

What Negates Islam



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All thanks and praises are due to Allâh, Who accepted Islam for us as our religion, made us among the best Nation ever to be sent to mankind, ordered us to adhere to this religion and be firm on it and warned us against abandoning it.

﴿ وَمَنْ يَرْتَدِدْ مِنْكُمْ عَنْ دِينِهِ - فَيَمُتْ وَهُوَ كَافِرٌ فَأُولَئِكَ حَبِطَتْ أَعْمَالُهُمْ فِي الدُّنْيَا وَالْآخِرَةِ وَأُولَئِكَ أَصْحَابُ النَّارِ هُمْ فِيهَا خَالِدُونَ ﴾

“And whosoever of you turns back from his religion and dies as a disbeliever, then his deeds will be lost in this life and in the Hereafter, and they will be the dwellers of the Fire. They will abide therein forever.” (2:217)

I bear witness that there is no deity worthy of worship except Allâh Alone, without partners, and that Muhammad is Allâh’s slave and Messenger. May Allâh’s peace and blessings be on Muhammad and his progeny, Companions and all those who followed them until the Day of Judgment.

O people! Fear Allâh and know that Allâh’s religion is one and its path is clear and straight. Know that misguidance has many paths and ways, just as Allâh said:

﴿ وَأَنَّ هَذَا صِرَاطِي مُسْتَقِيمًا فَاتَّبِعُوهُ وَلَا تَتَّبِعُوا السُّبُلَ فَتَفَرَّقَ بِكُمْ عَنْ سَبِيلِهِ ۚ ذَٰلِكُمْ وَصَّاكُم بِهِ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَتَّقُونَ ﴾

“And verily, this is My straight path, so follow it, and follow not (other) paths, for they will separate you away from His path. This He has ordained for you that you may become *Al-Muttaqûn* (the pious).” (6:153)

On every path that leads to misguidance there is a devil calling to it. Therefore, those who want to go on the path of truth will experience many lures and hindrances that try to prevent them from going on that path, to the path of misguidance. These hindrances sometimes use encouragement and at other times threats. Hence, it is necessary for

one to acquire knowledge of the one straight path and of the many paths of deviation. One also needs to observe patience and firmness on the true straight path.

O Muslims! Reverting from Islam to *Kufr* takes many forms, such as embracing another religion instead of Islam. Or, one might commit an act that nullifies Islam, even though in this case he or she would still be called Muslim. A person might perform the apparent acts of worship as Muslims do, even though he or she is not truly from them. This is a serious matter that requires wisdom and sufficient knowledge with which one needs to differentiate between truth and falsehood, guidance and misguidance. This subject escapes the knowledge of many Muslims and this is why they fall into serious misgivings and confusion regarding what negates Islam. They think that all those who perform the Islamic acts of worship are Muslims, even if they commit something that negates Islam. This misguided opinion is the result of ignorance of the true essence of our religion and what negates it. Yet sadly this has become prevalent in present times. There are many Muslims nowadays who do not distinguish between truth and falsehood, guidance and misguidance. They refer to those who might commit a thousand negations of Islam as ‘Muslims’, just because they perform the apparent acts of worship. They do not know that if one claims that he is a Muslim and performs Islamic acts, yet commits errors that nullify Islam, then he is just like he who performs *Wudû* (Ablution) and passes gas right afterwards. Would *Wudû* have any trace left of it when this happens?

Being a follower of Islam is not a claim without a substance nor is it a collection of contradictions. Islam is the religion of truth and sincerity. Islam requires full submission to Allâh’s Islamic Monotheism and ordains obeying Him and eradicating *Shirk*. Islam is one whole, consisting of many inseparable parts. Muslims must perform Islam’s acts of worship, duties and responsibilities and avoid what negates it. Islam is religion, state, acts of worship, law, deeds, *Da’wah* (calling to Allâh) and *Jihâd*. It controls and legislates all aspects of life, thoughts and actions for its followers.

One does not become a Muslim just because he is called ‘Muslim’, if he commits acts that negate his Islam. It is not enough to praise the religion of Islam and declare allegiance to it, without adhering by its commandments and implementing its law. There are many people who are called Muslims in present times, but few of them befit this description. Many among them praise Islam, but if you analyze the substance of their acts and implementation of Islam, you will find great shortcomings. There is a great difference between true Islam and the ‘Islam’ of many of those who declare preference to it. Therefore, it is a great injustice and plain misguidance that we describe those who commit various nullifications of Islam as Muslims, just because they pray, fast or perform other obligations of Islam. We asserted that this stance is indicative of ignorance and following lusts and desires.

There are many actions that negate and nullify Islam, and many reasons why some people commit reversion from it. In this *Khutbah*, Allâh willing, we will mention some of the negations of Islam that occur often in Muslim societies in present times, so that Muslims are aware of their danger.

***Shirk* (Ascribing Partners to Allâh) in Worship**

There are many types and forms of *Shirk*. One example is what occurs in the present time near gravesites, of invoking the dead and seeking the means of approach to them. Vows are being made to the dead and sacrifices are slaughtered in their name. Some people sacrifice for, and in the name of the jinn for the purpose of being healed. This evil practice has become widespread in these times, where people go to sorcerers and witches who command them to sacrifice for the jinn and they thought easily do so. They do this, even though sacrificing for other than Allâh is a type of major *Shirk*.

Mocking and jesting about any part of the religion of the Prophet ﷺ, such as mocking growing the beard, using *Siwak* (a tree branch to clean the teeth), enjoining righteousness, forbidding evil, *Jihâd*, and so forth, constitutes reversion from Islam. Allâh said:

﴿ قُلْ أَيْدِيَّ وَأَعْيُنِي وَرَسُولِي ۖ كُنْتُمْ تَسْتَهْزِئُونَ ۚ لَا تَعْلَمُونَ لَوَاقِدَ كُفْرِكُمْ بَعْدَ

إِسْنَكُمْ

“Say: “Was it at Allâh (ﷻ), and His *Ayat* (proofs, evidences, verses, lessons, signs, revelations, etc.) and His Messenger (ﷺ) that you were mocking?” Make no excuse; you disbelieved after you had believed.” (9:65-66)

Referring to other than what Allâh has revealed for judgment constitutes reversion from Islam, if one believes that his own judgment or rule is better than the judgment of Allâh and His Messenger ﷺ and better for the people. This type also pertains to one believing that he has the choice not to refer to what Allâh has revealed and refers instead to man-made laws. This type of person is indeed a disbeliever who has reverted from the religion, just as Allâh said:

﴿وَمَنْ لَّمْ يَحْكَمْ بِمَا أَنزَلَ اللَّهُ فَأُولَٰئِكَ هُمُ الْكَافِرُونَ﴾

“And whosoever does not judge by what Allâh has revealed, such are the *Kâfirûn* (disbelievers).” (5:44).

We should also assert that whether one refers to man-made laws partially or totally, he would still be a *Kafir*, provided he believes that other than Allâh’s Law is better for Muslims or that he is allowed not to refer to it for judgment. This type is a *Kafir* even if they pray and fast and claim to be Muslim. Such is the case with those who willingly seek judgment from other than what Allâh has revealed, as indicated by the following *Āyat*:

﴿أَلَمْ تَرَ إِلَى الَّذِينَ يَزْعُمُونَ أَنَّهُمْ ءَامَنُوا بِمَا أَنزَلَ إِلَيْكَ وَمَا أَنزَلَ مِن قَبْلِكَ يُرِيدُونَ أَن يَتَحَكَّمُوا إِلَى الطَّاغُوتِ وَقَدْ أُمِرُوا أَن يَكْفُرُوا بِهِ وَيُرِيدُ الشَّيْطَانُ أَن يُضِلَّهُمْ ضَلَالًا بَعِيدًا﴾

“Have you not seen those (hypocrites) who claim that they believe in that which has been sent down to you, and that which was sent down before you, and they wish to go for judgement (in their disputes) to the *Tâghût* (false judges) while they have been ordered to reject them. But *Shaitân* (Satan) wishes to lead them far astray.”

Until:

﴿ فَلَا وَرَبِّكَ لَا يُؤْمِنُونَ حَتَّىٰ يُحَكِّمُوكَ فِيمَا شَجَرَ بَيْنَهُمْ ثُمَّ لَا يَجِدُوا فِي
أَنْفُسِهِمْ حَرَجًا مِّمَّا قَضَيْتَ وَيُسَلِّمُوا تَسْلِيمًا ﴾

“But no, by your Lord, they can have no Faith, until they make you (O Muhammad ﷺ) judge in all disputes between them, and find in themselves no resistance against your decisions, and accept (them) with full submission.” (4:60-65)

This practice carries grave danger for Muslims in these times, when many rulers have abandoned Allâh’s Book and referred instead to man-made laws that they imported from the West and judged between their people by them. Muslims must know Allâh’s judgment in these people and reject these evil practices.

Refraining from praying, while rejecting the necessity of praying in Islam, is also among the acts that negate Islam, according to the consensus of Muslims. As for whoever refrains from praying due to laziness, even though he admits that Allâh has commanded Muslims to pray, he is also a *Kafir* if he insists on refraining from praying. Allâh said:

﴿ فَإِن تَابُوا وَأَقَامُوا الصَّلَاةَ وَآتَوُا الزَّكَاةَ فَخَلُّوا سَبِيلَهُمْ ﴾

“But if they repent [by rejecting *Shirk* (polytheism) and accept Islamic Monotheism] and perform *As-Salât* (*Iqâmat-as-Salât*), and give *Zakât*, then leave their way free.” (9:5)

And:

﴿ فَإِن تَابُوا وَأَقَامُوا الصَّلَاةَ وَآتَوُا الزَّكَاةَ فَخَلُّوا سَبِيلَهُمْ ﴾

“But if they repent, perform *As-Salât* (*Iqâmat-as-Salât*) and give *Zakât*, then they are your brethren in religion.” (9:11)

These two *Āyat* state that those who do not establish the prayer will not be set free but, instead, will be killed, because they are not among our brethren in religion. Allâh said that the dwellers of the Fire will be asked:

﴿ مَا سَأَلَكَ فِي سَقَرٍ ۚ قَالُوا لَوْ لَزْنَاكَ مِنَ الْمُصَلِّينَ ﴾

“What has caused you to enter Hell? They will say: We were not of those who used to offer the *Salât* (prayers).”

Until:

﴿ فَمَا نَنْفَعُهُمْ شَفَعَةُ الشَّافِعِينَ ﴾

“So no intercession of intercessors will be of any use to them.”
(74:42-48)

Allâh states in this *Āyah* that among the reasons that caused them to enter the Fire was that they did not pray. Allâh states next that they will not benefit from the intercession of anyone on their behalf, and this indicates that they are not Muslims, since Muslims will benefit from the *Shafâ'* (intercession), by Allâh's Leave. Also, the Prophet ﷺ said:

«الْعَهْدُ الَّذِي بَيْنَنَا وَبَيْنَهُمْ - يَعْنِي الْكُفَّارَ - الصَّلَاةُ .»

“The prayer is the pledge (or connection) that separates us from them (disbelievers).”

This *Hadith* indicates that the prayer is the sign or distinction between the *Kuffar* and Muslims, meaning that those who do not pray are not Muslims. Also, the Messenger of Allâh ﷺ said:

«بَيْنَ الْعَبْدِ وَبَيْنَ الْكُفْرِ أَوْ الشِّرْكِ تَرْكُ الصَّلَاةِ.»

“Between the slave and *Kufr* –or *Shirk*– is abandoning the prayer.”

These Texts, from the Book of Allâh and the *Sunnah* of His Messenger, indicate the *Kufr* and reversion from the religion of those who abandon prayer, even though they call themselves Muslims and live in the area of Islam. In the present time, a large crowd of Muslims have abandoned the prayer and belittled its significance, even though they know that those who do not pray will not have a share in Islam and will be required (by Muslim Authorities) to repent and pray. Otherwise, they will be executed as *Kuffar* and will not be buried in

Muslim graveyards. In this case, their rightful Muslim inheritors would not inherit anything from them, for their wealth would be confiscated and given to the Muslim Treasury. Those who do not pray must be made to divorce their wives also, because a *Kafir* cannot marry a Muslim woman, just as Allâh said:

﴿لَا هُنَّ حِلٌّ لَّهُمْ وَلَا هُمْ يَحِلُّونَ لَهَا﴾

“They are not lawful (wives) for the disbelievers nor are the disbelievers lawful (husbands) for them.” (60:10)

Therefore, those who do not pray are not allowed to marry a Muslim woman, nor will their Muslim wives be allowed to remain with them. Had Allâh’s Law been applied to these criminals, Muslim areas and homes would get rid of their filth, and their fate would deter others from committing this crime. However, when Muslims shied away from these criminals and allowed them to share their homes and marry their daughters or sisters, their crime became common practice that is not considered with surprise or admonishment any more! There is no power or strength except from Allâh, the Greatest.

O Muslims! Even though embracing un-Islamic ideologies, such as communism, socialism and nationalism, negates Islam, yet, this practice has become common occurrence nowadays in Muslim societies. Indeed, any Muslim who embraces such creeds, defends them or helps their people against Muslims, will have committed an act of reversion from Islam and become a *Kafir*. Let us be aware of our religion and seek our benefit. Let us know the true essence of Islam and acquire knowledge in all acts and creeds that negate it, so that we are aware of them and avoid them, as well as, those who propagate or practice them.

O Allâh! Grant us more knowledge of Islam and make us firm on its path until the Day we meet You as Muslims who did not deviate or change Your religion. O Lord of all that exists! O Allâh! Show us the truth as such, and grant us the quality of following and embracing it. Show falsehood to us as such, and grant us the quality of avoiding it.

﴿ إِنَّ الَّذِينَ أَرْتَدُوا عَلَىٰ آدْبُرِهِم مِّن بَعْدِ مَا بَيَّنَّ لَهُمُ الْهُدَىٰ ۖ الشَّيْطَانُ سَوَّلَ لَهُمْ
 وَأَمَلَىٰ لَهُمْ ۚ ذَٰلِكَ بِأَنَّهُمْ قَالُوا لِلَّذِينَ كَرَهُوا مَا نَزَّلَ اللَّهُ سَنُطِيعُكُمْ فِي
 بَعْضِ الْأُمْرِ ۗ وَاللَّهُ يَعْلَمُ إِسْرَارَهُمْ ۚ فَكَيْفَ إِذَا تَوَفَّيْتَهُمُ الْمَلَائِكَةُ بَضْرِيُوتٍ وُّجُوهُهُمْ
 وَآدْبُرُهُمْ ۚ ذَٰلِكَ بِأَنَّهُمْ اتَّبَعُوا مَا آسَخَطَ اللَّهُ وَكَرَهُوا رِضْوَانَهُ فَأَحْبَطَ
 أَعْمَالَهُمْ ۗ ﴾

“Verily, those who have turned back (have apostatized) as disbelievers after the guidance has been manifested to them — *Shaitân* (Satan) has beautified for them (their false hopes), and (Allâh) prolonged their term (age). This is because they said to those who hate what Allâh has sent down: ‘We will obey you in part of the matter.’ But Allâh knows their secrets. Then how (will it be) when the angels will take their souls at death, smiting their faces and their backs? That is because they followed that which angered Allâh and hated that which pleased Him. So He made their deeds fruitless.” (47:25-28)

May Allâh direct us and you to the blessings of the Glorious Qur’ân and benefit us and you in whatever is in it of the *Āyat* and Wise *Dhikr*. I say this and ask Allâh the Great, and the Most Honored for forgiveness for me, you and all Muslims for every sin. Invoke Him for forgiveness, for He is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.¹

¹ *Al-Khutab Al-Minbariyah*, by Shaikh Salih Al-Fazan, vol. 1, p. 21