

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of God, Most Gracious, Most Merciful

Submitters Perspective

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One Message: ONE GOD!

There is scarcely a single culture among the tens of thousands of human cultures which does not have a concept of a divine being – one who creates and protects and provides.

Many cultures have a pantheon of divine beings, or gods. Though the religion has developed this multiplicity of gods, when there is a revealed scripture available it gives a different picture. In fact, the Quran tells us that monotheism is *“the natural instinct placed into the people by God.”* (Quran 30:30)

As an example, Hinduism is often viewed in the West as a ‘pagan’ religion, far from the monotheism we espouse. But it is clear from the following passage from the Bhagavad Gita that the reality of the one God is at the root of Hinduism, in spite of the way it is usually practiced:

The Blessed Lord said: “By Me all this world is pervaded in my unmanifested aspect; all beings have root in me, I am not rooted in them...”

“Hidden in nature which is mine own, I emanate again and again all this

multitude of beings, helpless, by the force of nature. Under me as supervisor nature sends forth the moving and unmoving; because of this... the universe revolves.

“The foolish disregard me, when clad in human semblance, ignorant of my supreme nature, the great Lord of beings; empty of hope, empty of deeds, empty of wisdom, senseless, partaking of the deceitful, brutal and demonical nature.

“Others also, sacrificing with the sacrifice of wisdom, worship me as the One and the Manifold everywhere present... To those men who worship me alone, thinking of no other, to those ever harmonious, I bring full security. They who worship the shining ones; to the ancestors go the ancestor-worshippers; to the elements go those who sacrifice to elementals; but my worshippers come unto me...”

What then are all the gods of a religion like Hinduism? Again, its own scripture explains. This time from the Upanishads:

Then Vidagdha Sakalya asked him:

“How many gods are there, O Yajnavalkya?” He replied... “three and three hundred, three and three thousand.”

“Yes,” he said, and asked again: “How many gods are there really, O Yajnavalkya?”

“Thirty-three,” he said.

“Yes,” he said, and asked again: “How many gods are there really, O Yajnavalkya?”

“Six,” he said.

“Yes,” he said, and asked again: “How many gods are there really, O Yajnavalkya?”

“Three,” he said.

“Yes,” he said, and asked again: “How many gods are there really, O Yajnavalkya?”

“Two,” he said.

“Yes,” he said, and asked again: “How many gods are there really, O Yajnavalkya?”

“One and a half,” he said.

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“Yes,” he said, and asked again: “How many gods are there really, O Yajnavalkya?”

“One,” he said.

“Yes,” he said, and asked, “Who are these three and three hundred, three and three thousand?”

Yajnavalkya replied: “They are only the various powers.”

Human beings have a need to personalize and explain all things. We see this need in the fairy tales and other folklore of all cultures, including our own. When we don't understand something, we make up an explanation, and sometimes give that explanation such emotional power, that it becomes truth for us.

This need to understand makes us anthropomorphize One who is vastly more powerful than we can comprehend. Sometimes, we turn from that One to lesser and more comprehensible beings, like saints and prophets. Tragically we begin praying to them, instead of the only One who can ever help us. We lose sight of the wondrous glory of that being, and get sidetracked by mundane creatures. But as God tells us: “To those men who worship me alone, thinking of no other, to those ever harmonious, I bring full security.” (Bhagavad Gita)

This is exactly what God taught us through Jesus:

“It is not for you to be in search of what you are to eat or drink. Stop worrying. The unbelievers of this world are always running after these things. You Father know that you need such things. Seek out instead his kingship over you, and the rest will follow in turn.” (Luke 12:29-31)

And how are we to seek God's kingship over us?

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with

all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.” (Luke 10:27)

Isn't this exactly the same message as quoted above? The Torah, the Jewish scripture (which is also the Old Testament of the Christian Bible), contains the same:

For thus says the Lord, The creator of the heavens, who is God, The designer and maker of the earth who established it... I am the Lord, and there is no other... Turn to me and be safe, all you ends of the earth, for I am God; there is no other! (Isaiah 45:18, 22)

Put not your trust in princes, in man, in whom there is no salvation... Happy is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord, his God... (Psalm 146:3, 5)

Throughout the Torah and the Quran there is mention of prophets and messengers sent by God to renew this all important message of worshiping God alone:

He decreed for you the same religion He decreed for Noah, and what we inspired to you (Muhammad), and what we decreed for Abraham, Moses, and Jesus: “You shall uphold this one religion, and do not divide it.” (Quran 42:13)

Say, “I have been commanded to worship God, devoting the religion absolutely to Him alone.” (Quran 39:11)

The fact of One God, who is in control of all things, is clearly stated in the scriptures of these four major world religions. Why then are we divided? Why does Hindu fight Muslim and Muslim fight Jew and Christian fight Muslim? We have forgotten the teachings of the scripture and follow those of human beings instead. We have been hypnotized by the ‘truths’ of our cultures and forgotten the divine truths.

There is only one religion, that of worshiping God alone, no matter what name you call that religion. **There is**

only One God, and the only religion is submission to the Divine will:

Surely, those who believe, those who are Jewish, the Christians, the converts; anyone who (1) believes in God, and (2) believes in the Hereafter, and (3) lead a righteous life, will receive their recompense from their Lord; they have nothing to fear, nor will they grieve. (Quran 2:62 and 5:69)

Lisa

The Night of Destiny

The Night of Destiny or Night of Power (Laylat al Qadr) is an extremely important night for Muslims. It is the night in which the Quran was revealed to Prophet Muhammad.

God describes this night as better than a thousand months. During that night, the angels and the Spirit descend therein, by God's leave, to carry out every command (97:1-5).

Because the Night of Destiny is such a special night, the Muslims (Submitters) who want to gain extra credit of righteousness spend the night by commemorating God the Almighty either in their privacy or in a mosque with other Muslims. There are also some Muslims who retreat to a mosque in the last ten days of Ramadan to take advantage of God's blessings further and increase their faith of submission.

Although the Night of Destiny falls on the 27th night of Ramadan, some “Muslims” are never sure about it based on hadith books. However, True Muslims always trust their Lord, and when God Almighty informs them in the Quran (6:38) that “We did not leave anything out of this book” they know that all they need is found in His divine revelation.

Please refer to Submitters Perspective Jan 2000 issue or web site for the mathematical confirmation that indeed the 27th night is the correct night at the link below:

<http://www.masjiduntucson.org/publications/books/SP/2000/jan/page2.html>

God willing, this Ramadan the Night of Destiny is on October 7, 2007.

Comments from a Submitter

My Path to Submission

Here I'm going to tell you something about my life story that how I used to believe when I was a Sunni and as to how I came to realize the Truth and that I was wrong.

I was born in Hamelin, Germany. Hamelin is known as the famous city of the pipe piper whose story many of you may have heard. The nearest big city to it is Hannover, also known as a city of international fairs...

My mother is a German doctor... My father on the other hand was born in Pakistan. When I was seven years old, my parents came to live in Pakistan. So I studied there and made friends. I was always particularly interested in 'Islam,' not knowing that what I was being taught was actually man-made "Islam." I had one Christian class fellow there too. I often used to tell him that Jesus is not the son of God and that to say this is blasphemy. Often enough a fight broke out between us.

When I was seven years old, my parents came to live in Pakistan. So I studied there and made friends. I was always particularly interested in 'Islam', not knowing that what I was being taught was actually man-made "Islam". I had one Christian class fellow there too. I often used to tell him that Jesus is not the son of God and that to say this is blasphemy. Often enough a fight broke out between us. Here the "Muslim" majority say that if one reaches the age of 10 and does not observe the Contact Prayers (Salat) then he's to be beaten and if at the age of 12 he still doesn't then he's to be thrown out of the house. However my parents did not accept this man-made theory and never beat me as far as the Salat issue is concerned. Such nonsense can only be found in the "Hadith" books of Bukhari and so on besides the Quran.

I was eleven years old when once our "Islamic studies" teacher was lecturing us. The Christian class mate was also listening that day. A story about the punishments of the grave was being told. It was said that those who do not pray after the age of 10 will be bitten by poisonous snakes and scorpions in the grave. My Christian class mate asked me in front of the class whether I prayed or not and when I answered that I did not he smiled and yelled out that I would be bitten by snakes! From that day on I became so frightened that when I went home I immediately started to learn 'Salat,' unfortunately including names of others

besides God, and I continued to pray ever after that.

When I first learned the prayer I enjoyed it so much that I used to offer many extra units which now I know is incorrect. 'Salat' or Contact Prayer must be offered at specific times although one can always pray to God in other ways or mention His name at any other time. As I grew older I became more and more interested in God's Laws. I heard about Hadith and Sunnah besides Quran which I was taught were the "true" words of the prophet and they were used to explain the Quran. Most of the opinions and the Shariah ("Islamic" law) are based on these men-made fabrications and I was such a fool that instead of taking Quran Alone, took almost everything from hadith other than Quran.

In school people used to get sick and tired of my fanatic and corrupt teaching but I continued to think that this was what God wanted. I also kept a long beard, though my father was against it. I had gained so much respect with my beard over the years that I have kept one till now, NOT because God wants it, but because I'm afraid of losing my respect in the society.

I shaved my beard when I last time went to Germany in my summer vacations. I go to visit Germany every year with my family during summer vacations. However now my father says that I should not "fool God" by keeping a beard here and shaving it off there. He also says that I should keep a beard for God. It seems that if even he believes the beard to be at least Sunna and thus a holy practice or something. Therefore he told me recently to either shave it off completely now or to keep it and not shave it even in Germany.

I started to pray in the Masjid five times a day. I used to get up early in the morning and go together with another sunni old man. In that Masjid I was told about the "Mufti" (religious scholar) there who was supposedly very educated in "Islam." I believed it at that time and listened to almost all what he had to say blindly.

He was a master of hadith&sunna. Every morning after Fajr (dawn) Contact Prayer he used to give a lecture on hadith from one of the "Sahih" or so-called "authentic" books. I was very excited and whenever I faced a problem I referred it to "Mufti" and he used to answer me. I remember once I was asked by a relative of mine that which color did the Prophet Muhammad like most. I said 'green.' She said 'no, that's just a rumor, it's in fact yellow.' Note that I talked to her but only from a distance and because that was an "Islamic" issue. I

quickly rushed to the Masjid, asked "Mufti" and he said 'It's neither yellow nor green. It's white.' I happily ran all the way back i.e., 400 meters and breathing heavily I answered 'It's white!' Oh man, see what a silly fool I used to be. For these kinds of unimportant issues I used to waste my time. It just couldn't get any further.

Now I'm warned by the following Quranic verse:

[9:31] They have set up their religious leaders and scholars as lords, instead of God. Others deified the Messiah, son of Mary. They were all commanded to worship only one God. There is no God except He. Be He glorified, high above having any partners.

One day I was searching for some "Islamic" article on the net and by mere chance I came across the site www.submission.org, at the age of 19, which was also in the Holy month of Ramadan. I opened it and found there the answer to the supposed contradictions in the Quran. This was in fact what I was looking for to refute the Christian missionaries. What I didn't notice at first is that this site was a Quran ONLY one. That day this fact remained unnoticed by me. But now the website was saved in my explorer.

So some days after when I typed in 'www.s' the site appeared to me again. I said to myself 'why not take another visit' and so I did. I read then that the site claimed to be the best source of Islam on the net. This made me think two things. One is that this site must be very good and the other that they might be something fishy about it. I then found out that the site had a 'mathematical miracle of the Quran' article on it. That interested me greatly. I opened it and went through it for some time. I was very impressed. Then somehow I came to know that the site was refuting all hadith besides Quran which I used to uphold so vehemently. That gave me a great shock. After that I thought that this must be a "satanic" site.

Well after noticing this hadith issue, I got mad and I tried my best to refute each and everything on that site. I asked so many questions as to how can we perform Salat without hadith? How can we know the rate of Zakat? How can we perform the rites of Hajj and other things like that? I also talked about this website with my friend who supported me that whatever they said was nothing but nonsense, especially the accusation that we "Muslims" cannot stand mentioning of the name of God alone, without getting upset.

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I was a real fool at that time and did not realize that the traditional Masjids mostly focus more on Muhammad than on God, always praising and glorifying him. They CANNOT mention God without mentioning Muhammad's name thereafter. This was later realized by me in full.

I found another site. They had the miracle based on number 19 too but claimed to be 'Sunnis' and were against those whom they called 'Khalifites.' They had done their own research. They also had an article which supposedly proves that 9:128-129 do belong to the Quran. This relieved me at that time and I was proud that "my Sunni community" has struck back again.

In the meantime I also kept my focus on the miracle of the Quran. I couldn't leave it. Sometime later, I was still 19 at that time, a sudden thought came into my mind "couldn't this miracle be true?" I reviewed the miracle. Then I reviewed the part which showed that 9:128-129 did not belong to the Quran. Then I reviewed the counter article at the Sunni site and then you know what? I realized that the things that were represented even there were also telling me that those verses do NOT belong to the Quran although the site's intention was to show the opposite. Praise God!

As it was revealed into my mind, I got struck and somewhere I reached a point where I said to myself 'By God! This is the Truth' i.e.. QURAN ALONE and its mathematical miracle which lead me to believe in this fact. My ego broke into pieces and the fanaticism was over. The Truth was always more important to me than anything else in the world. I only

couldn't realize this before. I thank God a thousand times for having guided me. So now I am a believer in Quran Alone and its mathematical miracle. As soon as my parents learned about this they started to call me one who is deviated from the path.

Then I went to a "Mufti" with whom I had a discussion and told him not to follow any hadith besides Quran. He came up with the same Salat and Zakat argument. I told him the verse 'Which hadith besides this do they believe in?' He said "No, this doesn't mean that what you are saying. Never did people before relate this verse to such a meaning." Then at the end, he told me to pray to God that He guide me rightly, otherwise I would be lost. He also added that I should be very careful not make a wrong prayer to God as then I might be misguided further.

So that day I went home thinking about this incident in the night. Next morning I got up for Fajr prayer, offered it and then raised my hands as usual and said to God "Oh God save me from all FALSE KIND of hadith." I made this specific prayer because I thought as the "Mufti" told me that if I only said "God save me from all hadith" then God would misguide me by making me reject all, which in fact could have been true since the QURAN is also called hadith i.e., the BEST HADITH and the ONLY HADITH. So after making this prayer I decided to read the Quran. I took a Mushaf, which does contain the whole Quran in it, although it contains other non-Quranic material as well, and opened it. By mere chance these verses appeared to me from Sura 45:

[45:6] These are God's revelations that we recite to you truthfully. In which Hadith other than God and His revelations do they believe?

[45:7] Woe to every fabricator, guilty.

ALLAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAHU AKBAR (God IS THE GREATEST)! From there on I knew that God had indeed answered my prayer and I was sure that all hadith besides Quran were mere fabrications. I hope you enjoyed my story, which is a true one. God Bless!

I. J.

[Note: These comments are taken from an email by this submitter to the discussion board in 2003. The original email is much longer. The email is shortened to take out any personal information. We also made some minor grammatical corrections.]