**Crucial Questions in the Life of a Muslim**

What is the meaning of the phrase ‘Laa Ilaaha Ill-Allah’?

This statement means to negate that any being other than Allah has the right to be worshipped, and to affirm that it is Allah ( subHAnahu wa taala ) Alone who deserves worship.

Is Allah with us?

Yes, Allah is with us with His perfect knowledge, His hearing, His seeing, His protection, His absolute comprehensiveness, His omnipotent power and His divine will. However, Allah Himself is not a part of His creation, and nothing of His creation can encompass Him.

Can Allah be seen by the eye sight?

The Muslim scholars are in agreement (ijmaa’) that Allah cannot be seen in this life, but that the believers will see Him on the Day of Resurrection as well as in Paradise. Allah ( subhanahu wa ta‘aala ) said: “On that Day, some faces will beam (in brightness and beauty), looking at their Lord.” [75:22-23]

What is the benefit of knowing Allah’s Names and Attributes?

The first obligation that Allah obligated upon the people is to know Allah ( subhanahu wa ta‘ala ). If they truly come to know Allah, they will worship Him as He deserves. Allah ( subhanahu wa ta‘ala ) said: “And know that there is none that is rightfully worshipped except Allah…” [47:19] Bringing the expansive mercy of Allah to mind causes one to hope, remembering His characteristic of being severe in punishment for disobedience instigates fear, and acknowledging His characteristic of being the exclusive Bestower of Bounties creates a feeling of gratefulness. Therefore, what is meant by worshipping Allah through His Names and Attributes is that one learns them properly, understands their meanings, and acts accordingly. There are some traits which are regarded as praiseworthy if they are found in a person, such as knowledge, mercy, and justice, while there are others which are blameworthy, such as divinity, and dominance, and pride. There are yet other praiseworthy traits which humans have been ordered to seek and acquire, but they are never to be attributed to Allah ( subhanahu wa ta‘ala ), such as servitude, being in a state of need, humility, solicitation and others similar to this. The most beloved human being to Allah is one who has traits which He loves, and the most hated one to Allah is one who has traits which He hates.

12 What are most beautiful the names of Allah?

Allah ( subhanahu wa ta‘ala ) says: “And to Him belong the most beautiful names, so supplicate to Him with them…” [7:180] The Prophet ( sal-lal-laahu alaihi wa sal-lam) said: “Allah has ninety-nine Names one hundred minus one, and whoever enumerates them will go to Paradise.” (al-Bukhari and Muslim).

SOME BEAUTIFUL NAMES

1) Allah :The one to whom all acts of worship belong to, and He is the only one who deserves to be worshipped by all of His creation. They submit, surrender, bow and prostrate to Him, and all forms of worship are due to Him.

2) Ar-Rahman : The All-Comprehensive in Mercy, Beneficent, Benevolent: A name that indicates the great vastness of His mercy which encompasses all of his creation. It is a name that is specific for Him and it is forbidden for anyone else to be referred to by it.

3) Ar-Raheem : The Most Merciful: The one who is merciful and forgives the believers in this life and the hereafter. He guided them to His worship and will honor them in the hereafter with paradise.

4) Al-‘Afuwu : The Pardoner, the Effacer of Sins: The one who removes sins and overlooks them. He does not punish His servants even though they deserve to be punished.

5) Al-Ghafoor : The All Forgiving: The one who conceals the sins of His servants. He doesn’t expose them or punish them for their sins.

6) Al-Ghaffaar : The Most Forgiving: A name that indicates the great forgiveness of Allah for those of His servants who ask for forgiveness.

7) Ar-Ra`oof : The Compassionate; the All Kind: This name is from compassion. It is the highest level of mercy. It is general, including all of the creation this life, and only for some of them in the hereafter, i.e. His believing servants who have piety.

8) Al-aleem : The Forbearing; Relenting; Indulgent: The one who does not hasten to punish His servants even though He is capable of doing so. He pardons them and forgives them for their sins if they ask for His forgiveness. 9)At-Tawwaab : The One who Accepts repentance: The one who guides whom He wishes from His servants to repent and accepts it from them.