Allah's Most Beautiful Names

Allah's Most Beautiful Name:

<u>As-Samad</u> (الصَّمَدُ جل جلاله)

The Besought of all, The Self-Sufficient Master, Whom all creatures need!

Exalted Be He!

Surely, dears, comprehending Allah's Most Beautiful Names is the most honoured of all Islamic sciences, rather it is "the Greatest Branch of Divine Knowledge and Islamic jurisprudence". Rather, it is the Divine knowledge that leads to the Divine light of faith, especially the knowledge about Allah's Most Beautiful Names and Supreme Attributes.

It is, in fact, the most exalted knowledge for which all efforts should be exerted and souls should be worn out. It is, definitely, the best goal to be attained and most dignified knowledge one can ever study and grasp. It is the greatest end that people should vie and compete to reach.

Just as every building has a foundation, the foundation on which one's religion is established is faith and belief in Allah and in His Most Beautiful Names and Most Sublime Attributes. The more this foundation is resolutely established, the firmer this building will be constructed. Hence, it becomes robust and never collapses.

This is known as "Al Fiqh Al Akbar" or "The Greatest Branch of Divine Knowledge and Islamic Law" because it deals with knowledge about Allah's Most Beautiful Names and Most Supreme Attributes. This is the starting point of one's journey to Allah, The Almighty.

Some scholars said: The first obligation that Allah, Glorified be He, has imposed on His slaves is to know Him, and acquire knowledge about Him. Once they know Him, they worship Him. Allah, The Almighty, says:

Lhat, Lâ ilâha illallâh (none has the right to be worshipped but Allâh)¹, and ask forgiveness for your sin, and also for (the sin of) believing men and believing women. And Allâh knows well your moving about, and your place of rest (in your homes)." (Surat Muhammad, 19)

Therefore, Muslims should know The Most Beautiful Names of Allah and their meanings and denotations, so that they glorify Him in the manner due to Him, and show Him His proper reverence. This is because Allah, The Almighty, created us and provided us with our livelihood and all bestowments, and we hope for His mercy and fear His wrath. Thus, we must know about His Most Beautiful Names and their meanings.

Ibn al-Qaiyym, may Allah be pleased with him, said:

[The slave will never feel settled, be considered knowledgeable, or a true believer until he believes in the Sublime Attributes of his Lord, Exalted be He, and acquires divine knowledge about them so that he will no longer be ignorant about his Lord. This is because believing in Allah's Sublime Attributes and becoming cognizant of them is the foundation of Islam, the basis of faith, and the divine fruit of the tree of *Ihsan* [i.e. the obtainment of perfection or excellence, in worship, such that Muslims try to worship Allah as if they see Him. And although they cannot see Him, they undoubtedly believe that He is constantly watching over them].

Ibn al-Qaiyym said: [In the heart, there is an anxiousness that nothing can calm down but drawing nearer to Allah. And over the heart, looms a

loneliness that nothing can eliminate but experiencing His company in private. And in there exists a sorrow that nothing can dismiss but the joy of knowing Him and sincerely devoting oneself to Him. And in there exists a fear that nothing can reassure but focusing on Allah and fleeing from 'Him' to 'Him'. And in there flare the flames of regret, and nothing can extinguish them but becoming content with His commands, prohibitions, destiny, and patiently gripping on to all that until the time it meets Him. And in there exists a pressing demand; it will not stop until He 'alone' becomes its greatest pursuit. And in there is a dire need; nothing will satisfy it except loving Allah, constantly remembering Him, and being sincerely devoted to Him. And if a person were given this entire world and all it contains, it would never fulfill that need."]

- ⇒ Knowing about Allah, His Most Beautiful Names, Most Sublime Attributes and Most Divine Deeds is the most exalted and awe-inspiring branch of knowledge of the religion of Islam. Acquiring divine knowledge about them will make you fear Allah, hope in His mercy, entrust your affairs to Him.
- ⇒ In fact, the greatest thing that strengthens faith and makes it deeply-rooted in our hearts is gaining knowledge about the Most Beautiful Names of Allah, The Almighty, that are mentioned in the holy Quran and authentic Sunnah¹. Not only should we know about these Most Beautiful Names but be keen to understand their meanings and worship Allah with them as well.
 - We repeat Allah's Name, As-Samad [The Eternal Refuge, The Self-Sufficient Master, Whom all creatures need] several times a day in:
 - The Sunnah of Fajr prayer (two Rak'ah before the obligatory dawn (Fajr) prayer);

¹ Sunnah means the way of the Prophet Muhammad (Allah's blessings and peace be upon him). It includes everything he said, did, and approved. We know the Sunnah from the statements called Hadiths that have been handed down from the Companions of the Prophet. Islamic Law is taken from the Quran and Sunnah. The Sunnah in this sense both explains the Quran, and also gives additional rules and guidance. The Quran in many places tells us to obey the Prophet (Allah's blessings and peace be upon him), and thus it is wrong—as some deviant sects claim—that the Quran is sufficient and that we do not need the Sunnah.

- > The Witr prayer²;
- The morning and evening remembrances (a set of adhkār (Supplications/invocations for Remembrance said in the morning and evening) prescribed by the Messenger (Allah's blessings and peace be upon him), and
- The remembrances of sleep that are proved to be established and authentic.

Each one of us should ask herself: 'who is the first one I resort to in my needs? To whom do I rush? Whom do I implore in calamities? Whom do I beseech? Who is the one I have hopes in? Whom do I fear most? Who is the one I seek for guidance when I feel confused about a certain issue? To whom do I complain when I feel tired, exhausted and fatigued by worldly problems? Whom do I praise and thank when I rejoice? Who is my eternal refuge in my life? Who is the one who suffices me?'

The Most Beautiful Name "As-Samad" in the Arabic language:

As-Samad: is the one who is besought by everyone to fulfill needs.

Something that is *samad*: has no cavity to be filled.

The Meaning of Allah's Most Beautiful Name {As-Samad}:

- CAt-Tabari said: [Allah is As-Samad [The Self-Sufficient Master, Whom all creatures need, (He neither eats nor drinks; He is The Besought of all, needing none]. Allah, Glorified be He, is The One Who has no cavity needing to be filled and It is He Who feeds but is not fed, Exalted be He!!]
- C It was said: [As-Samad is The Master Who is perfect in His mastery. All Greatness is attributed to Allah, Glorified be He, and to Him Absolute perfection belongs. Glorified be Allah, Who has absolute samadiyyah {freedom from any defect or want}.

² Witr prayer is part of the night prayer, and it is Sunnah and it is the end of the night prayer, one rak'ah with which one concludes the night prayers at the end of the night, or in the middle of the night, or at the beginning of the night after 'Isha' prayer. You pray whatever you can, then you conclude it with one rak'ah.

(فقد روي عن ابن عباس -رضي الله عنهما- أن الصمد هو: السيد الذي قد كَمُلَ في سئوْدُدِه، والشريف الذي قد كَمُلَ في شرفه، والعظيم الذي قد كَمُلَ في عظمته، والحليم الذي قد كَمُلَ في حلمه، والحليم الذي قد كَمُلَ في حكمته، وهو الذي في حلمه، والحكيم الذي قد كَمُلَ في حكمته، وهو الذي قد كَمُلَ في أنواع الشرف والسنَّوْدُد، وهو الله سبحانه، هذه صفته لا تنبغي إلا له، ليس له كُفْءٌ، وليس كمثله شيء، سبحان الله الواحد القهار.)

The great Companion, bin 'Abbas (may Allah be pleased with him), once explained the meaning of this Most Beautiful Name As-Samad {The Eternal Refuge, The Self-Sufficient Master} as [The Master Who is perfect in His mastery; The Honorable Who is perfect in His honor; The Great Who is perfect in His greatness; The Forbearing Who is perfect in His forbearance; The Self-Sufficient Who is perfect in His self-sufficiency; The Compeller Who is perfect in His compulsion, The All-Knowing Who is perfect in His knowledge, The All-Wise Who is perfect in His wisdom. He, Glorified be He, is The One who is perfect in every form of honor and mastery; He is Allah—The Exalted; this is His Most Sublime Attribute that no one except Him deserves and that are not proper for anyone except Him. There is nothing whatsoever like unto Him; He is Allah, The One, The Superb Vanquisher!]

- C Some scholars said: [As-Samad is The Eternal, The Everlasting Lord after the annihilation and extinction of His creations.]
- CAnd it was said "As-Samad" is "The One to Whom all affairs are returned; nothing is decided or determined except if He wills and no one is above him."
- CSheikh Al-Saadi said: ["As-Samad" is the One Whom all creatures seek in all their needs, conditions and necessities, because of His absolute perfection in His Self, Names and Deeds.]
- CAllah (the Glorified and Exalted) is As-Samad Whom every human being and jinn need at every moment, rather the entire worlds, the upper and lower ones, with their subtle and sublime needs and afflictions are in earnest need of Him.
- Cubayy bin Kaab said: "As-Samad [The Eternal Refuge, The Self-Sufficient Master, Whom all creatures need, (He neither eats nor drinks)]. He begets not, nor was He begotten; because anything that was born (i.e. has a beginning) will eventually die, and anything that dies will be inherited;

however, Allah, The Almighty, does not die nor will He be inherited, Glorified be He."

- ©Ibn Taymiyyah (may Allah have mercy on him) said: "Allah, Glorified be He, is The One Who is resorted to in needs and calamities, and Who is sought in wants, and He is The One Who is called for help in times of disasters."
- CAt the core of Allah's name As-Samad [The Eternal Refuge, The Self-Sufficient Master, Whom all creatures need] is the idea that He is sought and besought by all beings, in their needs for His unique perfection and He, Glorified be He, suffices them, because He is their Only Lord, and they have no other Lord to resort to and seek except Him. In short, Allah is The One and Only Lord sought by creatures in worship and supplication. Allah, The Almighty, says:

"Say (O Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم): "He is Allâh, (the) One. Allâh-us-Samad (السيد الذي يصمد إليه في الحاجات) [Allâh the Self-Sufficient Master, Whom all creatures need, (He neither eats nor drinks)]. He begets not, nor was He begotten. And there is none co-equal or comparable unto Him."" (Surat Al-Ikhlas, 1-4)

- All these meanings of the term "As-Samad" revolve around The Oneness of Allah, The Almighty.
 - [The meanings of Allah's name "As-Samad" make the slave feel strength, might, honour, self-richness and sufficiency and the ability to do without everything and everyone except Allah, The Almighty. So, he realizes the meaning of Allah's saying in the holy Quran:

"Is not Allâh Sufficient for His slave?" (Surat Az-Zumar, 36)]

There are many instances when we feel paralyzed by our fears, beaten down by our feebleness, or suffocated by our anxiety about the future. We feel weak, frail, poor and even lacking means. At these moments, when we feel all at a loss, we badly need to invoke Allah, The Almighty. No sooner do we invoke Him than we find our worries vanished, as long

as our Lord As-Samad [The Eternal Refuge, The Self-Sufficient Master, Whom all creatures need] hears our supplication and sees our place. At this moment, we feel all our fears disappeared, so long as the whole universe is nothing but scattered floating particles of dust.

Know for sure, dears, that if the mankind and the jinn gather to benefit you with anything, they won't benefit you except with what Allah has already prescribed for you, and if they gather to harm you with anything, they won't harm you except with what Allah has already prescribed for you. Then, imagine that Allah, As-Samad, is WITH you, giving you success and assistance, who dares oppose you?!!!

Allah's Name as-Samad [The Eternal Refuge, The Self-Sufficient Master, Whom all creatures need] in the holy Quran: it is mentioned once in Surat Al-Ikhlas (The Sincerity: Chapter 112 of the holy Quran). Allah, The Almighty, says:

"Say (O Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم): "He is Allâh, (the) One. Allâh-us-Samad (السيد الذي يصمد إليه في الحاجات) [Allâh the Self-Sufficient Master, Whom all creatures need, (He neither eats nor drinks)]."" (Surat Al-Ikhlas, 1-2)

Allah's Most Beautiful Name {As-Samad [The Eternal Refuge, The Self-Sufficient Master, Whom all creatures need]} is mentioned in the authentic Sunnah in many sayings (ahadeeth) of Allah's Messenger (Allah's blessings and peace be upon him).

Abu Huraira (may Allah be pleased with him) reported that Allah's Messenger (Allah's blessings and peace be upon him) said: [Allah, Exalted be He, said: "I am As-Samad {The Eternal Refuge, The Self-Sufficient Master}; I beget not, nor was I begotten; and there is none co-equal or comparable unto Me." [Narrated by Al-Bukhari]

وعن أبي هريرة رضي الله عنه قال صلى الله عليه وسلم (يُوشِكُ الناسُ يتساعلونَ حتى يقولَ قائِلُهم: هذا اللهُ خلق الخَلْقَ فَمَن خلق اللهُ؟ فإذا قالوا ذلك فقولوا: اللهُ أَحَدٌ، اللهُ الصَّمَدُ، لَمْ يَلِدْ، وَلَمْ يُولَدْ وَلَمْ يَكُنْ لَهُ كُفُوا أَحَدٌ ثم لِيَتْقُلْ عن يَسَارِهِ ثلاثًا ولْيَسْتَعِدْ من الشيطان) صحيح الجامع

Abu Hurairah, may Allah be pleased with him, reported that Allah's Messenger (Allah's blessings and peace be upon him): "Men will continue to question one another till this questioning is propounded and one of them say: 'Allah created all creations, but who created Allah?' When they say this, say, 'Allâh is (The) One. Allâh-us-Samad (السيد الذي يصمد إليه في الحاجات) [Allâh, The Self-Sufficient Master, Whom all creatures need, (He neither eats nor drinks)]. He begets not, nor was He begotten. And there is none co-equal or comparable unto Him.' Then one should spit three times on his left side and seek refuge in Allah from the accursed Satan."

Allah's Name {As-Samad} [The Eternal Refuge, The Self-Sufficient Master, Whom all creatures need] is mentioned with His Most Beautiful Name {Al-Ahad (The One)} only in Surat Al-Ikhlas (The Sincerity: Chapter 112 of the holy Quran).as Allah, The Almighty, says:

"Say (O Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم): "He is Allâh, (the) One. Allâh-us-Samad (السيد الذي يصمد إليه في الحاجات) [Allâh the Self-Sufficient Master, Whom all creatures need, (He neither eats nor drinks)]."" (Surat Al-Ikhlas, 1-2)

Surat Al-Ikhlas (The Sincerity: Chapter 112 of the holy Quran) is a Meccan Surah (that is to say, this Koranic Chapter was revealed in Mecca). It deals with the Most Sublime Attributes of Allah, The Almighty, the One and Only Lord, The Unique Who is High above any defects and free from any attributes of inferiority, similarity or resemblance.

Allah is "Al-Ahad" {The One}, Al-Fard {The Unique, The All-Independent}, The One and Only Lord, Who is above any defects and Who has no equals or likes in *His Self, His Rububyyah* (Lordship), His *Uluhyyah* (the belief in the Oneness of Allah in Worship, i.e. no one except Him deserves to be worshipped), His Most Beautiful Names and Most Sublime Attributes).

The Cause of Revelation of Surat Al-Ikhlas (The Sincerity: Chapter 112 of the holy Quran):

Ubayy bin Ka`b reported that the idolaters said to Allah's Messenger (Allah's blessings and peace be upon him): "O Muhammad! Tell us the lineage of your Lord." So, Allah, The Almighty, revealed: "Say (O Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم): "He is Allâh, (the) One. Allâh-us-Samad (السيد الذي يصمد إليه في الحاجات) [Allâh the Self-Sufficient Master, Whom all creatures need, (He neither eats nor drinks)] {i.e. Surat Al-Ikhlas}."" [Narrated by At-Tirmidhi]

- ⇒ Let's raise a question here: Did the polytheists know their Lord As-Samad?
 - YES, OF COURSE, they all knew Allah, As-Samad, and they used to take refuge in Him whenever they needed Him, for He, Glorified be He, is the One Who sufficed them and fulfilled their needs and answered their prayers, to whom they resorted when in need. Allah, Exalted be He, says:

"And verily, if you ask them: "Who created the heavens and the earth?" Surely, they will say: "Allâh (has created them)." (Surat Az-Zummar, 38)

*Imran bin Husayn reported: "Allah's Messenger (Allah's blessings and peace be upon him) asked my father: 'O Husayn! How many gods do you worship today?' He said, 'Seven; six on earth and one in the heaven.' Allah's Messenger (Allah's blessings and peace be upon him) said, 'Which of them do you depend on in your moments of hope and fear?' He said, 'The one in the heaven.'"

'Imran soon embraced Islam, convinced that as-Samad [The Eternal Refuge, The Self-Sufficient Master, Whom all creatures need], to Whom we resort in hope and fear, is Allah, The only One to Whom all heads must be lowered in prostration.

■ The polytheists knew that Allah is As-Samad, and they used to resort to Him in their needs, but they denied that He is The One and Only Lord, and that no one except Him deserves to be worshipped.

Surat Al-Ikhlas is Named {Al-Ikhlas (The Sincerity)} for Two Reasons:

- Firstly: Allah, The Almighty, has singled it out purely for Himself, as it affirms the concept of Allah's oneness and invalidates all forms of idolatry and polytheism. It is all about Allah, The Almighty, and His Most Sublime Attributes.
- Secondly: this Surah saves the slave who recites it with full sincere faith from polytheism and rids him of any form of idolatry.
- At the beginning of the Prophet's divine mission, it was intended to prove the Oneness of Allah and to invalidate the doctrine of polytheism, thus Surat Al-Ikhlas (The Sincerity: Chapter 112 of the holy Quran) was revealed in which Allah describes Himself as {The One}.
- It was a refutation of the Christians' claim that: 'Messiah is the son of Allah' and the Jews' claim that 'Uzair is the son of Allah' and a refutation as well of the polytheists' claim that 'the angels are the daughters of Allah', and He, Exalted and Glorified be He, begets not, nor was He begotten. And there is none co-equal or comparable unto Him. Allah, The Almighty, says:

"And the Jews say: 'Uzair (Ezra) is the son of Allâh', and the Christians say: 'Messiah is the son of Allâh'. That is their saying with their mouths, resembling the saying of those who disbelieved aforetime. Allâh's Curse be on them, how they are deluded away from the truth!" (Surat At-Tawbah, 30)

ا عن أبي هريرة عن النبي - صلى الله عليه وسلم - عن ربِّه: «كَذَّبَنِي ابْنُ آدَمَ وَلَمْ يَكُنْ لَهُ ذَلِكَ، وَشَتَمَنِي وَلَمْ يَكُنْ لَهُ ذَلِكَ، فَأَمَّا تَكْذِيبُهُ إِيَّايَ فَقَوْلُهُ: لَنْ يُعِيدَنِي كَمَا بَدَأْنِي، وَلَيْسَ أَوَّلِ الْخَلْقِ بِأَهْوَن عَلَيَّ مِنْ إِعَادَتِهِ، وَأَمَّا شَتْمُهُ إِيَّايَ فَقَوْلُهُ: اتَّخَذَ الله وَلَذًا وَأَنَا الأَحَدُ الصَّمَدُ لَمْ أَلِدْ وَلَمْ أُولَدْ وَلَمْ يَكُنْ لِي كُفُوًا أَحَدٌ». رواه بخاري

- Abu Huraira reported that the Messenger of Allah, Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, said: "Allah, The Almighty, has said: 'The son of Adam has given the lie to Me and he has no right to do so, and he has insulted Me and he has no right to do so. As for the lie he given to Me, it is his saying: 'He will not resurrect me as He originated my creation before.' although his resurrection is easier for Me than his original creation. As for his insult, it is his saying: 'Allah has begotten a son.' while I am The One, The Eternal Refuge, The Self-Sufficient Master, Whom all creatures need. I beget not, nor was I begotten. And there is none co-equal or comparable unto Me." [Narrated by Al-Bukhari]
- Surat Al-Ikhlas (The Sincerity: Chapter 112 of the holy Quran), according to Allah's Messenger (Allah's blessings and peace be upon him), equals *one-third of the holy Quran*:

عن أبي سعيد الخدري- رضى الله عنه- أن رسول الله ﷺ قال في قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ: "والذي نفسي بيده إنها لتعدل ثلث القرآن."

Abu Saed Al-Khudari, may Allah be pleased with him, reported that Allah's Messenger (Allah's blessings and peace be upon him) said about "Say (O Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم): "He is Allâh, (the) One" [Surat Al-Ikhlas]: "By the One in whose hand is my soul, it is equivalent to onethird of the Quran."

وفي رواية: أن رسول الله ﷺ قال الأصحابه:أيعجز أحدكم أن يقرأ ثلث القرآن في ليلة فشق ذلك عليهم، وقالوا: أينا يطيق ذلك يا رسول الله؟ فقال: (قُلْ هُوَ اللهُ أَحَدٌ اللهُ الصَّمَدُ ثلث القرآن.) رواه البخاري.

In another narration, it was reported that Allah's Messenger (Allah's blessings and peace be upon him) said to his companions: "Is any one of you incapable of reciting one-third of the Quran in a night?" They (i.e. the companions) found it too hard to bear, so they asked him: "How could one manage to recite one-third of the Quran (in a night), Messenger of Allah?" Thereupon, Allah's Messenger (Allah's blessings and peace be upon him) said: ""Say (O Muhammad المالية عليه وسلم الله عليه في الحاجات): "He is Allâh, (the) One. Allâh-us-Samad (السيد الذي يصمد إليه في الحاجات) [Allâh the Self-Sufficient Master, Whom all creatures need, (He neither

eats nor drinks)] (Surat Al-Ikhlas)" is equivalent to one third of the Quran." [Narrated by Al-Bukhari]

(روى مسلم عَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ قَالَ: قَالَ رَسُولُ اللّهِ صَلَّى اللّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ: احْشُدُوا فَإِنِي سَأَقْرَأُ عَلَيْهُ ثُلُثَ الْقُرْآنِ فَحَشَدَ مَنْ حَشَدَ، ثُمَّ خَرَجَ نَبِيُّ اللّهِ صَلَّى اللّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ فَقَرَأَ قُلْ هُوَ اللّهُ أَحَدٌ ثُمَّ دَخَلَ، فَقَالَ بَعْضُنَا لِبَعْضِ: إِنِّي أُرَى هَذَا خَبِرٌ جَاءَهُ مِنْ السَّمَاءِ، فَذَاكَ الَّذِي أَدْخَلَهُ، ثُمُّ دَخَلَ، فَقَالَ بَعْضُنَا لِبَعْضِ: إِنِّي أُرَى هَذَا خَبِرٌ جَاءَهُ مِنْ السَّمَاءِ، فَذَاكَ الَّذِي أَدْخَلَهُ، ثُمُّ مَنْ السَّمَاءِ، فَذَلْكَ اللهِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهُ وَسَلَّمَ فَقَالَ: إِنِّي قُلْتُ لَكُمْ سَأَقْرَأُ عَلَيْكُمْ ثُلُثَ الْقُرْآنِ. وَسَلَّمَ فَقَالَ: إِنِّي قُلْتُ لَكُمْ سَأَقْرَأُ عَلَيْكُمْ ثُلُثَ الْقُرْآنِ.

Abu Hurairah reported that the Messenger of Allah (Allah's blessings and peace be upon him) said: "Gather for I shall recite to you one third of the Quran." He said: "So whoever was to gather did, then the Messenger of Allah (Allah's blessings and peace be upon him) came out and recited "Say (O Muhammad (Dalah)): "He is Allâh, (the) One) (Surat Al-Ikhlas)". Then he went back in. Some of his companions said to each other: "I think this is a divine news revealed to him from the heaven, and this what made him go back in. Then Allah's Prophet (Allah's blessings and peace be upon him) came out and said: "Indeed I told you that I would recite to you one-third of the Quran, and it is [i.e. Surat Al-Ikhlas], surely, equal to one-third of the Quran." [Narrated by Muslim]

- The scholars said that this Surah (Quranic Chapter) is equivalent to onethird of the holy Quran because it comprises exalted divine meanings, knowledge and facts
- An-Nawawi said: "The eminent scholar Al-Qady said: Al-Mazzri stated: 'It was said: This means that the holy Quran contains three main divine topics: inspiring stories, rulings, and the Sublime Attributes of Allah, The Almighty, and Surat Al-Ikhlas [The Sincerity: Chapter 112 of the holy Quran] mentions Allah's attributes, thus, it represents one-third thereof and one part of the three parts thereof.'"
- The Sciences of the Quran are three: 1 The Belief in the Oneness of Allah (Monotheism), and 2 divine rulings, and 3 the wise inspiring stories.
- Surat Al-Ikhlas (The Sincerity: Chapter 112 of the holy Quran) deals with *At-Tawheed* (The Belief in Allah's Oneness (Monotheism)) that it is why it represents one-third of the holy Quran, because it is the basis and the foundation of the Belief in The Oneness of Allah, The Almighty.

This Surah singles out Allah 'alone' with worship, without a partner or a son, Glorified and Exalted be He! High above (the great falsehood) that they say! (i.e. forged statements that there are other gods along with Allâh, but He is Allâh, the One, the Self-Sufficient Master, Whom all creatures need. He begets not, nor was He begotten, and there is none comparable or coequal unto Him)!!

- Nowadays, people's hearts are attached to things and persons other than Allah, Exalted be He. Of course, they have not declared what the Jews, Christians and polytheists declared, but their attitude and affairs bespeak this. That is why many people are mentally ill, crimes are rife, and there are substantially increased rates of suicide. All this is because of people's abandonment of their Lord's path, as they refrain from resorting to Him. Imagine a person abstaining from taking refuge in his creator, rather he hastens to resort to his desires and lusts, hence they are annihilated.
- That is why, according to the Sunnah of Prophet Muhammad (Allah's blessings and peace be upon him), we have to recite the Name of Allah, As-Samad [The Eternal Refuge, The Self-Sufficient] by day and night, in prayers, remembrances, and the Quran recitation.
- This is because Allah is As-Samad, [The Eternal Refuge, The Self-Sufficient Master, Whom all creatures need]. It is He Who is the Eternally Sought by all creations in their wants and needs, Whom we hasten to implore in calamities and ask for help in disasters, in hope and fear. We need Allah, The Almighty; that is why it will be better for you to turn and return to Him willingly, if not, you will return to Him unwillingly.
- You want to get all benefits whatsoever, and you want to repel harm! So, on whom can you depend? whom do you seek? whom do you trust? and to whom will you resort? Do you have a need? you want something? Then search for some strong support for refuge, in order to take shelter in. *There are four conditions that must be in the One to Whom you should resort:*
 - 1) He must be perfect in Himself, His Names and Attributes, free from and high above all defects and shortcomings; and
 - 2) He must be Beneficent to you;
 - 3) This beneficence is what you hope in to reach out to you in the future.
 - 4) He must possess the power, might and perfect dominance.

Dears, empty your hearts of anyone other than Allah, and resort to Him, As-Samad [The Eternal Refuge, The Self-Sufficient Master, Whom all creatures need, alone for it is impossible to find the four conditions above in anyone except Allah, The One, The Eternal Refuge.

Mow Do We Worship Allah with His Name (Al-Samad)?

Firstly: By Loving and Adoring Him, Exalted be He, with the Greatest Pure Love: of course, no one is more deserving to be loved the greatest pure love than Him, Glorified be He, The Lord to Whom creatures resort, and to whom they rush to fulfill their needs and relieve their distresses. You know, dears, souls are disposed to love persons who help them and fulfill their needs, not to mention the One and Only Lord, As-Samad, Who is besought by all; no one can relieve calamities, or answer the distressed ones except Him!! This love necessitates our hastening to obey Him, striving hard to attain His pleasure, and avoiding any act of disobedience.

Secondly: By Resorting to no one except Allah to Fulfill your needs: also, you must abstain from having hopes in anyone except Allah! Every slave must single out Allah in refuge, aspiration, hope, invocation, supplication, reliance, attachment, and trust; As Ali bin Abu Taleb, may Allah be pleased with him, said: "Let none of you fear anything but his sin, and hope in no one except his Lord."

Thirdly: By Adopting the Traits of Leadership and Become maqsūd (sought out) by people, always striving hard to help them:

Al-Qurtubi said: "The slave has to adopt the traits of leadership and leaders, so that he become *masmūd* (resorted to), and his door [can be] sought out.

Hisham bin 'Urwa reported that his father said, "I lived to see Sa'd bin 'Ubada (may Allah be pleased with him) having an announcer who would call people to his home to offer them food, and later lived to see his son Qays who used to invite others in the same way."

In other words, the generation of the Companions of Allah's Messenger (Allah's blessings and peace be upon him) actualized the divine quality of **samadiyya** as best as human beings can, by making themselves available for the unconditional service of others each day of their lives and instilling this virtue in their children as well.

Allah's Messenger (Allah's blessings and peace be upon him) said: "Allah will help His slave so long as this slave helps his brother." [Narrated by Muslim]

Allah's Messenger (Allah's blessings and peace be upon him) said: "Whoever has served the need of his brother, Allah (The Most High) will serve his need." [Narrated by At-Tirmidhi]

Imagine the great blessings bestowed on you: that is, Allah, The Almighty, is The One who fulfills your needs for you; will you have any need for you that is not satisfied?

The Messenger of Allah, Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, said, "Good deeds protect from evil fates, pests and disasters; and the people of beneficence in the life of this world are the people of beneficence in the Hereafter."

Therefore, Allah "As-Samad" is The One Who: has absolute perfection in everything, and He is The Self-Sufficient Who is perfect in His self-sufficiency; and everyone else is in need of him in everything. He is The One Who is Besought by all and resorted to, and is relied on by all. He is The All-Perfect in all His Sublime Attributes and Most Superior Deeds, there is no deficiency in any way, and no one is above Him in His perfection, for He is The Besought by all in their needs and all their affairs, for all things and affairs are retuned to Him; no one other than Him decides or maintains them. Indeed, He is The Only One to Whom the creatures resort in their needs, affairs, wants and desires, and It is He Who feeds but is not fed, Who begets not, nor was He begotten! Exalted be He!!]

- Imam al-Qurtubi said: "Everyone who is religiously accountable [pubescent, sane, and has received the message of Islam] must know and believe that no one is Self-Sufficient (and Absolutely Free from want) except Allah; and no one is Ahad (One and Only) except Allah. No one other than Him could be resorted to, and no one except Him can be besought."
- Don't get fed up with your worries, or your illness, or your debts, rather resort to Allah, As-Samad, Glorified be He. Whenever you take refuge in Him, you will not be let down or failed. You have just to be sincere and earnest when you turn and resort to your Lord. Know for sure that waiting for relief is, in itself, an act of worship, and *it is impossible* for things to stay the same, as the nights are replete with marvelous wonders, and the Unseen is hidden. So, indeed along with every hardship is relief.

يا صاحب الهم إن الهمّ منفرجٌ أبشِر بخير فإن الفارجَ الله اليأس يقطع أحيانًا بصاحبه لا تيئسنَّ فإن الكافي الله فإن بُليت فثقْ بالله وارضَ به إن الذي يكشف البلوى هو الله

O anxious one, relief is forthcoming
Give glad tidings of good, For The Capable Reliever is Allah!

Despair can sometimes make one forlorn
Do not despair as Allah is The Sufficient.
If you are tested with calamities,
Then place your trust in Allah and
Depend on Him wholeheartedly.
Indeed, The One who Removes the tribulations is Allah!

So, when we say, "O Allah! As-Samad (The Eternal Refuge)" we must realize that we have taken refuge in Allah, The Great, The Supreme Lord! We must know that we have resorted to The Owner of Power, and have held fast to The Omnipotent, Whom no one can stop or hamper, because He is The All-Perfect in Himself in His Most Beautiful Names, Most Sublime Attributes and Most Divine Deeds, Who is resorted to and invoked by all people in need and fear.

- The holy Quran has informed us about the the patrons (the pious worshippers) of Allah who resorted and held fast to Him. On the other hand, the holy Quran has informed us about Allah's enemies who resorted and held fast to their lineage, kinship, money and soldiers. *Have you ever heard that Allah failed His patrons (pious worshippers)?*
- Allah, The Almighty, has related to us in the holy Quran what Prophet Noah (Allah's peace be upon him) did after he had tolerated patiently the harm of his people and how he resorted to his Lord, As-Samad:

"The people of Nûh (Noah) denied (their Messenger) before them. They rejected Our slave, and said: "A madman!" and he was insolently rebuked and threatened. Then he invoked his Lord (saying): "I have been overcome, so help (me)!"" (Surat Al-Qamar, 9-10)

These few words: "I have been overcome, so help (me)!" ascended to the Lord of the worlds, for which the earth and the heavens shook.

⇒ That was Noah's call: "O my Lord! My people have overwhelmed me and they did not respond to me. So, take retribution from them."

So, the answer came from Allah, Exalted be He, demonstrating His amazingly great and marvelous omnipotence. Our Lord, The Most High, Who possesses everything, says:

"So, We opened the gates of the heaven with water pouring forth. And We caused springs to gush forth from the earth. So the waters (of the heaven and the earth) met for a matter predestined." (Surat Al-Qamar, 11-12)

The water of the sky and the water of the earth, all the springs of the earth, its wells and its seas exploded. The water coming down from the sky met with the water gushing from the ground for a matter that Allah had determined in eternity. Allah, The Almighty, saved Noah, and all his people drowned.

Thus, Allah, Exalted be He, rescued His slave and His pious worshippers with him, for He, The Almighty, has everything in His hand. Thus, let us attach our hearts to our Lord and never attach our hearts to human beings, for the Lord of human beings, Glorified be He, is Able to change everything in a fraction of a second. Allah, The Almighty, says:

"Verily! Our Word unto a thing when We intend it, is only that We say unto it: "Be!" - and it is." (Surat An-Nahl, 40)

- → 'One single' word can lead to the change of everything, so let us all resort and hold fast to Allah, As-Samad {The Eternal Refuge, The Self-Sufficient Lord}, The Most High, in prosperity and adversity, in secret and in public: for Allah, The Almighty, is All-Hearing, Ever Near, All-Responsive and Supreme Answerer 'to prayers'.
- Prophet Moses, Allah's peace be upon him, took refuge in his Lord, thus amazing miracles occurred. Moses said as related in the holy Quran:

"[Mûsâ (Moses)] said: "Nay, verily with me is my Lord. He will guide me." (Surat Ash-Shu`ra', 62)

So, the relief and salvation came from his Lord, As-Samad, Exalted be He.

"Then We revealed to Mûsâ (Moses) (saying): "Strike the sea with your stick." And it parted, and each separate part (of that sea water) became like huge mountain." (Surat Ash-Shu`ara', 63)

The calamity of the Children of Israel was aggravated, as they saw large armies, they had no power to face, following them.

Hence, Allah, The Almighty, commanded Moses to strike the sea with his staff; he did. The sea parted, turning into twelve paths: the same number as the tribes of the Israelites, and each parted segment (of the sea water) was like a great mountain in its grandeur and stability, such that no water flowed from it.

[Explanation: This happened when Allah at last appointed a night for the exodus of the Israelites and the other Muslims from Egypt. They were asked to gather at a fixed place and set forth as a caravan. Just at the time when they reached the coast of the Red Sea they had to cross to the Sinai Peninsula, Pharaoh arrived there with a huge army in their pursuit. We learn from (Surah Ash-Shuara, Ayats 61-63) that when they were literally between the army and the deep sea, Allah commanded Moses (Allah's peace be upon him) to smite the sea with his staff and the sea split and stood like two high walls on both sides, leaving a dry path between them for the caravan to pass. Thus, it is quite clear and plain that it was a miracle, and not the result of a wind storm or tide, for when the water rises in this way it does not remain standing like two high walls, leaving a dry path between them. Pharaoh with his hosts followed the caravan on the dry path and they all were drowned. The Israelites had reached the other shore and saw them drowning in the sea.]

■ Dears! Adhere to servitude and worship your Lord in order to have eternal felicity and everlasting happiness! Only then, you shall be able to fulfill your needs, obtain your desires, and eliminate your concerns and worries.

One of the first Surahs (Quranic Chapters) that children memorize and learn is Surat Al-Ikhlas (The Sincerity: Chapter 112 of the holy Quran)? Why?

⇒ According to the child's normal instinct, he feels weak. His sense of weakness makes him feel that there must be a Supreme Being, Who has perfect Attributes and to Whom everyone should resort and turn in order to empower his weakness. This normal instinct of children, and of all souls makes them feel that there must be a Great Supreme Power to Whom all attributes of perfection are attributed.

But why do the children have that feeling?

- Allah, The Almighty, has instilled in the hearts of children the first feeling of weakness, helplessness, want, poverty and need to force them to worship Him, Exalted be He, and push them to adhere to servitude.
- They are overwhelmed by the second feeling: that there must be a Great, Strong, Rich Supreme Being, to Whom they can resort, so that the purpose of creation is achieved, that is: the worship of Allah and our servitude to Him.

Allah, The Almighty, says:

"And I (Allâh) created not the jinn and mankind except that they should worship Me (Alone)." (Surat Adh-Dharyyat, 56)

- ⇒ This must be repeated over and over to the little ones. In other words, it is essential to mention to them repetitively that: one must take refuge in no one except Allah, only Allah gives and grants us everything, and only Allah can relieve our distresses.
- ⇒ The repetition of these words and concepts builds in the children's hearts the belief in the Oneness of Allah (Monotheism), the sound and intact belief, so they believe in The Oneness of Allah in their actions and worship. So, their hearts become attached to no one except Him, in love, fear and hope (inward acts of worship practised by the heart) and in worship (the outward acts of worship: the prayer, fasting and almsgiving).
- Indeed, the best concepts that we must teach our children and impart to them (and even impart to ourselves) are the divine meanings of Allah's Most Beautiful Names: {Al-Ahad (i.e. The One and Only Lord)} and {As-Samad (The Eternal Refuge, The Self-Sufficient Lord)} for everything except Allah will perish. Allah, The Almighty, says:

"Whatsoever is on it (the earth) will perish." (Surat Ar-Rahman, 26)

All and everything except Allah is weak, helpless, and poor. Allah, The Almighty, says:

{وَاتَّخَذُوا مِن دُونِهِ آلِهَةً لَا يَخْلُقُونَ شَيْئًا وَهُمْ يُخْلَقُونَ وَلَا يَمْلِكُونَ لِأَنفُسِهِمْ ضَرَّا وَلَا نَفْعًا وَلَا يَمْلِكُونَ مَوْتًا وَلَا حَيَاةً وَلَا نُشُورًا} (سورة الفرقان: 3)

"Yet they have taken besides Him other alîhâh (gods) who created nothing but are themselves created, and possess neither harm nor benefit for themselves, and possess no power (of causing) death, nor (of giving) life, nor of raising the dead." (Surat Al-Furqan, 3)

- We must attach their hearts to Allah, Al-Hayyul-Qayyum (The Ever Living, The One Who sustains and protects all that exists), He is The First (nothing is before Him) and The Last (nothing is after Him), The Most High (nothing is above Him) and the Most Near (nothing is nearer than Him), Exalted be He! Tell them: 'If you are with Allah, then you will be free of anxiety. In your life there will be no fear, no worries, no injustice!' Do not attach their hearts to the weak mortals, rather, instill in their souls the love of Allah, The One to Whom belong the keys of the heavens and the earth.
- □ This is our Great God Whom Whose mercy, paradise and satisfaction are all what we hope in. How come then we disobey Him?
- The due right that we, His slaves, should observe toward Allah, As-Samad [The Eternal Refuge, The Self-Sufficient Mater] is, according to Abdullah bin Masoud: (To be obeyed and disobeyed not, to be thanked (without ever denying His graces), and to be remembered and not forgotten).
- Listen to the words of your Lord Whose mercy and forbearance are perfected, for He is Al-Barr (the Most Subtle, Kind, Courteous, and Generous), the Most Merciful Who calls on you to resort to Him with your needs. Even if you are overburdened with sins, resort to Him, as mentioned in the Qudsy (Divine) hadith:

عن أنس بن مالك رضي الله عنه قال: سمعت رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم يقول: وقالَ الله تعالى: (يا ابنَ آدمَ إنَّكَ ما دعَوتَني ورجَوتَني غفَرتُ لَكَ على ما كانَ فيكَ ولا أبالي، يا ابنَ آدمَ لو بلغَت ذنوبُكَ عَنانَ السَّماءِ ثمَّ استغفرتَني غفرتُ لَكَ ولا أبالي، يا ابنَ آدمَ إنَّكَ لو أتيتَني بقرابِ الأرضِ خطايا ثمَّ لقيتَني لا تشركُ بي شيئًا لأتيتُكَ بقرابها مغفرةً). السلسة الصحية

Anas bin Malek (may Allah be pleased with him) reported:
I heard the Messenger of Allah (Allah's blessings and peace be upon him)
say: "Allah the Almighty said: 'O son of Adam, so long as you call upon
Me and invoke Me, I shall forgive you for what you have done, and I
shall not mind. O son of Adam, were your sins to reach the clouds of the
sky and were you then to ask forgiveness of Me, I would forgive you, and

I would not mind. O son of Adam, were you to come to Me with sins that nearly fill the earth, and you then to meet with Me, without having associated any partner with Me, I would bring you forgiveness as great as it (i.e. forgiveness that nearly fills the earth)."

- ⇒ This is our Great Lord, to Whom all creatures resort, gets angry with you if you quit asking and invoking Him.
- Do not ask the sons of Adam for a need and ask Allah, The Almighty, Whose gates are never closed, for Allah gets angry with any person if he abandons asking Him. When the son of Adam is asked for something, he gets angry, whereas Allah gets angry if He is not asked.
- Whatever your need is, Allah's mercy, forgiveness, and responsiveness are greater and more vast than that need, so invoke Him, As-Samad, to fulfill your need.
- When the slave understands that to his Lord all perfection and majesty are attributed, and that nothing is above Him, Exalted be He, and nothing whatsoever can incapacitate Him, and that He is The Eternal Refuge of all creatures, then it is incumbent upon him to resort to Him alone.

When he recognizes that there is no refuge or escape from Allah except to Him, and that to Him 'alone' one must flee, and He is The Only One to Whom the creatures must resort in their needs, affairs, wants and desires, then he is obligated to take refuge in Him 'alone' and to invoke no one but Him to have his need fulfilled, and to worship no one except Him, and to ask the help of no one except Him, and to entrust his affairs to on no one except Him. Allah, The Almighty, says:

﴿ أَمَّن يُجِيبُ الْمُصْطَرَّ إِذَا دَعَاهُ وَيَكْشِفُ السُّوءَ وَيَجْعَلُكُمْ خُلَفَاء الْأَرْضِ أَإِلَـٰلَهُ مَّعَ اللّهِ قُلِيلًا مَّا تَذَكَّرُونَ ﴾ [سورة النمل: 62]

"Is not He (better than your gods) Who responds to the distressed one, when he calls on Him, and Who removes the evil, and makes you inheritors of the earth, generations after generations? Is there any ilâh (god) with Allâh? Little is that you remember!" (Surat An-Naml, 62)

■ The entire world CANNOT inflict you with any harm if Allah WILLS NOT, and NO one in the whole world CAN bring you any benefit that Allah has NOT DECREED for you.

Allah, The Almighty, says:

(مَا يَفْتَح اللَّهُ لِلنَّاسِ مِنْ رَحْمَة فَلَا مُمْسِكَ لَهَا وَمَا يُمْسِكُ فَلَا مُرْسِلَ لَهُ مِنْ بَعْدِهِ وَهُوَ الْعَزِيرُ الْحَكِيمُ) [سورة فاطر: 2]

"Whatever of mercy (i.e. of good), Allâh may grant to mankind, none can withhold it; and whatever He may withhold, none can grant it thereafter. And He is the All-Mighty, the All-Wise." (Surat Fatir, 2)

عَنْ ابْنِ عَبَّاسٍ قَالَ كُنْتُ خَلْفَ رَسُولِ اللهِ صلى الله عليه وسلم- يَوْمًا فَقَالَ: (وَاعْلَمْ أَنَّ الْأُمَّةَ لَوْ اجْتَمَعَتْ عَلَى أَنْ يَنْفَعُوكَ إِلَّا بِشَيْءٍ قَدْ كَتَبَهُ اللهُ لَكَ وَلَوْ اجْتَمَعُوا عَلَى أَنْ يَضُرُّوكَ بِشَيْءٍ لَمْ يَنْفَعُوكَ إِلَّا بِشَيْءٍ قَدْ كَتَبَهُ اللهَ عَلَيْكَ رُفِعَتْ الْأَقْلَمُ وَجَفَّتْ الصَّحُفُ) الترمذي أَنْ يَضُرُّوكَ بِشَيْءٍ لَمْ يَضُرُّوكَ إِلَّا بِشَيْءٍ قَدْ كَتَبَهُ اللهَ عَلَيْكَ رُفِعَتْ الْأَقْلَمُ وَجَفَّتْ الصَّحُفُ) الترمذي

Bin Abbas (may Allah be pleased with him) reported: "One day, I was behind the Prophet (Allah's blessings and peace be upon him) [riding on the same mount] and he said, "...and know that if all the people were to gather to benefit you, they would not be able to benefit you except with that which Allah had decreed for you; and if all of them gather to do harm to you, they would not be able to afflict you with any harm other than that which Allah had decreed against you. The pens have been lifted and the ink (on pages) had dried up (i.e. all destinies had been predecreed by Allah, Exalted be He, long time ago and no one has the power to change Allah's Decree)." [Narrated by At-Tirmidhi]

If all creations, the first and the last of them, the men and jinn were to stand up together and start submitting their needs to Allah, He would fulfill them - Glorified be He, because He is As-Samad {The Eternal Refuge, The Self-Sufficient Master} Who is All-Rich and Most Generous. This is indicated in this Qudsy (Divine) hadith:

عَنْ أَبِي ذَرِّ -رضي الله عنه- عَنِ النَّبِيِّ -صلى الله عليه وسلم- فِيمَا رَوَى عَنِ اللهِ -تبارك وتعالى-أَنَّهُ قَالَ : (يَّا عِبَادِي، لَوْ أَنَّ أَوَّلَكُمْ وَآخِرَكُمْ وَإِنْسَكُمْ وَجِثَكُمْ قَامُوا فِي صَعِيدٍ وَاحِد فَسَأَلُونِي فَأَعْطَيْتُ كُلَّ إِنْسَانٍ مَسْأَلَتَهُ مَا نَقَصَ ذَلِكَ مِمَّا عِنْدِي إِلَّا كَمَا يَنْقُصُ الْمِخْيَطُ إِذَا أَدْخِلَ الْبَحْرَ) رواه مسلم. Abu Dharr (may Allah be pleased with him) reported that Allah's Messenger (Allah's blessings and peace be upon him) said: "Allah, Exalted be He, says:

'O My slaves, if the first and the last of you and the men and jinn of you were to stand all in one elevated place [of prayer] ad ask something of Me, and I were to give every man of you what he asked, that would not diminish at all that which is Mine, no more than a needle stuck into the sea would diminish it.'" [Narrated by Muslim]

وعَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ - رضي الله عنه - أَنَّ رَسُولَ الله -صلى الله عليه وسلم- قَالَ: (يَنْزِلُ رَبُّنَا -تبارك وتعالى- كُلَّ لَيْلَةٍ إِلَى السَّمَاءِ الدُّنْيَا، حِينَ يَبْقَى ثُلُثُ اللَّيْلِ الْآخِرُ، يَقُولُ: مَنْ يَدْعُونِي فَأَسْتَجِيبَ لَه، مَنْ يَسْتَغْفِرُنِي فَأَعْفِرَ لَهُ) رواه البخاري.

Abu Hurairah reported that the Messenger of Allah (Allah's blessings and peace be upon him) said: "Our Lord, Exalted be He, descends every night to the lowest heaven when it is the last third of the night, and He says: 'Who is calling upon Me that I may answer him? Who will ask of Me, that I may grant him his request? Who will call upon Me, that I may answer him? Who will ask Me to forgive him, that I may forgive him?' and He, The Almighty, remains as this, until dawn breaks." [Narrated by Al-Bukhari]

- □ Allah disciplines His slaves, refines their manners and demonstrates to them that Samadiyyah (freedom from want) is the divine attribute of no one except Him, Glorified be He.
- And know for sure that owing to the sublime perfection of Allah's discipline and nurture to His slaves, if they were to resort to anyone else other than Him, Allah will make them disappointed and let down by that person to whom they resorted.
- Example: some patients resort to a famous doctor and their hearts become attached to him, thinking that he can cure them. Thus, Allah, The Almighty lets us down at his hands as he fails to prescribe for us the right medicine. Why?
- Example: Some women resort to soothsayers and sorcerers, others become infatuated with a lover, or attached to worldly gains, or wealth, etc. Yet, they are disappointed and let down.

- Allah, The Almighty, fails all those slaves, and augments their afflictions, as per His discipline to them because they felt a desire deep down in their hearts to take refuge in anyone other than Him. Nevertheless, if they resort to Allah and hold fast to Him, they will be relieved and their affliction will be eliminated. Not only that, Allah will reward them with the best reward for their strife and patience.
- Therefore, dears, don't flee to or take refuge in any person, no matter how exalted or prestigious he is. Beware lest your heart turn toward people. Make full use of all available means, but take heed! Your heart must be attached to no one except the Lord of these means. Only then, Allah, The Almighty, will fulfill your needs, and satisfy your wants! Look at the heaven, ponder over it! Attach your heart to the Lord of the Throne. Resort to Him and never resort to anyone except Him!
- Thus, the greatest affliction that can afflict a person is his resorting and turning to anyone except Allah, Glorified be He. Know for sure that everything that Allah ordains us to pass through and all the crises, no matter how grave they are, that happen to us, are nothing but a test and a trial for us. Who is the First One in Whom we take refuge? Of course, Allah! That is what we must do! As Allah, Glorified and Exalted be He, is our Eternal Refuge to Whom we incessantly resort, then relief is our inevitable lot sooner or later.
- Are you surrounded with needs and besieged with afflictions?
 Are you encircled with worries? Let your soul flee to Allah, The Almighty! Escape to Him, As-Samad [The Eternal Refuge, The Self-Sufficient Lord] for you badly need this: to take refuge in Him and uproot from your heart any intention or inclination to resort to anyone other than Him.
- C Allah alone is The Besought and resorted to by all, to Whom people flee and seek for help, taking refuge in no one except Him in distress.
- C You want to be rendered victorious?! You need help? You love to be protected? You need sublime kindness and courteousness to soothe your heart? Then, say: "O my Lord! You are As-Samad!"

- Ines. Your patient's breath is suffocated and his pulse is low. Those lines are a little bit declining. At that moment, you forget the name of the nurse or the doctor, and implore hopefully and submissively: "O Allah, be with him!" [Ali Al-Fifi]
- Some people, who have boarded ships, set sail with a favourable wind. The passengers rejoice at the pleasant voyage, then suddenly a fierce gale erupts, and waves upon waves surge upon them from every side, and people believe that they are surrounded from all directions, and that death is looming! At this moment, you will hear them, imploring their Lord, in all religions, articulating His Exalted Name: "O Allah!" Allah, The Almighty, says:

"He it is Who enables you to travel through land and sea, till when you are in the ships, and they sail with them with a favourable wind, and they are glad therein, then comes a stormy wind and the waves come to them from all sides, and they think that they are encircled therein. Then they invoke Allâh, making their Faith pure for Him Alone, (saying): "If You (Allâh) deliver us from this, we shall truly be of the grateful."" (Surat Yunus, 22)

When you cut off all attachments to creations, then The Supreme Creator, Exalted be He, will take care of you; He will perfectly manage your affairs. Only then you will grasp the meaning of His Most Beautiful Name {As-Samad} [The Eternal Refuge, The Self-Sufficient Lord].

Ibn al-Qayyim said in his famous poem "An-Nuniyyah":

And He is The Master,
Who is Perfect in His Mastery,
The Eternal Refuge,
To Whom all creations have resorted
Submissively!
Indeed, He is The All-Perfect in His Attributes,
In all aspects,
And His perfection is high above and
free from the least imperfection!

- We are commanded to recite Surat Al-Ikhlas (The Sincerity: Chapter 112 of the holy Quran) and Surat Al-Kafirun (The Disbelievers: Chapter 109 of the holy Quran) and repeat them at the beginning and at the end of our day, and before we sleep! Why?
- This is because these two Surahs (Quranic Chapters) revive Monotheism (the belief in the Oneness of Allah) and sincerity in our hearts.
- Surely, we need to revive the belief in the Oneness of Allah (Monotheism) and revive our sincerity and pure devotion to Him, Exalted be He, in our hearts, souls, and lives.
- ♣For this reason, do not say, "Fine, I believe in Allah; why then should I "revive" my faith?"

Dear, every believer has to revive his faith and his belief in The Oneness of Allah (Monotheism). Rather, every one of us must revive this in his heart every day.

The Prophet (Allah's blessings and peace be upon him) said: "Verily, the faith of one of you will wear out within him, just as a shirt becomes worn out, so ask Allah to revive faith in your hearts."

We notice the muezzin (i.e. the caller to prayer) proclaiming and raising the call to prayer every day, and it is incumbent upon us to repeat what he says every day. This affirms and confirms the meaning of Monotheism (the belief in The Oneness of Allah). **The muezzin says:**

Allahu Akbar [Allah is Most Great] (said four times)
Ashhadu an la ilaha illa Allah [I bear witness that there is no God worthy of worship except Allah

Then the muezzin ends his call by saying:

La ilaha illa Allah [There is no god worthy of worship except Allah]

An eminent scholar said: [Of course this aims to revive Monotheism (the belief in The Oneness of Allah) and confirm it owing to our earnest need to revive Monotheism in our hearts.]

⇒ In his book "Because You Are Allah", Dr. Ali Al-Fifi said:

- © Deep down, in the unfathomable depths of every human being, within every cell, and around every artery, there are things that know Allah well, worship Him, prostrate to Him and praise Him. Actually, you harm your entire self when you direct it to something or someone else other than The One it was created for; thus, you feel down and your soul becomes anguished, straitened and discomforted.
- ☐ If a disbeliever, though he disbelieves, hears the Quran, he submits. Among the famous stories in the Prophet's biography is that the Messenger of Allah (Allah's blessings and peace be upon him) recited Surat An-Najm (Holy Quran 53) to the polytheists of Mecca in the Sacred Mosque, and no sooner had he finished recitation of this Surah than they all prostrated, all of them even those who expelled and hurt him and had planned to kill him. The last verse of this Surah is:

{فَاسْجُدُوا لِلَّهِ وَاعْبُدُوا} (سورة النجم: 62)

"So, fall you down in prostration to Allâh and worship Him (Alone)." (Surat An-Najm, 62)

Allah, The Most High, says:

"And unto Allâh (Alone) falls in prostration whoever is in the heavens and the earth, willingly or unwillingly, and so do their shadows in the mornings and in the afternoons." (Surat Ar-Ra`d, 15)

Those things in their cells and arteries exploded in a tremendous faith energy that made them prostrate in submission. Their cells and arteries exploded in a tremendous faith energy that made them prostrate in submission; they longed to declare The Oneness of their Creator and prostrate themselves to Him, so they fell down in prostration, and none of them could abstain from prostrating. Our souls are longingly calling for their Maker, their Originator.

- Allah created in our souls the need to love Him, Glorified be He. Nothing can satisfy this sacred love except by bending over and prostrating to Him, circumambulating His House, getting up from sleep for His sake, and sacrificing one's soul for His sake. All the fates of fear and desire that Allah decreed to you aim to make you taste this beautiful divine love.
- Allah's slave, when he gets through a calamity, seeks to find relief, so he prays to Allah, thus one of the gates of faith in Allah, knowing about Him, loving Him and enjoying His remembrance and supplication will be opened for him. This will be dearer and greater to him than that need that concerned him, and this is the mercy of Allah: He directs and leads them through worldly needs to lofty religious purposes.
- If you train your soul to resort to no one except Allah, to take refuge in no one except Him, then with time it will be ashamed to ask for the worldly needs, because that is not the aim of your existence in this world.

Who Can Fulfill you needs other than HIM?!!!!!

One year, the Caliph Suleiman bin Abd al-Malik came to Mecca as a pilgrim. When he began to circumambulate the Kaaba; he saw the eminent scholar Salim bin Abdullah sitting in front of the Kaaba in total submissiveness to his Lord. When the Caliph finished the rituals, he headed for Salem; but Salem did not notice him. He was engaged in praying and invoking his Lord. what he was in, preoccupied with remembrance of God about everything. The Caliph said in a low voice: 'Salem! Ask me anything?' Salem said: 'By Allah, I feel ashamed to be in the house of Allah, The Almighty, then ask anyone other than Allah!'

Then when they finished the prayer was over, Salem was about to leave when some people joined him, asking him for some religious affairs. The Caliph of the Muslims, Suleiman bin Abd al-Malik was among those who gathered around Salim, Suleiman bin Abd al-Malik. When the people saw him, they sought him. The Caliph whispered in Salim's ear: 'Now, we are outside the Sacred Mosque, so ask me any need?' Salem said: 'A worldly need or one related to the Hereafter?' The Caliph was confused and said: 'Of course, a worldly need!' So Salem said to him: 'I did not ask my Lord Who possesses all needs, any of them, how come I ask anyone else, who actually does not possess them, any of them?!' The Caliph was ashamed of him; he greeted him, and departed.

Indeed, those men were really ascetic and pious. The worldly gains do not lure those who are steadfast believers in Allah, Exalted be He!

Salim's attitude and the biographies of the Companions of Allah's Messenger (Allah's blessings and peace be upon him) make us realize the meaning of Allah's Name As-Samad [The Eternal Refuge, The Self-Sufficient Master, Whom all creatures need] and how they lived a blissful life, in a worldly paradise as they were immensely delighted with their knowledge about Allah, Glorified be He.

عَنْ عَائِشَةَ أَنَّ النَّبِيَّ صلى الله عليه وسلم بَعَثَ رَجُلا عَلَى سَرِيَّةٍ وَكَانَ يَقْرَأُ لأَصْحَابِهِ فِي صَلَى الله عليه وسلم فَقَالَ صَلَاتِهِمْ فَيَخْتِمُ بِقُلُ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ فَلَمَّا رَجَعُوا ذَكَرُوا ذَلِكَ لِلنَّبِيِّ صلى الله عليه وسلم فَقَالَ سَلُوهُ لأَيِّ شَيْءٍ يَصْنَعُ ذَلِكَ فَسَأَلُوهُ فَقَالَ لأَنَّهَا صِفَةُ الرَّحْمَنِ وَأَنَا أُحِبُّ أَنْ أَقْرَأَ بِهَا فَقَالَ النَّبِيِّ صلى الله عليه وسلم أَخْبرُوهُ أَنَّ اللهَ يُحِبُّهُ) رواه البخاري

'A'isha reported that the Messenger of Allah (Allah's blessings and peace be upon him) sent a man in charge of an expedition. That man used to lead his companions in prayer, ending the prayer with the recitation of: "Say (O Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم): 'He is Allâh, (the) One [i.e. Surat Al-Ikhlas]." When the Companions returned, they mentioned this to the Messenger of Allah (Allah's blessings and peace be upon him), so he (i.e. the Holy Prophet, Allah's blessings and peace be upon him) said: "Ask him why does he do this!" They asked him and he said, "Because it mentions the attributes of Ar-Rahman (i.e. Allah, The All-Merciful) and (for this reason) I love to recite it. Thereupon, the Messenger of Allah (Allah's blessings and peace be upon him) said: "Inform him that Allah loves him." [Narrated by Al-Bukhari]

The Companions of Allah's Messenger (Allah's blessings and peace be upon him) achieved and actualized sincerity and their hearts were steadfast and resolute in faith; this led them to be honoured with Allah's love and to be showered with His praise.

وعَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ أَنَّ النَّبِيَّ صلى الله عليه وسلم (سَمِعَ رَجُلا يَقْرَأُ قُلْ هُوَ اللَّهُ أَحَدٌ فَقَالَ وَجَبَتْ لَهُ الْجَنَّةُ) رواه الإمام أحمد

Abu Hurairah reported: "The Messenger of Allah (Allah's blessings and peace be upon him) heard a man reciting: 'Say (O Muhammad صلى الله): "He is Allâh, (the) One [i.e. Surat Al-Ikhlas]."' The Messenger of Allah (Allah's blessings and peace be upon him) said: 'It is inevitable!' He was asked (by his companions): 'What (is inevitable), O Messenger

of Allah?' He said: 'It is inevitable that he will enter paradise.' [Narrated by Imam Ahmed]

They supplicated sincerely to Allah, worshipping Him <code>[alone]</code> with sincere devotion to Him in all uprightness, cutting all attachments to people or thing, holding fast to his Creator, taking refuge in Him. They invoked Him and He answered them.

عن عبد الله ابن بريدة عن أبيه أنَّ النبي - صلى الله عليه وسلم - سمع رجلاً يصلِّي يدعو يقول: «اللهمَّ! إنِّي أسألُك بأنِّي أشهَدُ أن لا إلَه إلاَّ أنتَ، الأحدُ الصَّمدُ، الَّذي لم يلِد ولم يُولَد، ولم يكن له كفوًا أحد» قال: «وَالَّذِي نَفْسِي بِيَدِهِ لَقَدْ سَأَلَهُ بِاسْمِهِ الأَعْظَمِ الَّذِي إِذَا سُئِلَ بِهِ أَعْطَى وَإِذَا دُعِيَ بِهِ أَجَابَ» «مستدرك الحاكم»

Abdullah bin Buraida reported that his father had said that Allah's Messenger heard a man saying: "O Allah! I ask You that I bear witness that there is no god but You, The One, The Eternal Refuge, The Self-Sufficient Master Who begets not, nor was He begotten; and there is none co-equal or comparable unto Him." Allah's Messenger (Allah's blessings and peace be upon him) said: "By the One in whose hand is my soul, he has supplicated to Allah with His Greatest Name, which, if He is asked therewith, He grants, and if He is called upon therewith He responds."

They were attached firmly to Allah, The One, The One and Only Lord, Assamad [The Eternal Refuge, The Self-Sufficient Master], thus, He, Glorified be He, forgave their sins.

عن محجن بن الأدرع أنَّ النبي - صلى الله عليه وسلم - دخل المسجد فإذا برَجل قد قضى صلاتَه وهو يتشهَّد وهو يقول: «اللَّهم! إنِّ أسألُك بأنَّك الواحدُ الأحَدُ الصَّمدُ الَّذي لم يلِد ولم يُولَد ولم يكُن له كفوًا أحد، أن تغفِر لي ذنوبي، إنَّك أنتَ الغفُور الرَّحيم»، فقال نبي الله - صلى الله عليه وسلم - ثلاثَ مرَّاتٍ : «قَدْ غُفِرَ لهُ، قَدْ غُفِرَ لَهُ، قَدْ غُفِرَ لَهُ». «سنن أبي داود ».

Mihjan bin al-Adra' reported that the Messenger of Allah (Allah's blessings and peace be upon him) entered the mosque and saw a man, who had finished his prayer, reciting the tashahhud³ saying: "O Allah, I ask you, You are The One, the Eternal Refuge, The Self-Sufficient Master, He begets not, nor was He begotten, and there is none comparable unto

³ Tashahud "greeting or salutation" is recited when a person sits or kneels down during second rakah or last rakah of the prayer.

Him, that you may forgive me my sins. Truly, You are The Oft-Forgiving, The Most Merciful." Allah's Prophet (Allah's blessings and peace be upon him) said: "He was forgiven, he was forgiven, he was forgiven."

When Allah's slave invokes his Lord, his intent should be devotedly and wholeheartedly directed to Him, The Almighty, imploring Him, The Eternal Refuge, to fulfill all his needs, turning to Him 'alone', making full use of all available means, yet firmly believing that these means belong to Allah 'alone'. This is because He is their Lord Who conducts them and all affairs, their Sovereign, The Creator Who predetermines all affairs, The Watchful over all things. Allah, Glorified be He, is The Supreme Nourisher. If it happens that He withholds His nourishment from any creation, it will perish. Thus, the believer should beware lest he depends on these means, becomes preoccupied with them, thus forgets his Lord, As-Samad {The Eternal Refuge, The Self-Sufficient Lord}. We must put our trust in Allah 'alone', having full confidence in Him, entrusting our affairs to Him, praising in the manner due to Him, showing Him His proper reverence.

If the slave feels and realizes that his Creator is the Eternal Refuge, he will be relieved in this life from all troubles and worries, because It is The Great Lord Who conducts his affairs, and commands him to do everything that is good for him. So, let the poor slave hasten to take refuge in his Lord, The All-Powerful, The Ever Determiner over everything, The All-Aware, The Rich, The Self-Sufficient, The Master of command, creation and judgment, Glorified be He.

The Last Word: Know for sure that:

- ⇒ The moment you resort and hold fast to Allah, The Eternal Refuge, for your need, is the same moment your need is satisfied.
- ⇒ You cannot cross over to any desire and get it except through the path of Allah. Know for sure that no need will be fulfilled except by Allah's permission, nothing may happen except with Allah, for It is He 'alone' Who has all power and omnipotence, there is no change of a condition nor power except with Allah.
- No cell can move, no atom can exist except with Allah's power and strength. No drop can evaporate, no leaf can fall except with Allah's power and strength.

- → The whole world CANNOT afflict you with any evil that Allah HAS NOT WILLED, and the entire world CANNOT protect you against evil that Allah HAS DECREED for you.
 - ⇒ So, turn your face to Allah 'alone', entrust your affairs to Him, and leave all matters to Him, commit your affairs to Him, for He is The Eternal Refuge, who begets not, nor was He begotten; and there is none co-equal or comparable unto Him."

اللهم يا واحد يا أحد، يا فرد يا صمد، يا من ليس له ولد، ولم يكن له كفوًا أحد، أنزِل السكينة على قلوبنا، واقضِ اللهم حاجاتنا، وسكِّن آلامنا، واجبُر كسرنا، وقوّ اللهم ضعفنا، إنك نعم المولى ونعم النصير.

O Allah, indeed, You are The One, The One and Only, The Unique, The All-Independent! Verily, You are The Eternal Refuge, The Self-Sufficient Master! O Great Lord! Indeed, You beget not, nor was You begotten; and there is none co-equal or comparable unto You!

O Allah, soothe our hearts with Your tranquility,
O Allah, fulfill our needs, relieve our pains, mend our shattered souls!
O Allah, strengthen our weakness, verily You are our Patronizer
[Lord, Protector and Supporter] - The Excellent Supreme Patronizer
[Lord, Protector and Supporter]- and The Excellent Supreme Helper!

سُبْحَانَكَ اللَّهُمَّ وَبِحَمْدِكَ، أَشْهُدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا أَنْتَ أَسْتَغْفِرُكَ وَأَتُوبُ إِلَيْكَ

O Allah! Highly Exalted and Praised are You!

I bear witness that there is no god worthy of worship except You!

I ask Your forgiveness and repent to You!