



# WHAT IS ĪMĀN? DO WE NEED IT?

BRIEF INTRODUCTORY SESSION

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MCMC LEARNING SERIES

CONTEMPORARY COMPREHENSION OF THE IMAN: BELIEFS, ARGUMENTS AND PROOFS



## INTRODUCTION TO MCMC'S 'AQĪDAH COURSE

Īmān is mentioned often in the Qur'ān.

The articles of Īmān, the foundations, mentioned clearly.

Six articles are mentioned in the ḥadīth of Jibrīl.

See next few slides.



# ĪMĀN IN THE QUR'ĀN & SUNNAH

Īmān is a necessary study for all Muslims.

This is an introductory course, not meant to go into extreme details.

Covers the most important aspects of Īmān that everyone should know.

This first session will deal with the most important article, belief in Allah.

After Ramadan it will continue and deal with the remaining articles.



# ĪMĀN IN THE QUR'ĀN & SUNNAH

What is the purpose of the Qur'ān and Sunnah?

What are the articles of Iman in the Qur'ān and Sunnah?

What should every Muslim know about these articles?

Why is this study important?



## ĪMĀN IN THE QUR'ĀN

لَيْسَ الْبِرَّ أَنْ تُوَلُّوا وُجُوهَكُمْ قِبَلَ الْمَشْرِقِ وَالْمَغْرِبِ وَلَكِنَّ الْبِرَّ  
مَنْ ءَامَنَ بِاللَّهِ وَالْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ وَالْمَلَائِكَةِ وَالْكِتَابِ وَالنَّبِيِّينَ وَءَاتَى الْمَالَ  
عَلَى حُبِّهِ ذَوِي الْقُرْبَىٰ وَالْيَتَامَىٰ وَالْمَسْكِينِ وَأَبْنَ السَّبِيلِ وَالسَّائِلِينَ  
وَفِي الرِّقَابِ وَأَقَامَ الصَّلَاةَ وَءَاتَى الزَّكَاةَ وَالْمُوفُونَ بِعَهْدِهِمْ إِذَا  
عَاهَدُوا وَالصَّابِرِينَ فِي الْبَأْسَاءِ وَالضَّرَّاءِ وَحِينَ الْبَأْسِ أُولَئِكَ الَّذِينَ  
صَدَقُوا وَأُولَئِكَ هُمُ الْمُتَّقُونَ ﴿١٧٧﴾ البقرة ، ١٧٧ ﴿﴾



## ĪMĀN IN THE QUR'ĀN

It is not righteousness that you turn your faces towards the East and the West, but righteousness is this that one should believe in Allah and the last day and the angels and the Book and the prophets, and give away wealth out of love for Him to the near of kin and the orphans and the needy and the wayfarer and the beggars and for (the emancipation of) the captives, and keep up prayer and pay the poor-rate; and the performers of their promise when they make a promise, and the patient in distress and affliction and in time of conflicts-- these are they who are true (to themselves) and these are they who guard (against evil). **Al-Baqarah, 177**

## ĪMĀN IN THE QUR'ĀN

ءَامَنَ الرَّسُولُ بِمَا أُنزِلَ إِلَيْهِ مِنْ رَبِّهِ ۚ وَالْمُؤْمِنُونَ كُلٌّ ءَامَنَ  
بِاللَّهِ وَمَلَائِكَتِهِ ۚ وَكُتُبِهِ ۚ وَرُسُلِهِ ۚ لَا نُفَرِّقُ بَيْنَ أَحَدٍ مِنْ رُسُلِهِ ۚ  
وَقَالُوا سَمِعْنَا وَأَطَعْنَا ۚ غُفْرَانَكَ رَبَّنَا وَإِلَيْكَ الْمَصِيرُ ۚ ٢٨٥

The Messenger has believed in what was revealed to him from his Lord, and [so have] the believers. All of them have believed in Allah and His angels and His books and His messengers, [saying], "We make no distinction between any of His messengers." And they say, "We hear and we obey. [We seek] Your forgiveness, our Lord, and to You is the [final] destination."

Al-Baqarah, 285



## ĪMĀN IN THE QUR'ĀN

يَأْتِيهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا بِٱللَّهِ وَرَسُولِهِ ءَ وَالْكِتَٰبِ ٱلَّذِي نَزَّلَ عَلَيَّ  
رَسُولِهِ ءَ وَالْكِتَٰبِ ٱلَّذِي أَنزَلَ مِن قَبْلُ وَمَن يَكْفُرْ بِٱللَّهِ وَمَلَٰئِكَتِهِ ءَ وَكُتُبِهِ ءَ  
وَرُسُلِهِ ءَ وَٱلْيَوْمِ ٱلْآخِرِ فَقَدْ ضَلَّ ضَلًّٰلًا بَعِيدًا ﴿١٣٦﴾ النساء ، ١٣٦

O ye who believe! Believe in Allah and His Messenger, and the scripture which He hath sent to His Messenger and the scripture which He sent to those before (him). Any who denieth Allah, His angels, His Books, His Messengers, and the Day of Judgment, hath gone far, far astray. [An-Nisa, 136](#)





## ĪMĀN IN THE SUNNAH

He (Jibrīl عليه السلام) said: “Tell me about Al-Īmān.”

He (the prophet ﷺ) said: “it is to believe in Allah, His angels, His Books, His messengers and the Last Day, and to believe in Al-Qadar, the good of it and the evil of it.” He (Jibrīl عليه السلام) said: “You have spoken the truth.”

Part of a long ḥadīth, known as the ḥadīth of Jibrīl, in which Jibrīl questions the prophet about Islām, Īmān, Iḥsān and the Day of Judgment. This section succinctly summarizes the main articles of Īmān.

قال "أخبرني عن الإيمان"  
قال "أن تؤمن بالله وملائكته  
وكتبه ورسوله واليوم الآخر  
وتؤمن بالقدر خيره وشره"  
قال "صدقت"



## COMMENT ON THE PREVIOUS ĀYĀT AND ḤADĪTH

From the previous ayat and ḥadīth we understand that:  
We are commanded to believe as the messenger & believers believe.  
We are commanded to believe specifically in six matters.  
There is no salvation in the Hereafter without them.

It naturally follows that we should have a clear understanding of these articles of Īmān.



## THE SIX ARTICLES OF AL-ĪMĀN

From the previously quoted āyāt and ḥadīth, the articles of Īmān are:

1. Belief in Allah.
2. Belief in the angels.
3. Belief in the revelations.
4. Belief in the prophets.
5. Belief in the Hereafter.
6. Belief in Al-Qadar.

A brief explanation of each follows.





## BELIEF IN ALLAH

To believe in Allah as He describes Himself in the Qur'ān and as His Messenger ﷺ describes Him.

Some of His Divine Attributes are: He exists, He is One, He is Eternal, He is All-Powerful, He is the Knower, the Seer, the Hearer, the Creator, the Sustainer, Merciful, the Forgiver, etc.

To negate from Him the things He and His Messenger ﷺ have negated from Him. For example, He does not get tired, He does not sleep.

To believe that He is Perfect in all His Attributes, He depends on no-one, everyone depends on Him.



## BELIEF IN ANGELS

To believe that they are a creation of Allah, they have intelligence, they are like human beings in some ways and unlike in others.

They carry out Allah's commands and cannot disobey Him.

They are very numerous and some of them are special.

The names of some are mentioned in the Qur'an and ḥadīth.

They are strongly connected with the lives of human beings.



## BELIEF IN REVELATIONS

Revelation is Allah's communication to human beings. Prophets received revelation from Allah that they were commissioned to convey to humans.

Some revelations were in the form of books. The known books. What happened to these books?

The last book, the Qur'ān, remains with us today.





## BELIEF IN PROPHETS

Prophets were selected from human societies, given revelation and sent to their peoples to guide them.

They are no different than ordinary people, but they had outstanding qualities. They do not have divine powers.

They were granted miracles by Allah to prove their genuineness.

Prophets were numerous. We do not know their exact number.

We do not know all of them.

Only a small number mentioned in the Qur'ān.

The last prophet was Muḥammad ﷺ. He is the seal of prophets.



## BELIEF IN THE HEREAFTER

There a life after death. We will be resurrected.

That will be the Day of Judgment in which we will all be judged for our deeds on earth.

After the judgment there will be heaven or hell.

We will be rewarded if we were good in this world by heaven.

We will be punished if we were bad in this world by hell.



## BELIEF IN AL-QADAR

Al-Qadar is the decree of Allah that He has written down for His creation until the Day of Judgment.

Allah knows what will happen to every individual. He has written it down. He has willed it to occur and it will occur at the time and in the way He decided.

Yet He has given humans a limited freewill and there is no conflict between His decree and the freewill of humans.