

الله

God

Or No God

Islamic Viewpoint vs.
Atheist Viewpoint

OUTLINES OF HUMANITY IN ISLAM

part 12

By Haya Muhammad Eid



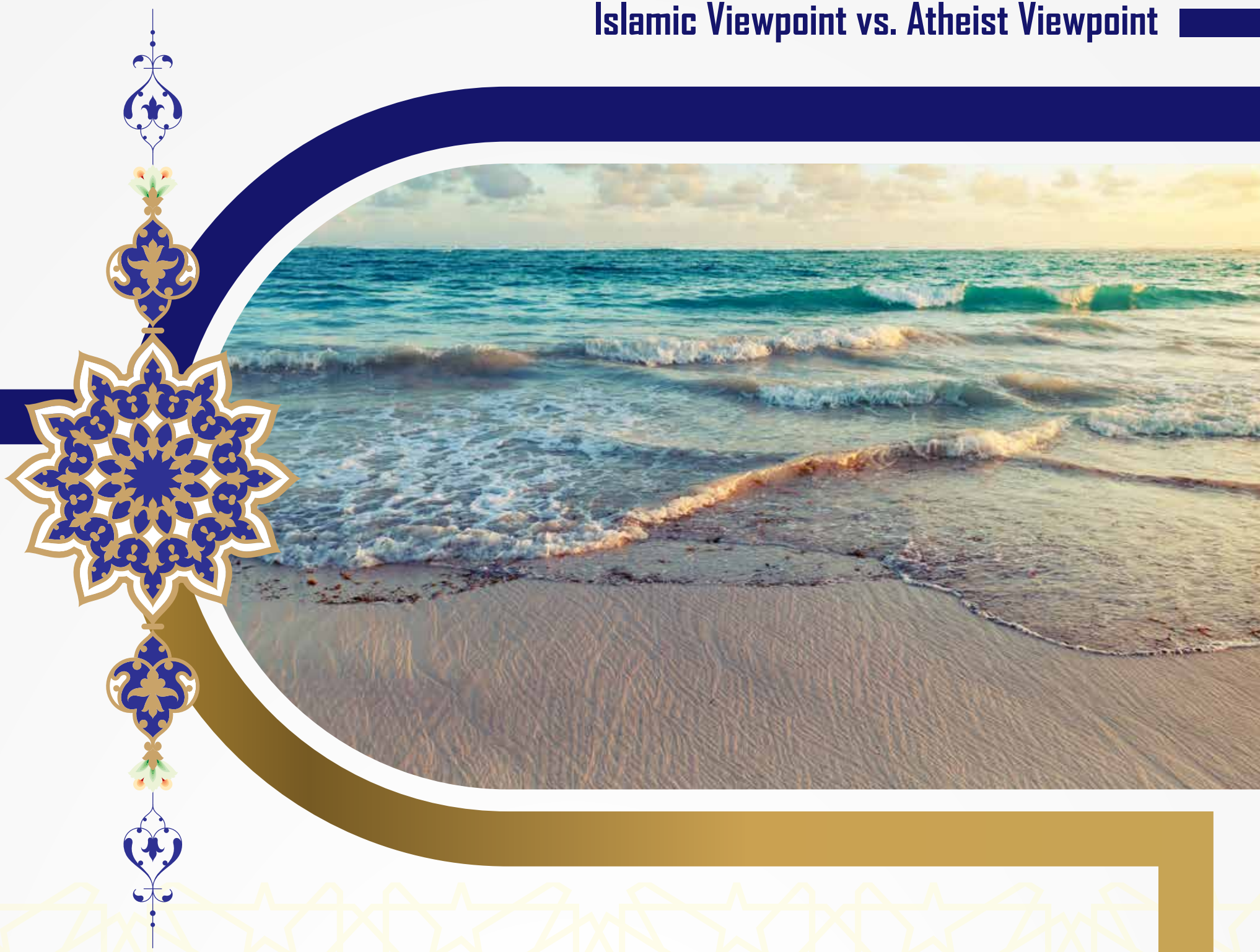
الله اعلم
والله اعلم



OUTLINES OF HUMANITY IN ISLAM



- ● **Humanity is the result of purpose, not chance. God has given humans a special and honorable place in creation. He created them in the best form and endowed them with the highest faculties of feeling, will, intellect, and understanding, which allows them the closest possible relationship to Himself, the Creator.**
- ● **All humans, men and women, are descended from one soul: Adam (peace be upon him). From Adam, God created his wife, Eve (peace be upon her), and from them both He created the rest of the human race, which make all human beings equally valuable in His Sight, equally subject to His Sovereignty, equally deserving of His Grace, and equally accountable to Him for their deeds.**



- ● **Every human is created by God as pure, sinless, and free-willed, with a natural awareness and belief in God and an innate inclination to worship Him alone. This natural belief and inclination is called Fitrah in Arabic.**
- ● **Humans have the power of reason and choice and, therefore, are capable of good and evil. The more they grow in knowledge, goodness, virtue, and charity, the more they become as God intended humans to be. They can always return to a state of sinlessness and purity by direct and sincere repentance to God.**



- ● **Endowed above other creatures with the powers of intellect and will, God assigned to every human the role of Khalifa (God's vicegerent on earth), which is the highest rank and responsibility among all creatures. God provides plenty of guidance and help to enable humankind to succeed as His vicegerents.**



- ● To be God's vicegerent on earth requires being good oneself and doing good to others. A human does not automatically qualify for this role. Humans need to develop the inherent potential for this dignified position by nurturing and practicing the qualities that make up a true willing servant of God, such as truth, mercy, forgiveness, and justice. The Qur'an compresses them into one word — **Taqwa (God-consciousness; God-fearing piety)** — which develops through a strong and consistent connection with God through establishing worship in life.



PERSONALITIES ARE LIKE

THEY NEED TO BE FURTHER REFINED INTO
PURER FORMS AND FASHIONED INTO
USEFUL SHAPES

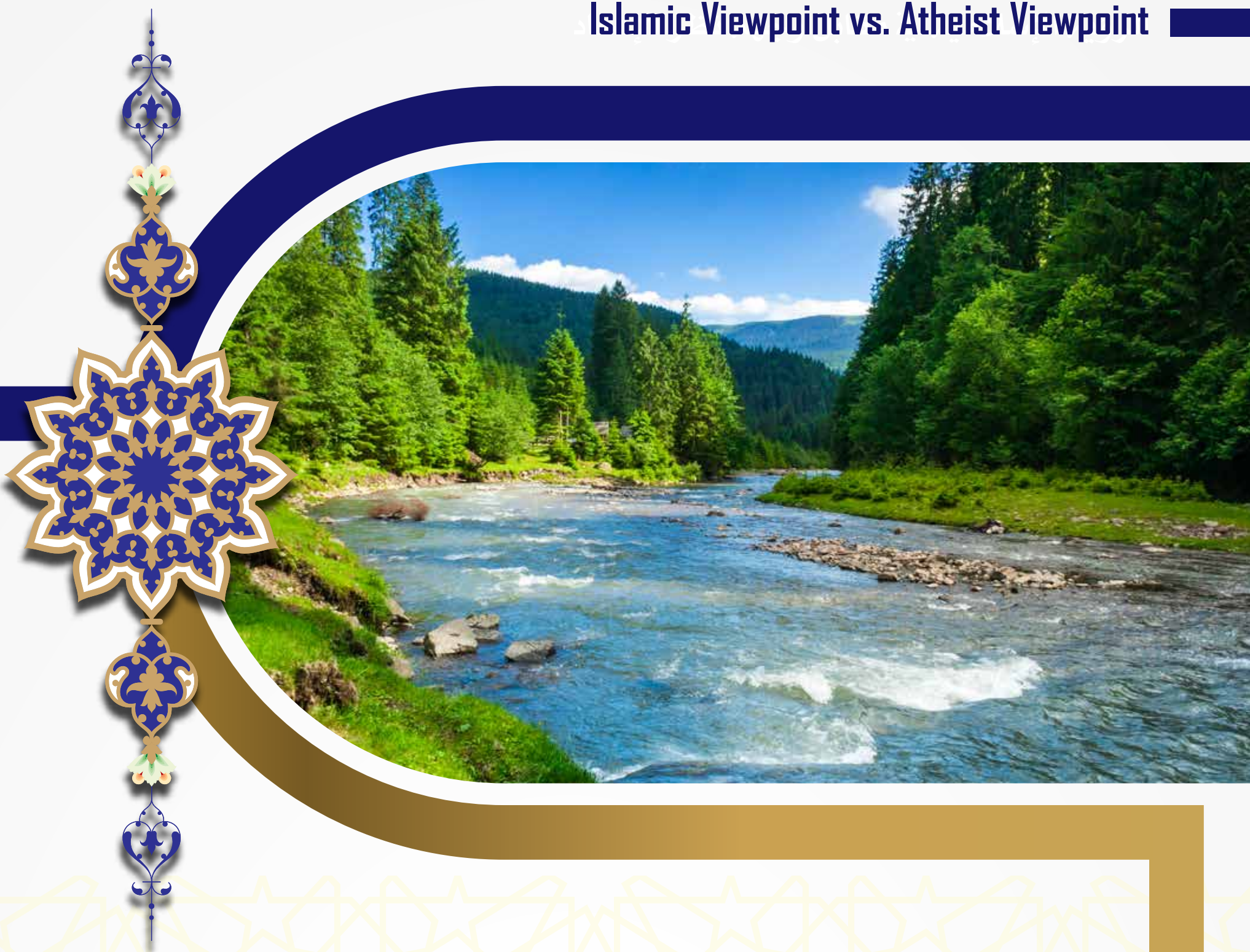


When Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) was asked who among people is best, he responded, “People are like metals (of different qualities), like gold and silver. The best of them before Islam will be the best of them in Islam — if they understand religion.”

(Sahih Al-Bukhari)



So, by implication, the capacity for ethical and moral behavior is a natural endowment, characteristic and inherent in every human in varying degrees and strength levels. Just like unmined metals and minerals, it is there, lying untapped within every human or else only partially recognized and utilized.



This inherent potential only needs to be polished, guided, and developed through an adequate understanding of human nature and its laws as defined by God, in order to bring out and enhance intrinsic human goodness, strengths, and abilities toward noble and worthwhile aims, even in the best of people. Therefore, describing the sole aim of his mission, Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) said, “I was only sent to perfect virtuous character traits.” (Musnad Ahmad) That is, by nurturing natural moral behavior to perfection.

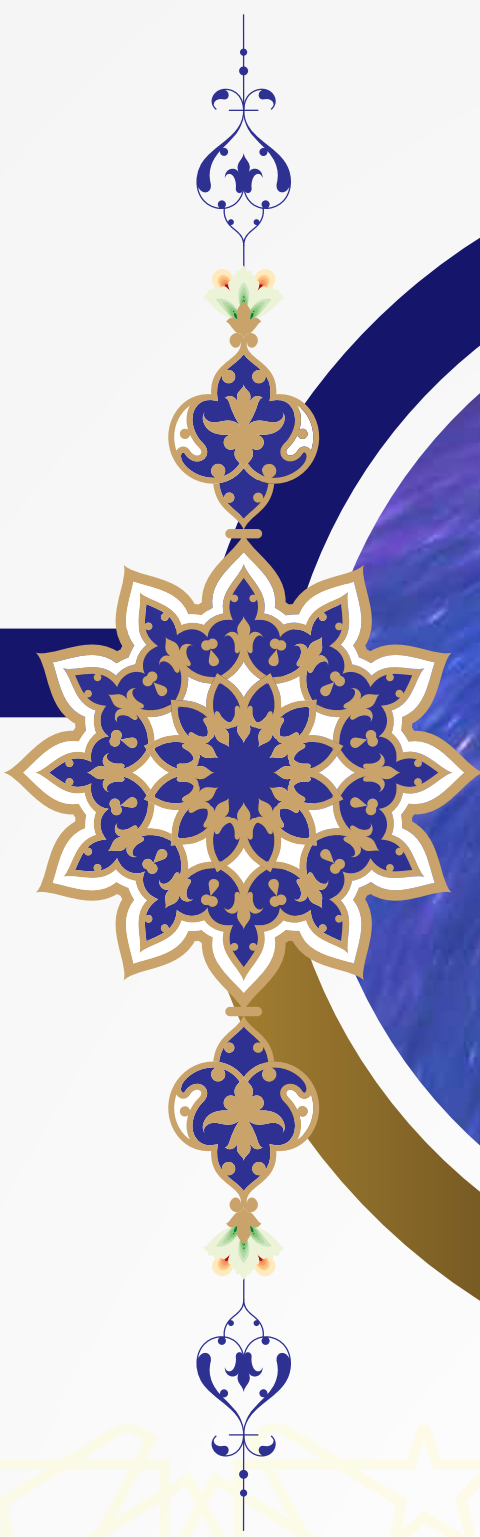


WHERE DOES MORALITY COME FROM?



**God enjoins justice, doing good,
giving to kith and kin, and forbids
immorality, evil, and oppression; He
admonishes you, that you may take
“.heed**

[16:90 Qur'an]



- ● **The entire concept of morality stems from the Islamic belief that humans are significant, that their behavior and actions will count and that the pattern of this entire universe is purposeful and balanced. Humankind is not a ship without a compass in the midst of a great storm, but is secured with a set of unchangeable norms for all possible moral situations.**



- ● **According to Islam, morality originates from God; God created humans with an innate moral sense, which, when left uncorrupted by bad influences, deepens and thrives further through His revelations. Thus, knowledge of right and wrong is not based only on inborn senses or experience, but also on absolute moral standards laid down by God.**



- ● **The moral system in Islam derives from God, therefore, it cannot be changed, amended, or manipulated to fit human desires. It will continue to apply and be binding upon all humans alike, regardless of time, place, or circumstances, until the Day of Judgement. What was declared morally good or bad in the past will remain so forever throughout time, even if a society ceases to treat what is good as good and what is bad as bad. Therefore, it is always a sin to lie, to steal, to commit adultery, or to be unkind to one's parents.**



● ● In Islam, morality and belief are inseparable. Without genuine morality, worship becomes a formality, an empty ritual, as clearly stated in the Qur'an:

Righteousness is not that you turn your faces" toward the east or the west (in prayer) ... but rather to give of one's substance, however cherished, to kinsfolk, orphans, the needy, the wayfarer, those who ask (for help), and for
"...freeing slaves

(2:177 Qur'an)



Every aspect of Islam is ethical at its base. The teachings of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) stress that belief must manifest itself into manners and actions, positively impacting on the life of the individual and society. Such as his saying,
None of you believes until he wishes for his”
“fellow human what he wishes for himself

(Sahih Al-Bukhari)

According to Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), good manners are the unmistakable sign of perfect faith:

“The believers most perfect in faith are those best in character.” (Al-Tirmidhi)



Good manners are also one of the heaviest deeds in the Divine scale:

“Nothing is placed on the scale (of a believer) that is heavier than good manners.” (Al-Tirmidhi)

And good manners are the greatest cause that will lead people into Paradise:

“Demonstrating piety and good manners is the deed that will cause people to enter Paradise the most.” (Al-Baihaqi)



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Allah's Help
and Grace*

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