

'Aqida 101

-Content of Creed-



General Content of Theology:

1. What is necessary with respect to Allah
2. What is impossible with respect to Allah
3. What is possible with respect to Allah

Some of what is
necessary with
respect to Allah...’

- His perfections are endless, and He has not ordered us to know all of His perfections, as that would be impossible.
- Allah has not obliged us to know all of His perfections in detail because that would amount to being commanded with what is beyond [human] capacity. Allah says, **“Allah does not burden a soul more than it can bear.”**

**SELF-SIGNIFYING
ATTRIBUTE**



1. Existence

**NEGATING
ATTRIBUTES**



1. Beginninglessness
2. Endlessness
3. Dissimilarity to
creation
4. Self-subsistence
5. Oneness

**POSITIVE
ATTRIBUTES**



1. Power
2. Will
3. Knowledge
4. Life
5. Hearing
6. Sight
7. Speech

THE SELF-SIGNIFYING ATTRIBUTE (*NAFSIYYA*)—EXISTENCE

The existence of Allah is not like the existence of contingent beings. Allah's existence is **necessary**. It is not through **another actor or causal effect, whereas the existence of contingent beings is through Allah and His act of creation.**

NEGATING ATTRIBUTES–*SALBIYYA*

They are called negating attributes because they negate what does not benefit Allah. *Knowing what Allah is NOT to know by way of implication what He IS.*

The Five Negating Attributes:

#1 *Beginninglessness*—a
negation of non-existence
prior to existence.

- Quran: *‘He is the First.’*
- Sunna: “O Allah! You are the First; there is nothing before You. . .”

The Five Negating Attributes:

#2 *Endlessness*—a negation of non-existence after existence.

- Quran: *‘And the Countenance of your Lord shall ever remain.’*
- Sunna: “O Allah! You are the Last; there is nothing after You...”

The Five Negating Attributes:

#3 Absolute dissimilarity to created things.

- Quran: *‘There is nothing like unto Allah.’*
- Sunna: “The idol-worshippers said to the Messenger of Allah (Allah bless him and give him peace): ‘Tell us your Lord’s lineage,’ so Allah revealed: *“Say: ‘He is Allah, the One. Allah, the Self-Sufficient...”*”

The Five Negating Attributes:

#4 Self-subsistence:

1] Negation of Allah needing a place or thing in which to dwell/subsist. Allah is not the quality of something else.

2] Negation of Allah needing one to make decisions about Him; making choices etc.

The Five Negating Attributes:

#5 Oneness: a negation of multiplicity in:

1] Essence—not composed of parts, indivisible; nothing has any of His perfections.

2] Attributes—Allah does not have ‘two powers,’ or ‘two wills’; no one else shares in His attributes

3] Actions—no one can perform the actions of Allah

ATTRIBUTE

- 1] Beginninglessness
- 2] Endlessness
- 3] Dissimilarity to creation
- 4] Self-subsistence
- 5] Oneness

NEGATES

- 1] Beginning
- 2] End
- 3] Resemblance
- 4] Indwelling/Dependence
- 5] Multiplicity

Every 'possible existent':

[1] has a beginning; [2] an end;
[3] resembles other created things (mass, shape, size, colors, taking up space, etc.); [4] depends on others for its existence; [5] shares with others in qualities and actions.

Anything with these qualities, by definition, cannot be GOD!

