

Testimony: No God but Allah.

In the name of Allah most Gracious most Merciful.

People, fear Allah his deserving fear. It is through the fear of Allah that your deeds are given recognition, and your health and money are sustained. Fearing Allah places a guard between you and Allahs torment. Fearing Allah is materialized by acting on his commands and abstaining from what He forbids.

Allah's commands are many. Some of them are part of the root and foundations of religion; such that religion would not be right without. And some commands are part of the religion's obligations and duties. One would be committing sins just by abandoning or not practicing them. Consequently one can become a target for menace and threat. Some of the commands are mere religion traditions, ways and complements. One would be rewarded for acting upon them; but not punished for not practicing them.

One of the greatest religion foundation and its most important function is a one statement (some times referred to as the *Word*). One word or statement is with which one enters the scope of Islam. One statement is after which the individual will have all the rights and all the obligations of other Muslims. One statement once vocally spoken by somebody, then his or her blood and moneys become protected or immune and untouchable. It becomes a forbidden act to confront or attack, kill or confiscate or seize their money or what they own, and all other form of harm. A word whoever says becomes happier in both lives, and becomes

elevated in status in both this life and the next. A statement if it was the last spoken sentence in one's life is enough to bring that person into paradise. It is the testimony, it is baring a witness that there is no god but Allah, alone and the only who has no partners or associates. (لا إله إلا الله وحده لا شريك له).

This statement is the foundation of all messages sent with all messengers. Each and every messenger or prophet was sent to fulfill this message. Each of them said to their people: (Worship Allah, you have no God other than Him). Allah says about all messengers: {We sent a messenger into each nation to worship Allah and to avoid the tyrant}. This great word which Allah sent all messengers to deliver; each Muslim must know its meaning, its grace and its reward, and must act according to its requirements or its obligations.

With regard to what it means; the meaning of this word is that this who deserves to be worshipped is Allah alone. No one else by right is to be worshipped. And worshiping anyone else is false and wrong. Allah says: {Such that Allah is true, and all other than He whom they call is false. And that Allah is the most elevated the biggest}. Living by its rules means to uniquely specify Allah alone with worship. Not to worship anything or anyone else besides Him. And to deny and renounce worshiping any one else except Allah; and to live and act His commands and refrain from what He prohibited.

Whoever knows the meaning of this statement, do not say it except if they will act by it. When the messenger (PPBU) said to the people of Kuraish: {No other God But Allah لا إله إلا الله};

they said: "What a strange matter, he is making all the gods into one"; because they understood the meaning of the word. Which is, worshiping Allah alone. Today's polytheists do not know its meaning. In one hand they say: "No God but Allah", and on the other hand they still go to idols, trees, shrines with prayers and requests other than to Allah.

Slaves of Allah, every act in Islam is tightly entwined with the testimony of "No other Gods but Allah"; starting with the ritual of prayers, giving charity, fasting of Ramadan and going for pilgrimage to the Mosque for those who are able. Also, each and every command Allah issued to His messenger (PPBU) and refraining from each act Allah prohibited to be done by His messenger. When some of the Arab tribes stopped paying the charity after the death of the messenger (PPBU), the companions fought them over that. They said: Charity is a right of the testimony (No God but Allah). When Wahb ebn-Minbeh (وهب ابن منبه) was told: "Isn't the sentence [No God but Allah] the key to Paradise?" He replied: "Yes, but each key must have teeth or cogs. So, if you come up with a key that has teeth then it will be opened for you, else it will not". The teeth here represent sincerity, loyalty, fidelity, truthfulness and certainty.

What contradicts this testimony is polytheism. That is to believe in association with Allah (May He be elevated) by directing some of the worship to other than He. Either of what is called the major or minor polytheism. Similarly committing sins that contradict the testimony reduce it and reduce the reward for it and reduce its benefit.

The grace and benefit of this word is that Allah has sent the same word with all his messengers. He has made it what differentiates between Islam and infidelity. This word is the salvation from Hell fire. The messenger (PPBU) said: {Allah has prohibited Hellfire to touch anyone who said: "No God but Allah" saying it purely seeking Allah}.

It is the word of loyalty and sincerity. Sincerity is to believe in the oneness of Allah, and to distinguish Allah alone with being a God and with deity; and denying any association or any equals to Him almighty.

It is the word of doing the best because it is the best thing a man or a woman can do to himself or herself. This is by believing in the oneness of Allah by words and believing in the paradise by deeds. Allah consequently will do for those believers good by rewarding them abundantly and recompensing them greatly. Allah says: {Isn't perfection rewarded by nothing else but perfection?}

It is the word of justice. Allah says: {Allah commands you to do justice and perfection}. About this Ebn-Abbas said: Justice here is the No God but Allah testimony, and Perfection is being sincere with it such it contains no impurity.

It is the elevated word of Allah; meaning the word with the highest level of truth and greatness to anything else. Allah say: {And He made the word of the disbelievers be the lowest, and the word of Allah be the highest}. Allah also called it the word of the equality, justice and the perfect word. He says: {Say O people of the scriptures: come to a word that is just between us and you, that we worship none but Allah alone, and

that we associate no partners with Him, and that non of us shall take others as lords besides Allah. Then if they turn away, say: "Bear witness that we are Muslims"} 3:64.

About its reward, there was much evidence reported on behalf of the messenger (PPBU) referring to the benefit of this word. Some of it is that whoever says it a hundred times in one day then he/she is like that who sets ten people (from the children of Ishmael) free from slavery. And this who says it ten times in a day then he/she is like that who sets four people (from the children of Ishmael) free from slavery. And remember that setting one person free from slavery is considered to be one of the best acts in Islam.

Ebn_Abbas said if sinners knew what is in actually saying: No God but Allah, then they would say it many times over. The day and night are 24 hours. (No God but Allah, Muhammad is a messenger of Allah) in Arabic "لا إله إلا الله محمد رسول الله" is actually 24 letters. Each letter is enough to wipe off or cleanses the sins of an hour.

The messenger (PPBU) used to remember Allah after every prayer, and at every morning and evening, and he said: {The best of what I and all the prophets before me have said is: No God but Allah (لا إله إلا الله)}

Slaves of Allah, fear Allah, and obey the commands of your Lord, and learn the teachings and rulings of your religion, and what may provide you with salvation from Allah's anger and punishment.