

Lesson 1: Allah

The Name Allah.

It is He (Allah) Who is the only Ilah (God to be worshipped) in the heaven and the only Ilah (God to be worshipped) on the earth. [Zukhruf 43:84]

Allah hath not chosen any son, nor is there any god [ilaah] along with Him; else would each god [ilaah] have assuredly championed that which he created. [Al-Mu'minoon 23:91]

Linguistic breakdown.

- ⌘ The name Allah is originated from _____. In the aayah above, He said “there is no ilaah along with Him”. There is no ilaah along with Him meaning there is no one that should be worshipped with Him.
- ⌘ There is no other _____, _____, _____ and so on. Whatever does not have these Names and Attributes cannot be an ilaah even if it is worshipped; it is only another creation.

Root:

- ⌘ Its root is _____, which means _____.
- ⌘ When the slave of Allah realizes His Greatness, Majesty, and other attributes, he will be the most unlikely to turn his heart towards anyone else. [Ibnul Atheer]
- ⌘ The root of ilaah is _____, in which the waw was changed to a hamza as in some other Arabic words. The meaning of wilaah is that ***all of the creation turn to Him for their needs, to keep away harm, and retreat to Him when frightened.***
- ⌘ All of the following words: ilaaha, ulooaha, and uloohiyya mean ‘ibaada, i.e, to worship. Regarding the following aayah:
Wilt thou suffer Moses and his people to make mischief in the land, and flout thee and thy gods (aalihatak)? [A'raaf 7:127]

- ⌘ **Original form of the Name Allah** is “al-ilaah”. This was stated by the grammarian and linguist Seebawayh and most of his students. [Ibnul Qayyim]. The hamza was dropped due to the common usage in the language, thereby the name became Allah. [Ibn Barree]

Meaning of Ilaah.

- ⌘ _____ said *ilaah* is one whom everything turns to and worships.
- ⌘ Ar-Raghib al-Asbahanee (d.425) wrote a dictionary of the Quran and said *ilaah* is a name given to every object that is worshipped.
- ⌘ Ibn Mandhooor (d. 711) defined *ilaah* as any object that is taken as an object of worship.
- ⌘ All the classical dictionaries defined it as _____.
- ⌘ If *ilaah* meant Rabb, then the mushrikoon would have been Muslims. **WHY?**

The name Allah is the most comprehensive name because it contains the meanings present in all other names. Every other name signifies some specific attribute but not necessarily other attributes. However, the name Allah indicates that due to the fact that He has all these names and attributes, **He alone is deserving to be worshipped. All other names explain and detail the attributes of Allah.**

Whenever other names are mentioned, they are listed as “among the names of Allah”. For example, “Al-Rahmaan, Al-Raheem, and Al-Ghaffaar are among the names of Allah”. No one says “Allah is one of the names of Al-Rahmaan.”

Allah Himself said: *“Allah’s are the most beautiful names. Invoke Him by them.”* [7:180]

All of the Messengers invited the people to the fact that only Allah deserves to be worshipped: “And We sent not before you any messenger except that We revealed to him that, “There is no deity except Me, so worship Me.” (21:25)

Some ayaat that mention that only Allah deserves to be worshipped; that He is the only ilaah.

And your god is one God. There is no deity [worthy of worship] except Him, the Entirely Merciful, the Especially Merciful.(2:163)

That is Allah, your Lord, the Creator of all things, La ilaha illa Huwa (none has the right to be worshipped but He), where then you are turning away (from Allah, by worshipping others instead of Him)! (40:62)

He is the Ever-Living; there is no deity except Him, so call upon Him, [being] sincere to Him in religion. [All] praise is [due] to Allah , Lord of the worlds.(40:65)