



IN THE NAME OF ALLAH, THE MOST GRACIOUS, THE MOST MERCIFUL
WHEN ALLAH COMPLETED THE DEEN

The virtues of Arafah

1. It is the day on which the religion was perfected and Allaah's Favour was completed.

In Al-Saheehayn it was reported from 'Umar ibn al-Khattaab (may Allaah be pleased with him) that a Jewishh man said to him, "O Ameer al-Mu'mineen, there is an aayah in your Book which you recite; if it had come to us Jews, we would have taken that day as an 'Eid (festival)." 'Umar said, "Which aayah?" He said: "This day I have perfected your religion for you, completed My favour upon you, and have chosen for you Islam as your religion." [al-Maa'idah 5:3 - interpretation of the meaning]. 'Umar said, "We know on which day and in which place that was revealed to the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him). It was when he was standing in 'Arafaah on a Friday."

2. It is a day of Eid for the people who are in that place.

The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) said: "Yawm 'Arafaah (the day of 'Arafaah), Yawm al-Nahr (the Day of Sacrifice) and Ayyaam al-Tashreeq (the 3 days following Yawm al-Nahr) are Eid (festival) for us, the people of Islam. These are days of eating and drinking." This was narrated by the authors of al-Sunan. It was reported that 'Umar ibn al-Khattaab said: "It - i.e., the aayah 'This day I have perfected...' was revealed on a Friday, the Day of 'Arafaah, both of which - praise be to Allaah - are Eids for us."

3. It is a day by which Allaah swore an oath.

The Almighty cannot swear by anything except that which is mighty. Yawm 'Arafaah is the "witnessed day" mentioned in the aayah

وَشَاهِدٍ وَمَشْهُودٍ

"By the witnessing day [Friday] and by the witnessed day [the Day of 'Arafaah]."
[al-Burooj 85:3].

It was reported from Abu Hurayrah (may Allaah be pleased with him) that the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) said: "The promised day (85: 2)

وَالْيَوْمِ الْمَوْعُودِ

is the Day of Resurrection, the witnessed day is the Day of 'Arafaah, and the witnessing day is Friday." Narrated by al-Tirmidhi and classed as saheeh by al-Albaani.

It is the "odd" [i.e., odd-numbered, Witr] by which Allaah swore in the aayah j

وَالشَّفَعِ وَالْوَتْرِ

"And by the even and the odd" [al-Fajr 89:3]. Ibn 'Abbaas said: "The even is the Day of al-Adhaa [i.e., 10th Dhoo'l-Hijjah] and the odd is the Day of 'Arafaah [i.e., 9th Dhoo'l-Hijjah] This is also the view of 'Ikrimah and al-Dahhaak.

4. Fasting on this day is an expiation for two years.

It was reported from Abu Qutaadah (may Allaah be pleased with him) that the Messenger of Allaah (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) was asked about fasting on the Day of 'Arafaah. He said, "It expiates for the sins of the previous year and of the coming year." Narrated by Muslim.

This (fasting) is mustahabb for those who are not on Hajj. In the case of the one who is on Hajj, it is not Sunnah for him to fast on the Day of 'Arafaah, because the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) did not fast on this day in 'Arafaah. It was narrated that he forbade fasting on the Day of 'Arafaah in 'Arafaah.

5. It is the day on which Allaah took the covenant from the progeny of Adam.

It was reported that Ibn 'Abbaas (may Allaah be pleased with him) said: the Messenger of Allaah (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) said: "Allaah took the covenant from the loins of Adam in Na'maan, i.e., 'Arafaah. He brought forth from his loins all his offspring and spread them before Him, then He addressed them, and said:

أَلَسْتُ بِرَبِّكُمْ

'Am I not your Lord? They said,

قالوا بلى شهدنا

'Yes, we testify,'

أَنْ تَقُولُوا يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ إِنَّا كُنَّا عَنْ هَذَا غَافِلِينَ

lest you should say on the Day of Resurrection: 'Verily, we have been unaware of this.'

أَوْ تَقُولُوا إِنَّمَا أَشْرَكَ آبَاؤُنَا مِنْ قَبْلُ وَكُنَّا ذُرِّيَّةً مِنْ بَعْدِهِمْ
أَفْتُرِيكُنَا بِمَا فَعَلَ الْمُبْطِلُونَ

Or lest you should say: 'It was only our fathers aforetime who took others as partners in worship along with Allaah, and we were (merely their) descendents after them; will You then destroy us because of the deeds of men who practised Al-Baatil (i.e., ploytheism and committing crimes and sins, invoking and worshipping others besides Allaah)?' [al-A'raaf 7:172-173 - interpretation of the meaning]." Narrated by Ahmad and classed as saheeh by al-Albaani. And there is no greater day than this and no greater covenant than this.

6. It is the day of forgiveness of sins, freedom from the Fire and pride in the people who are there:

In Saheeh Muslim it was narrated from 'Aa'ishah (may Allaah be pleased with her) that the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) said: "There is no day on which Allaah frees more people from the Fire than the Day of 'Arafaah. He comes close and expresses His pride to the angels, saying, 'What do these people want?'"

It was reported from Ibn 'Umar that the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) said: "Allaah expresses His pride to His angels at the time of 'Ishaa' on the Day of 'Arafaah, about the people of 'Arafaah. He says, 'Look at My slaves who have come unkempt and dusty.'" Narrated by Ahmad and classed as saheeh by al-Albaani.

WHEN ALLAH COMPLETED THE DEEN

In surah al Maedah (5) verse 3, in the last third of the verse, Allah revealed a very important verse, which was one of the last verses that was revealed:

﴿الْيَوْمَ أَكْمَلْتُ لَكُمْ دِينَكُمْ وَأَتَمَمْتُ عَلَيْكُمْ نِعْمَتِي وَرَضِيتُ لَكُمُ
الْإِسْلَامَ دِينًا﴾

“This day, I have perfected your religion for you, completed My favor upon you, and have chosen for you Islam as your religion.”

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 Take note that this was NOT the last verse that was revealed according to many scholars. This was the last verse revealed on Do's and Don'ts in the Qur'an. The last verse that was revealed in on accountability in surah al Baqarah (2) verse 281

وَأَتَّقُوا يَوْمًا تُرْجَعُونَ فِيهِ إِلَى اللَّهِ ۖ ثُمَّ تُوَفَّى كُلُّ نَفْسٍ مَا كَسَبَتْ وَهُمْ لَا يُظْلَمُونَ

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 This, indeed, is the biggest favour from Allah to this Ummah, for He has completed their religion for them, and they, thus, do not need any other religion or any other Prophet except Muhammad SallAllahu alayhi wa sallam. This is why Allah made Muhammad SallAllahu alayhi wa sallam the Final Prophet

وَخَاتَمَ النَّبِيِّينَ

“...the seal of the Prophets” (33: 40)

and sent him to all humans and Jinn. Therefore, the permissible is what he allows, the impermissible is what he prohibits, the Law is what he legislates and everything that he conveys is true and authentic and does not contain lies or contradictions.

When Allah completed the religion for Muslims, His favour became complete for them as well. Allah said,

﴿الْيَوْمَ أَكْمَلْتُ لَكُمْ دِينَكُمْ وَأَتْمَمْتُ عَلَيْكُمْ نِعْمَتِي وَرَضِيتُ لَكُمُ الْإِسْلَامَ دِينًا﴾

(This day, I have perfected your religion for you, completed My favor upon you, and have chosen for you Islam as your religion.) meaning, accept Islam for yourselves, for it is the religion that Allah likes and which He chose for you, and it is that with which He sent the best of the honourable Messengers and the most glorious of His Books. Ibn Jarir recorded that Harun bin `Antarah said that his father said, "When the Ayah,

﴿الْيَوْمَ أَكْمَلْتُ لَكُمْ دِينَكُمْ﴾

(This day, I have perfected your religion for you...) was revealed, during the great day of Hajj (the Day of `Arafah, the ninth day of Dhul-Hijjah) `Umar cried. The Prophet said, `What makes you cry' He said, `What made me cry is that our religion

is being perfected for us. Now it is perfect, nothing is perfect, but it is bound to deteriorate.' The Prophet said,

«صَدَقْتَ»

(You have said the truth.)"

What supports the meaning of this Hadith is the authentic Hadith,

«إِنَّ الْإِسْلَامَ بَدَأَ غَرِيبًا، وَسَيَعُودُ غَرِيبًا، فَطُوبَى لِلْغُرَبَاءِ»

(Islam was strange in its beginning and will return strange once more. Therefore, Tuba for the strangers.)

Imam Ahmad recorded that Tariq bin Shihab said, "A Jewish man said to `Umar bin Al-Khattab, `O Leader of the Believers! There is a verse in your Book, which is read by all of you (Muslims), and had it been revealed to us, we would have taken that day (on which it was revealed) as a day of celebration.' `Umar bin Al-Khattab asked, `Which is that verse' The Jew replied, s

﴿الْيَوْمَ أَكْمَلْتُ لَكُمْ دِينَكُمْ وَأَتَمَمْتُ عَلَيْكُمْ نِعْمَتِي﴾

(This day, I have perfected your religion for you, completed My favor upon you...) `Umar replied, `By Allah! I know when and where this verse was revealed to Allah's Messenger . It was the evening on the Day of `Arafah on a Friday.'" Al-Bukhari recorded this Hadith through Al-Hasan bin As-Sabbah from Ja`far bin `Awn. Muslim, At-Tirmidhi and An-Nasa'i also recorded this Hadith.

In the narration collected by Al-Bukhari in the book of Tafsir, through Tariq, he said, "The Jews said to `Umar, `By Allah! There is a verse that is read by all of you (Muslims), and had it been revealed to us, we would have taken that day (on which it was revealed) as a day of celebration.' `Umar said, `By Allah! I know when and where this verse was revealed and where the Messenger of Allah was at that time. It was the day of `Arafah, and I was at `Arafah, by Allah." Sufyan (one of the narrators) doubted if Friday was mentioned in this narration.

Islam governs a Muslim's life in all its aspects. This is the reason why it is not only a religion but also a way of life.

Islam does not recognise any kind of separation between religion and life. It openly rejects the Western saying: "Render unto Caesar what is Caesar's, and unto God

what is God's"; for everything should be dedicated to God alone and a Muslim is required to submit himself completely to the Will of Allah in all his affairs (what means):

قُلْ إِنَّ صَلَاتِي وَنُسُكِي وَمَحْيَايَ وَمَمَاتِي لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ

لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ ۖ وَبِذَلِكَ أُمِرْتُ وَأَنَا أَوَّلُ الْمُسْلِمِينَ

Say: 'Truly, my prayer, my sacrifice, my living and my dying are for Allah, the Lord of the worlds. No partner has He: this am I commanded, and I am the first of those who submit to His Will.'" [Quran 6:162-163]

Islam does not believe in wishful thinking. It clearly states that righteous conduct must be followed by belief in Allah. The Quran says (what means):

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ لَهُمْ أَجْرٌ غَيْرُ مَمْنُونٍ

"For those who believe and work deeds of righteousness is a reward that will never (fail)." [Quran 41:8]

الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ طُوبَىٰ لَهُمْ وَحُسْنُ مَآبٍ

And (what means): "Those who believe and work righteousness, joy is for them and a blissful place of (final) return." [Quran 13:29]

Islam, as the revealed Religion from Allah, is comprehensive and perfect. Its Divine Book, the Quran, is the most comprehensive book available to mankind for guidance & nothing has been omitted from it.

It addresses every issue that concerns man in this life and in the Hereafter, Allah says:

وَنَزَّلْنَا عَلَيْكَ الْكِتَابَ تِبْيَانًا لِّكُلِّ شَيْءٍ وَهُدًى وَرَحْمَةً وَبُشْرَىٰ

لِلْمُسْلِمِينَ

(And We have sent down to you the Book (the Qur'an) as an exposition (or clarification) of everything, a guidance, a mercy, and glad tidings for those who have submitted themselves (to Allah as Muslims).) (16:89)

Whatever aspect of Shari'ah that has not been clarified in the first source of Islamic Law, which is the Qur'an, has been clarified in the second source of Islamic Law, which is the Sunnah. The Sunnah includes the Prophet's utterances, actions and approvals provided that it has been narrated to us with a sound chain of narration. Allah says:

وَأَنْزَلْنَا إِلَيْكَ الذِّكْرَ لِتُبَيِّنَ لِلنَّاسِ مَا نُزِّلَ إِلَيْهِمْ وَلَعَلَّهُمْ يَتَفَكَّرُونَ

(And We have also sent down unto you (O Muhammad) the reminder and the advice (the Qur'an) that you may explain clearly to men what is sent down to them, and that they may give thought.) (16:44)

The Prophet said: 'I have left you on a clear path, its night is like its day, and no one would stray from it except a person who would be destroyed.' (Hakim)

We all know the story of Adam (AS) and his wife, Eve. They both disobeyed Allah by eating the fruit which was specifically forbidden by Allah. They were then ordered to leave paradise and were sent to the earth. However, Allah Informed them of a very important message:

قُلْنَا اهْبِطُوا مِنْهَا جَمِيعًا ۚ فَمَا يَأْتِيَنَّكُمْ مِنِّي هُدًى فَمَنْ تَبِعَ هُدَايَ فَلَا خَوْفٌ عَلَيْهِمْ وَلَا هُمْ يَحْزَنُونَ

38. We said: "Get down all of you from this place (the Paradise), then whenever there comes to you Guidance from Me, and whoever follows My Guidance, there shall be no fear on them, nor shall they grieve.

وَالَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا وَكَذَّبُوا بِآيَاتِنَا أُولَٰئِكَ أَصْحَابُ النَّارِ هُمْ فِيهَا خَالِدُونَ

39. But those who disbelieve and belie Our *Ayat* (proofs, evidences, verses, lessons, signs, revelations, etc.) such are the dwellers of the Fire, they shall abide therein forever.

2: 38-39

As the descendants of Adam (AS), has Allah Provided us with Guidance?

Definitely yes:

1. Qur'an

ذَٰلِكَ الْكِتَابُ لَا رَيْبَ فِيهِ هُدًى لِّلْمُتَّقِينَ

"This is the Book (the Qur'an), whereof there is no doubt, a guidance to those who are *Al-Muttaqun*" 2: 2

2. Prophets and Messengers - and to us Allah has Given us the Best Messenger

لَقَدْ كَانَ لَكُمْ فِي رَسُولِ اللَّهِ أُسْوَةٌ حَسَنَةٌ لِّمَن كَانَ يَرْجُوا اللَّهَ وَالْيَوْمَ
الْآخِرَ وَذَكَرَ اللَّهَ كَثِيرًا

Indeed in the Messenger of Allah (Muhammad Sallallahu alayhi wa sallam) you have a good example to follow for him who hopes in (the Meeting with) Allah and the Last Day and remembers Allah much. 33: 21

قُلْ إِن كُنتُمْ تُحِبُّونَ اللَّهَ فَاتَّبِعُونِي يُحِبُّكُمْ اللَّهُ وَيَغْفِرْ لَكُمْ ذُنُوبَكُمْ وَاللَّهُ
عَفُورٌ رَّحِيمٌ

Say (O Muhammad Sallallahu alayhi wa sallam to mankind): "If you (really) love Allah then follow me (i.e. accept Islamic Monotheism, follow the Qur'an and the *Sunnah*), Allah will love you and forgive you of your sins. And Allah is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful." 3: 31

Allah is so Merciful that the Qur'an is revealed in stages:

- First 13 years in Makkah - focussing mainly on Tawheed

- The next 10 years, when the heart is firm – then the Dos and Don'ts ensued

Even with the various commands, it was revealed in stages:

- Alcohol was revealed in 3 stages – surah 2: 219, 4: 43, and finally 5: 90-91
- Fasting – not an obligation first in surah 2: 184, then becomes obligatory in 2: 185

The Qur'an is also revealed to persuade us to read, understand and ponder over the meanings. Allah could have directly stated, for e.g. no. 1 – no shirk, no. 2 – no alcohol, no. 3 – no riba, no 4 – no illegal fornication.. However, it is meant for us, who ARE GIVEN A FREE WILL to think and ponder. On cheatings and swindling – the stories of prophet Shu'aib and the nation of Madyan were repeatedly mentioned in various surah; for continuous disobedience, we have the children of Israel and prophet Musa (AS), for LGBT, we have prophet Lut (AS).

The content of the Qur'an is divided into 3 big parts:

1. On tawheed – the most important
2. On prophethood – for various examples of different nations
3. On the Day of Judgment – on accountability

We have also been informed very much in the Qur'an on the purpose of life and on accountability, and that we should strive hard before we meet Allah.

- 51: 56
- 59: 18
- 18: 110

فَمَنْ كَانَ يَرْجُو لِقَاءَ رَبِّهِ فَلْيَعْمَلْ عَمَلًا صَالِحًا وَلَا يُشْرِكْ بِعِبَادَةِ رَبِّهِ أَحَدًا

Whether it is on

- How we should prepare ourselves
- How should we treat others
- Our relationship with Allah

Everything has been explained clearly in the Qur'an and sunnah.

The prophet Muhammad (Sallallahu alayhi wa sallam) has provided us with sufficient examples on how to deal with our daily tasks in the hadith. In fact he explained very clearly in one of the last parts of his last sermon:

"Taroktu fiikum amroini lan tadilluu maa tamassaktum bihimaa kitabillaahi wasunnatinnabiyih" - I am leaving you with 2 things - you will never be led astray if you cling on tighyl to them - His Book and the ways of the prophet.

Hence after the conquest of Makkah, when people are embracing Islam in droves, as revealed in surah an Nasr:

1. When comes the Help of Allah (to you, O Muhammad (ﷺ) against your enemies) and the conquest (of Makkah),
2. And you see that the people enter Allah's religion (Islam) in crowds,
3. So glorify the Praises of your Lord, and ask for His Forgiveness. Verily, He is the One Who accepts the repentance and forgives.

Surah 110

The comes the last sermon and immediately an important verse was revealed in surah 5 verse 3, as was mentioned above

Al-Bukhari recorded from Ibn `Abbas that he said, "Umar used to bring me into the gatherings with the old men of (the battle of) Badr. However, it was as if one of them felt something in himself (against my attending). So he said, `Why do you (`Umar) bring this (youth) to sit with us when we have children like him (i.e., his age)' So `Umar replied, `Verily, he is among those whom you know. Then one day he called them and invited me to sit with them, and I do not think that he invited me to be among them that day except to show them. So he said, `What do you say about Allah's statement,

﴿إِذَا جَاءَ نَصْرُ اللَّهِ وَالْفَتْحُ﴾

(When there comes the help of Allah and the Conquest.)' Some of them said, `We were commanded to praise Allah and seek His forgiveness when He helps us and gives us victory.' Some of them remained silent and did not say anything. Then he (`Umar) said to me, `Is this what you say, O Ibn `Abbas' I said, `No.' He then said, `What do you say' I said, `It was the end of the life of Allah's Messenger that Allah was informing him of. Allah said,

﴿إِذَا جَاءَ نَصْرُ اللَّهِ وَالْفَتْحُ﴾

(When there comes the help of Allah and the Conquest.) which means, that is a sign of the end of your life.

﴿فَسَبِّحْ بِحَمْدِ رَبِّكَ وَاسْتَغْفِرْهُ إِنَّهُ كَانَ تَوَّابًا﴾

(So, glorify the praises of your Lord, and ask His forgiveness. Verily, He is the One Who accepts the repentance and Who forgives.)' So, `Umar bin Al-Khattab said, 'I do not know anything about it other than what you have said.'" Al-Bukhari was alone in recording this Hadith. Imam Ahmad recorded from Ibn `Abbas that he said, "When

﴿إِذَا جَاءَ نَصْرُ اللَّهِ وَالْفَتْحُ﴾

(When there comes the help of Allah and the Conquest.) was revealed, the Messenger of Allah said,

«نُعِيْتُ إِلَيَّ نَفْسِي»

(My death has been announced to me.) And indeed he died during that year." Ahmad was alone in recording this Hadith. Al-Bukhari recorded that `A'ishah said, "The Messenger of Allah used to say often in his bowing and prostrating,

«سُبْحَانَكَ اللَّهُمَّ رَبَّنَا وَبِحَمْدِكَ اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لِي»

(Glory to You, O Allah, our Lord, and praise be to You. O Allah, forgive me.) He did this as his interpretation of the Qur'an (i.e., showing its implementation)." The rest of the group has also recorded this Hadith except for At-Tirmidhi. Imam Ahmad recorded from Masruq that `A'ishah said, "The Messenger of Allah used to often say towards the end of his life,

«سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ وَبِحَمْدِهِ، أَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ وَأَتُوبُ إِلَيْهِ»

(Glory to Allah, and praise be unto Him. I seek Allah's forgiveness and I repent to Him.) And he said,

«إِنَّ رَبِّي كَانَ أَخْبَرَنِي أَنِّي سَأَرَى عَلَامَةً فِي أُمَّتِي، وَأَمَرَنِي إِذَا رَأَيْتَهَا أَنْ أُسَبِّحَ بِحَمْدِهِ وَأَسْتَغْفِرَهُ، إِنَّهُ كَانَ تَوَّابًا، فَقَدْ رَأَيْتُهَا:

﴿إِذَا جَاءَ نَصْرُ اللَّهِ وَالْفَتْحُ - وَرَأَيْتَ النَّاسَ يَدْخُلُونَ فِي دِينِ

اللَّهِ أَفْوَاجًا - فَسَبِّحْ بِحَمْدِ رَبِّكَ وَاسْتَغْفِرْهُ إِنَّهُ كَانَ تَوَّابًا﴾

(Verily, my Lord has informed me that I will see a sign in my Ummah and He has commanded me that when I see it, I should glorify His praises and seek His forgiveness, for He is the One Who accepts repentance. And indeed I have seen it (i.e., the sign). (When there comes the help of Allah and the Conquest (Al-Fath). And you see that the people enter Allah's religion in crowds. So glorify the praises of your Lord, and ask His forgiveness. Verily, He is the One Who accepts the repentance and Who forgives.))" Muslim also recorded this Hadith. The meaning of Al-Fath here is the conquest of Makkah, and there is only one view concerning it. For indeed the different areas of the Arabs were waiting for the conquest of Makkah before they would accept Islam. They said, "If he (Muhammad) is victorious over his people, then he is a (true) Prophet." So when Allah gave him victory over Makkah, they entered into the religion of Allah (Islam) in crowds. Thus, two years did not pass (after the conquest of Makkah) before the peninsula of the Arabs was laden with faith. And there did not remain any of the tribes of the Arabs except that they professed (their acceptance) of Islam. And all praise and blessings are due to Allah. Al-Bukhari recorded in his Sahih that `Amr bin Salamah said, "When Makkah was conquered, all of the people rushed to the Messenger of Allah to profess their Islam. The various regions were delaying their acceptance of Islam until Makkah was conquered. The people used to say, `Leave him and his people alone. If he is victorious over them he is a (true) Prophet.'" We have researched the war expedition for conquest of Makkah in our book As-Surah. Therefore, whoever wishes he may review it there. And all praise and blessings are due to Allah. Imam Ahmad recorded from Abu `Ammar that a neighbor of Jabir bin `Abdullah told him, "I returned from a journey and Jabir bin `Abdullah came and greeted me. So I began to talk with him about the divisions among the people and what they had started doing. Thus, Jabir began to cry and he said, `I heard the Messenger of Allah saying,

«إِنَّ النَّاسَ دَخَلُوا فِي دِينِ اللَّهِ أَفْوَاجًا، وَسَيَخْرُجُونَ مِنْهُ
أَفْوَاجًا»

(Verily, the people have entered into the religion of Allah in crowds and they will also leave it in crowds.)'

So this is what is happening now also in the year 2019. May Allah Protect us from all evils and Guide us to die as Muslims.

So alhamdulillah we have been given the passport to Jannah – ISLAM

Islam means complete submission to Allah. It is also a way of life – 24 hours a day

We now need the visa to enter Jannah – which is Allah's Mercy.

We must also understand our purpose in life – which is to worship Allah (51: 56)

Therefore, as Islam is complete – do we need to add new things in terms of our acts of worship? Remember the rule of thumb – in ACTS OF WORSHIP, EVERYTHING IS HARAM (PROHIBITED) UNLESS THERE ARE EVIDENCE FROM THE QUR'AN AND AUTHENTIC HADEETH.

Anyone who invents new things in relation to the religion will bear the consequences:

1. Not able to drink from the pond of al Kawthar
2. Hell fire

The things which will affect our ability to maintain complete following of Islam through the Qur'an and hadeeth are the following:

1. Guidance from Allah
2. Fail to seek knowledge
3. Taqwa
4. With Taqwa comes Furqan (8: 29)

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا إِن تَتَّقُوا اللَّهَ يَجْعَل لَكُمْ فُرْقَانًا

5. Shaytan
6. Culture
7. Companions

One the main reasons why I decided to bring up this topic for today's circle is that – THE MUSLIM WORLD IS IN A MESS. Even though we have 1.6 billion Muslims, the Qur'an and all hadeeth sources are now available FREE online – the Muslim world is in a mess –

- unlawful killings,
- corruptions,
- discriminations,
- injustice,
- the rich are getting richer and the poorer are getting poorer,
- cheatings,
- many Muslims from the Muslim countries are deciding to embrace the western culture and way of life at the expense of compromising the Deen
- LGBT

All the above problems have been raised by Allah in the Qur'an. History always repeats itself. So, we cannot blame America, the West, etc for the mess that we are in right now. We have to blame ourselves and start to improve ourselves first by being grateful to Allah for completing the Deen and coming back to the Deen by taking the Qur'an and authentic hadeeths as our source of knowledge and practise the Deen from the correct source – the Qur'an and the hadeeth – NOT from our ancestors that may not have sufficient knowledge on the Deen.

Allah Warned us:

إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يُغَيِّرُ مَا بِقَوْمٍ حَتَّىٰ يُغَيِّرُوا مَا بِأَنْفُسِهِمْ

“...Verily! Allah will not change the good condition of a people as long as they do not change their state of goodness themselves (by committing sins and by being ungrateful and disobedient to Allah)...” 13: 11

We really need to understand the Deen and not take it as a ritual. As it stands now, from BBC and other sources or media, women in Saudi Arabia are running away seeking asylum in non-Muslim countries. Islam MUST be taught differently from the previous generations – it needs to be understood and discussed so that the youth are able to Accept it as the religion of Truth. We ourselves need to understand that Islam is a way of life – NOT just restricted to our daily 5 times a day-prayers, or in the mosque, or in Ramadan. Islam must be understood as “complete submission to Allah”, without any single compromise in any part. BUT all these cannot be achieved without:

1. Allah's Guidance

2. Our efforts to strive to increase our knowledge and on how to be grateful to Allah
3. Our efforts to eliminate things which may hinder us from the right path, for example shaytan, bad companions, cultural practices that may distract us from the straight path
4. Continuous du'a
Many, many du'a has been taught by Allah and by our beloved prophet Muhammad Sallallahu alayhi wa sallam

May Allah continue to Guide us in the path which will lead all of us to Jannatul Firdaus, Forgive our sins and shortcomings, Accept our deeds and Accept the Hajj of the pilgrims who are now gathering in the field of Arafah.

Therefore, before we end, the best du'a in this day of Arafah:

The Best Du'a to make on the Day of 'Arafah is the Du'a of our beloved Prophet (saw) who said:

'The best supplication is the supplication on the Day of 'Arafah and the best of what I and the Prophets before me have said is:

La ilaha illallahu wahdahu la shareeka lah, lahul-mulku walahul-hamdu wahuwa 'ala kuli shay-in qadeer

There is absolutely no god worthy of being worshipped except Allah, Alone, without any partner. To Him belongs the Kingdom, and all praise is due to Him, and He is Powerful over everything'. (Tirmidhi)

Let us all be very grateful to Allah for completing our Deen and for giving us the opportunity to enter Jannah.

TaqabalAllahu minna wa minkum. May Allah Accept from us and from you.