

## Discuss the Doctrine of Tawhid and its Impacts

### Introduction

The doctrine of Tawhid is one of the fundamental principles of Islam and means to believe in One God, Allah Almighty, and His last Messenger, Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). Every Islamic belief and principle flows from this doctrine, and it covers all aspects of human existence, including the social, political, and economic fields.

### What is the Doctrine of Tawhid?

The doctrine of Tawhid can be found in the first clause of the Shahada, or in the kalma which provides that:

“There is no God except Allah; Muhammad (PBUH) is His last Prophet”

لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ مُحَمَّدٌ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ

(Kalma Tayyaba)

Although this <sup>Principle</sup> ~~idea~~ is not explicitly mentioned in the Glorious Quran, Allah Almighty has on 13 instances stated that He is the "Sole Divinity" and on another 29 occasions that "There is no Divinity other than He." Due to this, some Muslim scholars and jurists have even referred to Islam as "ahl-al-tawhid" which means the way of unity.

It must, however, be noted that this notion is not merely limited to the rejection of idols and believing in the Holy Prophet (PBUH). But rather, contains a negation that nothing should be put in the way of the Divine rule. In other words, nothing should be given <sup>Primary</sup> ~~extra~~ significance in human affairs such that it denies Allah Almighty <sup>His</sup> ~~the~~ sole sovereignty over his human subjects.

## Types of Tawhid

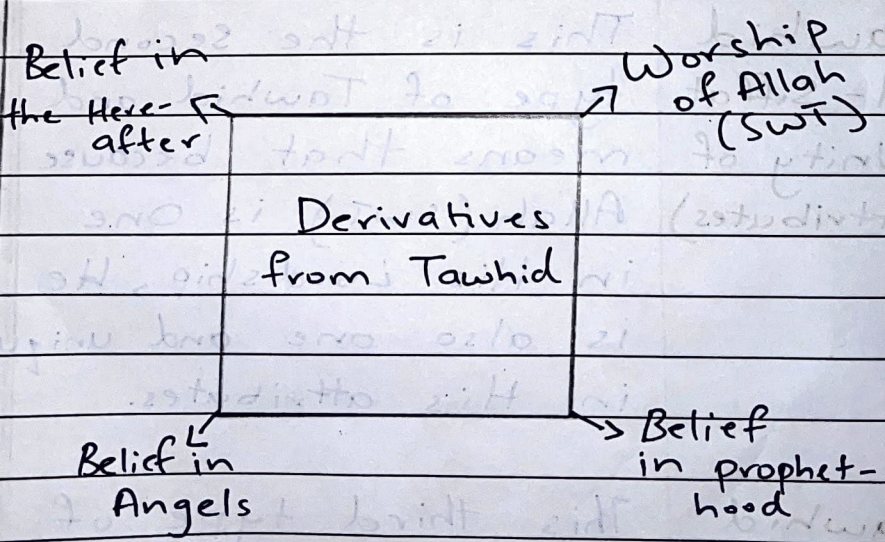
There are three types of Tawhid, which are illustrated in the following table:

| Type                                     | Explanation  |
|--|--|
| 1) Tawhid al-Dhat (Unity of Being)       | Tawhid al-Dhat is the first type of Tawhid and means that Allah Almighty is One in His person. This, therefore, means that there is neither a plurality of gods, nor are there any persons in godhood. |
| 2) Tawhid al-Sifat (Unity of Attributes) | This is the second type of Tawhid and means that because Allah (swt) is One in His Lordship, He is also one and unique in His attributes.  |
| 3) Tawhid al-Afaall (Unity of Actions)   | This third type of Tawhid suggest that no other being is capable of doing the work which Allah   |

That has done or will do in the future. For instance, He has created the Cosmos, including everything within it, such as humans and flora and fauna, which no other being is capable of doing.

### Derivatives which Flow from the Doctrine of Tawhid

According to Dr. Khalifa Abdul Hakim, the following derivatives can be taken from Tawhid:



## 1) Worship of Allah

By acknowledging the Oneness and Supremacy of Allah (swt), Muslims are inclined to worship Him. This helps them establish nearness and connectedness with the Exalted Lord, and cures all of their ills. Allah Almighty asserts in the Noble Quran:

"I am indeed close to them: I listen to the prayer of every supplicant when he calls on me"

(Al-Quran, 2:186)

## 2) Belief in Prophethood

The concept of Tawhid makes it mandatory for every believer to believe in all prophets (124,000 prophets according to the Quran), especially the Holy Prophet (PBUH). Allah Almighty states in the Quran that:

"Nay, O Muhammad (PBUH): by your Lord they will not be"

believers until they accept you as their final arbiter in all their disputes and submit to your decision whole-heartedly without any heartache"

(Al-Quran, 4:65)

### 3, Belief in Angels

Apart from believing in prophets, Tawhid also requires Muslims to believe in Angels, as although they cannot be seen, are creatures that serve Allah (SWT). The most well-known Angel is Hazrat Jibrail (AS), who is described in the Quran as the "Spirit of faith and truth" (Al-Quran, 16: 102). He was given the task of delivering the revelations of Allah to all prophets, including Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and Prophet Isa (AS) (Jesus Christ). Besides, Angels even pray for the forgiveness of human beings. The Glorious Quran notes that:

"Angels celebrate the

praises of their Lord,  
and pray for forgiveness  
for all beings on  
earth."

(Al-Quran, 42: 5)

#### 4) Belief in the Hereafter

The last derivative which can be derived from the concept of Tawhid is the belief in the Hereafter. Allah Almighty, as the best of planners, has set checks and balances to maintain the real nature (purity) of humans. The Quran stipulates that:

"Whosoever shall come with a good deed will be rewarded tenfold. But whoever comes with a bad deed will be punished for only one. None will be wronged."

(Al-Quran, 6: 160)

## Impacts of Tawhid on Individuals

By ~~Individuals~~

1) Helps Humans Realise the Purpose of Their Creation

By acknowledging the Oneness of Allah Almighty, believers are able to fully realise the true purpose of their creation.

2) Tawhid Makes Individuals Patient

The belief in Allah makes an individual patient at all times, especially during hardships. This is because, they know that all power rests with Allah (swt). Thus, Allah states in the Quran:

"Allah is the All-Provider, ~~owner~~ <sup>owner</sup> of ~~power~~ <sup>strength</sup> power, the most strong."

(Al-Quran, 51:58)



3) Makes a believer  
Just, Virtuous and  
Upright

Apart from making a believer patient ~~is~~ during hardships, Tawhid also makes believers just, virtuous and upright. The reason for this is that the believer never gets haughty and arrogant due to his wealth as he knows that everything he possesses ~~have~~ <sup>has</sup> been given to him by Allah as an amanah (trust). Thus, he strives to remain virtuous and follows the way of Allah.

4) Tawhid ~~Benefits~~  
Makes a Believer  
Brave

Because all power rests with Allah, a believer does not get afraid of weapons or animals. ~~Because~~ He knows that nothing can harm him unless Allah so wills.

## Impacts of Tawhid on Society

### 1) Tawhid Promotes Equality and Unity

Tawhid promotes equality in society through the worship of Allah. For example, Cragg, by drawing upon the geographical locus of <sup>the</sup> Holy Kabah as the point where the emotional focus of every Muslim is directed in prayer (Salat), describes Muslims as the "people of the point." This is because, this creates a geometric pattern of humans, ~~all~~ all faced towards one point - a feature unique in world's religious history, manifesting the ~~oneness~~ Oneness of Allah by uniting human beings.

### 2) Emphasises on Brotherhood

In light of the above, the Quran ~~emphasises~~ emphasises on brotherhood of all Muslims. The Glorious Quran asserts that:

"Certainly all Muslims  
are brothers"

(Al-Quran, 49:10)

3, Tawhid Ensures  
a Fair and Just  
Society

By eradicating all fictional  
barriers created by mankind,  
such as race, colour, culture,  
status, etc, the Quran ensures  
a fair and just society. The  
Noble Quran states that:

"God Commands  
justice and fair dealing"

(Al-Quran, 16: 90)

"Muslims are those  
who if We gives them  
Power in land, establish  
the system of S91st and  
Zakat and enjoin virtue  
and forbid vice and  
evil"

(Al-Quran, 22: 41)

### Conclusion

In conclusion, the doctrine of Tawhid forms the basis of the Din of Allah (SWT), Islam. It means to worship one God, Allah (SWT), and promotes peace, equality, and justice in all fields of human existence. In other words, it is a unique principle, which not only unites mankind, but also guides mankind in achieving success in ~~the~~ this dunya (world), and the Hereafter.

"God commands justice and fair dealing"

(Al-Quran 16:90)

"Muslims are those who if we give them power in land, establish the system of Zakat and other things and forbid vice and evil"

(Al-Quran 24:55)