

Session 12

What does Islam teach?

Articles of faith

1) God- Allah is One (tawhid). This is the central doctrine from which all the rest flows and explains why Islam is an ideology that claims jurisdiction over all human activities, regards non-Muslims as inferior and worthy of negative discrimination, and seeks to impose sharia on all areas and societies. Islam means "submission".

The concept of "three great monotheistic religions" is untrue.

There is a supreme Islamic monotheism that precedes the others and of which they are deviations, having corrupted the original revelation.

S30:30. "So set you (O Muhammad) your face towards the religion of pure Islamic Monotheism Hanifa (worship none but Allah Alone) Allah's Fitrah (i.e. Allah's Islamic Monotheism), with which He has created mankind. No change let there be in Khalq-illah (i.e. the Religion of Allah Islamic Monotheism), that is the straight religion, but most of men know not."

He is the Sovereign Creator of everything and determines the outcome of history and the final judgement.

He has no partners/associates and is the transcendent lord. Human creatures exist to submit to him as slaves. Muslims exist to bring the whole world into submission to him. Humans have no direct communication with him.

The Umma is defined by this doctrine and united as a worldwide community/nation by acceptance of tawhid and the prophethood of Mohammed (risala). *"God is one, Mohammed is one, the Umma is one" (Z. Sardar).*

Mohammed is the "seal of the prophets".

This was confirmed by the "night journey/vision" when he met the earlier prophets (OT and Jesus) and was recognized as the final and supreme prophet of Allah.

His position is reiterated in many Surahs, e.g.

S3:81 " And (remember) when Allah took the Covenant of the Prophets, saying: "Take whatever I gave you from the Book and Hikmah (understanding of the Laws of Allah, etc.), and afterwards there will come to you a Messenger (Muhammad) confirming what is with you; you must, then, believe in him and help him." Allah said: "Do you agree (to it) and will you take up My Covenant (which I conclude with you)?" They said: "We agree." He said: "Then bear witness; and I am with you among the witnesses (for this)."

S61:6 "And (remember) when 'Tesa (Jesus), son of Maryam (Mary), said: "O Children of Israel! I am the Messenger of Allah unto you confirming the Taurat [(Torah) which came] before me, and giving glad tidings of a Messenger to come after me, whose name shall be Ahmed."

There is no distinction between obeying Allah and obeying Mohammed,

S53:2-5 "Our companion (Muhammad) has neither gone astray nor has erred. Nor does he speak of (his own) desire. It is only an Inspiration that is inspired. He has been taught (this Qur'an) by one mighty in power (Gabriel).

S68:4 "And verily, you (O Muhammad) are on an exalted standard of character".

S24:56 And ... obey the Messenger (Muhammad) that you may receive mercy (from Allah).

S24:62 "The true believers are only those, who believe in (the Oneness of) Allah and His Messenger (Muhammad), and when they are with him on some common matter, they go not away until they have asked his permission. Verily! Those who ask your permission, those are they who (really) believe in Allah and His Messenger... "

2) Angels - e.g. Gabriel the communicator of the Qur'an

There are also **spirits (jinn)**, both good and bad.

The devil is called "Iblis" or "Shaytan" - **he is either an angel or a jinn.**

3) Books

The **Qur'an** contains the words of Allah transmitted verbally by Gabriel in a series of revelations over a period of 23 years.

It is the **eternal word of God** written on a tablet in heaven, now entrusted to Mohammed as the chosen prophet of Allah, and is **unchangeable**. There are **many contradictions** that appear to be at variance with this claim.

These are explained by the principle of **abrogation** and the practice of Taqiyya (**dissimulation**), e.g.

Mohammed made a covenant with the pagan tribes of Medina to fight against the Jews while at the same time "extending friendship" to the Jews.

The **Sunnah** (Sira + Hadith) combines the biography and the collected sayings and deeds of Mohammed. The Sunnah is essential to understanding the Qur'an. **Often the Qur'an parallels Mohammed's life and is in response to those events.**

The Torah, Psalms, and Gospels are also from tablets in heaven but have been **corrupted by Jews and Christians**; this is the basis of animosity towards them.

4) Prophets

History is "Islamified", backdating everything; accordingly and **the prophets are identified as prophets of Islam**, from Adam to Jesus:

S3:84 *"Say (O Muhammad) : "We believe in Allah and in what has been sent down to us, and what was sent down to Ibrahim (Abraham), Isma'il (Ishmael), Ishaque (Isaac), Ya'qub (Jacob) and Al-Asbat [the twelve sons of Ya'qub (Jacob)] and what was given to Musa (Moses), 'Iesa (Jesus) and the Prophets from their Lord. We make no distinction between one another among them and to Him (Allah) we have submitted (in Islam)"*,

S3:81 *And (remember) when Allah took the Covenant of the Prophets, saying: "Take whatever I gave you from the Book and Hikmah (understanding of the Laws of Allah, etc.), and afterwards there will come to you a Messenger (Muhammad) confirming what is with you; you must, then, believe in him and help him." Allah said: "Do you agree (to it) and will you take up My Covenant (which I conclude with you)?" They said: "We agree." He said: "Then bear witness; and I am with you among the witnesses (for this)."*

Jesus is regarded as a prophet but His identity as the Son of God and Saviour is denied and regarded as blasphemy.

S61:6 *And (remember) when 'Iesa (Jesus), son of Maryam (Mary), said: "O Children of Israel! I am the Messenger of Allah unto you confirming the Taurat [(Torah) which came] before me, and giving glad tidings of a Messenger to come after me,*

whose name shall be Ahmed. His name Jeshua (Saviour) is changed to 'Iesa (no known meaning).

S112:1-4 *Say (O Muhammad): "He is Allah, (the) One. "Allah-us-Samad (The Self-Sufficient Master, Whom all creatures need, He neither eats nor drinks). "He begets not, nor was He begotten;"And there is none co-equal or comparable unto Him." **S3:52** Then when 'Iesa (Jesus) came to know of their disbelief, he said: "Who will be my helpers in Allah's Cause?" Al-Hawariun (the disciples) said: "We are the helpers of Allah; we believe in Allah, and bear witness that we are Muslims (i.e. we submit to Allah)."*

S3:54-55 *And they (disbelievers) plotted [to kill 'Iesa (Jesus)], and Allah planned too. And Allah is the Best of the planners. And (remember) when Allah said: "O 'Iesa (Jesus)! I will take you and raise you to Myself and clear you [of the forged statement that 'Iesa (Jesus) is Allah's son] of those who disbelieve, and I will make those who follow you (Monotheists, who worship none but Allah) superior to those who disbelieve [in the Oneness of Allah, or disbelieve in some of His Messengers ..."**S4:171** "O people of the Scripture (Jews and Christians)! Do not exceed the limits in your religion, nor say of Allah aught but the truth. The Messiah 'Iesa (Jesus), son of Maryam (Mary), was (no more than) a Messenger of Allah and His Word, ("Be!" - and he was) which He bestowed on Maryam (Mary) and a spirit (Ruh) created by Him; so believe in Allah and His Messengers. Say not: "Three (trinity)!" Cease! (it is) better for you. For Allah is (the only) One Ilah (God), Glory be to Him (Far Exalted is He) above having a son. To Him belongs all that is in the heavens and all that is in the earth. And Allah is All-Sufficient as a Disposer of affairs".*

H1409 *"Christ was not crucified. When the Jews plotted against Christ, they found Allah to be the best plotter. Allah took Jesus directly to him and will refute those who say he was crucified and resurrected. On the final day, the Day of Resurrection, those who follow Christ but do not believe in his divinity will be blessed. Those who insist that Christ is God, part of the Trinity, and reject true faith will be punished in hell."*

5) The Day of Judgement

This will follow a period of wars and disasters. The antichrist will appear; the Mahdi will appear and fight against him and restore Islam to perfection. Jesus will return to assist the Mahdi, convert Christians, and destroy crosses. Everyone will be resurrected; Muslims will go to heaven and non-Muslims to hell. Some Christians will be exchanged for Muslims in hell.

A sensual Paradise for the believers

S55:46-78 But for him who [the true believer of Islamic Monotheism who performs all the duties ordained by Allah and His Messenger Muhammad, and keeps away (abstain) from all kinds of sin and evil deeds prohibited in Islam and] fears the standing before his Lord, there will be two Gardens (i.e. in Paradise) with spreading branches. In them (both) will be two springs flowing (free). In them (both) will be every kind of fruit in pairs. Reclining upon the couches lined with silk brocade, and the fruits of the two Gardens will be near at hand. Wherein both will be those (maidens) restraining their glances upon their husbands, whom no man or jinn yatmithhunna (has had sexual intercourse) before them. (In beauty) they are like rubies and coral. Is there any reward for good other than good? And besides these two, there are two other Gardens (i.e. in Paradise). Dark green (in colour). In them (both) will be two springs gushing forth water. In them (both) will be fruits, and date-palms and pomegranates. Therein (gardens) will be fair (wives) good and beautiful; Houris (beautiful, fair females) restrained in pavilions; Whom no man or jinn yatmithhunna (has had sexual intercourse) before them. reclining on green cushions and rich beautiful mattresses. Blessed be the Name of your Lord (Allah), the Owner of Majesty and Honour.

S:47:40-49 The chosen slaves of Allah (faithful, obedient, true believers of Islamic Monotheism). For them there will be a known provision (in Paradise). Fruits; and they shall be honoured, In the Gardens of delight (Paradise), Facing one another on thrones, Round them will be passed a cup of pure wine; White, delicious to the drinkers, Neither they will have Ghoul (any kind of hurt, abdominal pain, headache, a sin, etc.) from that, nor will they suffer intoxication therefrom. And with them will be chaste females, restraining their glances (desiring none except their husbands), with wide and beautiful eyes. (Delicate and pure) as if they were (hidden) eggs (well) preserved.

6) Predestination - God has decreed all things, both good and bad. Humans must submit to his will and accept their fate. Allah is often described as compassionate and merciful but his actions are beyond human understanding or judgement.

Sharia (Path - Islamic Law) was derived from the Qur'an during the first three centuries of the Muslim era and has remained essentially unchanged since then. Subsequent jurists (Ulama) interpret sharia to the Umma.

Mohammed borrowed and adapted a great deal from Jewish law and history, including these important items ;

Monotheism, theocracy, Abraham and Isaac/Ishmael, conquest, the line of Jewish prophets, cleansing and food laws, set times and direction of prayer, fasting, pilgrimage to specified site, angels, and final judgement.

Sharia divides activities into halal (permitted) and haram (forbidden), with various degrees in between, and covers **all possible human behaviour** - individual and corporate, worship and work, social and family, political and government, friends and enemies of Islam, migration, mission and jihad. Sunni and Shia have very similar laws.

Sharia is the legal constitution of a theocratic state and does not recognize individual freedom or rights. There are **negative laws concerning, non-Muslims, heretical Muslims, and apostates, from discrimination to death.**

Severe (hudud) punishments apply in adultery or false accusation of adultery, theft, and apostasy (apostates are traitors); these punishments are still widely supported. **Heretics** (who differ from conservative interpretations/militant Islam) are considered to be pagans; the penalty is death, also for pagans and male apostates.

Severe discriminatory laws against Jews and Christians (Dhimmis), are expressed through humiliation and contempt.

Dawa (Islamic mission) is a requirement for all Muslims - including migration, transformation of the host community, and jihad.

Women are regarded as being inferior to men in terms of intelligence, morals, and religion and must be protected from their own weaknesses by being under the supervision of male relatives, be segregated from male non-relatives, and made to dress and behave in a prescribed manner (varying with different Muslim groups from head scarf to neqab - "The walking tent"; there is no detailed description of dress code in the Qur'an or Sunnah)).

A woman's testimony is worth only half that of a man and a daughter inherits only half as much as a son. A man can have four wives and has easy access to divorce whereas a wife will find divorce very difficult.

Women are thus in a very vulnerable position in shariah courts; a rape victim can easily become a "culprit" as her testimony is trumped by a man's, resulting in imprisonment, (many in Pakistan), flogging, or even death.

This is **linked to a culture of shame/honour** in contrast to Judeo/Christian values of guilt/innocence.

Girls may be subjected to genital mutilation (to keep them pure) and forced into arranged marriages - both can be included in "holidays abroad to visit relatives".

Sharia in the West. Two thirds of surveyed Muslims preferred this to UK law and there is pressure from Muslim communities to implement and expand its application, especially in family situations, officially recognizing what is already taking place. Women and children are in a weak situation and can be pressurised to comply, against their interests. Public recognition of Shariah is also part of the dawa process.

Sharia developed in the context of "the house of Islam".

This creates problems for Muslims living in "the house of war". The tension arises from the imperative of migration for the purpose of dawa, involving an interim period when Islam is not in political power.

Compromises are inevitable at times of Muslim weakness while striving to correct the situation. Some will choose the path of **confrontation** e.g. 8/9/14 *"Muslim radicals have begun enforcing Islamic Sharia law on the streets of Wuppertal, a city in North Rhine-Westphalia, the state with the largest Muslim population in Germany. In what government officials say is a blatant challenge to the rule of law and the democratic order in Germany, groups of young bearded Islamists - some wearing orange traffic safety vests [emblazoned](#) with the words "Sharia Police" - have declared parts of downtown Wuppertal to be a "Sharia Controlled Zone."* S. Kern, Gatestone Institute

The five pillars of Islam.

These focus on Islam as a religion - The Shahada ("there is no god but god and Mohammed is his messenger"), Salat (prayer), Sawm (fasting), Zakat (religious tax), and Hajj (pilgrimage to Mecca).

The five charges. The focus is on (political) action -

Assemble (community) **S8:72** . *Verily, those who believed, and emigrated and strove hard and fought with their property and their lives in the Cause of Allah as well as those who gave (them) asylum and help, - these are (all) allies to one another.*,

Listen (submit to Qur'an and Surah),

Obey S4:59 *O you who believe! Obey Allah and obey the Messenger (Muhammad), and those of you (Muslims) who are in authority (the Ulama),*

Migrate S8:72

Wage jihad S2:216 *"Jihad (holy fighting in Allah's Cause) is ordained for you (Muslims) though you dislike it, and it may be that you dislike a thing which is good for you and that you like a thing which is bad for you. Allah knows but you do not know".*

Together these form the foundation of Muslim life and mission.