

Introduction

All praises be to Allah, the Lord of the Universe. May the peace and blessings of Allah be upon Muhammad, His last Messenger.

Dear brothers and sisters I welcome you to Islam. It always brings Muslims great joy when we hear of anyone wishing to convert to Islam. Muslims want to rush to tell their friends and family about this wonderful news. Muslims always love to hear how others converted to Islam. So for sure you will be greatly welcomed to Islam.

The Prophet Muhammad, peace be upon him welcomed even those people who had previously fought him and killed his loved ones. These people later on were to become the heroes of Islam. So no matter what your background and no matter what you may have done or said to Muslims or others in the past, you should rest assured that you will be welcomed with open arms.

Who can become a Muslim?

Some people are worried often worried if they will be allowed to become Muslim due to a variety of reasons. So before proceeding onto how to convert to Islam, I wish to reassure you that anyone can become a Muslim. Islam is for the whole of humanity. Islam unites together people of different colors, languages, races and nationalities into one brotherhood.

Allahsays:'IndeedtheBelieversarebutbrothers.''[Quran49:10]SoyouwillbeourSoyouwillbeoursisters in Islamwhen you convertto Islam.

Any human being can embrace Islam. You do not need anyone permission to become Muslim. You can be any color, race, age, speak any language and still become a Muslim. There are many American, British, European, Indian, children and Adults who accept Islam every On the day. www.muslimconverts.com site we have people who accepted Islam from all ages, all backgrounds and nationalities.

You may hear from some Muslims incorrect advice due to their lack of knowledge of Islam or due to lack of correct knowledge of Islam. So please note that:

You do not need to do a course or obtain a certificate to become a Muslim someone may say you have to do a course or obtain a certificate to be a Muslim. This is incorrect. You do not need to attend a course or obtain a certificate to become Muslim.

You should not delay in becoming a Muslim

If someone advices you to delay your conversion to Islam, this is also incorrect. If you believe Islam is the truth then you should not delay your conversion to Islam. You should convert immediately because we are given a certain lifespan. Since we do not know when we are going to die. Not even a minute should be lost as your time to leave this life may be up the next minute.

If you have tattoos you can still become a Muslim

Someone may say to you that you must remove all tattoos to be a Muslim. This is also incorrect. Tattoos are not allowed in Islam but they DO NOT prevent a person becoming Muslim. You should become Muslims and latter you can have the tattoos removed if you can afford it. If you cannot afford it then do not worry there is no sin on you for what you did before becoming Muslim you are still Muslim. a If you have a wild past of have committed a many of sins you can still become Muslim а No matter what sins you have committed or how wild your past was. You can still become a Muslim. Islam erases all sins committed prior to becoming a Muslim. Prophet (May the peace and blessings and mercy of Allah be upon him) said, Islam annuls what came before it. (Narrated by Muslim in his Sahih, no. 121).As soon as you become a Muslim all your previous sins are forgiven and you start a blank state, or a complete clean record. Muslim (121) narrated that Amr ibn al-Aas (may Allah be pleased with him) said: When Allah put Islam in my heart, I came to the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and said: Give me your right hand so that I may swear allegiance to you. He held out his hand and I withdrew my hand. He said, what is the matter, Oh Amr? I said I want to stipulate a condition. He said what do you want to stipulate? I said that I will be

forgiven. He said do you not know that Islam destroys that which came before it?

How to become a Muslim

To become a Muslim one must simply pronounce the Shahaadatayn (Declaration of Faith) with sincerity and conviction.

The Shahadah can be declared as follows:

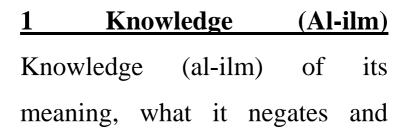
"ASH-HADU ANLA ELAHA ILLA-ALLAH WA ASH-HADU ANNA MOHAMMADAN RASUL-ALLAH".

The English translation is:

"I bear witness that there is no deity worthy to be worshiped but Allah, and I bear witness that Muhammad is His servant and messenger."

The Conditions of the Shahadah

Pronouncing the testimony of faith is sufficient to make one a convert to Islam. There are however, seven conditions that must be observed before it can effectively make one a Muslim. These are describing as follows:



affirms. If a person says it without knowing its meaning, or what its requirements are, then he will not benefit by it, because he has not believed in what it requires. Rather, he is like someone who speaks in a language that he does not understand.

2 Certainty (Al-Yaqeen)

The heart must be firmly certain of the meaning of Shahadah without a blemish of doubt. Allah the Exalted says:" Verily, the believers are only those who truly believe in Allah and His Messenger, and then doubt not. (Quran 49:15).

The Messenger of Allah, peace be upon him, said: "I bear witness that there is no God but Allah, and I am the Messenger of Allah. No slave meets Allah with this testimony, having no doubt in it but shall enter Jannah."(Muslim).

3 Sincerity (Al-Ikhlaas)

Exclusively worshiping Allah, which is contrary to shirk. This is what laa ilaaha illallaah points towards.

Allah, the Exalted, said:" And they were not commanded but to worship Allah, being sincere in devoting religion to Him." (Quran Abu Hurairah said:" I asked the Messenger of Allah, peace be upon him: Messenger of Allah! Who will be most fortunate to enjoy your shafa'ah (intercession) on the Day of Resurrection? The Messenger of Allah, peace be upon him, said: I was certain that no one else would ask me about this other than you, because I have noticed your keenness for hadeeth. The most fortunate of men who will enjoy my shafa'ah on the Day of Resurrection is the one who says: (La Ilaha Illa Allah) "None has the right to be worshiped except Allah", sincerely from his heart."(Musnad al-Imam Ahmad.)

<u>4 Truthfulness (As-Sidq)</u>

Truthfulness (as-sidq), which prevents hypocrisy (nifaaq). Indeed, the hypocrites uttered it with their tongues, but did not inwardly believe in what it signified.

The Messenger of Allah said: "Anyone testifies that there is no god but Allah and Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah, truthfully from his heart, Allah would forbid his admittance to the Fire."(Muslim)

5 Love and affection (Al-Mahabbah)

Love (al-mahabbah) for this kalimah and having love and it for whatever pleasure necessitates. This is contrary to the [state of the] hypocrites. The Messenger of Allah, peace be upon him, said: "There are three (qualities), whoever possesses them, will taste the sweetness of Iman (belief): to love Allah and His Messenger more than anyone else, to love the Muslim only for the sake of Allah, and to dread returning to kufr (apostasy) as he dreads being thrown in fire." (Bukhari and Muslim.) Allah says to His Messenger (peace be upon him) Say (O Muhammad SAW to mankind): "If you (really) love Allah then follow me (i.e. accept Islamic Monotheism, follow the Quran and the Sunnah), Allah will love you and forgive you of your sins. And Allah is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful." (3:31)

Allah says: "Allah shall bring forth a people whom He loves and they love Him." (Quran 5:54)

The Prophet, peace be upon him, also said: "None of you shall (really) believe until I become dearer to him than his own father, and son and all mankind." (Bukhari and Muslim.)

6 Submission (Al-Inqiyaad) internally and externally

Submissive compliance (alinqiyaad), by fulfilling its rights which are the obligatory actions with sincerity to Allah and seeking His good pleasure. This is its requirement.

Allah, the Exalted, says: "And he who submits himself to Allah, and does good, he has surely grasped a strong handle." (Quran 31:22). Allah also says:" And turn you to your Rabb, and submit yourselves to Him." (:Quran 39:54).

7 Acceptance and conformity(Al-Qubool)Acceptance (al-qabool), which

rejection. This is achieved by acting upon what Allah has commanded and abandoning whatever He has prohibited. Abu Musa al-Ash'aree reported that the Prophet, peace be upon him said: "The parable of guidance and knowledge which Allah has sent me with is like a rain which fell on a land. A patch of that land received the water and produced much herbage and grass. And a patch which was barren. The latter retained water wherewith Allah extended benefits to men: they drank from it, irrigated and planted their

vegetation. And a patch which was a sandy plain, it neither retained water nor produced herbage. This is parallel to the person who conceived the religion of Allah and benefited from the Message with which Allah has sent me, whereby he learns and taught others. The other person turned away from it (from my Message), and rejected the guidance of Allah with which I am sent (Bukhari and Muslim.)

Allah says "Indeed in the Messenger of Allah (Muhammad peace be upon him) you have a good example to follow for him who hopes in (the Meeting with) Allah and the Last Day and remembers Allah much."(33:21)

And Allah also says in Surah Al-Hashr

And whatsoever the Messenger

(Muhammad peace be upon him) gives you, take it, and whatsoever he forbids you, abstain (from it), and fear Allah. Verily, Allah is Severe in punishment. (59:7) Allah Again says: O you who believe! Obey Allah obey the Messenger and (Muhammad peace be upon him), and those of you (Muslims) who are in authority. (And) if you differ in anything amongst yourselves, refer it to Allah and His Messenger (peace be upon him), if you believe in Allah and in the Last Day. That is better and more suitable for final determination.(4:59)

And Allah says: But no, by your Lord, they can have no Faith, until they make you (O Muhammad) judge in all disputes between them, and find in themselves no resistance against your decisions, and accept (them) with full submission.

Summery

It is easy to become a Muslim. All a person has to do is declare

Shahadah can be declared as follows:

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The English translation is:

"I bear witness that there is no deity worthy to be worshiped but Allah, and I bear witness that Muhammad is His servant and Messenger."

We have to consider that when we declare from our hearts, "there is no god worthy to be worshiped but Allah." It implies on our part of love, devotion, faith and obedience to the rules of Islamic legislation which are legally binding on all Muslims. It is a requirement of "there is no God worthy to be worshiped but Allah," to love for the sake of Allah and to reject for the sake of Allah. This is the finest anchor of belief which make material the meaning of "AL-WALA" and "AL-BARA". It means that a Muslim should love and be loyal to his Muslim brothers. He

should, as a practice, dissociate himself completely from the practices of unbelievers and refuse to be influenced by them, both in worldly and religious matters.

When one truly believes that Islam is the true religion of God and that "there is no god worthy to be worshiped but Allah and Muhammad is His servant and Messenger." Then he or she should declare the Shahadah right away. He or she should not hesitate.

We are given a certain lifespan. We do not know when that life span will end. It may end this very minute even. Therefore a person should say the Shahadah and then work on becoming the best Muslim he or she can be.

Some of you will find some aspects of Islam difficult at first. For instance some new Muslim sisters find it difficult to wear Hijab at first. However with time they have eventually grown in their faith and are now wearing full Islamic dress the and encouraging even sisters born into Muslim families to wear full Islamic dress. Some were vegetarian before they became Muslim. Eating meat seemed impossible to them. Now after a few years they have started to even eat meat. Please do not worry about any barriers you may have. Become Muslims and you will see those barriers crashing down as you grow in your religion.

However one should recognize that Islam requires a complete submission to the will of God. What Allah has told us do we should try to do and what Allah has told us not to do. We should not do. Now that you have said the Shahadah you are a Muslim.

Step 2 What to do one you have said the Shahadah

Once a person has said Shahadah he/she needs to do certain purifications.

1. A female should trim her nails short; shave the hair under her armpits and pubic hair.

2. A male should trim his nails

short, shave the hair under his armpits, pubic hair and shave the hair on his head (and later get circumcised as soon as possible)

Narrated by Abu Dawood (356) which says that the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) commanded a kaafir man who had become Muslim, "Shave off the hair of kufr and get circumcised." (Classed as hasan by al-Albaani in Saheeh Abi Dawood; see also al-Mughni, 1/276; Sharh al- Umdah by Shaykh al-Islam, 1/350)

After you should take a shower (ghusl) and wear clean pure cloths. By clean it is meant they should be free from impurity such as urine, feces and dog saliva.

Then take a shower and wear clean cloths. Then you should learn how to prayer and start praying if the time of prayer has arrived. Please look in the worship section of the website on how to prayer and for prayer times.

Also note that hairs under the armpits and pubic hair should not be allowed to grow for longer than 40 days.

How to perform the Ghusl

Intention inside ones heart not verbal.

Wash yourself nicely.

Step 3. You should try to perform a 2 rakkah voluntary prayer.

Step 4. Live As a Muslim

You should try your best to live according to Islam. You cannot learn everything at once. So try to do things in order. First are the prayers. Learning how to prayer the five daily prayers. Then knowing the five pillars of Islam. Learning how to dress as a Muslim and what to eat and what not to eat. Also a Muslim should eat with his /her RIGHT HAND, not eat pork and other haram (forbidden) food. A Muslim should use only the LEFT HAND for cleaning themselves after going to the toilet. Clean with toilet paper and then wash front and backside with water.

A Muslim should also not allow

urine, faces or dog saliva to be on their body or cloths. A Muslim should not flirt or date or have sexual relationships with the opposite sex other than their husband wife. or Please also note that once one says the Shahadah, he or she starts with a blank slate. No matter how bad the person sinned before embracing Islam he or she is forgiven. So their is no need to worry about past sins. You are

sinless and pure. Now you can build start to build your new record of deeds.

Recommended websites:

http://www.muslimconverts.com/

http://www.islamreligion.com

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