

Islaamic ethics

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the Name of Allaah the most Kind the most Merciful

Shaykh bin Baaz (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ)¹: All praise and thanks are due to Allaah, the Lord of the 'Alameen (mankind, jinn, and all that exists). May Peace and Blessings be upon His servant, Messenger, and Prophet whom Allaah entrusted with His revelation, our prophet, Imaam and master, Muhammad bin `Abdullah, his companions, household and whoever follows his guidance till the day of resurrection.

I thank Allaah (سبحانه)², as He granted me this chance to meet my brothers in this cultural seminar dedicated for enjoining the good and exchange of advice in adhering to the right and Islaamic ethics, encouraging everything that makes us closer to and pleases Allaah. May Allaah make our meeting blessed, purify our hearts and deeds, and make us comprehend His religion and keep to it. I also thank the head of this cultural seminar in Riyadh for inviting me to attend this meeting. I would also like to thank all the brothers who cooperated to prepare this meeting and I also thank those who came to attend it.

Anyone who has good knowledge about religion knows very well that Islaam is Allaah's religion revealed to prophets through the Holy Books. It is the religion for which the jinn and mankind were created. Allaah (سبحانه) says, **[Truly, the religion with Allaah is Islaam.]** Allaah (سبحانه) also says **[This day, I have perfected your religion for you, completed My Favour upon you, and have chosen for you Islaam as your religion.]** Allaah (عزوجل)³ says, **[And whoever seeks a religion other than Islaam, it will never be accepted of him, and in the Hereafter he will be one of the losers.]**

The essence of Islaam is represented in worshiping Allaah (سبحانه), obeying His commands, keeping away from what He forbids, and believing in everything He said about the Day of Resurrection, Paradise, Hell, the accounts of the prophets, and so on.

Islaam means submission to Allaah; to be submissive and humble to Him. So, whoever embraces Islaam, submits to it, keeps away from what it forbids, believes in Allaah, His Messengers, and in everything that Allaah (سبحانه) and His Messenger told, is a real Muslim.

¹ (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ) (rahimahullaah) May Allaah the Most High have mercy on him

² (سبحانه) (Subhanahu) Exalted be He

³ (عزوجل) (Azza wa Jaal) Glorified and Exalted be He

Islaamic ethics

The basis and foundation of Islaam is to witness that none has the right to be worshipped but Allaah and Muhammad is the Messenger of Allaah and to believe in all prophets, messengers, Holy Books, angels and in the day of resurrection and in predestination, whether good or evil. Every Muslim has to submit to Allaah's commands and keeps away from what Allaah forbids out of sincerity, truthfulness, and love for Allaah (سبحانه).

As is well-known, Islaam has five Rukns (pillars): to testify that none has the right to be worshipped but Allaah and Muhammad is the Messenger of Allaah, performing prayers, giving Zakaat, fasting Ramadhaan, and Hajj for a person who has the ability and all other kinds of worship are related to these five pillars such as enjoining the good, forbidding the evil, filial gratitude to the parents, keeping good relations with kith and kin, and other Commands from Allaah and His Messenger. Islaam has also six implied pillars called the pillars of 'Eemaan (faith): believing in Allaah as the Only God that has the right to be worshipped, as the Creator and the Disposer of the universe, and believing in His angels, Books, Messengers, the Day of Resurrection, and in the predestination whether it is good or evil. Any believer has to believe in these explicit and implied foundations and keep to them. After the two ranks of Islaam and 'Eemaan (faith) comes the rank of Ihsaan (to worship Allaah as if you were seeing Him, and even if you do not see Him, He certainly sees you) as narrated in the Hadeeth reported by `Umar ibn al-Khattaab and Aboo Hurairah (رضي الله عنهما)⁴. They narrated that Gabriel asked Prophet Muhammad (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ)⁵ about Islaam, 'Eemaan, and Ihsaan. In short, he asked about the command that Allaah (سبحانه) commands to do and the prohibition that He forbids. Every believing man and woman has to do their best in worship, be sincere when they work for Allaah's sake, keep to the right creed, and to be shy not to let Allaah see them doing mischief.

The Islaamic ethics in the Holy Book and Sunnah shows this matter and guide to it as Allaah (سبحانه) showed Islaamic ethics in His Holy Book. Prophet Muhammad (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) also explained them in his pure Sunnah. The believers have to follow the Islaamic ethics in their sayings, deeds, worship, and other behaviours. They have to abide by these Islaamic ethics that make them closer to Allaah (سبحانه), to His Paradise, and keep them away from the causes of His Wrath and Punishment. Muslims have to contemplate the verses of the Holy Qur'aan, know the positions of praise and dispraise, comprehend the meanings of the Holy verses to extract from them Islaamic ethics that they have to follow and keep away from what Allaah dispraises. Muslims also have to fear Allaah (سبحانه) in all their deeds, worship, and dealings. They should fear Allaah anywhere and everywhere. If a Muslim fears Allaah in reality, he shall never disobey Him and he shall do his best to worship Him, seek paradise, and keep away from Hell.

⁴ (رضي الله عنهما) (rad iyallaahu 'anhumaa) May Allaah the Most High be pleased with them both

⁵ (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) (sallallaahu 'alayhi wa sallam) May the peace and blessings of Allaah the Most High be upon him

Islamic ethics

We have to beware of what happened in many Muslim countries such as excessive estimation of graves, supplicating at graves, and asking the deceased for help. Some ask them to heal patients, to overcome enemies, and other kinds of worship. There is no doubt that this is Shirk (Polytheism), and taking the occupiers of graves as Gods with Allaah (سبحانه). So, it is a must to avoid that and warn people against it. In His Holy Book, Allaah (سبحانه) tells that this was the religion of the early pagans. Allaah (سبحانه) says, **[And they worship besides Allaah things that harm them not, nor profit them, and they say: "These are our intercessors with Allaah."]** Allaah (سبحانه) also says: **[So worship Allaah (Alone) by doing religious deeds sincerely for Allaah's sake only.] [Surely the religion (i.e. the worship and the obedience) is for Allaah only. And those who take Auliya' (protectors, helpers, lords, gods) besides Him (say): "We worship them only that they may bring us near to Allaah." Verily Allaah will judge between them concerning that wherein they differ. Truly, Allaah guides not him who is a liar, and a disbeliever.]**

Here comes the role of Islamic ethics that forbid these deeds, call people to worship none but Allaah, keep to his commands apart from what He forbids following the way of His Prophet (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) and his Companions (رضي الله عنهم)⁶. I also advise everyone to contemplate the Holy Qur'aan, memorise it all or parts of it as much as possible, read it often at certain times of the day. I also advise them to study the purified Sunnah, to read the Prophet's biography and the life of the companions, followers to benefit from that and work accordingly. I also advise all my Muslim brothers to comprehend the religion and ask scholars known for their sound creed and conduct about the difficult questions they may face. Muslims have to benefit from scholars and ask them about difficult question seeking to please Allaah (سبحانه) who says **[So ask the people of the Scripture, if you do not know.]**

Allaah (سبحانه) is the only One who can purify all our hearts and deeds, keep us straight on His Path to act according to the ethics enacted and clarified by the Prophet (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ). May Allaah save us and all Muslims from misleading tests and causes of anger! Allaah (سبحانه) is the only one able to do so. May Allaah's Peace be upon prophet Muhammad, his household, and companions!

⁶ (رضي الله عنهم) (rad iyallahu 'anhum) May Allaah the Most High be pleased with them