

# Shirk

- Shirk means associating partners with Allah or attributing Allah's unique qualities to someone or something else.
- It is the opposite of Tawhid (belief in the Oneness of Allah) and is considered the greatest sin in Islam.

Ref: Allah says in the Qur'an: "Indeed, Allah does not forgive associating others with Him, but He forgives anything else for whom He wills." (Surah An-Nisa 4:48)

# Types of Shirk

- There are three main types of shirk;

1. Shirk in Rububiyyah (Lordship) Meaning: Believing that someone other than Allah has control over the creation, life, death, or provision. Example: Believing that saints or spiritual leaders control rain or give sustenance. Thinking that natural forces like the sun or stars have independent power.

- Ref: “All praise is due to Allah, Lord of the worlds.” (Surah Al-Fatihah 1:2)

2. Shirk in Uloohiyyah (Worship) Meaning: Directing any act of worship to someone or something other than Allah. Examples: Praying to idols or graves. Sacrificing animals in the name of anyone other than Allah. Believing a human being is worthy of worship.

- Ref: “And they were not commanded except to worship Allah, [being] sincere to Him in religion.” (Surah Al-Bayyina 98:5)

3. Shirk in Asma wa Sifaat (Names and Attributes of Allah) Meaning: Giving Allah's unique names or attributes to others, or comparing Him to His creation.

- Examples: Saying someone is all-knowing or all-powerful like Allah. Believing Allah resembles His creation physically. Denying any of Allah's true attributes, such as His knowledge or mercy.
- Ref: "There is nothing like unto Him, and He is the All-Hearing, the All-Seeing."  
(Surah Ash-Shura 42:11)

# Question

- Explain Shirk and the various types of Shirk with references.