

What is Tawheed?

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Introduction

Tawheed is the belief in the Oneness of Allah¹. There are three parts to Tawheed:

1. Tawheed Ar Ruboobiyyah
2. Tawheed Al Uloohiyyah
3. Tawheed Al Asma wa sifaat

You may want to use the "What is Tawheed?" poster from TJ as a visual aid during this lesson:
<http://tj-islamicstudies.tripod.com/aqeedah/TawheedPoster.pdf>

Part I: The Three Categories of Tawheed

Tawheed Ar Ruboobiyyah

Tawheed Ar Ruboobiyyah is the belief that Allah alone:

- a) creates
- b) provides for His creation (food, water, shelter, health, etc)
- c) controls the affairs of all His creatures/creation¹

Examples of how Allah handles the affairs of His creations:

- He gives life
- He causes death
- He gives us food, health
- He keeps evil away from us

Almost everyone, except atheists and followers of animist religions, believes in Tawheed Ar Ruboobiyyah. If you were to ask Jews and Christians who created them and controls their affairs they would say God (Allah).

Tawheed Al Uloohiyyah

Tawheed al Uloohiyyah (also known as Tawheed al Ibaadah)¹ is the belief that all acts of worship are directed to Allah alone. We must not pray to, worship or call upon any other being for help except Allah.

"It is the knowledge and the acknowledgement, that Allah is the sole Possessor of Divinity, and the One who has the sole right to be worshipped over all His creation. (And) that He alone should be worshipped by them—all of them—and they should make the religion sincerely and purely for Allah alone."¹

Tawheed Al Asma was sifaat

Tawheed Al Asma was sifaat is the belief in Allah's Names and characteristics or attributes. Such as He has described Himself with and what His Messengers have told us. In addition, no person

or thing has any share of these characteristics (no one else or thing has these qualities). Believing in this type of Tawheed also means that we don't try to change the meaning of them.

Some examples of the Asma was sifaat of Allah are:

- That he is All Knowing, all Seeing, all Hearing
- He is the Creator

Asma is the plural of name, and sifaat is the plural for characteristic, attributes

Exercise I: Name the three categories of Tawheed

After reading about the categories of Tawheed, answer the following questions:

I. Name the three parts or categories of Tawheed:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Exercise II: Matching

Match the type of Tawheed to its correct meaning:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| a. Tawheed ar Ruboobiyyah | Belief in all Allah's Names and characteristics |
| b. Tawheed Al Uloohiyyah | Belief that Allah alone creates and handles our affairs |
| c. Tawheed al asma was sifaat | Belief that all acts of worship are to Allah |

Exercise III: How does Allah control our affairs?

List three ways Allah handles/controls our affairs:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Exercise IV: Identifying the types of Tawheed, part I

Specifically which Tawheed is one is violating if he:

1. prays to a statue
2. calls on a Prophet for help
3. does not believe that Allah alone created everything
4. says that Allah does not cannot hear all

Exercise V: Identifying the types of Tawheed, part II

Specifically, which Tawheed are we acting upon if we:

1. Pray only to Allah
2. Give zakah as commanded by Allah
3. Make thikr to Allah
4. Belief that Allah alone handles our affairs
5. Make hajj as Allah commanded
6. Believe that Allah has a right hand as He has said
7. Believe that Allah is all knowing
8. Fast the month of Ramadan because Allah has commanded this
9. Say bismillah before we eat
10. Believe that Allah is above the heavens

Exercise VI: Which Tawheed do they believe in?

Fill in the chart with a check ✓ to show which Tawheed each group of people believes in:

	Tawheed Ar Ruboobiyah	Tawheed Al Uloohiyyah	Tawheed Al asma was sifaat
Atheist			
Christians			
Jews			
Muslims			

Exercise VII: Explaining the types of Tawheed

Read the letter below and reply using correct grammar and letter format.

117 Makkah Lane
Madinah, State 00000

February 18, 2004

Dear (Your Name),

I am a new Muslim, alhamdulillah. I do not yet know much about my religion. I heard someone say that there are three parts of Tawheed. Can you please tell me the three parts and briefly explain each one as I know you have just learned about them in class.

Shukran. Hope to hear from you soon, insha Allah.

Your friend,

Muhammad (Maryam)

Write your letter here.

Exercise VIII: Apply what you have learned

List two things you did today as a result of your belief in Tawheed Al Uloohiyyah

1. _____

2. _____

List two ways Allah regulated your affairs today (Tawheed Ar Ruboobiyyah)

1. _____

2. _____

List two Names of Allah that you know and show how you have seen each characteristic of Allah benefit/affect your life.

1. _____

2. _____

Part II: Evidence of Tawheed

Allah has provided us with evidence of the parts of Tawheed throughout the Quraan. In surah Fatihah, we can see all three parts of Tawheed.

Can you find the parts in Surah Fatihah?

Ayah 1:

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

According to the text, "Qawful Mufeed²," in this ayah we can see:

- Tawheed Al Uloohiyyah
- Tawheed al Asma was sifaat

What part is Tawheed al uloohiyyah?

What part is Tawheed al Asma was sifaat?

Ayaah 2:

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ

In this ayaah, according to "Qawlul Mufeed²," there are all three categories of Tawheed.

Can you find them? Explain.

Ayaah 3 and ayaah 4

الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
مَلِكِ يَوْمِ الدِّينِ

According to "Qawlul Mufeed²" there are two, Tawheed al asma was sifaat and Ar Ruboobiyyah? Where are they?

Ayaah 5:

إِيَّاكَ نَعْبُدُ وَإِيَّاكَ نَسْتَعِينُ

Which category do you see here?

Also in Suratun Naas, we find evidence of Tawheed. Look in ayaat 1-3. What forms of Tawheed are seen here?

See if you can find other evidences of Tawheed in Surahs.

Some more examples: Zumar: 62, Shura: 11, An Nisa: 36. What types of Tawheed are mentioned here?

Part III: The Importance of Tawheed

We have learned that one category of Tawheed is to single out Allah with all worship. We have learned that there are three parts of Tawheed: Tawheed Ar Ruboobiyyah, Tawheed Al Uloohiyyah, and Tawheed al Asma was sifaat.

So why is Tawheed important to me, you may ask? Tawheed is important to believe in and act upon because its opposite is shirk, and shirk is the "most serious thing" that Allah forbade. It is the one thing that Allah will not forgive, it is the gravest sin. We need to make sure that we understand Tawheed so that we do not fall into shirk.

" Verily, whosoever sets up partners (in worship) with Allâh, then Allâh has forbidden Paradise to him, and the Fire will be his abode. And for the Zâlimûn (polytheists and wrong doers) there are no helpers. (5:72)

Here are some more resources for learning about Shirk:

- TJ's "What is Shirk?" Poster: <http://tj-islamicstudies.tripod.com/aqeedah/ShirkPoster.pdf>
- [Word Web - Explaining Shirk](http://www.islam4kids.com/i4k/i4k.cfm?scn=ar&ID=30) from Islam4Kids.com
<http://www.islam4kids.com/i4k/i4k.cfm?scn=ar&ID=30>

Bibliography/Sources:

Material and concepts from the following sources were used to compile the lessons:

1. [Shaykh as-Sa`dee on Explaining and Defining the Categories of Tawheed](http://www.islam4kids.com/i4k/i4k.cfm?scn=ar&ID=49)
<http://www.islam4kids.com/i4k/i4k.cfm?scn=ar&ID=49>
2. **Qawlul Mufeed** Fee Adillatit-Tawheed by Shaykh Muhammad ibn Abdul Wahhaab al-Wasaabee

Related Links

Islam4Kids.com's Tawheed4Kids is an excellent source of Tawheed materials written for children:
<http://www.islam4kids.com/i4k/i4k.cfm?scn=ss&ID=2>

Among their articles:

- [Tremendous Qualities of Him Who Deserves All Worship](#)
- [Shaykh as-Sa`dee on Explaining and Defining the Categories of Tawheed](#)
- [The Whole Sunnah Demonstrates Tawheed](#)
- [The Whole Quraan Deals with Tawheed](#)
- [Tawheed Books for Beginners](#)
- [Shaykh as-Sa'dee on Tawheed](#)
- [Little Tawheed Talk](#)
- [We love Being Muslims - Extracts On Tawheed \(With new story, discussion aid and guidance from scholars\)](#)