



HOW TO BECOME A MUSLIM?

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ

All praises, exaltations, laudations and venerations are for Allah, Lord over everything. May He send blessings and salutations on His final Messenger, Muhammad and his family and companions.

I am deeply humbled and your question brings about great joy. May Allah azza wa jal accept your intention and make your journey upon His religion easy.

In the world today more than ever than before, we find that there are many people who are 'soul searching'. More and more people find that there is a certain emptiness within their lives, a gap that no amount of material can fill. Some turn to momentary thrills that lead to a self destruct pathway. Others find a temporary solace in an idea, be it something from the past or even something new. One thing that none of these are, is being true to oneself as a human. In other words being true to human nature.

Islam is true to human nature. It is the Way of Natural Disposition (Deen ul Fitrah). By following the commands of Allah azza wa jal and the teachings of His final Messenger, Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) one actually fulfils these rights as an individual. This is summarised by the following verse. Allah says:

Wama khalaqtu aljinna waalinsa illa liyaAAbudoon

“And I did not create the jinn and mankind except to worship me” (Surah Adh-Dharyyat, 51:56)

Islam is not confined to a specific group of people nor is it confined by any borders. It is for all of mankind. Islam is the preservation of the true beliefs that were revealed to Abraham, Moses and Jesus (peace be upon them all)

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As simple as the question is; Islam is summed up in its creed, the shahada. This incidentally makes the first pillar in Islam.

أشهد أن لا إله إلا الله و أشهد أن محمد رسول الله

ašhadu an lā ilāha illa (A)llāh, wa ašhadu anna Muḥammada(n) rasūlu (A)llāh

“I bear witness that there is no God except Allah and I bear witness that Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) is Allah’s Messenger.”



It is important to remember that as well as having the belief in one's heart, one should endeavour to recite the shahada in Arabic and then in their native language, so that the meaning is understood.

The four remaining pillars are:

- (ii) sala – the five obligatory daily prayers
- (iii) sawm – fasting during the month of Ramadan
- (iv) zakat – the giving of alms upon from ones wealth
- (v) Hajj – the pilgrimage to the Holy city of Makkah

These are some of the fundamentals of Islam. It is necessary for one interested to be associated with a religious scholar. Most are accessible in the many mosques of the local community.

Some books that could be of interest are:

“The Crossroads” by Taha F Unal

“Essential Islamic Knowledge (Mala Buddha Minhu)” by Iqbal Ahmad Azami – This covers the basic tenets of faith and practical aspects to worship

“Questions: This modern age puts to Islam” by M Fethullah Gulen – this covers the most relevant questions in a scholarly, balanced and substantiated style, where the chapters are divided into answers to the questions posed

There are many topics in Islam which are not covered by these books. The listed books are very brief and concise and should begin to give one the basic understandings of Islam. If there are any specific requirements or any other questions please do not hesitate to contact us via our contact service on the website.

Waqas Khan – Student of the Sacred Sciences

Approved by Shaykh Amjad Mohammed