

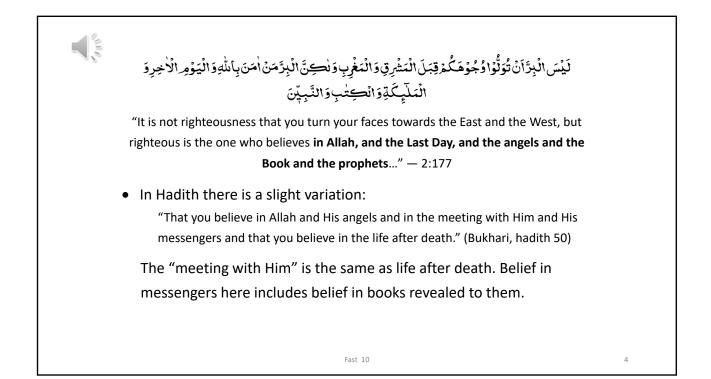
- The first part of the creed is the constant theme of the Quran, as for example in the verse: "Know that there is no god but Allah" (47:19). A faith in the Unity of God, that there is no god except Allah, is repeatedly mentioned as the basic principle, not only of Islam but of every religion revealed by God.
- The second part of the creed concerning the messengership of the Holy Prophet Muhammad is also a constant theme of the Quran, and the very words *Muhammad-ur Rasūl-ullāh* occur in 48:29.

2



- From Hadith, too, it appears that the essential condition of the acceptance of Islam was the acceptance of these two component parts of the creed. Whenever anyone, man or woman, accepted Islam in the time of the Holy Prophet, it is reported in Hadith that they did so by declaring: "I testify that there is no god but Allah, and I testify that Muhammad is the messenger of Allah". Later theologians calls this as "a brief expression of faith" (*īmān mujmal*).
- What they call the "detailed expression of faith" (*īmān mufaṣṣal*) is given in the Quran as follows:

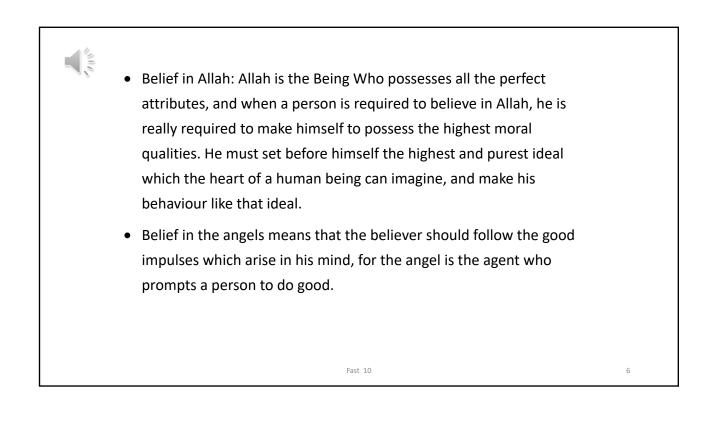






- Thus the basis of belief rests on five principles, according to the Holy Quran and Hadith: God, His angels, His prophets, His books, and a life after death.
- There are no dogmas in Islam, meaning that there are no mere beliefs forced upon a person, without any reason, logic or evidence, for his salvation. Belief, Islam says, is not only to believe in your heart that something is true, but also to act upon that belief. Every article of faith means a principle to be carried into practice for the higher development of human beings.

Fast 10





- Belief in the books of God signifies that we should follow the directions contained in them for the development of our inner faculties. The final book of God, which brings together in one place all the good teachings from previous books of God, is the Quran.
- Belief in messengers means that we are to model ourselves on their noble example. The messenger whose example was the most comprehensive, covering all conditions of human life, and whose example is known to mankind accurately and surely, was the Holy Prophet Muhammad. By following him, a person follows all the prophets.



