

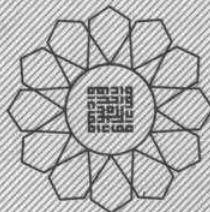
A Manual of Islamic Beliefs and Practice

Compiled by:

Sh Muhammad Naqvi

and Edited by:

John Cooper



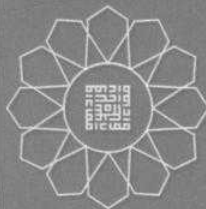
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Ali Muhammad Naqvi



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پیام حضرت امام خمینی (ره) به نوجوانان اروپا و آمریکا

Receive knowledge of Islam from its primary and original sources. Gain information about Islam through the Qur'an and the life of its great Prophet. I would like to ask you whether you have directly read the Qur'an of the Muslims. Have you studied the teachings of the Prophet of Islam and his humane, ethical doctrines? Have you ever received the message of Islam from any sources other than the media?

Have you ever asked yourself how and on the basis of which values has Islam established the greatest scientific and intellectual civilization of the world and raised the most distinguished scientists and intellectuals throughout several centuries?

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Publisher note

This book is intended to serve as an introduction to the principles of Islamic beliefs, ethics and practices (ahkām) in the field of theology of the Twelver Shī'īs. It lays a foundation of certain information and explains all aspects of the practical spirituality of this Islamic school, deeply and briefly.

This book is more useful for two types of readers:

1. English language readers who want to know about Islam and Shia clearly and correctly.
2. Muslim readers who are eager to find out Islamic terms, definitions and context in English, such as Islamic theological students.

Foad Institute Publication has redesigned this book thoroughly and added a index and a couple of appendixes such as the transliteration table to make it more comprehensive and easy to use. We also totally revised the original table of contents.

The first edition of book was published at 1991 in London, but it is still a valuable book because of the following reasons:

1. It consists of a majority of Islamic beliefs and practices explained; and
2. simple, short and deep determination of Islamic concepts; and
3. it has a logical course that makes it more comprehensive.

We will be grateful to receive your suggestions and recommendations about this edition.

A. Anemi

Professor Ali Mohammad Naqvi

A BRIEF PROFILE:

Born in 1953 in a very prominent family of 'ulama known in India as Khanvadae Ijtihad. His father was Allama Ali Naqi Naqavi, a world renowned scholar and Dean Faculty of Theology. Syed Ali Mohammad Naqvi had his early religious education under guidance of his father. Then graduated in Theology from Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh. In 1974 went to Iraq, and then Iran for higher Islamic Studies. He studied under such great scholars as Allama Murtaza Mutahhari, Dr Mufatteh. Dr Izzati and Prof Sahibuz Zamani.



In Iran Prof Naqvi became prominent as scholar. His articles appeared (in Persian Language) in reputed Journals. More than a dozen Books were published in Iran by such reputed Publishing Houses as Intisharate Amin Kabeer, Daftare Nashre Farhange Islami and Bunyade Shaheed. He became Member of Board of Text-Books in Iranian Ministry of Education and jointly worked with Dr Haddad Adel on text-book Project. Four of his books were prescribed in secondary and University level and taught throughout Iran, a unique distinction for any non-Iranian. In 1984 he went to London and worked on a research project. This book was published entitled "A Manual of Islamic Beliefs and Practice" from Muhammadi trust of Great Britain.

After return to India Prof Naqvi worked on a Project on Comparative Religions. The voluminous work was published in two volumes entitled 'A Survey of Indian Religious Thought.' He also worked on a project of Tafseer of the Qur'an and two volumes were published. He, along with prominent religious figure, Dr Kalbe Sadiq, founded a modern religious Seminary named Madinatul Uloom at Aligarh which later developed as M. U. College. In 2006 he was directly appointed as professor of Theology in M. U. and later became Chairman of Shia Theology and then Dean, Faculty of Theology. He has two sons and two daughters.

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

- B. Th. (Theology), First Division, First Position, Aligarh Muslim University, 1971
- M.A. Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, 1971
- M.Th. (Master of Theology), First Division, First Position, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, 1973
- Higher Religious Studies in Qom and Tehran. (Iran)

- The Course of Ph.D. completed from Tehran University, Iran with distinction but could not submit Thesis.
- Student of great Islamic thinker Ayatullah Murtaza Mutahhari and Dr Mufattch in Tehran University

Teaching and Administrative Positions :

- Acting Vice Chancellor, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh (10-11/-08-2012)
- Senior Dean of the University, (18-21/08/2012)
- Dean, Faculty of Theology, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh (2010-12)
- Chairman, Department of Shia Theology, A.M.U. (2009-2012)
- Acting Director, UGC Staff Academic College, A.M.U. Aligarh (in absence of Director during June-August, 2012)
- Professor, Department of Shia Theology, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh,

Professional Affiliations:

- Member University Court (2011-2012)
- Member University Executive Council (2012)
- Member, University Academic Council (2009-2012)
- Founder Member All India Muslim Personal Law Board
- Member of Executive, All India Milli Council
- Founder Hon. General Secretary "Madrassat Uloom Seminary
- President, Imamia Mission, India

Some of his publications

- Sairi dar andishae deeni wa duniyai Sairi dar andishae deeni (arabic)
- Islam: the middle way
- Nahjul balaghah and human rights
- Human rights in islam and in sirah of prophet muhammad
- The meaning of the holy qur'an
- A manual of islamic beliefs and practice,
- Nahjul balaghah and inter-religious understanding (ed.)
- Jamia shinasi (sociology of religion)
- Jamiashinasi (sociology of religion)
- Jamiashinasi (sociology of religion)
- Al itjāh-al-gharbī (arabic)
- Jāme'e shināsī gharbgarāee jild 2 (islam and the west)
- Jāme'e shināsī gharbgarāee jild 1
- A study of the stages of westernization, westoxication and revival
- Islam and nationalism (english)
- Islam wa millī garāee (farsi)
- Al-islam wal qaumiyyah (arabic)
- Islam and nationalism (english)
- Islam wa millī garāee (farsi)
- Al-islam wal qaumiyyah (arabic)
- Islam and nationalism (english)
- L'islam et le nationalisme ou le nationalisme selon l'islam (French)
- Islam ve milliete cilik (turkish)

Preface

This book is the first of two volumes on the religious practice of the *Twelver Shi'is*. The purpose in compiling these works is to provide a comprehensive treatment of all aspects of the practical spirituality of this Islamic school, in such a way as to provide a guide and a reference for those who follow the way of the twelve Imams, peace be upon them. This first volume covers the theology, the ethics and the law, while the second volume will contain a selection of the most widely used items in *Shi'i* devotional literature (*du'ā's*, etc.)

While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information given in the present volume, it must be stressed that it is only meant as a guide. The compiler and editor have followed the legal precepts of *Ayatullāh al-'Uzmā Sayyid Abu l-Qāsim al-Khu'ī*, but their compilation does not have the force of law and is in no way a substitute for *Ayatullāh al-Khu'ī's Tawḍīḥ al-Masā'il* which must be consulted whenever his followers need to ensure that their duty vis-à-vis the *sharī'a* is being correctly carried out. Followers of other *marjā's* must consult the corresponding *Risālas*.

This book is based in part on *Tuḥfat al-Awwām* (in Urdu), but several other works have been consulted, in particular, *Mafātiḥ al-Janān*, *Ḥilyat al-Muttaqīn* and *Kitāb al-Aqā'id*. The compiler's original text has been considerably shortened, so as to provide readers with a concise portable volume. An appendix contains further *suras* of the *Qur'ān* which are not given in the text, but to which it may be useful to refer.

The editor would like to express his thanks to all those who have contributed to the preparation of this volume, in particular to *Dr S. Kalbe Sadiq Naqavi Mulla M.M.A. Asgarali*, who most generously gave of their valuable time in solving difficulties that arose at the editing stage, and who went through several series of proofs, offering numerous constructive and helpful suggestions for the improvement of the text.

The Editor