

Islam is my Religion



Second Series - Takleef Syllabus
(Religious Accountability)

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(Religious Accountability)

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Introduction

In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful

Praise be to Allah, the Almighty, the Lord of the Worlds, and extend our prayers and salutation to the Chief of the Prophets and Messengers, Mohammad and to his immaculate and virtuous descendants.

In front of us is one of the units of the Series: (Islam is my Religion), which, with the other units, aims at building up a faithful generation, conversant with its religious issues, and able to confront all difficulties and challenges facing it, and to discipline itself within the divine system in accordance with its teachings, commandments and guidance.

Our dear sons and daughters are required to exert great efforts and seriousness to learn the religious commandments and understand Islamic teachings.

Secondly, they are required to implement what they learned and understood from these commands and guidance.

Thirdly, they are required to propagate the religion and to enforce goodness and virtue amongst people.

In an advice to his son, the prudent Luqman wrote to his son – as reported in the holy Quran: ﴿O my dear son! Establish worship and enjoin kindness and forbid iniquity, and persevere whatever may befall thee. Lo! that is of the steadfast heart of things.﴾

I pray to Almighty Allah to guide our dear sons and daughters towards goodness and in the way of guidance and prosperity.

Al Sayed Abdulla Al-Ghoraifi

*In the name of Allah, the
Beneficent, the Merciful*

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The first Unit

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First Unit

Faith and the Law

Allah who created Us

The Beautiful Airplane

Hajer asked her father: «How did we know that Allah is the one Who created us and created all things around us?»

Her father did not answer the question directly. Instead, he bought her a toy consisting of 1000 small pieces, and asked her to make an airplane from the pieces. Haajer tried constructing an airplane from the pieces but she got tired due to the large number of pieces involved and the associated difficulty. So she went out for an entertainment break. An hour later, she returned to the room only to find out that the pieces became a beautiful airplane.

She wondered who constructed this airplane?

Is it Mahmood?

No, because Mahmood.....

Did the toy construct itself?

No, because the toy


Therefore what happened then in your opinion?

Hajer looked at her father and asked him: «Is it you who constructed this airplane?»

Her father replied: «Yes, my dear daughter, I have constructed a beautiful airplane from the small pieces. You did not see me constructing it, but you thought it out and you used your brain, and said: Mahmood is a small child; he cannot construct this airplane from the small pieces, and the pieces are lifeless and hence cannot move and have no brain.

﴿Allah is Creator of all things, and He is Guardian over all things﴾ Al-Zumr: v. 62





❖ The Beneficent (1) Hath made known the Qur'an (2) He hath created man (3)❖
(arahman 1:3)

Therefore:

It must be your father who put together the small pieces to construct the airplane model.

In the same way, when I looked at the things around me like the sky, the earth, the oceans and others, I found them to be beautiful, organized and systematic, so I concluded that they must have a creator, who is God Almighty since anybody other than God is unable to make or maintain this enormous creation.

We conclude from this story:

- When we look at the beautiful, systematic and organized things around us, we realize that they have been made by an experienced, all-knowing, all-powerful Creator.
- Things which do not possess experience or know-how or power cannot make objects in a way so elegant, so precisely organized and so systematic.
- The Creator who created us and created all objects around us is Allah, Almighty, because He alone is the knowledgeable, and capable of making this enormous, systematic and beautiful universe.



Lesson One Evaluation

1. I observe the following:

- a. Persistent succession of day and night all over the year.
- b. Rain falls on the ground, then vegetation grows.
- c. Succession of the four seasons every year.
- d. High and low tides in the oceans and the rivers.

And I conclude that, there is a for this universe.

2. I choose the right answer:

a. Haajer was not able to construct the airplane from the small pieces, because the toy was complicated and she did not possess the:

- Money.
- Expertise.
- Construction tools.
- All of the above.

b. If we look at a beautiful painting, we realize that who painted it is:

- Trustworthy and truthful.
- Creative artist.
- Strong.
- All of the above.

c. When we look at the universe, with its huge mountains, its beautiful forests, extensive and unending space, we realize that its Creator is:

- Knowledgeable.
- Strong.
- Experienced.
- All of the above.

3. Once a nomad was asked : « How did you know your (you have a) creator?»

He said: « If a camel's excretion signifies the presence of the camel; footprints prove human movement; wouldn't a sky with vast constellations and an earth with such vast valleys do not prove the existence of the experienced Gracious Almighty Allah? »



With the help of the drawing explain the given statement .

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Activity:

I see the 'film' entitled: "the World of Seas" and I talk about the wonders of Allah's creation.

God Knows Best

Delicious Meal

Once your friend invited you for lunch prepared by her mother and you accepted her invitation. You were greatly impressed by the meal because it was so delicious, so you wanted to know how it was prepared. Whom you should ask?

Answer: The mother

Why? Because

Ahmad's computer

Ahmad: "Please repair the fault of the computer I bought from you."

Shop owner: "I am sorry, but I cannot."

Ahmad: "Why?"

Shop owner: "Since I do not know the components or the special programs inside the computer, I am not able to know the reason of the fault?"

Ahmad: "So what is the solution?"

Shop owner: "I can send the computer to the manufacturer."

Ahmad: And why?

Shop owner: "Because" "

The medicine box.

Inside the medicine box, there is a paper describing the benefits and side effects of the medicine, Also it shows the correct way to use the medicine and the appropriate age group. In addition, the paper specifies the composition of the medicine. So, who do you think has written all this information on the paper? And how has he known all this information about the medicine?



From the Given

examples, we conclude that :

The one who knows best and more than anybody else about any object is that person who made that object. So the mother who cooked, the computer manufacturer, and the medicine synthesizer, are more conversant with the composition of the objects they made.

Mention other examples :

(1) (2) (3)

The Creator of the Universe

- Who ﴿created the heavens and the earth, sent down water from the sky﴾

- And Who ﴿Created the night, the day, the Sun, and Moon and has made them swim in a certain orbit﴾?

- And Who ﴿created all things with precisely accurate planning﴾?

So when we look at the vast universe, we are struck by its sophisticated system and its interdependence and coherence. The enormity of the creation in the universe – the animals, the vegetation, the mountains, the rivers, the oceans, the earth, the sky – all invite us to humbly admit to the obvious fact, that Allah is its Creator?

And since Allah Almighty is our Creator, and the Creator of the universe and all its contents, surely, He knows best about us and about the objects that surround us. Allah knows the secrets of the outer space and what is going on in the oceans, and how the human grows up and lives, and knows what is beneficial to us and what is harmful to us.

﴿Hast thou not known that Allah knoweth all that is in the heaven and the earth? Lo! it is in a record. Lo! that is easy for Allah﴾. Al-Hajj: v. 70

Lesson two Evaluation

1. Clarify the correct statements from the incorrect statements and mention the reason:

God knows about the black ant in the night darkness.

.....

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The watch repairer knows more about its components than its manufacturer.

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Allah Alone knows all about what benefits us and what is harmful to us.

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2.State from the following verses from Surat Al-Mulk the verse that signifies that Allah Almighty is the Creator as he is more knowledgeable about His creation.

﴿Lo! those who fear their Lord in secret, theirs will be forgiveness and a great reward. (12) And keep your opinion secret or proclaim it, lo! He is Knower of all that is in the breasts (of men). (13) Should He not know what He created? And He is the Subtile, the Aware. (14) He it is Who hath made the earth subservient unto you, so Walk in the paths thereof and eat of His providence. And unto Him will be the resurrection (of the dead). (15)﴾ Al-Mulk: v.12-15

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I look for the appropriate information and I complete the conversation between Ahmad and his father about the wonders of God's creation in the sea.



Ahmad: "O, my father, I read the encyclopedia about the oceans."

Father: "Can you inform me about what you read?"

Ahmad: " I read about a fish called «the thrower of arrows',, the sea lantern,, the fasting fish, and " "

Father: "Truly, the beauty of these creatures proves the endless knowledge of Allah Almighty, and I will inform you about the blue whale and how it lives in the deep seas."

Ahmad: "You aroused my interest, my father; can you tell me all about it. "

Father: "The blue whale is a sea animal, the length of its grown ups reaches and its weight approximately, and breeds and breathes through, and can eat in a day between tons of marine creatures."

Ahmad: "Truly there are fantastic and surprising fauna and species in the sea environment that prove that their creator is, and"

Lesson Three

Respect For the Human Being

﴿We have honored the sons of Adam﴾

If the human being eats, breathes, grows and breeds and if the animal does the same, so how has God distinguished the human being from the animal?

﴿Your Lord inspired the bees, «Make hives in the mountains, in the trees and in the trellises,﴾ Al-Nahl: v. 68

Bees Kingdom

Bees live to produce honey through a beautiful and sophisticated system involving a queen, maids and workers; this honey being useful and rich in food and is a cure for people; A human being also lives an organized system.

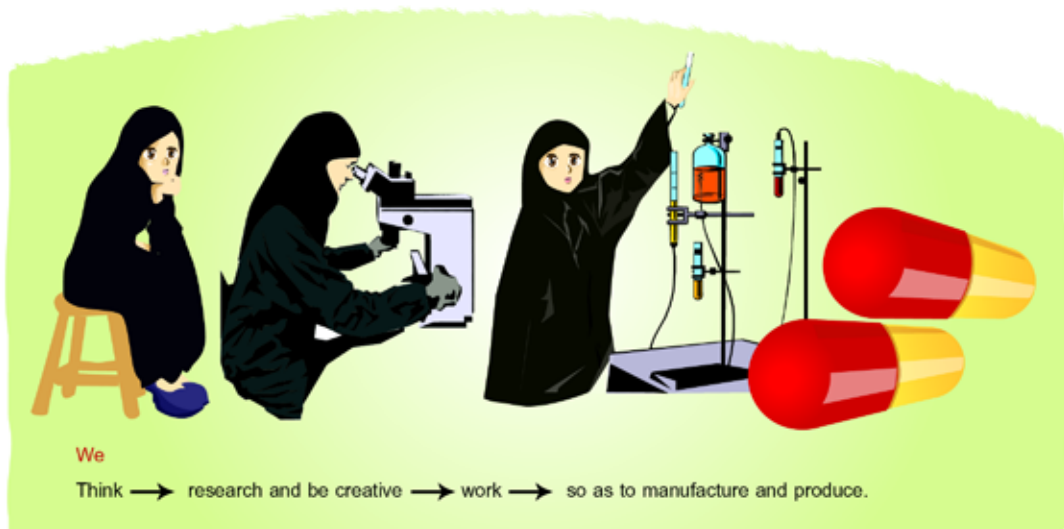


Man has practised hunting, agriculture, animal raising and industry.



So what is the difference between the human and Bee systems?

Man started thousands of years ago working in hunting. Then he developed and worked in agriculture and animal raising, he developed further and began to be creative and started craftsmanship manufacturing.



I conclude :

First: We use our brains to think, produce and develop our life.

Secondly: What distinguishes us from the bees is that with our brains and minds we develop our life. In contrast, the bee's life does not change or develop, even though it is organized and accurate. The bee makes the honey in the same way it used to make it thousands of years ago. On the other hand, Man develops his way of life to acclimatize with the age he is living with and in the place he is residing.

Lesson Three Evaluation

1. In the following, Color the circle opposite the correct answer only.

a. Man is distinguished from other creature in that he:

thinks produces develops things learns feels

b. The human system differs from that of other creatures in that it is:

stable developing variable precise powerful.

c. God Almighty favored Man over other creatures through:

the brain emotions power speed body

Activity:

I read the following (Speech) Hadeeth and then I write a topic about the ant kingdom system and read it out to my classmates:

Ameerul Moameneen Ali (p.b.u.h.) said:

«Look at the ant with its small body and delicate form. It can hardly be seen in the corner of the eye, nor by the perception of the imagination, how it moves on the earth and leaps at its livelihood. It carries the grain to its hole and deposits it in its place of stay. It collects during the Summer for its Winter, and during strength for the period of its weakness. Its livelihood is guaranteed, and it is fed according to fitness. Allah, the Kind, does not forget it and (Allah the Giver) does not deprive it, even though it may be in dry stone or fixed rocks.»

The Ant Kingdom Organization



Man And The Law

We learned that:

- Allah Almighty created Man and made him superior to many creatures by granting him mental faculty.
- Man thinks, produces and develops his life.

But how can Man regulate his life?

- What do you expect if you entered a big city with many cars but it lacks any laws regulating traffic; there are no traffic lights, no pedestrian crossings, no stop signs?
- If the same city adheres to stringent regulations that control traffic, with traffic lights, pedestrian crossings, stop signs, so in your opinion, what is the difference?

I conclude: Regulation makes our life easier, more organized, and reduces risks.

Mention other examples to prove that laws organize our life:

(1) (2) (3)

Thus when we think about our life, we discover that we do need law and order at home, school, factory, mosque and on the road because the law is the one which organizes our relationship with everything.



Law and order show us:

1. How we obey God Almighty, worship him, and distance ourselves from all that He loathes.
2. How we follow good behavior towards our parents, brothers, neighbors, and others.
3. How we deal with animals, plants, and defines our function and obligation towards the Environment in which we live.

And since Allah Almighty is our Creator, He is knowledgeable about what benefits us and what harms us. He sent to us prophets to show us the law that guides us to the path of happiness, goodness and ultimately to Heavens and distances us from the road to evil and ultimately to Hell. God Almighty Knows that Prayers, fasting, honesty and helping others and other good deeds result in our happiness and goodness and so He ordered us to follow them; He also knows that lying, oppressing the orphan, disrespect mockery of others, and other evil actions harm us and so He ordered us to keep away from them, because He is our Creator and Knows us best and desires only our wellbeing.

❖ He is best aware of you (from the time) when He created you from earth ❖
AlNajm: v. 32

Conclusion:

- Man cannot continue long in his life without law and order.
- Only God Almighty can devise life orders and legislation suitable for Human beings.



Lesson Four Evaluation

1. Complete the data in this figure:

Man needs a legislation to regulate and organize his life and his relationship with:



2. Join the phrases in column A with the corresponding phrase in column B.

A

- (Ablution) Wudo' for prayer
- Being good for the neighbor
- Removing harmful objects from the street
- Kindness to animals
- Upholding prayer
- Kindness to parents
- Kindness to orphan
- Pilgrimage to the House of Allah

B

- Man's relationship with others
- Man's relationship with mother nature
- Man's relationship with the Creator

Class Activity

Discuss the followings with your group:

a. If the roads were without names, and if the houses and the lanes were without numbers:

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b. The only being working within a precise system is Man.

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c. God Alone, and without any associates, is able to devise for Man a law and a system to organize his life, his worship and his relationship with his surroundings.

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The Messenger and the Message

﴿Say (O Muslims): We believe in Allah and that which is revealed unto us and that which was revealed unto Abraham, and Ismael, and Isaac, and Jacob, and the tribes, and that which Moses and Jesus received, and that which the prophets received from their Lord. We make no distinction between any of them, and unto Him we have surrendered.﴾ Al-Baqarah: v. 136

We have learned that :

- Allah Almighty alone is the Creator of the Universe and the human beings.
- Man requires a law and a system to organize his life.
- God alone is able to devise for Man the law and system capable of organizing his life.

So, how has Allah Almighty conveyed this system to Man and how has it reached us?

I help Kawther in her investigation:

Kawther is a well-disciplined girl and is organized, believes in Almighty Allah and she is eager to familiarize herself with her religion.



Her teacher asked her to write a short composition about the Prophets (p.b.u.h.) and how they guide people.

She hoped that her father would help her in the preparation of the composition,

He brought the holy Quran and told her to go to verses 32-30 in Surah Al-Qasass.

Kawther opened the holy Quran and read:

﴿And when he reached it, he was called from the right side of the valley in the blessed field, from the tree: O Moses! Lo! I, even I, am Allah, the Lord of the Worlds; (30) Throw down thy staff. And when he saw it writhing as it had been a demon, he turned to flee headlong, (and it was said unto him): O Moses! Draw nigh and fear not. Lo! thou art of those who are secure. (31) Thrust thy hand into the bosom of thy robe it will come forth white without hurt. And guard thy heart from fear. Then these shall be two proofs from your Lord unto Pharaoh and his chiefs. Lo! they are evil-living folk. (32).﴾ Al-Qasas: v. 30-32

Then her father asked her to answer the following questions:

- Who is the prophet who talked with God in the holy verse?
- What is the story of the stick and the white hand?
- To whom did Allah send Prophet Moosa (p.b.u.h.) and why?

After she answered the above questions, the father said:

"Yes, my dear daughter: All prophets like Prophet Moses must have had revelations from God and they must bring miracles. A miracle is an extraordinary event that ordinary people cannot make.

Prophets need such miracles to prove to people that they have been sent by God. For example, Prophet Ibrahim was not affected by the Fire, Prophet Sulaiman was empowered by Allah to be lifted by the wind to carry him to any place."

Kawther: "I now realize that God distinguished the Prophets from ordinary people by revealing to them His laws and commandments to the People so that they follow the path to happiness and stability and supported them through miracles to prove their prophet-hood.

But does Almighty God talk to all the prophets in the same way He talked to Prophet Ibrahim?"

The father: "No, Moses is the "Kalleem-Allah", the one who spoke with God directly whereas in the case of the other prophets, God ordered the archangel to make the revelation to them so that they can teach the Book of Allah to the people."

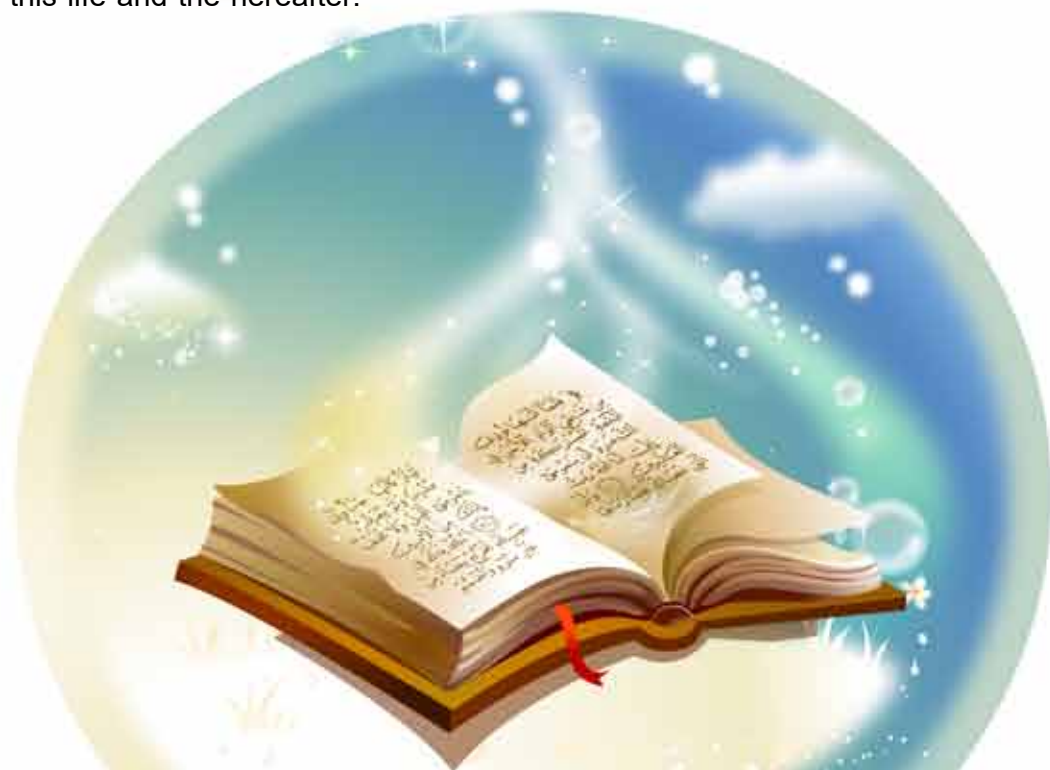
Kawther: "And what do we learn from the Book?"

The Father: "We learn from the Book the following;

1. The Articles of Faith : which include belief in Allah alone with no associate, the Hereafter, belief in angels, existence of Heavens and Hellfire, the correct path (Siraat), reward, punishment and that Allah sent Prophets and Books(Revelations).
2. Shariah: i.e. the laws and commandments that regulate our life and through which we learn prayer, fasting, zakat, Hajj. We also learn how to distance ourselves from the un-allowables such as eating pig meat, drinking alcohol, lying, or theft.
3. Manners and good behaviors including how to follow suit of good people, i.e. the prophets and holy persons and abandoning all evils so as to enjoy a happy life. "

Conclusion:

God Almighty has sent prophets with the necessary legislations through divine revelations to organize human' life, and to educate and discipline him and purify him from any shortcoming and to provide him happiness in both worlds: this life and the hereafter.



Lesson Five Evaluation

1. Color the appropriate circle in the following:

a. God sent the Prophets to the People to:

- nurture them and teach them good manners
- organize their life through a complete legislation
- invite them to worship Allah with no associate.
- believe in Allah, His angels, His messengers and in the Hereafter.
- All of the above.

b. Allah Almighty bestowed onto the Prophets with all of the following except:

- Miracles
- Divine Books
- Knowledge and Wisdom
- Money and Gold
- Outstanding Manners

c. Activity of the prophets is distinguished from that of others as they:

- teach reading and writing to the people
- help the people in solving their social problems
- bring the Divine legislation that regulates the human life
- endeavor to provide economic prosperity to the people
- fight injustice and aggression.

2. Read the statement and put the number of the verse from paragraph A against what suits it from Paragraph B:

Paragraph A

1. ﴿It was by the mercy of Allah that thou wast lenient with them , for if thou hadst been stern and fierce of heart they would have dispersed from round about thee﴾ (alomran v.159).

2. ﴿A messenger reciting unto you the revelations of Allah made plain, that He may bring forth those who believe and do good works from darkness unto light﴾ (A-Talaq v.11) .

3. ﴿Even as We have sent unto you a messenger from among you, who reciteth unto you Our revelations and causeth you to grow, and teacheth you the Scripture and wisdom, and teacheth you that which ye knew not﴾ (Albaqara v.151).

4. ﴿Muhammad is the messenger of Allah. And those with him are hard against the disbelievers and merciful among themselves﴾ (Alfath v.29).

Paragraph B

The Prophet's attributes:

- () kind and good hearted
- () leads people for goodness
- () People's teacher and discipliner
- () strong and very tough against Kuffar.

3. Write a short topic about the biography of one of the prophets and his (Jihad) struggle in the propagation of the (monotheism) unity message, and in resisting injustice and aggression

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Home Work:

Read the holy Quran, Ayah (verse) 49 from Surat Aal Emran, and list Prophet Isa's (Jesus') miracles:



The Three Religions

﴿The messenger believeth in that which hath been revealed unto him from his Lord and (so do) believers. Each one believeth in Allah, His angels His scriptures and His messengers - We make no distinction between any of His messengers - and they say: We hear, and we obey. (Grant us) Thy forgiveness, our Lord. Unto Thee is the journeying.﴾ Albaqara: v. 285

We Have learned that:

Allah Almighty has sent the prophets to clarify to the people the legislature that regulates their life. In this regard, have the various nations adhered to God's legislature and have they implemented His laws and commandments?

Allah Almighty has sent to the people ever since He created them many prophets and messengers, the first of whom being Prophet Adam (p.b.u.h.) and the last of whom being Prophet Mohammad (p.b.u.h.). The Prophets invited people to worship God alone without associating anybody with Him and to obey Him and warned them against disobeying Him. The Believers accepted the message communicated by the Prophets and they obeyed them.

When God sent Prophet Moosa to the people, the Jews believed in his prophet-hood and accepted God's revelation to him through his religious book the Torah. When Prophet Moosa died, the Jews misrepresented the Torah and deliberately deviated from the laws and commandments revealed to them through Prophet Moosa. Furthermore, they have not accepted the prophets who succeeded Prophet Moosa.

After sometime, God, Almighty, sent His Prophet Isa (Jesus) with His commandments embodied in the Bible. The Christians had faith in Prophet Isa, but the



Jews tried to kill him wherein God ascended Prophet Isa to Heavens. Muslims expect the return of Prophet Isa towards the end of this World. When Prophet Isa disappeared, the Christians falsified the Bible and they did not believe in the Prophet foretold in The Bible, namely: our Prophet Mohammad. (p.b.u.h.)

Prophet Mohammad (p.b.u.h.) was the last prophet and the best of all, came to complete the previous commandments and messages and the seal of Prophet-hood and a messenger to all nations of the world, His message, embodied in the great Quran, is inclusive of the commandments communicated by all the prophets and represents a true guidance and mercy to humanity at all times and eras. Muslims believed in his message and followed the Shariah – the Islamic law- and Islam spread throughout the world despite the strong opposition it faced from the Kuffar and the ruthless inhabitants of earth. Allah Almighty protected the Quran against misrepresentation and falsification.

Lo! We, **even We, reveal the (The Quran)Reminder, and lo! We verily are its Guardian** ﴿﴾. Al-Hijr: v. 9



Lesson Six Evaluation

1. Complete the following table:

Religion	Book	Prophet
Judaism		
	Quran	
		Prophet Isa (Jesus)

2. Choose the appropriate answer from the words inside the brackets:

1. **God preserved from falsification.**

(Quraan Torah Bible Zaboor- Prophet David's scripture)

2. **The Prophet whose legislation all the people should follow is:**

(Isa Moses Mohammad David)

3. is the religion that God completed & concluded His messages to the people of Earth.

(Christianity Judaism Islam Zoroastrianism)

4. **The Prophet who is awaited by the Muslims towards the end of the World is:**

(Ibraheem (God's companion) Moosa (to whom God' spoke) Isa (God's spirit)
Ismail (God's sacrifice))

Home work

I read the following verses and describe the meaning of Kitaab (Book) in His saying:

a. ﴿He hath revealed unto thee (Muhammad) the Kitaab (Scripture) with truth, confirming that which was (revealed) before it, even as He revealed the Torah and the Gospel﴾ Alomran: v.3

'Kitaab' (the book/scripture) referred to in this Ayah (verse) is:

.....

b. ﴿And when We gave unto Moses the Kitaab (Scripture) and the Criterion (of right and wrong), that ye might be led aright.﴾ Albaqara: v.53

'Kitaab' referred to in this context is:

c. ﴿Then she pointed to him. They said: How can we talk to one who is in the cradle, a young boy? (29) He spoke: Lo! I am the slave of Allah. He hath given me the Kitaab (Scripture) and hath appointed me a Prophet, (30)﴾ Mariam: v.29-30

'Kitaab' referred to in this Ayah is:.....

Impact of Islam

We have learned that:

God the Almighty has sent the Prophets with the divine laws and commandment packages to organize human life. Muslims believed in the Shariah presented by the Holy Prophet Mohammad and adhered to Islam. So what is the impact and influence imparted by Islam on their mentality and how did their conditions change?

Our grand mistress Lady (Fatima Al-Zahra'a) in describing the condition of the Arabs before Islam said: « You were on the verge of hell, easy to swallow—tasty to the drinker-, exposed to the greedy, full of fire, easily treaded upon, drinking foul and contaminated water, eating tree leaves, despised outcasts, (you were in fear lest men should extirpate you), how Almighty Allah saved you by sending Mohammad.»

The Graceful Legislature

Allah the Almighty sent the holy Prophet (Mohammad (p.b.u.h.)) with a very graceful legislature to warn the people and save them from the darkness of shirk (belief that God has associates/polytheism) and the unfair traditions and rituals; and when the holy Prophet started his message, the Arabs



had no civilization that they can boast amongst other nations as many of them were polytheists. On the contrary, they had no clear belief in Allah but were worshipping man-made idols and were fighting amongst themselves for trivial matters such as a camel or a graze and they were drinking wine and practicing usury.

They were highly fond of money and material wealth: the rich were hoarding it and the poor were denied from it: They were afraid of poverty and felt-shameful to bring up females so much so that daughters were being buried alive, besides most of them were illiterate.

Their condition improved dramatically after they converted to Islam:

They worshipped God without any associates and followed His messenger; they became fond of knowledge and learned writing and reading. They worked hard and seriously and paid from their wealth alms and Zakat to the poor and the needy. They also became proud of their daughters and took special pride in bringing them up.

Their countries prospered and their civilization blossomed because they believed in Allah, the Almighty, and in His books and His messengers. They obeyed their Prophet Mohammad and followed the laws and injunctions of Islam which they learned from the holy Quran and from the tradition of the Holy Prophet (p.b.u.h.). They became conversant with his teachings and followed him in his actions thereby their life became organized and their manners greatly improved.



Seventh Lesson Evaluation

1. Envisage and expect:

a. A boy loves Allah, the Almighty, prays, fasts and works seriously and diligently.

He has been approached by a poor man for help.

Describe how he will interact with the poor man?

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.....

b. A Muslim girl, wearing the Hijaab and playing with her friends, heard the Athaan (call to prayer).

How will she act?

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c. A man worshipping idols, drinks liquor , and hoards gold and silver, was approached by a sick man requesting help for treatment;

How will he react to this needy person:

.....
.....

2. Complete the blanks:

I am a Muslim girl and wear

And I am a Muslim boy and I adhere to the ethics and manners of

.....

We pray every day, recite, love Allah,

..... and



Home work

﴿And when the girl-child that was buried alive is asked (8) For what sin she was slain, (9)﴾ Al-takweer: v.9-8

Describe the meaning of the holy verse.

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Lesson Eight

Leadership (Imamah)

﴿Your leader can be only Allah; and His messenger and those who believe, who establish worship and pay the poor due, and bow down (in prayer)﴾. Al-maaedah: v.55

We have learned that:

- God had sent us prophets with divine teachings which would ensure our happiness if we follow them.
- A Muslim believes in Allah and follows the divine laws and commandments that He revealed to His Prophet Mohammad (p.b.u.h.).

Deliberate the following cases:

- An elegant, organized school has many industrious and diligent students.

In this school, there are 15 teachers, one security guard, one gardener, and some cleaners; While the teachers are entrusted with teaching the students, the gardener cultivates the school garden and trims the trees; the security guard protects the school and the cleaners carry out the cleaning activities. What would happen to the school if it had no headmaster or a person responsible for its administration? What would happen to the school if the headmaster was absent and he does not appoint a substitute ?

- Mustafa is a businessman who sells vegetables and fruits and has many workers. He has travelled overseas and has not appointed any manager to manage his business. After he returned, he found that the fruits and vegetables rotted away and the workers fought amongst themselves.

Mustafa made a loss in his business.

Why did Mustafa make loss in his business?

I conclude

In the same way that we require laws to administer our life, so we also require a manager or a responsible officer to explain to us the law, supervise us and direct us while enacting it.



Jurisdiction of the holy Progeny(Ahlul Al-Bait)

Allah sent His Prophet Mohammad to the people with the Quranic revelations. The holy Prophet was the teacher, the spiritual and earthly leader. Muslims followed the Messenger by following his steps, listening to his sayings, behaving like he did, praying like he prayed performing ablution like he did and helping the poor, as well as being nice to their neighbors. Muslims lived at the time of the holy Prophet a very happy life asking him about anything they were ignorant about.

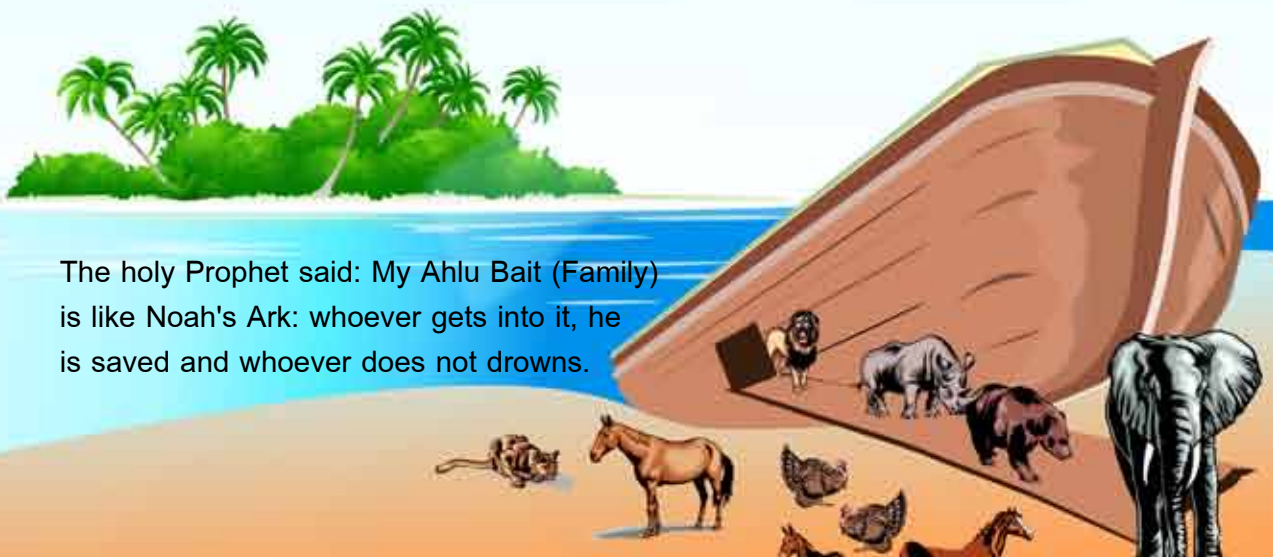
But the holy Prophet was a human being and would pass away sooner or later, So would it be prudent that Allah, the Almighty, would keep the people confused: without ordering His Prophet to appoint a successor to take over the responsibility of leadership over the people, and to safeguard His Holy Quran and the Prophet's tradition?

Think about the eventualities that would appear if the people were to be left on their own to select whomever they desire to lead them?

Because of God's knowledge of the appropriate person who would be capable to assume the responsibilities of "Imaamah", (spiritual Leadership), God ordered His Prophet to appoint Imam Ali to serve as his successor and as leader, followed by Imam Hassan, then Hussain, followed by the nine infallibles descending from Imam Hussain, the last being the twelfth Imam, (Imam Al-mahdi Ben Al-Hassan) who is not visible to the people but who will reappear towards the end of the world to spread justice throughout the world. God, the Almighty, chose them because they are conversant with the commandments of religion and they are able to implement His commandments without having to rely on research thus God ordered Muslims to listen to the Imams and obey them.

﴿O ye who believe! Obey Allah, and obey the messenger and those of you who are in authority﴾ Nisaa': v.55

The holy Prophet said: My Ahlu Bait (Family) is like Noah's Ark: whoever gets into it, he is saved and whoever does not drown.



Eighth Lesson Evaluation

1. Choose the right opinion and give the reason?

a. We can live happily even if God had not sent prophets

True Untrue

Reason:

b. God chose Imams to succeed Prophet Mohammad to guide and lead the people

True Untrue

Reason:

c. We require administration in school, the factory, in the shop but not in the house.

True Untrue

Reason:

d. (Leadership) Imamah helps in unifying the Muslims

True Untrue

Reason:

2. Read this Paragraph then answer:

Hussain owns a large factory producing sweets.

He manages his factory by himself. He goes before the arrival of the employees and the workers and sits in the Administration office. He specifies the number of sweets that he wants to offer in the market.

After the employees arrive at the factory, Hussain supervises their work and rewards those employees who work hard and are diligent.

Hussain decided to have a vacation so he asked us for advice so that his factory continues to produce sweets while he is on vacation.

I would advise him to:

a.

b.

c.

3. Complete the following table by writing the names of the holy Imams in the proper sequence:

Mohammad		Fatimat Al-Zahraa
1. Imam Ali	2.	3. Imam Hussain
4.	5. Imam Mohammad Al-Baqir	6.
7. Imam Moosa Al-Kadhim	8. Imam	9. Imam Mohammad Al-Jawad
10.	11. Imam Hassan Al-Askari	12.

Home work:

Read from the holy Quran the verse pertaining to purity of the Prophet's Progeny (Ahlul Bait) and ask about the circumstantial reason for its revelation.



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Unit Two

Religious Accountability

The Accountable Individual

We have learned :

God, the Almighty, sent to us prophets and appointed Imams to clarify to us the religious laws and legislations that control our lives. He ordered us, as He is the All-Knowing, to do what is of benefit for us, and prevented us, as he is the All-Knowing, from doing what is harmful to us. It is our duty to follow His Orders and avoid His prohibitions in all walks of life, whether they are acts of worship or business transactions. The question now is: "When does God make the individual accountable?"

Age of Religious Accountability

Mohammad: "Father: I shall start fasting tomorrow (by God's will)".

Father: "May Allah bless you. You completed 15 lunar years and so you are to adhere to God's commandments."

Little Fatimah: "O, Father,; I also want to fast with both of you."

Father : "That is fine, but I am afraid you may get exhausted as you are still too young, my dear, being only six years old."

Fatimah: "No, I will not get exhausted."

(On the second day)

The Father: "Fatimah: I see you drinking water, are you not fasting?"

Little Fatimah: I started the day fasting but I could not put up with the thirst so I have drunk water.

The Father: "Didn't I say to you my daughter that you cannot endure fasting as you are too young?; When you complete nine lunar years, then you will be able to endure hunger and thirst, inshallah, At that point Allah will hold you accountable and you would be required to fast and perform other religious obligations such as

✦ Allah tasketh not a soul beyond its scope. For it (is only) that which it hath earned, and against it (only) that which it hath deserved. ✦ Al-Baqarah: v.286



prayer, wearing the Hijaab, and refraining from the forbidden things such as lying, usury, doing injustice to others."

The Mind and the Takleef

Kawthar asked her mother:" Why does not God, the Almighty hold the insane accountable for his actions?"

The Mother: " Let me ask you Kawthar: if you have an expensive golden necklace and you want to give it to somebody for safe keeping: would you give it to an insane person?"

Kawthar: "No as I fear that"

The Mother: "Therefore you fear that he will lose it or destroy it."

Kawthar: "Yes, my mother."

Mother: "But why?"

Kawthar : "Because he has no brain and does not appreciate its worth."

The Mother: "Likewise, our Creator does not hold the insane accountable for religious commandments. because the insane does not recognize the importance of the commandments and the religious laws which are worth a paradise whose width equals the skies and the earth."

Think about the following:

- What if Allah made it obligatory on us to pray and fast from the day we were born, would we be able to do so?
- What if Allah did not hold us accountable for anything until we die and did not specify any laws for us, then how would we know how to worship or obey Him?

Conclusion

- For a person to be accountable, the person must be sane and of the proper age.
- A girl becomes accountable for her actions once she completes nine lunar years.
- A boy becomes accountable for his actions once he completes fifteen lunar years.

I add to my knowledge:

- 9 lunar years approximately equal 8 solar years, 8 months, 20days.
- 15 lunar years approximately equal 14 solar years, 6 months.



Ninth Lesson Evaluation

1. Mark the correct answer girl boy .

Commandment	Girl	Boy
1. Religious accountability begins at the 16th lunar birth anniversary	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. Religious accountability begins at the 10th lunar birth anniversary	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. Sanity is a precondition for religious Accountability.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. Ability to perform the obligations and refrain from the prohibitions is a pre-requisite for the.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

2: Justify the following;

a. Why does not Allah, the Almighty, hold the small child accountable for his actions?

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b. Why does not God, the Almighty, hold the insane accountable for his actions?

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Home work

1. Search in the Holy Quran Tafseer (interpretation) for the meaning of the holy verse:

﴿Allah tasketh not a soul beyond its scope. For it (is only) that which it hath earned, and against it (only) that which it hath deserved﴾.

Al-Baqarah:286

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2. There are other indicators signifying that a boy has reached the age of accountability, one of which mentioned was the age. Search for another indicator:

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Religious Ordinances and their Benefits

We have learned that :

Takleef is accountability to the Almighty Allah for every word we say or action we take, and the person to be accountable must be sane and old enough to assume responsibility to adhere to the religious commandments.

So what are these commandments?

The Five Laws

Religious scholars have split the religious laws and commandments into five categories:

- **Wajib - obligatory** – being any action which Allah the Almighty ordered us to do and which He does not allow us to abandon, like prayer and fasting.
- **Haraam - forbidden** any action Allah does not allow us to do and ordered us to abandon it, like lying and robbery.
- **Mustahab - recommended** – is any action ordered by God but which He also allowed us not to do , like fasting on Eid Al-Ghadeer.
- **Makrooh - undesirable** – is any action not desired by God but which He also allowed us to do, like praying in front of an open door.
- **Mubaah - optional** – is any action not ordered or prevented by God but left it to our choice to do or not to do like walking..

I add to my knowledge:

- We deserve reward if we do the obligatory and recommended actions.
- We deserve punishment if we do the forbidden & unallowable actions or if we forsake the obligatory actions.
- Our reward will diminish if we do actions considered undesirable.

Benefits of Compliance

Hawraa asked her mother: « O Mother: What are the benefits of compliance to the religious ordinances? »

The mother said; « Answer my questions, and you will know.

If a great king gives you a plot of land to cultivate, will you be happy or will you be sad? And will you thank the king or will you deny his benevolence? And with what will you cultivate it? »

Hawraa: "I will be happy and I will thank the king and I will plant it with flowers and fruit trees."

The Mother: « God the Almighty created us and bestowed upon us the life we are living like a big farm, and specified the commandments (obligatory,

❦ And whoso doeth good an atom's weight will see it then, (7) And whoso doeth ill an atom's weight will see it then. (8) ❦ Al-Zilzal: v.8-7

forbidden, optional, undesirable and desirable) like the seeds, and He ordered us to endeavor the obligatory actions and refrain from the forbidden actions; If we cultivate our life properly like how the farmer cultivates his plantation, we will qualify for Jannah – paradise - with all its goodies and if we act improperly, we end up in Hell."

Hawraa: "Thanks mother for this beautiful explanation, and now it is clear for me what Imam Ali (p.b.u.h.) was saying: «This world is a farm for the Hereafter.»"

The Mother: "So will you cultivate your life with the obligatory and desirable good deeds?"

Hawraa: "Yes, I will thank God for endowing me with accountability and I will cultivate my life with good deeds inshaallah."

The mother: "God Bless you Hawraa."

Conclusion

- Religious commandments fall into five categories: obligatory, desirable, forbidden, undesirable and optional.
- When a Muslim fulfils his commitments by doing obligatory and desirable actions, God the Almighty will reward him Paradise but if he deviates and abandons the (waajib) intentionally and does not refrain from the prohibitions through his own choice, God the Almighty would punish him and take him to Hell.

Lesson Ten Evaluation

1. Color the appropriate circle for the following:

a. Ahmad wants to drink water; such action is:

Obligatory not allowed recommended undesirable optional

**b. What is the religious view concerning eating without saying Bismillah?
(mentioning the name of Allah)**

Obligatory not allowed recommended undesirable optional

**c. What is the religious view concerning eating carcass without following
the Islamic rituals for slaughtering?**

Obligatory not allowed recommended undesirable optional

**d. Fatimah, who is ten years old, insists on wearing the religiously
prescribed Hijaab.**

Obligatory not allowed recommended undesirable optional

e. Ali upholds night prayer:

Obligatory not allowed recommended undesirable optional

2. Imam Ali (p.b.u.h.) **said:**

" This life is the plantation -farm- for the hereafter."

Explain how we can benefit from this saying in our life:



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Home work

Copy from Surat Al-Zilzillah (99) the verses signifying that Man sees his action in the hereafter even if it is minute.

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Follower-ship

We have learned that :

- A Muslim who is accountable for his actions is sane and an adult.
- A Muslim who is accountable for his actions needs a Prophet or Imam to teach him the religious orders.
- The twelfth Imam, Al-Mahdi ibnul Hassan Al-Askari, is not visible to the people but he shall reappear in the latter part of this life.

So, whom should a Muslim depend on during the disappearance of the Imam so that he comprehends Islam and its laws?

Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow:

Hussain left his house in the morning intending to go to a civil engineer to design a new house he intends to build.

When the engineer completed the design plans and specifications, Hussain left the engineering consultant's office to return to his house but found that his car would not start. So he pushed it hard until he reached the nearest garage. Hussain waited several hours while the auto-mechanic was repairing his car. During this period, he had got a strong headache and felt nausea because of his long waiting period under the hot sun and as soon as the mechanic completed the repairs, Hussain entered his car and went to the hospital at full speed. When the doctor examined him and gave him appropriate medication, he informed him that if it were not for his quick reporting to the hospital and if it were not for Allah's grace, his case would have been more serious due to excessive dehydration.

In your opinion, do you consider the actions taken by Hussain appropriate when he went to the engineer, the auto-mechanic and the doctor and why?

Observe that:

These situations are not unique to Hussain alone; every one of us requires expert opinions in the things he is not conversant with. When we feel sick, we go to the doctor, when we need a new dress, we go to the tailor, and so on in other situations. Going to the specialist in the various walks of life is justified practically and logically.



conclude:

The individual consults the right specialist on any issue he is not conversant with.

In the same way, it is natural that a Muslim refers to the Scholar specialized in religious law and jurisprudence on religious matters.

“Faqeeh” is the term used for the religious scholar who spends his life studying religion and concentrates his efforts in diligently deliberating and contemplating Quranic verses and the Sunnah and becomes conversant with the opinions of the various religious scholars so as to reach appropriate religious opinions while utilizing the tools specified and permitted for religious research.

Words and definitions:

Sunnah: is the saying, action and consent of the Maasoom, the Infallible.

The saying of a Masoom is like his Hadeeth.

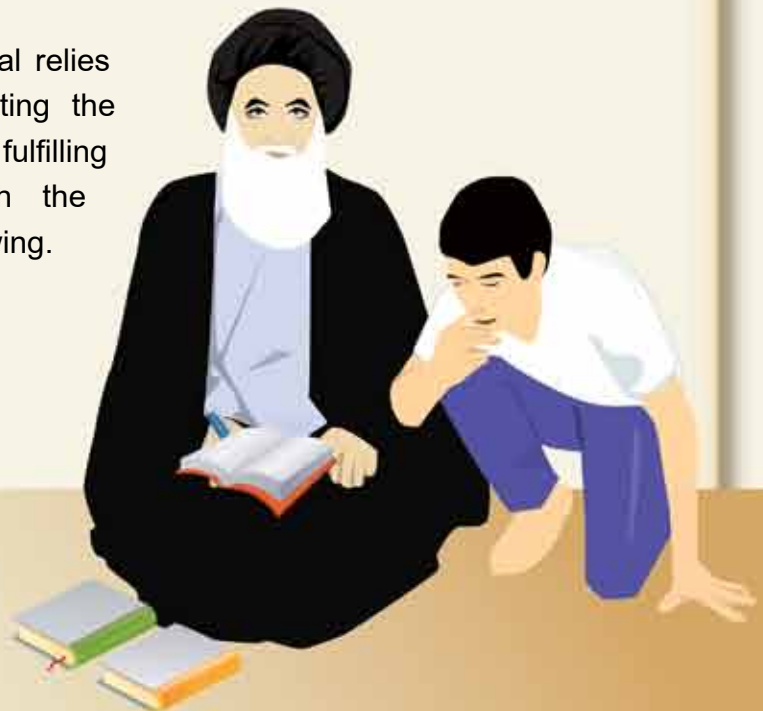
Action of the Masoom is his behavior as narrated to us through reliable, trustworthy narrators, like how the Prophet performs ablution (wudo'o).

The silence of the Masoom about an action taken in his presence means his consent and blessing, otherwise he would have advised differently.

The Faqeeh whose opinions are followed by Muslims is called Marjea al-Taqlaad or reference for and worthy of follower-ship. The individual who follows the opinions of the Faqeeh is called Muqalled.

Conclusion

- Man consults the specialist on issues he is ignorant about.
- The Faqeeh (specialist in Islamic laws and regulations) is the person who is able to deduce religious opinion from the Quran and Sunnah.
- Taqlaad means that the individual relies on the wholesome Faqeeh meeting the scholarly and personal criteria for fulfilling his religious obligations through the opinions of the Faqeeh he is following.



Lesson Eleven Evaluation

1. Write the appropriate designation in front of the related definition statement:

**(Faqeeh - Taqleed - Sunnah -
Marjea Taqleed - The Twelfth Imam)**

- a. : relying on the Faqeeh for religious opinion and applying accordingly.
- b. : The person capable of knowing the religious opinion basis on the holy Quran and holy Sunnah.
- c. : the saying, action and consent of the Ma'soom
- d. : The Faqeeh who is worthy of follower-ship by Muslims
- e. : Al-Mahdi Al Hassan Al-Askari disappeared and will reappear towards the end of this world.

2. Put tick (✓) mark in front of the correct statements and correct the incorrect statements:

- a. () People ask the religious scholars about any issues which they are ignorant about.

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- b. () A Muslim who is accountable for his actions relies on the religious scholar he is following to get the appropriate religious ordinance.

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- c. () The religious scholar needs only the holy Quran to arrive at the religious Rules.

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d. () Any Muslim is able to know the religious injunction if he reads the Quran and the Sunnah.

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e. () The most important function of the religious scholar is the clarification of the religious injunctions.

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Home work

look for the pre-requisites for the Mujtahid before our Taqleed becomes valid.



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Scope of Taqleed

Articles of Faith versus the Acts of Worship

We have learned that :

During the occultation of Imam Al-Mahdi, the individual takes guidance from the Faqeeh in learning and implementing the religious commandments thereby achieving happiness in this world and in the hereafter.

Read and think:

The religious scholar looked at the bright boy and was impressed by him. He told him that Islam is like a tall tree, with firm roots deeply penetrating into the ground, while its branches are carrying fruits. You, young boy, have the mental capability to think, therefore you should endeavor to know the roots of your religion as the roots of religion represent the pure faith that God implanted in our hearts and He gave us the ability to know them. The roots of religion are also the gateway through which we enter the proper religion whose commandments and injunctions we have to follow. This means that it is not proper for us to follow others in the roots of the faith, but instead we should think sufficiently and deeply until we believe them through proper and detailed search with conviction.

On the other hand, we can follow the findings of others in the branches of religion (Acts of Worship), these being the laws and commandments specified by God for us to follow so as to qualify to enter Heavens.

Religious Scholars have assigned Unity of God, His Justice, Prophet-hood, Imamah (successive leadership) and Resurrection to the category

of the Roots of religion as they constitute the base and foundation upon which Islam is built. On the other hand, the branches are the fruit – the consequences - of these basic beliefs and they signify the building constructed on this foundation.



First: The Roots of Islam are the basic belief that direct the movement of a Muslim in his life and with which His deeds will be accepted and they are five:

1. Unity: this is the belief that Allah is one and single with nothing like Him, and we worship Him and obey Him alone.
2. Justice is the belief that God is just and does only nice acts and that is why He will take us to Heavens if we obey Him.
3. Prophet-hood, being the belief that God, the Almighty, sent prophets and messengers to guide us to the straight path, the last of whom is the Chief of Prophets, Mohammad (phuhf).
4. Imamah being the belief that God selected 12 infallibles to succeed the holy Prophet and ordered the Holy Prophet to appoint them after him.
5. Hereafter is the belief in the day of Judgment and that God will enter the obedient to Paradise and the disobedient to Hell.

Salaat: Muslim Prayer

Zakat: Alms

Hajj: Pilgrimage to Mecca.

Khums: is a financial act of worship enacted as Financial reward for Mohammad (p.b.u.h.) and his progeny in Lieu of Zakat.

Maarroof: is any act which is good and is prescribed by religion.

Amr-bil-Maarroof: is enjoining and ordering good acts.

Munkar: is any act which is ugly and not reasonable and is prohibited by religion.

Nahy-an-Munkar: is the prevention of evil acts.

Tawalli: It is obligatory for a Muslim, in addition to his love of Allah and His Messengers to love, adhere to and follow the guidance of Ahlul Bait and to associate with them.

Tabbarri: Muslims are required to dissociate from anybody who is enemy or does not follow God, Mohammad and his Pure family.

Jihaad: When the religion is threatened seriously, the Muslim is obliged to defend it with his wealth and his own self.

Second: The Branches of Islam are the religious injunctions that regulate the relationship of the individual with his Creator, with the people and with his surroundings. Adhering to these injunctions qualifies us for the prescribed rewards or punishment. The Branches of Islam are:

1. (Salaat) – Prayer.
2. Zakat - Alms
3. Hajj
4. Fasting
5. Khums
6. Amr bil Maarroof
7. Nahy an Munkar
8. Tawalli
9. Tabarri
10. Jihaad.

Conclusion

- The Islamic religion consists of Roots and Branches
- A Muslim is required to follow the Faqeeh in the branches of religion but does not follow anybody in the roots of religion, but instead is required to believe in them only after due deliberation and self satisfaction.
- The roots of religion – basic beliefs – are five:
Unity, Justice, Prophet-hood, Imaamah, Resurrection.

Lesson Twelve evaluation

1. Tick mark the appropriate answer for the following:

a. A Muslim is obliged to perform five prayers every day

Root of Islam Branches Of Islam

b. A Muslim believes in God the Almighty only, and has no associates

Root of Islam Branches Of Islam

c. Hajj is not obligatory for the poor who does not possess the means to go to Hajj

Root of Islam Branches Of Islam

d. God shall enter the obedient Muslim to Jannah (paradise) and the disobedient to Hell

Root of Islam Branches Of Islam

2. Why?

a. Is it incorrect for a Muslim to imitate/follow others in their basic beliefs?

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b. Do religious scholars call the beliefs “roots of religion”?

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3. Mention the Roots of religion and give simple clarifications for each of them.

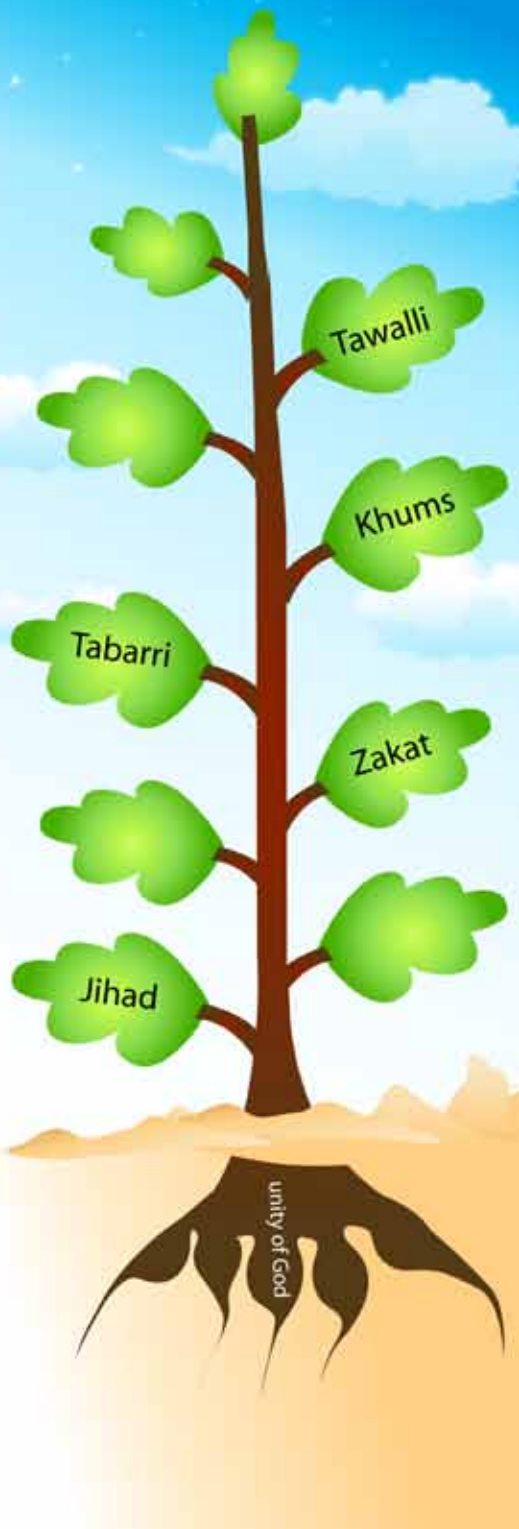
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Home work:

Choose three of the following acts of worship and explain them:

(-Khums - Zakat - Allegiance
Jihad - (Disavowal)Tabarri)

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Rules Governing Taqleed (Follower-ship)

We have learned that:

An adult Muslim adheres to the commandments and other details pertaining to the branches of religion from the Faqeeh. On the other hand, he is not to accept the articles of faith through imitation of anybody but should believe in them after thorough search, deliberation and self satisfaction.

﴿And We sent not (as Our messengers) before thee other than men, whom We inspired. Ask the followers of the Reminder if ye know not?﴾ Al-anbiyaa: v.7

But how does a Muslim follow the Faqeeh; or, in other words, what are the criteria for selecting a Faqeeh worthy of followership?

Read and then complete the discussion

Mohammad: "I want to follow a Faqeeh and I like to know the Faqeeh I have to follow."

The father: "Tomorrow I will go with you to the council of the religious scholars and you will get to know yourself the faqeeh you will follow, Inshallah."

On the second day, the father accompanied Mohammad and they went to the Religious Scholars' center, which includes schools and mosques where students learn Jurisprudence, Quraan and Hadeeth.

Mohammad saw a group of students surrounding a teacher and most of them were wearing white or black turbans.

The father stopped one of the religious scholars and shook hands then he asked him: «My son wants to select a reliable knowledgeable, and trustworthy scholar so what should he do?»

Mohammad: "The religious scholar shook hands with me and said: «When you want to follow a Marjea scholar ,





you must search for a scholar possessing the criteria mentioned by Imam Hassan Al-Askari when he said; «(Who from amongst the religious scholars is in full control of himself, maintains his religion, goes against his ill wishes, obedient to his Master, the general public may follow his suit)»

So the Faqeeh who is worthy of follower-ship must be a man, a scholar, pure and does not indulge in sins.

Mohammad: «But how do I know that the scholar possesses these attributes?»

The Scholar: «You should ask about him.»

Mohammad: «I ask whom and how?»

The Scholar: «You ask those scholars in the Council of Ulamaa who achieved high positions in Sharaiah sciences.»

Mohammad; «What do I ask them?»

The Scholar: «You ask them about the names of the Faqeehs and who is the most knowledgeable and able to research objectively through the Quraan and the Sunnah and is able to critique the opinions of the various scholars on the one hand and to answer religious questions posed by the people.»

What do you think Mohammad did after this discussion?

And now after an adult Muslim chooses the right Scholar for follower-ship, how can he get hold of the opinions of this scholar?

The ways to know the Fatwa(s) – opinion of the Scholar- are:

The first way: is to hear the religious injunction from the Scholar directly.

The second way: is to read the Religious Practices Handbook compiled by the Scholar.

The third way: is to hear about the relevant Scholar's opinion from a reliable, trustworthy person.

Conclusion

- We have to choose a knowledgeable and trustworthy scholar for follower-ship.
- We should ask the specialist scholars about the scholar possessing the desired criteria.
- We must search for the opinion(s) of the Scholar we follow in his books or correspond with him or ask reliable believers who are conversant with the Scholar's opinion(s).

Lesson Thirteen Evaluation

1. Indicate the acceptable behavior in the following cases:

a. An adult girl is not interested in follower-ship -Taqleed.

Acceptable

Unacceptable

b. A youth always asks the Imam of the congregation prayer about the opinion (s) of the Scholar he is following.

Acceptable

Unacceptable

c. A woman acquires the Religious Practices Handbook issued by the Scholar she is following from the bookshop.

Acceptable

Unacceptable

d. A man eats ready-made foods without reading the food constituents.

Acceptable

Unacceptable

2. Tick mark the appropriate answer:

For a Scholar to qualify for follower-ship (Taqleed), he must be:

- Sayyed and Hashemi

- Just

- Alive

- Old

- An Arab and eloquent.

- Knowledgeable and able to deduce the religious injunctions from the Quraan and the Sunnah.

- Adult

3. Mention two ways to know the opinion of the religious scholar one follows:

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4. The Quran urges us to ask the religious scholars about religious issues that are ignorant about. Which verse from the holy Quran refers to this statement:

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Homework:

- Write the names of three religious scholars who lived in Bahrain

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- Write the names of five living religious scholars.

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- Ask the specialists about the most knowledgeable scholar.

Taqleed Practicalities

We have learned that:

We should choose the scholar that meets the prescribed criteria for Taqleed and we search for the religious injunction in his Religious Practices Handbook . Now, if you are confronted with a situation requiring religious input, how do you go about it?

Imam Al-Sadeq said: «If Allah wills good for a person, He enhances his religious know-how - jurisprudence.»

Note the following examples:

- Fadheelah is a religious girl, mature and she has reached the age of accountability and is very eager to obey Allah and avoid His disobedience. She is now in a state of confusion as she had doubts during her midday prayer, and does not know if she prayed three or four Rakaahs, so what should she do?

- Nabeel is a sick boy and was not able to fast during the month of Ramadan, and had to eat and drink. Thank God he is back to good health so what is his religious duty now?

- Ahmad wanted to buy a piece of sweet and knew it contained cow gelatin, and, moreover, he knew it was made in China, but he does not know if eating it is Halaal or Haraam?

Where can the above persons find the answers to their questions?

Of course, the answers to these questions can be found in the Risaalah of the Faqeeh (Religious Practices Handbook) as follows:

Fadeela's was not sure whether she prayed 3 or 4 Rakaahs during the midday (Noon) prayer. The

Add to your knowledge:

Scholars may differ in some issues, so the Muslim has to take the opinion of the scholar he follows.

Some scholars are of the opinion that a fasting muslim may, although undesirably, plunge his head, in water whereas other scholars do not permit it.



Faqeeh advises her to assume she prayed 4 Rakaahs. After she completes her prayer she is to repeat the her midday prayer to be on the safe side.

As for the case of Nabeel, it is obligatory for him to fast one day in lieu of the day or days he missed due to his illness.

And finally, the Faqeeh rules that it is forbidden to eat any food containing Gelatin originating from cows if this food is made in a non-Muslim country.

We often come across these and similar situations and we should learn the religious opinion and adhere to it as follows;

- We make every effort to learn the religious opinion quickly and without any laziness heaviness or shyness.
- We try to ask the questions directly and ask only knowledgeable and trustworthy people.
- We ask the able religious scholar to explain to us the Religious Practices Handbook of the Faqeeh whom we are following.
- Apply and follow the commandments we have learned and deeply respect them in our hearts.

Conclusion:

A grown-up Muslim should learn the religious commandments and opinions relevant to his life and follow them accordingly.



Lesson Fourteen Evaluation

1. Answer using yes or no and correct as necessary:

a. Religious scholars agree on all questions of jurisprudence ()

.....

b. I must value and respect the Fatwa of the Faqeeh because it is extracted from the Quraan and the Sunnah ()

.....

c. I can only rely on my understanding when I read the Religious Practices Handbook ()

.....

d. I should try to know the religious opinion on the various issues of life ()

.....

2. Write a religious question about the following topics:

• The dress worn during prayer

.....

• Congregation prayer

.....

• Foods and drinks

.....

3. Suggest a way to get answers to these questions.

.....

.....

.....

Home work

Search for the religious opinion/commandment and write the answer:

a. My friend forgot that he is fasting and drank a little amount of water; so is his fasting valid or void?

.....

b. A naughty boy does not pray or fast and irritates anybody who renders advice to him: is it compulsory for us to order him to pray or is it not?

.....


c. A drop of blood fell in a glass containing fruit juice: Is it permissible to drink it or not?

.....

d. A grown-up (other than 15 year) year old girl possesses money and is healthy. Her father intends to go to Hajj. Is Hajj obligatory for her or not?

.....





In front of us is one of the units of the Series: **(Islam is my Religion)** which, with the other units, aims at building up a faithful generation, conversant with their religious issues, so they can be able to confront all difficulties and challenges facing them, and to discipline themselves within the divine system in accordance with its teachings, commandments and guidance.

Al Sayed Abdulla Al-Ghoraifi

