

The Five Pillars of Islaam
Islaamic Reader

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The Five Pillars of Islam

عن أبي عبد الرحمن عبد الله بن عمر بن الخطاب رضي الله عنهما
قال:

سمعت رسول الله ﷺ يقول: بُني الإسلام على خمس: شهادة أن لا
إله إلا الله، وأنَّ محمدًا رسول الله، وإقام الصلاة، وإيتاء الزكاة، وحجَّ
البيت، وصوم رمضان
رواه البخاري ومسلم

On the authority of Abee Abdur Rahman Abdullah bin Umar bin al Khattab (*Radi Allahu anhuma*) he said: I heard the Messenger of Allah (*SallAllahu alaihi wa sallam*) say,

“Islam is build on five: The Shahaadah (declaration of faith) That none has the right to be worshipped in truth except Allah and that Muhammad is His slave and messenger, the establishment of prayer, payment of Zakaah, Hajj to the house (i.e. Ka’bah) and to fast Ramadhan.”

(Collected by Bukhaari & Muslim)

The Shahadaah

The Shahaadah is the declaration of faith that every Muslim believes in. It is the first pillar of Islaam and the most important act of Ibaadah (worship). Every Muslim makes the declaration that nothing has the right to be worshipped in truth except Allah and that Muhammad is His slave and Messenger (**La ilaha illAllah Muhammadun Abduhu wa Rasoolhu**).

This declaration is a belief in the heart and a statement on the tongue which thus manifests on the limbs.

The statement **La ilaha illAllah** has two parts. The first part is a negation and the second part an affirmation.

Nothing has the right to be worshipped (**La ilaha**) is the negation. Within this statement is the belief that nothing other than Allah is to be worshipped.

Except Allah (**illAllah**) is the affirmation that only Allah is worshiped in truth and all forms and types of worship belong to Allah alone. These two statements confirm that only Allah is to be worshipped. The first statement negates worship for other than Allah while the second statement affirms that worship is only for Allah alone.

Allah says in the Qur'an,

ذَلِكَ بِأَنَّ اللَّهَ هُوَ الْحَقُّ وَأَنَّ مَا يَدْعُونَ مِنْ دُونِهِ هُوَ الْبَاطِلُ
وَأَنَّ اللَّهَ هُوَ الْعَلِيُّ الْكَبِيرُ

“That is because Allah- He is the truth (the only True God of all that exists, Who has no partners or rivals with Him) and what they (the polytheist) invoke besides Him is Batil (falsehood). And verily, Allah He is the Most High, The Most Great.” (Surahtul Hajj: 62)

Muhammad is the Slave and Messenger of Allah (**Muhammadun abduhu wa Rasooluhu**) is from the second part of the Shahaadah. This statement is an affirmation that Allah sent Muhammad (*SallAllahu Alaihi was Sallam*) to all of creation to convey the Message of Islaam, and that he is Allah’s prophet and messenger.

Allah says in the Qur’an,

قُلْ يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ إِنِّي رَسُولُ اللَّهِ إِلَيْكُمْ جَمِيعًا الَّذِي لَهُ مُلْكُ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ يُحْيِي وَيُمِيتُ فَأَمِنُوا بِاللَّهِ وَرَسُولِهِ

Say, (O Muhammad): “O mankind! Verily, I am sent to you all as the Messenger of Allah to Whom belongs the dominion of the heavens and the earth. La ilaha ila Huwa¹. It is He who gives life and causes death. So believe in Allah and His Messenger...” (Surat Al ‘Araf: 158)

The Prophets are men from among mankind whom Allah chose to deliver His message of Islaam.

Allah says in the Qur’an,

آمَنَ الرَّسُولُ بِمَا أُنزِلَ إِلَيْهِ مِنْ رَبِّهِ وَالْمُؤْمِنُونَ كُلٌّ آمَنَ بِاللَّهِ وَمَلَائِكَتِهِ وَكُتُبِهِ وَرُسُلِهِ لَا نُفَرِّقُ بَيْنَ أَحَدٍ مِّنْ رُّسُلِهِ وَقَالُوا سَمِعْنَا وَأَطَعْنَا غُفْرَانَكَ رَبَّنَا وَإِلَيْكَ الْمَصِيرُ

“The Messenger believes in what has been revealed to him from his Lord, as do the believers. Each one of them believes in Allah, and His angels, and His books and His Prophets. We make no distinction between one and another of His messengers. And they say we hear

¹ None has the right to be worshipped but He.

and we obey. We seek your forgiveness our Lord, and to You is the end of all journeys.” (Surah Al Baqarah: 285)

The Establishment of the Prayer

Prayer is a very important part of Islaam. The first thing you will be questioned about on the Day of Judgment is your prayer. A Muslim has to pray five daily prayers. Fajr, Dhuhr, Asr, Maghrib, and Isha are the names for these prayers. Fajr is the pre dawn prayer, Dhuhr is the mid-day prayer, Asr is the Afternoon prayer, Maghrib is prayed upon sunset, and Isha is prayed at night.

Allah says,

حَافِظُوا عَلَى الصَّلَوَاتِ وَالصَّلَاةِ الْوُسْطَى

“Guard strictly (five obligatory) As Salawat (the prayers) especially the middle salaah (i.e. the best prayer-Asr). (Surah Al Baqarah: 238)

Each prayer has a set number of Rakah. A Rakah is one complete unit. Fajr has two rakahs, Dhuhr, Asr, and Isha have four and Maghrib has three.

Allah says,

أَقِمِ الصَّلَاةَ لِدُلُوكِ الشَّمْسِ إِلَى غَسَقِ اللَّيْلِ

“Perform As Salaah from mid-day till the darkness of the night (Dhuhr, Asr, Maghrib, and Isha prayers)...” (Surah Al Isra : 78)

Salaah is obligatory upon everyone, even children. Children are commanded to pray when they reach the age of seven and when they are ten years old if they do not pray they are to be beat.

The Prophet (*Sallallahu Alaihi was Sallam*) said,

مُرُوا أَبْنَاءَكُمْ بِالصَّلَاةِ لِسَبْعٍ، وَاضْرِبُوهُمْ عَلَيْهَا لِعَشْرِ وَفَرِّقُوا بَيْنَهُمْ فِي الْمَضَاجِعِ

“Order your children to perform Salaat at the age of seven and beat them at the age of ten.” (Collected by Imaam Ahmad and others)

Payment of Zakaat

This is the third pillar of Islaam. Zakaat is the amount of money that the wealthy Muslims take from the surplus of their wealth every year. Allah has made Zakaat obligatory upon the wealthy Muslims. This money is collected by those in charge and distributed to the poor Muslims.

Allah says,

وَأَقِيمُوا الصَّلَاةَ وَآتُوا الزَّكَاةَ

“And perform As Salaah, and give Zakaah” [Suratul Baqarah: 43]

The paying of Zakaah is a purification of the money of the rich. It is not permissible for the Muslim to withhold the payment of Zakaah. This is because Zakaah is obligatory upon every Muslim (who has the ability to pay it).

Allah says,

وَالَّذِينَ يَكْنِزُونَ الذَّهَبَ وَالْفِضَّةَ وَلَا يُنْفِقُونَهَا فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ فَبَشِّرْهُمْ بِعَذَابٍ أَلِيمٍ
يَوْمَ يُحْمَى عَلَيْهَا فِي نَارِ جَهَنَّمَ فَتُكْوَى بِهَا جِبَاهُهُمْ وَجُنُوبُهُمْ وَظُهُورُهُمْ هَذَا مَا
كَنْزْتُمْ لِأَنْفُسِكُمْ فَذُوقُوا مَا كُنْتُمْ تَكْنِزُونَ

“And those who hoard up gold and silver and spend them not in the way of Allah, announce unto them a painful torment. On the Day when that (Al Kanz: money, gold and silver, the Zakaah of which has not been paid) will be heated in the Fire of Hell and with it will brand their foreheads, their flanks, and their backs, (and it will be said unto them): “This is the treasures which you hoarded for yourselves. Now taste of which you used to hoard.” [Suratut Taubah: 34-35]

أبو ذر قال :

انتهيت إلى النبي صلى الله أبو بكر بن أبي شيبة حدثنا وكيع حدثنا الأعمش حدثنا عليه وسلم وهو جالس في ظل الكعبة فلما رأي قال هم الأخسرون ورب الكعبة قال فجئت حتى جلست فلم أتقار أن قمت فقلت يا رسول الله فداك أبي وأمي من هم قال هم الأكثرون أموالا إلا من قال هكذا وهكذا ومن بين يديه ومن خلفه وعن يمينه وعن شماله وقليل و ما هم ما من صاحب إبل ولا بقر ولا غنم لا يؤدي زكاتها إلا جاءت يوم القيامة أعظم ما كانت وأسمنه تنطحه بقرونها وتطؤه بأظلافها كلما نفدت أخراها عادت عليه أولها حتى يقضى بين الناس

Abu Dharr, (*Radi Allahu 'Anhu*), reported:

I went to the Messenger of Allah (*Sallallahu Alaihi was Sallam*) and he was sitting under the shade of the Ka'bah. As he (*Sallallahu Alaihi was Sallam*) saw me he said:

“By the Lord of the Ka'bah, they are the losers.”

I came there till I sat and I could not stay (longer) and (then) stood up. I asked: Messenger of Allah, let my father be ransom for you, who are they (the losers)? He (*Sallallahu Alaihi was Sallam*) said:

“They are those having a huge amount of wealth except so and so and (those who spend their wealth generously on them whom they find in front of them, behind them and on their right side and on their left side) and they are a few. And no owner of camels, or cattle or goat and sheep, who does not pay Zakah (would be spared punishment) but these (camels, cattle, goats and sheep) would come on the Day of Resurrection wearing more flesh and would gore him with their horns and trample them with their hooves. And when the last one would pass away, the first one would return (to trample him) till judgment would be pronounced among people.” (Collected by Muslim)

Hajj to the House of Allah (the Ka’bah)

Making pilgrimage to the Ka’bah is obligatory for the one who is able to.

Allah Ta’ala says,

وَلِلّٰهِ عَلَى النَّاسِ حِجُّ الْبَيْتِ مَنِ اسْتَطَاعَ اِلَيْهِ سَبِيْلًا

“And Hajj to the house (Ka’bah) is a duty that mankind owes to Allah, those who have the ability.” (Suratul Ali- ‘Imraan: 97)

The Ka’bah is in Makkah. It was built by the prophets Ibraheem and Isma’eel (*Alaihimus Salaam*). The Ka’bah is also called Al Masjid Al Haraam.

Allah Ta’ala says,

وَإِذْ بَوَّأْنَا لِإِبْرَاهِيمَ مَكَانَ الْبَيْتِ أَنْ لَا تُشْرِكْ بِي شَيْئًا وَطَهِّرْ بَيْتِيَ لِلطَّائِفِينَ وَالْقَائِمِينَ
وَالرُّكَّعِ السُّجُودِ

“ And (remember) when We showed Ibraheem the site of the (sacred) House (the Ka’bah at Makkah) (saying): “Associate not anything (in worship) with Me, [La ilaha illAllah (none has the right to be

worhipped in truth except Allah)- Islaamic Monotheism], and sanctify My House for those who circumambulate it, and those who stand up (for prayer), and those who bow (submit themselves with humility and obedience to Allah), and make prostration (in prayer);” (Suratul Hajj: 26)

The Muslim that makes Hajj and it is accepted by Allah will receive a great reward, Jannah.

The Prophet (*Sallallahu Alaihi was Sallam*) said,

العمره إلى العمرة كفارة لما بينهما، والحج المبرور ليس له جزاء إلا الجنة

“The Hajj that is accepted does not have any reward except for Jannah.” (Collected by Al Bukhaari & Muslim)

Fasting the Month of Ramadhan

It is obligatory on every Muslim to fast the Month of Ramadhan, unless they have an excuse that is permitted in Islaam.

Allah says,

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا كُتِبَ عَلَيْكُمُ الصِّيَامُ كَمَا كُتِبَ عَلَى الَّذِينَ مِن قَبْلِكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَتَّقُونَ

“O you who believe! Observing As Siyaam is prescribed for you as it was prescribed for those before you, that you may become Al Muttaqun (the pious). [Suratul Baqarah: 183]

As Siyaam (fasting) is that a person avoids those things that would nullify the fast like eating, drinking, and other than them from the Adhaan² of Fajr to

² The call to Prayer.

the Adhaan of Maghrib; seeking by it to worship Allah. When the Muadhaan³ calls the Adhaan for Salaatul Maghrib it is permissible to eat and drink. This meal is called Iftaar. The meal before the Fajr prayer is called sahoor. The Messenger of Allah (*Sallallahu Alaihi was Sallam*) encouraged everyone to eat sahoor.

عن أنس بن مالك رضي الله عنه قال : قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم
تسحروا فإن في السحور بركة

On the authority of Anas bin Maalik (*Radi Allahu anhu*) he said: the Prophet (*Sallallahu alaihi was Sallam*) said:

“Take Sahoor for verily in the sahoor is a blessing.” (Collected by Muslim)

Ramadhan is the ninth month of the Islaamic year. The Qur’an was revealed in the month of Ramadhan on the night of Laylatul Qadr.

Allah says,

شَهْرُ رَمَضَانَ الَّذِي أُنزِلَ فِيهِ الْقُرْآنُ هُدًى لِّلنَّاسِ وَبَيِّنَاتٍ مِّنَ الْهُدَىٰ وَالْفُرْقَانِ فَمَن
شَهِدَ مِنْكُمُ الشَّهْرَ فَلْيَصُمْهُ

“The month of Ramadhan in which was revealed the Qur’an, a guidance for mankind and clear proofs for the guidance and the criterion (between right and wrong). So whoever of you sights (the crescent on the first night of) the month (of Ramadhan, i.e. is present at his home), he must observe Saum (fasts) that month,...”
(*Surah Al Baqarah: 185*)

Allah also says,

³ The one who calls the Adhaan.

إِنَّا أَنْزَلْنَاهُ فِي لَيْلَةِ الْقَدْرِ وَمَا أَدْرَاكَ مَا لَيْلَةُ الْقَدْرِ لَيْلَةُ الْقَدْرِ خَيْرٌ مِّنْ أَلْفِ شَهْرٍ تَنْزَلُ الْمَلَائِكَةُ وَالرُّوحُ فِيهَا بِإِذْنِ رَبِّهِمْ مِّنْ كُلِّ أَمْرٍ سَلَامٌ هِيَ حَتَّىٰ مَطْلَعِ الْفَجْرِ

“Verily, We have sent it (this Qur’an) down in the Night of Al Qadr (Decree). And what will make you know what the Night of Al Qadr is? The Night of Al Qadr is better than a thousand months (i.e. worshipping Allah in that night is better than worshipping Him a thousand months). Therein descend the Angels and the Ruh (Jibra’el) by Allah’s Permission with all Decrees, (All that night), there is peace (and goodness from Allah to His believing slaves) until the appearance of dawn. (Suratul Qadr: 1-5)

During the month of Ramadhan the doors of jannah are open and the doors of the hellfire are shut and the devils are chained.

إذا جاء رمضان فتّحت أبواب الجنّة وغلقت أبواب النار وصدت الشياطين

The Messenger (*Sallallahu alaihi was Sallam*) said,

“When the month of Ramadhan comes the doors of the skies (Jannah) are open, the doors of the Hell-Fire are shut and the devils are chained.” (Collected by Bukhaari & Muslim)

Word Find

Islaam	Shahadah	Salaat	Zakaat	Hajj	Sawm
Ramadhan	Jannah	Declaration	Kaabah	Makkah	Five Pillar
Ismaeel	Purification	Muhammad	Quraan	LaylatulQadr	Tawheed

T	A	W	H	E	E	D	A	S	D	F	G
D	S	D	F	G	H	J	J	I	K	P	L
E	J	A	N	N	A	H	A	S	B	U	H
C	Z	X	C	V	B	D	M	M	X	R	S
L	L	Q	E	I	S	L	A	A	M	I	A
A	A	M	A	S	H	D	K	A	A	F	L
R	Y	U	S	G	A	N	C	E	K	I	A
A	L	H	D	N	H	K	O	L	K	C	A
T	A	A	K	A	A	B	A	H	A	A	T
I	T	M	O	N	D	I	H	J	H	T	P
O	U	M	A	T	A	S	Q	J	N	I	I
N	L	A	I	S	H	F	I	V	E	O	L
R	Q	D	S	E	N	D	S	W	F	N	L
P	A	R	K	H	A	J	J	E	W	J	A
I	D	Q	W	E	R	Y	O	T	E	Z	R
E	R	T	Y	U	I	Q	U	R	A	A	N
I	S	S	A	W	M	B	W	A	S	K	D
P	A	R	S	D	C	V	Q	S	A	A	R
R	A	M	A	D	H	A	N	F	S	A	H
R	O	O	F	I	V	E	W	T	D	T	N