



# The New Muslim Guide



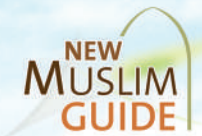
ILLUSTRATED GUIDE

The New Muslim Guide

Fahd Salem Bahammam

Simple Rules and Important Islamic Guidelines for New Muslims in all Aspects of Life

Fahd Salem Bahammam



## The New Muslim Guide

This exquisitely illustrated guide presents you with the first step and the foundation stage in learning about this great religion, which is undoubtedly the best blessing Allah has bestowed upon man. It provides you with guidelines in most aspects of life you encounter, responds to your urgent queries and gives you ample support to deal with people around you and successfully deal with the various situations in which you are most likely to find yourself. Presented in a straightforward style, this guide also provides you with documented information from the Qur'an and the Sunnah of the Prophet ﷺ.

In addition to being a delightful, detailed book, it is a reference guide which you can consult whenever you encounter a situation or need to find out about the Islamic ruling on a given issue.

Your Faith	
Your Purification	
Your Prayer	
Your Fast	
Your Zakaat	
Your Pilgrimage	
Your Financial Transactions	
Your Food and Drink	
Your Dress Code	
Your Family	
Your Moral Character	
Your New Life	

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# *The New Muslim Guide*

*Simple Rules and Important Islamic Guidelines for New  
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*Fahd Salem Bahammam*

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## ***Publisher's Foreword***

Statistical studies consistently indicate that Islam is the fastest growing religion in the world, both in terms of the number of people who embrace it every day and the manner of their conviction, as well as the way Islam changes their lives.

The reason for this is that Islam is obviously God's eternal religion which is compatible with the intellect, conscience, the spirit and the dictates of pure human nature.

This is, of course, also due to the huge efforts made by Islamic centres and dedicated individuals specialising in inviting non-Muslims to Islam in all parts of the world, utilising various modern methods and techniques.

However, most of these efforts mainly focus on inviting people to Islam but without providing them with any reading material with clear objectives for new Muslims to guide them on the journey of guidance, which they have started following their recitation of the *shahaadah* (testimony of faith), and still need to learn more about Islamic teachings in all aspects of life so they can translate them into reality.

Daar Samaa' Al-Kutub has the honour to introduce ***The New Muslim Guide***, which is one of a number of quality products, combining authentic knowledge and professional production and is geared towards new Muslims in all parts of the world in all known living languages.

The present book is the very foundation upon which all accompanying products are based, including the Internet, social networking services, educational video clips and interactive mobile programmes, which collectively aim to serve new Muslims in all parts of the world.

We pray to Almighty Allah to guide our steps and to make our words and deeds sincere for Him alone.

**The Publisher**





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## *Introduction*

Congratulations on embracing this great religion of Islam, choosing true guidance and stepping out of the darkness of ignorance into the light of faith!

Congratulations on your boldness and objectivity in your search for the truth before taking the most important decision in your life by embracing this great religion!

A person who purchases a new device or joins a club, a team or an institute spares no effort to learn and read about his rights and obligations and to deal with the new circumstances.

Similarly, a person whom Allah ﷻ has guided to Islam and brought out of the darkness of ignorance into the light of faith must leave no stone unturned in learning about the rulings of Islam in all aspects of life in order to worship Allah on the basis of sound knowledge and deal with the new conditions around him in accordance with the teachings of Islam.

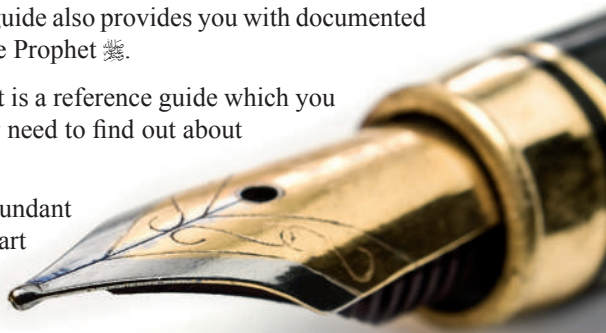
The good news you must surely relish while acquiring Islamic knowledge is that all the religious information that you acquire constitutes in its totality the prophets' inheritance, for Allah's prophets bequeath neither dinar nor dirham; rather, they, as Prophet Muḥammad ﷺ states, "bequeath knowledge. Whoever acquires this knowledge has in fact acquired an abundant portion". (*Sunan Abu Daawood*: 88)

This exquisitely illustrated guide presents you with the first step and the foundation stage in learning about this great religion, which is undoubtedly the best blessing Allah has bestowed upon man. It provides you with guidelines in most aspects of life you encounter, responds to your urgent queries and gives you ample support to deal with people around you and successfully deal with the various situations in which you are most likely to find yourself. Presented in a straightforward style, this guide also provides you with documented information from the Qur'an and the *Sunnah* of the Prophet ﷺ.

In addition to being a delightful, detailed book, it is a reference guide which you can consult whenever you encounter a situation or need to find out about the Islamic ruling on a given issue.

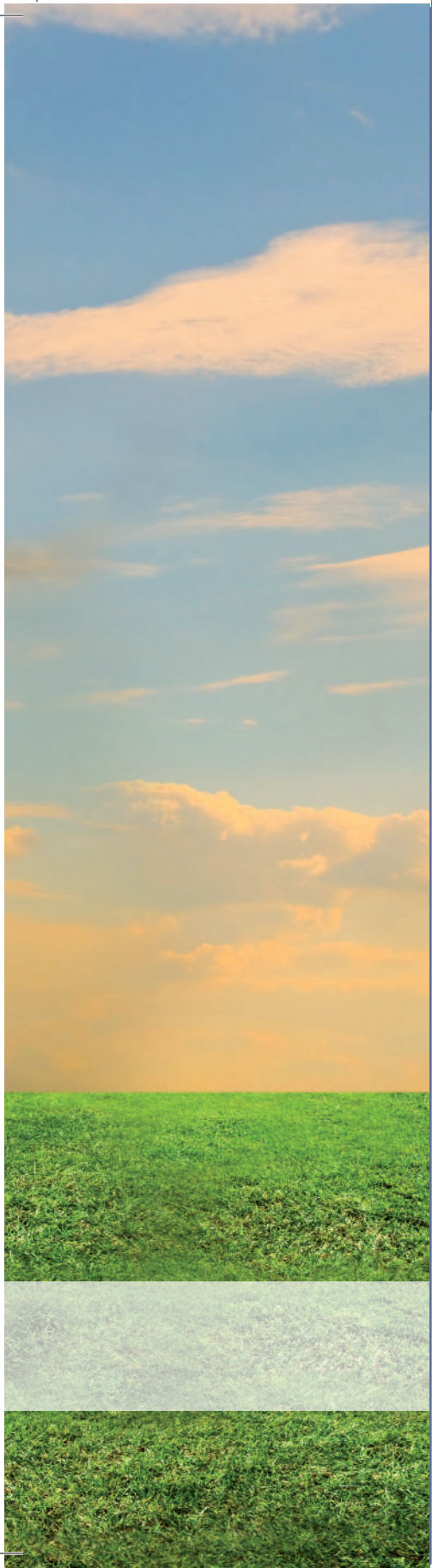
We pray to Almighty Allah to grant you abundant prosperity and more guidance, make your heart adhere firmly to His religion, make you blessed wherever you may be and admit all of us into Paradise, among those upon whom Allah has bestowed grace and favour, the prophets and the truthful.

**The author**





# *Preliminaries*



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**The Greatest Blessing Ever**

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**The Five Necessities**



## > The Greatest Blessing Ever

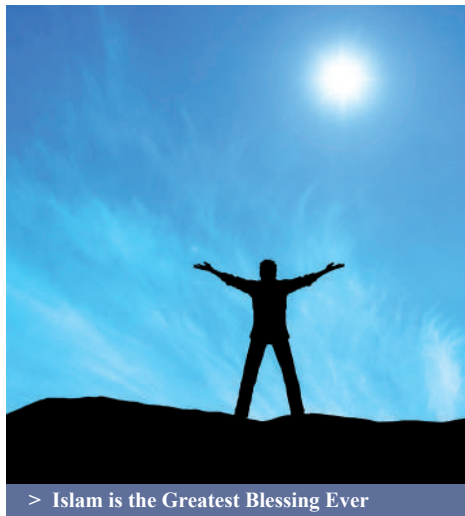
Allah has bestowed countless blessings upon us. He has endowed us with the gifts of sight and hearing, the intellect, health, wealth and family. He has even subjected everything in the universe for us: the sun, the moon, the heavens and the earth, and many countless things, as the Qur'an states, "If you tried to number Allah's blessings, you could never count them." (*Soorat Al-Maa'idah*, 16:18)

**However**, all these blessings will cease to exist when our short worldly life comes to an end. The only blessing that is bound to bring about happiness and tranquillity in this life and eternal bliss in the hereafter is the blessing of being a Muslim, which is undeniably the greatest blessing Allah has ever bestowed upon us.

It is for this reason that Allah attributes this blessing to Him, giving it great honour over other blessings, as the Qur'an states, "Today I have perfected your religion for you, completed My blessing upon you, and have chosen for you Islam as your religion." (*Soorat Al-Maa'idah*, 5:3)

**How great** Allah's blessings upon us are! He has taken us out of the darkness of ignorance into the light of faith and guided us to the true religion which He has chosen for us in order to realise the objective behind our existence, namely, to worship Him and thus lead a happy life in this world and obtain an excellent reward in the hereafter.

How great Allah's favours upon us are! He has chosen us and made us the best community that has ever been brought forth for the good of mankind, bearing the testimony of faith, *Laa ilaaha illallaah* (There is no god worthy of worship except Allah), with which He has sent all His prophets.



> Islam is the Greatest Blessing Ever

When some ignorant people mistakenly thought that they had done the Prophet ﷺ a favour by embracing Islam, Allah reminded them that it was indeed Allah who had favoured them by guiding them to Islam in the first place, as the Qur'an states, "They think they have done you a favour by becoming Muslims! Say: "Do not consider your Islam a favour to me. No indeed! It is Allah who has favoured you by guiding you to the faith if you are telling the truth." (*Soorat Al-Hujuraat*, 49:17)

It is true that Allah's blessings are numerous, but the only blessing, as the verse makes it clear, regarding which Allah declares He has bestowed a favour upon us is that of guiding us to Islam and to worshipping Him alone without associating any partners with Him whatsoever.

Therefore, in order to continue benefiting from such immense blessing, we need to express gratefulness to Allah for bestowing such a favour upon us, as the Qur'an states, "If you are grateful, I will certainly give you increase." (*Soorat Ibraaheem*, 14:7)

How can we then possibly show gratefulness to Allah for such a blessing?

**This can be done by doing the following two things:**



## > *The Purpose of Human Existence*

**Many** philosophers and lay people alike find it awfully puzzling to answer the most important question in our life:

**Why are we here?**

**What is the real purpose of human existence?**

The Qur'an has clearly and accurately stated the purpose of human existence thus: "I have only created the jinn and man to worship Me." (*Soorat Adh-Dhaariyaat*, 51:56) It is clear, therefore, that we are here to worship Allah the Almighty.

It is worth noting here, however, that worship, or *'ibaadah*, in Islam does not imply abandonment of the life of the world and its pleasures. It is a comprehensive term

which includes, in addition to such acts of worship as prayer, fasting and the obligatory charity (*zakaat*), all human acts as long as they are done for the sake of Allah, as the Prophet ﷺ once observed, "You will be rewarded even when you engage in sexual intercourse with your wives."

In this way, worship, despite being the main purpose behind human existence, becomes the essence of life, affording a Muslim the opportunity to turn all daily lawful practices into great acts of worship. The Qur'an says, "Say: 'My prayer and my sacrifice, my living and my dying, are for Allah alone, the Lord of all the worlds.'" (*Soorat Al-An'aam*, 6:162)

## > *Islam is a Universal Religion*

Islam is a universal religion in that its Prophet was sent to all peoples of the world, regardless of their race, colour, culture, traditions and geographical location, as the Qur'an states, "We have only sent you (O Muḥammad) as a mercy to all the worlds." (*Soorat Al-Anbiyaa*, 21:107)

**That is why Islam respects all** the various human traditions and does not require new Muslims to change their own traditions unless they contravene some of the Islamic teachings. Thus, any traditions that go against Islamic teachings must be changed and replaced with a better alternative, for it is after all Allah, the All-Knowing, the All-Aware, who commands and forbids whatever He wills, and our faith in Him requires us to act in accordance with His laws.

Islam also teaches that Muslims' traditions that are not related to Islam and its teachings must not be considered 'Islamic', and that a new Muslim does not have to honour or observe them, for they merely constitute a set of permissible customs of a certain group of people.

### **The Entire Earth Is a Place of Worship**

Islam considers any place in the world to be appropriate for worshipping Allah ﷻ, and that there is no particular place or country that Muslims must migrate to and settle in, for the criterion here is the possibility to worship Allah in peace.

Nor does it oblige them to emigrate to another country unless they are prevented from worshipping Allah, in which case they may go to another country where they can worship Allah in total peace, as the Qur'an states, "My servants, you who have believed, My earth is wide, so worship Me alone!" (*Soorat Al-'Ankaboot*, 29:56)



## > *No Intermediaries between God and Man*

Many religions have given certain religious privileges to some individuals and made people's worship and faith dependent upon such individuals' approval. In other words, they constitute intermediaries between God and them and falsely claim they can pardon their sins and even have knowledge of the unseen!

Thus, Islam came to honour and dignify man and refute the false idea that man's worship, repentance or salvation is dependent upon certain individuals' sanction no matter how devout and virtuous they may be.

In Islam, a Muslim worships Allah directly, without any intermediaries whatsoever between him and his Lord; for Allah is close to His servants; He can hear their prayer and respond to them and see their worship and reward them for performing it. No one in Islam claims to forgive sins and offer 'indulgences'. If a person commits a sin and sincerely seeks Allah's forgiveness, Allah certainly pardons his sin. No one possesses supernatural powers or can influence the universe in any way, for the power of decision rests with Allah alone.



> No Intermediaries between God and Man .

Islam has also liberated the human mind and encourages Muslims, when differences arise, to refer to the Qur'an and the authentic sayings and actions (*Sunnah*) of the Prophet ﷺ; for no human being has the prerogative to decide on religious matters after Allah ﷻ except Allah's Messenger ﷺ, the recipient of Allah's revelations who does not speak out of his own desire, as the Qur'an states, "He does not speak from his own desire. It is nothing but revelation revealed." (*Soorat An-Najm*, 53:3-4)

How great this religion is! It is in utter harmony with the pure natural disposition upon which Allah originated man, making him his own master and enabling him to exchange the servitude to false gods for the perfect freedom of worshipping Allah alone.



## > *Islam Is a Religion of Life*

Islam is a religion which balances the worldly life and the life to come. According to Islam, the worldly life is like a farm in which a Muslim sows the seeds of good deeds in all aspects of life in order to reap the rewards of his hard work both in this life and the hereafter. This endeavour requires an optimistic attitude, dedication, seriousness and determination, which is obvious in the following points:

### Developing the Earth

The Qur'an says, "He brought you into being from the earth and made you its inhabitants." (*Soorat Hood*, 11:61) Allah ﷻ created us and placed us on this earth, commanding us to develop it and establish a civilisation to benefit humanity in a way that does not contradict Islamic teachings. Indeed, He considers doing so an act of worship for which its doer will be rewarded, even if it is done in times of great turmoil and under terrifying circumstances, such as the Day of Judgement. The Prophet ﷺ once said, "If the Day of Judgement takes place [and you recognize the Event], while a man is holding a palm-tree seedling [to plant in the soil], let him, if he can, plant it." (*Musnad Ahmad*: 2712)

### Maintaining Social Relationships

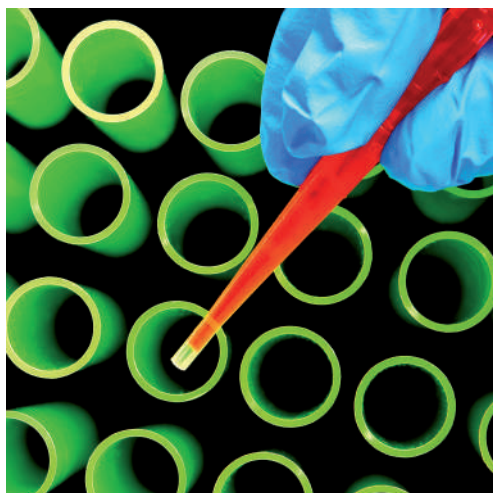
Islam calls its adherents to cooperate with people around them, regardless of their culture and religion, in order to establish a civilisation and build a healthy society. It urges them to associate with them and build relationships of the highest order, governed by the sublime moral standards Islam teaches. It also warns them against isolation and withdrawal from society, considering such a course to go against the right method naturally adopted by those dedicated to preaching Islam and calling to its sublime principles. Indeed, the Prophet

ﷺ once observed that a believer who mixes with people and endures their harm is far better than one who does not associate with them altogether. (*Sunan Ibn Maajah*: 4032)

### Knowledge Acquisition

It was not a coincidence that the first word revealed to the Prophet ﷺ was 'Read'. In fact, Islam stresses the importance of acquiring beneficial knowledge in all fields of human interest and considers the path that a Muslim follows to seek knowledge a path that actually leads to Paradise. As the Prophet ﷺ said, "Whoever treads a path in search of knowledge, Allah will ease the way to Paradise for him." (*Saheeh Ibn Hibbaan*: 84)

In fact, Islam has never witnessed a conflict between religion and science, as is the case in other religions. On the contrary, it has always supported it and called its adherents to acquire it and teach it to others as long as it is bound to benefit mankind.



> Islam has never witnessed a conflict between religion and science, as is the case in other religions.

Islam even honours those who teach people and impart knowledge to them, holding them in high esteem and promising them abundant rewards. The Prophet ﷺ informs us in one of his traditions that all Allah’s creation prays for those who impart beneficial knowledge to people. (*Sunan At-Tirmidhee*: 2685)

## > *Learning Islamic Rulings*

A Muslim is required to learn about the Islamic rulings in all aspects of life—acts of worship, social relationships, among other things—in order to carry out his duties with accurate knowledge and immense certainty, as the Prophet ﷺ said, “Whomever Allah wishes to show goodness, He gives him understanding of the religion.” (*Saheeh Al-Bukhaaree*: 71; *Saheeh Muslim*: 1037)

Therefore, he must learn all about the religious duties he is required to undertake, such as purification, the manner of performing the prayer (*salaat*) and the lawful and unlawful foods and drinks in Islam. He is also urged to learn about acts which are recommended but not obligatory.



## > *The Five Islamic Rulings*

All human actions fall into five categories:

<i>Waajib</i> (Obligatory)	This denotes those acts which Allah commands Muslims to do. Those who do them will be rewarded, but those who neglect them will be subject to punishment. Examples of such acts include the five obligatory daily prayers and fasting during the lunar month of <i>Ramadaan</i> .
<i>Haraam</i> (Prohibited)	This denotes those acts which Allah has prohibited. Those who leave them will be rewarded, but those who engage in them will be punished. Examples of such acts include drinking alcohol and committing illicit sexual intercourse.
<i>Mustahabb</i> (also called <i>Sunnah</i> : Recommended)	This is used to describe acts which are rewarded but not punishable for their omission, such as smiling at people, initiating the greeting of Islam (by saying <i>Assalaamu 'Alaykum</i> ) when meeting them and removing dirt or harmful objects from the road.
<i>Makrooh</i> (Disliked)	This denotes those acts which Islam urges its adherents to avoid. Those who avoid them will be rewarded, and those who do them will not be subject to punishment. They include such acts as fiddling with one's fingers during the prayer.
<i>Mubaah</i> (Permissible)	This denotes those acts that are neither forbidden nor recommended. They are rather neutral and thus subject neither to reward nor to punishment. They include eating, drinking and talking.

## > *The Five Pillars of Islam*

The Prophet ﷺ said, “Islam has been built on five [pillars]: Testifying that there is no god but Allah and that Muhammad is the messenger of Allah, performing the prayers, paying *zakaat*, making the pilgrimage to the House, and fasting in *Ramadaan*.” (*Saheeh Al-Bukhaaree*: 8; *Saheeh Muslim*: 16)

These five pillars constitute the very foundation of Islam. We will examine them and discuss their rulings in the following chapters.

The first of these is faith and the affirmation of Allah's unity, or *tawheed*. This is discussed in the next chapter titled ‘Your Faith’.

After this comes the prayer (*salaat*), which is the greatest and the most exalted of all acts of worship. The Prophet ﷺ once described it as “the pillar of religion.” (*Sunan At-Tirmidhee*: 2749). This means it is the pillar upon which Islam is firmly established. A pillar is a post that is used to support a building, without which the building will collapse.

However, for the prayer to be valid, a Muslim must offer it after purifying himself. Hence, the chapter ‘Your Faith’ is logically followed by ‘Your Purification’ and then ‘Your Prayer’.



1



Testifying that there is no god but Allah and that Muḥammad is the Messenger of Allah

2



Performing the prayers

3



Paying *zakaat*

4



Fasting during the month of Ramaḍaan

5



Making the pilgrimage to the Ka'bah and Holy Mosque in Makkah

The Five Pillars of Islam	
1	Testifying that there is no god but Allah and that Muḥammad is the Messenger of Allah
2	Performing the prayers
3	Paying <i>zakaat</i>
4	Fasting during the month of Ramaḍaan
5	Making the pilgrimage to the Ka'bah and Holy Mosque in Makkah

## > *How to Find out about the Rulings of Islam*

If a person contracts an illness and wants to get medical treatment, he will definitely look for the most proficient doctors he could possibly find to obtain the most effective treatment possible for his illness. He will certainly not take a prescription from any doctor because his life is dear to him.

Religion is undoubtedly the most important thing in our life, and we must therefore do our best to find out about its rulings and teachings and seek answers to questions about matters we do not know from trustworthy, knowledgeable scholars.

Reading the present book, which teaches you matters relating to your religion in their true light, is a step in the right direction. Searching for the right information requires you to ask scholars' opinions. The present book serves you well because it contains scholars' statements and answers to your queries. As the Qur'an states, "If you do not know, then ask the people of expert knowledge." (*Soorat An-Nahl*, 16:43) You must also take further steps if you are in doubt as to any of Islamic rulings on any given issue. You can do this by contacting Islamic centres and mosques near you, ensuring that they are from amongst those adhering to the Qur'an and authentic *Sunnah*. You can find out about their locations and contact details by visiting the following website:

[www.islamicfinder.org](http://www.islamicfinder.org)

You must also refer to trusted Internet websites which will clarify the facts of Islam for you, such as

[www.newmuslimguide.com](http://www.newmuslimguide.com)

[www.guide-muslim.com](http://www.guide-muslim.com)

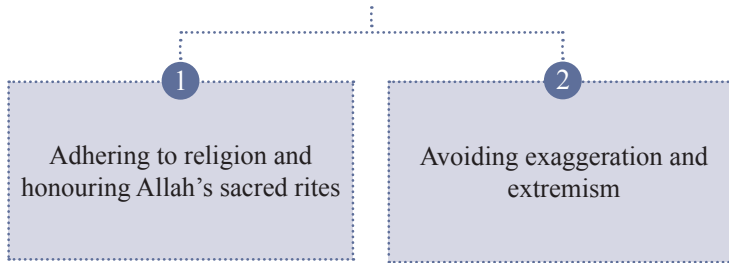


> A new Muslim ought to visit and keep in touch with the nearby Islamic centres and to consult reliable books and trusted Internet websites.

## > *Islam is a Moderate Religion*

Islam is a moderate religion which follows a middle course between exaggeration and negligence, extremism and total rejection of religion. This moderation pervades all acts of worship and rituals.

It is for this reason that Allah ﷻ commands the Prophet ﷺ, his companions and the believers at large to observe moderation, which can be realised by doing two things:



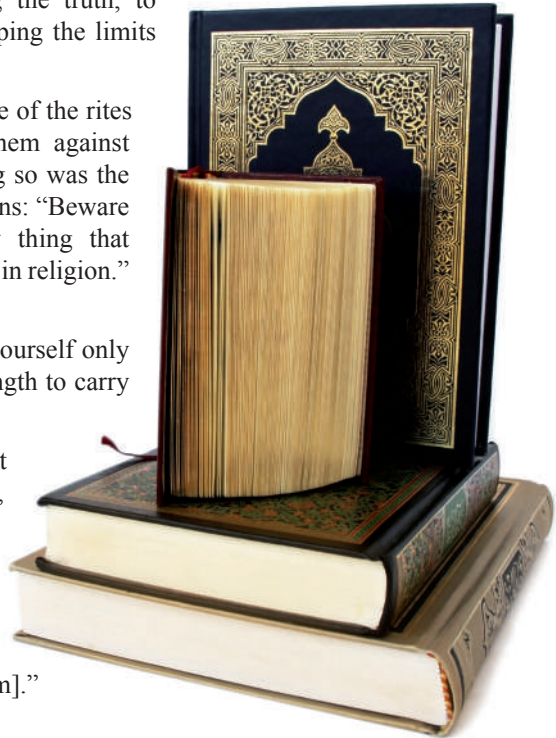
The Qur'an says, "Keep to the right course as you have been commanded, and also those who turn with you to Allah, and do not exceed the bounds. He sees what you do." (*Soorat Hood, 11:112*)

This means: Be steadfast in following the truth, to the best of your ability, without overstepping the limits through exaggeration and extremism.

Once, while teaching his companions one of the rites of pilgrimage, the Prophet ﷺ warned them against going to extremes, pointing out that doing so was the reason behind the destruction of past nations: "Beware of extremism in religion, for the only thing that destroyed those before you was extremism in religion." (*Sunan Ibn Maajah: 3029*)

That is why he also noted, "Take upon yourself only those actions for which you have the strength to carry out consistently." (*Saheeh Al-Bukhaaree: 1100*)

On another occasion, he revealed the spirit of the message with which he was sent, namely, not to burden people beyond their capacity but to teach them with wisdom and make things easy for them: "Allah did not send me to be harsh or cause harm, but He sent me to teach [people] and make things easy [for them]." (*Saheeh Muslim: 1478*)



## > *Islam Covers All Aspects of Life*

Islam is not only a spiritual need fulfilled by Muslims in mosques through prayers and supplications.

Nor is it a mere set of views and beliefs espoused by its adherents;

Nor is it merely a comprehensive economic system;

Nor is it simply a set of rules and principles for building society and a system;

Nor is it only a set of moral values and manners for dealing with others;

**Rather, it is a comprehensive way of life which covers all aspects of life without exception.**

Indeed, Almighty Allah has completed His favour upon Muslims by choosing Islam for them as their religion and a complete way of life, as the Qur'an states, "This day have I perfected your religion for you, completed My favour upon you, and have chosen for you Islam as your religion."

*(Soorat Al-Maa'idah, 5:3)*

Once, when one of the polytheists sarcastically said to Salman Al-Faarisee ؓ, one of the Prophet's companions, "Your Prophet has taught you everything, even the proper manner of defecating," "Yes, indeed," Salman proudly replied, and he went about showing him the etiquette of using the toilet.



> Islam encompasses all aspects of life.

*> Islam Must Be Judged by its Sublime Principles and not by the Bad Conduct of Some Muslims*

If you find a doctor who adopts harmful medical procedures or a teacher with bad moral character, you will certainly disapprove of their wrong practices, which are obviously at odds with their social position and the type of knowledge they have acquired. This, however, will not make you change your mind about the great benefits medical science has afforded mankind or the great position education and learning occupies in society and civilisation.

You will undoubtedly reach the conclusion that such a doctor or teacher actually misrepresents his professional qualifications and affiliations.

By the same token, if you find some Muslims who follow some bad practices, you may mistakenly assume that such practices reflect the spirit of Islam, which is obviously not true. Just because the wrong practices of that doctor or teacher cannot be possibly attributed to the medical or educational profession, such Muslims' bad practices cannot, with an even stronger reason, be attributed to Islam; they merely constitute an aspect of human weakness and could therefore be attributed to wrong cultural practices which have nothing to do with Islam.



## > *The Five Necessities*

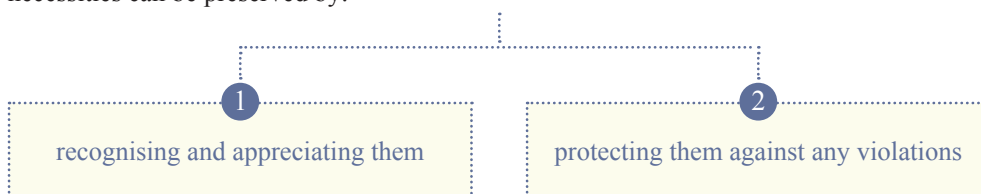


> Allah commands us to preserve human life even if doing so involves the commission of a sin.

**These are the** ultimate benefits which man must enjoy in order to lead an honourable life. Indeed, all divine laws have commanded their preservation and prohibited anything that contradicts them.

Islam urges its adherents to protect such necessities so that they may serve them well in the worldly life and the life to come and thus live in total peace and security.

Muslims in all parts of the world form one single community (*ummah*) whose members support one another as if they were a solid cemented structure, each part strengthening and giving support to the others. They are, as the Prophet ﷺ once described them, like one body—when any part of it aches, the whole body aches because of sleeplessness and fever. These five necessities can be preserved by:



### 1 Religion

This is the main reason why Allah ﷻ created people and sent messengers to convey it to them and to preserve it, as the Qur'an states, "We sent a messenger among every people saying: 'Worship Allah and keep clear of all false gods.'" (*Soorat An-Nahl*, 16:36)

Indeed, Islam insists on preserving religion and protecting it against anything which is bound to mar its purity, such as worshipping false gods besides Allah or instead of Him (*shirk*) and engaging in superstitions and committing forbidden acts.

## 2 Life

Allah ﷻ commands us to preserve human life even if this involves the commission of a sin, especially if one is driven by necessity to do so, as the Qur'an states, "But whoever is forced [by necessity], neither desiring [it] nor transgressing [its limit], there is no sin upon him. Indeed, Allah is Forgiving and Merciful." (*Soorat Al-Baqarah*, 2:173)

He has forbidden suicide or any act against human life in general: "Do not cast yourselves into destruction." (*Soorat Al-Baqarah*, 2:195)

He has also legislated punishments which serve to deter people from unjustly harming others, no matter what their religion may be: "O you who believe, fair retribution is prescribed for you in cases of murder." (*Soorat Al-Baqarah*, 2:178)



> Islam prohibits anything that is harmful to health and the mind.

## 3 The Mind

Islam prohibits anything that is bound to have a negative effect on the mind and impair discernment. Indeed, the intellect is one of the greatest blessings Allah has bestowed upon us; it is the very faculty by which Allah has honoured man and favoured him over other creatures; it is also the reason that makes him subject to accountability in this life and in the hereafter.

It is for this reason that Allah ﷻ has forbidden all types of intoxicants and drugs, which He describes as an abomination of Satan's handiwork: "O you who believe, intoxicants, gambling, stone altars and divining arrows are abominations devised by Satan. Avoid them so that you may be successful." (*Soorat Al-Maa'idah*, 5:90)

## 4 Progeny

Islam stresses the importance of preserving progeny and starting a family in which the new generation acquire good manners and learn lofty principles. This is clear in a number of rulings which include the following:

- It encourages marriage and prompts its adherents to make it easy for the unmarried people with the least expenses: "Marry off those among you who are unmarried." (*Soorat An-Noor*, 24:32)
- It prohibits all sinful, illicit relationships and has blocked all the ways leading to them: "Do not go near to fornication. It is an indecent act and an evil way." (*Soorat Al-Israa'*, 17:32)

- It forbids slandering or defaming people's lineage and considers this act a major sin for which the perpetrator is subject to a specified punishment in this life in addition to severe chastisement in the hereafter.
- It commands its adherents to preserve people's honour and considers a person who is killed defending his honour or that of his family, a martyr. (See page 203)

### 5 Property

Islam urges its followers to protect their property and preserve their wealth and commands them to earn a living, making all commercial transactions lawful.

In order to protect wealth, it considers usury, deception and misappropriation of people's wealth by using wrongful means, strictly forbidden. The Qur'an warns perpetrators of such acts, of severe punishments. (See page 172)



> Preservation of one's honour and lineage is one of the loftiest objectives of Islamic law (*Sharee'ah*).