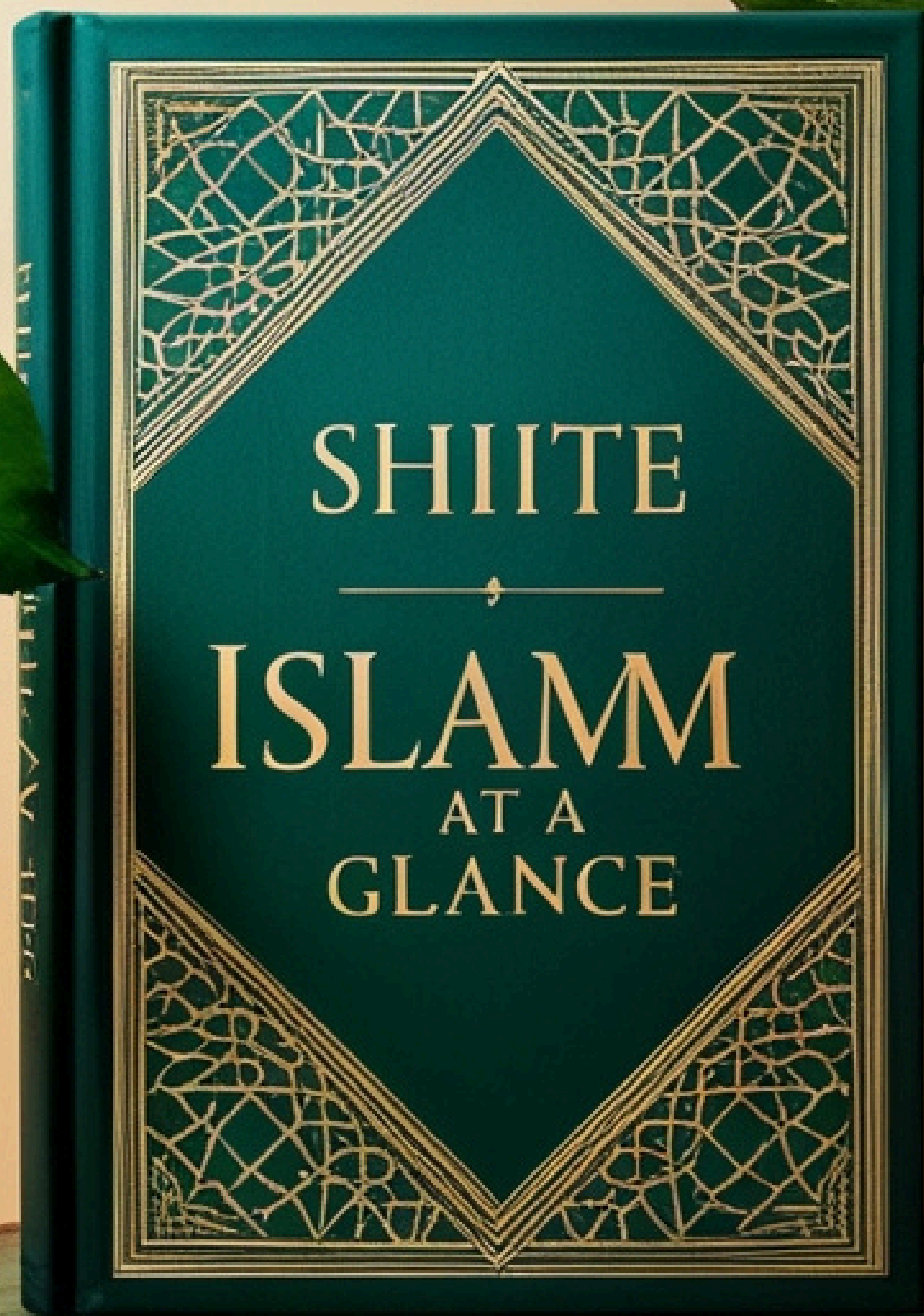


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SHI'ITE ISLAM

AT A GLANCE

INTRODUCTION

In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful

وَذَكَرْ فَإِنَّ الذِّكْرَ يُنْفَعُ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ

And continue to remind, for surely the reminder profits the believer.¹

Dear Brother and sister in faith,

Salaamun Alaikum

Pray and hope that you are all in the best of health by the grace of Almighty Allah and, the blessings of His, last Hujjat Hazrat Imam Mahdi (a.s.).

Alhamdulillah we have accomplished a little task in completing the series of Islamic Teachings comprising of Usool-e-deen, Foru-e-deen, life history of 14 Masoomeen (a.s.) and Akhlaque etc compiling mainly from the books written by late Allamah Sayed Saeed Akhtar Rizvi founder of Bilal Muslim Mission Tanzania, late Allamah Sayed Murtuza Askari, late Allamah Mohammad Raza Muzaffar and other Alims

The Shi'ite Islam at a glance is briefly presented to know the contents of further study material available visit online Islamic Course www.azzahra.in

A Total of 17 lessons is being prepared along with the Objective Type of Questionnaire to be answered based on the contents discussed therein If any mistake in answering the Questionnaire you will get the correct answer same time at the end of it or alternatively if you wish to receive the lessons at your home, then kindly write a letter, send SMS, or email us by giving your full name and address to send you the same:

a) Letter to AZZAHRA, P.O. Box No. 3471, Mumbai – 3.

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However, this will not be the end of endeavour in Islamic studies. Try and refer more traditions of Holy Prophet of Islam (s.a.w.a.) says:

“Seek Knowledge From Cradle To Grave”

Therefore seeking knowledge is a continuous process and ends only up to the last breath.

Allah the Almighty to increase our knowledge. And we get opportunities to serve Islam and the cause of Ahlul-Bayt (a.s.).

In His Service

Was salaam

Az-Zahra

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The Fundamentals (Usool-e-Deen)

The roots of Islamic belief are the following:

1. Unity of Allah — (Tauheed)
2. Justice of Allah — (Adl al-Ilahi)
3. Prophethood — (Nubuwwat)
4. (Succession to the Prophet — (Imamat)
5. Day of Judgement — (Qiyamat)

Oneness Of Allah

Oneness of Allah is a belief that there is only One God. Everything has been created by Him from nothing and

everything is under His Control. Creating, sustaining, bestowing life and bringing death etc. are all under His Will and Intention.

Justice Of Allah

Adl al-Ilahi means that Allah is Just and He is not unkind and cruel. He does not compel His servants to do things which are beyond their capability. He punishes or rewards them according to their deeds. Whatever He does has inherent benefit in it, though one may not comprehend it.

Prophethood

A Muslim believes that a Prophet is a man chosen by Allah to receive revelations from Him, to deliver the same to the mankind so as to bring them out of the darkness of tyranny, evil and ignorance and lead them to the light of justice, truth and knowledge.

Muslims believe in 1,24,000 Prophets sent by Allah. They include Adam, Ibrahim (Abraham), Nuh (Noah), Daud (David) Musa (Moses), Isa (Jesus (Christ)); and Muhammad (s.a.w.a.) Muslims also believe Muhammad (s.a.w.a.) to be the last and seal of the Prophets. They also believe Qur'an to be the last Celestial Book revealed to Prophet Muhammad (s.a.w.a.).

It is impossible for a man to describe the excellence of the Holy Qur'an justly. Suffice it to say that Qur'an is the word of Allah and a miracle of the last Prophet. It is the guide which directs humanity in all its affairs and at every stage of its development. It ensures the success of man in this world as well as the Hereafter. The Holy Qur'an has dealt with a large number of subjects of divergent nature such as Theology, Political Science, History, Economics, Ethics, Metaphysics, Astronomy, Family Laws, Penal Laws etc.

Succession To The Prophet

Islam prescribes very high qualifications for a Divine leader. He should be the most knowledgeable, the most wise, and the most gallant of all.

¹ Holy Quran 51:55

Prophet Muhammad (s.a.w.a.) and his successors i.e. the Imams, besides being religious leaders, are in their capacity as leaders of society, responsible for all worldly administrative function. The Prophet is the founder of religion and the Imam is its protector. The Imam does not receive revelation, but he is the master and real interpreter of all the details of the Prophet's religious system. Both the Prophet and the Imam have a special constructive role to perform. They do not shirk any sacrifice in the interest of the people.

The Prophet not only nominated his immediate successor but also named all the succeeding Imams. They are:

1. **Imam Ali al-Murtuza (a.s.)**
2. **Imam Hasan al-Mujtaba (a.s.)**
3. **Imam Husayn al-Shaheed (a.s.)**
4. **Imam Ali Zain al-Aabedin (a.s.)**
5. **Imam Muhammad al-Baqir (a.s.)**
6. **Imam Ja'far al-Sadiq (a.s.)**
7. **Imam Musa al-Kazim (a.s.)**
8. **Imam Ali al-Reza (a.s.)**
9. **Imam Muhammad Taqi al-Jawad (a.s.)**
10. **Imam Ali al-Hadi (a.s.)**
11. **Imam Hasan al-Askari (a.s.)**
12. **Imam Muhammad al-Mahdi (a.s.)**

The twelfth Imam is still living but nobody can see him in the same way as the Prophet Khizr though living is not seen. He will reappear when Allah wills him to reappear.

Day Of Judgement

The Muslims believe that one day Allah will bring to life all human beings after their death. The virtuous will be rewarded and the wrongdoers will be punished on the Day of Judgement.

They should therefore think about that which can help them when they die and about difficulties which they will encounter in their graves. They should therefore avoid being the slaves of their desires.

Note:

In the above matter of fundamentals in Islam (Usool-E-Deen) one cannot follow anyone in regard to this matter. A person has to satisfy himself by reasoning (Aql-Daleel).

Following of anyone who is Jamaeus Sharaet Marjae Taqleed, is only in Branches of religion i.e. Furoo Deen. (e.g. Prayers (Salat) etc.)

1. Prayers (Salat)

The Muslims worship and pray to Allah five times a day according to the schedule i.e. at dawn (fajr), mid-day (Zohr), afternoon ('asr), dusk (Maghrib) and at night ('Isha).

2. Fasting (Saum)

All Muslims fast during the whole month of Ramazan. The minors, sick, old or travellers are excepted. Fasting is observed by Muslims between dawn and dusk during which time they are not allowed to eat or drink. They should also keep away from all sensual desires.

3. Poor-Rate (Zakat)

Islam, in order to narrow the gap between rich and the poor, has legislated the mode of Zakat, and ordered the rich to pay a prescribed share of their money and individual income as Zakat to the public treasury. It may be used in all development projects including such items as education, health and construction of bridges, roads, dams, hospitals, schools etc.

4. Pilgrimage (Hajj)

All Muslims at least once in lifetime must go to Ka'bah (Makka) to perform Hajj if they are capable to perform it. The Hajj is

performed on 10th on Zilhijjah. The Hajj gatherings also serve the purpose of a national conference on a world level and contribute to Muslim homogeneity, both political and economic.

5. Khums

Khums means payment of 20 per cent of savings in a year after religiously lawful expenses are deducted from income. It should be paid to the Marja-e-Taqleed in authority. The money so realized comes to a considerable amount and enables the Muslims to solve many of their religious and socio-economic problems etc.

6. Holy War (Jihad)

Jihad means religious fighting to defend truth and justice for the sake of Allah.

7. To Advise Good Deeds (Amr bil Ma'roof)

All Muslims must do good deeds and advise others also to do the same.

8. To Dissuade Against The Forbidden (Nahi'anil Munkar)

All Muslims must shun, and dissuade others from the evil deeds.

9. Tawalla

All Muslims must love Allah, the Holy Prophet, the Imams and the believers.

10. Tabarra

All Muslims must dissociate themselves from the enemies of - Allah, the Prophet and the Imams.