

Arab Republic of Egypt

Ministry of Awqaf

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The Concept of Worship

a All praise is due to Allah, the Lord of all worlds, Who says in His Ever
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Glorious Book, **“Verily, Allah is my Lord and your Lord; so worship Him
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[alone]: this is a straight way.”** I bear witness that there is no god but
Allah, and that Muhammad is His Servant and Messenger. May Allah’s
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Peace and Blessings be upon him, his Household, Companions and upon
those who follow their path to the Day of Judgment.

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1 Worship has a great status and supreme position as it is the ultimate
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purpose for which the Almighty Allah has created all creatures. He, the
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Most High, said, **“I created jinn and mankind only to worship Me,”** and
said, **“We never sent any messenger before you [Muhammad] without
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revealing to him that “There is no god but Me, so worship Me.””**

Moreover, worship is the duty of humans throughout all of their lives. Al-
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Hasan al-Basri said, **“There is nothing to stop a believer’s good deeds but
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death.”**

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one who behaves wrongly, reconciliation between people, spending on one's family, as well as all other good deeds. The Almighty Allah said, **"There is no good in most of their secret talk except in commanding charity, or good, or reconciliation between people. To anyone who does these things, seeking to please Allah, We shall give a rich reward."** Our Prophet (PBUH) said, "There is *Sadaqa* (charity) to be given for every joint of the human body (as a sign of gratitude to Allah) everyday the sun rises. To judge justly between two persons is regarded as charity, and to help a man concerning his riding animal by helping him to ride it or by lifting his luggage on to it, is also regarded as charity, and (saying) a good word is also charity, and every step taken on one's way to offer the prayer (in the mosque) is also charity and to remove a harmful thing from the way is also charity."

In addition, development of the earth through agriculture, industry, and perform any work properly and skillfully in order to benefit the whole society and achieves the advancement and progress of one's homeland are all acts of worship that Allah loves and wants His servants to achieve, as He, the Most High, said, **"It is He Who brought you into being from the earth and settled you on it."** The Prophet (PBUH) said, "The most beloved people to Allah are those who are most beneficial to people. The most beloved deed to Allah is to make a Muslim happy, or to remove one of his troubles, or to pay his debt on his behalf, or to feed his hunger. And that I walk with a brother to fulfill one of his needs is more beloved to me than that secluding myself in this mosque in Medina for a month. Whoever

suppresses his rage, even though he could fulfill his anger if he wished, Allah will secure his heart on the Day of Resurrection. Whoever walks with his brother regarding a need until he secures it for him, then Allah Almighty will make his footing firm across the bridge on the day when the footings are shaken.”

The second meaning is a special one which includes the establishment of the rituals of Islam such as performance of prayer, paying zakat, fasting, and pilgrimage. The Almighty Allah said:

“Observe the obligatory prayers – especially the middle prayer – and stand in true devotion to Allah.”

“You who believe, fasting is prescribed for you, as it was prescribed for those before you, so that you may be mindful of Allah.”

“Keep up the prayer and pay the prescribed alms. Whatever good you store up for yourselves, you will find it with Allah.”

“Pilgrimage to the House is a duty owed to Allah by people who are able to undertake it. Those who reject this [should know that] Allah has no need of anyone.”

All praise is due to Allah, Lord of the Worlds; may Allah's Peace and Blessings be upon Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), his companions and followers: -

We stress that upright person is the one who strikes a balance between the fulfillment of the duties imposed by Allah such as prayer, fasting, Zakat and Hajj and the development the universe and adherence to noble values.

We also affirm that acts of worship in their specific meaning do not bear fruit unless they affect one's conduct and behavior as the Almighty Allah says, **"Prayer restrains outrageous and unacceptable behavior."** The Prophet (PBUH) also said, "When any one of you is observing Fasting on a day, he should neither indulge in obscene language nor should he raise the voice; and if anyone reviles him or tries to quarrel with him he should say: 'I am observing fast.'" He (PBUH) also said, "I was sent to perfect good manners."

O Allah, help us to remember You, to be grateful to You, and to perform Your worship in the best manner!