## **THE CRITERIA FOR ETERNAL SALVATION**

A llāh Ta'āla alone is the Creator of the entire Universe. The best of all creation is the human being, created to recognize and obey Allāh Ta'āla. Allah Ta'ala sent many Ambiyā' alayhim as-salām (Messengers) to the different nations of the world for their guidance.

It was necessary for every nation to believe in the Nabī (Messenger) of the time and follow the scripture he was granted in order to gain salvation and entry into Jannah.

The only Nabī that was deputed for the entire humanity was Sayyidunā Muhammad Rasūlullāh salallāhu 'alayhi wa sallam. No Nabī before him invited the entire humanity to his message. All previous religions have been abrogated by Nabi salallāhu 'alayhi wa sallam being deputed as a Nabi.

Hence, from the time Rasulullah salallāhu 'alayhi wa sallam was blessed with Nubuwwat, until the end of time, every person is bound to believe in and follow the final message to humanity, i.e. the Noble Qur'ān, and to believe in Sayyidunā Muhammad Rasūlullāh salallāhu 'alayhi wa sallam as the final messenger. Allāh Ta'āla says;

"O mankind! Verily, I am sent to you all as the Messenger of Allah — to Whom belongs the sovereignty of the heavens and the earth. None has the right to be worshipped but He. It is He Who gives life and causes death. So believe in Allah and His Messenger, the unlettered Prophet, who believes in Allah and His Words, and follow him so that you may be guided." (7:158)

Even if Sayyidunā Mūsā alayhi as-salām was alive, he would be bound to follow the law of the Noble Qur'ān. Sayyidunā 'Isa alayhi as -salām was raised to the heavens and will descend close to Qiyāmah. After his return, he too will rule according to the Noble Qur'ān and Hadith.

It is for this particular reason that the scriptures of the previous Ambiyā' alayhim as-salām have not been preserved in their original form. Only the Noble Qur'ān remains in its pure and pristine form as it was revealed to Sayyidunā Muhammad Rasūlullāh salallāhu 'alayhi wa sallam.

Allāh Ta'āla Himself has taken the responsibility to protect the words of The Qur'ān as well as its meaning as practiced by Rasulullah salallāhu 'alayhi wa sallam.

The Nubuwwat of Sayyiduna Rasulullah salallāhu 'alayhi wa sallam is to remain till Qiyamah.

Presently there is a major effort being made to project the Abrahamic religions as one and the same. This concept is in conflict with the Noble Qur'ān. There are some who advocate that after Rasulullah salallāhu 'alayhi wa sallam, those who follow other faiths will be deserving of entry into Jannah. This is incorrect.

It is an essential article of faith to proclaim Tauhid and attest to the Nubuwwat of Sayyiduna Muhammad Rasūlullāh salallāhu 'alayhi wa sallam and its finality as a pre-condition for entry into Jannah.

'Whosoever seeks a faith other than Islām, it will never be accepted from him, and he will be amongst the losers in the hereafter.' [3: 85]

Just as belief in the imposter, Mirza Ghulam Ahmad Qadiyani will render a person out of the fold of Islām. Similarly, if a person had to believe in Sayyidunā 'Isa alayhi as-salām, without firm belief and faith in Sayyidunā Muhammad Rasūlullāh salallāhu 'alayhi wa sallam, he will not be a Muslim. Such a person would not be deserving of entry into Jannah.

Rasulullah salallāhu 'alayhi wa sallam said: "On the oath of that being in who's control is the life of Muhammad! Any Jew or Christian of this Ummah who hears about me, and then dies without belief in all that I have been sent with, will be of the inhabitants of the fire." (Muslim,384, 2/240)

It is astonishing to note that mere mortals have now taken it upon themselves to opine as to who is deserving of Jannah. The desire of Sayyidunā Muhammad Rasūlullāh salallāhu 'alayhi wa sallam was for every person to be saved from Jahannam. Therefore we should exert ourselves in practising upon Islam, inviting others to it and praying for the guidance of all. May Allāh Ta'āla bless us all with proper understanding and the ability to remain firm upon Islam, and bless us with death upon Imān and entry into Jannah. Āmīn.

Indeed the only religion in the sight of Allāh (Ta'ala) is Islam (3:19)



ASPIRING TO PRESERVE THE ESSENCE OF SUNNAH