

**Discover Its Beauty in 7 Minutes!**

**Part 5**

## **HIS BEAUTIFUL NAMES**

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## **BEAUTIFUL NAMES OF GOD (Allah)**

The Glorious Qur'an and Prophet Muhammad teach us about the names of Allah, the One True God. For example, the Glorious Qur'an states:

{And to Allah belong the beautiful names, so invoke (call on) Him by them.} (7:180)

When we supplicate to Allah, we are encouraged to call Him by His beautiful names or by the name that is related to our request or need. For example, if our request concerns our provision in life, we might call out to Al-Razzaq, The Provider. These names do not indicate that Allah is more than one being; they are names that describe the different attributes that belong to the One True God (Allah).

We human beings can never comprehend the greatness of Allah, but the more we know about Him and what pleases Him, the better we can love and worship Him. Learning about Allah – through studying and understanding His names and attributes – brings us peace of mind in this life and the next because we acknowledge that everything is in His hands and happens according to His Will.

It is not appropriate for a human being to use a name that belongs to Allah alone. Muslims often have names that begin with *Abdul* (meaning "servant of") followed by one of the names of Allah. Thus, Abdullah means "servant of Allah", "Abdul-Rahman" means "servant of Al-Rahman (The Compassionate)", and so on.

Knowing more about the names of our true God (Allah), and believing truly in Him and His attributes, leads us to bear in mind, whenever we act or interact with others, that Allah is:

The Compassionate, The Most Beneficent, The Most Gracious, The Most Merciful, The Judge, The All-Knowing, The All-Seeing, The All-Forgiving, The Most Kind, The Truth, etc...

It is important that we put these beautiful attributes into practice in our own lives, to the extent allowed by our human reach and capacity.

Now, let's learn more about the names of Allah.

Some of the names of Allah in Arabic and their meanings in English:

- Allah:* The proper name of the One True God.
- Al-Rahman:* The Compassionate, the Merciful, Who has mercy on all creatures.
- Al-Rahman:* The Most Merciful. While we can never come close to His mercy, we can appreciate it and try our best to be merciful to others.
- Al-Malik:* The Sovereign Lord, Who has authority over all the Heavens and Earth.
- Al-Noor:* The Light, Who illuminates and guides us, making the invisible visible. In a chapter called *Al-Noor*, the Qur'an tells us, {Allah is the Light of the heavens and the earth.} (*Qur'an 24:35*)
- Al-Quddoos:* The Holy, the Pure, the Blessed.
- Al-Salam:* The Source of Peace and Perfection, Who is free of any imperfection. He is always perfect; He does not have human characteristics such as becoming sick, hungry, thirsty, or cold.
- Al-Hakam:* The Judge, Whose judgment is perfectly just and cannot be escaped.
- Al-Aleem:* The All-knowing, Who knows all that is apparent and all that is hidden, in the past, present, and future. {Not a leaf falls but that He knows it.} (*Qur'an 6:59*)
- Al-Baseer:* The All-Seeing, Who sees all that goes on in the entire universe.
- Al-Samee:* The All-Hearing, Who hears everything. When we call or pray to Him, He hears us.
- Al-Adheem:* The Great One, Who is greater than anything or anyone in His creation.
- Al-Ghafoor:* The All-Forgiving, Who constantly forgives those who repent and return to Him.
- Al-Tawwab:* The One Who accepts repentance. Allah loves for sinners to repent to Him, and He continuously welcomes and accepts our sincere repentance. In contrast, human beings, even those who are closest to us, eventually tire of accepting our mistakes and of welcoming us back afterwards with the same enthusiasm.
- Al-Ali:* The Most High, The Sublime, Who is high above His creation.
- Al-Wadood:* The Most Loving, Who loves those who are righteous and obedient, and manifests that love for us in our everyday lives. We should show gratitude for His love, and we should love others by wishing for them what we wish for ourselves.
- Al-Raooof:* The Most Kind, Whose tenderness, gentleness, pity, and mercy are limitless.
- Al-Razzaq:* The Provider, Who provides sustenance, safety, and guidance to every living thing. Each of us will receive the provision that has been written for us, but we must work for it – in permissible ways, though, not by fraud or corruption.
- Al-Haqq:* The Truth, the One True God, Whose words are the truth. Knowing that He is the antithesis of falsehood, we must strive to discover and uphold the truth in all we say and do – whether that truth is for us or against us.

*Al-Haleem:* The Forbearing, Who is calm, patient, and never hasty, even with the sinners, wrongdoers, and those who deny or disbelieve in Him. Allah overlooks our mistakes, and we should strive to do the same with those around us because in reality, those who hold grudges only hurt themselves.

*Al-Mujeeb:* The One Who Responds, the One Who answers our prayers. Allah loves for us to ask His help through supplications, and He loves to answer our prayers, although He may not always answer when or how we wish, because He knows better than we do what is best for us.

## Attributes and Qualities of God (Allah)

Prophet Muhammad said, “The absolute qualities of beauty and perfection belong to Allah. Indeed, Allah loves beauty.” (Sahih Muslim)

Some of the attributes and qualities that distinguish the only true God (Allah) from others who claim (or are claimed) to be God are:

- ❖ This One True God (Allah) is unique in terms of His attributes. No one is like Him, and no human or animal characteristics can be attributed to Him.
- ❖ This true God (Allah) is the Creator; He is neither created nor born.
- ❖ The One True God (Allah) created us to worship Him alone. When we worship God only, we are liberated from the worship of idols, saints, celebrities, money, or anything else.
- ❖ The true God (Allah) is ONE, *not three or more!* He has no partners or equals.
- ❖ God (Allah) cannot be seen by human beings or other creatures in this life.
- ❖ God is not manifested or incarnated in any physical forms of His creation.
- ❖ God is eternal; He does not die or change.
- ❖ God is not in need of anything or anyone such as a mother, a wife, or a son; nor does He require food, drink, or any kind of help. It is others who need Him.

We can use these criteria and qualities (as well as others belonging to Him alone) to evaluate any claim that someone or something is God.

If you are curious and interested in discovering more information and details about Islam, please visit our website:

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**The testimony of faith (the gateway to Islam):**

“I testify that there is no god but Allah, and I testify that Muhammad is the messenger of Allah.”

In Arabic, it reads:

أشهد أن لا إله إلا الله وأشهد أن محمدا رسول الله

which sounds like this:

**ASH-HADU ALLA ILAHA ILLA ALLAH,  
WA ASH-HADU ANNA MUHAMMADAN RASOOLU ALLAH.**

This is the testimony of faith that one needs to pronounce in order to embrace Islam; it sums up the truth, beauty, and simplicity of Islam.