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The Six Articles of Faith

What a Muslim believes — the six articles of faith (Arkan al-Iman), each with its Quran and hadith daleel, distilled from the deen2u page.

BELIEF

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THE SIX ARTICLES OF FAITH

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This guide is educational, sourced from verified Quran and hadith records. It is not a substitute for the guidance of qualified scholars. Questions? Ask at deen2u.com/ask/.

CHAPTER 01

Where the six articles come from

The clearest, most complete statement of Islamic belief comes from a single well-known hadith — the Hadith of Jibril — in which the angel Jibril, appearing to the Prophet ﷺ in the form of a man, asked him what *iman* (faith) is. The same six are echoed in the Quran itself, most directly in the closing ayah of Surah al-Baqarah (2:285). Scholars across the madhhabs treat this single hadith as a syllabus for the whole deen.

أَنْ تُؤْمِنَ بِاللَّهِ وَمَلَائِكَتِهِ وَكُتُبِهِ وَرُسُلِهِ وَالْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ
وَتُؤْمِنَ بِالْقَدَرِ خَيْرِهِ وَشَرِّهِ

"[Faith] is to believe in Allah, His angels, His books, His messengers, and the Last Day, and to believe in divine decree, its good and its bad." SAHIH

Sahih Muslim 8

CHAPTER 02

Belief in Allah

The foundation of everything: that Allah alone is the Creator, Sustainer, and sole deserving object of worship — with no partners, no equals, and nothing resembling Him. This is *tawheed*, and it is the single most repeated theme in the Quran. Its direct opposite is **shirk** — associating partners with Allah, the one sin the Quran names as unforgivable if unrepented.

قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ

"Say, 'He is Allah, [who is] One, Allah, the Eternal Refuge. He neither begets nor is born, nor is there to Him any equivalent.'"

Quran 112:1-4

CHAPTER 03

Belief in the Angels

Angels are created beings of light who do not disobey Allah and carry out specific tasks — Jibril brought revelation to the prophets, Mikail is named alongside him in the Quran (2:98) and is charged with rain and sustenance, and each person has angels recording their deeds. Believing in them is explicit in the believers' creed, alongside belief in Allah, the books, and the messengers together.

عَٰمَنَ الرَّسُولُ بِمَا أُنْزِلَ إِلَيْهِ مِنْ رَبِّهِ ۚ وَالْمُؤْمِنُونَ كُلٌّ
عَٰمَنَ بِاللَّهِ وَمَلَائِكَتِهِ ۚ وَكُتُبِهِ ۚ وَرُسُلِهِ ۚ لَا نُفَرِّقُ بَيْنَ أَحَدٍ
مِّنْ رُّسُلِهِ ۚ وَقَالُوا سَمِعْنَا وَأَطَعْنَا ۚ غُفْرَانَكَ رَبَّنَا وَإِلَيْكَ
الْمَصِيرُ

"The Messenger has believed in what was revealed to him from his Lord, and [so have] the believers. All of them have believed in Allah and His angels and His books and His messengers, [saying], 'We make no distinction between any of His messengers.' And they say, 'We hear and we obey. [We seek] Your forgiveness, our Lord, and to You is the [final] destination.'"

Quran 2:285

CHAPTER 04

Belief in the Books

Allah revealed scripture to various prophets across history — including the Tawrah (Torah) to Musa, the Zabur (Psalms) to Dawud, and the Injil (Gospel) to Isa — and finally the Quran to Muhammad ﷺ. Muslims believe the Quran is preserved in its original form, unlike the earlier scriptures which were not preserved intact over time.

CHAPTER 05

Belief in the Messengers

Allah sent prophets and messengers to every nation, calling people back to the worship of Allah alone — the same core message throughout, even as the details of law differed.

Muhammad ﷺ is the last of them; no prophet will come after him.

مَا كَانَ مُحَمَّدٌ أَبَا أَحَدٍ مِّن رِّجَالِكُمْ وَلَكِن رَّسُولَ اللَّهِ
وَخَاتَمَ النَّبِيِّينَ وَكَانَ اللَّهُ بِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ عَلِيمًا

"Muhammad is not the father of [any] one of your men, but [he is] the Messenger of Allah and the last of the prophets. And ever is Allah, of all things, Knowing."

Quran 33:40

CHAPTER 06

Belief in the Last Day

This life ends, and every person will be resurrected and held accountable — every deed weighed, nothing lost. It is the belief that gives ultimate meaning and consequence to everything a person does in this life.

يَوْمَئِذٍ يَصْدُرُ النَّاسُ أَشْتَاتًا لِّرِوَا أَعْمَلِهِمْ

"That Day, the people will depart separated [into categories] to be shown [the result of] their deeds."

Quran 99:6

CHAPTER 07

Belief in Divine Decree (Qadar)

Everything that happens — good and what appears to be bad — occurs by Allah's knowledge and permission, already known to Him before it happens. Classical scholars unpack belief in qadar into four levels, each with its own daleel: Allah's knowledge, the writing in the Preserved Tablet (al-Lawh al-Mahfuz), His will, and His creation of all things.

إِنَّا كُلَّ شَيْءٍ خَلَقْنَاهُ بِقَدَرٍ

"Indeed, all things We created with predestination."

Quran 54:49

This doesn't erase human free will or responsibility — decree is held alongside it, not instead of it. A person still genuinely chooses, prays, and works, while trusting the outcome to Allah; the four levels keep decree from collapsing into fatalism.

CHAPTER 08

The manhaj of the salaf — the measure of authenticity

The six articles are only worth as much as the source they are drawn from; belief that drifts from its evidence turns into guesswork. The measure the earliest Muslims lived by is the *manhaj* of the *salaf* — the first three generations — taking the Quran and the authentic Sunnah as the salaf understood and applied them, and turning back any innovation added later.

مَنْ أَحْدَثَ فِي أَمْرِنَا هَذَا مَا لَيْسَ مِنْهُ فَهُوَ رَدٌّ

"Whoever innovates in this matter of ours something that is not from it, it is rejected." SAHIH (AGREED UPON)

Sahih al-Bukhari 2697 · Sahih Muslim 1718

This is a method, not a weapon. Its purpose is to keep your own belief and worship anchored to the Book and the Sunnah — not to police or label other Muslims.

Where to go next on deen2u.com

Tawhid — the Oneness of Allah

The three categories of tawheed behind Article 1.

<https://deen2u.com/tawhid/>

Akhirah — the Life After Death

Death, the grave, and Judgment Day in full — Article 5 expanded.

<https://deen2u.com/akhirah/>

Belief in Divine Decree (Qadar)

The four levels of qadar and the balance with free will.

<https://deen2u.com/qadar/>

Disclaimer. This guide is educational and every citation can be checked against its source. It is not a substitute for the guidance of qualified scholars.

غُفْرَانِكَ رَبَّنَا وَإِلَيْكَ الْمَصِيرُ

"[We seek] Your forgiveness, our Lord, and to You is the [final] destination." (Quran 2:285)

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