

# What is Islam:

**Introduction:** Islam is a Deen which has literal, contextual, and Shariah meanings. Each of the above aspects reveals the teachings and footsteps of Quran, Shariah, and Hadith. As it is rightly written in the Quran that "Islam is the Path of the Peace" (Al: Ma'idah)

## Literal Meaning of Islam:

The word Islam is taken from the Arabic word "SLM" which means "to surrender", "to submit". It means that to submit yourself completely to the will of the Allah. This concept is reflected in the Holy Quran as:

“And whoever submit his face (himself) to Allah, while being a doer of good, We'll get his reward by the Lord.”

(Surah Al-Baqrah)

These verses of Holy Quran is suggesting that Islam is to Surrender himself to Allah.

## Contextual Meaning of Islam:

The contextual meaning of Islam is "Peace". It signifies that by surrendering yourself to Allah, Your Lord provides you with the Peace of mind and Peace of body. Allah says in the Holy Quran that: "There is no compulsion in Religion" (Surah - Al-Baqrah)

In the contextual meaning of Islam it is revealed in Holy Quran as "For you is your Religion, and for me is my Religion" (Surah Kafirun)

## Shariah Meaning of Islam:

Shariah is the Divine Laws and teachings of the Holy Quran and Sunnah. It means that Islam is to follow the Shariah of all the divine laws and teachings that were revealed by prophets and that is written in the Holy Quran. Allah says in the

Holy Quran as:

“O you who believed, and follow all the teachings and avoid the footsteps of Satan”

(Surah- Al-Baqrah)

## Meaning of Islam in the light of Hadith:

Islam is revealed through prophets. Allah sends various prophets in order to guide the Hummankind. Our Holy prophet has said in Hadith Jibril as:

“Islam is to testify that, there is no God but Allah. Muhammad (peace be upon him) is the messenger of Allah. To perform pray, To give Zakat, To fast in the Month of Ramadan, and To perform Hajj if you do so”

(Hadith Jibril)

On the other hand Holy prophet further said that: “It is the Prayer that creates the distinction between a believer and non-believer”

(Hadith)

These Hadiths, clearly signifies the meaning of Islam.

## Islam is a Universal Deen:

Islam is a Deen that is for entire Mankind. Allah has created this Deen for every mankind. This Deen is not for specific ethnicity, or culture, or specific race. Rather this Deen is for all Universe.

Islam is not for specific Geography, or Islam is not created for limited period of time. Therefore, Islam is a Universal Deen. It guides mankind in every aspect of life.

## Islam is for Entire Mankind:

Islam is the ideal system of living. It guides Mankind in every aspect of life: socio, politico, and way of life. In order to address, Mankind Allah has revealed his teachings through messengers, prophets and

Quran in order to guide them-  
Allah has said in the Holy  
Quran as:

“Because of that, we decreed upon  
the children of Israel that whoever  
kill a soul unless for a soul or  
for a corruption, it is as if he has  
killed entire Mankind. And whoever  
saves one, it is as if he has  
saved entire Mankind”

(Surah Al Ma'idah)

**Conclusion:** Islam is the Deen  
of peace. Through its literal, contextual  
and Shariah meaning it is revealed  
that Islam is the Universal Deen,  
that is created for entire Mankind