** (Narrated by Muslim)

It is also permitted to pray for intercession through our love and Allaah’s love for the Prophet (peace be upon him) and the righteous people, as in the story of the people of the cave, who sought intercession through righteous deeds and Allaah made a way out for them.

2. **Prohibited** forms of intercession: This is by supplicating the dead and requesting them to fulfill our needs, as occurs today. This is a form of major shirk, as Allaah says: **“And call not upon other than Allaah any that can neither profit you nor hurt you, for if you did so, you would certainly be one of the wrongdoers (i.e. the polytheists)”** (Soorah Yoonus 10:106)

3. As for seeking intercession through the rank or honour of the Messenger (peace be upon him), such as the saying: “Oh, Allaah! By the honour of the Messenger, cure me”, this is a bid’ah (Religious innovation), because the Companions (May Allah be please with them) did not do it and ‘Umar (May Allah be please with him) sought intercession through Al-‘Abbaas (May Allah be please with him) while he was alive, by asking him to supplicate Allaah and he did not seek intercession from the Messenger (peace be upon him) after his death. And this (innovatory) form of seeking intercession might lead to shirk, if the one who supplicates believes that Allaah is in need of a human intermediary, as if He were like a Governor or a Ruler, for that would be comparing the Creator with His creation. (Anyone seeking more information or evidence on this subject is advised to refer to: ‘Intercession, its Rulings and its Forms’ by Shaikh Al-Albani (may Allaah have mercy on him).

**Q.38 Does supplication require a human intermediary?**

A. No, it does not. Allaah, Most High says: “**And when My slaves ask you about Me, (say that) I am near (i.e. in Hearing, Seeing and Knowledge)**”(Soorah Al-Baqarah 2:186)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: “**Verily, you are supplicating One Who hears and is near (i.e. in His Knowledge).**” (Narrated by Muslim)

**Q.39 Is it permitted to request those who are living to pray for us?**

A. Yes, it is permitted to ask the living to pray for us, but not the dead. Allaah said to the Messenger (peace be upon him) when he was alive: “**And seek forgiveness (from Allaah) for your sins and for (those of) the believing men and women**” (Soorah Muhammad 47:19)

- and in the authentic hadeeth narrated by At-Tirmithi, it is reported that a blind man came to the Prophet (peace be upon him) and said: “**Ask Allaah to heal me...**”

**Q.40 What is the mediation of the Messenger (peace be upon him)?**

A. The mediation of the Messenger (peace be upon him) is the transmission of the Message. Allaah, Most High says: “Oh, Messenger! Proclaim what has been revealed to you from your Lord” (Soorah Al-Maa`idah 5:67)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said, in reply to the Companion who said: “**We witness that you have transmitted (the Message),**”:**“Oh, Allaah! Bear witness!”** (Narrated by Muslim)

**Q.41 From whom may we seek the Messenger’s intercession?**

A. We seek it from Allaah. He, Most High says: Say: “**To Allaah belongs all intercession.**” (Soorah Az- Zumar 39:44)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) taught the Companion (May Allah be please with him) to say: “**Oh, Allaah! Make him (i.e. the Prophet (peace be upon him) my intercessor.**” (Narrated by At-Tirmithi, who graded it hasan-saheeh)

- and he (peace be upon him) also said: “**I have kept until the Day of Resurrection my prayer for intercession for those of my people who died without associating partners with Allaah.**” (Narrated by Muslim)

**Q.42 May we seek intercession from the living?**

A. Yes, we may seek intercession from the living in matters relating to the life of this world. Allaah, Most High says: “**Whoever intercedes with a good intercession will have the reward thereof and whoever intercedes with an evil intercession will have a share in its burden**” (Soorah An- Nisaa` 4:85)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: “**Intercede and you shall be rewarded.**” (An authentic hadeeth narrated by Abu Dawood)

Q.43 **Should we praise the Messenger (peace be upon him) excessively?**

A. No, we should not do so. Allaah, Most High says: Say (oh, Muhammad): **“I am only a human being, like you. It has been inspired to me that your God is one God...”** (Soorah Al-Kahf 18:110)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“Do not praise me excessively as did the Christians praise ‘Eesaa Ibn Maryam, for I am only a slave. So say: ‘(He is) the slave of Allaah and His Messenger.’”** (Narrated by Al-Bukhaari) (Excessive praise of a human being is called itraa`) (Eesaa Ibn Maryam: Jesus, the son of Mary (peace be upon him))

## Jihaad, Walaa` and Hukm

Q. 44 **What is the ruling on jihaad in Allaah’s Cause?**

A. Jihaad in Allaah’s Cause with one’s wealth, person and tongue is an obligation in Islaam. Allaah, Most High says: **“March forth, whether (you are) light (i.e. healthy, young and wealthy) or heavy (i.e. ill, old and poor)”** (Soorah At- Tawbah 9:41)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“Fight against the idolaters with your wealth, your lives and your tongues.”** (An authentic hadeeth narrated by Abu Dawood)

Jihaad: This word is often erroneously translated as: ‘Holy War’, whereas in fact, it means to struggle in Allaah’s Cause; thus jihaad encompasses calling people to Islaam, teaching etc. as well as fighting in the Way of Allaah. Jihaad, Walaa` and Hukm

Q.45 **What is walaa`?**

A. Walaa` is love and support. Allaah, Most High says: **“And the believing men and women are awliyaa` (supporters, protectors etc.) to each other”** (Soorah At-Tawbah 9:71)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“The Believers are to each other like (the bricks of) a building, each one supporting the other.”** (Narrated by Muslim)

Q.46 **Is it permitted to take the disbelievers as awliyaa` and supporters?**

A. No, it is not permitted to do so. Allaah, Most High says: **“And if anyone amongst you takes them as awliyaa`, then verily, he is one of them”** (Soorah Al-Maa`idah 5:51)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“Verily, the people of such-and-such tribe are not my awliyaa`.”** (An authentic hadeeth narrated by Ahmad)

Q.47 **Who is a waliyy?**

A. A waliyy is a pious Believer. Allaah, Most High says: **“No doubt! Verily, the awliyaa` of Allaah, no fear shall come upon them, nor shall they grieve – those who believed and used to fear (Allaah)”** (Soorah Yoonus 10:62-63)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“My only Waliyy is Allaah and the most righteous of the Believers.”** (An authentic hadeeth narrated by Imaam Ahmad)

**Q.48 By what should the Muslims govern?**

A. They should govern according to the Qur`aan and the authentic ahaadeeth. Allaah, Most High says: **“And so judge (oh, Muhammad,) between them by what Allaah has revealed”** (Soorah Al-Maa`idah 5:49)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“Knower of the unseen and that which is open, You will judge between your slaves.”** (Narrated by Muslim)

## Acting in Accordance With the Qur`aan and Hadeeth

**Q.49 Why did Allaah reveal the Qur`aan?**

A. He, Most High revealed the Qur`aan in order that we may act in accordance with it. Allaah says:

**“Follow what has been revealed to you from your Lord”** (Soorah Al-A`araaf 7:3)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“Read the Qur`aan and act upon it and do not make your living from it.”** (An authentic hadeeth narrated by Ahmad)

**Q.50 What is the ruling on acting in accordance with authentic hadeeth?**

A. Acting upon authentic hadeeth is obligatory. Allaah, Most High says: **“And whatsoever the Messenger gives you, take it, and whatsoever he forbids you, abstain (from it)”** (Soorah Al-Hashr 59:7)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“It is incumbent upon you to follow my Sunnah and that of the rightly guided Khulafaa` - hold fast to it.”** (An authentic hadeeth narrated by Imaam Ahmad) (Khulafaa` : Caliphs)

**Q.51 Can we suffice ourselves with the Qur`aan alone, without the hadeeth?**

A. No, we cannot. Allaah, Most High says: **“And We have revealed to you (oh, Muhammad,) the Reminder (i.e. the Qur`aan) that you might explain to the people what has been sent down to them”** (Soorah An-Nahl 16:44)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“Verily, I have been given the Qur`aan and its like (i.e. the hadeeth) along with it.”** (An authentic hadeeth narrated by Abu Dawood and others)

**Q.52 Should we give priority to other opinions over the Word of Allaah and His Messenger (peace be upon him)?**

A. No, we should not do so, for Allaah, Most High says: **“Oh, you who believe! Do not be forward in the presence of Allaah and His Messenger (i.e. do not anticipate their decision)”** (Soorah Al-Hujuraat 49:1)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“Let there be no obedience to any created being if it entails disobedience to the Creator.”** (An authentic hadeeth narrated by At-Tabarani)

- and Ibn `Abbaas (May Allah be please with him) said: **“I fear that stones may rain upon you from the heaven! I say to you: “Allaah’s Messenger (peace be upon him) said:...”, and you say: “But Abu Bakr and `Umar said:...” !!”**

**Q.53 What should we do if we differ (in matters of religion)?**

A. We should refer to the Qur`aan and the authentic Sunnah. Allaah, Most High says: **“And if you differ in anything amongst yourselves, refer it to Allaah and His Messenger, if you believe in Allaah and the Last Day. That is better and more suitable for final determination”** (Soorah An-Nisaa` 4:59)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“It is incumbent upon you to follow my Sunnah and that of the rightly guided Khulafaa`. Hold fast to it.”** (An authentic hadeeth narrated by Imaam Ahmad)

**Q.54 How do we demonstrate our love for Allaah and His Messenger (peace be upon him)?**

A. By obeying them and following their commands. Allaah, Most High says: Say: **“If you love Allaah, then follow me. Allaah will love you and forgive you your sins and Allaah is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful.”** (Soorah Aal `Imraan 3:31)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“None of you has complete faith until I am more beloved by him than his father, his children and all of mankind.”** (Narrated by Al-Bukhaari and Muslim)

**Q.55 Should we abandon action and depend upon Qadar** (The belief that everything has been foreordained by Allaah)?

A. No, we should not do so. Allaah, Most High says: **“As for him who gives (in charity) and fears (Allaah) and believes in al-husnaa (i.e. that none has the right to be worshipped but Allaah), We shall make smooth for him the path of ease”** (Soorah Al-Lail 92:5-7)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“Work (i.e. perform good deeds), for everything is made easy for that which it was created.”** (That is, the path to Paradise is made easy for those who strive for it, while the road to destruction is likewise made easy for those who are determined upon it) (Narrated by Al-Bukhaari and Muslim)

## Sunnah and Bid`ah

**Q.56 Is there such a thing in the Religion as bid`ah hasanah (i.e. a good innovation)?**

A. There is no such thing in the Religion as bid`ah hasanah. Allaah, Most High says: **This day I have perfected for you your Religion and completed My Favour upon you and chosen for you Islaam as your Religion”** (Soorah Al-Maa`idah 3:5)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“...and every bid`ah is a misguidance and every misguidance is in the Fire.”** (An authentic hadeeth narrated by Imaam Ahmad and others)

**Q.57 What is a bid`ah in religious matters?**

A. A bid`ah in religious matters is either an addition or a deficit in the Religion. Allaah, says, in refutation of the polytheists and their innovations: **“Or do they have partners (with Allaah) who legislate for them a religion which Allaah has not ordained”** (Soorah Ash-Shooraa 42:21)

- and the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“Whoever introduced something new into this matter (i.e. this Religion) of ours will have it rejected.”** (Narrated by Al-Bukhaari and Muslim)

**Q.58 Is there a thing as sunnah hasanah in the Religion?**

A. Yes, there is such a thing. Allaah’s Messenger (peace be upon him) said: **“Whoever performs a good sunnah in Islaam will have the reward of it and the reward of those who follow his practice thereafter, without them losing any of the reward for it.”** (Narrated by Muslim)

### Q.59 **When will the Muslims be victorious?**

A. When they return to the implementation of the Book of their Lord and the Sunnah of their Prophet, spread the teachings of tawheed, avoid all different forms of shirk and confront their enemies with all the power at their disposal. Allaah, Most High says: **“Oh, you who believe! If you help (in the cause of) Allaah, He will help you and make your foothold firm”** (Soorah Muhammad 47:7)

- and He, Most High also says: **“Allaah has promised to those among you who believe and work righteous deeds that He will, of a surety, grant them in the land, inheritance (of power), as He granted it to those before them; that He will establish in authority their religion, the one which He has chosen for them; and that He will change (their state), after the fear in which they (lived), to one of security and peace provided they worship Me (alone) and not associate anything with Me”** (Soorah An-Noor 24:55)

## The Invocation Which is Answered

1. The Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“The slave who is stricken by grief or sorrow will not say the following prayer without it being answered and having his sorrow replaced by happiness: “Oh, Allaah, I am your slave and the son of your slave and your female slave. My progress is in Your Command, just is Your Judgement. I ask You by each of Your Names, by which You have called Yourself or revealed in Your Book, or which You have taught to one of Your creatures, or which You have chosen to keep in Your Secret Knowledge to make the Qur`aan, the joy of my heart the light of my eyes, which removes my grief and drives away my sorrow, thus replacing it with happiness.”** (Narrated by Imaam Ahmad and Ibn Hibbaan)

2. The prayer of Yoonus (Jonah) (peace be upon him) in the belly of the whale: **“None is worthy of worship but You, Glorified be You. Truly, I have been one of the wrongdoers”** (Soorah Al- Anbiyaa` 21:87)

It is reported that the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: **“If any Muslim supplicates with this prayer, it will be answered.”** (Narrated by Imaam Ahmad and others)

3. When the Prophet (peace be upon him) was sad, he used to pray: **Oh, You the Ever-living, the Ever-lasting, by Your Mercy I seek help.”** (Narrated by Imaam At-Tirmithi)

## End of the Book