**Title: Aqaaid - Grade 7**

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First Edition: January 2021 / Zul Hijjah 1441

ISBN: 978-1-990974-83-0

Permission is granted for reprinting this booklet without any alterations. A humble appeal is made to the readers to offer suggestions/corrections to improve the quality of this publication. May Allah Ta'ala reward you for this. The author, translators, editors and typesetters humbly request your duas for them, their parents, families, asaatizah and mashaaikh.

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# INTRODUCTION

بِسۡمِ ٱللَّهِ ٱلرَّحۡمَٰنِ ٱلرَّحِيمِ

The greatest gift that Allah Ta'ala blesses any person with is undoubtedly the gift of Imaan. Any person blessed with Imaan, has to take care and look after his Imaan very, very carefully until eventually he is blessed with death on Imaan. This indeed is the greatest success. Allah Ta'ala says in the Qur-aan-e-Kareem;

فَلَا تَمُوۡتُنَّ اِلَّا وَاَنۡتُمۡ مُّسۡلِمُوۡنَ

*None of you should die except that you are Muslims (Believers)*

This was the concern of all the Ambiyaa (alayhimus salaam). On their death beds, they would call their children and advise them to worship Allah Ta'ala only and ensure that they die on Imaan and Islam.

Our passport for entry into Jannah is Imaan. Without this, no one will be allowed to enter. Abu Taalib, who was the beloved uncle of Rasulullah صَلَّى ٱللَّهُ عَلَيۡهِ وَسَلَّمَ and who was responsible for bringing him up and supporting him in the effort of inviting people to Islam, died without Imaan. Nabi صَلَّى ٱللَّهُ عَلَيۡهِ وَسَلَّمَ was informed through wahi that he

will enter the fire of Jahannam forever and ever. On the contrary, if a person was a disbeliever his entire life and he accepted Islam just before he passed away, he will be regarded as successful and will enter Jannah forever.

From the eight subjects taught at a maktab, **Aqaaid** is the most important subject. This forms the foundation of Islam. The first thing a child is taught at the maktab is the five kalimahs, thereby strengthening his Imaan.

Children attending state and private schools are faced with huge challenges. Their Imaan is attacked from all sides. At times they are made to pray to Christ and ask him for their daily bread. After meals they are made to say grace and thank Jesus for providing them with food. This affects the Imaan of these young children. Darwin's theory of evolution is compulsorily taught in all schools leaving a child with doubts as to who his creator is.

It is for this reason that a child, from a young impressionable age, is taught the important beliefs of a Muslim to combat the attacks against our Imaan and Islam. The syllabus has been prepared to help firmly embed the fundamental beliefs of a Muslim in the heart and mind of every Muslim child.

May Allah Ta'ala accept this humble effort and make it a means of safeguarding our Imaan.

اَللّٰهُمَّ ثَبِّتْنَا عَلَى الْاِيْمَانِ وَ اَمِتْنَا عَلَى الْاِيْمَانِ وَاحْشُرْنَا يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ مَعَ الْاِيْمَانِ

*O Allah keep me firm on Imaan, allow me to die with Imaan and raise me on the day of Qiyaamah with Imaan*

*Ta'limi Board (KZN)*

*Zul Hijjah 1441 / August 2020*

# SYLLABUS BREAKDOWN

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# Part 1

# CHAPTER 1

*Topics Discussed in this Chapter:*

- **SIFAAT OF ALLAH TA'ALA**
  - Al Hafeez – The Protector
  - Ash-Shakoor – The Being who appreciates
  - Al Musawwir – The Being who designs
- **KUFR**
- **SHIRK**

Lesson 1

# SIFAAT OF ALLAH TA'ALA

The meaning of Sifaat here is The Beautiful Qualities of Allah Ta'ala. Allah Ta'ala has many Sifaat (beautiful qualities) through which we can recognise Him. In this section we will be discussing the following three qualities of Allah Ta'ala:

- **Al-Hafeez:** The Protector
- **Ash-Shakoor:** The Most Appreciative
- **Al Musawwir:** The Designer / Fashioner

## 1. Al-Hafeez - The Protector

اَلْحَفِيْظُ

Allah Ta'ala mentions in the Qur-aan Shareef:

فَاللّٰهُ خَيْرٌ حٰفِظًا ۖ وَّهُوَ اَرْحَمُ الرّٰحِمِيْنَ

*"Allah is the best of protectors, and He is the most Merciful of those who show mercy."*

**Al-Hafeez** is that Being who is the protector over all His servants and protects the entire creation. He alone protects them from calamities, harm and difficulties. If Allah Ta'ala decides to protect

something, nothing can harm it. On the other hand, if Allah Ta'ala decides to destroy something, nothing can protect it.

Allah Ta'ala is the sole Protector. Allah Ta'ala protects the baby in the mother's womb. Allah Ta'ala protects every insect and animal whether big or small. Allah Ta'ala even protects the tiny ant living under a huge rock. Allah Ta'ala protects the trees and flowers. Allah Ta'ala protects the skies, the moon, the stars and the clouds. Allah Ta'ala is the Protector of His entire creation.

Together with Allah Ta'ala being the sole protector, Allah Ta'ala has also given each of His creation wonderful and amazing ways of protecting themselves. For example:

- Allah Ta'ala has given man eye-sockets to protect his delicate eyes from harm.
- Allah Ta'ala has given man a strong skull to protect his brain from injury.
- Allah Ta'ala has given man a fist to use as self-defence.
- Allah Ta'ala has given man brains to invent alarm systems, anti-hijacking systems, electric fencing, guns and knives to protect himself from thieves and enemies.

- Allah Ta'ala has given man the ability to manufacture different types of clothing which will protect him from the intense cold and extreme heat.

Allah Ta'ala has also given animals the ability to protect themselves.

- Some animals have a sting to protect themselves and some have teeth.
- Some have been given claws and others have horns.
- Some have a body odour to ward off predators and some have an electrical impulse to shock their attackers.
- The chameleon has been given the ability by Allah Ta'ala to change its colour to match its surroundings and protect itself.

Flowers are protected by thorns. Nuts are protected by its kernel (shell). Trees have a bark for its protection.

Allah Ta'ala has created huge mountains which are pegs for the earth. They protect the earth from moving about and shaking.

When Allah Ta'ala removes the quality of Hifaazat (protection) from anything, it will perish.

Whenever we are faced with fear, we should seek the protection of Al-Hafeez (The Real Protector – Allah Ta'ala). Recite يَا حَفِيْظُ in abundance when faced with fear.

We are taught by Nabi صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ to recite the **three Quls** and **Aayatul Kursi** every morning and evening for protection from all evil.

## 2. Ash-Shakoor - That Being Who Appreciates

Lesson 2

اَلشَّكُوْرُ

**Ash-Shakoor** is that Being who appreciates the actions of His servants, no matter how small it may be. Allah Ta'ala appreciates every deed of ours, **as long as it is done for His pleasure and not for acquiring name and fame**.

Despite Allah Ta'ala being so great, He accepts and appreciates the smallest of actions. To gain the pleasure of Allah Ta'ala, one does not have to do very big deeds. Rather, even the person who did the smallest of deeds can gain closeness to Allah Ta'ala. No good deed is insignificant in the sight of Allah Ta'ala.

**Ash-Shakoor** is that Being who appreciates the good deeds done by His servants and grants them much more than what they deserve.

Allah Ta'ala mentions in the Qur-aan Shareef,

مَنْ جَآءَ بِالْحَسَنَةِ فَلَهٗ عَشْرُ اَمْثَالِهَا ۚ

*"Whoever does a good deed, for him is a tenfold reward."*

That is, for every good action we do, Allah Ta'ala will bless us with ten rewards. Therefore we should not leave out even the smallest of good actions. Who knows, this small good deed could be a means of our salvation and forgiveness. Nabi صَلَّى اللّٰهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ said, "Never regard any good action as small, even if it is to meet your brother with a smiling face."

It is mentioned in the Hadith that an evil woman once gave a thirsty dog some water to drink. Allah Ta'ala appreciated this action of hers and forgave her.

It is mentioned in a Hadith that when a Muslim plants a tree, whatever is eaten from it by people or animals, the owner will be rewarded for it, so much so that even if the fruit was stolen, the owner will still be rewarded for it.

## 3. **Al-Musawwir** - The Designer/Fashioner

Lesson 3

اَلْمُصَوِّرُ

Allah Ta'ala is Al-Musawwir – The Designer or The Fashioner. Allah Ta'ala has designed and fashioned us with His own hands. He has designed us in the most beautiful way. Allah Ta'ala says in the Qur-aan:

لَقَدْ خَلَقْنَا الْاِنْسَانَ فِيْٓ اَحْسَنِ تَقْوِيْمٍ

*"Indeed We have created mankind in the best of forms"*

The meaning of Al-Musawwir is the Designer of shapes and the Maker of forms. Allah Ta'ala has designed His creation in unique forms and shapes. Through this, they are recognised and differentiated from other objects. Take for example the human being. The form, shape and features of every man and woman is so different that in spite of billions of people living on earth, each person can be easily recognised from the next. This perfect power is only from one Being, Allah Ta'ala, who has no partner.

## The Masterpiece of Al-Musawwir

Allah Ta'ala has created everything with complete precision and perfection. He has designed the formation of the clouds; the beautiful blue sky and the huge ocean. How graceful and beautiful are the natural sceneries of the mountains, the waterfalls, and the lakes! What beautiful flowers, what different shades and sizes in its leaves, Subhaanallah! All of this has been designed by Allah Ta'ala who is Al-Musawwir.

When you look at the animals, you will see different types of sea creatures and land animals; different species of birds; animals as big as elephants and giraffes and as small as ants and flies; and the beautiful colours of tropical fish, Subhaanallah!

When we look at the wings of a butterfly, we see many beautiful colours and designs. Allah Ta'ala has beautified these wings which appear to be decorated with lace with such attractive dots, colours and patterns that each one is unique without any defects.

Each person's feature and form is different. There are more than seven billion people on earth but each person's thumbprint is different. Similarly, the eye, eyebrows, eyelashes, cheeks, pupils of the eye, nose and its bridge, ears, lips, and chin have not been

created the same. All these different types and forms point to the perfect power of Allah, The Designer.

Allah Ta'ala creates as He wishes. If a king wishes that his child's nose should be of a certain type, his eyes and his complexion be a certain colour, then this cannot happen according to his wish. Allah Ta'ala alone decides how He will create a person and His decision is final. The wisdom behind this is so that we can recognise each other. For example, a mother has seven children and they all looked exactly the same. It would be difficult for her to recognise them. Every time she speaks to them, she will be forced to ask them their names. If she instructed them to do some work, she will have to ask each of them, "Did I tell you or did I tell you?"

From the beginning of time, countless people have been born. You will never find any two people whose accent, voice, pronunciation, features and complexion are exactly the same. From the beginning of creation till today, new features and new forms of speech are being created. There is no decrease or shortage in the treasures of Allah Ta'ala. In reality this is a great sign of the immense power of Allah who is **Al-Musawwir**.

Allah Ta'ala says in the Qur-aan Shareef;

وَ فِيْٓ اَنْفُسِكُمْ ؕ اَفَلَا تُبْصِرُوْنَ

*And in your own selves, do you not see (If you ponder, you will see Allah Ta'ala)*

If we look into our bodies and ponder how our bodies have been formed and how it functions, we will be forced to admit that this is the unique power of Allah Ta'ala who is Al-Musawwir (the Fashioner), Subhaanallah!

Allah Ta'ala has designed every limb with perfection and precision so much so that the nose, eyes, ears and hands are all positioned in their correct places. Imagine if our noses were at the back of our heads or our mouths were on the side of the head? How awkward it would have been!

## Questions

1. What is the meaning of Al-Hafeez? _____
2. Who is Al-Hafeez? _____
3. Explain some of the ways in which Allah Ta'ala gave certain animals the ability to protect themselves? _____

_____

_____

4. What is the meaning of Ash-Shakoor? _____

5. What is the reward for doing one good deed? _____

6. Does Allah accept only big actions? (Explain in detail) ____

7. What has Nabi (sallallahu alayhi wasallam) taught us to do for our protection? _____

8. What is the meaning of Al-Musawwir?_____

9. Explain some of the things that are designed by Allah Ta'ala?

Lesson 4

# KUFR (DISBELIEF)

***Kufr** (disbelief) means to reject any true and authentic teaching of Shari'ah. Kufr is the opposite of Imaan. The person who commits kufr is called a kaafir. A kaafir will go to Jahannam forever. We should protect ourselves from kufr and anything that could lead us to kufr.*

**Kufr could either be by:**

- Expressions of the tongue (openly or by indication).
- Having doubts on any aspect of Imaan.

**A person becomes a kaafir if:**

1. He denies any attribute of Allah Ta'ala, e.g. he says Allah Ta'ala is not omnipresent, or does not have power over everything, or does not respond to prayers of everybody, or does not comprehend all things or says Allah Ta'ala is not eternal.
2. He says that Allah Ta'ala is unjust, or ascribes children to him, or says Allah Ta'ala eats and drinks.
3. He denies any of the names of Allah Ta'ala, e.g. He says Allah Ta'ala is not Rahmaan (merciful).

4. He rejects the Nubuwat of any Nabi e.g. He says Sayyidina Musa (alayhis salaam) is not a Nabi, Rasulullah صَلَّى ٱللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ is not a Nabi.
5. He rejects any of the Books revealed by Allah Ta'ala, or claims that any portion of the divine Book to be wrong.
6. He denies any clear command of Allah Ta'ala.
7. He denies the physical or material existence of Jannah and Jahannam.
8. He makes what is Haraam into Halaal or vice-versa, e.g. he makes interest Halaal.
9. He mocks at any Nabi, or the teachings or actions of any Nabi.
10. He believes in all other religions, saying that the different religions existing today are all true and all lead to Allah Ta'ala.
11. He claims that Hadhrat Abu Bakr, Umar and Usmaan رَضِيَ ٱللَّهُ عَنْهُمْ or any Sahaabi is a non-believer or he criticizes them.
12. He does not believe in taqdeer (fate).
13. He rejects life after death.
14. He rejects the day of Qiyaamah.
15. To like any aspect of kufr could lead a person to becoming a kaafir. (May Allah Ta'ala save us).
16. A person can become a kaafir if he regrets being a Muslim, e.g. a person thinks to himself that if he was not a Muslim, he could have attained such and such thing.

17. A person can become a kaafir if he makes the following statements out of grief on the death of his children or relative, "Why did Allah kill him only", "Was he the only person left in the world for Allah to kill", "Allah should not have done this."

## Questions

1. What is the definition of kufr? _____

_____

2. In which two ways can kufr be made? _____

_____

3. Mention six acts of kufr. _____

_____

_____

_____

4. What is a person who commits kufr called? _____

_____

5. A person who commits kufr is destined to … _____

6. What happens to a person who expresses regret over his Imaan? ___

_____

# SHIRK

Lesson 5

## (TO ASCRIBE PARTNERS WITH ALLAH TA'ALA)

***Shirk** means to ascribe partners with Allah Ta'ala i.e. to believe that there is more than one god (other than Allah) or to regard someone else as having the qualities of Allah Ta'ala.*

Shirk is the worst sin that a person can ever commit. A person who commits shirk can never be a Muslim. Allah Ta'ala mentions in the Qur-aan Shareef:

إِنَّ اللّٰهَ لَا يَغْفِرُ اَنْ يُّشْرَكَ بِهٖ وَيَغْفِرُ مَا دُوْنَ ذٰلِكَ لِمَنْ يَّشَآءُ ۚ وَمَنْ يُّشْرِكْ بِاللّٰهِ فَقَدِ افْتَرٰٓى اِثْمًا عَظِيْمًا

*"Verily, Allah will never forgive that **Shirk** be made with Him. Besides Shirk, He will forgive whoever He wishes. Whoever commits Shirk with Allah, then indeed he has committed a very great sin."*

If a person sincerely makes taubah (repents) from this sin of shirk, Allah Ta'ala will forgive him.

**The following are forbidden in the Sharīʿah:**

1. To bow down in worship in front of someone other than Allah Ta'ala.
2. To fast in someone's name other than Allah Ta'ala.
3. To have the belief that a certain pious person has full knowledge of all our conditions at all times.
4. To ask about unseen matters from a fortune-teller and then to believe with certainty in what they say.
5. To sacrifice an animal in someone's name or to make an offering in someone's name other than Allah Ta'ala.
6. To give priority to other customs over the orders of Allah Ta'ala.
7. To sacrifice an animal in order to rid one's self of a jinn, ghost or evil spirit.
8. To cry out to someone (other than Allah) for justice.
9. To practice witchcraft and cast spells.
10. To respect any place as one would do for the Ka'bah.
11. To believe that the affairs of the world are under the influence of the stars.
12. To take an oath in the name of someone other than Allah Ta'ala.
13. To display pictures of animate objects (especially to keep pictures of a particular saint as a source of blessing and to respect it).

# Questions

1. What is the definition of Shirk? _____

_____

_____

2. Will Allah forgive shirk? _____

_____

3. Mention ten things that are not allowed in Shari'ah? _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

4. Are we allowed to display pictures of animate objects? _____

_____

5. What happens to the person who regards a saint as having the powers of Allah? _____

_____

_____

Lesson 6

# Bid'at (Innovations)

***Bid'at** (innovations): To introduce something into Deen which is not part of Deen and it was not found in the time of Nabi ﷺ, the Sahaabah رضي الله عنهم and the pious people of the past. To regard it as part of Deen and to act upon it with the hope of getting reward is known as bid'at (innovation). This is a major sin.*

Hadhrat Aa'ishah (radiyallahu anha) reports a Hadith from Rasulullah ﷺ:

مَنْ أَحْدَثَ فِيْ أَمْرِنَا هذَا مَا لَيْسَ فِيْهِ فَهُوَ رَدٌّ

*Whoever introduces into our Deen that which is not part of it, it will be rejected.*

It is mentioned in a Hadith that when Nabi ﷺ will be giving water to his Ummah to drink from his pond, a group of people will come to him, but will be chased away by the angels. Nabi ﷺ will say, "They are from my Ummah?" The reply will be, "You do not know what innovations they have created after you." Nabi ﷺ will then say, "Woe to him who changed (the Deen) after me."

**Some Bid'aat (innovations)**

1. At the time of a Janaazah, to weep loudly out of sorrow, to beat the face and chest, or to mourn by shouting and screaming.
2. To make dua loudly after Janaazah Salaah.
3. To do certain actions or make certain zikrs in some specific way which is not found in the Sunnah with the intention that there will be more reward in doing it like this.
4. To revive one's sorrow or mourning on certain fixed dates.
5. To excessively occupy oneself in make-up and self-beautification and to look down upon simplicity.

**Some sinful customs**

1. To perform the different ceremonies before marriage (like mendhi parties, bridal showers, etc.).
2. To celebrate birthdays and baby showers.
3. To greet in any way other than the greeting of As salaamu 'alaykum, or to just bow or raise the hand to the head.
4. For a woman to appear before her brother-in-law, male cousins, or any other stranger men, etc. without any modesty.
5. To be boastful or proud of one's lineage or family.
6. To taunt someone on account of his "lower" lineage.
7. To praise someone excessively.

8. To spend lots of money unnecessarily on marriages and other useless ceremonies.
9. To fix exorbitant dowry out of pride and boastfulness.

## Questions

1. What is the meaning of bid'at? _____

_____

_____

2. What did Hadhrat Aa'ishah (radhiyallahu anha) say regarding bid'at?

_____

_____

_____

3. Mention any three acts of bid'at? _____

_____

_____

_____

4. Mention three sinful customs. _____

_____

_____

_____

# CHAPTER 2

*Topic Discussed in this Chapter:*

❖ **SHA-AA'IR (SALIENT SIGNS) OF ISLAM**

وَ مَنۡ يُّعَظِّمۡ شَعَآئِرَ اللّٰهِ فَاِنَّهَا مِنۡ تَقۡوَى الۡقُلُوۡبِ

Lesson 7

# SHA-AA'IR OF ISLAM

## (SALIENT SIGNS/SYMBOLS OF ISLAM)

**Sha-aa'ir** are those important signs or practices which are specific to Islam and Muslims. A Muslim is distinguished by these signs. One such example is the Azaan. Anyone who hears the Azaan knows that it is the call of the Muslims. Even a non-Muslim understands that the Azaan is specific to Muslims and Islam.

Allah Ta'ala mentions in the Qur-aan Shareef,

وَ مَنْ يُّعَظِّمْ شَعَآئِرَ اللّٰهِ فَاِنَّهَا مِنْ تَقْوَى الْقُلُوْبِ

*"Whoever respects the Sha'aair of Allah, then this is from the piety of the heart."*

1. The Sha-aa'ir (plural of Shi'aar) of Islam are those acts and practices which are salient (important / outstanding) symbols of Allah and Islam.
2. It is necessary to show utmost respect to the sha-aa'ir of Islam. To show honour and respect to the sha-aa'ir (salient signs) of Islam is in actual fact, showing honour and respect to Allah Ta'ala.
3. Disrespecting any Shi'aar (salient sign) of Islam is detrimental to our Deen as well as our worldly lives. A person is deprived of all goodness in his life and it can lead him to an evil end.

4. Every teaching of Deen, however small it might seem, comes from Allah. Therefore, it demands great respect. Making a mockery or joke of it is termed as **Istihzaa**, which is extremely harmful to our Imaan. For example, a person mocks the beard or mocks the Islamic clothing.
5. To look down at any act of Deen or regard it as insignificant is known as **Istikhfaaf** which is also dangerous for our Imaan. For example, a person considers Salaah as insignificant and shows complete disregard for it.

Amongst the Sha'aair of Allah Ta'ala are:

- Salaah
- Azaan
- Qurbaani
- Ramadhaan
- The Masjid
- Islamic clothing – like kurta, hat, purdah, burqah
- Senior citizens (elderly)
- The Sahaabah (radhiyallahu anhum)
- Pious Ulama
- The Four Imaams of Fiqh
- The Qur-aan Shareef
- The Beard

## Lesson 8 Incident of a Hindu who showed respect to the month of Ramadhaan

An incident is mentioned of a Hindu who saw his son eating in the presence of Muslims during the month of Ramadhaan. Upon seeing his son eating before the Muslims, he hit him and reprimanded him saying, "Why do you not show respect for the month of Ramadhaan? Do you not know that the Muslims are fasting in this month?"

It so happened that the Hindu passed away that very week. Soon after he passed away, a great 'Aalim of that locality had a dream in which he saw the Hindu in Jannah! In the dream, he asked him, "How come you are in Jannah? Were you not a Hindu?" The man replied, "I was a Hindu. However, shortly before I passed away, Allah Ta'ala honoured me, by inspiring me to read the kalimah and accept Islam, due to the respect that I had shown for the month of Ramadhaan."

This was the outcome of respecting Ramadhaan (which is a symbol of Islam), that a person who disobeyed Allah Ta'ala his entire life was inspired by Allah Ta'ala to accept Islam just before he passed away.

## The following are some ways of showing respect to the Sha-aa'ir of Islam

1. To listen carefully to the Azaan when it is called out and not to speak, joke or laugh whilst the Azaan is being called out.
2. To respect the Ulama.
3. To respect the Apas who teach in the Madrasahs.
4. To respect the Masjid, (the house of Allah). Not to speak of worldly things in the Masjid.
5. To respect the Day of Jumuah.
6. To respect the Qur-aan Shareef and also a Haafiz of the Qur-aan Shareef
7. To love and respect every teaching of Islam and every Sunnah of Rasulullah صَلَّى ٱللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ.
8. To love the cities of Makkah Mukarramah and Madinah Munawwarah.
9. To love the Sahaabah (companions) of Rasulullah صَلَّى ٱللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ.

# Questions

1. What is the meaning of Sha'aair? _____

_____

_____

2. Mention five Sha'aair of Islam that you know? _____

_____

_____

_____

3. What is the meaning of Istikhfaaf? _____

_____

4. Explain what is Istihzaa? _____

_____

5. What can happen to a person who disrespects any Shi'aar of Deen? _____

_____

_____

_____

# CHAPTER 3

*Topic Discussed in this Chapter:*

- **THE SAHAABAH رَضِيَ ٱللَّهُ عَنْهُمْ**

Lesson 9

# SAHAABAH رَضِيَ ٱللَّهُ عَنْهُمْ

## Who are the Sahaabah رَضِيَ ٱللَّهُ عَنْهُمْ?

The Sahaabah (radhiyallahu anhum) were those highly respected companions (friends) of Rasulullah صَلَّى ٱللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ who accepted Islam, were blessed with the company of Rasulullah صَلَّى ٱللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ and passed away as Muslims.

Every Prophet of Allah had a group of followers who were his helpers and students. After that Prophet passed away, they kept alive his teachings by passing on to others what they learnt from him. In this manner, for centuries, people worshipped Allah Ta'ala and followed the teachings of their Prophet.

Similarly, our beloved Nabi Muhammad صَلَّى ٱللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ also had a group of followers who remained in his company, learnt from him the religion of Islam, fought for the cause of Islam and spread his teachings throughout the world. These people are known as **The Sahaabah** (radhiyallahu anhum)**.** They totalled over a hundred thousand.

In the initial years of Islam there were two groups of Sahaabah; the **Muhaajireen** (those who migrated from Makkah Mukarramah to Madinah Munawwarah) and the **Ansaar** (people of Madinah who

helped those Sahaabah who migrated to them from Makkah). After the conquest of Makkah many people came from different parts of the world and accepted Islam at the hands of Nabi Muhammad صَلَّى ٱللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ.

## Status of the Sahaabah رَضِيَ ٱللَّهُ عَنْهُمْ & Respect for them

Lesson 10

The Sahaabah (radhiyallahu anhum) were very pious people. They were most loving and merciful to one another.

The Qur-aan and Hadith bear testimony that the Sahaabah (radhiyallahu anhum) were noble and truthful people. The lowest ranking Sahaabi (radhiyallahu anhu) is far greater in rank than the most pious Muslim who came after the Sahaabah. They are the highest in rank after the Ambiyaa (alayhimus salaam). Having love and respect for all the Sahaabah (radhiyallahu anhum) is an important part of our Imaan. Following them is, in actual fact, following Rasulullah صَلَّى ٱللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ.

Below is an Aayat from the Qur-aan Shareef from which we understand the high status of the Sahaabah (radhiyallahu anhum).

**Aayat**

وَالسّٰبِقُوْنَ الْاَوَّلُوْنَ مِنَ الْمُهٰجِرِيْنَ وَالْاَنْصَارِ وَالَّذِيْنَ اتَّبَعُوْهُمْ بِاِحْسَانٍ ۙ

رَّضِيَ اللّٰهُ عَنْهُمْ وَرَضُوْا عَنْهُ وَاَعَدَّ لَهُمْ جَنّٰتٍ تَجْرِيْ تَحْتَهَا الْاَنْهٰرُ خٰلِدِيْنَ

فِيْهَآ اَبَدًا ؕ ذٰلِكَ الْفَوْزُ الْعَظِيْمُ ﴿١٠٠﴾

*"As for the forerunners from the Muhaajireen and from the Ansaar and also those who follow them in all good deeds, Allah is pleased with them, and they are pleased with Him, and He has prepared for them gardens under which rivers flow, in which they will stay forever; that is a great success." (9-100)*

In this Aayat Allah Ta'ala has mentioned four virtues of the Sahaabah (radhiyallahu anhum):

- Allah Ta'ala is pleased with them.
- They are pleased with Allah Ta'ala.
- They have been given glad tidings of Jannah.
- They will remain forever in Jannah.

## Following the Sahaabah رَضِيَ ٱللَّهُ عَنْهُمْ

The Sahaabah-e-Kiraam (radhiyallahu anhum) are beacons of guidance for all times. Studying their lives, learning about them and following in their footsteps is, indeed, the recipe for the success of mankind. Nabi صَلَّى ٱللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ said, "*My Sahaabah are like (guiding) stars. Whichever of them you follow, you will be rightly guided.*"

Hadhrat Abdullah bin Mas'ood (radhiyallahu anhu) said, "Whoever wants to follow (someone), should follow the Sahaabah (radhiyallahu anhum) of Rasulullah صَلَّى ٱللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ because they had the purest of hearts, and they were the most sound in the knowledge of Deen. They had no formalities in their lives. They were balanced in their ways and habits. They were the people whom Allah Ta'ala chose for the companionship of his Nabi صَلَّى ٱللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ and for the establishment of His Deen. Recognise their status and follow their ways because they were on the straight path."

# Questions

1. Who are the Sahaabah? _____

   _____

   _____

2. Approximately how many Sahaabah were there? _____

   _____

3. What are the names of the 2 groups of Sahaabah who were present in the initial years of Islam? _____

   _____

4. Allah mentions 4 virtues of the Sahaabah in the Qur-aan. Mention them? _____

   _____

   _____

   _____

5. Complete the Hadith, *My Sahaabah are like stars. Whichever of them you follow,*_____

   _____."

## Ranking of the Sahaabah رَضِيَ ٱللَّهُ عَنْهُمْ

Lesson 11

The position of each Sahaabi is different. Some were closer to Rasulullah صَلَّى ٱللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ than others.

- The highest ranking Sahaabah are in the following order:
  - ❖ Hadhrat Abu Bakr (radhiyallahu anhu).
  - ❖ Hadhrat Umar (radhiyallahu anhu).
  - ❖ Hadhrat Usmaan (radhiyallahu anhu).
  - ❖ Hadhrat Ali (radhiyallahu anhu).

These four Sahaabah (radhiyallahu anhum) are known as the **Khulafaa-e-Raashideen** (rightly guided leaders). After Nabi صَلَّى ٱللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ they became the leaders of the Muslims one after the other.

- After the Khulafaa-e-Raashideen comes the rank of the remainder of the **'Asharah Mubashsharah**. The 'Asharah Mubashsharah were that group of ten Sahaabah who were given the glad tidings of Jannah by Nabi صَلَّى ٱللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ in this world, in one sitting. They are:
  1. Hadhrat Abu Bakr (radhiyallahu anhu)
  2. Hadhrat Umar (radhiyallahu anhu)
  3. Hadhrat Usmaan (radhiyallahu anhu)
  4. Hadhrat Ali (radhiyallahu anhu)
  5. Hadhrat Talha (radhiyallahu anhu)
  6. Hadhrat Zubair (radhiyallahu anhu)

7. Hadhrat S'ad bin Abi Waqqaas (radhiyallahu anhu)
8. Hadhrat Abdur Rahmaan bin Auf (radhiyallahu anhu)
9. Hadhrat Abu Ubaidah bin Jarraah (radhiyallahu anhu)
10. Hadhrat Sa'eed bin Zaid (radhiyallahu anhu)

- After the 'Asharah Mubashsharah is the rank of the **Badriyyeen.** The Badriyyeen are those Sahaabah (radhiyallahu anhum) who participated in the **Battle of Badr,** which was the greatest battle ever fought by the Muslims. Then comes the rank of those Sahaabah (radhiyallahu anhum) who participated in the **Battle of Uhud.**

## Lesson 12 Beliefs regarding the Sahaabah رَضِيَ ٱللَّهُ عَنْهُمْ

We believe that all the Sahaabah (radhiyallahu anhum) are Muslims, passed away as Muslims and hold a very high rank in the sight of Allah Ta'ala. All the pious people of the world combined cannot equal the rank of even the lowest Sahaabi (radhiyallahu anhu).

Having love and respect for all the Sahaabah (radhiyallahu anhum) is very important. We should never entertain ill thoughts or feelings for any Sahaabi.

Below are some Ahaadith of Nabi صَلَّى ٱللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ which warn against speaking ill of the Sahaabah (radhiyallahu anhum).

### Hadith 1

Nabi صَلَّى ٱللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ said, "Do not speak ill of my Sahaabah (radhiyallahu anhum) because if any of you were to spend gold equal to mount Uhud (a huge mountain in Madinah Munawwarah) in the path of Allah, then it would never equal a mudd ( ±1.6kg ), in fact not even half a mudd that a Sahaabi spent."

The Suhbat (companionship) of Rasulullah صَلَّى ٱللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ is a great favour of Allah Ta'ala. The benefit and blessings of this companionship has been highlighted in the above Hadith. The reward of the deeds of a single Sahaabi far outweighs that of a non-Sahaabi. It is therefore incorrect for a non-Sahaabi to speak ill of a Sahaabi.

### Hadith 2

Nabi صَلَّى ٱللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ said, "Fear Allah! Fear Allah, regarding my Sahaabah. Do not make them a target (of abuse) after me. **Whoever loves them, then because of his love for me, he loves them**, and whoever hates them, then because of his hatred for me, he hates them. Whoever has harmed them, has harmed me, and whoever has harmed me, has harmed Allah, and whoever tries to harm Allah, then soon Allah will take him to task (punish him)."

The sentence "*whoever loves them, then because of his love for me, he loves them*" means that loving the Sahaabah is a sign of love for Nabi ﷺ, i.e. whoever has love for Nabi ﷺ will love them.

This Hadith serves as a warning to the Shias who criticize and speak ill of the Sahaabah (radhiyallahu anhum).

### Hadith 3

Hadhrat Sa'eed ibn Zaid (radhiyallahu anhu) heard some people speaking ill of Hadhrat Ali (radhiyallahu anhu) in front of some of the governors. Hadhrat Sa'eed ibn Zaid (radhiyallahu anhu) said, "How sad, I see that people are speaking ill of the Sahaabah of Rasulullah ﷺ in front of you. You do not object to this and you do not stop it. I heard with my own ears Rasulullah ﷺ saying, "Abu Bakr is in Jannah, Umar is Jannah, Usmaan is in Jannah, Ali is in Jannah, Talha is in Jannah, Zubair is in Jannah, S'ad bin Abi Waqqaas is in Jannah, Abdur Rahmaan bin Auf is in Jannah, Abu Ubaidah bin Jarraah, is in Jannah." He took the names of nine Sahaabah but did not take the name of the tenth. When the people asked him regarding the tenth, that is it not Sa'eed bin Zaid (he did not mention his name out of humility. He then acknowledged this upon the insistence of the people.) Sa'eed bin Zaid (radhiyallahu anhu) then said, "By Allah, any of the Sahaabah (radhiyallahu anhum) who

took part in Jihaad with Rasulullah صَلَّى ٱللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ in which his face became dusty is better than the ibaadat and deeds of a person who is not a Sahaabi, even if he gets the life of Hadhrat Nuh عَلَيْهِ ٱلسَّلَامُ (i.e. a life of 950 years)."

### Hadith 4

Nabi صَلَّى ٱللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ said, "The best era of my Ummah is my era (i.e. the era of the Sahaabah), then those who come after them (after the Sahaabah), then those who come after them."

Nabi صَلَّى ٱللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ clearly mentions that the era of the Sahaabah are the best of this Ummah.

# Questions

1. Which Sahaabi has the highest rank? _____

_____

2. Mention one Hadith regarding the rank of the Sahaabah?

_____

_____

3. Mention the names of the Asharah Mubashsharah? _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

4. Who are the Badriyyeen? _____

_____

5. What is our belief regarding the Sahaabah? _____

_____

_____

_____

6. Which part of the Ummah is regarded as the best? _____

_____

_____

7. Do a 3 page project on any male or female Sahaabi.

# CHAPTER 4

*Topic Discussed in this Chapter:*

- **THE FOUR IMAAMS OF FIQH**

# Lesson 13 THE FOUR IMAAMS OF FIQH

There were four expert Imaams (leaders) in Fiqh (Islamic rulings). These four Imaams devoted their entire lives to studying the Qur-aan and Hadith. Allah Ta'ala had accepted the works of these four great Imaams and people all over the world are practicing upon their teachings for the past 1300 years. This shows that their works are correct and accepted by Allah Ta'ala.

Each of these Imaams was a **Mujtahid** (a person who is so knowledgeable that he has the capability of deducing Islamic rulings directly from the Qur-aan and Hadith). The understanding of Deen that they had is unmatched up till this day.

The names of these 4 Imaams are:

1. **Imaam Abu Hanifah (rahmatullahi alayh),**
2. **Imaam Maalik (rahmatullahi alayh),**
3. **Imaam Shaafi'ee (rahmatullahi alayh),**
4. **Imaam Ahmad bin Hambal (rahmatullahi alayh).**

These four Imaams had **codified** (categorised) our Fiqh and made it easy for us to understand and practice on it.

Allah Ta'ala mentions in the Qur-aan Shareef,

*"Ask the people of knowledge if you do not know (anything)."*

We too have to follow one of these four Imaams for our Masaa'il (Islamic rulings). Like a person cannot open a book on heart surgery and decide to do a heart operation, similarly a person cannot open the Qur-aan and Hadith and deduce Islamic rulings according to his understanding.

Although all four Imaams are on the right path, we cannot follow all four of them at one time or take random rulings from each of them. Rather, we have to follow one of them as our leader in Fiqh and strictly abide by his teachings. For example, if in one big room there are 4 Jamaats performing Taraaweeh Salaah. You will follow only your Imaam. You will not follow the other 3 Imaams. Although we know that all 4 Imaams are correct, we will only follow our Imaam.

The teachings of these four Imaams are called a **Mazhab**. All the Mazhabs of the four Imaams are on the right path and all link up to Nabi Muhammad صَلَّى ٱللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ.

The names of the four Mazhabs are as follows:

1. Hanafi – teachings of Imaam Abu Hanifah (rahmatullahi alayh)
2. Maaliki – teachings of Imaam Maalik (rahmatullahi alayh)
3. Shaafi'ee – teachings of Imaam Shaafi'ee (rahmatullahi alayh)
4. Hambali – teachings of Imaam Ahmad bin Hambal (rahmatullahi alayh)

# Questions

1. Who is a Mujtahid? _____

_____

2. What are the names of the 4 Imaams of Fiqh? _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

3. Can a person open the Qur-aan and Hadith and deduce Islamic rulings according to his understanding? Explain with an example. _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

4. Can we follow all these 4 Imaams at one time? _____
5. What are the names of the 4 mazhabs? _____

_____

_____

_____

# A GLIMPSE INTO THE LIVES OF THE FOUR GREAT IMAAMS OF FIQH

Lesson 14

It is necessary for us to have the utmost respect for these four great Imaams. It is through their efforts and sleepless nights that the understanding and practicing of Deen has become so easy for us.

## *Imaam Abu Hanifah (rahmatullahi alayh)*

His name was **Nu'maan bin Saabit**. He was commonly known as Imaam Abu Hanifah (rahmatullahi alayh). He was born in the year 80 A.H. and passed away in the year 150 A.H. He was a **Taabi'ee** (a Taabi'ee is a person who saw the Sahaabah). Imaam Abu Hanifah saw Hadhrat Anas bin Maalik (radhiyallahu anhu), who was a great Sahaabi. He also met other great Sahaabah (radhiyallahu anhum).

### Piety

- Imaam Abu Hanifah (rahmatullahi alayh) used to perform the Fajr Salaah and Isha Salaah with the same wudhu for **forty years**.
- Imaam Abu Hanifah (rahmatullahi alayh) used to complete a khatam of the Qur-aan Shareef every night in one rakaat of Salaah.

- He had completed 7000 khatams of the Qur-aan Shareef in his life time.

## Virtues

- Ali bin Aasim (rahmatullahi alayh) said, "If the knowledge of Imaam Abu Hanifah (rahmatullahi alayh) was weighed against the knowledge of the rest of the people of his time, his knowledge would outweigh theirs."
- Abdullah bin Mubaarak (rahmatullahi alayh) said, "Imaam Abu Hanifah (rahmatullahi alayh) was the greatest of people in Fiqh."

## Generosity

It was the habit of Imaam Abu Hanifah (rahmatullahi alayh) that whatever he bought for his family, he would spend the same amount of money on the senior Ulama, and whenever he bought clothing for his family, he used to buy the same amount of clothing for the senior Ulama as well. When the fruit season would commence, whatever he intended to buy for his family members, he would first buy the same for the senior Ulama of his time.

## *Imaam Maalik (rahmatullahi alayh)*

Lesson 15

Imaam Maalik's full name was **Maalik bin Anas** (rahmatullahi alayh). He was born in the year 95 A.H., and was 15 years younger than Imaam Abu Hanifah (rahmatullahi alayh). He passed away on the 14th of Rabi-ul-Awwal 179 A.H.

### Virtues

- Imaam Maalik (rahmatullahi alayh) once said, "I wrote 100 000 Ahaadith with my right hand."
- Imaam Maalik (rahmatullahi alayh) said, "No night passes wherein I do not see Nabi Muhammad صَلَّى ٱللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ in a dream."

### Respect for Hadith

Whenever Imaam Maalik (rahmatullahi alayh) sat down to narrate Hadith, he applied itr and put on clean clothing. A special carpet was laid out for him to sit on. He would come out of his house with great humility and sit before the Mubaarak Hadith of Rasulullah صَلَّى ٱللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ with utmost respect and dignity. Oud (fragrance) used to be burnt in the gathering where the Ahaadith of Rasulullah صَلَّى ٱللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ used to be taught by Imaam Maalik (rahmatullahi alayh).

It is mentioned that Imaam Maalik (rahmatullahi alayh) used to only narrate Hadith while in the state of wudhu, out of respect for the Hadith of Rasulullah ﷺ.

## His Love and Respect for Madinah Munawwarah

Imaam Maalik (rahmatullahi alayh) had great love for the land of Madinah Munawwarah. This love was because of the love he had for Nabi Muhammad ﷺ. Imaam Maalik (rahmatullahi alayh) never rode an animal in the blessed city of Madinah Munawwarah. Even at the time when he grew old and became extremely weak, he preferred to walk rather than being transported by an animal. When Imaam Maalik (rahmatullahi alayh) was asked the reason for this, he mentioned, "I feel extremely difficult to ride on an animal in the blessed city of Madinah Munawwarah, while Rasulullah ﷺ is buried beneath the ground."

## Some Important facts regarding his Life

- Imaam Maalik (rahmatullahi alayh) lived in the house of Hadhrat Abdullah bin Mas'ood (radhiyallahu anhu) in Madinah Munawwarah. He did not own a house. Instead he rented this house until he passed away.

- In Masjidun Nabawi, he sat where Hadhrat Umar (radhiyallahu anhu) used to sit and this was the very same place where Rasulullah ﷺ would lay his bedding for I'tikaaf.

## *Imaam Shaafi'ee (rahmatullahi alayh)*

Lesson 16

Imaam Shaafi'ee's name was **Muhammad bin Idrees** (rahmatullahi alayh). He was born in the year 150 A.H. (the very year Imaam Abu Hanifah (rahmatullahi alayh) passed away). Imaam Shaafi'ee (rahmatullahi alayh) passed away in the month of Rajab 204 A.H.

### Virtues

- Imaam Ahmad bin Hambal (rahmatullahi alayh) said, "For forty years I have been making dua for Imaam Shaafi'ee (rahmatullahi alayh) after salaah". Imaam Ahmad's (rahmatullahi alayh) son once asked him: "What kind of a person was Imaam Shaafi'ee (rahmatullahi alayh)? I often hear you making dua for him?" He replied: "O my beloved son! Imaam Shaafi'ee (rahmatullahi alayh) was like the sun for the world and a means of safety for the people. Do these two (bounties) have any substitute?"
- Imaam Ahmad Bin Hambal (rahmatullahi alayh) used to say, "From amongst the people, Imaam Shaafi'ee (rahmatullahi alayh) was the most well-spoken."

## Piety

Rabee' (rahmatullahi alayh) says: "Imaam Shaafi'ee (rahmatullahi alayh) used to divide his night into three portions. The first third was for writing, the second third for Salaah and the last third for rest." Rabee' (rahmatullahi alayh) also said, "In the month of Ramadhaan, Imaam Shaafi'ee (rahmatullahi alayh) used to complete the recitation of the Qur-aan Shareef sixty times."

Rabee' (rahmatullahi alayh) said, "Imaam Shaafi'ee (rahmatullahi alayh) used to finish thirty khatams (complete Qur-aan) of the Qur-aan every month, but during the month of Ramadhaan, he used to complete sixty khatams besides what he recited during Salaah."

## Lesson 17 *Imaam Ahmad Bin Hambal (rahmatullahi alayh)*

Imaam Ahmad bin Hambal (rahmatullahi alayh) was born in the year 164 A.H. and passed away on a Friday morning, the 12th of Rabi'ul–Awwal, 241 A.H. at the age of 77.

## Virtues

- Imaam Ahmad bin Hambal (rahmatullahi alayh) knew one million Ahaadith by memory.

- In the time of Imaam Ahmad bin Hambal (rahmatullahi alayh) there was no one more knowledgeable in Fiqh than him.

## Piety

- Imaam Ahmad bin Hambal's (rahmatullahi alayh) son says, "My father used to perform 300 rakaats daily. When he became ill, due to the lashes he received from the government which weakened him, he used to perform 150 rakaats. At that time he was almost eighty years of age. He used to recite one seventh of the Qur-aan Shareef daily, thereby completing the whole Qur-aan in seven days. After performing Isha Salaah, he used to have a short nap after which he would remain awake until the morning, performing Salaah and making Dua. My father performed Haj five times; thrice on foot and twice by conveyance."
- It is mentioned that from his childhood days he used to remain awake during the night (in Ibaadah).

## His Respect for Deen

- Imaam Ahmad bin Hambal (rahmatullahi alayh) never called any of his Asaatizah (teachers) by their names out of respect for them. Rather, he would refer to them by their titles.
- Once, Imaam Ahmad bin Hambal (rahmatullahi alayh) was lying down due to some illness. In the middle of the discussion, someone

mentioned the name of Ibrahim bin Tahmaan (rahmatullahi alayh). On hearing this name, Imaam Ahmad bin Hambal immediately sat up out of respect. He then said, "It is not correct for the names of the elders to be mentioned whilst we are sitting and relaxing."

## Questions

1. What are the names of the four Imaams of Fiqh? _____

   _____

   _____

   _____

2. Why do we have to follow these 4 Imaams? _____

   _____

   _____

   _____

3. When was Imaam Abu Hanifah (rahmatullahi alayh) born? ____

   _____

4. For how many years did Imaam Abu Hanifah (rahmatullahi alayh) read his Isha and Fajr with the same wudhu? _____

5. What did Abdullah in Mubaarak say regarding Imaam Abu Hanifah (rahmatullahi alayh)? _____

   _____

   _____

6. How many Ahaadith did Imaam Ahmad bin Hambal (rahmatullahi alayh) know by heart? _____
7. How many times would Imaam Shaafi'ee (rahmatullahi alayh) complete the Qur-aan in Ramadhaan? _____
8. Explain the love Imaam Maalik (rahmatullahi alayh) had for Madinah Shareef? _____

   _____

   _____

   _____

9. Do a 3 page project regarding any one of the 4 Imaams.

# Part 2

# CHAPTER 5

*Topic Discussed in this Chapter:*

- **AQAAID OF THE AHLUS SUNNAH WAL JAMAA'AH**

اَهْلُ السُّنَّةِ وَ الْجَمَاعَةْ

# AQAAID (BELIEFS)

Lesson 18

يَآيُّهَا الَّذِيْنَ اٰمَنُوا ادْخُلُوْا فِي السِّلْمِ كَآفَّةً ۪ وَ لَا تَتَّبِعُوْا خُطُوٰتِ الشَّيْطٰنِ ؕ اِنَّهٗ لَكُمْ عَدُوٌّ مُّبِيْنٌ

*"O you who believe! Enter into Islam completely and do not follow the footsteps of Shaytaan. Surely he is your open enemy."*

This Aayah commands us to enter into Islam completely and entirely. Islam is a complete way of life which has been explained to us in the Qur-aan and the Sunnah of Nabi Muhammad صَلَّى اللّٰهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ.

Aqaaid (correct beliefs) are the most important aspect of our Deen. Aqaaid are like the roots of a tree and deeds are like its branches. Just as branches grow strong and healthy because of their strong roots, similarly beliefs are the source of good and pious actions. Thus the greatest and most important obligation upon man is to correct his beliefs and to cleanse himself of wrong ideologies. He should adorn himself with good actions and earn Allah Ta'ala's pleasure. This is actually the primary objective of our coming into this world.

In the Qur-aan and Hadith, we learn that the most valuable treasure is Imaan and the greatest calamity is kufr (disbelief). Everlasting

success is the result of Imaan while everlasting loss is the consequence of kufr (disbelief).

Righteous deeds are only acceptable to Allah Ta'ala if Imaan is present. Without Imaan, righteous deeds are not accepted and there will be no reward for it in the hereafter. Allah Ta'ala says in the Qur-aan,

وَمَنْ يَّعْمَلْ مِنَ الصّٰلِحٰتِ مِنْ ذَكَرٍ اَوْ اُنْثٰى وَهُوَ مُؤْمِنٌ فَاُولٰٓئِكَ يَدْخُلُوْنَ الْجَنَّةَ

*"Whoever does good deeds, be it male or female, while he* (or she) *is a* ***believer****, verily they will enter Jannah."* (Nisa:124)

As far as those whose beliefs are incorrect i.e. the disbelievers, their righteous deeds will not be acceptable in the court of Allah in the hereafter. They will receive the reward for their good actions in this world.

In the coming pages we will be explaining what are our correct beliefs, insha Allah.

# "The Ahlus Sunnah Wal Jamaa'ah"

Lesson 19

اَهْلُ السُّنَّةِ وَ الْجَمَاعَةْ

## Who are the Ahlus Sunnah wal Jamaa'ah?

We are the Ahlus Sunnah wal Jamaa'ah.

The Ahlus Sunnah Wal Jamaa'ah is that group of Muslims whose beliefs and teachings are completely in accordance with the Qur-aan, the Sunnah of Nabi Muhammad صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ and the noble Sahaabah (radiyallahu anhum). In this name (Ahlus Sunnah wal Jamaah) there are two words that are used. One is Sunnah and the other is Jamaa'ah. Sunnah refers to the mubaarak way of Nabi Muhammad صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ and Jamaa'ah refers to the noble group of Sahaabah who followed Nabi Muhammad صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ.

Later on, people introduced many new beliefs in Islam. The Ahlus Sunnah wal Jamaa'ah, however, remained firm on the beliefs of the Qur-aan and the Hadith and did not create their own belief structure.

Our beliefs conform 100% to the Qur-aan and the Sunnah of Rasulullah صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ.

## Lesson 20 Beliefs of the Ahlus Sunnah wal Jamaa'ah

The beliefs of the Ahlus Sunnah wal Jamaa'ah are mentioned in Imaani Mufassal. These basic beliefs are mentioned below. A detailed explanation is given in the Grade 6 Aqaaid Book.

1.) **Belief in Allah Ta'ala:** We believe that Allah Ta'ala is our God and our Creator. We worship Allah Ta'ala who is one and has no partner. Allah Ta'ala is the Creator of the whole universe, the Sustainer and Nourisher of everything. Only He is worthy of worship. He is pure and free from all faults.

2.) **Belief in the angels:** Allah Ta'ala has created angels from light. They are hidden from our eyes. They neither eat nor drink. They are constantly in the worship of Allah Ta'ala and never get tired. They never disobey Allah.

3.) **Belief in the divine books:** Allah Ta'ala had sent many divine Books from the heavens with Jibraeel (alayhis salaam), to the Ambiyaa (alayhimus salaam). These books have all the divine commands of Allah Ta'ala.

4.) **Belief in the Ambiyaa (Messengers of Allah):** The Ambiyaa (alayhimus salaam) are the pure, sinless servants of Allah Ta'ala, who were sent by Allah Ta'ala to guide His servants. They were human beings just like us. They were most knowledgeable amongst all the people of their time. They were all **ma'soom** (sinless).

5.) **Belief in the Last Day:** A time will come when the whole world will be destroyed and will come to an end. This is called Qiyaamah.

6.) **Belief in Taqdeer (Fate or predestination):** To believe that whatever took place or will take place (good or bad) happens by the command and will of Allah Ta'ala.

7.) **Belief in the life after death:** To believe that there is a life after this life. i.e. The life of the grave and resurrection on the Day of Qiyaamah.

One must never mock any aspect of Islam. Mocking any part of Islam and having doubts in our basic beliefs takes a person out of the fold of Islam. It is of utmost importance that a person learns and corrects his beliefs. We cannot have any doubts regarding our Imaan and our beliefs.

True success in this world and the hereafter depends solely on having the correct beliefs. Therefore, it is important for us to have some knowledge of those groups who are gone astray so that we

can protect ourselves from them. If we are not sure regarding any group, we should consult our pious, senior Ulama.

Hereunder, we will mention some of the groups who have gone astray, so that one can be careful of them and save ourselves and others as well.

May Allah Ta'ala allow us to live our lives with perfect Imaan, die with perfect Imaan, and be raised on the day of Qiyaamah with perfect Imaan. Aameen.

## Questions

1. Who are the Ahlus Sunnah wal Jamaa'ah? _____

_____

_____

2. What do the beliefs of the Ahlus Sunnah wal Jamaa'ah consist of?

_____

_____

3. What can happen to a person who mocks any fundamental aspect of Islam? _____

4. The beliefs of the Ahlus Sunnah wal Jamaa'ah are mentioned in…

_____

# CHAPTER 6

*Topic Discussed in this Chapter:*

- **DEVIATED GROUPS**
  - **The Shia**
  - **The Salafi**
  - **The Qaadiyaani**

Lesson 21

# Deviated Groups

The Deviated groups are those people who outwardly show themselves as Muslims, but have corrupt beliefs. Some are gone astray and some are even out of the fold of Islam. They are very dangerous to our Imaan. They are like wolves in sheep clothing. They are waiting for the right opportunity to pounce on us and attack our beliefs. The path to salvation is to follow strictly what we learnt in our Maktab (Madrasah).

Among the deviated groups present today are:

- **The Shia**
- **The Salafi**
- **The Qaadiyaani**

The above three deviated groups will be explained in the following pages.

# "THE SHIA"

**Origin of the Shia**

When Nabi Muhammad ﷺ was appointed as a prophet of Allah, the Jews were very upset with this. They were hoping that the final Nabi will come from the Jews. Because of this, they were driven by rage and anger. They began planning on how to destroy Islam from within its ranks. They began looking for someone who was well versed in treachery, lies, and deception who would cause problems among Muslims. Eventually they found a man by the name of Abdullah bin Sabah. He was a Jew but he disguised himself as a saint and won the hearts of some Muslims who were not so acquainted with the details of Islam. Taking advantage of their ignorance Abdullah bin Sabah created his new religion called Shiasm. His whole purpose was to destroy Islam from within and establish kingship and rule for himself.

He directed his attacks towards the Qur-aan Shareef and the Noble Sahaabah (radiyallahu anhum). He managed to influence people whose beliefs were not very stable with his delightful talks and exciting lectures with stories and tales of the past. Being a good orator, people were captivated by his thrilling speeches and began following him. He would speak very highly of Hadhrat Ali (radiyallahu

anhu) and established the love of this great Sahaabi in the hearts of his followers. He then overstepped all limits and granted him honour above the rest of the Sahaabah and in-fact even more than Rasulullah ﷺ. In fact he even mentioned that Hadhrat Ali (radiyallahu anhu) was Allah Ta'ala himself. This was how Shiasm started and took root in many communities.

Sadly, many Muslims today believe that Shiasm is part of Islam and that there are no differences between the beliefs of the Ahlus Sunnah wal Jamaa'ah and the Shias. Shiasm is far from Islam. It is the only religion in the world that promotes lying, cheating, backbiting, adultery and all other sins as acts of worship.

The Shia have no respect for the Sahaabah (radhiyallahu anhum). In fact they have intense hatred for the Sahaabah (radhiyallahu anhum). Their entire religion revolves around disrespecting the Sahaabah. Swearing the Sahaabah (radhiyallahu anhum) and speaking ill of them is regarded as a great act of ibaadah in their religion.

They claim that besides:

- Hadhrat Ali (radhiyallahu anhu),
- Hadhrat Faatimah (radhiyallahu anha),
- Hadhrat Hasan (radhiyallahu anhu),

- Hadhrat Husain (radhiyallahu anhu),
- Hadhrat Miqdaad (radhiyallahu anhu),
- Hadhrat Salmaan Faarsi (radhiyallahu anhu),
- Hadhrat Abu Zarr Ghifaari (radhiyallahu anhu) and a few other Sahaabah,

all the other remaining Sahaabah (radhiyallahu anhum) turned away from Islam. (May Allah Ta'ala protect us).

## Some Beliefs of the Shias

Lesson 22

The Shias have some strange beliefs which no other religion has. The following are some of their beliefs:

- **Taqiyyah** (speaking lies to deceive people). This they call the holy hypocrisy. To say something and mean something else.
- **Mut'ah** (prostitution or temporary marriage as they call it) is regarded as great acts of worship for which they will be greatly rewarded.
- They claim that the Qur-aan Shareef is incomplete. They say that the Qur-aan Shareef contains 40 paras. From these, ten paras are hidden in a cave with one of their twelve Imaams.
- They claim that Hadhrat Ali (radhiyallahu anhu) was supposed to be the Prophet after Nabi Muhammad صَلَّى ٱللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ.

- The wording of their Azaan is different from that of the entire Muslim world.

  They claim…
- That Hadhrat Abu Bakr (radhiyallahu anhu) forcefully took the khilaafat (leadership) after Nabi ﷺ.
- That Hadhrat Umar (radhiyallahu anhu) is the enemy of Rasulullah ﷺ and an oppressor of the family of Rasulullah ﷺ. They also claim that he altered the Qur-aan.
- That Hadhrat Usmaan (radhiyallahu anhu) was a cruel and oppressive ruler and that he stole the wealth of the Ummah for himself and his family.
- They claim that the pure wives of Nabi ﷺ, Hadhrat Aa'ishah (radhiyallahu anha) and Hadhrat Hafsah (radhiyallahu anha), secretly planned to kill Nabi ﷺ by poisoning him.
- They claim that Hadhrat Aa'ishah (radhiyallahu anha) committed zina (Allah forbid!) and that she was a hypocrite.

These are some of the nasty statements that the Shias make about our beloved Sahaabah. Whereas, Allah Ta'ala says in the Qur-aan Shareef regarding the Sahaabah, *"Allah is pleased with them and they are pleased with Him."* When Allah Ta'ala has announced that he is happy with the Sahaabah (radhiyallahu anhum), what right do the Shia have to say anything about any Sahaabi? We should have

utmost respect for all the Sahaabah. We should never entertain any ill thoughts about them. It is because of their efforts that we are Muslims today.

Shiasm is a major threat to this Ummah. It is a false religion and has nothing to do with Islam. They act like Muslims but they are wolves in sheep clothing. Beware of them as they are dangerous for one's Imaan. May Allah Ta'ala protect us, the Ummah of Rasulullah صَلَّى ٱللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ, from the curse of Shiasm and keep us firm on the path of the Sunnah of Rasulullah صَلَّى ٱللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ.

# Questions

1. Who are the Shias? _____

_____

_____

2. Who was the founder of Shiasm? _____

3. Mention two fundamental acts of worship of the Shias? ____

_____

_____

_____

4. What do they say regarding Hadhrat Abu Bakr (radhiyallahu anhu)? _____

_____

5. What do they say regarding Hadhrat Aa'ishah (radhiyallahu anha)? _____

_____

6. Is Shiasm a true religion? _____

_____

# "THE SALAFI"

Lesson 23

## Origin

The founder of the Salafi group was a person by the name of Muhammad bin Abdul Wahhaab Najdi. He lived in Arabia in the year 1200 A.H. He openly insulted the great Ulama and claimed that there was no need to follow any mazhab. He began spreading his ideas all over the world. Nowadays the headquarters for Salafiasm is in Saudi Arabia. Another name for 'The Salafi' is 'Ahl-e-Hadeeth' or 'Ghair Muqallid'.

A Salafi is a person who does not follow any of the four great Imaams, i.e.

1. Imaam Abu Haneefa (rahmatullahi alayh)
2. Imaam Maalik (rahmatullahi alayh)
3. Imaam Shaafi'ee (rahmatullahi alayh)
4. Imaam Ahmad ibn Hambal (rahmatullahi alayh)

We follow one of these four great Imaams for our guidance in Fiqh. If we do not follow the guidance of one of these Imaams, we will easily be led astray. A person who follows the teachings of any of these four great Imaams of Fiqh is called a **Muqallid**.

A 'Salafi' feels that he can study the Qur-aan and the Hadeeth of Rasulullah صَلَّى ٱللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ on his own and understand the laws of Islam without having to follow anyone. This is very dangerous if he does not have some expert Aalim to guide him. The 'Salafi' opens translations of the Qur-aan Shareef and Bukhaari Shareef and feels that he can understand Deen by studying on his own. They don't want to follow any Imaam. This is very dangerous in our Deen. In this way they have become misguided and they then misguide others as well.

## Referring to the experts in everything we do

In anything we do, we always "refer to the experts for guidance." If we are building a house, we will have to refer to expert architects, engineers and builders to build a strong sturdy home. If a person feels that he is quite intelligent and can build a home himself by reading up the necessary books of architecture, he will end up with a huge disaster.

Similarly, if a person is summoned to court and needs to fight a case he will have to refer his matter to an expert lawyer who will guide him correctly. If he decides to read up some books on law and fights the case himself, he will end up losing the case and may end up in prison.

Worse still is that person who decides to do a heart operation on his own by checking through some medical text books. He then intends to cut up a patient and operate on him. In these matters we will have to refer to expert doctors and heart specialists who will guide us along. If someone takes up a self-study and experiments by doing an operation, such a person will be arrested by the police for being a threat to people's lives.

In the same manner, when it comes to matters relating to our Deen, we have to refer to the experts in this field. The experts are the four great Imaams who have understood the Qur-aan, the Hadith and the Sunnah very well and have applied it in their lives.

## The Harms of Salafiasm

Lesson 24

Senior Ulama have mentioned that, "Not following an Imaam is actually a stepping stone to one day not following a religion." Salafis who do not follow a mazhab eventually end up leaving the fold of Islam. The Salafis freely attack the honour and the respect of the great Imaams and are quick to label anyone and everyone as Mushrik and Kaafir.

## Respect for the four Imaams

We must always have respect for all our Ulama and elders especially the four great Imaams. 'The Salafi' has no respect for any of the four

great Imaams. They insult and belittle them. **They claim that there is no need to follow any of these great Imaams.** We should have the utmost respect in our hearts for them and should hold firm to their teachings, as they were very pious and upright servants of Allah Ta'ala. They lived in a time that was much closer to the time of Rasulullah ﷺ. Their understanding of Deen is much greater than our understanding. They had memorised more than a million Hadeeth with the full chain of narrators. Do you think any of us can match them in their knowledge of Islam? Their teachings are still being practiced throughout the world for more than 1400 years.

## The way forward

We must be very careful of getting caught in the traps of the Salafi. They can be very captivating with their flowery speeches. Hold on firmly to what you have learnt in the madrasah. Insha Allah, you will be successful in this world and the hereafter. There are many people out in the world who are there to confuse us. Be careful of who you join, what books you read and what lectures you listen to. Don't go onto the internet to find answers for your Deeni matters. If you are unsure of something, refer to your Ustaaz / Apa or any reliable Aalim for guidance.

May Allah guide and protect us. May Allah keep us firm on the path of the Sunnah. Aameen.

# Questions

1. Can a person go directly to the Qur-aan and Hadith to understand Deen? Explain? _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

2. Who is a Salafi? _____

_____

3. What claim do they make regarding following an Imaam? ____

_____

4. Are they on the right path? _____

_____

5. Who understands Deen better, someone who was born 20 years ago or someone who was born close to the time of Nabi (sallallahu alayhi wasallam)? _____

_____

_____

6. If we are in doubt, what should we do? _____

_____

7. Who is a Muqallid? _____

_____

_____

8. What do you understand by "refer to the expert in the field"? Explain with an example. _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

# "THE QAADIYANI"

Lesson 25

Hadhrat Nabi Muhammad ﷺ was the last and final messenger of Allah. After him, no other Nabi or prophet will come. Allah Ta'ala has mentioned in the Qur-aan Kareem;

مَا كَانَ مُحَمَّدٌ اَبَآ اَحَدٍ مِّنْ رِّجَالِكُمْ وَلٰكِنْ رَّسُوْلَ اللّٰهِ وَ خَاتَمَ النَّبِيّٖنَ ؕ

وَ كَانَ اللّٰهُ بِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ عَلِيْمًا

*Muhammad (sallallahu alayhi wasallam) is not the father of any of your men. But he is the messenger of Allah and* ***the seal of the prophets****.*
*And Allah has full knowledge of all things*

From this aayat we learn that Nabi Muahmmad ﷺ is the last and final messenger of Allah. Allah Ta'ala has sent him as the final prophet to mankind till the end of time. This is our belief, the belief of the Ahlus Sunnah wal Jamaah.

There were many people who claimed to be prophets after Nabi Muhammad ﷺ. These were all impostors and false prophets. Some of them like Musailamah Al-Kazzaab and Aswad Anasi claimed to be prophets in the lifetime of Nabi Muhammad ﷺ. After

Rasulullah ﷺ passed away, there were many such impostors who claimed prophethood.

### Ghulam Ahmad Qaadiyani

One such person who claimed prophet-hood was **Mirza Ghulam Ahmad** who was born in the village of Qaadiyaan in India. Initially he portrayed himself as a preacher and well-wisher of Islam. However, he was bribed by the British who were ruling India at that time. They used him to cause division amongst the Muslims. Some weak Muslims accepted his false claims and became his followers. Those who follow him are called Qaadiyaanis.

## Lesson 26 False beliefs and claims of the Qaadiyaanis

- Mirza Ghulam Ahmad was the final prophet, and not Nabi Muhammad ﷺ.
- Mirza Ghulam Ahmad used to receive (wahi) divine revelation.
- The one who does not accept the prophet-hood of Mirza Ghulam Ahmad is a kaafir.
- Mirza Ghulam Ahmad performed one million miracles.
- Mirza Ghulam Ahmad is superior to the prophets of the Bani Israaeel.
- Rasulullah ﷺ did not go for Mi'raaj physically, rather he merely experienced kashf (a spiritual state).

- Mirza Ghulam accused Allah Ta'ala and Nabi (sallallahu alayhi wasallam) of fabricating lies.
- He claims that Hadhrat Isa (alayhis salaam) has already died. He will definitely not return before Qiyaamah.

Mirza Ghulam Ahmad made many prophecies in his lifetime, but none materialised. Regarding his death he prophesised that he will die in Makkah or Madinah. Never mind dying in Makkah or Madinah, he did not even get the good fortune of seeing these mubaarak places. Due to his false predictions, he was humiliated and regarded as a liar.

He died a miserable death. He suffered from severe diarrhoea and vomiting and died whilst in the toilet.

Anyone who claims to be a prophet after Nabi Muhammad ﷺ is a Kaafir and those who regard such a person as a prophet are not Muslims. Therefore, the Qaadiyaanis are regarded as non-Muslims by the Ahlus Sunnah wal Jama'ah. Marriage with them is not permissible and they cannot be buried in a Muslim graveyard.

May Allah Ta'ala protect us from these false beliefs. May Allah keep us with firm Imaan and take us with Imaan. Aameen.

# Questions

1. Who are the Qaadiyaanis? _____

_____

_____

_____

2. Explain any four of their claims? _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

3. How did Mirza Ghulam die? _____

_____

_____

4. Are Qaadiyaanis Muslims? Explain? _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

# CHAPTER 7

*Topic Discussed in this Chapter:*

- **SINS & TAUBAH**

Lesson 27

# Sins

Allah Ta'ala has created mankind for the purpose of worshiping and obeying Him. For this Allah Ta'ala has promised great rewards in this world and the hereafter. However, if man disobeys Allah Ta'ala and commits sins, Allah Ta'ala becomes displeased with him and may punish him in the hereafter.

Allah Ta'ala has given us the ability to differentiate between good and bad and has given us the power of choice i.e. to choose between doing good deeds or bad deeds. A person will be punished or rewarded based on what deed he/she chooses to do.

Every Muslim must try his/her best to stay away from all sins. Sins weaken our Imaan and spoil our relationship with our Creator. Allah Ta'ala, who is Most Kind and Merciful, has blessed us with so many favours that we will never be able to thank Him enough for it. At the least we should try and be obedient servants of His by staying away from sins.

Sins are divided into two categories: Major (BIG) sins and minor (small) sins. A Muslim must stay away from all kinds of sins so as not to displease our Rabb, Allah Ta'ala.

**Major Sins** are those sins which will not be forgiven except if a person makes sincere taubah (repentance).

**Minor Sins** are those sins which Allah Ta'ala forgives through some good action that we do and by making Istighfaar.

## Major Sins

1. Shirk (To ascribe partners to Allah Ta'ala)
2. Zina (adultery)
3. Murder
4. Stealing
5. To leave out a Fardh act like Salaah, Zakaat, Hajj and fasting in Ramadhaan.
6. Zulm (Oppression)
7. Taking any kind of intoxicant (like drugs, alcohol, etc.)
8. To deprive an heir of his/her inheritance
9. Backbiting
10. Swearing
11. Jealousy
12. Disobedience to parents
13. Disrespecting one's teachers and elders
14. Showing disrespect to the salient signs of Islam (like a Masjid, Qur-aan Shareef, Azaan, Aalim, etc.)
15. Speaking lies
16. Listening to music

17. Watching TV
18. Gambling

Lesson 28

# TAUBAH

Besides the Ambiyaa (alayhimus salaam), all other human beings commit sins. A person cannot claim to be free of sins. But the best of sinners are those who turn to Allah Ta'ala in taubah and repentance. Rasulullah صَلَّى ٱللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ has said;

*All the children of Aadam* (alayhis salaam) *are sinners and the best of sinners are those who make Taubah.*

If a person slips up and commits a sin, he should immediately seek the forgiveness of Allah Ta'ala by making taubah. He should not delay in making taubah as he does not know when death will come. Allah Ta'ala loves those who make taubah. By making taubah and repenting to Allah Ta'ala, we will become the beloved of Allah. If a person leaves this world without making taubah and without settling his issues with the people he had oppressed, he will have to pay for it on the day of Qiyaamah. Here the payment will not be with money, gold or silver, but payment will be with his good deeds. His good deeds will now be taken and given to those he had oppressed.

If his good deeds are finished, the sins of the person he had oppressed will then be loaded onto him.

## Questions

1. Why did Allah create mankind? _____
2. Sin are divided into how many categories? _____

   _____
3. Explain what is a major sin? _____

   _____

   _____

   _____
4. Mention 10 major sins?

   _____

   _____

   _____

   _____

   _____
5. Can a person claim to be free from sin? _____
6. If a person commits a sin, what should he do? _____

   _____

   _____

# Chapter 8

*Topic Discussed in this Chapter:*

- **Huqooq (Rights)**
  - Huqooqullah (rights of Allah)
  - Huqooqul Ibaad (Rights of the Creation)

# HUQOOQ - RIGHTS

Lesson 29

There are two types of **Rights** which we have to fulfil.

1. **Huqooqullah** (the rights of Allah).
2. **Huqooqul Ibaad** (the rights of the creation).

**Huqooqullah** refers to our acts of worship which Allah Ta'ala has prescribed for us like performing Salaah, paying Zakaat, fasting in Ramadhaan and performing Hajj. If a person did not fulfil Huqooqullah or showed disregard to it, then Allah Ta'ala may take him to task for it or may forgive him. This is entirely up to Allah Ta'ala. No one can question Allah Ta'ala regarding His rights.

**Huqooqul Ibaad** refers to the rights which are due to people. For example, one person swore someone, hit someone unjustly, oppressed someone, spoke ill of someone or stole something from someone. A person will not be forgiven for these sins by making taubah alone. He will have to ask that person for forgiveness first and then only will his taubah be accepted. Therefore, if we had hurt or oppressed someone, we should ask him for forgiveness immediately.

Remember, no sin is too big for Allah to forgive. Shaytaan traps us by making us think that, "My sin is too big. Allah Ta'ala will never

forgive me. There is no taubah for me." This is totally incorrect. Allah Ta'ala has promised us forgiveness even if our sins are equal to the foam on the ocean. We have to take the first step and turn to Allah Ta'ala in sincere repentance and He will forgive us.

## Lesson 30 Conditions for Taubah to be accepted

**Taubah consists of 3 parts:**

1. To have remorse in your heart and feel ashamed for committing the sin.
2. To turn to Allah Ta'ala, and beg Him for forgiveness of the sin
3. To make a firm determination never to commit that sin again.

If any of these conditions are not found, the taubah will be incomplete. If a person made taubah but after some time slipped up again, he should not lose hope in Allah Ta'ala. He should immediately turn to Allah Ta'ala in repentance. Allah Ta'ala will surely forgive him. Rasulullah صَلَّى ٱللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ has said that even if you have to commit the same sin 70 times in one day, each time you commit the sin, make taubah and ask for forgiveness.

## The worldly benefits of obedience to Allah Ta'ala

Lesson 31

- A person's sustenance is increased
- A person receives abundant blessings
- A person has contentment of heart
- A person is saved from calamities
- A person is respected among people
- A person experiences ease in all his work
- A person's heart remains strong
- The benefits that he experiences passes on to his children

## The Worldly Harms of Sinning

- A person is deprived of knowledge
- There is a decrease in sustenance
- The person experiences difficulty in his work
- His intellect becomes weak
- His heart is always in confusion
- Allah remains angry with him
- He is deprived of the duas of the angels
- He is unable to read the kalimah at the time of death

# Story

## A murderer who was forgiven after killing 100 people

There was once a man from the Banu Israa-eel who killed ninety-nine people. He made an intention to repent for his sins and change his life. He tried to find out from people whether he will be forgiven or not. He went to a monk and asked him, 'I killed ninety-nine people, is there any chance of forgiveness for me?' The monk replied, 'No,' so the man killed him immediately now making it a hundred murders. He continued to seek advice from people regarding his forgiveness until someone said to him, 'Go to such and such a village. There are pious people living there. Someone may be able to assist you.'

On the way to that village, death overtook him. Whilst dying, he turned his chest towards that village (where he hoped his taubah would be accepted). The Angels of mercy and the Angels of punishment rushed down to extract his soul. They began arguing with each other as to who would extract his soul. Allah Ta'ala commanded them to measure the ground and see which village he was closer to. If he was closer to his own village then he would go to Jahannam and if he was closer to village of the pious people, he would be forgiven. In reality he was closer to his own village but Allah Ta'ala, out of His sheer mercy, commanded the village he was headed to [to change his life] to contract (come near) and the

village from which he had come, to go further. Thus, when the angels measured the ground, he was one hand-span nearer to the village of the pious and so he was forgiven."

Allah Ta'ala loves to forgive His servants and looks for the slightest excuse to forgive us.

## Questions

1. What is the meaning of Huqooq? _____

   _____

2. What is the meaning of Huqooqullah and Huqooqul Ibaad? __

   _____

   _____

3. Mention the 3 conditions of taubah. _____

   _____

   _____

4. Mention 4 worldly harms of sinning _____

   _____

5. Mention 4 worldly benefits of obedience to Allah _____

   _____

# CHAPTER 9

*Topic Discussed in this Chapter:*

- **FALSE THEORIES**
  - THE BIG BANG THEORY
  - THE THEORY OF EVOLUTION

# THE BIG BANG THEORY

Lesson 32

Have you heard of a theory called "The Big Bang" theory? This theory claims that there was once a 'big bang' and then the entire world came into existence; the oceans, the trees, the mountains, the humans the animals, the sun, the moon, the plants and everything else.

This theory is completely false and has no basis at all. Have you come across a situation in your life where there was a BANG, and a car came into existence; there was a BANG, and a tall tree sprouted out of the ground instantly? Is this ever possible? Any person with a sound intellect will understand that things don't just happen or come into existence by some big noise.

A Muslim doesn't live by theories or possibilities; a Muslim lives by truth, by belief, by reality, by the Qur-aan. A Muslim believes and understands that there is a Supreme Being who created the heavens and earth and all that is in between them, Who is the Originator of all creation and the maker of it. That Supreme Being is Allah. Without Him, nothing would exist. Our firm belief is that Allah Ta'ala created the universe and whatever it contains i.e. the sun, moon, oceans, stars, humans, animals, the sky, the clouds, and everything that we can see and everything that we cannot see.

Our first question is, "If we all came into existence only after the big bang, then who was alive to witness and hear the bang and informed us of it in the first place?" If there wasn't anyone alive, then who witnessed this strange occurrence?"

In our day to day life, we witness a unique system which operates with complete precision. Take the sun for example. The sun rises and sets everyday on its prescribed time. Never did the sun rise late on any day nor did it set early on any day. If the sun has to move closer to the earth, we will all burn to ashes and if the sun moves further away, we will all freeze to death. How does the sun know what distance to keep so that it can keep everything alive with its heat? Did this perfect system just come into existence through a 'big bang'?

Was the big bang so unique that it brought about different kinds of humans, animals, sea life, insects, trees, water, clouds, mountains, and everything else?

This is just a theory and a theory is not a fact. Even the scientists will tell you that a theory is just a theory and not a fact.

**But what is a fact is that Allah Ta'ala is the Creator of everything and Allah Ta'ala is in total control of everything**. This is established from many aayaat of the Qur-aan which was revealed to Nabi

Muhammad ﷺ from Allah Ta'ala directly. A person who believes in the Big Bang theory is not a Muslim as he has rejected so many clear Aayaat of the Qur-aan. None of his acts of ibaadaat will be accepted until he makes taubah from this belief and enters into Islam fully. The Qur-aan Shareef is our guide. It is the only authentic Divine Book for our guidance. In many places of the Qur-aan Allah Ta'ala explains the creation of man. Allah Ta'ala says:

خَلَقَهٗ مِنْ تُرَابٍ

*"He (Allah) created him (Aadam) from sand.'"*

وَلَقَدْ خَلَقْنَا الْاِنْسَانَ

"Indeed, *We (Allah) created insaan (human kind)."*

From these Aayaat we understand that Allah Ta'ala is the creator, originator and maker of everything. Allah Ta'ala also explains to us who the intelligent people are. Allah Ta'ala says:

اِنَّ فِيْ خَلْقِ السَّمٰوٰتِ وَالْاَرْضِ وَاخْتِلَافِ الَّيْلِ وَالنَّهَارِ لَاٰيٰتٍ لِّاُولِي الْاَلْبَابِ ﴿١٩٠﴾ الَّذِيْنَ يَذْكُرُوْنَ اللّٰهَ قِيٰمًا وَّقُعُوْدًا وَّعَلٰى جُنُوْبِهِمْ وَيَتَفَكَّرُوْنَ فِيْ خَلْقِ السَّمٰوٰتِ وَالْاَرْضِ ۚ رَبَّنَا مَا خَلَقْتَ هٰذَا بَاطِلًا ۚ

*Indeed, in the creation of the skies and the earth and the alternating of the night and day are definitely signs for the* ***intelligent people,*** *those who remember Allah whilst standing, sitting and upon their sides and they ponder over the creation of the skies and earth. (Then they exclaim)* ***O our Rabb, You haven't created this without a purpose.***

## Lesson 33 Understand this through an example

Once upon a time two people entered a huge beautiful house which was on top of a hill. The first person mentioned, "What a beautiful house! The person who designed the house must be a very talented person and excellent in engineering! Look at the structure of the building, it is so solid! The person who built it must be really brilliant. Look at the cupboards, made so beautifully! The carpenter must be really good with his hand! All the people who got together to make this beautiful house must be really talented and qualified in their different fields."

The second person who was a foolish person mentioned, "I feel that there was rubble on the opposite mountain and when the wind blew, over time, the pieces of rubble settled on this hilltop and slowly the rubble placed itself in position and got stuck to each other forming a building in the shape of this beautiful house. Then there were pieces of wood which got blown by the wind and settled

in the house, which formed into cupboards etc. and that is how this beautiful house came about."

Everyone will say that the second person is a fool and is totally wrong as it is impossible that a house can come into existence on its own without the help of the architect, the builder, the carpenter, the electrician and the plumber.

If a simple structure like a house cannot come into existence on its own, then what about this huge universe, which functions in a beautiful manner; the sun that rises in the morning and sets in the evening, the blowing of the wind which draws the clouds together to bring rain yet if a person has to go into the clouds he would not find even one drop of water. This is the power of Allah Ta'ala. Look at the rotation of the earth which causes night and day. It is only Allah Ta'ala who created this beautiful system for us to survive. Nothing can come into existence without the will of Allah Ta'ala.

We should always be thankful to Allah Ta'ala for all the bounties that He has given us. We should be extra thankful to Allah Ta'ala for making us Muslims and giving us the ability to understand right from wrong. If it wasn't for the help of Allah, we could have also been fooled and believed these baseless theories, which would have resulted in our eternal misery.

# Story

## A Discussion between an atheist and Hadhrat Imaam Abu Hanifah (rahmatullahi alayh)

An atheist is a person who does not believe in Allah or any other god and does not follow any religion.

Once, an atheist wanted to debate with Imaam Abu Hanifah (rahmatullahi alayh). The atheist encouraged people to attend this debate and the time, date and venue was set. It so happened that on the day of the debate Imaam Abu Hanifah (rahmatullahi alayh) came very late.

**The Atheist remarked**: "Look! Your Imaam came late. It seems that he is scared."

**Imaam Abu Hanifah (rahmatullahi alayh) said**: "Listen to my story first! When I was coming, I had to cross a river. When I approached the river there was no boat for me to cross. It so happened that there was a tree on the bank of the river. Miraculously the tree was cut into different sizes and, on its own, the pieces came together and formed a boat. I quickly jumped on board and that's how I came across. It is for this reason that I am late."

**The Atheist:** "This is the most foolish thing I have ever heard! How can a boat come into existence on its own, without anyone making it?"

**Imaam Abu Hanifah (rahmatullahi alayh) replied:** "You cannot believe that a simple boat can come into existence on its own without someone making it. Then what about this entire universe (sun, moon, humans, animals)? How can all this come into existence on its own without someone creating it?"

# Questions

1. Explain what is the "Big Bang" Theory? _____

_____

_____

2. Do Muslims believe in these theories?_____

_____

3. What is our belief regarding the creator of the skies and the earth? _____

_____

_____

4. Who is in control of the entire universe? _____

_____

5. If the sun moves further away from where it is then what will happen to the earth? _____

_____

_____

6. Can a person be a Muslim if he believes in "The Big Bang" theory? _____

_____

# THE THEORY OF EVOLUTION

Lesson 34

There was a man, an atheist, by the name of Darwin who lived about 200 years ago. He refused to believe in Allah Ta'ala as the creator of the skies and the earth, the creator of the humans and animals. People asked him, "If you don't believe in any creator, then who created us?" He had no answer for this. So, to prove himself to the people, he made up a false theory saying that human beings evolved from monkeys i.e. the human race were all monkeys once upon a time and slowly, over time, they turned into humans.

What a false theory this is! Can anyone who is sane in his mind believe such nonsense? How can someone claim that his ancestors were apes and then try his best to prove this to the world. Imagine if someone insulted you by calling your parents and grandparents monkeys? Well, that is what Mr Darwin says. He spent his whole life trying to prove that his great grandparents were monkeys. Well, if he wants to prove that his ancestors were monkeys, then let it be. For sure our grandparents were not monkeys. Our Great great grandfather was Hadhrat Aadam (alayhis salaam).

Allah Ta'ala, who is our true creator, had informed us in the Qur-aan Shareef that He (Allah) created Hadhrat Aadam (alayhis salaam) in Jannah from sand and then blew life into him. Allah Ta'ala then sent

Hadhrat Aadam (alayhis salaam) and his wife Hadhrat Hawwa down to the earth. Allah blessed them with many children and this continued. Today the entire earth is filled with the children of Hadhrat Aadam (alayhis salaam) who is the father of the whole of mankind.

Allah Ta'ala says in the Qur-aan Shareef:

لَقَدْ خَلَقْنَا الْاِنْسَانَ فِيْٓ اَحْسَنِ تَقْوِيْمٍ ۝٤

*Indeed We (Allah) created mankind in the best form*

اَلرَّحْمٰنُ ۝١ عَلَّمَ الْقُرْاٰنَ ۝٢ خَلَقَ الْاِنْسَانَ ۝٣

*Rahmaan (Allah), taught the Qur-aan, created mankind*

اِقْرَاْ بِاسْمِ رَبِّكَ الَّذِيْ خَلَقَ ۝١ خَلَقَ الْاِنْسَانَ مِنْ عَلَقٍ ۝٢

*Read in the name of your Rabb who created (everything). He created mankind from a clot of blood.*

## Lesson 35

This theory, called "Darwin's theory of evolution" is taught in schools and universities all over the world, teaching children that their origin was from a monkey. We should understand well that this theory is completely false. To believe in this theory is kufr (disbelief) as it contradicts many clear Aayaat of the Qur-aan Shareef. If a

person believes in the theory of Darwin, he is no more a Muslim. All his acts of worship will not be accepted by Allah Ta'ala. He will have to make sincere taubah to Allah Ta'ala, retract from these false beliefs and recite the kalimah once again in order to become a Muslim.

## Some facts to think about…

- If humans evolved from a monkey, then who created the monkey?
- Why is it that so many centuries and decades passed but we haven't seen even one monkey turning into a human? How did this stop all of a sudden?
- Up to now there is no evidence to prove that man evolved from a monkey.
- Who would ever want to prove that his ancestors were Apes?
- If someone wishes to prove that his relatives were monkeys, then so be it. Alhamdulillah, we are happy to say that none of our relatives were monkeys and that our origin is from Aadam (alayhis salaam).

# Questions

1. Who is our true creator? _____
2. Who was the first human being to be created by Allah? _____

   _____
3. Who was Darwin? _____

   _____
4. What was the claim of Darwin? _____

   _____

   _____
5. Did Darwin follow any religion? _____
6. On what did Darwin base all his studies? _____

   _____

   _____
7. Will a person remain a Muslim if he believes in Darwin's theory?

   _____

# ALLAH TA'ALA IS AL-KHAALIQ! Lesson 36

## *The Creator Who Created Everything Perfectly from the Beginning*

Allah Ta'ala is the Creator of everything. He created the entire universe and all that it contains. Allah Taala is so powerful, that He never feels tired. Even when He created the world, He did not get exhausted or tired.

Allah Ta'ala created the earth and made all the different types and colours of soil. Allah Ta'ala made some soil fine and dry, like the sand in the desert, and some soil wet and sticky, like clay. He made some soil brown, some red and some black. In some places, Allah Ta'ala placed huge, gigantic mountains on the earth, and in other places, He created valleys and open plains.

Allah Ta'ala created all the different plants and trees. The tall towering trees, the short thorny bushes, the attractive flowers with their beautiful colours and patterns, and all the different vegetables with their different tastes – these are the creations of Allah Ta'ala. Allah Ta'ala created the beautiful red roses, the crunchy apples, the sweet strawberries, and all the wonderful things.

Allah Ta'ala created the oceans and the rivers. He made the different oceans and rivers of different colours. He made the water of some salty, while others have sweet water. He created some oceans with high waves and strong tides, while He made others with calm and still water.

Allah Ta'ala created the sky, high above the earth. In the sky, Allah Ta'ala placed the sun, to give light and warmth during the day, and the moon and stars, to give light and guidance at night. Allah Ta'ala also placed clouds in the sky to rain water onto the plants and to fill the rivers and lakes.

Allah Ta'ala created all the animals in the ocean. From the eight-legged octopus and the dangerous shark to the delightful dolphin and the gigantic whale – all were created by Allah Ta'ala. Similarly, Allah Ta'ala created all the animals on land, like the poisonous snake, the roaring lion, the playful monkey and the tall giraffe. Likewise, Allah Ta'ala created the birds in the sky, such as the graceful eagles, the pigeons and all the other birds. Allah Ta'ala created all the insects, from the buzzing bee and the busy ant to the slow snail and the green grasshopper. Allah Ta'ala made all these creatures in different colours, shapes and sizes, and made all of them beautiful to look at.

Everything that we see and know was created by Allah Ta'ala. He created the water we drink, the air we breathe, the sounds that we hear and every other thing in the world.

Why did Allah Ta'ala create everything? Allah Ta'ala created this entire world and everything in it for us – the children of Nabi Aadam (alayhis salaam). Allah Ta'ala created everything so that we can use all these things to live in the world while we worship Him and recognise that He is our creator.

This is the reason we read the dua when we eat. We are thanking Allah Ta'ala for the food He gave us. We read the dua when we drink. We are thanking Allah Ta'ala for His blessings. When it rains and the plants become lush and green, we remember that the rain is from Allah Ta'ala and we thank Him. Wherever we are, and whatever we look at, it should remind us of Allah Ta'ala. He is the One who created it so perfectly. We thank Him for everything and worship Him because He is our Creator.

# Questions

1. Allah is al-Khaaliq. What is the meaning of Khaaliq? _____

_____

_____

2. Who created everything? _____
3. Does Allah Ta'ala ever get tired? _____
4. Mention some of the different things Allah Ta'ala created?

_____

_____

_____

5. Why did Allah Ta'ala create everything? _____

_____

6. Look around you and then write down a 2 page project on whatever Allah Ta'ala has created.