

# Fruits for the Week

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## BEING A TRUE MUSLIM

Allah (SWT) says in the Holy Qur'an: "**Say O Muhammad! Verily, my salat (prayer), my sacrifice, my living and my dying are for Allah, the Lord of the Universe (mankind, jinn and all that exists). He has no partner. And of this I have been commanded, and I am the first of the Muslims.**" (Al-An'an:162-163)

A Muslim is one who has accepted Islam. He worships Allah (SWT) alone and accepts no partners with Him. A Muslim knows that there is no power besides Allah (SWT) and he obeys His commands. A Muslim follows the righteous actions and avoids the wrong actions. The life of a Muslim must show us Islamic *akhlaq* (manners) in action.

Any act of a Muslim is done only for the sake of Allah (SWT). His *salat* (prayer), his *sawm* (fasting) and his sacrifices are for Allah (SWT). A Muslim lives to please Allah (SWT) and fulfill His commands and he is ready to die for His sake. The complete life of a Muslim is fashioned according to Islamic *akhlaq*.

A Muslim knows Allah (SWT) is One and that He is our Creator and Lord. He worships none other than Him. He believes all human beings are created by Allah (SWT). He knows that the whole creation belongs to Allah (SWT). He respects the rights of all human beings and all creations of Allah (SWT).

A true Muslim lives only by the teachings of the Qur'an and the *Sunnah*, the way of the Prophet Muhammad (SAW). He always does the things that are *halal* and does not do the things that are

*haram*. He practices what is right and avoids what is wrong.

A sincere Muslim invites everyone to Islam. If they accept the religion, he welcomes them as his brothers or sisters. If they reject Islam, he does not force them into accepting it. Instead, he prays that Allah (SWT) will help them see the light of Islam. Allah (SWT) does not want us to use force in religion. A Muslim always sets a good example by practicing the teachings of Islam.

Allah (SWT) says: "**Those whom Allah wills to guide, He opens their hearts to Islam. Whom He wills to leave straying, He makes their hearts closed and constricted, as if they had to climb up to the skies. Thus, Allah (SWT) places impurity on those who refuse to believe.**" (Al-An'am:125)

Islam means submission to Allah's will. A Muslim is one who follows Islamic *akhlaq* with everyone and treats all human beings as one family.

We are Muslims and Allah is our Lord and Creator. We follow Islamic *akhlaq* with all human beings and all creations of Allah.

May Allah (SWT) guide us to the Straight Way, the Way of those on whom He has bestowed His Grace, not the way of those who earned His anger, nor of those who went astray. Wallahu A'lam.

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