



Following notes are by Br. Imran

TAUHEED

The **1st Pillar** of **Eemaan** - The Only Concept Of Absolutely Correct Belief In Allah

There are **SIX PILLARS** of **Eemaan** (Belief) in Islam. They are :

1. Belief in **Allah** (with the **Correct Concept** of Belief) : Sura **Baqhra** : 02 : **177**
2. Belief in **Hereafter** (with the **Correct Concept** of Belief) : Sura **Baqhra** : 02 : **177**
3. Belief in **Angels** (with the **Correct Concept** of Belief) : Sura **Baqhra** : 02 : **177**
4. Belief in **Books** (with the **Correct Concept** of Belief) : Sura **Baqhra** : 02 : **177**
5. Belief in **Messengers** (with the **Correct Concept** of Belief) : Sura **Baqhra** : 02 : **177**
6. Belief in **Destiny** (with the **Correct Concept** of Belief) : Sura **Furqhaan** : **25** : 02

We shall discuss the **FIRST PILLAR OF EEMAAN**, that is, The **Right Concept of Belief in Allah**.

There is a huge difference of chalk and cheese, heavens and earth, **between believing** that there is Only One God whom you may call as Allah or by any other name **and between believing** in Allah and in explaining anything about Allah, **only as**, Allah mentioned about Himself in The Glorious Qur'an and Muhammad ﷺ mentioned about Allah in his authentic teachings, that are called the Saheeh Ahaadees.

Allah Commanded, "Allah's Names are Asmaa ul Husnaa (mentioned in Qur'an and by Muhammad ﷺ), so Call Him only by those Names and distance yourself from those who distort / misrepresent / change His Names; such who distort His Names will certainly be Punished for what they used to do". **Al Qur'an** : Sura **Aaraaf** : 07 Aayat : **180**

Based on the above teaching, Islam strictly forbids to believe in Allah according to one's own understanding **but instead** fixes the conditions of belief in Allah to the extent, that, a Muslim cannot call Allah by any Names not mentioned in Qur'an or in authentic teachings of Muhammad ﷺ, leave alone explaining anything related to Allah by one's own understanding. This **Correct Concept of Belief in Allah** is called **TAUHEED**.

At the very outset of these notes, let us remember the fact, that humans as a whole, since their recorded human history on earth, are known to believe in a Power whom they call by different names to connote to the English word God and whom they consider responsible for Creating and Organizing all Affairs of the Universe. In different ages of known human history, different groups of humans living in different regions developed different sets of belief to worship and pray when in need, to whom they believed to be God. Some group of humans believed that god is One and this one God is responsible for everything in Universe, while some others believed that there are more than one god and each one owns different creations in Universe, but Supreme Being is only one God. Some other humans believed that God incarnated in human form or in form of other creations time and again and lived amongst humans to teach them the dos and don'ts of life.

Based on the study of human beliefs in god, gods and goddesses, certain terms technically explain these different human beliefs. These terms are : **polytheism, pantheism, panentheism, henotheism, kathenotheism, deism, polydeism, pandeism, autotheism, dystheism, agnosticism, atheism, anthropomorphism, antitheism, omnism, monotheism** and many more. Let us now briefly understand each one of them with their simple respective definitions.

But before that, let us learn the following definitions of three popular words associated with our topic.

GOD according to Oxford definition means : The being or spirit that is worshipped and is believed to have created the universe.

THEOLOGY is basically a combination of two Greek words *theo + logy = god + study about*, therefore theology would mean, study about god or gods.

THEISM is a word derived originally from a Greek word *theos* or *theoi* meaning god or gods. According to **Oxford Dictionary** theism means : belief in the existence of a god or gods, specifically of a creator who intervenes in the universe.

POPULAR TYPES OF THEISM

- **POLYTHEISM** : is the belief in multiple deities, which are usually assembled into a **pantheon**, along with their own religious sects and rituals. Pantheon is the particular set of all gods that he / she may worship, based on a folklore genre or myth consisting of stories from old time that have no historical basis but are still believed to be true and these stories related to the set of gods of that respective individual play a fundamental role in the functioning of that individual's society. A pantheon of gods is a common element of all polytheistic societies, and the nature of a society's pantheon can be considered a reflection of that society.
- **PANTHEISM** : is to believe all reality is manifested by god, hence everything that exists is god and the physical universe is immanent and intrinsic creator deity.
- **PANENTHEISM** : is to believe that god intersects / traverses every part of universe and extends beyond time and space.
- **HENOTHEISM** : is the belief that there may be more than one god, but that only one of them is to be worshiped. Best **example** of this belief is Zoroastrianism / **Parsiism**
- **KATHENOTHEISM** : is the belief that there is more than one deity, but only one deity is worshiped at a time or ever, and another may be worthy of worship at another time or place. If they are worshiped one at a time, then each is supreme in turn.
- **DEISM** : is the belief that, to determine the existence of god Divine Revelations are not needed and empirical / pragmatic knowledge is enough to identify the true god.
- **POLYDEISM** : is the belief that there are multiple gods but they do not intervene in the universe and its affairs
- **PANDEISM** : is the belief that there is a god who preceded and created universe but now that god is equivalent with the universe

- **AUTOTHEISM** : is the belief that there is god in everyone of us and oneself can become equivalent to god or like god
- **DYSTHEISM** : is the belief that god is not fully good and some evil exists in god too
- **AGNOSTICISM** : is the belief that it not possible to know for sure whether truly god exists or not so one shall neither deny god fully nor accept god completely
- **ATHEISM** : is the total rejection of belief that god exists
- **ANTHROPOMORPHISM** : is the belief that god can incarnate / embody in a human form, or the recognition of human qualities in god
- **ANTITHEISM** : in philosophical context it is an opposition to all gods and in the secular context a direct opposition to every belief that there is a god
- **OMNISM** : is the belief in all the different gods believed by all the human beings on earth without rejecting a single one of them through syncretism done by combining all different beliefs of god and uniting them for the sake of harmony
- **MONOTHEISM** : is the belief that there is only one god. **Judaism, Christianity and Islam**, popularly referred as **Abrahamic Faiths** are said to have this concept of belief about god and none of the above mentioned other beliefs in god.

Islam's concept of belief in no god except **Allah**, is called **Tauheed** in Arabic and the English word **monotheism** is a **very poor translation of** the Arabic word **Tauheed**.

Tauheed is the perfect **Anti-Thesis of every other concept of belief in God** and a **perfect, complete, accurate, satisfactory, befitting most** explanation of, **No God Except Allah**.

Before we study Tauheed in detail, let us glance through the known human history to know about different civilizations and their concepts of beliefs in god or gods and goddesses and we will easily conclude that all of them fit in one or more of the above technical terms used to explain concepts of belief in god, gods and goddesses.

Four civilizations are considered to be oldest civilizations in the known human history hitherto. They are :

1)

Most popular historical polytheistic pantheons include **Sumerian gods** situated within the Tigris-Euphrates River system in the present-day Iraq and in particular referring to Sumer, Akkad and Assyria that existed between 6000 B.C. to 400 C.E. belonging to the **Mesopotamian civilization**. The earliest evidence of **Mesopotamian religion** dates to the mid-4th millennium B.C., coincides with the invention of writing, and involved the worship of forces of nature as providers of sustenance. In 3rd millennium B.C., objects of worship were personified and became an expansive cast of divinities with particular functions. The last stages of **Mesopotamian polytheism**, which developed in the 2nd and 1st millennia BC, introduced greater emphasis on personal religion and structured the gods into a monarchical hierarchy, with the **National god** being the **head of the pantheon**. The other popular civilization that was highly influenced by the Mesopotamian polytheism was the **Babylonian civilization** that was formed during the 17th century B.C., and was an Akkadian speaking state located in central-southern Mesopotamia that are today in present day Iraq and Syria. **Mesopotamian Pantheon** included a set of seven gods. The number seven was extremely important to Mesopotamian cosmology. Based on it, the **seven primary gods** of the Mesopotamian pantheon were **An / Anu** the supreme god ; **Enki / Ea** the wisest of all gods ; **Enlil** the great mountain god ; **Marduk** the king of gods ; **Ishtar / Inanna** the queen of universe ; **Shamash / Utu** the all-seeing god and **Nanna / Sin** the god of the moon.

The **Egyptian civilization** (3100 B.C. to 30 B.C.) also, religiously believed in pantheon and in the Egyptian civilization there were two basic foci / attentions of public religion. **King of Egypt** and the **Egyptian pantheon** that consisted of an extremely important set of **eleven primary gods**. The king of Egypt had a unique status between humanity and the pantheon gods, partook in the world of the gods, and constructed great, religiously motivated funerary monuments for his afterlife, like the pyramids.

Egyptian gods are renowned for their wide variety of forms, including animal forms and mixed forms with an animal head on a human body **or** human head on an animal body

and many other forms. The Egyptians conceived of the cosmos as including the pantheon gods and the present world—whose centre was, of course, Egypt. The task of the Egyptian king as the protagonist / leading role of human society was to retain the benevolence of the pantheon gods in maintaining order against disorder.

The **Egyptian pantheon** was ultimately and **principally associated with** the **sun god** and the **solar cycle**. This formed a powerful legitimation of king and elite in their task of preserving order. **Egyptian King** was ultimately responsible for the cults of the dead, both for his predecessors in office and for the dead in general. His dominance in religion corresponded to his central political role ; state organization was based on kingship and on the service of officials for the king. For humanity, the **king** had a superhuman role, being a **manifestation of a god** or of various deities **on earth**. An **Egyptian king**, in his intermediate position between humanity and the gods received the most extravagant divine adulation, exaltation and worship and was in some ways more prominent than any single god. In death he aspired to full divinity but could not escape the human context. The divinized Egyptian king coexisted with his mortal self, and as many nonroyal individuals as kings became deified after death. *This belief appears very similar to the belief of many Indians today in Sri Ram, a king and god according to Valmiki's and others' Ramayana.* The Egyptian pantheon gods, the Egyptian king, humanity, and the dead existed together in the cosmos, which the creator god had brought into being from the pre-existent chaos. All living beings, except perhaps the creator, would die at the end of time. The sun god became aged and needed to be rejuvenated and reborn daily. Thus, the Egyptian king's role in maintaining order was cosmic and not merely social. His exaction, meaning, the king's action of demanding and obtaining something from someone, especially a payment or a service from people was necessary to maintain proper order in the cosmos. All the main gods of Egyptian pantheon acquired the characteristics of creator gods.

For gods of Egyptian pantheon, the **most important forms** were the **falcon** and **bull**, and **for goddesses** the **cow**, cobra, vulture, and **lioness**. *This belief appears very similar to the belief of many Indians today in goddess Durga a popular female deity shown riding a lioness and the holy cow worshipped.* The **chief form in which gods**

were represented was human, and many deities had only human form. Among these deities were very ancient figures such as the fertility god **Min** and the creator and craftsman **Ptah**. The cosmic gods **Shu**, of the air and sky and **Geb** of the earth, had human form, as did **Osiris**, **Isis**, and **Nephthys** were deities who provided a model of human society. In temple reliefs the gods were depicted in human form, which was central to decorum. **Egyptian gods** having animal manifestations were therefore shown with a human body and the head of their animal. The opposite convention, a **human head and an animal body**, was used for the king, who was shown as a sphinx with a lion's body. The number of deities was large and was not fixed. New ones appeared, and some ceased to be worshipped. Deities were grouped in various ways. The most ancient known grouping is the **Ennead**, generally believed to be a group of nine that was a plural of three and number three in Egypt had an important value. **Egyptian pantheon** was worshiped with an image of a god or group of gods. The shrine within the temple, containing the image or idol of god or gods of pantheon was opened at dawn, and then the god or gods of pantheon was purified, greeted and praised, clothed, and fed. There were several further services, and the image was finally returned to its shrine for the night. Apart from this activity, which took place within the temple and was performed by a small group of priests, **there were numerous festivals at which the shrine and image or idol of god worshiped were taken out in the form of a religious procession from the sanctuary on a portable baroque, becoming visible to the people** and often visiting other temples. These festivals were considered a time of communal celebration meant for public, group and individual interactions common to all and for all to participate.

Priesthood formed an **important integral part** of **Egyptian civilization** and **these priests were responsible to decide about the traditions surrounded to worship**, to **pray** and to **venerate** any **god of the Egyptian pantheon**.

Based on this the **eleven primary gods** of the **Egyptian pantheon** were : **Osiris** the god of underworld and floods of Nile ; **Isis** the devoted wife of Osiris and a figure of motherhood and woman power ; **Horus** depicted as a man or falcon and was the son of Osiris and Isis and worshiped as god of war and hunting ; **Seth** most often depicted as

a mysterious animal or animal with human head is considered in Osiris myth as the murderer of god Osiris and is worshiped as being god of chaos, violence, desert and storms ; **Ptah** the head of a threesome of gods (*tri-murthy - triune*) was worshipped. The other two members of the triune were Ptah's wife, the lion-headed goddess *Sekhmet*, and the god *Nefertem*, who may have been the couple's son ; **Re** One of several deities associated with the sun, the god Re was usually represented with a human body and the head of a hawk ; **Hathor** goddess of **motherhood** and **fertility** usually depicted as a cow ; **Anubis** was concerned with funerary practices and the care of the dead. He was usually represented as a jackal or as a man with the head of a jackal ; **Thoth** the god of writing and wisdom and the inventor of languages ; **Bastet** was represented as a woman with the head of a lion or a wild cat and she was given a less ferocious form of a domestic cat in the first millennium B.C. ; **Amon** before rising to National Importance, he was worshiped as the god of air but afterwards he was supposed have fought and defeated the foreign rulers on Egyptian land and since then during New Egyptian Rule, he was associated with Re the sun god and became a primary god of the pantheon.

The **Greek civilization** (1200 B.C. to 320 B.C.) also, religiously **believed in pantheon** of **twelve** major **Olympian gods** and **goddesses**. **Twelve primary gods** and **goddesses** of the Greek Civilization were : **Zeus** the god of sky and thunder ruling as king of gods from the Mount Olympus ; **Hera** the goddess of marriage, women and family and the protector of women during childbirth. She is sister and wife of god Zeus ; **Poseidon** the god presiding over sea, storms, earthquakes and horses and the protector of seafarers and the guardian of many Hellenic cities and colonies ; **Demeter** the goddess of agriculture, harvest and fertility of earth ; **Athena** or Athene goddess of wisdom, warfare and handicraft later syncretized with Roman goddess Minerva. **Athena's major symbols** include **owls, snakes** and **olive trees** ; **Ares** the god of war and courage and son of Zeus and Hera ; **Aphrodite** the goddess of love, lust, beauty, pleasure, passion and procreation later syncretized with Roman goddess Venus. **Aphrodite's major symbols** include **sea-shells, roses, doves, sparrows** and **swans** ; **Apollo** or Apollon god of archery, music and dance, truth and prophecy, healing and diseases, sun and light and

Contd., on next page...

poetry and more ; **Artemis** goddess of hunt, the wilderness, wild animals, nature, vegetation, childbirth, care of children, and chastity. Her Roman equivalent is goddess Diana ; **Hephaestus** the god of blacksmiths, metalworking, carpenters, craftsmen, artisans, sculptors, metallurgy, fire and volcanoes. He was believed to be either son of Zeus and Hera or a parthenogenous (born asexually) child ; **Hermes** the god of protecting travelers, human heralds, travelers, thieves, merchants and orators. He moves quickly between worlds of mortal and divine by the use of winged sandals. He plays the role of psychopomp meaning the *soul-guide* that is guiding the dead souls to their respective destination in heaven or hell ; **Hestia** the virgin goddess of the hearth, domesticity, family, home and state.

The **Roman civilization** basically encompasses three periods Roman Kingdom (625 – 510 BC), Roman Republic (510 – 31 BC), and Roman Empire (31 BC– 476 CE) until the fall of the western empire. **Romans** also, **religiously believed in pantheon** and mostly they were the counterparts of the Greek pantheons. The **Romans were** primarily a **polytheistic civilization**. Despite the **presence of monotheistic religions within the empire**, such as, **Judaism** and **early Christianity**, Romans honored multiple deities. They believed that these deities served a role in founding the Roman civilization and that they helped shape the events of people's lives on a daily basis. Romans paid allegiance to the gods both in public spaces and in private homes.

While the Roman state recognized main gods and goddesses by decorating public buildings and fountains with their images, families worshipping at home also put special emphasis on the deities of their choosing. Based on this the **twelve primary gods** of the Roman pantheon were : **Jupiter (Zeus of Greek)** the supreme king of gods and the Roman god of sky and thunder and the patron god of Rome. Was son of Saturn and brother and husband at the same time of to Neptune, Pluto and Juno ; **Juno (Hera of Greek)** the queen of Roman gods and goddesses, sister and wife of Jupiter and the goddess of funds of Rome and those waiting for childbirth and the mothers. She was considered patron goddess of Rome ; **Minerva (Athena of Greek)** the goddess of wisdom, arts, trade and strategy ; **Neptune (Poseidon of Greek)** the god of freshwater, sea, earthquakes, horses and volcanoes ; Mostly depicted with a **trident (Trishul)**

sometimes pulled across in a **horse drawn chariot** ; **Venus** (Aphrodite of Greek) the goddess of love, beauty, lust, fertility, sex, desire and prosperity ; **Mars** (Ares of Greek) famously god of war, agriculture, harvesting, fertility of earth and embodiment of virility and aggression. Was son of Juno alone. **Mars was the Venus lover in adultery** and **fathered Romulus** in whose **name** is **Rome** itself ; **Apollo** (Apollo of Greek) the god of music, healing, light and truth. Emperor Constantine used **Apollo** as one of his key symbols until Constantine's conversion to Christianity (*between 312 C.E. - 337 C.E.*) ; **Diana** (Artemis of Greek) the goddess of hunt, moon and birth and the lower classes and slaves ; **Vulcan** (Hephaestus of Greek) the god of fire, volcanoes, metal work and the forge; maker of the weapons of the gods ; **Vesta** (Hestia of Greek) the goddess of hearth, home, family and domestic life ; **Mercury** (Hermes of Greek) god of profit, trade, eloquence, communication, travel, trickery and thieves. He was the Roman psychopomp ; **Ceres** (Demeter of Greek) goddess of agriculture, grain, women, motherhood and marriage; and the lawgiver

The **Indian civilization** basically begins with **Indus Valley Civilization**. But, according to consensus in modern genetics, *anatomically modern humans (said so based on theory of evolution)* first **arrived on Indian subcontinent** (present day major area of Afghanistan, complete Pakistan and Bangladesh) **from Africa** between **73,000 to 55,000 thousand** years ago. However earliest known **human remains in South Asia** date **30,000 years ago**. Sedentariness (*in cultural anthropology refers to practice of living in one place for a very long time*) involving transition from foraging to farming and pastoralism, began in South Asia around 7000 B.C., and at the site discovered at Mehrgarh, Balochistan in present day Pakistan can be documented, with evidence of domestication of wheat and barley, rapidly followed by that of goats, sheep, and cattle. By 4500 B.C., such settled life had increasingly spread and began to gradually evolve into the **Indus Valley civilization** (**3300 B.C. to 1800 B.C.**, during Bronze age), which was **contemporaneous, co-existent with** ancient **Egypt** and **Mesopotamia**, located then, in present-day Pakistan and north-western India, and was noted for its urban planning, baked brick houses, elaborate drainage, and water supply. After the collapse

of Indus Valley civilization, the inhabitants of the Indus Valley civilization migrated from the river valleys of Indus and Ghaggar-Hakra, towards the Himalayan foothills of Ganga-Yamuna basin. The religion and religious beliefs of the people of Indus Valley civilization till date is highly debatable and is not known with certainty.

Though, **John Marshal**, a British, who served as Director General of Archeological Survey of India between 1902 C.E. to 1928 C.E., was an English archaeologist and he oversaw the excavations of Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro, the two main cities of Indus Valley Civilization in **1931 C.E.** identified the following as prominent features of the Indus religion: a great male god and a mother goddess; deification or veneration of animals and plants; a symbolic representation of the phallus (*linga*) and vulva (*yon*); and, use of baths and water in religious practice.

This **claim was refuted** strongly by **Doris Srinivasan**, whose article entitled : **Unhinging Siva From Indus Civilization** was published in **The Journal** of the **Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland** : No. 1 (1984), pp. 77-89 (13 pages) :

Cambridge University Press : [jstor.org/stable/25211627](https://www.jstor.org/stable/25211627). Similarly, **Geoffrey Samuel**, an emeritus professor of religious studies at Cardiff University, Wales, U.K., is known for his ethnographic studies of Tibetan and other Indic religions, investigating topics such as yoga, tantra, and the subtle body. In his book, published by Cambridge University Press in 2008 C.E., entitled, **The origins of yoga and tantra : Indic religions to the thirteenth century** : **Pgs** : 01 to 14, says that, all attempts to make "positive assertions" about Indus Valley Civilization religions as conjectural and intensely prone to personal biases — at the end of the day, scholars knew nothing about Indus Valley religions.

This period was followed by **Vedic Period** (1500 B.C. to 500 B.C., during Iron age), The **Vedic period** is the period when the **Vedas were composed**, the **liturgical / ceremonial hymns** from the **Indo-Aryan** people. The **Vedic culture was located in** part of **north-west India**, while **other parts of India had a distinct cultural identity during this period**. Many regions of Indian subcontinent meanwhile transitioned from Chalcolithic / Copper age to Iron age. None of these people were called Hindus nor was their religion or religious beliefs referred as Hinduism during this period.

Vedas basically insist on the Belief in One God whom sages refer by many names as mentioned in **Rig Veda** : 01 : 164 : 46 and 10 : 14 : 05 and at-least **thirty-three such names of that One God** are mentioned in the **Rig Veda**, the primary of the four Vedas, that is **Atharva, Yajurveda** and **Saama Vedas**.

Later the **common people started to deify each of these 33 Names of One God** making it appear to be **33 different gods**. They **divided these gods** into **three prime categories** :

Celestial gods : Varuna, Dyayus, Surya, Savitri, Mitra, Vishnu, Asvin, Usha, Pusha

Aerial gods : Rudra, Vayu, Indra, Maruts, Prajanya

Terrestrial gods : Agni, Soma, Brihaspati, Prithvi

The Vedic people composed hymns and offered sacrifice as a means of worshipping these gods. Even though they believed in many Gods, **Henotheism** or **Kathenotheism** is found in their hymns, **that is**, they **worshipped one god** but **did not deny the others**. **Indra** was considered **god of rain**, **Agni** was considered **goddess of fire** and **Varuna** was considered **administrator of Cosmic Law**. The **Early Vedic people did not build** any **temples** or **shrines**, as **they did not believe in idol worship according to Vedas**. They believed that once a person dies, the soul travels to Pitralok, where it is punished or rewarded according to its deeds. In other words, they believed in the concept of Karma.

Contd., on next page...

The **Abrahamic Religions** in our discussion here, include only **Judaism** and **Christianity**, while, **Islam** shall be dealt in detail later in these notes. Both **Judaism** and **Christianity** are **Monotheistic religions** and are against idol worship or image worship as it is explicitly mentioned in the Bible not to worship god in any image form. **Bible : Exodus : Ch : 20 : 03 to 05 and Deuteronomy : Ch : 05 : 07 to 09**. The distortion of the Name of God like Elohim, Eli, Adonai, YHWH, YeHoWa, YaHWeh etc., is clearly observed in the later day practices of the Jews. The Christians began considering Jesus to be literal son of god, as equal to god, as god on earth. This led to corruption of the basics of Abrahamic Faith, of adhering to the original concept and understanding of Monotheism.

The entire **life and events** of **Moosa** (Moses – pbuh), **Da’ood** (David – pbuh), **Sulaiymaan** (Solomon – pbuh) and **Eesa Maseeh** (Jesus Christ – pbuh) **evolve around Egypt, Syria, Persia** that is the **present-day Iraq and Iran** and **Jerusalem** where the **Baiytul Muqhaddas Mosque** is located and called by Jews and Christians as **Solomon’s Temple** in the region all around **Hijaaz** that is **present day Saudi Arabia**. All these places and personalities mentioned above, are of great importance to Jews, Christians and Muslims and they all form a fundamental core of the teachings of these three major religions of the world.

Nebuchadnezzar of Neo-Babylonian Empire, that is the region of Persia and presently the region of Iraq and Iran **destroyed Baiytul Muqhaddas – The Solomon’s temple** in Jerusalem and took away all Jews with him as slaves in about **597 B.C.**. The Jews did not have with them any book form of the Touraa – The Torah or The Law Revealed to Moosa(a) by Allah in a written form nor was any one of them the complete memorizer of the that Revelation given to Moosa(a). So, whatever they had was only hearsay and therefore it was heresy / unorthodox / profane from the original Message of Monotheism Revealed to Moosa(a) by Allah.

Contd., on next page...

The **Babylonian conquest** entailed not just the destruction of Jerusalem and its First-Temple / Solomon's Temple / Baiytul Muqhaddas Mosque, but the destruction of the entire infrastructure which had sustained Judah and Jews for centuries.

Historically it is well known that it was a **Standard Babylonian Practice to banish** the **political, religious, economic and ruling class** and **to shift the administrative centre of the captured races to a new location**, mostly in close proximity with their respective cities. **This resulted in** the **end of** the **political** and **religious thoughts of the captured races** and their new generation growing under captivity learnt about their rulers more than learning their own respective religion.

By the time **Jews returned to Jerusalem** during the reign of **Cyrus The Great** in Persia in about **538 B.C.**, they had **already lost a close touch with the actual teachings of Moosa(a)** Revealed by Allah to him. This led to self-interpretations of all that was passed on to others on the basis of oral traditions and when they returned to Jerusalem, these **Jews** already **started corrupting Abrahamic Traditions** by mixing in them innovations learnt from the Persian people during their captivity in Persian-Babylonian region.

Though they immediately started constructing **Second Temple – Baiytul Muqhaddas** after returning, but now they were divided in practicing their respective religious beliefs and traditions. The **most dangerous of all was** the several **misinterpretations** and **distorted names** and **attributes to Almighty Allah**.

Allah sent **Eesaa ibn e Maryam** (Jesus s/o Mary - pbuh), to correct their distortions. Jesus says in **Bible : Matthew : Ch : 05 : 17** : "Think not that I have come to destroy the Law (of Moses)....I have not come to destroy but to fulfil". The very first law of the 10 Commandments as Jesus himself mentions is in **Bible : Gospel of Mark : Ch : 12 : 29** : **Jesus said, "The First of all the Commandments is "Hear O Israel, Our Lord The God is Only One God"** and this is **exactly same as** the **Command of Moosa** (Moses – pbuh) : *Shamaa Isra'elo Adonai Ilaahino Adonai Ihad* : **Hear O Israel, Our Lord The God is Only One God** : **Bible : Deuteronomy : Ch : 06 : 04**.

Contd., on next page....

So, as all previous known human generations, whether they be the pagan Greek, Roman, Egyptian or Indian civilizations or the Abrahamic Faiths, all of them have either totally lost the true concept of Monotheism or have distorted major portion of the true belief in No God Except Allah.

To **finally correct** and to **finally educate entire mankind**, the true and **perfect concept of belief** in **No God Except Allah**, the **Glorious Qur'an was Revealed** to Allah's last and final Messenger, **Muhammad ﷺ**, between 610 C.E. to 632 C.E., in Makka and Madina with the Promise of Allah to Protect the Message of Qur'an (**Al Qur'an : Sura Hijr : 15 : 09** and Sura **Fussilat : 41 : 42**) till eternity.

The **Primary Most Mission of all the Prophets of Allah** from **Aadam** (Adam - pbuh) till **Muhammad ﷺ**, was to **believe, preach** and **practice** the **Creed of Islam** that is **There is No God Except Allah**. (**Al Qur'an : Sura Ambiyaa : 21 : 25** : We never sent a messenger before you 'O Prophet' without revealing to him: "There is No God worthy of Worship Except Me (Allah), so Worship Me Alone").

As **no Prophet** and **no Messenger** will come **after Muhammad ﷺ**, so this **primary most important mission is given by Allah to all the Muslim generations till eternity**. The mission most important as a Muslim, as an Ummati of Muhammad ﷺ, is to reach entire humanity to educate them by advocating the First of All the Commandments in Islam that, **There is No God Except Allah** (**Al Qur'an : Sura Imran : 03 : 104, 110 ; Sura Ma'ida : 05 : 67 ; Sura Nahal : 16 : 125 ; Sura Fussilat : 41 : 33**).

In **Qur'an** and in **Authentic teachings of Muhammad ﷺ**, and **in the teachings of** the entire life of the **male and female companions of Muhammad ﷺ**, and **in the teachings of** the entire life of the **great eminent Muslims Scholars**, **all Muslims have been taught since the time of Muhammad ﷺ, till date** and this will continue till Last Day on earth, that there is **no good better than** the belief, proclamation, preaching and practicing of **There is No God Except Allah** and there is **no evil worse than not correctly** believing, proclaiming, preaching and practicing **There is No God Except Allah**.

Contd., on next page....

Every other good is validated for Reward in Islam, only if, the belief, proclamation, preaching and practicing of **There is No God Except Allah** is perfect and complete, **otherwise** no good will be Rewarded by Allah or will be Rewarded after being Punished for the distortion of this fundamental most article of Faith in Islam.

Therefore, for a Muslim, in order to remain on correct concept of Eemaan (Confirmed Faith) that **There is No God Except Allah**, the eminent Muslim Scholars simplified it by explaining the entirety of this most important article of Faith in Islam, under the concept of **Tauheed**, that is, the Perfect Concept of Belief with Wholeness in the first part of the Creed of Islam that is the first pillar of Eemaan, established on the entirety of understanding, **There is No God Except Allah**.

Let us learn some **important knowledge in regards to the Name Allah**. This **Miraculous Name Allah**, that Allah Himself Chose as most preferable to Call Him with and with which Muhammad ﷺ preferred to Call Him with and that all Muslims always prefer to Call Him with, is a **Unique Name** in many aspects.

Firstly : The **Name Allah** cannot be played around and converted such that it appears masculine or feminine in nature. Like, **the word god** can be played around and it can be made **goddess** and this makes it feminine in nature and leaves one to understand god as masculine. Then god is also used with a suffix **god-father** and this creates a concocted image in mind. Some people with expertise are praised by their fans by referring them as god of that field. For example, a cricketer may be called as **god of cricket** etc. **But** the **Name Allah** cannot be manipulated in any capacity and neither can it be converted to any form to be imagined as masculine or feminine in nature.

Secondly : The **Name Allah** is written using **3 alphabets of Arabic** language, that are, **Alif Laam** and **Haa** and an **entire sentence can be created with these same 3 alphabets only**. There is **no other language on the face of the earth** whose, only 3 alphabets can be used to create an entire sentence **except** the 3 alphabets of Arabic used to **write the Name Allah**. Not only a sentence is created but **The Creed of Islam Gets Created** using these 3 Alphabets, that is **Laa Ilaaha IllAllah** meaning **There is No God Except Allah**.

Thirdly : *Alif Laam* and *Haa* if **written together become a word** that is **root of the Name Allah** and that word is *Ilaah* meaning **god** or **deity**. This Arabic word is from another Arabic root word *Al Maaloooh* which has six basic meanings and therefore because *Al Maaloooh* is the **basic most root of** the Arabic **Name Allah**, as such, the **Name Allah** has 6 basic meanings. They are : **(i)** The Only One who is worshiped by with fullest love by entire creation **(ii)** The Only One towards whom all creation rushes with fullest love during satisfaction and sadness **(iii)** The Only One who cannot be comprehended at all or seen by the entire creation **(iv)** The Only One whose remembrance gives soothing to the heart **(v)** The Only One whose Power and Might amazes all creation putting them in Awe of Him **(vi)** The Only One to Protect all His Creation all time and it does not fatigue Him to do so at all. Now, unless these six meanings fit in one single time for someone then that cannot be Allah and except Allah these six meanings do not fit to any other sample of god worshiped by humans.

Let us now, succinctly understand **Tauheed**.

TAUHEED is an Arabic word derived from two root words, **Ahad** - The Only One and **Wahid** – One Alone. In the context of belief in Allah, Tauheed means to believe, to proclaim and to preach that There is No God Except Allah and Allah Alone is Worthy of Worship and everything besides Allah is His Creation and none is equal to Allah, Greater than Allah and associated to Allah in any capacity.

Let us begin understanding **Tauheed** with the explanation given under **3 Basic Categories**, that **if not applied** with complete understanding **simultaneously**, then, the correct concept of Belief in Allah, remains incomplete and this **leads to major most sin of associating partner with Allah** which **in Islam is only unforgivable sin**, **unless and until** a person whole heartedly **repents and then accepts** and believes in **Tauheed** of Allah as explained below.

Contd., next page....

3 BASIC CATEGORIES OF TAUHEED

1. **TAUHEED** ar **RUBOOBIYAa**
2. **TAUHEED** al **ASMAa - was - SIFAAT**
3. **TAUHEED** al **IBAADAa** or al Uloohiyaa

- **TAUHEED ar RUBOOBIYAa** : '**Ruboobiyaa** is from the root Arabic word **Rabb**, and **Rabb** basically means, the **Only Originator of all the creation** and **Everything besides Him** that exists **is His Creation Alone** and He predestined everything of His Creation based on which He Alone **Cherishes** and **Sustains** them without any Partners unto Him in any capacity. **Tauheed ar Ruboobiyaa** requires a Muslim to firmly believe, practice, proclaim and preach that Allah Alone Created everything existing besides Him; Allah Alone Predestined everything and every happening in the Universe existing besides Him and Allah Alone Cherishes and Sustains everything existing besides Him in Universe based on the Nature on which Allah Created all His Creations. Allah testifies this in the **Glorious Qur'an** in Sura **Faatiha**: 01 : 01 ; Sura **Anam**: 06 : 14, 164 ; Sura **Hood**: 11 : 06 ; Sura **Faatir** : 35 : 01 ; Sura **Zaariyaat** : 51 : 57, 58
- **TAUHEED al ASMAa - was - SIFAAT** : is from two Arabic words **Asmaa** and **As-Sifaat**. **Asmaa** is the plural of the Arabic word **Ism** meaning **Name** and the Arabic word **Sifaat** is the plural of the Arabic word **Sifat** meaning **Attribute**. As such **Asmaa** was **Sifaat** means Names and Attributes, while, **TAUHEED al ASMAa - was - SIFAAT** will mean, **Uniqueness and Unity in all the Names and Attributes of Allah**. **Tauheed al Asmaa was Sifaat** requires a Muslim to firmly believe, practice, proclaim and preach that Allah cannot be called by any other Names and Attributes, except by the Names and Attributes, with which Allah referred Himself with in the Glorious Qur'an and Prophet Muhammad ﷺ mentioned Allah in his authentic Sayings called as Saheeh Ahaadees / Authentic Ahaadees. **To understand this more clearly** the Learned men of Islam have explain this under the following **seven main points** :

Contd., next page....

Allah should not be called by a name or referred with an attribute, by which Allah Himself did not call or refer in The Qur'an. **(ii)** Allah should not be called by a name or referred with an attribute by which Muhammad ﷺ did not refer Allah in the authentic Ahaadees. **(iii)** If anybody is christening their child with the Name or Attribute of Allah, then they should **prefix** the Arabic word '**Abd**' for a **male child** and '**Amat**' for a **female child** (Abd and Amat means, servant of). For e.g. Abd + Allah = Abdullah; Amat + Allah = Amatullah etc. **(iv)** The names and attributes of the creation of Allah cannot be given to the Al-Mighty Allah. For e.g. one cannot say that Allah sleeps, Allah rests, Allah begets children or Allah is begotten etc. **(v)** Allah refers about His Face, Hands, Eyes etc., in the Glorious Qur'an and Muhammad ﷺ referred about Allah's Face, Hands, Eyes, Fingers, Feet, Legs etc., in the authentic Ahaadees. As such it is obligatory to believe in Face, Hands, Eyes, Fingers, Feet, Legs etc., of Allah in the literal sense and not metaphorically BUT they are as it befits the Majestic Glory of Allah and unlike any of His Creation and beyond the imagination of all His Creations. At the same time the Face, Hands, Eyes, Fingers, Feet, Legs etc., of Allah are beyond our vision and imagination. **Al Qur'an** : Sura **Anam 6:103**; Sura **Rahman 55:27**; Sura **Layl 92:17-20**; Sura **Qamar 54:14**; Sura **Saad 38:75**; Sura **Zumar 39:67** **(vi)** Allah's Names and Attributes cannot be used to mention any one else, none of His Creation in Universe, as they are Unique and belong to the Only One Unique that is Allah **(vii)** To convincingly believe that Allah in Person has established Himself upon the Arsh i.e., the Supreme Throne of Allah, in a way that befits His Majestic Glory and that is beyond the imagination of His entire Creation in Universe AND to convincingly believe that Allah does not exist everywhere. **Al Qur'an** : Sura **Ta'ha 20:5**; Sura **Furqan 25:59**; Sura **Hadeed 57:4**.

- TAUHEED al **IBAADA** or TAUHEED al **ULOHIYA** : are basically the same and are referred to with either of the names. IBAADA and ULOHIYA basically mean and include the highest form of love, respect, honor and obedience with which a person worships the Creator Al Mighty. As such, TAUHEED al **IBAADA** or TAUHEED al **ULOHIYA** in the Islamic context means and includes the highest form of love, respect, honor and obedience that every Muslim man and woman must have only for

and to Allah Alone, without the same love, respect, honor and obedience for anyone else in any matter of life in the entire Universe. In other words in every aspect of life, be it specific acts of worship like performing five times obligatory, congregational and canonical Sala'h (**Al Qur'an** : Sura **Ta'aha** : **20** Aayat : **130**) or issues pertaining to family laws, dietary laws, economy laws, marital laws, parenting laws, hygienic laws, warfare related laws, laws related to dress code of man and woman, burial laws or any other laws, it is only and only Allah whose Commands as explained, practiced and preached by Muhammad ﷺ, and followed by the male and female Companions of Muhammad ﷺ, is obligatory to be obeyed. Muhammad ﷺ said that there is no obedience to any creation of Allah in disobedience to Allah and in other Hadees Muhammad ﷺ said that there is no obedience in disobedience to Allah and in yet another Hadees Muhammad ﷺ said that there is no obedience to any among mankind in disobedience to Allah; indeed obedience is in goodness as recorded by Sheikh Nasiruddin Albani in his **Silsala Saheehaah : Hadees : 179 to 181**

Allah, referring to the people following their own self desires, said that such people are worshipping (*a deity called*) self-desires besides Allah. Allah Says, "Have you seen those who have taken their own self desires as their god.....". **Al Qur'an** : Sura Jaasiya : **45** Aayat : **23**.

Thus, any Muslim man or woman obeying Allah Alone in all matters of his or her life are fulfilling the category of Tauheed called as TAUHEED al IBAADA and ULOOHIYah.

If any Muslim man and woman live in places where the law of the land is not the Laws of Allah, then it is an incumbent obligation upon every Muslim man and woman living under laws that are not the laws of Allah to educate the masses and convince them the compulsion of obedience to the Laws of the True and Only Creator Allah. But unfortunately, we find most of the Muslims living in such places with full leisure compromise the Laws of Allah giving the excuse that they are helpless. This is so seriously futile that it is sure to destroy the life after death of such Muslims. To understand the seriousness of this negligence, such 'Islamic Da'wah lazy' Muslims

must study the Aayaat from **Al Qur'an** : Sura Tauba : **09 : 24** ; Sura Ma'ida : **05 : 44, 45 , 47** ; Sura Muhammad ﷺ : **47 : 09 & 25 to 28** ; Sura Mujadila : **58 : 22**

DRAFT