

The Goals of Islamic Belief ('Aqeedah)

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allaah, the Most Merciful, the Bestower of Mercy

A person's goals are the destination that he wishes to reach by taking certain actions. The Islamic 'Aqeedah (belief) has goals and values that are the destination of whoever preserves it:

1 – Seeking the Pleasure of Allaah and worshipping Him alone. Allaah is the Creator who has no partners. Therefore, He alone must be worshipped and His Pleasure must be intended by every action one takes.

2 – Freeing the mind from the confusion caused by not following this 'Aqeedah. Whoever does not believe in this 'Aqeedah is either an atheist who is worshipping material means or is a follower of misguidance and darkness caused by false beliefs.

3 – Gaining psychological and intellectual satisfaction. The ones who believe in this 'Aqeedah do not fall victim to psychological complexes or confusion. This 'Aqeedah builds a direct and strong relationship between the Lord and His slave. The believer accepts Allaah as the Lord, the Legislator and The King. He is satisfied with this belief. His heart is pleased with the following of Islam and he would not exchange this pleasure for anything else.

4 – Purifying one's intentions and deeds. This 'Aqeedah protects one from falling into misguidance in acts of Worship or in dealings with others. It requires its followers to follow the path set by the Messengers. This path leads to Safety and Purity in the hearts and actions.

5 – Being serious with regards to all matters. One does not pass the chance to do righteous, good deeds, but he takes any chance to gain Allaah's rewards. One is always on his guard against any path that leads to sin, fearing Allaah's punishment. This 'Aqeedah requires its followers to believe in the Resurrection and the Day of Reckoning, **"For all there will be degrees (or ranks) according to what they did. And your Lord is not unaware of what they do"** [6:132].

The Prophet also encouraged this attitude, **"The strong believer is better and more liked by Allaah than the weak believer. However, each one of them has (a certain degree of) goodness. Seek what brings benefit to you and depend on Allaah. Do not be weak if any calamity befalls you, do not say: 'Had I done that, then this would not have happened.'**

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Only say: 'Allaah has ordained (this matter) and whatever He will He does.' "Had I," opens the door wide for the Devil to do his work"¹

6 – Establishing a strong nation that strives to preserve its religion and solidify its gains.

This nation disregards the losses it incurs while striving to preserve the religion. Allaah said, what translated means, **"Only those are the believers who have believed in Allaah and His Messenger, and afterwards doubt not but strive with their wealth and their lives for the cause of Allaah. Those! They are the truthful"** [49:15].

7 – Reaching happiness in this life and in the Last Life, by leading individuals and groups to guidance and gaining their Lord's bounties and good rewards, **"Whoever works righteousness, whether male or female, while he (or she) is a true believer (in Allaah) verily, to him We will give a good life (in this world), and We shall pay them certainly a reward in proportion to the best of what they used to do (Paradise in the Hereafter)."** [16:97].

These are some of the goals that Islam seeks for its followers to reach. We pray that Allaah helps us and the rest of Muslims to reach them.

¹ Saheeh Muslim