

دائــــرة الشــــؤون الإســـلامية والعمـــل الخيــري Islamic Affairs & Charitable Activities Department

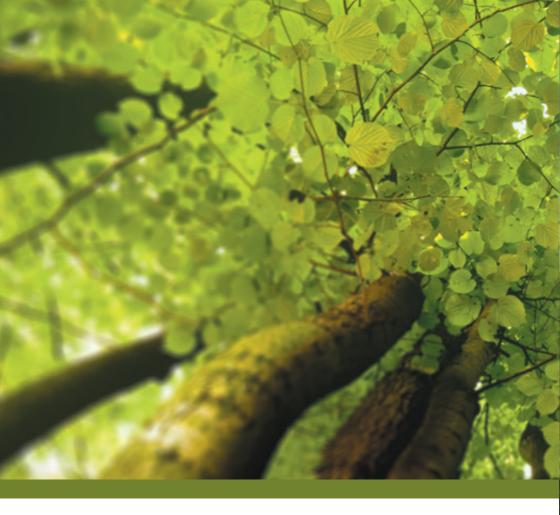


KNOW YOUR CREATOR



WHO CREATED THE ENTIRE UNIVERSE?

- Who created us?
- Who provides sustenance to us?
- Who is controlling the entire universe?
- Who makes the sun rise and then go down?
- Who sends down the rain?
- Who gives sweetness to the fruits, fragrance to the flowers and colours to the objects of the world?



All the above questions have but one answer: He is Allah. May He be glorified!

Then, who is Alláh? How can we know Him? How can we recognize Him? Why has He created us? What rights does He have on us?

Let this booklet help us to know Alláh and some of His attributes as well as discover how we can achieve nearness to Him.

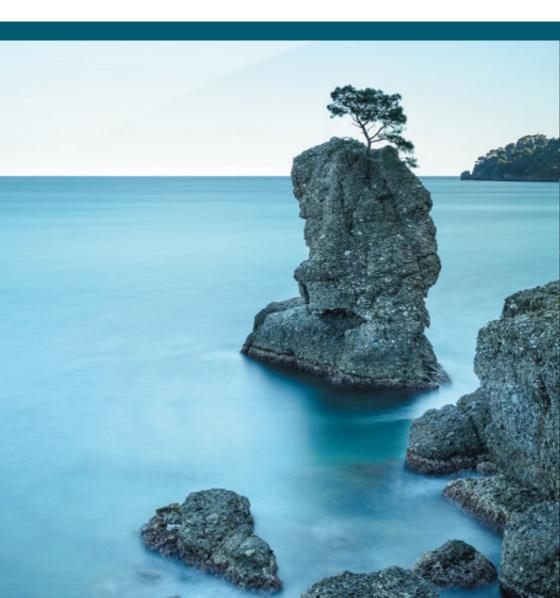
Allah is One. He alone is the Lord of the heavens and the earth. He has neither partners nor father or son. Chapter 112 of the Holy Qur'an brings out this fact so beautifully.

"Say, He is Allah, [who is] One, Allah, the Eternal Refuge. He neither begets nor is born, nor is there to Him any equivalent." (112:1-4)



Allah has no images and no statues. Neither can anybody see him or form a mental picture of Him. He has no likeness nor is anyone like unto Him. He is above the heavens and has established Himself over His Throne.

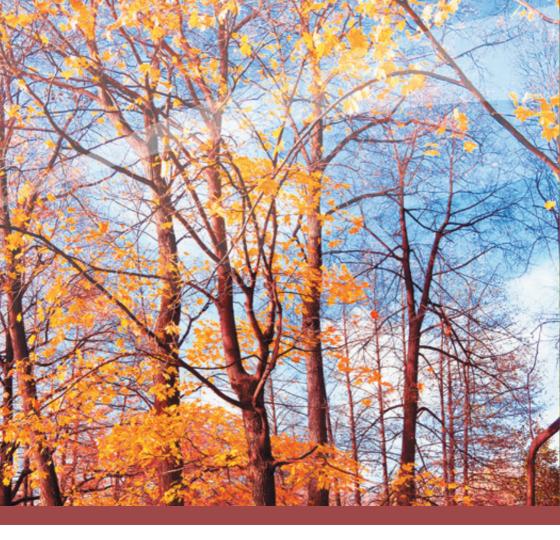
"Vision perceives Him not, but He perceives (all) vision; and He is the Subtle, the Acquainted." (06:103)





Having created the creatures in the world, Allah has not left them scot-free without accountability. He rather keeps everything under His control. He makes them go and shapes their destinies. There is nothing that can disobey the laws set by Him for it.

"He causes the night to enter the day, and He causes the day to enter the night and has subjected the sun and the moon each running its course for specified term. That is Allah, your Lord; to Him belongs sovereignty. And those whom you invoke other than Him do not possess as much as the membrane of a date seed." (35:13)



Allah knows each and everything. He knows all that was (in the past), is (at present) and shall be (in the future). Nothing can increase or decrease without His approval and knowledge. He knows all that happens anywhere in the world.

"And with Him are the keys of the unseen; none knows them except Him. And He knows what is on the land and in the sea. Not a leaf falls but that He knows it. And no grain is there within the darkness of the earth and no moist or dry thing but that it is written in a clear record." (06:59) It is Allah Who provides sustenance to the entire world. It is He Who causes to grow the food that we consume. He alone provides sustenance to the animals in the forest, to the fish in the water, to the birds flying in the air and even to the reptiles and insects living inside the holes and under the rocks.

"And there is no creature on earth but that upon Allah is its provision, and He knows its place of dwelling and place of storage. All is in a clear register." (11:06)



Allah is the absolute Lord and Master of the world. The entire universe is under His control. He is the doer of what He intends. No one has the power to escape or run away from His dominion.

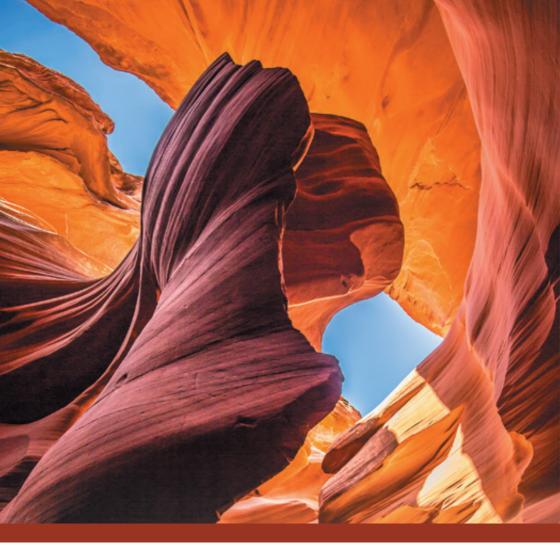
"O company of Jinn and mankind, if you are able to pass beyond the regions of the heavens and the earth, then pass. You will not pass except by authority [from Allah]." (55:33)





Allah is the All-Seer, which means that He discerns everything and knows everything that we do. No one can do anything outside His knowledge.

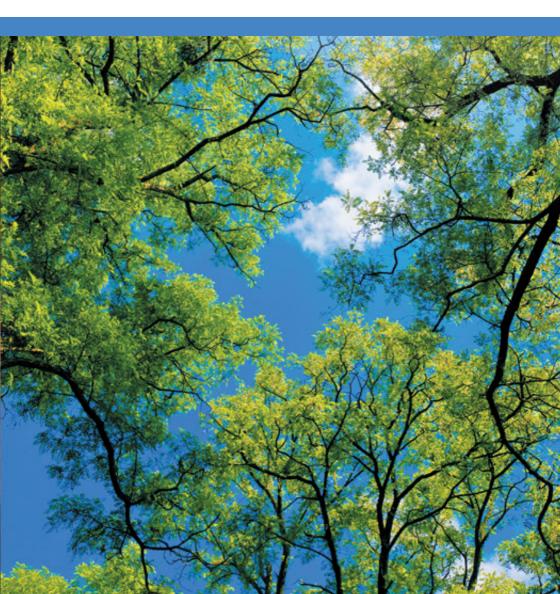
"It is He who created the heavens and earth in six days and then established Himself above the Throne. He knows what penetrates into the earth and what emerges from it and what descends from the heaven and what ascends therein; and He is with you wherever you are. And Allah, of what you do, is Seeing." (57:04)



Allah is All-Hearing. He hears everything, be it said aloud or in secret, and whether said in the light of the day or in the dark of the night. Allah is pleased when someone calls Him. He listens if called and gives what is asked of Him.

"And when My servants ask you, concerning Me indeed I am near. I respond to the invocation of the supplicant when he calls upon Me. So let them respond to Me [by obedience] and believe in Me that they may be rightly guided." (02:186) Since Allah is the Lord, Creator and Provider of the whole universe, He alone deserves to be worshipped and no one else deserves to be invoked or prostrated for.

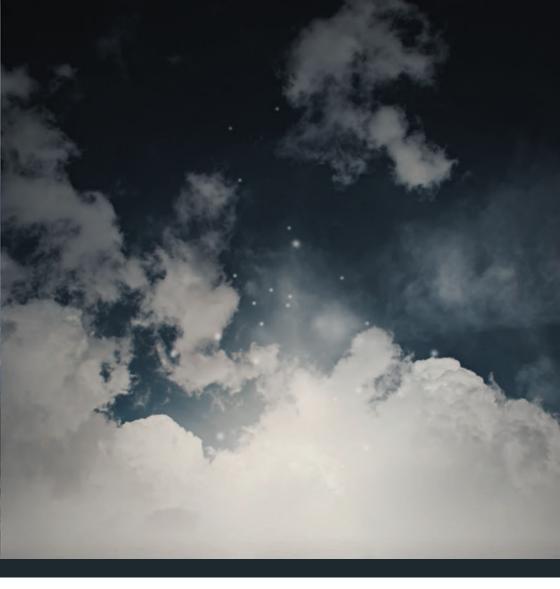
"That is Allah, your Lord; there is no deity except Him, the Creator of all things, so worship Him. And He is Disposer of all things." (06:102)



All things worshipped besides Allah share nothing of His divinity nor have they the power to hear and fulfil the wishes of those who call them.

"O people, an example is presented, so listen to it. Indeed, those you invoke besides Allah will never create [as much as] a fly, even if they gathered together for that purpose. And if the fly should steal away from them a [tiny] thing, they could not recover it from him. Weak are the pursuer and pursued." (22:73)





Those who invoke others besides Allah are in fact ungrateful to Allah, go against the commands of Allah and are gone astray.

"And they worship besides Allah that for which He has not sent down authority and that of which they have no knowledge. And there will not be for the wrongdoers any helper." (22:71)

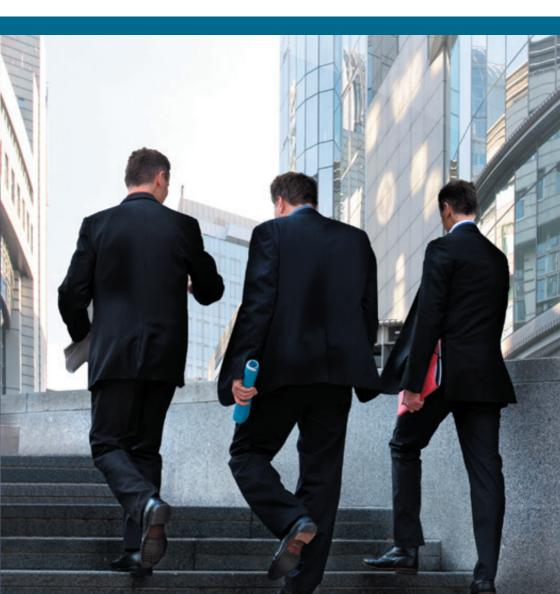


Allah strongly abhors that anyone should worship others besides Him.

"Indeed, Allah does not forgive association with Him, but He forgives what is less than that for whom He wills. And he who associates others with Allah has certainly fabricated a tremendous sin." $(04{:}48)$

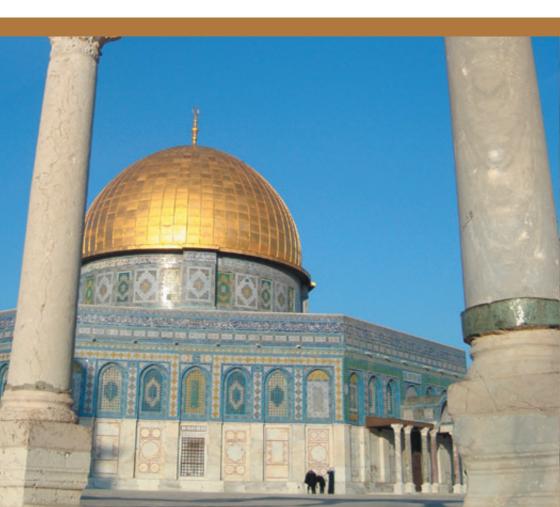
Allah gave man the faculty of thought and reason. He preferred them above many of His creatures and enabled them to lead them a conscious and purposeful life.

"Indeed, We created man from a sperm drop mixture that We may try him; and We made him hearing and seeing." (76:02)



Allah chose some persons, noble, righteous and full of the fear of Allah, appointed them as prophets and gave them the responsibility of guiding the people to the right path, make them God-conscious and apprise them of His commands. Thus, Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses and Jesus (May Allah's peace be on them all) were among the prominent Messengers chosen by Allah to guide the people to the right path.

"[We sent] messengers as bringers of good tidings and warners so that mankind will have no argument against Allah after the messengers. And ever is Allah Exalted in Might and Wise."





To some of these Prophets Allah gave His Books that would guide their people to the path of truth and serve as guides even after the passing away of those Prophets. Thus, the Torah, the Psalms and the Gospel were some of the Holy Books sent down by Allah for the guidance of mankind.

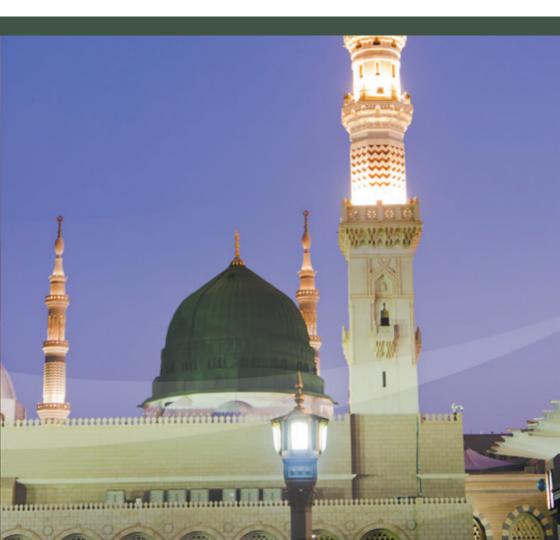
"He has sent down upon you, the Book in truth, confirming what was before it. And He revealed the Torah and the Gospel." (03:48)



A look at history reveals that quite a few of those communities the prophets were raised to failed on both fronts: in abiding by the teachings contained in those Books as well as in preserving the purity of the revealed texts and, as a result, large scale unauthorized changes were made in them.

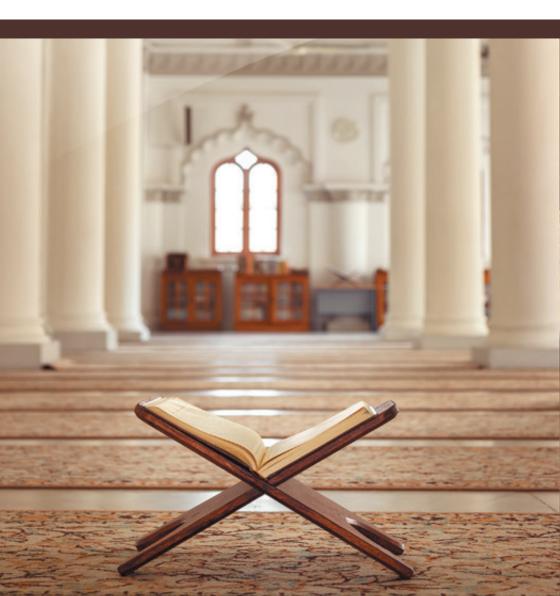
"So woe to those who write the "scripture" with their own hands, then say, "This is from Allah," in order to exchange it for a small price. Woe to them for what their hands have written and woe to them for what they earn." (02:79) Some 1400 years ago, Allah sent Muhammad (May Allah's peace and blessing be on him) as the Final Prophet to haul mankind up from the abyss of misguidance and lead them to a life of strict compliance with the commands of Allah.

"Certainly did Allah confer great favour upon the believers when He sent among them a Messenger from themselves, reciting to them His verses and purifying them and teaching them the Book and wisdom, although they had been before in manifest error." (30:164)



To His Last Prophet Allah gave His last revelation and testament (the Holy Qur'an) and made it applicable and binding on the entire mankind until the Last Day.

"And is it not sufficient for them that We revealed to you the Book which is recited to them? Indeed in that is a mercy and reminder for a people who believe." (29:51)





By sending down His Prophets and Messengers, Allah in fact completed His guidance for mankind and concluded His proof on them.

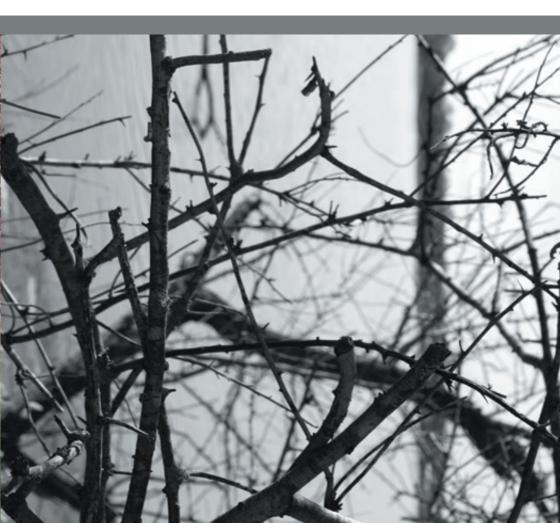
"O People of the Scripture, there has come to you Our Messenger to make clear to you (the religion) after a period of suspension of messengers, lest you say, "There came not to us any bringer of good tidings or a warner." But there has come to you a bringer of good tidings and a warner. And Allah is over all things competent." (05:19)



Those who shape their lives in accordance with this divine guidance, Allah will shower His favours on them in this world and grant them the bliss of Paradise in the next world.

"Indeed, those who have believed and done righteous deeds - they will have the Gardens of Paradise as a lodging, wherein they abide eternally. They will not desire from it any transfer." (18:107-108) On the other hand, those who refuse to submit to the commands of Allah shall lose His favour in this world and undergo severe torment and punishment in the Hereafter.

"Indeed, those who deny Our verses and are arrogant toward them - the gates of Heaven will not be opened for them, nor will they enter Paradise until a camel enters into the eye of a needle. And thus do We recompense the criminals. They will have from Hell a bed and over them coverings [of fire]. And thus do We recompense the wrongdoers." (30:164)



Just as Allah is admittedly the Beneficent, the Merciful and the Forgiver, He is also the Restrainer, the Avenger and the Dispenser of Justice. He will award the righteous for their piety and punish the wrongdoers for their misdeeds.

"To Him is your return all together. It is the promise of Allah which is truth. Indeed, He begins the process of creation and then repeats it that He may reward those who have believed and done righteous deeds, in justice. But those who disbelieved will have a drink of scalding water and a painful punishment for what they used to deny." (10:04)





Let us all sincerely turn to our Creator, serve Him alone wholeheartedly and never invent objects of worship other than Allah. Also let us make a resolve to lead our lives in accord with His commandments and pay our homage and gratitude to Him for the countless favours that He has bestowed upon us.

"...And turn to Allah in repentance, all of you, O believers, that you might succeed." (24:31)

