

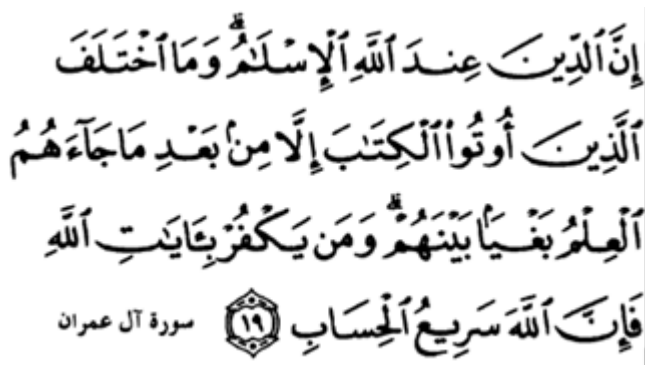
What is Islam? Understanding the Muslim Religion and Allah's Message to Mankind

What is Islam?

Islam is the **religion of Muslims** – a religion of guidance and truth that Allah has revealed to mankind through Prophet Muhammad (s). Allah has said it clearly that this is the religion that He, the **Supreme Creator**, has chosen for all of mankind. The paragraphs below shed light on various verses of the Quran about what Islam is and what Allah has told mankind about following Islam.

Islam is the religion that the Supreme Creator has chosen for mankind

Allah has clearly told mankind that His message to the prophets preceding Prophet Muhammad (s) was altered and corrupted by people over time. Thus, His final message of **Islam** was revealed to Prophet Muhammad (s) and Allah took the responsibility of safeguarding that message (Quran). Allah says in the **Quran**:



Truly, the religion with Allah is Islam. Those who were given the Scripture did not differ except, out of mutual jealousy, after knowledge had come to them. And whoever disbelieves in the Ayat (proofs, evidence, verses, signs, revelations, etc.) of Allah, then surely, Allah is Swift in calling to account.

Quran (**Surah Aal-e-Imran**, Verse 19)

He also says:

وَمَنْ يَتَّبِعْ غَيْرَ الْإِسْلَامِ دِينًا فَلَنْ يُقْبَلَ مِنْهُ
وَهُوَ فِي الْآخِرَةِ مِنَ الْخَاسِرِينَ ﴿٨٥﴾
سورة آل عمران

And whoever seeks a religion other than Islam, it will never be accepted of him, and in the Hereafter he will be one of the losers .

Quran (Surah Aal-e-Imran, Verse 85)

What is Islam? Understanding, and Allah's Message

Allah sent Quran with the message of Islam

سورة البقرة ٢ الجزء ١	
Part 1 3	
Sûrah2. Al-Baqarah	
Sûrat Al-Baqarah (The Cow) II	سُورَةُ الْبَقَرَةِ
<i>In the Name of Allâh, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful</i>	بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
1. <i>Alif-Lâm-Mim.</i> [These letters are one of the miracles of the Qur'ân and none but Allâh (Alone) knows their meanings.]	الْعَمَّ
2. This is the Book (the Qur'ân), whereof there is no doubt, a guidance to those who are <i>Al-Muttaqûn</i> [the pious believers of Islamic Monotheism who fear Allâh much (abstain from all kinds of sins and evil deeds which He has forbidden) and love Allâh much (perform all kinds of good deeds which He has ordained)].	ذَٰلِكَ الْكِتَابُ لَا رَيْبَ فِيهِ هُدًى لِّلْمُتَّقِينَ

Allah commanded the Prophet Muhammad to invite people to Islam

In these verses, Allah declares Islam as the chosen religion for His creation and tells the prophet to invite people to Islam.

What is Islam?

إِنَّ الدِّينَ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ الْإِسْلَامُ وَمَا اخْتَلَفَ الَّذِينَ
أُوتُوا الْكِتَابَ إِلَّا مِنْ بَعْدِ مَا جَاءَهُمُ الْعِلْمُ بَغْيًا

بَيْنَهُمْ وَمَنْ يَكْفُرْ بِآيَاتِ اللَّهِ فَإِنَّ اللَّهَ سَرِيعُ الْحِسَابِ ﴿١٩﴾

فَإِنْ حَاجُّوكَ فَقُلْ أَسَلَمْتُ وَجْهِي لِلَّهِ وَمَنِ اتَّبَعَنِ وَقُلْ لِلَّذِينَ

أُوتُوا الْكِتَابَ وَالْأُمِّيَّةَ أَسَلَمْتُمْ فَإِنْ أَسَلَمُوا

فَقَدْ أَهْتَدَوْا وَإِنْ تَوَلَّوْا فَإِنَّمَا عَلَيْكَ الْبَلَاغُ

وَاللَّهُ بَصِيرٌ بِالْعِبَادِ ﴿٢٠﴾

Quran (3:19,20)

Indeed, the religion in the sight of Allah is Islam. And those who were given the Scripture did not differ except after knowledge had come to them - out of jealous animosity between themselves. And whoever disbelieves in the verses of Allah, then indeed, Allah is swift in [taking] account.

So if they argue with you, say, "I have submitted myself to Allah [in Islam], and [so have] those who follow me." And say to those who were given the Scripture and [to] the unlearned, "Have you submitted yourselves?" And if they submit [in Islam], they are rightly guided; but if they turn away - then upon you is only the [duty

The Prophet's task was to simply convey the message of Islam to people – not to forcefully covert them

Allah addresses the prophet (S) in the Quran by telling him that his task was to convey the **message of Islam** to all and nothing beyond that. Allah says in the Quran:

فَإِنْ حَاجُّوكَ فَقُلْ أَسْلَمْتُ وَجْهِيَ لِلَّهِ وَمَنِ اتَّبَعَنِ
وَقُلْ لِلَّذِينَ أُوتُوا الْكِتَابَ وَالْأُمِّيِّينَ أَسْلَمْتُمْ
فَإِنْ أَسْلَمُوا فَقَدِ اهْتَدَوْا وَإِنْ تَوَلَّوْا فَإِنَّمَا
عَلَيْكَ الْبَلَّغُ وَاللَّهُ بَصِيرٌ بِالْعِبَادِ ﴿٢٠﴾ سورة آل عمران

So, if they dispute with you (Muhammad) say: "I have submitted myself to Allah (in Islam), and (so have) those who follow me." And say to those who were given the Scripture and to those who are illiterates (Arab pagans): "Do you (also) submit yourselves (to Allah in Islam)?" If they do, they are rightly guided; but if they turn away, your duty is only to convey the Message; and Allah is All-Seer of (His) slaves .

Quran (Surah Aal-e-Imran, Verse 20)

Allah has told the believers to enter Islam completely

Allah says in the Quran:

يَأَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا ادْخُلُوا فِي السِّلْمِ
كَآفَّةً وَلَا تَتَّبِعُوا خُطُوَاتِ الشَّيْطَانِ
إِنَّهُ لَكُمْ عَدُوٌّ مُّبِينٌ ﴿٢٠٨﴾ سورة البقرة

*O you who believe! Enter perfectly in islam (by obeying all the rules and regulations of the islamic religion) and follow not the footsteps of **Shaitan** (Satan). Verily! He is to you a plain enemy.*

Quran (Surah Al-Baqrah, Verse 208)

Allah has instructed mankind to not die but in the state of Islam

Allah says in the Quran:

يٰۤاَيُّهَا الَّذِيْنَ ءَامَنُوْا اتَّقُوا اللّٰهَ حَقَّ تُقَاتِهٖۚ وَلَا تَمُوْنُوْا
اِلَّا وَاَنْتُمْ مُّسْلِمُوْنَ ﴿۱۰۲﴾ سورة آل عمران

***O you who believe! Fear Allah (by doing all that He has ordered and by abstaining from all that He has forbidden) as He should be feared. [Obey Him, be thankful to Him, and remember Him always], and die not except in a state of Islam [as Muslims (with complete submission to Allah)].
Quran (Surah Aal-e-Imran, Verse 102)***

The prophet (s) completed the religion (Islam) for mankind

This means that innovations have no place in Islam and bringing new matters in the religion that the prophet (S) didn't do himself is doubting the completeness of what the prophet (S) conveyed to his people. It is, therefore, very important to not follow any practices that were not brought to mankind by the prophet (S). Allah says in the Quran:

اَلْيَوْمَ اَكْمَلْتُ لَكُمْ دِيْنَكُمْ وَاَتَمَمْتُ عَلَيْكُمْ نِعْمَتِي
وَرَضِيْتُ لَكُمْ الْاِسْلَامَ دِيْنًا فَمَنْ اَضْطُرَّ فِي
مَخْصَصَةٍ غَيْرِ مُتَجَانِفٍ لِآثِمٍ فَاِنَّ اللّٰهَ غَفُوْرٌ
رَّحِيْمٌ ﴿۳﴾ سورة المائدة

***...This day, I have perfected your religion for you, completed My Favour upon you, and have chosen for you islam as your religion. But as for him who is forced by severe hunger, with no inclination to sin (such can eat these above mentioned meats), then surely, Allah is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.
Quran (Surah Al-Maeda, Verse 3)***

To whom Allah guides on Islam is on the right path

Allah says in the Quran:

فَمَنْ يُرِدِ اللَّهُ أَنْ يَهْدِيَهُ، يَشْرَحْ صَدْرَهُ لِلْإِسْلَامِ
وَمَنْ يُرِدْ أَنْ يُضِلَّهُ، يُجْعَلْ صَدْرَهُ ضَيِّقًا
حَرَجًا كَأَنَّمَا يَصْعَدُ فِي السَّمَاءِ
كَذَلِكَ يُجْعَلُ اللَّهُ الرِّجْسَ عَلَى الَّذِينَ
لَا يُؤْمِنُونَ ﴿١٢٥﴾ سورة الأنعام

And whomsoever Allah wills to guide, He opens his breast to Islam; and whomsoever He wills to send astray, He makes his breast closed and constricted, as if he is climbing up to the sky. Thus Allah puts the wrath on those who believe not.

Quran ([Surah Al-Anaam](#), Verse 125)

Allah also says:

أَفَمَنْ شَرَحَ اللَّهُ صَدْرَهُ لِلْإِسْلَامِ فَهُوَ عَلَى نُورٍ
مِنْ رَبِّهِ، فَوَيْلٌ لِلْقَاسِيَةِ قُلُوبُهُمْ مِنْ ذِكْرِ اللَّهِ
أُولَئِكَ فِي ضَلَالٍ مُبِينٍ ﴿٢٢﴾ سورة الزمر

Is he whose breast Allah has opened to Islam, so that he is in light from His Lord (as he [who is a non-Muslim](#))? So woe to those whose hearts are hardened against remembrance of Allah! They are in plain error!

Quran ([Surah Zumar](#), Verse 22)

By following Islam no one does any favor upon Allah or to the prophet (s)

We should recognize that Allah chose [Islam for our guidance in this life](#). The benefit, therefore, is to us [in this life](#) and in the hereafter. We are not doing Allah or the prophet (s) any favors by following Islam. Allah says in the Quran:

يَمْنُونَ عَلَيْكَ أَنْ أَسْلَمُوا قُلْ لَا تَمُنُّوا عَلَيَّ إِسْلَامَكُمْ
 بَلِ اللَّهُ يَمُنُّ عَلَيْكُمْ أَنْ هَدَيْتُكُمْ لِلْإِيمَانِ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ
 صَادِقِينَ ﴿١٧﴾ سورة الحجرات

They regard as favor to you (O Muhammad) that they have embraced Islam. Say: "Count not your Islam as a favor to me. Nay, but Allah has conferred a favor upon you that He has guided you to the Faith if you indeed are true.

Quran (Surah Al-Hujarat, Verse 17)

Not heeding to the call of Islam is a loss to the person

Finally, for those who are invited to hear the message of Islam but instead of trying to understand the message invent various lies [about Islam and Allah](#), He, the Almighty, says:

وَمَنْ أَظْلَمُ مِمَّنِ افْتَرَىٰ عَلَى اللَّهِ الْكَذِبَ وَهُوَ يُدْعَىٰ
 إِلَى الْإِسْلَامِ وَاللَّهُ لَا يَهْدِي الْقَوْمَ الظَّالِمِينَ ﴿٧﴾
 سورة الصف

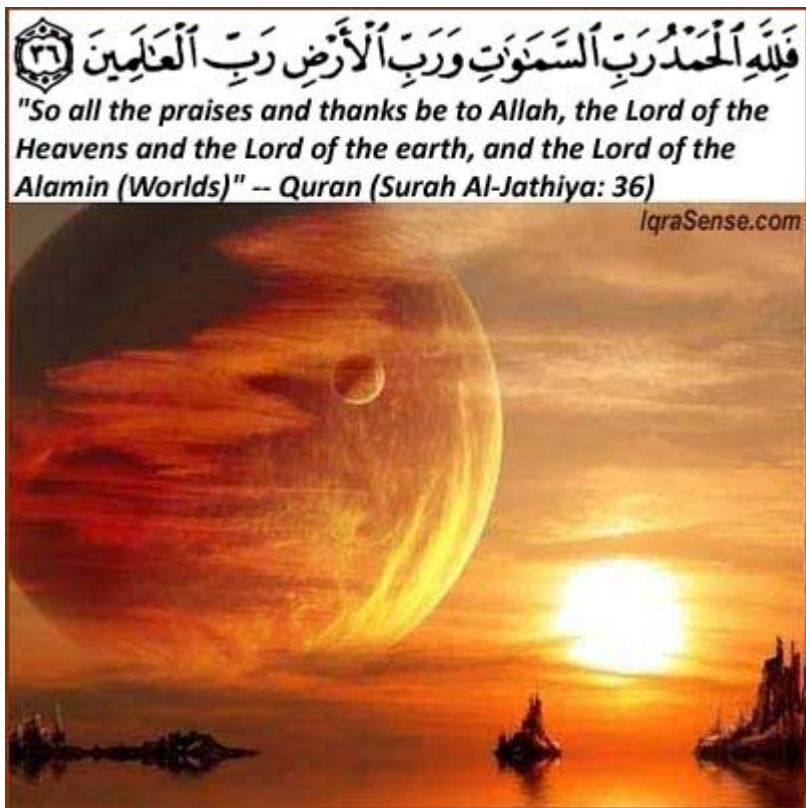
And who does more wrong than the one who invents a lie against Allah, while he is being [invited to islam](#)? And Allah guides not the people who are Zalimun (polytheists, wrong-doers, disbelievers) folk.

Quran (Surah As-Saff, Verse 7)

Islam Guides toward a straight path

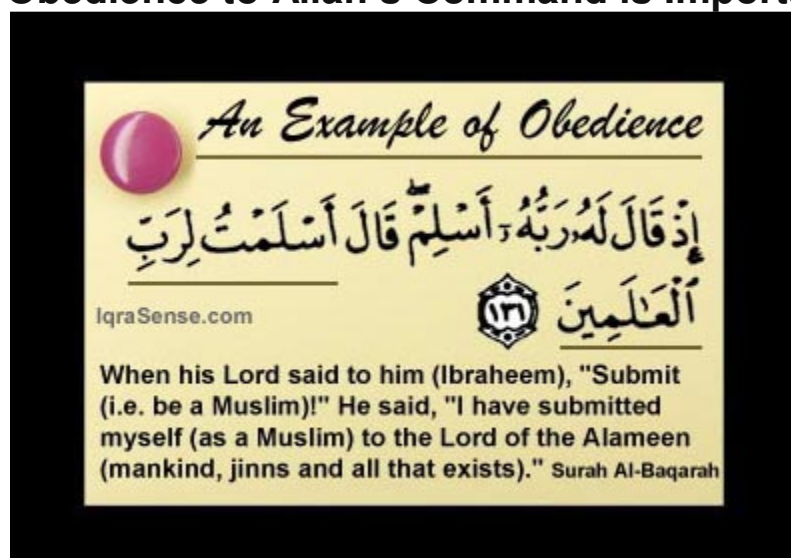
Islam teaches to praise the Creator of Mankind and all that Exists

**(That is—
 Allah ﷻ)**



In Islam, Allah guides toward peace

Obedience to Allah's Command is Important in Islam



In Islam, all believers love Allah, their Creator and Sustainer