



SHAHADAH

WRITTEN BY ABU ISA HAMZAH WADDY

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Verily all Praise is due to Allah, we seek His help and His forgiveness, We seek refuge with Allah from the evil of our own souls and from our bad deeds. Whomever Allah guides will never be lead astray, whomever Allah leaves astray, no one can guide him. I bear witness that there is no deity worthy of worship(in truth) except Allah, And I bear witness that Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) is the Messenger of Allah.

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ حَقَّ تَقَاتِهِ وَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا وَأَنْتُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ

O you who believe! Fear Allah as He should be feared and die not except in a state of Islam. (Ali Imran 3:102)

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ اتَّقُوا رَبَّكُمُ الَّذِي خَلَقَكُمْ مِنْ نَفْسٍ وَاحِدَةٍ وَخَلَقَ مِنْهَا زَوْجَهَا وَبَثَّ مِنْهُمَا رِجَالًا كَثِيرًا وَنِسَاءً وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ الَّذِي تَسَاءَلُونَ بِهِ وَالْأَرْحَامَ إِنَّ اللَّهَ كَانَ عَلَيْكُمْ رَقِيبًا

O mankind! Be dutiful to your Lord, Who created you from a single person, and from him He created his wife, and from them both He created many men and women, and fear Allah through Whom you demand your mutual (rights), and (do not cut the relations of) the wombs (kinship) Surely, Allah is Ever an All-Watcher over you.

(An Nisa 4:1)

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَقُولُوا قَوْلًا سَدِيدًا ﴿٧٠﴾ يُصْلِحْ لَكُمْ أَعْمَالَكُمْ وَيَغْفِرْ لَكُمْ ذُنُوبَكُمْ ۗ وَمَنْ يُطِيعِ اللَّهَ وَرَسُولَهُ فَقَدْ فَازَ فَوْزًا عَظِيمًا

O you who believe! Keep your duty to Allah and fear Him, and speak (always) the truth. He will direct you to righteous deeds and will forgive you your sins. And whosoever obeys Allah and His Messenger has indeed achieved a great achievement. (Al Ahzab 33:70-71)

To proceed: The most truthful speech is that of Allah's Book (the Quran) and the best of guidance is that of Muhammad (saw). The worst of evils are the newly invented matters (in the deen), and every newly invented matter (in the deen) is an innovation and every innovation is a misguidance, and every misguidance is in the Hell-Fire.

In order for any act of worship to be accepted by Allah there are two conditions that must be fulfilled (1)it's done sincerely for Allah alone(2) it's done according to the way the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) did it (sayings and actions). And the first is ever important, Allah says in His Noble Book;

قُلْ إِنَّ صَلَاتِي وَنُسُكِي وَمَحْيَايَ وَمَمَاتِي لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ

Say, indeed my prayer and rites of sacrifice, my living and my dying is for Allah, Lord of all the worlds”(Al-An'am 6:162)

UNDERSTANDING THE SHAHADAH

The Shahadah is the Islamic Creed which is the foundation of the religion and it is also heard in the Adhan (*the call to prayer*) and it is said in the prayer itself.

The word **Ash-shahadah** (*the testimony*) is a noun from the root word **Sahida** (*He testified*). The shahadah is one pillar divided into two parts.

- 1) I bear witness that there is **No God** worthy of worship except **Allah**.

“The second part”

- 2) And I bear witness that **Muhammad** is the (**final**) Messenger of Allah salallahu Alayhi was salaam (peace and blessings be upon him).

This statement enters a person into Islam, they are now a Muslim after saying this tremendous statement. He or she is now laying the foundation upon being a Muslim. The Prophet (SAW) said: **Islam is built on five**. The first of which is the shahadah.

When someone takes shahadah he/she has signed a contract with Allah and so like any other contracts we have to hold to the conditions in it.

UNDERSTANDING THE SHAHADAH

The first condition is that:

You worship Allah and Him alone without any partners:

قُلْ إِنَّمَا حَرَّمَ رَبِّي الْفَوَاحِشَ مَا ظَهَرَ مِنْهَا وَمَا بَطَنَ وَالْإِثْمَ وَالْبَغْيَ بِغَيْرِ الْحَقِّ وَأَنْ تُشْرِكُوا بِاللَّهِ مَا لَمْ يُنَزَّلْ بِهِ سُلْطَانًا وَأَنْ تَقُولُوا عَلَى اللَّهِ مَا لَا تَعْلَمُونَ (٣٣)

Say (O Muhammad SAW): "(But) the things that my Lord has indeed forbidden are Al-Fawahish (great evil sins, every kind of unlawful sexual intercourse, etc.) whether committed openly or secretly, sins (of all kinds), unrighteous oppression, joining partners (in worship) with Allah for which He has given no authority, and saying things about Allah of which you have no knowledge." (Al 'Araf : 33)

And Allah also said:

مَا اتَّخَذَ اللَّهُ مِنْ وَلَدٍ وَمَا كَانَ مَعَهُ مِنْ إِلَهٍ إِذَا لَذَّهَبَ كُلُّ إِلَهٍ بِمَا خَلَقَ وَلَعَلَّ بَعْضُهُمْ عَلَى بَعْضٍ سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ عَمَّا يُصِفُونَ (٩١)

No son (or offspring or children) did Allah beget, nor is there any ilah (god) along with Him; (if there had been many gods), behold, each god would have taken away what he had created, and some would have tried to overcome others! Glorified be Allah above all that they attribute to Him!

UNDERSTANDING THE SHAHADAH

قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ ﴿١﴾ اللَّهُ الصَّمَدُ ﴿٢﴾ لَمْ يَلِدْ وَلَمْ يُولَدْ ﴿٣﴾ وَلَمْ يَكُنْ لَهُ كُفُوًا أَحَدٌ ﴿٤﴾

Say (O Muhammad (Peace be upon him): "He is Allah, (the) One.

"Allah-us-Samad (The Self-Sufficient Master, Whom all creatures need, He neither eats nor drinks).

"He begets not, nor was He begotten; "And there is none co-equal or comparable unto Him."

Surah Iklaas:112

And with that we have to obey Allah.

وَأَطِيعُوا اللَّهَ وَالرَّسُولَ لَعَلَّكُمْ تُرْحَمُونَ ﴿١٣٢﴾

And obey Allah and the Messenger (Muhammad ﷺ) that you may obtain mercy.

This also includes loving Him more than yourself.

It was narrated from Anas bin Malik that the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said:

“There are three things, whoever has them has found the taste of faith (One of the narrators) Bundar said: ‘The sweetness of faith; When he loves a man and only loves him for the sake of Allah.

UNDERSTANDING THE SHAHADAH

When Allah and His Messenger are more beloved to him than anything else; and when being thrown into the fire is dearer to him than going back to disbelief after Allah has saved him from it.”

Sunan Ibn Majah 4033

The Second Condition is that:

You believe in him and follow the Messenger Muhammad (ﷺ) in his belief and application of the religion as Allah has made him the most excellent example for us.

لَقَدْ كَانَ لَكُمْ فِي رَسُولِ اللَّهِ أُسْوَةٌ حَسَنَةٌ لِّمَن كَانَ يَرْجُو اللَّهَ وَالْيَوْمَ الْآخِرَ وَذَكَرَ اللَّهَ كَثِيرًا
(٢١٠)

Indeed in the Messenger of Allah (Muhammadﷺ) you have a good example to follow for him who hopes in (the Meeting with) Allah and the Last Day and remembers Allah much.

Surah 33:21

And he is to be obeyed.

مَنْ يُطِيعِ الرَّسُولَ فَقَدْ أَطَاعَ اللَّهَ ۖ وَمَنْ تَوَلَّىٰ فَمَا أَرْسَلْنَاكَ عَلَيْهِمْ حَفِظًا (٨٠)

UNDERSTANDING THE SHAHADAH

He who obeys the Messenger (Muhammad ﷺ), has indeed obeyed Allah, but he who turns away, then we have not sent you (O Muhammad ﷺ) as a watcher over them.

Surah 4:80

And we are to take our understanding of the religion from him.

بِالْبَيِّنَاتِ وَالزُّبُرِ ۖ وَأَنْزَلْنَا إِلَيْكَ الذِّكْرَ لِتُبَيِّنَ لِلنَّاسِ مَا نُزِّلَ إِلَيْهِمْ وَلَعَلَّهُمْ يَتَفَكَّرُونَ ﴿٤٤﴾

With clear signs and Books (We sent the Messengers). And We have also sent down unto you (O Muhammad ﷺ) the reminder and the advice (the Quran), that you may explain clearly to men what is sent down to them, and that they may give thought.

Surah 16:44

From the virtues of the shahadah:
It removes sins:

قُلْ لِلَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا إِنْ يَنْتَهُوا يُغْفَرْ لَهُمْ مَا قَدْ سَلَفَ وَإِنْ يَعُودُوا فَقَدْ مَضَتْ سُنَّتُ الْأَوَّلِينَ ﴿٣٨﴾

Say to those who have disbelieved, if they cease (from disbelief) their past will be forgiven. But if they return (thereto), then the examples of those (punished) before them have already preceded (as a warning).

Surah 8:38

UNDERSTANDING THE SHAHADAH

The Prophet (ﷺ) said, Islam annuls what came before it. (narrated by Muslim)

So, when you become a Muslim all your previous sins are forgiven, and you start with a blank slate. Or a complete clean record.

It enters you into paradise.

'Ubadah bin As-Samit (May Allah be pleased with him) reported: The Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said, "He who bears witness that there is no true god except Allah alone, having no partner with Him, that Muhammad is His slave and His Messenger, that 'Isa (Jesus) is His slave and Messenger and he (Jesus) is His Word which He communicated to Maryam (Mary) and His spirit which He sent to her, that Jannah is true and Hell is true; Allah will make him enter Jannah accepting whatever deeds he accomplished".

[Al-Bukhari and Muslim].

Another narration in Muslim is: the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said, "Whosoever testifies that there is no true god except Allah and that Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah, Allah (SWT) saves him from the Fire (of Hell)".

This hadith (the statement above) indicates in the words “whoever bears witness.” As bearing witness is only valid if it is based on knowledge (what was learned about Allah) sincerity (to Allah) certainly (about His existence) and Truth (about what was stated) then doing good deeds to please Allah.

UNDERSTANDING THE SHAHADAH

As we are to do the best that we can.

فَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ مَا اسْتَطَعْتُمْ وَاسْمَعُوا وَأَطِيعُوا وَأَنْفِقُوا خَيْرًا لِّأَنْفُسِكُمْ ۚ وَمَنْ يُوقِ شُحَّ نَفْسِهِ فَأُولَٰئِكَ هُمُ الْمُفْلِحُونَ ﴿١٦﴾

So, keep your duty to Allah and fear Him as much as you can; listen and obey; and spend in charity, that is better for yourselves. And whosoever is saved from his own desires, then they are the successful ones.

Surah 64:16

And if we fall short or fall into sin know that Allah is Often Forgiving and Most Merciful.

قُلْ يَا عِبَادِيَ الَّذِينَ أَسْرَفُوا عَلَىٰ أَنْفُسِهِمْ لَا تَقْنَطُوا مِن رَّحْمَةِ اللَّهِ ۚ إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَغْفِرُ الذُّنُوبَ جَمِيعًا ۚ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ ﴿٥٣﴾

Say: "O 'Ibadi (My slaves) who have transgressed against themselves (by committing evil deeds and sins)! Despair not of the Mercy of Allah, verily Allah forgives all sins. Truly, He is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.

May Allah give us the Success of this life and the hereafter and save us from the punishment of the fire. Aameen