

Tauheed in Action.

Bismillahir Rahmaanir Raheem

Definition. Tauheed is translated in English as Oneness of Allah (Ahad). Oneness or Ahad is not numerical, it cannot be divided into part. Allah is uncreated and eternal. He has no partner or associate. He is non-physical. He is everywhere at the same time.

Sura Ikhlaas: Say he is one (Ahad), the Eternal the absolute (Samad. Free of needs). He did not beget nor was he begotten and there is none equal to Him.

Surah Ash-Shura (42 verse 11): لَيْسَ كَمِثْلِهِ شَيْءٌ “Laisa Kamith-lihee Shaii.” None is His likeness, (or He is unlike anything).

Surah al Hadeed:

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ سَبَّحَ لِلَّهِ مَا فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَهُوَ الْعَزِيزُ الْحَكِيمُ ١
لَهُ مُلْكُ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ يُحْيِي وَيُمِيتُ وَهُوَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ ٢
هُوَ الْأَوَّلُ وَالْآخِرُ وَالظَّاهِرُ وَالْبَاطِنُ وَهُوَ بِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ عَلِيمٌ ٣
هُوَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضَ فِي سِتَّةِ أَيَّامٍ ثُمَّ اسْتَوَىٰ عَلَى الْعَرْشِ ۚ يَعْلَمُ مَا يَلْجُ فِي ٤
الْأَرْضِ وَمَا يَخْرُجُ مِنْهَا وَمَا يَنْزِلُ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ وَمَا يَعْرُجُ فِيهَا ۚ وَهُوَ مَعَكُمْ أَيْنَ مَا كُنْتُمْ ۚ وَاللَّهُ ۚ
بِمَا تَعْمَلُونَ بَصِيرٌ
لَهُ مُلْكُ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ ۚ وَإِلَى اللَّهِ تُرْجَعُ الْأُمُورُ ٥
يُولِجُ اللَّيْلَ فِي النَّهَارِ وَيُولِجُ النَّهَارَ فِي اللَّيْلِ ۚ وَهُوَ عَلِيمٌ بِذَاتِ الصُّدُورِ ٦

Translation. Whatever is in heavens and the earth declares the glory of Allah, and He is the mighty, the wise.

His is the kingdom of heavens and the earth. He gives life and causes death, and has power over all things.

He is the first and the last and the ascendant (most powerful, important, influential) and the knower of hidden things, and is cognizant (aware, knowledgeable) of all things.

He is who created the heavens and the earth in six periods, He is firm in power. He knows that which goes deep down into the earth and that which comes forth out of it, and that which comes down from heavens and that which goes up in it; and He is with you wherever you are, and Allah sees what you do.

His is the kingdom of heavens and the earth, and to Allah all affairs return.

He causes the night to enter upon the day, and causes the day to enter upon the night, and He is aware of what is in the hearts. (57: 1-6)

Tauheed has two aspects. First one is belief in Tauheed as described above. The second one is to apply Tauheed in the daily lives. Below are some guidelines from the perspective of this presenter.

1. Live every moment of conscious life in the presence of Allah. Various terms have been used like Taqwa, fear of Allah, God consciousness, God wariness, etc.
2. Nurture an intimate personal relationship with Allah. Allah is with us and closest to us at all times. He says in the Quran that He is nearer to man than his jugular vein. Allah comes between man and his heart. He is with us wherever we are. He listens to our requests and responds. He is nearer to us than what we think.

Here we need to ask ourselves: Are we near to Allah?

Hadith Qudsi. Allah says “*be Mine and I will be yours.*” Imagine, the Creator of the heavens and the earth, the Lord of the universe inviting His lowly slaves to nurture a personal and intimate relationship with Him!

3. All actions (worship, charity, *Hasanaat*, etc.) need to be for the love, sake and for pleasure of Allah, and not for selfish motives or for show.
4. Ikhlāas (Purity of the heart, of thoughts and actions). On the day of judgment Allah will accept only Qalb e Saleem, the pure and submissive heart.
5. Trust in Allah. This is of paramount importance. Allah says in the Qur’an”

وَتَوَكَّلْ عَلَى اللَّهِ ۚ وَكَفَىٰ بِاللَّهِ وَكِيلًا ۝۳

“And put your trust in Allah. Allah is sufficient as a Trustee (disposer of affairs).” (33:3)

6. Allah’s signs (Aayah). “*Wa fil ardi aayaatul lil muqineen.*” (51: 20).

Translation. “*And in the earth are portents (signs) for those whose faith is sure.*”

An important way to keep in touch with Allah is to be aware of His creation all around us, to observe its beauty and artistry. Reflect upon its wonders and thank and praise Allah. If you see a flower do not just walk by or only say WOW, how beautiful! Observe it closely, examine the fine details, the radiant colors and hues and thank Allah for its

creation. You see a butterfly sucking juice from a flower or flitting around, observe its colorful pattern and admire Allah for its creation. When you see an ant or something even smaller, or a tiny flying insect barely visible, Allah has provided it with all the necessities of life, how it hovers, its needs of procreation, its sustenance and instincts for survival. Reflect at Allah's love and caring for the tiniest of His creation and say *SubhanAllah*. **Al Qur'an:** "*Blessed be Allah, the best of the creators.*" (42:14)

فَتَبَارَكَ اللَّهُ أَحْسَنُ الْخَالِقِينَ

You feel a cool breeze on a hot day, just do not say Ah! It feels good. Thank Allah for sending the breeze towards you.

Allah's signs are countless and the opportunities to keep in touch with Him and to thank and praise him are also countless.

Imam Ali A.S. In Nahjul Balagha has described various animals and their wonderful creation including Bat, ant, peacock with wonderful colors and patterns.

Imam Husain A.S. in the Dua of Arafat has described human anatomy in detail.

Imam As-Sadiq A.S. has described in detail about the features of humans, animals and plants in the publication "Pearls of Wisdom", related by Mufaddal ibn Umar, translated in English by Bashir Alidina. It is available on **al-Islam.org**

The Masumeen have provided us with large amount of information in this regard through Duas and hadiths. Below are excerpts from the **Fajr Taqibaat** attributed to Imam Rida A.S.

"I entrust my affairs to Allah, surely Allah watches His slaves. Allah is sufficient for us. He is the best disposer of affairs. There is no power and strength except with Allah. Sufficient for me is the Lord than those in need themselves. Sufficient is for me the Creator than the created ones. Sufficient for me is the sustainer than the sustained ones. Sufficient for me is Allah, the Lord of the worlds. Sufficient for me is He who has always been sufficient for me. Sufficient for me is He from the beginning, and He continues to be sufficient. There is no god save Him. On Him have I put my trust, and He is the Lord of Magnificent Throne."

Here we can ask ourselves: "when was our beginning? Answer: It was In **Aalam e Zar** (time and realm unknown to man) when Allah created our souls. The soul was made to enter our body in the womb of the mother.

What it means to put trust in Allah?

Excerpts from the Asr Taqibaat. *"I pray to Allah for forgiveness there is no deity save Him. The ever living, the self-subsisting, the compassionate and the Merciful. The Lord of Majesty and bounty. I ask Him to accept my repentance, the repentance of a slave who is obedient, submissive, poor, miserable, despondent, dejected, seeking refuge, having no control on self or any profit or harm, or on death. No control on life or on resurrection."*

O Allah, I seek your protection from a self that is unsatiated, and a heart devoid of fear (of Allah), and knowledge that does not benefit, and Salaat that is not raised up (accepted). And prayer that is not heard (not accepted).

O Allah You are the source of all bounties that we have. There is no god save You and I seek forgiveness and turn to you repentant. “

Below are the last three verses of Sura al Hashr. These contain beautiful Hamd and Dikr of Allah.

﴿٢٢﴾ هُوَ اللَّهُ الَّذِي لَا إِلَهَ هُوَ اللَّهُ الَّذِي لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ ۖ عَالِمُ الْغَيْبِ وَالشَّهَادَةِ ۖ هُوَ الرَّحْمَنُ الرَّحِيمُ
إِلَّا هُوَ الْمَلِكُ الْقُدُّوسُ السَّلَامُ الْمُؤْمِنُ الْمُهَيْمِنُ الْعَزِيزُ الْجَبَّارُ الْمُتَكَبِّرُ ۚ سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ عَمَّا يُشْرِكُونَ
﴿٢٣﴾ هُوَ اللَّهُ الْخَالِقُ الْبَارِئُ الْمُصَوِّرُ ۚ لَهُ الْأَسْمَاءُ الْحُسْنَىٰ ۚ يُسَبِّحُ لَهُ مَا فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ
﴿٢٤﴾ وَالْأَرْضِ ۚ وَهُوَ الْعَزِيزُ الْحَكِيمُ.

“He is God, there is no god other than Him. It is He who knows what is hidden as well as what is in the open, He is the Lord of Mercy, the Giver of Mercy.

He is God, there is no god other than Him, the Controller, the Holy One, Source of Peace, Granter of Security, Guardian over all, the Almighty, the Compeller, the Truly Great; God is far above anything they consider to be His partner.

He is God, the Creator, the Originator, the Shaper. The best names belong to Him. Everything in the heavens and the earth glorifies Him: He is the Almighty, the Wise.” (59: 22-24)

Conclusion. Living a life based on *Tauheed* includes living in Allah’s presence, with God-consciousness. Making Allah’s Dikr frequently. Be aware of Allah’s sign all around, observe and appreciate them and praise Allah for their creation. Applying *Tauheed* will be somewhat different for different individuals, depending upon their relationship with Allah and their Ma’rifat (knowledge) of Allah.

I pray to Allah SWT first for myself, and then for others to help apply and practice ***Tauheed*** in our daily lives. Aameen.

Syed H. Akhtar

Austin, Texas