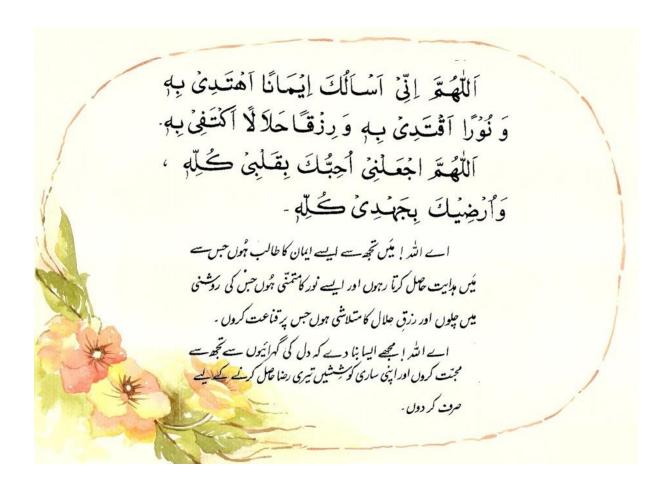
EMANIYAAT



BISMILLAH



INTRODUCTION

The concept of Emaan- Faith, is fundamental to Islam. It is the essence of our deen as a whole. It is a requirement for every Muslim to have it firmly engrossed and engraved in his heart. Having it right and firmly based on Quran and Sunnah is therefore essential.

Allah Subhana Watala Says in the Quran:

"There are some people who say, "We believe in Allah and the Last Day," yet they are not believers. They seek to deceive Allah and the believers, but they only deceive themselves, though they do not realize it."

Pondering on this verse should make us sit up and take notice. Allah is talking about Emaan - which Muslims claim to have, yet it is not accepted by Allah and is totally rejected!

In another verse Allah speaks about the Emaan of the Sahaba which is acceptable.

So if they believe in the like of that which you believe, then they are rightly guided; but if they turn away, then they are only in opposition. So Allah will suffice you against them. And He is the All-Hearer, the All-Knower.

So our foundation of Emaan should be based on the Quran, Sunnah and the Creed of the Sahaba. Correct *Emaan* entails two things. The right creed - What to believe- the theory and the Amal - the actions which prove our *Emaan*.

All Muslims know the six pillars of *Emaan*. Belief in Allah, angels, revealed books, Messengers, the last day and the divine decree (Qadr). Yet that is the only thing known, and the details of what exactly should the belief of a Muslim be, is neglected totally.

WHERE TO BEGIN

It can be quite overwhelming to decide where to begin the study of the correct Creed.

The **Islamic Creed Series, by Umar Al Ashqar,** comprising 8 very detailed books on Belief in Allah, Angels, World of devils, The Messengers, Minor Resurrection, Day of Judgement, Paradise and Hell and Divine Destiny is an excellent resource.

Fundamentals of Tawhid by Bilal Phillips is also highly recommended.

In Urdu, small booklets by Hamid Kamal Uddin called *Deen Ki Abjad*, *Usul e Thalatha*, *Tawhid Kai Teen Asasi Mehwar* are excellent for beginners. *Tawhid Ki Kitab* by Iqbal Kilani is a must. For a detailed study, a series titled Silsila Islahe Aqaid, by Hafiz Mubashir Hussain is highly recommended.

I would suggest, to leave all prejudices aside and also delve into the books of the classical eminent scholars of the past.

Aqeedah al-Tawhhaawiyyah, a book dealing with the basic tenets of faith) which was written by the tenth-century Egyptian theologian and **Hanafi jurist Abu Ja'far Ahmad at-Tahawi.** (Born 239 H)

Al-Aqidah Al-Waasitiyyah (Arabic: العقيدة الواسطية) is a book of Islamic creed written by Ibn Taymiyyah (born 661 H), renowned thirteenth century scholar. Another of his book, Kitab Al Emaan is a masterpiece written in an attempt to explain the concept of *Emaan*, firmly based on Quran and Sunnah, to correct the prevailing misconceptions of his time. Another gem from Imam Ibn Taymiyyah is Aqeedah Hamawiyyah, written in response to some questions posted to him.

Taqwiat ul Emaan is another masterpiece on Creed, written by **Shah Muhammad Ismail Shaheed** the great grandson of Shah Waliullah Muhaddith Dehlvi.(born 1193 CE)

Kitab At Tawheed by Sheikh Abdul Wahab should be reviewed as well, keeping aside all the propaganda against him. You will find his book, totally based on the verses of the Quran and authentic hadith.



All of these classical books, their detailed explanations, along with their audio explanations are easily available on the internet. Links are shared at the end.

NURTURING EMAAN IN CHILDREN:

The first thing is to focus on our own in-depth study and knowledge and conviction and most importantly *amal*. Our children need to see us as role models, first and foremost by seeing us in obedience to Allah and His messenger. As Ibn Kathir Stated "The jist of Emaan is Khashiat(fear of Allah)" and this can only be achieved by having a deep recognition of Allah ourselves and a strong connection to our creator, only then can we succeed in instilling the same in our children. InshaAllah

In the early years (Aged 2-6), the main focus should be developing the recognition of Allah. This can be achieved by storytelling as well as conversations with children about Allah and His Prophets. Story of creation and creation of Adam, The jealousy of iblees, stories of prophets are engaging ways to develop

the love and creation of Allah. Discussions on Jannah are enchanting and children love to let their imaginations run wild when you ask them what they want to get in Jannah.

One of the first words my daughter learned to write was "Allah" when she was only 3 years old. Once she came running to her mother and said "I like Allah.. Mama"

At an early age, focus should be on Allah's love and mercy. Mention of His anger and punishment and Jahannam should be totally avoided until children are older.

Books written for this age group are not effectively written, hence should be enhanced with narrations and a lot of reflective conversations.

Older children 9+ can be formally taught the Creed based on their level of maturity.

Our family is doing formal lessons with reflective talks and discussions followed by journaling. There is also an excellent YouTube lecture series by Tim Humble titles "Kids Class" which starts with very basic Creed and moves on to other topics.

CONCLUSION

We should make it a priority to study in detail and understand the fundamentals of our religion which forms the basis of our Emaan. We should not take it lightly, nor ignore it, thinking that we are Muslims and are bound to go to Jannah. Infact, the Utterance of the Shahadah also has its own 'Sharait' or conditions which we were never made aware of!

INTERNET LINKS

 $Austrial\ Muslim\ Library: Largest\ collection\ of\ all\ eBooks\ and\ multimedia\ on\ Emaniyaat. \\ \underline{https://www.australianislamiclibrary.org/aqeedah--creed.html}$

Collection of EBooks on Creed

https://www.kalamullah.com/aqeedah.html

Kids Class by Tim Humble

 $\underline{https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kOyQzUFRWiY\&list=PLdUDkYS6dU27GkQMu7LLuwAquW3gYXJZy}$

BOOKS LIST ENGLISH

| BOOK NAME | AUTHOR | PUBLISHER |
|--|--|----------------------------|
| Al Aqeedah Wasitiyyah (Arabic and Urdu) | Ibn Taymiyyah | Al Huda Publications |
| Commentary on Al Aqidah Wasitiyyah | Muhammad bin Salih Al Uthaimin | Darussalam |
| Commentary on ibn Taymiyyah's essay on the heart | Dr. Abu Ameenah Bilal Philips | Dakwah Corner Bookstore |
| Concise collection on Creed and Tawheed | Darussalam | Darussalam |
| Critical Study of Shirk (Explanation Kashf Al Shubuhat) | Muhammad ibn Abdul Wahhab | Al Hidayah Publications |
| Fundamentals of Tawheed | Bilal Philips | Al Hidayah Publications |
| Kitab Al Iman | Ibn Taymiyyah Translated by Salman Hassan Al Ani | Iman Publishing House |
| Kitab Ut Tawheed | Muhammad bin Abdul Wahab | Darussalam |
| Nurturing Emaan in Children | Dr Aisha Hamdan | IIPH |
| The Fundamentals of Islamic Creed: Sharah | Abu Jafer Tahawi. | Al Attique |

| Aqeedah Tahawiyah | Commentary by Ali ibn Al-Adhrui | Publishing Inc |
|---|------------------------------------|---|
| The Islamic Creed Series Set of eight books. | Umar S Al Ashqar | IIPH |
| The Nullifiers of Islam | Sheikh Abdur Razzaq Al Badr | Maktabul Irshad |
| The Spiritual Journey to Allah & His Messenger (Ar Risalah At Tabukiyyah) | Ibn Al Qayyium | Al Kitab As Sunnah Publication |
| Weeping from the fear of Allah | Shaykh Husayn al- Awaayishah | Al Hidaayah publishing and distribution |
| Who is Allah | Umm abdurrahman | IIPH |

BOOKS LIST URDU

| Name | Author | Publisher |
|--|---------------------------|---|
| Emaan Kai Masail | Muhammad Iqbal Kilani | Hadith Publications |
| Emaan ki Kitab | Hafiz Imran Ayub Lahori | Fiqh ul Hadith |
| Fiqh Al Asma ul Husna | Sheikh Abdur Razzaq Badar | Islamic Center of Academic Research KHI |
| Ghair Mehsoos Shirk | Umm Abd Muneeb | Mashraba Ilm e Hikmat |
| Islam kai teen bunyadi Usool | Mohd Bin Salih Uthaymeen | Darussalam |
| Islami Aqaid | Zubaida Aziz | Alhuda |
| Islami Aqeedah Rahnumai Ustazah | Alhuda | Alhuda |
| Islami Aqeedah Sawal e JAwab | Muhammad bin Jameel Zeno | Darul Andlus |
| Kitab Ul Emaan | Iqbal Kilani | |
| Sharh Aqeedah Wasitiyah (QA) (Urdu) | Ibn Taymiyyah | Maktab Islamia |
| Silsila Islah E Aqaid (Set of ten books) | Hafiz Mubashar Hussain | Mubashir Academy Lahore |

| Silsila Tafheem e Deen | Mohd Ayub Sipra | Maktab Subul As Salam |
|--|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| Sirat e Mustaqeem Kai Taqazay | Ibn Taymiyyah | Darussalam |
| Taqwiat al Emaan - Darsi | Shah Ismail Shaheed | Darussalam |
| Tawheed Aur Shirk | Khalil Ur Rehman Chishti | Al Fawz Academy |
| Tawheed e Amali | Dr Israr Ahmed | Anjuman Khuddam e Quran |
| Tawheed Kai Baray Mi Shubuhaat Ka Azala | Mohd Sulaiman Taymi | Darussalam |