

## Types of Shirk: Major & Minor

**Major shirk** is to direct any act of worship—such as prayer, supplication, seeking help, making vows, offering sacrifices, or putting trust and hope—in anyone besides Allah. This includes praying to saints, seeking aid from the dead, relying on amulets or charms for protection, or believing others control benefit or harm. Allah said: “And whoever invokes besides Allah another deity for which he has no proof—his reckoning is only with his Lord. Indeed, the disbelievers will not succeed.” (23:117) All such acts take a person outside of Islam unless repented from. Preserving Tawhid means keeping all worship, hope, and reliance for Allah alone.

**Minor shirk** includes actions that compromise the sincerity of worship, such as showing off (riyā’) The Prophet ﷺ said: “What I fear most for you is minor shirk.” They asked, “What is minor shirk, O Messenger of Allah?” He said, “Showing off.” (Ahmad) Though minor shirk does not expel one from Islam, it still corrupts deeds and endangers salvation. Knowing and avoiding all forms of shirk is essential to preserve true Tawhid and earn Allah’s pleasure.

## Will You Answer the Call of Your Creator?

Whether you are a Muslim seeking to renew your faith or someone searching for truth, the message of Tawhid is for you. The door to forgiveness, guidance, and Paradise remains open to all who sincerely turn to Allah alone and follow the way of His Messenger ﷺ.

There is nothing greater than worshipping the One who created you, owns you, disposes and manages all your affairs. He alone deserves your devotion and trust.

Allah said “And turn to your Lord in repentance and submit to Him before the punishment comes upon you; then you will not be helped.” (39:54)

Embracing Tawhid—worshipping Allah alone, upon the clear path of the Prophets and the way of the righteous Salaf—brings peace in this life and everlasting success in the Hereafter.

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# TAWHID



**The Perfect Oneness of Allah in His Lordship, Names, Attributes, and that none has the right to be worshipped in truth except Allah alone**

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## What is Tawhid?

Tawhid means affirming Allah's absolute and perfect oneness in every aspect: He alone is the Creator, Owner, and Manager of all things; He alone possesses every Beautiful Name and Perfect Attribute; and He alone is truly worthy of all worship. This is the heart of Islam, the reason for our creation, and the message of every Prophet. Allah said: "And I [Allah] did not create the jinn and mankind except to worship Me." (51:56)

## How is Tawhid Fulfilled?

Tawhid is established through both negation and affirmation: denying every false object of worship, and affirming worship only for Allah. "None has the right to be worshipped in truth except Allah." (La ilaha illallah)

Shaykh Ibn 'Uthaymeen رحمه الله said: "Tawhid is not achieved unless one negates worship of everything besides Allah and affirms worship for Allah alone"

## The Three Foundations/ Categories of Tawhid

**Lordship (Ruboobiyyah):** Allah alone creates, sustains, and controls everything. "Allah is the Creator of all things." (39:62)

**Names & Attributes (Al-Asma wa Sifat):** Allah is described only as He and His Messenger ﷺ described Him—without distortion, denial, or likening Him to His creation. Allah said: "There is nothing like unto Him, and He is the All-Hearer, the All-Seer." (42:11)

**Worship (Uluhiyyah):** All acts of worship—prayer, supplication, trust, love, fear—must be for Allah alone. Allah said: "Worship Allah and do not associate anything with Him." (4:36)

## The Purpose & Result of Tawhid

Tawhid is the path to salvation, peace, and success in this life and the next. Every Prophet called their people to it. Even those who admit Allah is the Creator can go astray if they do not worship Him alone. Allah said: "If you ask them who created them, they will surely say: 'Allah.' How then are they turned away?" (43:87)

Tawhid unites, purifies, and elevates. Its opposite—shirk (associating partners with Allah)—is the greatest injustice and the root of every spiritual disease. "Indeed, shirk is a great injustice." (31:13) And, "So do not set up rivals to Allah while you know." (2:22) And, "And your Lord has decreed that you worship none but Him (alone)." (17:23)

## Tawhid The Key to Paradise

Tawhid is the foundation of salvation and the key to Paradise. No deed is accepted without it. Allah said: "Indeed, he who associates others with Allah—Allah has forbidden him Paradise, and his refuge is the Fire." (5:72) And, the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said: "Whoever dies while knowing that there is none worthy of worship in truth except Allah shall enter Paradise." (Muslim)

Tawhid distinguishes the believers from the disbelievers and is the very purpose for which we were created. By affirming Allah's oneness and worshipping Him alone, we find true success in this life and eternal happiness in the next.

## What Nullifies Tawhid?

Tawhid is nullified by any act of shirk—associating partners with Allah in worship, supplication, or devotion. This includes praying to, seeking help from, or sacrificing for anyone besides Allah. Allah says: "Indeed, Allah does not forgive associating partners with Him, but He forgives what is less than that for whom He wills." (4:48) Even minor shirk, like showing off in worship, endangers the sincerity and acceptance of deeds. Guarding Tawhid is vital for salvation.