



*A brief introduction to*

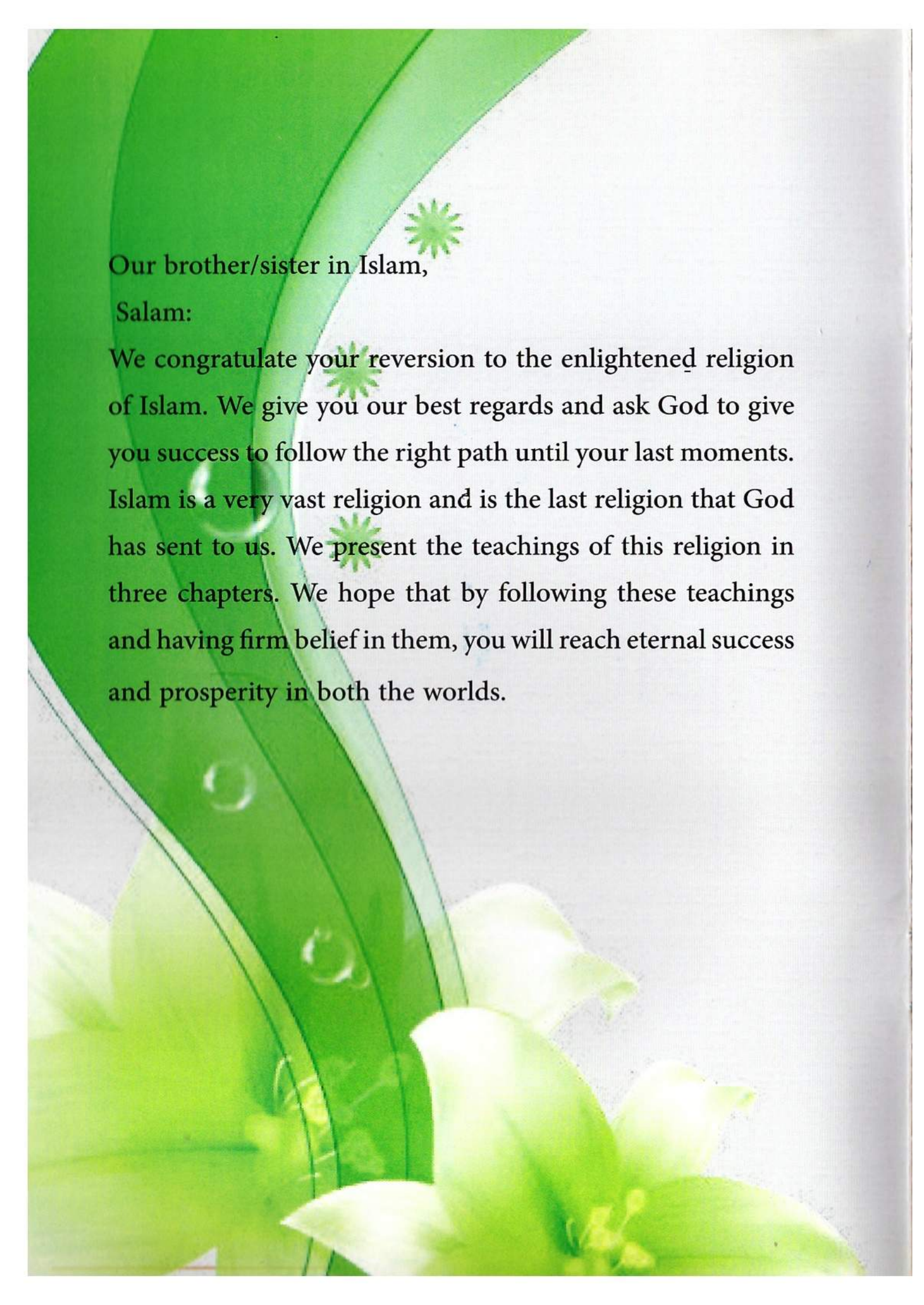
# *Islam*

**For newly reverted  
brothers and sisters**

**created by:  
imam hussain Mosque Office**





The background of the page features a large, vibrant green leaf on the left side, with several water droplets resting on its surface. In the bottom right corner, there is a close-up of a white flower with yellow stamens. The text is overlaid on the right side of the page, with small green starburst icons placed near the words "Islam", "your", and "We".

Our brother/sister in Islam,

Salam:

We congratulate your reversion to the enlightened religion of Islam. We give you our best regards and ask God to give you success to follow the right path until your last moments. Islam is a very vast religion and is the last religion that God has sent to us. We present the teachings of this religion in three chapters. We hope that by following these teachings and having firm belief in them, you will reach eternal success and prosperity in both the worlds.



## **First chapter: Beliefs**

Our first chapter is about theology and the world view of Islam. In this chapter we have three main subjects:

1. *Oneness of God;*
2. *Prophethood and its succession and;*
3. *The Day of Judgment.*

### **Oneness of God**

Uniqueness of God is the most important and one of the most fundamental issues in Islam. God is the creator of all of creation. He rules the entire world and only His Will affects the entire world. He is the root of all perfection, and He is immaculate from all deficiencies and evils. He is the Beneficent, the most Kind, and the Real Master of the entire world. Allah is an Arabic word for a marvelous existence and those who manage to recognize him will be enraptured by Him. He is simply called God in English. ;)

### **Prophet hood and its succession**

As we said, we believe God is the Most Kind and Wise, therefore it befits Him to prepare the base of progress and prosperity for His creatures, so those who want to reach to a higher level and advance on the path of improvement –by choice– can step up and take the advantage and earn the rewards. Therefore we need a guide to show us the path. Our beloved God chose some people to be our guides in this path and we call them Prophets or Messengers. Because they must give us the





message of God without any distortion and change, God chose the best symbols of obedience and submission. Likewise God protected them from all fallacies and sins, and in short, they are called 'infallibles'.

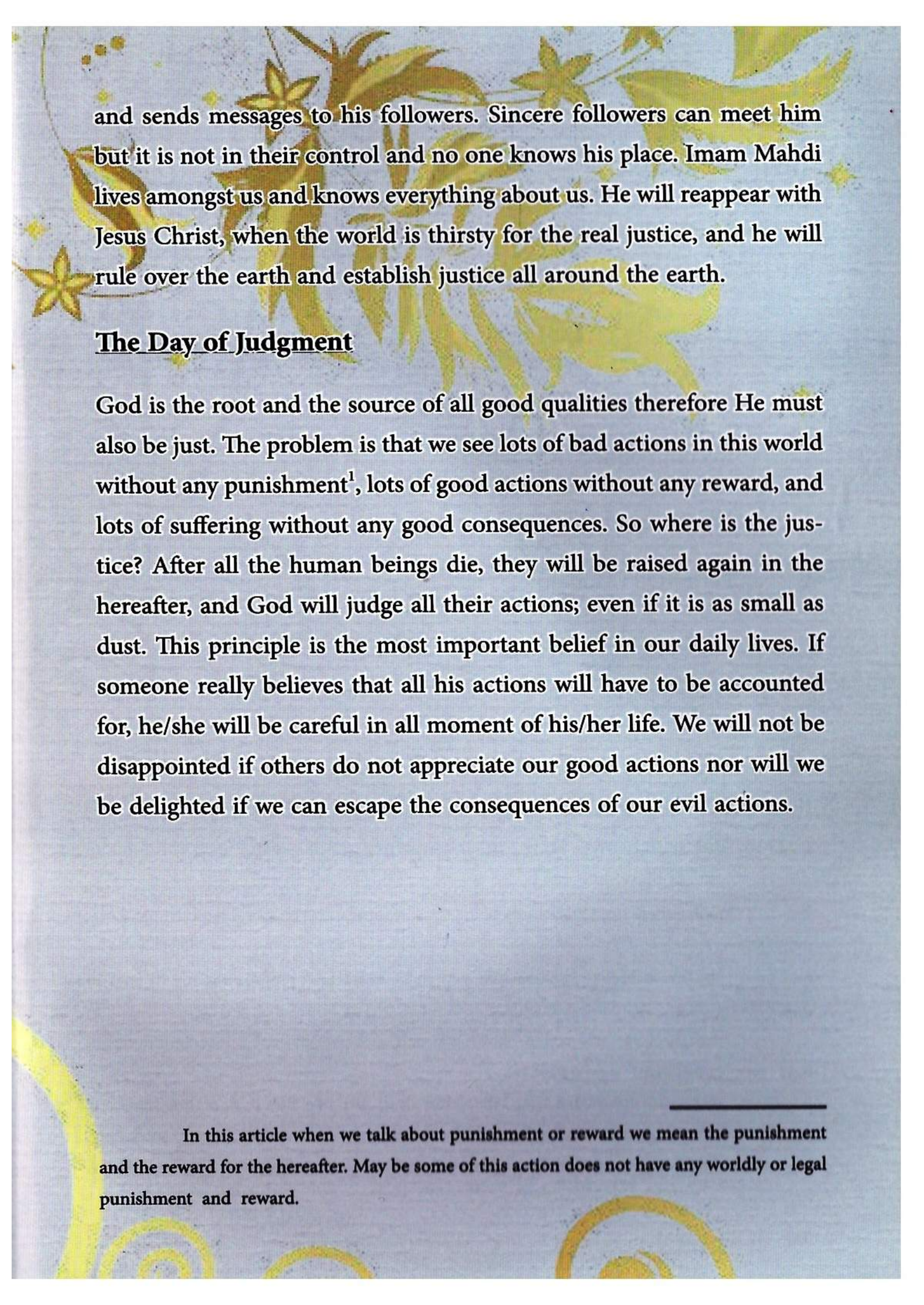
We have to pay respect to all of them and especially to the best of them, who have their own books and religions, namely, Prophets: Noah, Abraham, Moses, Jesus and the last of them, Prophet Mohammed.

The last message that God gave us and revealed to Prophet Mohammad is the Holy Book of Quran. There are numbers of books about the miracles of Quranic teachings.

After the Prophet's death, people were, and still are, in need of guidance and if new problems and issues are faced, someone must be there to show them the right way. Before his death, every prophet declared his successor, who was chosen by God; likewise our last Prophet on many occasions, mentioned the succession of his great companion and cousin, Imam Ali, son of Abu Talib. Also according to the narrated traditions of all Muslims, Prophet Mohammed said, "I have twelve successors and all of them are from the tribe of Qureish." They are respectively, Imam Ali son of Abu Talib, Imam Hasan Al-Mujtaba, Imam Hussein, Imam Ali Al-Sajjad, Imam Mohammad Al-Baqer, Imam Jafar Al-Sadeq, Imam Musa Al-Kazem, Imam Ali Al-Reza, Imam Mohammad Al-Javad, Imam Ali Al-Hadi, Imam Hasan Al-askari and Imam Mahdi.

All of them guided people during their lives but unfortunately the kings of their times succeeded in murdering them, except the last one. He disappeared from the sight of people but he continues to guide them





and sends messages to his followers. Sincere followers can meet him but it is not in their control and no one knows his place. Imam Mahdi lives amongst us and knows everything about us. He will reappear with Jesus Christ, when the world is thirsty for the real justice, and he will rule over the earth and establish justice all around the earth.

### **The Day of Judgment**

God is the root and the source of all good qualities therefore He must also be just. The problem is that we see lots of bad actions in this world without any punishment<sup>1</sup>, lots of good actions without any reward, and lots of suffering without any good consequences. So where is the justice? After all the human beings die, they will be raised again in the hereafter, and God will judge all their actions; even if it is as small as dust. This principle is the most important belief in our daily lives. If someone really believes that all his actions will have to be accounted for, he/she will be careful in all moment of his/her life. We will not be disappointed if others do not appreciate our good actions nor will we be delighted if we can escape the consequences of our evil actions.

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In this article when we talk about punishment or reward we mean the punishment and the reward for the hereafter. May be some of this action does not have any worldly or legal punishment and reward.



## The second chapter: Jurisprudential laws

In the Islamic Jurisprudence, all of our actions can be put into five categories:

- A. Obligatory (Wajib)<sup>2</sup>
- B. Forbidden (Haram)<sup>3</sup>
- C. Recommended (Mostahab)<sup>4</sup>
- D. Discouraged (Makrooh)<sup>5</sup>
- E. Permitted (Mobah)<sup>6</sup>

A. Obligatory actions (Wajib) are the most important actions that has been obligated upon us, such as: the daily prayers, fasting, Zakat, Khoms, Hajj, Jihad, enjoining the good, forbid-

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2 Wajib is a religious tasks - practicing it has reward and leaving it has punishment e.g., daily prayers.

3 Haram: forbidden actions that you must avoid and performing it will lead to punishment e.g. drinking alcohol.

4 Mostahab: optional actions that has reward and god love it but leaving it does not have any punishment e.g. Salawat.

5 Makrooh: optional actions that God does not like but it does not have any punishment. Most of these kinds of actions have effects in our worldly life e.g overeating.

6 Mobah: actions that does not have any reward or punishment by itself e.g. eating, drinking,...





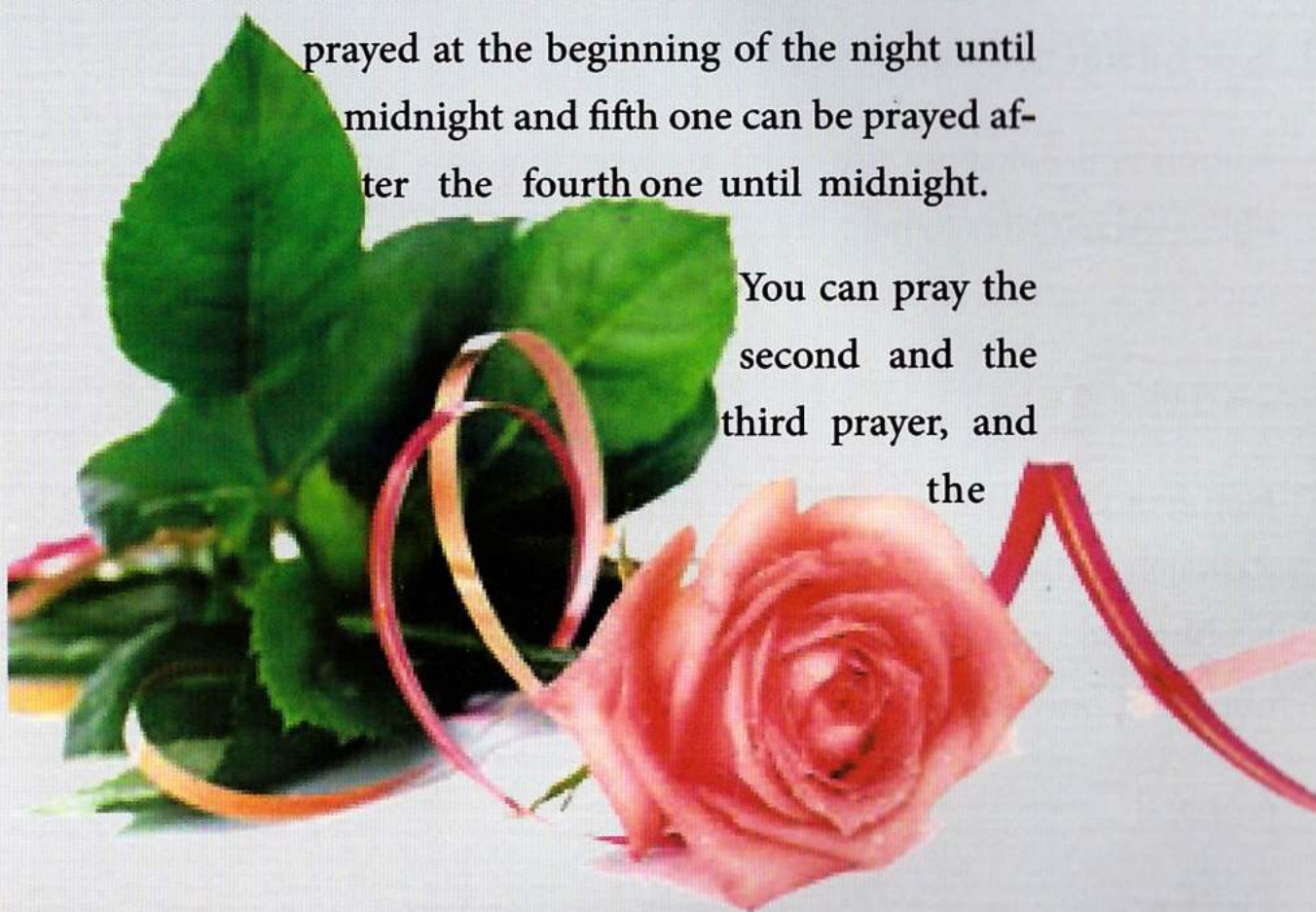
ding the evil, love those who are beloved to God, and hate those who are ungracious towards God.

# 1. Daily prayers

Daily prayers are supplications between servants and God. We have five daily prayers. The first one is before sunrise. The second one must be prayed between mid-day and sunset and the third one must be prayed after the second one before sunset. The fourth one must be prayed at the beginning of the night until midnight and fifth one can be prayed after the fourth one until midnight.

You can pray the second and the third prayer, and the

fourth and fifth prayer one after another.





## 2. Fasting

Fasting in Islam, is to avoid eating, drinking and sexual relations from morning Adhan<sup>7</sup> until Maghrib Adhan. Fasting is made obligatory only during the holy month of Ramadan.

## 3, 4. Khoms and Zakat

Khoms and Zakat are two religious taxes that have been obligated in order to help the social problems in society, such as poverty and etc.

## 5. Hajj

Hajj is a collection of special actions in the month of Zelhajeh in the Holy City of Mecca. This Holy Journey is obligated only for the people that can afford it and is obligated only once in the whole life.

## 6. Jihad

Jihad literally means exerting the best efforts, and in the Islamic concept has a different meaning. Jihad is a holy defense against oppression. Sometimes we need

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<sup>7</sup> Adhan is a special mostahab supplication that is to be recited at the start time of each prayer. Morning Adhan in the starting time of Morning Prayer and fasting etc.





to use our power against those who violate the territory of Muslim countries. But we must know that in the normal situations Islam never allows anyone to use violence and in our Holy Book in the second chapter verse number 256 says: *"There is no compulsion in religion. Verily, the Right Path has become distinct from the wrong path. Whoever disbelieves in oppressors and believes in Allah, then he has grasped the most trustworthy handhold that will never break"*.

#### 7,8. Enjoining the good and forbidding the evil

Now a day if someone puts the health of a society in danger by littering or any other action it has a penalty; similarly what if someone puts the spiritual health of a society in danger by committing a sin in public? Therefore all Muslims must be responsible, not only for their actions but also for the people of their environment and advise them to that effect.

#### 9,10. Love those who are beloved to God, hate those are hated by God

God is needless. He does not need any of these actions and he does not lose anything if the entire world does not practice the right religion. He wants to raise us and help us, out of His kindness, so we must be thankful to Him. And as much as we pray we should become more





humble, because our prayers are not to the benefit of God but for own selves.

#### B. Recommended (Mostahab)



There are lots of recommended actions in Islam such as being polite, respect to elders, kindness to children, applying perfumes, being neat, brushing teeth and lots of recommended prayers and rosary.

#### C. Forbidden (Haram)



Forbidden actions in Islam are not many but they have a big impact in our lives. Activities such as backbiting, disrespecting people, using others belongings without their permission, drinking alcohol and sexual perversion are some of the forbidden actions.

#### D. Discouraged (Makrooh)



Discouraged actions are actions that God does not like, because it has a small yet negative influence in our lives. Therefore we can do them if the need arises. Overeating, blowing foods, eating hot food and drinks are some of the Makrooh actions.

At the end of this chapter we must mention that for acting upon Islamic jurisprudence you have to choose one scholar and follow his opinions. It is clear what we have said is a small part of Islamic jurisprudence and for further information you must read detailed books of jurisprudence.





### Third chapter: Moral

Islam has a universal moral school. It contains lots of moral orders that descended by God. It is noticeable that our beloved Prophet has said, "I came to complete the high level of morality." Our references in the Islamic moral are Quran, Our prophet's traditions (or Hadith<sup>8</sup>), our Imam's traditions and our intellect and wisdom.

These instructions help us to get rid of our bad behaviors such as stinginess, jealousy, fear and arrogance. It also helps us to beautify our behaviors with bravery, honesty and generosity.

Islam has lots of moral instructions for all aspects of our life; for eating and drinking, sleeping and how we must deal with people.

What we have said is a part of constituent guides of Islam. Islam is a vast and deep religion. All of us need to research and read more to get to the highest level of humanity.

At the end of this chapter we present you with some of enlightening quotes from Quran and our prophet and his successors.

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<sup>8</sup> Hadiths are the sayings of Prophet Mohammad and his successors. There are some special sciences about these narrations and some narrators are not trustable, so their narrations are not valid.



### “Some of Quranic guideline”

• « اِنَّمَا الْمُؤْمِنُونَ إِخْوَةٌ » <sup>(١)</sup>

Truly faithfuls are nothing but brothers.

• « فَلْيَنْظُرِ الْإِنْسَانُ إِلَى طَعَامِهِ » <sup>(٢)</sup>

Human must look (carefully) at his food.

• « إِنَّ بَعْضَ الظَّنِّ إِثْمٌ » <sup>(٣)</sup>

indeed some suspicions are sins.

• « وَ لَا تَجَسَّسُوا » <sup>(٤)</sup>

Do not spy on people

• « وَ لَا يَغْتَابَ بَعْضُكُم بَعْضًا أَيُحِبُّ أَحَدُكُمْ أَنْ يَأْكُلَ لَحْمَ أَخِيهِ مَيْتًا فَكَرِهْتُمُوهُ » <sup>(٥)</sup>

Do not backbite one another. Would one of you like to eat the flesh of his dead brother? You would hate it (so hate backbiting because it is the same)

• « وَالكَافِرِينَ الْغَيْظَ وَالْعَافِينَ عَنِ النَّاسِ » <sup>(٦)</sup>

(one of the attributes of faithful is) they repress anger and pardon people.



• « إِنَّ السَّمْعَ وَ الْبَصَرَ وَ الْفؤَادَ كُلُّ أُولَئِكَ كَانَ عَنْهُ  
مُسْتَوْلاً »<sup>(٧)</sup>

Verily! The hearing, and the sight, and the heart, of each of those you will be questioned (by Allah).

### Some advices from the successors of Prophet Mohammed

• امام على (عليه السلام) درباره اهميت اخلاق  
فرموده اند: «عنوانُ صَحِيفَةِ الْمُؤْمِنِ حَسَنُ خُلُقِهِ»<sup>(٨)</sup>

Our first Imam about the priority of good behavior has said, "The titles of the dossiers of Faithfull (in the day of judgment) are good behavior"

• امام صادق (عليه السلام) درباره اوصاف پيروان  
حقيقى خود فرموده اند: « إِنَّ الرَّجُلَ مِنْكُمْ إِذَا وَرَعَ  
فِي دِينِهِ وَ صَدَقَ فِي الْحَدِيثِ وَ آدَى الْأَمَانَةَ وَ حَسَنَ  
خُلُقِهِ مَعَ النَّاسِ قِيلَ هَذَا شَيْعَتِي فَيُسْرُنِي ذَلِكَ »<sup>(٩)</sup>

Our sixth Imam, Imam Sadeq has said, "if a pious man is attentive about his religion, truthful in his sayings, honest about others trust and treat people with good moral and people knows him



as my Shia, it makes me happy”

● امام باقر (علیه السلام) درباره راستگویی فرموده  
اند: «الْجَاهُ فِي الصِّدْقِ»<sup>(۱۰)</sup>

Our fifth Imam, Imam Baqer has said, “salvation is in honesty”

● امیرالمومنین (علیه السلام) درباره ترک دروغ حتی بصورت شوخی فرموده اند: «لَا يَجِدُ عَبْدٌ طَعْمَ الْإِيمَانِ حَتَّى يَتْرُكَ الْكِذْبَ هَزْلَهُ وَجِدَّهُ»<sup>(۱۱)</sup>

The commander of all faithful, Imam Ali has said, “servants of god will not taste the taste of trust (on god) until he leaves lying”

● امام صادق (علیه السلام) درباره حسد فرموده اند:  
«الْحَسَدُ يَأْكُلُ الْإِيمَانَ كَمَا تَأْكُلُ النَّارُ الْحَطَبَ»<sup>(۱۲)</sup>

Imam Sadeq, “Jealousy is corrosive to faith like fire for woods”

● امام صادق (علیه السلام) در مورد تنبلی و سستی فرموده اند: «إِيَّاكَ وَالْكَسَلَ وَالضُّجَرَ»<sup>(۱۳)</sup>

Imam Sadeq, “be aware of laziness and



● امام صادق (علیه السلام) در مورد پذیرش انتقادهای و عیبها توسط دیگران فرموده اند: «أَحَبُّ إِخْوَانِي مَنْ أَهْدَى إِلَيَّ عَيْبِي»<sup>(۱۴)</sup>

Imam Sadeq, "my favorite brother (in Islam) is the one who present me my deficiencies"

● حضرت امام جواد (علیه السلام) در کلامی اینچنین فرموده اند: «لَا يَزَالُ الْمُؤْمِنُ يَحْتَاجُ إِلَى ثَلَاثِ خِصَالٍ : تَوْفِيقٍ مِنَ اللَّهِ وَوَاعِظٍ مِنْ نَفْسِهِ وَقَبُولٍ مِمَّنْ يَنْصَحُهُ»<sup>(۱۵)</sup>

Our ninth Imam has said, "faithfulls are in need of three things: 1-successes that Allah most give them 2- the spirit that advise him 3-accepting the advices of others"

● امام رضا (علیه السلام) در اهمیت سکوت (همراه با تفکر) فرموده اند: «الْصَّمْتُ بَابٌ مِنْ أَبْوَابِ الْحِكْمَةِ إِنْ الصَّمْتُ يَكْسِبُ الْمَحَبَّةَ. إِنَّهُ دَلِيلٌ عَلَى كُلِّ خَيْرٍ»<sup>(۱۶)</sup>

Our eighth imam, Imam Reza, "silence(with thinking) is a door to wisdom. Truly the silence gain love. It is a guide to every good."



● امیرالمومنین (علیه السلام) پیرامون طمع فرموده اند  
: « أَكْثَرُ مَصَارِعِ الْعُقُولِ تَحْتَ بَرُوقِ الْمَطَامِعِ »<sup>(۱۷)</sup>

Imam Ali, "The wisdom most of the time fails because of the greediness"

● امام صادق (علیه السلام) پیرامون ترک گناه فرموده اند : « أَشَدُّ النَّاسِ إِجْتِهَاداً مَنْ تَرَكَ الذُّنُوبَ »<sup>(۱۸)</sup>

Imam Sadeq, "whoever leaves sins he/she did his best (for god).

● امیرالمومنین (علیه السلام) درباره اهمیت گفتار سنجیده فرموده اند : « لِسَانُ الْعَاقِلِ وَرَاءَ قَلْبِهِ وَ قَلْبُ الْجَاهِلِ وَرَاءَ لِسَانِهِ »<sup>(۱۹)</sup>

Imam Ali, "the tongue of wise man is behind his intellect and the intellect of ignorant is in front of his tongue.

● امام علی (علیه السلام) پیرامون عدالت فرموده اند : « مَنْ ضَاقَ عَلَيْهِ الْعَدْلُ فَالْجَوْرُ عَلَيْهِ أَضْيَقُ »<sup>(۲۰)</sup>

Imam Ali, "if someone do not enjoy the justice the oppression will bother him more"

● رسول گرامی اسلام (صلی الله علیه و آله) درباره



علم و دانش فرموده اند: « مَنْ كَانَ فِي طَلِبِ الْعِلْمِ  
كَانَ الْجَنَّةُ فِي طَلِبِهِ »<sup>(۲۱)</sup>

Our beloved Prophet has said, "Those who looking for knowledge heaven look for them"

● امام کاظم (علیه السلام) درباره اهمیت مدارا کردن  
با مردم فرموده اند: « أَلَرَّفَقُ نَصْفُ الْعَيْشِ »<sup>(۲۲)</sup>

Our seventh Imam, "tolerate is (the secret for) half of the enjoyment in life"

● امیرالمومنین (علیه السلام) درباره وقار فرموده اند :  
« مَنْ كَثُرَ مَزْحُهُ قَلَّ وَقَارُهُ »<sup>(۲۳)</sup>

Imam Ali, "anyone joke a lot he would have less dignity"

● حضرت علی (علیه السلام) درباره امید بخدا فرموده  
اند : « إِنَّكُمْ إِنْ رَجَوْتُمْ اللَّهَ بَلَّغْتُمْ آمَالَكُمْ »<sup>(۲۴)</sup>

Imam Ali, "if you trust in god you will get your wishes"

● امیرالمومنین (علیه السلام) درباره شجاعت و ترس  
فرموده اند: « الشَّجَاعَةُ عَزْ حَاضِرٌ وَالْجَبْنُ ذُلٌّ ظَاهِرٌ »<sup>(۲۵)</sup>

Our first Imam, "bravery is in access dignity and



fear is obvious ignominy”

- امام باقر (عليه السلام) درباره جایگاه محبت در اسلام فرموده اند: « هَلِ الدِّينُ إِلَّا الْحُبُّ؟ »<sup>(۳۶)</sup>

Our fifth Imam, Imam Baqer, “religion is nothing but love”

- امیرالمومنین (عليه السلام) پیرامون اهمیت حسن ظن فرموده اند: «حَسَنُ الظَّنِّ رَاحَةُ الْقَلْبِ وَ سَلَامَةُ الدِّينِ»<sup>(۳۷)</sup>

Imam Ali, “trust (in the right people) is the calmness for heart and it is healthy for religion”

For more information about Islam we recommend you to read these books:

Islamic beliefs by Ayatullah Mosavi Lary

God and His Attributes (Lessons on Islamic Doctrine1)

The Seal of The Prophets and His Message (Lessons on Islamic Doctrine2)

Resurrection Judgment and the Hereafter(Lessons on Islamic Doctrine)



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Know Your Islam

Seyed Abdul Hadi Al-Hakim, A Code Of Practice For  
Muslims In The West

A Guide to Religious Laws

(According to Description Manual of Imam Khomeini Aya-  
tollah Khamenei)





مسجد امام حسین (ع) - دبی  
دفتر نمایندگی مقام معظم رهبری در امارات