

# ALLAH:

Same as Biblical God or Totally Other?

**ICJS**  
COURSE



الله

## INSTRUCTOR:

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*ICJS Muslim Scholar*

NOVEMBER 2, 9, & 16, 2022  
IN PERSON AND ONLINE

*Free—Register Today!*

# Course Outline

- ❑ **Class 1: Theological Foundations:  
God in the Qur'an**
- ❑ **Class 2: Embodied Practice:  
God in the Life of Prophet Muhammad**
- ❑ **Class 3: Culture and Context:  
God in American Muslim Life**

# Today's Agenda

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|                |                                    |
|----------------|------------------------------------|
| 7:00-7:05 p.m. | Welcome                            |
| 7:05-7:10 p.m. | Tawhid: How God Impacts Human Life |
| 7:40-8:00 p.m. | Small-group                        |
| 8:00-8:05 p.m. | Plenary                            |
| 8:05-8:25 p.m. | Prophetic Statements on God        |
| 8:25-8:30 p.m. | Plenary                            |

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Cambridge  
Elements  
Religion and Monotheism

## Islam and Monotheism

Celene Ibrahim



Monotheism (*tawḥīd*) – as attested to by the **cosmos**, known through **reason**, explicated in **revelation**, and exemplified by the **lives of the righteous** – forms the core of the Islamic worldview [...]

**Tawḥīd** informs conceptions of truth, morality, piety, and virtue.

# Knowledge of God

1) Scripture

2) Messengers of God

3) Creation

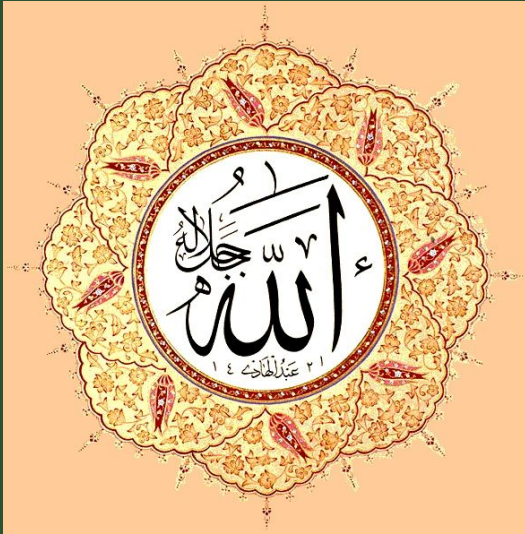


# Tawhid



- Knowledge of God
- Love of God
- Remembrance, Worship and Gratitude to God

# The Most Beautiful Names of God



*God has the Most Beautiful Names. So call upon Him by them, and keep away from those who abuse His Names. They will be punished for what they used to do. (Qur'an 7:180)*

*God - there is no deity except Him. He has the Most Beautiful Names (Qur'an 20:8)*

*He is God, the Creator, the Inventor, the Fashioner; to Him belong the Most Beautiful Names. Whatever is in the heavens and the earth glorifies Him. And He is the Almighty, the All-Wise (Qur'an 59:24)*



## The Book of the Universe

*The seven heavens and the earth and whatever is in them exalt Him. And there is not a thing except that it exalts God by His praise, but you do not understand their way of exalting. Indeed, He is ever Forbearing and Forgiving. (Q 17:44)*

*Whatever is in the heavens and earth exalts God, and He is the Exalted in Might, the Wise. (Q 57:1)*

*The stars and the trees bow down in submission  
(Q 55:6)*







## The Book of the Universe

*Do you not see that to God bow down in submission all those in the heavens and all those on the earth, as well as the sun, the moon, the stars, the mountains, the trees, and all living beings, as well as many humans (Q 22:18)*

*And your Lord inspired the bees: Make your homes in the mountains, the trees and what people construct (Q 16:68)*

*Have they not seen the birds glide in the open sky? None holds them up except God. Indeed, this are signs for those who believe (Q 16:79)*





## The Book of the Universe

*Do they not look on camels—how they were created. And the sky—how it was raised. And the mountains—how they were firmly set up. And the earth—how it was levelled out? (Qur'an 88:17-20)*

*Do they not reflect? (Q 47:24)*

*Why are you not mindful of God? (Q 23:85)*

## Reflecting on the Names of Allah



*Understanding and connecting to God in our daily lives.*

Jinan Yousef

Foreword by Shaykh Mohammad Akram Nadwi

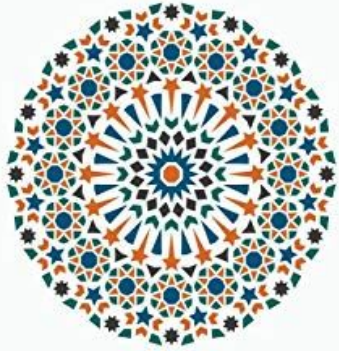


## Divine Names of Beauty and Compassion:

- The Most Compassionate
- The Most Merciful
- The Most Beautiful
- The Most Loving
- The Most Generous
- The Most Kind
- The Most Gentle
- The Sustainer, Provider, Nourisher
- The All and Oft-Forgiving
- The Concealer of Faults
- The Answerer of Prayers
- The Source of Peace
- The Absolute Pure and Holy
- The Most Appreciative
- The Most Forbearing



## Reflecting on the Names of Allah



*Understanding and connecting to God in our daily lives.*

Jinan Yousef

*Foreword by Shaykh Mohammad Akram Nadwi*



## Divine Names of Glory and Power

- The Creator
- The Giver of Life
- The Creator of Death
- The Resurrector of the Dead
- The Omnipotent
- The Omniscient
- The Subduer, Compeller
- The King and Owner of Dominion
- The Guardian
- The All-Aware
- The All-Seeing
- The All-Hearing
- The Judge and Most Just
- The Giver of Honor
- The Avenger





**IQRA**

**Read in the  
Name of Your  
Lord**



## Small group

- Which Divine Names are you able to identify in the natural world? Share some examples.
- After reading more about the Divine Names, to which names are you more drawn to and why?
- In your opinion, where have humans succeeded in displaying God's Names or qualities? Where do they fall short or have failed completely?

## Prophet Muhammad on God

*Prophet Muhammad said, “God has ninety-nine names, i.e. one-hundred minus one, and whoever knows them will go to Paradise. (Sahih Bukhari)*

*God’s Messenger said: “There are ninety-nine names of God; he who commits them to memory will get into Paradise. Verily, God is Singular and He loves the odd number.” (Sahih Muslim)*



# Prophet Muhammad on God

*God has one hundred mercies (rahma), out of which He has sent down only one for jinn, humankind, animals and insects, through which they love one another and have compassion for one another; and through it, wild animals care for their young. God has retained ninety-nine mercies to deal kindly with His servants on the Day of Resurrection.*

(Bukhari and Muslim)





# Prophet Muhammad on God

*When God decreed the Creation He pledged Himself by writing in His book which is laid down with Him: My mercy prevails over my wrath.  
(Bukhari)*

*Some prisoners of war were brought to the Prophet, and a nursing woman was among them. Whenever she found a child among the prisoners, she would take it to her chest and nurse it. The Prophet said to us, “Do you think this woman would throw her child into the fire?” We said, “No, not if she was able to stop it.” The Prophet said, “God is more merciful to His servants than this mother is to her child.”*



# Prophet Muhammad on God

*God the Almighty said: I am as My servant thinks I am. I am with him when he makes mention of Me. If he makes mention of Me to himself, I make mention of him to Myself; and if he makes mention of Me in an assembly, I make mention of him in an assembly better than it. And if he draws near to Me an arm's length, I draw near to him a cubit, and if he draws near to Me a cubit, I draw near to him a fathom. And if he comes to Me walking, I go to him running.*

(Bukhari)



# Prophet Muhammad on God



*God will say on the Day of Resurrection: O son of Adam, I fell ill and you visited Me not. He will say: O Lord, and how should I visit You when You are the Lord of the worlds? He will say: Did you not know that My servant So-and-so had fallen ill and you visited him not? Did you not know that had you visited him you would have found Me with him? O son of Adam, I asked you for food and you fed Me not. He will say: O Lord, and how should I feed You when You are the Lord of the worlds? He will say: Did you not know that My servant So-and-so asked you for food and you fed him not? Did you not know that had you fed him you would surely have found that (the reward for doing so) with Me?*

# Prophet Muhammad on God

*O son of Adam, I asked you to give Me to drink and you gave Me not to drink. He will say: O Lord, how should I give You to drink when You are the Lord of the worlds? He will say: My servant So-and-so asked you to give him to drink and you gave him not to drink. Had you given him to drink you would have surely found that with Me (Muslim)*



# Prophet Muhammad on God



*The Messenger of God said: “God the Almighty has said, ‘Whoever has mutual animosity with a friend of Mine, I declare war upon him. My servant does not draw near to Me with anything more beloved to Me than the religious duties that I have imposed upon him; and My servant continues to draw near to Me with supererogatory works so that I love him. And when I love him, I am his hearing with which he hears, his seeing with which he sees, his hand with which he strikes, and his leg with which he walks. Were he to ask of Me, I would surely give him; and were he to ask Me for refuge, I would surely grant him it.’”*

(Recorded in al-Bukhari)

# Prophet Muhammad on God



If God has loved a servant [of His] He calls Gabriel and says: I love So-and-so, therefore love him. The Prophet said: So Gabriel loves him. Then [Gabriel] calls out in heaven, saying: God loves So-and-so, therefore love him. And the inhabitants of heaven love him. [The Prophet] said: Then acceptance is established for him on earth. And if God has abhorred a servant [of His], He calls Gabriel and says: I abhor So-and-so, therefore abhor him. So Gabriel abhors him. Then Gabriel calls out to the inhabitants of heaven: God abhors So-and-so, therefore abhor him. [The Prophet] said: So they abhor him, and abhorrence is established for him on earth.

(Related by Muslim, Bukhari, Malik, and Tirmidhi).

# God's Most Beautiful Names

Sami Yusuf

## The Most Beautiful Names (Asma Husna)

