

## Lesson 23

## Summary Notes

# Islām and Īmān

## Islām and Īmān (III)

Imām Ḥasan al-Baṣrī was asked about praying behind an innovator, and he said, "Pray. The consequences of his innovation are for him alone."

All this is provided the imām satisfies all the prerequisites and essentials of the prayer, and provided the innovation does not constitute disbelief.

## Innovation (Bid'ah)

"... whoever among you lives [long] shall see much disagreement. Therefore, you must follow my Sunnah, and the Sunnah of the rightly-guided Caliphs after me. Cling to it with your jaws, and beware of **newly-invented matters**, for every **innovation (bid'āh)** is a straying." [Tirmidhī]

## Meanings of Bid'ah : Lexical vs. Sharī'ah.

Categories of **lexical** innovation:

1. **Kufr** bid'ah: e.g. the innovation of claiming Muḥammad (ﷺ) is not the last prophet.
2. Forbidden (**Ḥarām**) bid'ah : total abandonment of Ṣalāh (even hypocrites used to pray in the time of the Prophet (ﷺ), except that they did not come to the mosque regularly); erecting raised structures over graves.
3. Reprehensible (**Makrūh**) bid'ah : e.g. decorating the masjids and embellishing the Qur'āns with gold etc..
4. Permissible (**Mubāh**) bid'ah: e.g. serving food in a variety of different colours and forms.
5. Recommended (**Mustaḥabb**) bid'ah : e.g. writing Islamic books (provided you are qualified to do so); starting Islamic universities.
6. Communally obligatory (**Fard Kifāyah/Wājib**) bid'ah : e.g. studying Arabic language in order to preserve the language of the Qur'ān and Ḥadīth; studying the science of analysis and criticism of narrators of Ḥadīth in order to distinguish reliable narrations from unreliable ones; refuting the arguments against Islām

which are brought forward by philosophers and by those who commit blameworthy innovation in religion. Death Penalty

"We do not endorse the sword against anyone of the Ummah of Muḥammad (ﷺ) except those upon whom the sword is obligatory." [71]

"The blood of a Muslim is not lawful (**Ḥarām**) (i.e, killing a Muslim is not permissible) except in one of three (situations): (1) a married person committing adultery, (2) a life for a life (i.e. a person who kills another unjustly), (3) the one who leaves his religion and separates himself from the community." [Bukhārī, Muslim, Nasā'ī, Ibn Mājah, Tirmidhī]

'Umar (رضي الله عنه) said, "**Rajm** is in the Book of Allāh." [Muwatta']

"O you who believe! Retaliation is prescribed for you in killing." Qur'ān [2:178]

"Whoever changes his religion, kill him." [Bukhārī, Ḥākim, Ibn Abī Shaybah, Ṭabarānī]

### Abandonment of Ṣalāh

"But, if they repent, and establish Ṣalāh and give Zakāh, then leave them to their way." Qur'ān [9:5]

"That which separates a man from unbelief and polytheism is the abandonment of Ṣalāh." [Muslim, Aḥmad]

"The covenant which is between us and them is Ṣalah, so whoever abandons it has committed unbelief." [Tirmidhī (ḥasan ṣaḥīḥ gharīb), Nasā'ī, Ibn Mājah, Aḥmad]

"Allāh, the Exalted has made the Five Ṣalawāt (daily prayers) obligatory. Whoever performs their Wuḍū' well, prays them at their times, and perfects their Rukū' and their [desired] humility, has a covenant with Allāh that He will forgive him, and whoever does not do [so] has **no** covenant with Allāh. If He wills, He will forgive him, and if He wills He will punish him." [Abū Dāwūd]

"I have been ordered to fight people until they testify that there is no god but Allāh, and that Muḥammad is His Messenger, and [until] they establish Ṣalāh and give Zakah. Then, if they do that, they have protected their lives and property from me, except in the course of Islamic justice, and their reckoning is with Allāh, the Exalted." [Bukhārī and Muslim]

### Practical applications of faith

1. **Allāh** - the only source of deliverance.
2. **Angels** - a higher, model society.
3. **Revealed books** - the only source of guidance.
4. **Messengers** - the ultimate role models.
5. **The Last Day** - the proper perspective on this life.
6. **Decree** - balance between despair and arrogance.