

Lesson 03

Summary Notes

Attributes of Allāh

The Attributes of Allāh (I)

We know Allah through His attributes, e.g.

"Look, then, at the signs of Allāh's mercy; how He revives the earth after its death." Q[30:50] Allāh has every attribute of perfection that is appropriate to Him. "He is free from imperfection and destruction, and far removed from every defect and disgrace." [88]

His attributes do not at all resemble those of created things.

Two Categories of Attributes

1. *Ṣifāt al-dhāt* - attributes of self.

Those which Allāh is always described by, and whose opposite (generally) has not been mentioned.

2. *Ṣifāt al-fi'l* - attributes of action.

Those which Allāh is not always described by, and whose opposite is also one of His attributes.

"As for the self-(attributes), (they include) Life, Power, Knowledge, Hearing, Sight and Will. The action-(attributes) (include) Creation and Provision ." [Abū Ḥanīfah, *al-Fiqh al-Akbar*]

"Allāh has ninety-nine names - one hundred less one; whoever memorizes them will enter Heaven." [Bukhārī, Muslim, Tirmidhī, Bayhaqī]

Attributes/names of Allāh are not limited to 99. (Du'a) [Ahmad]

Basic Attributes

1. Existence (**Wujūd**) 2. No beginning (**Qidam**) 3. No end (**Baqā'**)
4. Oneness (**Waḥdāniyyah**) 5. Non-resemblance (**Mukhālafatun Lil Hawādith**)
6. Self-sustenance (**Qiyām bi Nafsihī**) 7. Life (**Ḥayāt**) 8. Knowledge (**'Ilm**)
9. Hearing (**Sami'**) 10. Seeing (**Baṣar**) 11. Will (**Irādah**)
12. Power (**Qudrah**) 13. Speech (**Kalām**) 14. Creation (**Takwīn**).