
Islaam in words, actions and beliefs

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the Name of Allaah the most Kind the most Merciful

All praise be to Allaah Alone, and peace and blessings be upon the Last of the Prophets, our Prophet and Imaam, Muhammad, and upon his family and Companions.

In issue no. 1590, dated December 17, 1983, Al-Nadwa Journal, the editor published an article titled "These Islaamic Pages." In this article, he stated: "Almost all journals here and in most of the Islaamic countries persist in devoting some pages or columns to talks on Islaam every now and then. Well, why is that? Are not they Muslims who testify that there is no god but Allaah and that Muhammad is His Messenger, even if in words only? Do they not heartily believe that they are Muslims and carry birth certificates and identity cards that say they are Muslims? (Surely, the answer is yes) even, the constitutions of almost all their countries state that their religion is Islaam. Why then do they talk much about Islaam? What is the objective of these journals or these pages? Do they call for Prayers? The mosques are full with praying persons who know well how to straighten the lines and who reply to the Imaam 'our lines are straightened'. Is it a call, for example, for Hajj? Indeed, most of the Muslims hasten to perform Hajj and Allaah is more aware of intentions. Is it a call for Zakaah (obligatory charity)? Indeed, many of them pay Zakaah, voluntarily or involuntarily. Verily, Islaam about which people talk much implies all these pillars. Yet, it implies them as rules upon which is based a whole system of life; life with all of its activities, values, and visions that clarify that Islaam in essence is a life system that is built on a special conception of life with all of its values. On this sound basis, all the systems of government, economy, education, morality, and international relations between the Muslim country and the rest of the world are established. Moreover, Da`wah to Islaam must run according to this conception alone and - Inshaa`allaah (if Allaah wills) - we will try to make this page conform to such conception. Here, we invite the readers, when they write to us to take this conception into consideration and through this view." All these are the words of the editor as published in Al-Nadwa Journal.

Shaykh bin Baaz (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ)¹: Seeking guidance from Allaah, I say: It is deeply odd and strikingly strange that a well-known writer in Umm al-Qura (Mother of Towns: Makkah) -

¹ (رَحِمَهُ اللهُ) (rahimahullaah) May Allaah the Most High have mercy on him

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the cradle of revelation where the rise of the sun of the Message (Islaam) began - daringly sets out to publish in a famous journal an article which - in content - invites people to turn away from their religion. It invites them not to propagating its advantages, call for it, or even warn against opposing it. He disapprovingly wonders, "Are not all the people Muslims ... etc." and calls the people to be contented with sheer verbal expression of their religion, and - worse than that - even to be merely contented with Islaamic names, such as Muhammad, `Abdullah, `Abdurrahmaan, and the likes, and with a birth certificate and inner beliefs. He even calls for less than that, namely, affiliation with a country which claims that its constitution is Islaam. Glorified be Allaah! How did he stoop to this abyss of ignorance and go to the extreme by disregarding Islaam through his article though he is aware of the activeness of preachers in calling for their false religions and destructive ideologies such as Baathism, socialism, and communism? They devote their efforts to focus and highlight their merits and spend huge amounts of money in support of such paths that lead to Hell!

O editor! Have you been so absentminded to write such a heinous article about the religion of Islaam, which is the best of religions and the dearest to Allaah. It is a religion and a state, worship and Jihaad, a sword and a Mus_haf (copy of the Qur'aan), and a culture and a (form of) government. It is the way of reforming life and the Hereafter and of bringing about happiness for individuals and communities, both in the present and future life. A religion that has these merits is undoubtedly worthy of calling for and promulgating its advantages through famous journals, magazines, and periodicals, on pulpits, and in all festivities and meetings. Is it not worthy devoting efforts and money to call for it and urging people to embrace it, take it as a judge, and uprightly adhere to it along with disclosing the falsehood of other religions and ideologies. Has not the Glorious Qur'aan, which is greatest of all scriptures and the noblest of all constitutions, commanded calling for Islaam and propagating its advantages, restricted prosperity to those calling for it, and judged that its people are the best of peoples ever raised up for mankind due to their belief in it and calling for it. Yet, if you (the editor) forget that, listen to Allaah's (عزوجل)² saying: **[Say (O Muhammad (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ)³): "This is my way; I invite unto Allaah (i.e. to the Oneness of Allaah - Islaamic Monotheism) with sure knowledge, I and whosoever follows me (also must invite others to Allaah i.e. to the Oneness of Allaah - Islaamic Monotheism with sure knowledge).]** In this noble Ayah (Qur'aanic verse), Allaah (سبحانه)⁴ reveals that the true and perfect followers of the Prophet (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) are those who call to His Way with sure knowledge. This way is Islaam, which you denied that its people call for it. Allaah (عزوجل) says: **[Invite (mankind, O Muhammad (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ)) to the Way of your Lord (i.e. Islaam) with wisdom (i.e. with the Divine Revelation and the Qur'aan) and fair preaching, and argue with them in a way that is better.]** In this Ayah, Allaah (عزوجل) commanded His

² (عزوجل) (Azza wa Jaal) Glorified and Exalted be He

³ (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) (sallallaahu 'alayhi wa sallam) May the peace and blessings of Allaah the Most High be upon him

⁴ (سبحانه) (Subhanahu) Exalted be He

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Prophet (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) to call for Islaam and to argue for it in a way that is better. You and readers know that whenever a religion or an ideology is neglected and left without calling for it, it fades and dies. If this were to mean anything, it indicates that its followers turned away from it and lost their interest in it. How dare you ignore any sense of honour and of Arabism and write such an article that embodies a call to abandon Islaam, turn away from it, and cease to mention it in circulating journals. What is the value of a religion like that!! Glorified be Allaah! How great is Islaam! Indeed, Allaah is Greater and more Exalted and His Religion is thereby Greater and Weightier than what you mentioned, editor.

Allaah (عزوجل) says: **[You [true believers in Islaamic Monotheism, and real followers of Prophet Muhammad (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ)] and his Sunnah] are the best of peoples ever raised up for mankind; you enjoin al-Ma'roof (i.e. Islaamic Monotheism and all that Islaam has ordained) and forbid al-Munkar (polytheism, disbelief and all that Islaam has forbidden), and you believe in Allaah.]** He (سبحانه) also says: **[Let there arise out of you a group of people inviting to all that is good (Islaam), enjoining al-Ma'roof (i.e. Islaamic Monotheism and all that Islaam orders one to do) and forbidding al-Munkar (polytheism and disbelief and all that Islaam has forbidden). And it is they who are the successful.]** He also says: **[And who is better in speech than he who [says: "My Lord is Allaah (believes in His Oneness)," and then stands firm (acts upon His Order), and] invites (men) to Allaah's (Islaamic Monotheism), and does righteous deeds, and says: "I am one of the Muslims."]** O editor and readers, reflect upon these Ayahs! See how the Lord (عزوجل) decreed success for callers to Allaah and destined them to be the best of peoples for none is better than them in speech! However, the writer of the article warns against their approach, criticises their way, and disapprovingly wonders at them. Let us thus ponder whether Allaah (عزوجل) is pleased with the Muslims for mere carrying of Islaamic names or belonging to an Islaamic country or He demanded belief and action, which entail success, prosperity, and happiness in worldly life and in the Hereafter, from the Muslims. Indeed, the matter is crystal clear; it is as clear as broad daylight. However, it is as Allaah (عزوجل) says: **[Verily, it is not the eyes that grow blind, but it is the hearts which are in the breasts that grow blind.]** Had it not been for the fear that some ignorant people may be deceived by the article and its author, we would not have been entitled to refute his claims, since the falsity of his claims is manifest to all who come upon it of the common Muslims, not to mention the cultured among them. We ask Allaah to guide the author and to direct us and him to sincere repentance.

It is worth noting that he claimed at the end of the article, after he mentioned Prayer, Zakaah and Hajj, that, "Verily, Islaam embodies all these pillars. Yet, it implies them as rules upon which is based a whole system of life; life with all that is in it of activities and with all that it includes of values and visions which clarify that Islaam in essence is a life system that is built on a special conception of life with all that is in it of values. On the basis of this sound conception, all the systems of government, economy, education, morality, etc."

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Shaykh bin Baaz (رَجْمَهُ اللهُ): We say to this author that if Islaam is a religion that embodies these bases and that is fit to regulate life in all its aspects, then how could you deny his people's calling for it and propagating its advantages, and claim that people are Muslims, even if by the mere name. In case the mere name is sufficient for (a person to be) a Muslim, then these objectives and bases referred to above would not be fulfilled. Such is an odd claim and weird paradox, or a matter of confusion and deception. Why did you not mention that it is a religion on which the uprightness of our affairs in worldly life and in the Hereafter, and which pleases its followers in this life and in the Hereafter? Why did you restrict it to this life only? Do you think that this religion came only to redress (the affairs of) worldly life without having a connection with the Hereafter? Surely, the case is so clear that it needs no further detail. Besides, those with the minimum knowledge about Islaam know that it is a viable system that encompasses everything that brings about happiness for humanity in this life and in the Hereafter. However, deficiency befalls some people due to their lack of knowledge about it or to their failure to apply its rulings. Undoubtedly, past and recent realities testify to this fact and make it clear for whoever contemplates the conditions of the Muslims during the early era of Islaam and after. So, beware Allaah, writer, call yourself to account, turn to your Lord in repentance, and go back on your mistakes, since return to the right is a virtue; rather, an inevitable obligation. Returning in the right is also better for you both in the present life and in the Hereafter than to persist in falsehood. I ask Allaah to direct me, you and the rest of the Muslims to that which pleases Him, and to guide us to His Way. He is indeed the Greatest of all those asked and the help of Him Alone is to be asked for. There is no power or might but with Allaah Alone. Allaah Alone is Sufficient for us, and He is the Best Disposer of affairs (for us). May the peace and blessings of Allaah be upon His Slave and Messenger, Muhammad, and upon his family and Companions.