

## **In the Name of Allaah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful**

Know, may Allaah have mercy upon you, that we must learn four basic matters :

### **First:**

Knowledge, which is to know Allaah, His Messenger (PBUH) and the religion of Islaam, with the supportive evidences.

### **Second:**

Application of this knowledge.

### **Third:**

Calling people to it.

### **Fourth:**

Persevering patiently through any harm that might afflict you while calling others to it .

The evidence for this is the saying of Allaah, which means: **"By Al-`Asr [the time]. Verily, man is in loss, Except those who believe [in Islaamic Monotheism] and do righteous good deeds, and recommend one another to the truth [i.e., order one another to perform all kinds of good deeds which Allaah has ordained, and abstain from all kinds of sins and evil deeds which Allaah has forbidden], and recommend one another to patience [for the sufferings, harms, and injuries which one may encounter in Allaah's Cause during preaching His religion of Islaamic Monotheism**

**or Jihaad]."** (Al- 'Asr:1-3) Imaam Shaafi'i, may Allaah have mercy upon him, said: "If nothing else was revealed other than this chapter, it would have sufficed people." Imaam Bukhaari, may Allaah have mercy upon him, said: "Knowledge comes before action, because Allaah says (that which means): **'So, know [O Muhammad] that Laa ilaaha illallaah [none has the right to be worshipped but Allaah], and ask forgiveness for your sin.'**" (Muhammad:19) So Allaah mentioned knowledge before speech and performance of deeds."

Know also that every Muslim should learn three matters and apply them:

**First:** Allaah has created us and is sustaining us; He did not leave us unattended, rather, He sent us messengers. Whosoever obeys Allaah (by following His messengers) will be admitted into Paradise, and whosoever disobeys Him will be thrown into the Hellfire. The evidence for this is the saying of Allaah which means: **"Verily, We have sent to you [O mankind] a Messenger [Muhammad] to be a witness over you, as We did send a Messenger [Moses] to Pharaoh. But Pharaoh disobeyed the Messenger [Moses]; so We seized him with a severe punishment."** (Al- Muzzammil:15-16)

### **Second:**

Allaah is not pleased when partners are associated with Him in worship, neither angels who are near to Him, nor messengers who were sent to mankind. The evidence for this is the saying of Allaah which means: **"And the mosques are for Allaah [Alone], so invoke not anyone along with Allaah."** (Al-Jinn:18)

### **Third:** Whosoever

obeys the Messenger (PBUH), and singles out Allaah in worship must not show loyalty (nor have any love) towards those who oppose Allaah and His Messenger (PBUH), even if they were the closest of their relatives. The evidence is the saying of Allaah which means: **"You [O Muhammad ] will not find any people who believe in Allaah and the Last Day, making friendship with those who oppose Allaah and His Messenger [Muhammad ], even if they were their fathers or their sons or their brothers or their kindred [people]. For such He has written faith in their hearts, and strengthened them with Rooh [proofs, light and true guidance] from Himself. And He will admit them to Gardens [Paradise ] under which rivers flow, to dwell therein [forever]. Allaah is pleased with them, and they with Him. They are the party of Allaah. Verily, it is the party of Allaah that will be the successful."** (Al-Mujaadilah:22)

### Know

that the religion and the way of Prophet Ibraaheem (PBUH) is to purely worship Allaah alone, and this is the command from Allaah to all of mankind. It is for this reason Allaah created

them, as He says that which means: **“And I [Allaah] created not the jinn and mankind except that they should worship Me.”** (Adh-Dhaariyaat : 56) To worship Me means ‘to single Me out in worship’. The greatest matter with which Allaah commanded the creation is to believe in His Unity, which entails offering all worship to Allaah alone (Tawheed); and the worst matter that Allaah prohibited is associating partners with Him in worship (Shirk). The evidence for this is the saying of Allaah which means: **“Worship Allaah and join none with Him [in worship].”** (An-Nisaa’:36)

## **The Three Fundamental Principles**

**If you are asked regarding the three fundamental principles which every Muslim should know, you should reply: “That the slave knows his Lord, his religion (Islaam), and his Prophet, Muhammad (PBUH).”**

### **The First Fundamental Principle: The Knowledge of the Lord**

If you are asked, “Who is your Lord,” you should reply: “My Lord is Allaah, the One Who nurtured me and all that exists with His bounties. He is my deity; I have no deity other than

him." The evidence for this is the saying of Allaah which means: **"All the praises and thanks be to Allaah, the Lord of the `Aalameen [mankind, jinn and all that exists]."** (Al-Faatihah:2)

All that exists except Allaah is the 'Aalam (singular of 'Aalameen), and I am one of the 'Aalameen."

If you are asked, "How have you come to know your Lord?" He should reply: "Through His Signs and creations, such as the day, the night, the sun the moon, the seven layers of sky and the seven layers of the earth as well as what they contain and what exists between them." The evidence for this is the saying of Allaah which means: **"And from among His Signs are the night and the day, and the sun and the moon. Prostrate yourselves not to the sun or to the moon, but prostrate yourselves to Allaah Who created them, if you [really] worship Him."** (Fussilat:37) He also said: **"Indeed, your Lord is Allaah, Who created the heavens and the earth in Six Days, and then He Istawaa [implies, rose over] the Throne [in a manner that befits His Majesty]. He brings the night as a cover over the day, seeking it rapidly, and [He created] the sun, the moon, the stars subjected to His Command. Surely, His is the creation and commandment. Blessed is Allaah, the Lord of the `Aalameen."** (Al-A'raaf:54)

The word Lord means: 'The One who is worshipped.' The evidence for this is the saying of Allaah

which means: **"O mankind! Worship your Lord [Allaah], Who created you and those who were before you so that you may become the pious. Who has made the earth a resting place for you, and the sky as a canopy, and sent down water [rain] from the sky and brought forth therewith fruits as a provision for you. Then do not set up rivals unto Allaah [in worship] while you know [that He Alone has the right to be worshipped]."** (Al-Baqarah:21-22)

Imaam ibn Katheer, may Allaah have mercy upon him, said: "The One Who created these creations is the One Who has the right to be worshipped."

All

acts of worship which Allaah commanded people to perform should be purely, sincerely and exclusively for Allaah. The evidence for this is the saying of Allaah which means: **"And the mosques are for Allaah [alone], so invoke not anyone along with Allaah."** (Al-Jinn: 18)

Intending

the performance of any of these acts for other than Allaah is an act of disbelief and association. The evidence for this is the saying of Allaah which means: **"And whoever invokes [or worships] besides Allaah, any other ilaah [god], of whom he has no proof; then his reckoning is only with his Lord. Surely, Al- Kaafiroon [the disbelievers in the Oneness of Allaah, polytheists, pagans, idolaters] will not be successful."**

(Al-Mu'minoon:117)

He and also: **"And your Lord said: 'Invoke Me [i.e. believe in My Oneness**

**(Islaamic Monotheism) and ask Me for anything], I will respond to your [invocation]. Verily, those who scorn My worship [i.e. do not believe Islaamic Monotheism] they will surely enter Hell in humiliation!'" (Ghaafir:60)**

The Prophet (PBUH) said: **"Invocation is ...worship [of Allaah]."**

There are many conditions that Allaah commanded people to fulfill, such as:

Fear:

The evidence for this is the saying of Allaah which means: **"So fear them not, but fear Me, if you are [true] believers."** (Aali `Imraan:175)

Hope:

The evidence for this is the saying of Allaah which means: **"So whoever hopes for the Meeting with his Lord, let him work righteousness and associate none as a partner in the worship of his Lord."** (Al-Kahf:110)

Reliance:

The evidence for this is the saying of Allaah which means: **"And put your trust in Allaah if you are believers indeed."** (Al-Maa'idah:23)

Humbleness:

The evidence for this is the saying of Allaah which means: **"They used to hasten on to do good deeds, and they used to call**

**on Us with hope and fear, and used to humble themselves before Us.”** (Al- Anbiyaa':90)

Repentance:

The evidence for this is the saying of Allaah which means: **“And turn in repentance and in obedience with true Faith [Islaamic Monotheism] to your Lord and submit to Him [in Islaam].”** (Az- Zumar:54)

Seeking

help: The evidence for this is the saying of Allaah which means: **“You [Alone] we worship, and You [Alone] we ask for help [for each and everything].”** (Al- Faatihah:5) The Prophet (PBUH) said: **“If you seek help, seek it from Allaah alone.”**

Taking

refuge: The evidence for this is the saying of Allaah which means: **“Say: I seek refuge with [Allaah] the Lord of mankind.”** (An-Naas:1)

Calling

for assistance: The evidence for this is the saying of Allaah which means: **“[Remember] when you sought help of your Lord and He answered.”** (Al- Anfaal:9)

Slaughtering:

The evidence for this is the saying of Allaah which means: **“Say [O Muhammad]: Verily, my prayer, my sacrifice, my living, and my dying are for Allaah, the Lord of the `Aalameen. He has no partner. And of this I have been commanded, and I am the first**



**of the Muslims.”** (Al-An'aam:163-164)  
The Prophet (PBUH) said: **“May Allaah curse whosoever slaughters for other than Allaah.”** (Muslim)

Vowing:

The evidence for this is the saying of Allaah which means: **“They [are those who] fulfill [their] vows, and fear a Day whose evil will be wide-spreading.”**  
(Al- Insaan:7)

## **The Second Fundamental Principle: The Knowledge of the Religion of Islam with its supportive evidences**

Islaam

is full submission to the oneness of Allaah, obedience, and disavowing shirk (associating partners with Allaah in worship), and those who commit it. It has three levels: Islaam, Eemaan and Ihsaan, and each level has its own pillars .

**The**

**first level: Islaam.** Islaam has five pillars: The two testimonies (that Allaah is the only One worthy of being worshipped, and that Muhammad (PBUH) is His Messenger), establishing the five daily prayers, paying the obligatory charity (zakaah), fasting the month of Ramadaan, and performing pilgrimage to the sacred house of Allaah (Ka'bah).

The evidence for the testimony of the oneness of Allaah is the saying of Allaah which means: **“Allaah proclaims that none has the right to be worshipped but He,**

**and the angels, and those having knowledge [also give this witness]; [He always] maintains His creation in justice. None has the right to be worshipped but He, the All-Mighty, the All-Wise.”** (Aali `Imraan:18) The meaning of this is: `nothing is worthy of being worshipped except Allaah', which negates the right of everything else being worshipped besides Allaah. The words `except Allaah' confirm that worship is only for Allaah, as He has no partners in His kingdom .

The proof of this is in the saying of Allaah which means: **“And [remember] when Ibraaheem said to his father and his people: Verily, I am innocent of what you worship, Except Him [i.e. I worship none but Allaah Alone] Who did create me; and verily, He will guide me .**

**And he made it [i.e. Laa ilaaha illallaah (none has the right to be worshipped but Allaah Alone)] a Word lasting among his offspring, [True Monotheism], that they may turn back [i.e. to repent to Allaah or receive admonition].”** (Az-Zukhruf:26-28) He also said : **“Say [O Muhammad]: O people of the Scripture [Jews and Christians]: Come to a word that is just between us and you, that we worship none but Allaah [Alone], and that we associate no partners with Him, and that none of us shall take others as lords besides Allaah. Then, if they turn away, say: Bear witness that we are Muslims.”** (Aali `Imraan:64)

The evidence for the testimony to the message of Muhammad (PBUH) is the saying of Allaah which means: **"Verily, there has come unto you a Messenger [Muhammad ] from amongst yourselves [i.e. whom you know well]. It grieves him that you should receive any injury or difficulty. He [Muhammad] is anxious over you [to be rightly guided, to repent to Allaah, and beg Him to pardon and forgive your sins in order that you may enter Paradise and be saved from the punishment of the Hellfire]; for the believers [he is] full of pity, kind, and merciful."** (At-Tawbah:128)

The implication of the testimony of the message of Muhammad (PBUH), is that one obeys him (PBUH) in all that he ordered, believes him in all that he informed, refrains from all that which he prohibited, and that Allaah is not to worshipped except through what he (PBUH) legislated (i.e., what he conveyed) .

The evidence for prayer and the zakaah and the interpretation of Tawheed is the saying of Allaah which means: **"And they were commanded not, but that they should worship Allaah, and worship none but Him Alone [abstaining from ascribing partners to Him], and perform prayers and give zakaah, and that is the right religion."** (Al-Bayyinah:5)

The evidence for fasting is the saying of Allaah which means: **"O you who believe!**

**Observing the fasting is prescribed for you as it was prescribed for those before you, that you may become pious.”** (Al-Baqarah:183)

The evidence for Hajj is the saying of Allaah which means: **“And Hajj to the House [Ka`bah] is a duty that mankind owes to Allaah, those who can afford the expenses [i.e., conveyance, provision and residence]; and whoever disbelieves [i.e. denies Hajj, then he is a disbeliever of Allaah], then Allaah stands not in need of any of Al-`Aalameen.”** (Aali `Imraan:97)

**The second level: Eemaan.** This rank has more than seventy levels, the highest of which is to utter the two testimonies, and the lowest being the removal of harmful objects from the paths of people; and bashfulness is one of its branches .

This rank has six pillars: believing in Allaah, His angels, His Books, His Messengers, The Hereafter, divine decree and pre-ordainment, both its good and its evil .

The evidence for the six pillars of belief is the saying of Allaah which means: **“It is not Al-Birr [piety, righteousness, and every act of obedience to Allaah] that you turn your faces towards east and [or] west [in prayers]; but Al-Birr is [The quality of] the one who believes in Allaah,**

**the Last Day, the Angels, the Books, and the Prophets.”** (Al-Baqrah:177)

The evidence for the Divine Decree is the saying of Allaah which means: **“Verily, We have created all things with Qadar [Divine Preordainments of all things before their creation as written in the preserved template].”** (Al-Qamar:49)

**The third level: Ihsaan.** This rank has only one pillar, which is worshipping Allaah as though you see Him, and while you don't see Him, truly He sees you .

The evidence for this is the saying of Allaah which means: **“Truly, Allaah is with those who fear Him [keep their duty unto Him], and those who are Muhsinoon.”** (An-Nahl:128) He also said: **“Neither you [O Muhammad] do any deed nor recite any portion of the Qur'aan, nor you [O mankind] do any deed [good or evil], but We are Witness thereof, when you are doing it. And nothing is hidden from your Lord [so much as] the weight of an atom [or small ant] on the earth or in the heaven. Nor what is less than that or what is greater than that but is [written] in a Clear Record.”** (Yoonus:61)

The evidence from the Sunnah is the famous narration about Jibreel. On the authority of `Umar

(PBUH) who said: "One day while we were sitting with the Messenger of Allaah (PBUH) there appeared before us a man whose clothes were exceedingly white and whose hair was exceedingly black; no signs of travel were to be seen on him and none of us knew him. He walked up and sat down by the Prophet (PBUH), resting his knees against his and placing the palms of his hands on his thighs, he said: 'O Muhammad! Inform me about Islaam.' The Messenger of Allaah (PBUH) replied: **'Islaam is to testify that there is no god but Allaah and Muhammad is the messenger of Allaah, to perform the prayers, to pay the Zakaah, to fast in Ramadaan, and to make the pilgrimage to the House if you are able to do so.'** He said: 'You have spoken correctly,' and we were amazed at him asking him and saying that he had spoken correctly. He said: 'Then inform me about Eemaan.' He (PBUH) replied: **'It is to believe in Allaah, His angels, His books, His messengers, and the Last Day, and to believe in divine destiny, both the good and the evil thereof.'** He said: 'You have spoken correctly.' He said: 'Then tell me about Ihsaan.' He (PBUH) replied: **'It is to worship Allaah as though you are seeing Him, and while you don't see Him, yet truly He sees you.'** He said: 'Then tell me about the Hour.' He (PBUH) replied: **'The one questioned about it knows no better than the questioner.'** He said: 'Then tell me about its signs.' He (PBUH) replied : **'That the slave-girl will give birth to her mistress and that you**

**will see the barefooted, naked, destitute herdsman competing in constructing lofty buildings.'** Then he took off and I stayed for some time. After that the Prophet (PBUH) said: **'O 'Umar! Do you know who the questioner was?'** I replied: 'Allaah and His messenger know best.' He (PBUH) said: **'He was Jibreel (Gabriel), who came to you to teach you your religion.'** " (Muslim)

### **The Third Fundamental Principle: The Knowledge of your Prophet, Muhammad (PBUH)**

He is Muhammad ibn 'Abdullaah ibn 'Abdul-Muttalib ibn Haashim; Haashim is a tribe from Quraysh, Quraysh is from the tribes of the Arabs, Arabs are descendents of Prophet Ismaa'eel, the son of Prophet Ibraaheem, peace be upon them both .

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) lived for sixty-three years, forty of which were before prophethood, and twenty- three as a Prophet and Messenger. He was informed that he became a prophet with the verse which means **"Read!..."** (Al-'Alaq:1) and that he became a messenger with the verse which means: **"O you [Muhammad] enveloped in garments! Arise and warn!"** (Al-Muddaththir:1-2)

His home town was Makkah; and Allaah sent him to warn people against shirk and call them

towards Islaamic monotheism. The evidence for this is the saying of Allaah which means: **"O you [Muhammad] enveloped in garments! Arise and warn! And magnify your Lord [Allaah]! And purify your garments! And keep away from ruzj [the idols]! And give not a thing in order to have more [or consider not your deeds of obedience to Allaah as a favour to Him]. And be patient for the sake of your Lord [i.e., perform your duty to Allaah]!"** (Al- Muddaththir:1-7)

The meaning of 'warn' is against shirk and 'call' is towards monotheism (Tawheed); 'Magnify your Lord' means to glorify Him by believing in His oneness; 'Purify your garments' means purify your deeds from shirk. He (PBUH) spent ten years calling people to this, and after these ten years the five daily prayers were made obligatory. He only prayed in Makkah for three years (the remaining period of his residence in Makkah), and after that he (PBUH) was commanded to migrate to Madeenah .

Hijrah (migration) is to move from the land of infidelity to the land of Islaam. It is compulsory upon all Muslims, and will remain as an obligation until the Day of Resurrection. The evidence for this is the saying of Allaah which means: **"O My slaves who believe! Certainly, spacious is My earth. Therefore worship Me. [Alone]."** (Al-`Ankaboot:56) Imaam Al-Baghawi, may Allaah have mercy upon him, said: "This verse was revealed for



the Muslims who remained in Makkah and did not migrate.”

The evidence for Hijrah is the saying of the Prophet (PBUH):  
**“Hijrah will never stop until repentance stops, and repentance will never stop until the sun rises from the west (the Hereafter).”** (Ahmad)

When the Prophet (PBUH) settled in Madeenah, he conveyed the commands of zakaah, hajj, fasting, jihaad, adhaan, enjoining good and forbidding evil, and all other Islaamic rituals. He spent ten years doing this, then he (PBUH) died, but his religion, Islaam, remains .

There is no good except that he has guided the Muslim nation to it; and there is no evil except that he has warned the Muslim nation against it. The best of the goodness to which he guided them to was Tawheed (Islaamic monotheism), and the worse evil he warned them against was shirk .

Allaah has sent him (PBUH) to all mankind and made obeying him mandatory for all jinn and mankind. The evidence for this is the saying of Allaah which means: **“Say [O Muhammad]: O mankind! Verily, I am sent to you all as the Messenger of Allaah to Whom belongs the dominion**

**of the heavens and the earth.”** (Al- A’raaf:158)  
With him (PBUH), Allaah perfected the religion, the evidence for this is the saying of Allaah which means: **“This day, I have perfected your religion for you, completed My Favour upon you, and have chosen for you Islaam as your religion.”** (Al-Maa’idah:3)

The evidence of his death (PBUH), is the saying of Allaah which means: **“Verily, you [O Muhammad] will die, and verily, they [too] will die. Then, on the Day of Resurrection, you will be disputing before your Lord.”** (Az-Zumar:30-31)  
People will be resurrected after death, the evidence for which is the saying of Allaah which means: **“Thereof [the earth] We created you, and into it We shall return you, and from it We shall bring you out once again.”** (Taa Haa:55)  
After resurrection they will be held to account, the evidence being the saying of Allaah which means: **“And to Allaah belongs all that is in the heavens and all that is in the earth, that He may requite those who do evil with that which they have done [i.e. punish them in Hell], and reward those who do good, with what is best [i.e. Paradise].”** (An-Najm:31)

The one who disbelieves in resurrection is a disbeliever, the evidence for this being the saying of Allaah which means: **“The disbelievers pretend that they will never be resurrected [for the Account]. Say [O**

**Muhammad]: Yes! By my Lord, you will certainly be resurrected, then you will be informed of [and recompensed for] what you did; and that is easy for Allaah.” (At-Taghaabun:7)**

Allaah

has sent messengers to warn and convey glad tidings, the evidence for this is the saying of Allaah which means: **“Messengers as bearers of good news as well as of warning in order that mankind should have no plea against Allaah after the [coming of] Messengers.”** (An-Nisaa’:165) The first of all messengers was Nooh (PBUH) and the final messenger was Muhammad (PBUH), with whom Allaah sealed all messengers and prophets. The evidence that Nooh (PBUH) was the first messenger is the saying of Allaah which means: **“Verily, We have sent the Revelation to you [O Muhammad] as We sent the Revelation to Nooh [Noah] and the Prophets after him.”** (An-Nisaa’:163)

Every

nation to whom Allaah sent messengers from the time of Nooh (PBUH) until Muhammad (PBUH) was commanded to worship Allaah alone; the evidence for this is the saying of Allaah which means: **“And verily, We have sent among every nation a Messenger [proclaiming]: Worship Allaah [Alone], and avoid [or keep away from] Taaghoot [all false deities besides Allaah].”** (An-Nahl:36)

Allaah

commanded all people to disbelieve in Taaghoot,

and to believe in Allaah alone. Taaghoot are many, but the main heads are five: Satan, anyone who accepts being worshipped besides Allaah, anyone who calls people to worship other than Allaah, anyone who claims the knowledge of anything from the unknown, and anyone who seeks judgment from other than Allaah and His Messenger (PBUH). The evidence for this is the saying of Allaah which means: **“And verily, We have sent among every nation a Messenger [proclaiming]: Worship Allaah [Alone], and avoid [or keep away from] Taaghoot, [i.e. do not worship anything besides Allaah].”** (Al-Baqarah:256)