

ISLAM

A SIMPLE INTRODUCTION

**MOST AUTHENTIC
BEGINNER'S GUIDE**

GHULAM RASOOL QASMI



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Introduction

This enlightening work, titled "Islam: A Simple Introduction - Most Authentic Beginners' Guide," is meticulously crafted by a qualified Islamic scholar. The primary objective is to provide readers with an accurate and accessible introduction to Islamic beliefs, practices, and teachings. The content seamlessly integrates authentic quotations from the Quran and the sayings (Hadith) of the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ, offering genuine and reliable guidance to those seeking knowledge about Islam.

About the Author

Author was born in 1958 in Punjab Pakistan. From his young age, his heart was full of passion to spread the mission of Holy prophet ﷺ all over the world and that mission was "to spread the name of Allah throughout the world". Author is a great scholar of Islamic law and Sufism. He pledged allegiance to the renowned religious scholar and great saint "Muhammad Qasim Mashori" in 1980. He is the visionary founder of **Al-Qasim education society** and wrote 50+ books in Arabic, Urdu and English languages. This literary work spans a wide range of topics, delving into Islamic theology, spirituality, jurisprudence and contemporary challenges faced by the Muslim ummah. His remarkable works include

- **Maqasid-u-Tanzil** – Holy Qur'an's Tafsir
- **Al-Mustanad** – A unique collection of authentic Hadith, encompassing all essential topics
- **Syed-ul-Mursaleen** ﷺ – A book on the biography of the Holy Prophet ﷺ
- **Christianity to Islam** – A thought-provoking guide leading individuals from Christianity to the light of Islam

Publisher's Note

This accomplished author, a prominent figure in Islamic scholarship, has dedicated his life to disseminating authentic knowledge and understanding of Islam. Rehmat-ul-Alameen Publishers, operating under the esteemed Al-Qasim Education Society, proudly presents this invaluable resource for knowledge seekers.

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Overview

Welcome to the Beginner's Guide to Islam! Whether you are new to the faith or simply seeking to expand your knowledge, this guide is designed to provide you with a clear and accessible introduction to the beautiful religion of Islam.

Islam, which means "submission" in Arabic, is not only a religion but a complete way of life. It encompasses beliefs, practices, ethics, and a profound connection with the divine. With over 1.8 billion followers worldwide, Islam is one of the largest religion in the world, and its teachings have had a significant impact on diverse cultures and societies.

In this guide, we will embark on a journey to explore the core aspects of Islam, starting with the importance of knowledge in Islam. We will delve into the beliefs and concepts that form the foundation of Islamic faith, understanding the oneness of Allah and the role of Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. We will then move on to explore the acts of worship in Islam, such as prayer, charity, fasting, and pilgrimage, which play a central role in the lives of Muslims.

Ethics and morality hold great significance in Islam, and we will examine the ethical values and principles that guide Muslims in their interactions with others and their pursuit of

a virtuous life. Throughout the guide, we will provide clear explanations, real-world examples, and practical insights to make the concepts and teachings of Islam easily understandable and relatable.

We understand that starting a journey into a new religion may seem overwhelming at times. That's why this guide is specifically designed for beginners, breaking down complex topics into smaller, manageable sections. We will gradually build upon foundational concepts, allowing you to grasp one idea before moving on to the next, ensuring a gradual and comprehensive learning experience.

As you progress through this guide, it is important to approach the material with an open mind and a genuine curiosity to learn. Feel free to explore further and seek additional resources and guidance from knowledgeable individuals within the Muslim community. Islam is a diverse and rich religion with various interpretations, and engaging with others can deepen your understanding and provide valuable insights.

So, let us embark on this enlightening journey together and discover the beauty and wisdom of Islam. Whether you are seeking spiritual guidance, cultural understanding, or a deeper connection with Muslims around the world, this Beginner's Guide to Islam is here to support you every step of the way. May your exploration of Islam be filled with knowledge, inspiration, and a profound sense of peace!

Chapter 1

The Importance of Knowledge in Islam

Learning Objectives

- Understand why knowledge is essential in Islam. o Identify the sources of knowledge in Islam.
- Recognize the connection between knowledge and faith in Islam.

1.1 The Significance of Seeking Knowledge in Islam

In Islam, knowledge holds great importance as it helps individuals understand Allah's guidance and strengthens their faith. Seeking knowledge is considered a virtuous and obligatory act for all Muslims. By acquiring knowledge, we gain a deeper understanding of our religion and develop a closer relationship with Allah. For every single human being on earth, the greatest and most authentic source of knowledge is Quran. Reciting, understanding and practicing it is the important foundation of Islamic teachings. After

Quran, the second source of knowledge for us is the Hadith of Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. If the solution to a problem is not found in both these sources, we take guidance from unanimous or majority decisions made by the scholars of truth. This is the safest and the strongest path, this is “Sirat-e-Mustaqeem” meaning ‘straight path with no turns whatsoever’ hence the correct path. For the knowledge to prevail within us and around us, we pray as Holy Prophet ﷺ prayed

“O Allah! I ask you for beneficial knowledge, goodly provisions and acceptable deeds. (Sunnan Ibn e Maja: 925)

1.2 Sources of Knowledge in Islam

There are three primary sources of knowledge in Islam

The Quran

The Quran is the most important source of knowledge for Muslims. It is the direct word of Allah and functions as a comprehensive guide for all aspects of life. By studying and reflecting upon the verses of the Quran, we can gain valuable insights and guidance. In the Quran, Allah almighty tells his Holy Prophet ﷺ

“Say O Holy (peace and blessings upon him) can the knowledgeable and the ignorant be equal?” (Al-Zumar: 9)

“Allah exalts among you the ranks of those people who believe and who are given knowledge” (Al-Mujaadalah: 58)

The Quran also teaches humans to seek knowledge via prayers.

“O my Lord, increase my knowledge “(Taha: 114)

Hadith

Hadith refers to the sayings, actions, and approvals of Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ . These teachings provide practical guidance and explanations of the Quran's teachings. Hadith collections are compiled by scholars who meticulously preserved the words and actions of the Holy Prophet ﷺ . Our Holy Prophet ﷺ said

“Acquiring knowledge is obligatory on every Muslim” (Ibn Maja: 224)

“Angels spread their wings on the path of the student, all the angels and those in the skies and the earth, even the ants pray in their burrows for the one who teaches people goodness” (Tirmizi: 2685)

“If you listen to even one sentence from me, relay it forward” (Bukhari: 3461)

“Write down everything I say, by Allah, nothing comes out of my mouth except the truth” (Abu Dawud: 3646)

“May Allah bless the person who heard my word, then memorized it, then kept it in remembrance and passed it on” (Tirmizi: 2656)

Scholars and Teachers

Learning from knowledgeable scholars and teachers is crucial for understanding and interpreting Islamic knowledge. These individuals have studied the Quran, Hadith, and Islamic sciences in depth and can help clarify complex concepts and provide guidance on how to apply them in our lives.

Indeed, the example of the scholars on earth is like the stars in the sky, through them guidance is obtained in the land and in the darkness of sea. So when the stars are hidden, the seekers of guidance are lost (Musnad-e-Ahmad: 12537)

Hazrat Abdullah bin Abbas (RA) says that teaching and learning knowledge for a short time at night is better than staying awake all night in worship (Darimi: 14)

1.3 The Relationship between Knowledge and Faith

In Islam, knowledge and faith are deeply interconnected. Knowledge serves as the foundation upon which faith is built. As we seek knowledge, we come to understand the principles and teachings of Islam, which strengthens our belief in Allah and His guidance. By deepening our knowledge, we can develop a more profound faith and live our lives in accordance with Islamic teachings.

Learning about Islamic beliefs, practices, and ethics empowers us to lead righteous lives and make informed

decisions based on our understanding of Islam. It helps us develop a sense of purpose and direction, enabling us to navigate the challenges of life with clarity and conviction.

By continuously seeking knowledge, we can deepen our relationship with Allah and fulfill our purpose as Muslims. Through the Quran, Hadith, and the guidance of scholars and teachers, we gain the tools to better understand and practice Islam, leading to personal growth and spiritual fulfillment.

Chapter 2

Islamic Beliefs and Concepts

Learning Objectives

- Comprehend the Oneness of Allah
- Significance of Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ
- Appreciate the importance of believing in the Day of Judgment

2.1 Existence, Oneness and Attributes of Allah

In the era of ignorance, before Islam, the people were devoid of belief in the Supreme. After the leaders left this world respectively, all the other religions, were busy in making associates for God either in being or in attributes, one way or the other and this is still the case. Islam, having corrected these mistakes, gave the world the most pure belief and ideal for the attributes as well as the being of Allah. Here is how In Quran, the proof of existence of Allah is given

“Indeed, in the creation of the skies and the earth, and in the coming and going of night and day, there are definitely signs for the people of pause (reason) (Aal-Imran: 191)

“Do these people not look at the camel—how was this (masterfully) created, do they not look at the sky—how it was raised, do they not look at the earth - how it was spread out, do they not look at the mountains - how they were firmly set.” (Al-Ghaashiya: 17 to 20).

“How can you deny Allah? Whereas, you didn’t exist and He granted your being, then He will cause you to die, then he will again bring you to life, and then to Him you will(all) be returned.” (Al-Baqrah: 28)

“O mankind! What has deceived (and took you away) from your Lord, the Most Generous? The One who created you, then made you perfectly, then proportioned you. He formed you into whatever shape he willed.” (Al-Infitar: 6, 7, and 8)

In Islam, the belief in the oneness of Allah is fundamental. Muslims recognize Allah as the one and only God, the creator and sustain-er of the universe. This belief is known as Tawhid. Muslims understand that Allah is all-knowing, all-powerful, and encompasses all the attributes of perfection. It is through this belief that Muslims establish a direct and personal relationship with their Creator. Allah says

“If there were gods other than Allah in the skies and the earth, they (realms) would have definitely been destroyed.” (Al Ambiyaa:22)

"Do not say three gods (Trinity) (Al-Nisa’a: 171)

“And Allah has proclaimed, ‘Do not take two gods. Indeed, He is the only one God; so, fear only Me’.”. (Nahl: 51)

“So, know that there is no one worthy of worship except Allah” (Muhammad: 19)

“Say He is Allah, He is One” (Al-Ikhlās: 1)

“Call upon Him by saying ‘Allah’ or call upon ‘the Most Gracious’. Whichever you call; all are his splendid names.” (Al-Isrā': 110)

“Only He is Allah, the maker, the Creator, the giver of shape to everyone’, to Him belong all beautiful names.” (Al-Hashr: 24)

“Do not set examples for Allah” (Al-Nahl: 74)

“Get away from those who have departed from the truth about Allah's (Attributes and His) Names” (Al A'raf: 180)

2.2 Need for Prophets and Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ

In this Mortal world, only the most intellectual people have the right to guide and lead fellow humans. But it is not in the forte of the human to choose the wisest among themselves (as per history). Often, people elect someone by considering

him/her more knowledgeable and intelligent, such people reach the assemblies and throw chairs at each other and use disgustingly abusive language, hence abusing the power given to them.

Only the supreme can correctly choose the wisest person. Whosoever was declared the wisest in different time periods, they, were the ones who were given Prophethood and only they were called Prophets or messengers (Numerous Blessings and salutations be upon them). In the end, the being wisest of them all was selected to be sent and made the final Prophet as well as the final messenger of Allah with his blessed name being Muhammad ﷺ. If the wisest was sent at the start, then would there be a need to send anyone else? Hence the understanding, that the final messenger has to be the chosen one from them all; to deliver and complete the message and religion of Allah. This is the need of Prophethood and this is the reason our Holy Prophet ﷺ was chosen as the final Messenger of Allah. Now after him ﷺ, Prophethood has ended. Holy Prophet ﷺ says about himself

**“I am the last Prophet, there will be no Prophet after me”
(Tirmizi: 2219)**

Thereafter Allah has stopped appointing someone to this sacred position and there are no revelations thereby. Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ is revered by Muslims as the final and greatest messenger of Allah. Muslims believe that he received divine revelations from Allah through the angel Jibrael (Gabriel). Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ conveyed Allah's message to humanity, providing guidance on matters of faith, morality, and righteous living. Muslims regard Holy

Prophet Muhammad ﷺ as an exemplary role model, both in his character and actions, and strive to follow his teachings in their daily lives.

Initiating and completing his own mission, living it himself and then successfully establishing a system wherein these values flourish, Holy Prophet ﷺ undeniably proves himself as the most triumphant being to have ever walked the Earth. The mission and legacy left by Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ was taken up and taken to great heights by his 4 companions as Caliphs of Islam. These four caliphs are also called the Khulfa -e-Rashdeen. Their names are

- Hazrat Abu Bakr Siddique (May Allah be pleased with him)
- Hazrat Umar Farooq (May Allah be pleased with him)
- Hazrat Usman Ghani (May Allah be pleased with him)
- Hazrat Ali Al-Murtaza (May Allah be pleased with him)

The position and rank of these four are also in the same order. Otherwise, all the companions (Sahaba) of Holy Prophet ﷺ were highly trained and great beings having led exemplary lives. Many non-Muslim literates have admitted the highest qualities of the guiding light stars of Islam. For example: Michael H Heart has Mentioned Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ as the foremost successful human in history, Hazrat Umar Farooq (May Allah be pleased with him) is also included in the list. (The Hundred P. 3 & 261) Influencing these virtuous humans and preparing them completely for life and to take the blessed mission of Islam further is clearly the sign of success of the Holy Prophet ﷺ. The love of Allah and His Messenge ﷺ and being grateful to Sahaba (His ﷺ

companions) is also a basic moral of Islam. Every Sahabi is a star of guidance. No Muslim can deny the unanimous decisions of the Companions and is obligated to follow.

2.3 Belief in the Day of Judgment

Muslims firmly believe in the Day of Judgment, a day when all individuals will be held accountable for their actions in this world. On that day, Allah will judge every person based on their deeds, intentions, and the choices they made in their lives. This belief serves as a powerful reminder for Muslims to live a righteous and ethical life, knowing that they will be answerable for their actions in the hereafter.

The belief in the Day of Judgment encourages Muslims to engage in good deeds, seek forgiveness for their sins, and treat others with kindness and fairness. It instills a sense of responsibility and accountability, motivating individuals to strive for moral excellence and to fulfill their obligations towards Allah and fellow human beings.

By understanding and embracing these core beliefs, Muslims develop a strong foundation for their faith. The oneness of Allah, the significance of Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ, and the belief in the Day of Judgment shape the worldview and guide the actions of Muslims, providing them with spiritual guidance and a framework for leading a purposeful and fulfilling life according to Islamic principles.

2.4 Other Important Beliefs and Ideas

The most important beliefs laying the foundation of faith are mentioned in the Qur'an as such

“Whoever denies Allah, His angels, His Books, His Messengers and the day of End has clearly gone astray (Al-Nisaa: 136)

In the above verse, five basic root beliefs of Islam are mentioned which are

- Believing Allah
- His Angels
- Books
- Messengers
- The Last day

It is clearly mentioned that missing or disregarding any of these beliefs is disbelief (Kufr). Hence we Muslims respect Allah's Angels and do not insult them, we respect all the Holy Books sent down to us, it is however a different thing that the books sent down before Qur'an have been negated, as the completed guidance has been sent in the shape of religion Islam. In the same manner, we Muslims also regard & recognize all the Prophets and use Alaihi Salam (Peace Be upon him) with their names such as Prophet Musa (Alaihisalam) and Eesaa (Alaihisalaam). These values of respect are taught to us by Islam. Islam is a religion with very high leading morals that teaches humanity & respect to its followers. Eventually believing in the Day of Judgment and

fear of the being answerable to the supreme, who made us helps a person lead a peaceful life and have good character.

Chapter 3

Islamic Worship and Practices

Learning Objectives

- Understand the fundamental acts of worship in Islam
- Recognize the importance of prayer, charity, fasting, and pilgrimage

Appreciate the spiritual and practical significance of these acts of worship In Quran, Allah Almighty Says

“I created the jinn and the humans only for my worship” (Al-Zaariyat: 56)

There are four most important acts of worship in Islam

- Prayer
- Zakat
- Fasting
- Hajj

3.1 Prayer (Salah)

Prayer, known as Salah, is a central act of worship in Islam. It involves performing specific physical movements and reciting prayers in Arabic. Muslims pray five times a day, at dawn, midday, afternoon, sunset, and night. Prayer is a means of establishing a direct connection with Allah, seeking guidance, and expressing gratitude. It helps Muslims cultivate mindfulness, humility, and spiritual discipline in their daily lives. Almighty says

“To pray at the set times has been made obligatory upon the believers” (Al-Nisa’a:103)

“Indeed, prayer prevents obscenity and evil” (Al-Ankabut: 45)

Holy Prophet ﷺ said

“When your children reach the age of seven, order them to pray, and when they reach the age of ten, give punishment for not praying and make them sleep in separate beds” (Abu Dawud: 495)

Holy Prophet ﷺ in his last moments in this world, said

“Stay consistent in praying, Stay consistent in praying. Be Fearful of Allah regarding your slaves” (Musnad Ahmad: 587)

3.2 Charity (Zakat)

Charity, or Zakat, is an essential practice in Islam. Muslims who meet certain financial criteria are obligated to give a portion of their wealth to those in need. Zakat serves multiple purposes, including purifying one's wealth, promoting social justice, and showing compassion towards others. By giving to the less fortunate, Muslims demonstrate their commitment to helping those in need and fostering a sense of community and care. In Quran it is directed

“Establish prayer and give Zakat (Al-Baqarah: 110)

“The beggar (the one who asks you for it) and the poor also have a right to their wealth” (Al-Zaariat: 19)

Holy Prophet ﷺ said

“The beggar has the right, even if he comes on horseback” (Abu Dawud: 1666)

Not taking Interest, giving zakat from your wealth, avoiding wasteful/unnecessary spending and eating halal food are the best foundations of a successful economic system as these are all things that if not followed, then selfishness and oppression will be the norm.

3.3 Fasting (Sawm)

Fasting, or Sawm, is observed during the holy month of Ramadan. From dawn to sunset, Muslims abstain from food,

drink, and other physical needs. Fasting is a spiritual practice that encourages self-discipline, empathy, and reflection. It teaches Muslims to control their desires and focus on their relationship with Allah. Fasting during Ramadan also provides an opportunity for Muslims to deepen their connection to the Quran and engage in acts of charity and self-improvement. Allah the Almighty says

“O believers! Fasting has been made obligatory upon you (Al-Baqarah: 183)

“Whoever among you finds the month of Ramadan, he must fast in it (Al-Baqarah:185)

Holy Prophet ﷺ said

“Allah loves the smell of the mouth of a fasting person more than musk. Fasting is a shield. A fasting person should not speak dirty words and gossip. If someone abuses him, he should say, ‘I am fasting’ “(Bukhari: 1904, Muslim: 2706)

3.4 Pilgrimage (Hajj)

Hajj is the pilgrimage to the Holy city of Mecca. It is an obligatory act of worship for Muslims who are physically and financially capable of undertaking the journey. The Hajj takes place during a specific time of the year and involves a series of rituals that commemorate the life of Prophet Ibraheem (Abraham) (Peace be upon him) and his devotion to Allah. Pilgrims perform various acts, such as circumambulating the Kaaba, standing on the plain of Arafat, and symbolically stoning the devil. The Hajj is a profound

spiritual journey that promotes unity, humility, and the remembrance of Allah.

By engaging in these acts of worship, Muslims strengthen their relationship with Allah, deepen their faith, and develop a sense of community and compassion. Prayer, charity, fasting, and pilgrimage are not only spiritual practices but also serve as reminders of the importance of mindfulness, generosity, self-discipline, and devotion in leading a fulfilling and righteous life according to Islamic teachings. Allah Almighty, says

“Whoever is fortunate, it is necessary for him to perform Hajj to the House of Allah for the sake of Allah (Al-Imran: 97)

Holy Prophet ﷺ said

“He who performed the Hajj and did not commit any sin or transgression will return as if his mother had given birth to him today” (Bukhari: 1819, Muslim: 3291)

“Rulers are responsible for preventing evil with their hands and scholars with their tongues, and a helpless person must consider evil at least in his heart (Muslim: 177)

In order for righteousness and justice to prevail, it is essential to promote goodness and discourage evil deeds.

Allah says in the Qur’an

“You are the best nation; you command what is right and forbid what is wrong.” (Al-Imran: 110)

Chapter 4

Islamic Ethics and Morality

Learning Objectives

- Understand the importance of ethical behavior in Islam
- Appreciate the emphasis on fulfilling the rights of Allah and fellow human beings
- Recognize the significance of kindness, honesty, and compassion in Islamic teachings

4.1 Ethical Behavior in Islam

Ethical behavior and moral character hold great importance in Islam. Muslims are encouraged to exhibit kindness, honesty, justice, and compassion in their interactions with others. Islam teaches that good character and ethical conduct are integral to a person's faith and relationship with Allah. By embodying these virtues, Muslims strive to create harmonious relationships and contribute to a just and compassionate society. Allah Almighty says

“O Prophet (Peace be Upon Him)! You have grand morals” (Al-Qalam: 4)

Holy Prophet ﷺ said

“I have been sent to raise morality to its heights” (Mota Malik: 1614)

4.2 Rights and Responsibilities

Islam emphasizes fulfilling the rights and responsibilities owed to Allah, oneself, and fellow human beings. Muslims are taught to respect and honor their parents, as they play a significant role in raising and nurturing individuals. Being fair in business dealings, showing compassion to the less fortunate, and treating others with respect and dignity are also essential aspects of Islamic ethics. By fulfilling these rights and responsibilities, Muslims strive to create a balanced and equitable society. Holy Prophet ﷺ described three types of rights. He said

“Your Lord has a right over you, and your life (being; body and soul) has a right over you and your family has a right over you, so pay every rightful person their rights” (Bukhari: 1968)

See the details of these three rights

Right of Allah Almighty

The right of Allah is that no one should be associated with Him. Hypocrisy and arrogance must be avoided. Acceptance

of prayers depends on the correctness of intention and true sincerity, Holy Prophet ﷺ said

“Certainly, Actions depend on intentions” (Bukhari: 1)

Guidance for a common person, depends on good company and friendship. Holy Prophet ﷺ said

“A person is based on the religion of his friend, so you should look yourselves at who you are friends with” (Abu Dawud: 4833).

“Every person will be accompanied by those he loves on the Day of Resurrection” (Bukhari: 7153)

“The best deed is to love for the sake of Allah and to hate also for the sake of Allah” (Abu Dawud: 4599)

Right to One's Life

The right to one's life is that a person should not commit suicide or beat himself. To prioritize one's well-being and personal up keep, it is essential to take care of one's health, body, clothing and maintain cleanliness in ones surroundings. Allah Almighty says

“Do not cast yourselves unto destruction via your own hands (Al-Baqarah: 195)

Holy Prophet ﷺ said

**“It does not befit a believer that he humiliates himself”
(Tirmizi: 2254)**

“Purity is part of faith” (Muslim: 534)

Right of Other People

The rights of parents top the rights of all the other humans. To portray the importance of parents, in Quran it is said

“Be kind to your parents, if one or both of them reach old age before you, never say to them ‘ugh,’ and do not ignore them, and speak to them respectfully (Al- Isra: 23)

After parents, a husband should take care of his wife and not speak ill of her. Holy Prophet ﷺ said

“Fear Allah about wives” (Muslim: 2950)

“At the same time, it is asked of the wives to not make unreasonable demands and the parents of girl should not favor their daughters excessively. Hazrat Abu Bakr Siddique and Umar Farooq used to correct and teach their daughters themselves” (Muslim: 3190)

4.3 Modesty and Humility

Modesty and humility are valued virtues in Islam. Muslims are encouraged to be modest in their actions, speech, and appearance. Modesty involves avoiding arrogance and

ostentation, recognizing that all blessings come from Allah. By practicing humility, Muslims foster a sense of equality and unity among individuals. It helps create an environment of mutual respect and encourages people to focus on the content of their character rather than worldly status or possessions.

Understanding and practicing ethical behavior, kindness, honesty, compassion, fulfilling rights, and demonstrating modesty and humility are essential aspects of Islamic ethics and morality. These principles guide Muslims in their daily lives, influencing their interactions with others and shaping their character. By embodying these values, Muslims strive to lead a righteous and purposeful life, aligning their actions with the teachings of Islam. For the dead, Holy Prophet ﷺ advised

“Only portray the virtues of your deceased people” (Abu Dawud: 4900)

“Whoever covers a Muslim’s veil, Allah will cover him on the Day of Resurrection” (Bukhari: 2442)

“Moderation in spending is half of economics, love of people is half of intellect and correct questioning is half of knowledge” (Mushkawa: 5067)

“Backbiting a Muslim is like eating the flesh of a dead brother” (Al-Hujrat: 12)

“A Muslim is one from whose tongue and hand Muslims are safe” (Bukhari: 11)

“He who does not show mercy to our younger ones and does not respect our elders is not one of us” (Tirmizi: 1921)

“Jealousy consumes good deeds like fire consumes fuel (Abu Dawud: 4903)

“Fear from the sigh of the oppressed person because it reaches Allah directly” (Bukhari: 1496)

“None of you can be a believer until he likes for his brother what he likes for himself” (Bukhari: 13)

Someone said to Holy Prophet ﷺ “O Messenger of Allah ﷺ advise me something”, Holy Prophet ﷺ replied

“Give up rage.” When asked the same question again and again, he ﷺ replied, Give up rage” (Bukhari: 6116)

A Simple Summary of Whole Religion

As a summary of the whole religion, our Holy Prophet ﷺ said

“There are five foundations of Islam. ‘To bear witness that there is no god but Allah, Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah’, establishing prayer, giving Zakat, performing Hajj and fasting in Ramadan “(Bukhari: 8, Muslim: 14)

It is important to understand these five foundations exactly as our Holy Prophet ﷺ has explained and in the way that all Muslims have learnt it, from Him ﷺ. To believe in two gods and simply say ‘La ilaha illallah’ through words is a mere deception, and similarly, to believe someone a prophet after Holy Prophet Muhammad ﷺ is a clear deception. Zakat and Hajj are not obligatory on a poor person. The basics of worship for a common man is to keep praying, fasting, reciting the Kalma and Durood, and asking for forgiveness if he commits a sin. A short description of this routine is Holy Prophet ﷺ said

“The best remembrance is La ilaha illallah. (Tirmizi: 3383)

“Whoever recites one Durood (Blessings) upon me, Allah will recite ten times the blessings upon him” (Al-Nasa’i: 1297)

A simple Durood Sharif is

Allahuma Syedina wa Maulana Muhammdin wa aala ale seyidina Muhammadin wa ashabihe wa baarik wasallim. Sal-lal-laho Alaa Muhammadin Wa Aalihee Wasal-lim.

“Whoever makes a habit of asking for forgiveness, Allah Almighty will remove him from every hardship, free him from every sorrow and provide him with sustenance from where he cannot even fathom” (Abu Dawud: 1518)

The shortest Istaghfar is

Astaghfirullah

Conclusion

Congratulations on completing the Beginner's Guide to Islam! You have taken significant steps in understanding the fundamental concepts and practices of Islam. By learning about the importance of knowledge, Islamic beliefs, acts of worship, and ethical behavior, you have gained valuable insights into the religion.

Remember, your journey does not end here. It is essential to continue seeking knowledge from reliable sources and engaging with the Muslim community to further enhance your understanding. Islam offers a rich and diverse range of teachings and practices, and there is always more to learn and explore.

As you continue on your path, strive to deepen your relationship with Allah and live a righteous life guided by Islamic principles. Embrace the values of kindness, honesty, compassion, and humility, and let them shape your interactions with others and your daily choices.

Stay connected to the Muslim community, participate in Islamic rituals and acts of worship, and seek opportunities to contribute to the betterment of society. Remember that Islam

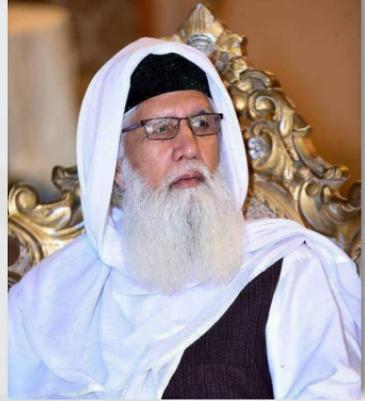
is not just a religion but a comprehensive way of life that encourages spiritual growth, personal development, and a commitment to social justice.

May your journey in Islam be filled with blessings, personal growth, and a deepening connection with Allah. Keep an open heart and mind as you continue to explore and apply the teachings of Islam in your life. May your faith be a source of guidance, strength, and peace!

(Ameen)

About the Author

Author was born in 1958 in Punjab Pakistan. From his young age, his heart was full of passion to spread the mission of Holy prophet ﷺ all over the world and that mission was "to spread the name of Allah throughout the world". Author is a great scholar of Islamic law and Sufism. He pledged allegiance to the renowned religious scholar and great saint "Muhammad Qasim Mashori" in 1980. He is the visionary founder of Al-Qasim education society and wrote 50+ books in Arabic, Urdu and English languages. This literary work spans a wide range of topics, delving into Islamic theology, spirituality, jurisprudence and contemporary challenges faced by the Muslim ummah. His remarkable works include



Maqasid-u-Tanzil – Holy Qur'an's Tafsir

Al-Mustanad – A unique collection of authentic Hadith.

Syed-ul-Mursaleen ﷺ – Biography of the Holy Prophet ﷺ

Christianity to Islam – A guide on Christianity to light of Islam

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