

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of God, Most Gracious, Most Merciful

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The myth of intercession

Big lie against Prophet Muhammad

"Why do they not study the Quran? Do they have locks on their minds?" (47:24)

God Almighty says in the Quran: ***"Never would a human being whom God blessed with the scripture and prophethood say to people, 'Idolize me beside God.' Instead, (he would say), 'Devote yourselves absolutely to your Lord alone,' according to the scripture you preach and the teachings you learn. (3:79)***

The Quran proclaims that ***"All intercession belongs to God" (39:44)***, and that there will be ***"no intercession on the Day of Judgment" (2:254)***.

Yet millions of Muslims follow a *hadith* (saying) that reported that prophet Muhammad supposedly

said, "Whoever (of my followers) visit my tomb it is binding on me to plead for (Mercy and Forgiveness) on his (or her) behalf (on the Day of Judgment)".

What a big lie attributed to prophet!!! The fabricator of this hadith is in fact an enemy of the prophet and Satan's companion. He either tried to prove that Muhammad disobeyed the Quranic teaching or did not understand the Quran. We learn in the Quran about the hadith fabricators:

"We have permitted the enemies of every prophet—human and jinn devils—to inspire in each other fancy words, in order to deceive. Had your Lord willed, they would not have done it. You shall disregard them and their fabrications." (6:112)

To believe that anyone, other than God, can intercede on our behalf to have our sins forgiven or our wishes fulfilled is to set up partners with God. This is idolatry. Idolatry is a serious, unforgivable offense:

"God does not forgive idolatry, but He forgives lesser offenses for whomever He wills. Anyone who sets up idols beside God, has forged a horrendous offense." (4:48)

The myth of intercession is one of Satan's most effective tricks to dupe millions of Muslims into idol worship. Many Muslims believe that Muhammad will intercede on their behalf.

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Myth of intercession

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They remember and revere prophet Muhammad beside God in all aspects of their religious activities, such as mentioning his name next to God during Salat prayers or in their Shahada (proclamation of faith). They hang Muhammad's name next to God's name on the masjid (mosque) walls, houses, etc. They visit prophet's tomb during hajj as a religious ritual. These are all idolatrous practices. There are many other examples and blasphemous allegations against God and Prophet Muhammad.

But, let us look at what God says in the Quran:

"Say: Shall I tell you who the worst losers are? They are the ones whose works in this life are totally astray, but they think that they are doing good." (18:103-104)

Those people who idolized Muhammad are thinking that they are doing a great job praising and saluting Muhammad day and night!!! This is in spite of the fact that all praises should be due to no one but God Almighty.

The Quran teaches us that we learned all the religious practices of Islam from Abraham. The whole Arabian society before and during the time of Muhammad had many followers of the religion of Abraham. Thus Abu Lahab, Abu Jahl, and the idolators of Quraish used to observe Salat prayer as we can learn in the Quran: **"Their Contact Prayers (Salat) at the shrine (Ka bah) were no more than a mockery and a means of repelling the people..." (8:35)**. This is because they also worshiped Allaat, Uzzah and Manaat beside God. They believed that they were their intercessors at God:

"Compare this with the female idols Allaat and Al-Uzzah. And

Manaas, the third one. Do you have sons, while He (God) has these as daughters? ...To God belongs both the Hereafter, and this World. Not even the angels in heaven possess authority to intercede. The only ones permitted by God are those who act in accordance with His will and His approval. (53:19-26)

Prophet Muhammad was harassed and tortured by Meccan idol worshippers when he brought the message of God against their idol worship beside God. After prophet's death, these people fabricated hadiths claiming that prophet could intercede on their behalf!!!

The concept of intercession is utterly illogical. Those who believe in Muhammad's intercession, for example, claim that he will ask God to forgive them and admit them into Paradise. They imagine Muhammad on the Day of Judgment choosing the candidates for his intercession. If you ask those who believe in intercession: "How will the prophet recognize those who deserve his intercession?" they tell you, "God will tell him!" According to this concept, a person will go to Muhammad and request his intercession. Muhammad will then ask God whether this person deserves his intercession or not. God will inform Muhammad that the person deserves to go to Paradise. Muhammad will then turn around and tell God that the person deserves to go to Paradise!!!! The blasphemy is obvious; those who believe in intercession make God a secretary of their idol Muhammad.

Since the Quran is the most accurate book, it acknowledges that everyone in Paradise will intercede on behalf of his or her loved ones: For example, if someone asks "Please God, admit my mother into Paradise," this intercession will work only if the person's mother deserves to go to Paradise (2:255, 20:109, 21:28). Thus, intercession, though it will take place in this manner, is utterly useless.

We learn from the Quran that Abraham, God's beloved servant, could not intercede on behalf of his father (9:114). Noah could not intercede on behalf of his son (11:46). Muhammad could not intercede on behalf of his uncle (111:1-3) or relatives (9:80). What makes anyone think that a prophet or a saint will intercede on behalf of a perfect stranger like us! God tells us about His messengers: **"He (God) knows their future and their past. They do not intercede, except for those already accepted by Him, and they are worried about their own necks." (21:28)**

Satan has entered the Muslims through their love for the prophet Muhammad and their desire to follow his example. But the prophet's example in the Quran was that he was instructed to deliver and follow what is revealed to him (5:67). God calls the Quran the best hadith, a consistent source (39:23). Therefore, Muhammad, the messenger of God, did deliver and follow the Quran, and thus set an example for us. We need to follow his example by following the Quran as he did. Indeed, he who has obeyed the messenger (i.e. followed the Quran), has obeyed God.

Unfortunately, the majority of people who believe in God fall into idol worship: **"The majority of those who believe in God do not do so without committing idol worship" (12:106)**. Please note that "Muslims" are not excluded from this majority.

God be glorified,

Irtaza

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Some Thoughts and Selected Verses on Symmetry and Equality in the Quran

The meaning of “symmetry” in Webster’s dictionary is:

“Balanced proportion, beauty of form arising from balanced proportions, the property of remaining invariant under certain changes.”

The meaning of equality is: “like in quality, nature, or status.” There is equality and symmetry all through the Quran. There is symmetry between the flies and the humans, among messengers, messengers and their followers, male and female, heaven and hell etc. When God speaks of Heaven, usually the next verse is balanced with discussion of Hell and vice versa. The same is true of day and night, the sun and the moon and so on.

God puts the believers and the messengers on the same level: *“The messenger has believed in what was sent down to him from his Lord, and so did the believers. They believe in God, His Angels, His scripture, and His messengers: They make no distinction among any of His messengers”* [2:285].

Abraham is on the same level as the other believers: *“Peace be upon Abraham... we thus reward the righteous... He is one of our believing servants”* [37:109, 110, 111].

Moses and Aaron are also put on the same level as the other righteous believers: *“Peace be upon Moses and Aaron.... We thus reward the righteous.... Both of them were among our righteous servants”* [37:120, 121, 122].

Muhammad is put on the same level as other Messengers: *Muhammad was no more than a mes-*

senger like the messengers before him... [3:144].

God puts Muhammad and his followers on the same level. God tells Muhammad: *Say, ‘This is my path: I invite to God, on the basis of a clear proof, and so do those who follow me...’* [12:108]. We too must not elevate the messengers above righteous believers.

Jesus is put on the same level as the righteous: *He will speak to the people from the crib, as well as an adult; he will be one of the righteous* [3:46].

The following verses put husband and wife on the same level: *...You commit no error by mutually agreeing to any adjustments to the dowry. God is Omniscient, Most Wise* [4:24]. Note that the dowry adjustment is made after mutual agreement.

The following verse demonstrate equality between male and female: *“Their Lord responded to them: ‘I never fail to reward any worker among you for any work you do, be you male or female—you are equal to one another....’* [3:195].

There is also a parallel between the bad men and bad women and the good men and the good women: *The bad woman for the bad men and the bad men for the bad women, the good women for the good men, and the good men for the good women.* [24:26].

The following verse shows the parallel between men and women: *The submitting men, the submitting women, the believing men, the believing women, the obedient men, the obedient women, the truthful*

men, the truthful women, the steadfast men, the steadfast women, the reverent men, the reverent women, the charitable men, the charitable women, the fasting men, the fasting women, the chaste men, the chaste women, and the men who commemorate God frequently, and the commemorating women; God has prepared for them forgiveness and a great recompense [33:35].

God spreads human beings through joining male and female; they are equally responsible: *O people observe your Lord; the One who created you from one being, and created from it its mate, then spread from the two many men and women....* [4:1].

On the subject of idol worship, God brings the idol to the level of a fly, telling us that both are helpless. *O people, here is a parable that you must ponder carefully: the idols you set up beside God can never create a fly, even if they banded together to do so. Furthermore, if the fly steals anything from them, they cannot recover it; weak is the pursuer and the pursued* [22:73].

God tells us that the believers and those who are well founded in knowledge believe in the Quran and what was revealed before the Quran, putting both groups on the same level: *As for those among them who are well founded in knowledge and the believers, they believe in what was revealed to you, and in what was revealed before you...* [4:162].

God in His infinite grace has made Submission a symmetrical state. ***"You shall remember Me, that I may remember you, and be thankful to Me; do not be unappreciative"*** [2:152].

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God is in control

God's awareness and power encompass everything. He alone holds the heavens and the earth in His hand. Verse 39:67 states: *...In fact, the universes are folded within His right hand.* He controls the alternation of night and day (2:164, 31:29), the expansion of the universe (51:47), and keeps the heavenly bodies from crashing onto the earth (22:65). He is cognizant of all of the inhabitants on earth and provides for each of them in exact measure. Verse 6:59 states:

With Him are the keys to all secrets; none knows them except He. He knows everything on land and in the sea. Not a leaf falls without His knowledge. Nor is there a grain in the depths of the soil. Nor is there anything wet or dry that is not recorded in a profound record. God knows everything!

God destines whom you marry. As He wills, He pairs the righteous man and woman together and assigns the unrighteous to each other. He places love in their hearts, (30:21), then He may grant them sons or daughters, or He may render the couple sterile (42:49-50).

God pinpoints the exact time that a couple meets each other.

God determines the time of death. Verse 40:68 states, *He is the only One who controls life and death. To have anything done, He simply says to it, 'Be' and it is.* No one's life is snapped short (35:11). What occurs at the time of death was designed by God to be different for believing souls who are peacefully invited by angels and go straight to heaven (89:27-30), and for disbelieving souls who are beaten by the angel in whose charge they are placed (8:50). Then God will hold everyone accountable on the Day of Judgment.

God protects believers during war and persecution. He parted the Red Sea in order to save Moses and his people from the persecution of Pharaoh (26:60-66). He prevented believers from inadvertently killing believers who were in an enemy camp (48:24-25), sent angels to support believers (3:124-125), and controlled circumstances during battle to fulfill a predetermined outcome (8:42). God is the only supporter as stated in 4:45. *God knows best who your enemies are. God is the only Lord and Master. God is the only Supporter.*

After reflecting on their own life and examining the Quran, believers will accept the Quranic fact

that God is in control. They will know it in their hearts. Consequently, they will want to strive in the cause of God because they love God and because God gives the believers a chance to earn a lot of credit (8:17). They will be certain of God's control and submit to Him. They will accept the divine authorship of the Quran as proved by its miraculous mathematical code.

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