

2016

# GOD IS ONE

**“There is greatness in the fear of GOD, contentment in faith of GOD and honor in humility”**

This book contains references from all major religious scriptures (Quran, Christian bible, Jews bible and Vedas). By reading this book you will come to know -

- Major religion of world (Islam, Christianity, Judaism, Hinduism)
- GOD is one without any partners mentioned in all major religion
- Alcohol is prohibited in all major religion
- Concept of messenger and many more

**"O mankind! Worship your Lord, who created you and those who were before you so that you may become pious, He is the one who made the earth a bed for you ,and the sky a roof, and sent down water from the sky, then brought forth with it fruits, as a provision for you. So, do not set up parallels to GOD when you know."**



# Preface

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Purpose of compiling and writing this book is not to hurt sentiments of any individual. Purpose of this book is to highlight concept of GOD in all major religions and to convey how important it is to understand Scriptures which we follow. From our childhood we are told and heard that a common man should not read religious text translation on its own because we may misunderstood. This statement is completely false because religion comes from religious scriptures (holy books) and religious books are send by GOD through messenger for mankind to understand and follow. So if we are not reading and understanding message of GOD how would we be able to follow it correctly? These messages are sent by GOD for common man so it should be understandable to common man.

In today's world we learn religion from others not by ourselves. We all are so much involved in this world that we don't think of our end. This life is very short and death is ultimate truth. So we should be prepared for our hereafter before it's too late

**“Remember knowledge is life of mind”. “Action without knowledge is useless and knowledge without action is futile”**

I devote my effort of compiling and writing this book in name of GOD.

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## 1.1. Introduction- ISLAM

Islam is a Semitic religion, which has over one billion adherents all over the world. Islam means "submission to the will of God". Muslims accept the Qur'an, as the word of God revealed to His last and final prophet, Muhammad (peace be upon him). Islam states that Allah sent messengers and prophets throughout the ages with the message of Unity of God and accountability in the Hereafter. Islam thus makes it an article of faith to believe in all the earlier prophets, starting with Adam, and continuing with Noah, Abraham, Ishmael, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, David, John the Baptist and Jesus amongst many others (may peace be on them all).

Islam Believes there is only one God.

Islam Believes in Messengers/Prophets.

Islam believes Prophet Muhammad(PBUH) as Last Messenger.

Islam Believes Quran as final and last message from GOD.

### Five Pillars of Islam Are:-

#### 1.] FAITH:

“la ilaha illa Llah Muhammadun rasulu'Llah”

“There is no god worthy of worship except God and Muhammad is His messenger”

#### 2.] PRAYER (Namaz)

Salat is the name for the obligatory prayers which are performed five times a day, and are a direct link between the worshipper and God

These five prayers contain verses from the Quran, and are said in Arabic, the language of the Revelatio

#### 3.] THE 'ZAKAT' :-

One of the most important principles of Islam is that all things belong to God, and that wealth is therefore held by human beings in trust. The word zakat means both 'purification' and 'growth'. Our possessions are purified by setting aside a proportion for those in need, and, like the pruning of plants, this cutting back balances and encourages new growth.

Each Muslim calculates his or her own zakat individually. For most purposes this involves the payment each year of two and a half percent of one's capital.

The Prophet said: 'Charity is a necessity for every Muslim.' He was asked: 'What if a person has nothing?' The Prophet replied: 'He should work with his own hands for his benefit and then give something out of such earnings in charity.' The Companions asked: 'What if he is not able to work?' The Prophet said: 'He should help poor and needy persons.' The Companions further asked 'What if he cannot do even that?' The Prophet said 'He should urge others to do good.' The Companions said 'What if he lacks that also?' The Prophet said 'He should check himself from doing evil. That is also charity.'

#### 4.] THE FAST

Every year in the month of Ramadan, all Muslims fast from first light until sundown, abstaining from food, drink, and sexual relations. Those who are sick, elderly, or on a journey, and women who are pregnant or nursing are permitted to break the fast and make up an equal number of days later in the year. If they are physically unable to do this, they must feed a needy person for every day missed. Children begin to fast (and to observe the prayer) from puberty, although many start earlier.

Although the fast is most beneficial to the health, it is regarded principally as a method of self purification. By cutting oneself off from worldly comforts, even for a short time, a fasting person gains true sympathy with those who go hungry as well as growth in one's spiritual life.

#### 5.] PILGRIMAGE (HAJJ)

The annual pilgrimage to Makkah - the Hajj - is an obligation only for those who are physically and financially able to perform it. Nevertheless, about two million people go to Makkah each year from every corner of the globe providing a unique opportunity for those of different nations to meet one another. Although Makkah is always filled with visitors, the annual Hajj begins in the twelfth month of the Islamic year (which is lunar, not solar, so that Hajj and Ramadan fall sometimes in summer, sometimes in winter). Pilgrims wear special clothes: simple garments which strip away distinctions of class and culture, so that all stand equal before God.

## 1.2. Introduction- CHRISTIANITY

Christianity is a Semitic religion, which claims to have nearly 1.2 billion adherents all over the world. Christianity owes its name to Jesus Christ (peace be on him). The Holy Bible is the sacred scripture of the Christians:

a) The Bible is divided into two parts, the **Old Testament** and the **New Testament**. The Old Testament is the Holy Scripture of the Jews and contains records of all the prophets of the Jews that came before Jesus (pbuh).

The New Testament contains records of the life of **Jesus (pbuh)**.

b) The complete Bible, i.e. the Old Testament and the New Testament put together, contains 73 books. However, the Protestant Bible i.e. the King James Version, contains only 66 books as they consider 7 books of the Old Testament to be apocrypha, i.e. of doubtful authority.

Therefore the Old Testament of the Catholics, contains 46 books and that of the Protestants, 39 books. However the New Testament of both these sects contains 27 books.

Position of Jesus (pbuh) in Islam:

- Islam is the only non-Christian faith, which makes it an article of faith to believe in Jesus (pbuh). No Muslim is a Muslim if he does not believe in Jesus (pbuh).
- Muslims believe that he was one of the mightiest Messengers of Allah (swt).
- Muslims believe that he was born miraculously, without any male intervention, which many modern day Christians do not believe.
- Muslims believe he was the Messiah translated Christ (pbuh).
- Muslims believe that he gave life to the dead with God's permission.
- Muslims believe that he healed those born blind, and the lepers with God's permission.

### [The Bible, Mathew 5:17-20]

"Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the Prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.

"Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he

shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven; but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven."

"For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven."

### **God Sent Jesus' (pbuh)**

The Bible mentions the prophetic nature of Jesus (pbuh) mission in the following verses:

(i)"... and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me."

**[The Bible, John 14:24]**

(ii)"And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou has sent."

**[The Bible, John 17:3]**

**Note: Christians believe in Jesus (P.B.UH) to whom Muslim believes as a Prophet of GOD**

## **1.3. Introduction- HINDUISM**

The most popular among the Aryan religions is Hinduism. 'Hindu' is actually a Persian word that stands for the inhabitants of the region beyond the Indus Valley. However, in common parlance, Hinduism is a blanket term for an assortment of religious beliefs, most of which are based on the Vedas, the Upanishads and the Bhagavad Gita.

### **INTRODUCTION TO HINDU SCRIPTURES.**

There are several sacred scriptures of the Hindus. Among these are the Vedas, Upanishads and the Puranas.

#### **1. VEDAS:**

- The word Veda is derived from vid which means to know, knowledge par excellence or sacred wisdom. There are four principal divisions of the Vedas (although according to their number, they amount to 1131 out of which about a dozen are available). According to Maha Bhashya of Patanjali, there are 21 branches of Rigveda, 9 types of Atharvaveda, 101 branches of Yajurveda and 1000 of Samveda).
- The Rigveda, the Yajurveda and the Samveda are considered to be more ancient books and are known as Trai Vidya or the 'Triple Sciences'. The Rigveda is the oldest and has been



compiled in three long and different periods of time. The 4th Veda is the Atharvaveda, which is of a later date.

- There is no unanimous opinion regarding the date of compilation or revelation of the four Vedas. According to Swami Dayanand, founder of the Arya Samaj, the Vedas were revealed 1310 million years ago. According to other scholars, they are not more than 4000 years old.
- Similarly, there are differing opinions regarding the places where these books were compiled and the Rishis to whom these Scriptures were given. In spite of these differences, the Vedas are considered to be the most authentic of the Hindu Scriptures and the real foundations of the Hindu Dharma.

## 2. UPANISHADS:

The word 'Upanishad' is derived from Upa meaning near, Ni which means down and Shad means to sit. Therefore 'Upanishad' means sitting down near. Groups of pupils sit near the teacher to learn from him the secret doctrines.

- According to Samkara, 'Upanishad' is derived from the root word Sad which means 'to loosen', 'to reach' or 'to destroy', with Upa and ni as prefix; therefore 'Upanishad' means Brahma-Knowledge by which ignorance is loosened or destroyed.
- The number of Upanishads exceeds 200 though the Indian tradition puts it at 108. There are 10 principal Upanishads. However, some consider them to be more than 10, while others 18.
- The Vedanta meant originally the Upanishads, though the word is now used for the system of philosophy based on the Upanishad. Literally, Vedanta means the end of the Veda, Vedasua-antah, and the conclusion as well as the goal of Vedas. The Upanishads are the concluding portion of the Vedas and chronologically they come at the end of the Vedic period.
- Some Pundits consider the Upanishads to be more superior to the Vedas.

## 3. PURANAS:

Next in order of authenticity are the Puranas which are the most widely read scriptures. It is believed that the Puranas contain the history of the creation of the universe, history of the early Aryan tribes, life stories of the divines and deities of the Hindus. It is also believed that the Puranas are revealed books like the Vedas, which were revealed simultaneously with the Vedas or sometime close to it.

Maharishi Vyasa has divided the Puranas into 18 voluminous parts. He also arranged the Vedas under various heads.

Chief among the Puranas is a book known as Bhavishya Purana. It is called so because it is believed to give an account of future events. The Hindus consider it to be the word of God. Maharishi Vyasa is considered to be just the compiler of the book.

#### 4. ITIHAAS:

The two epics of Hinduism are the Ramayana and the Mahabharata

##### A. Ramayana:

According to Ramanuja, the great scholar of Ramayana, there are more than 300 different types of Ramayana: Tulsidas Ramayana, Kumbha Ramayana. Though the outline of Ramayana is same, the details and contents differ.

##### Valmiki's Ramayana:

Unlike the Mahabharata, the Ramayana appears to be the work of one person – the sage Valmiki, who probably composed it in the 3rd century BC. Its best-known recension (by Tuls Das, 1532-1623) consists of 24,000 rhymed couplets of 16-syllable lines organised into 7 books. The poem incorporates many ancient legends and draws on the sacred books of the Vedas. It describes the efforts of Kosala's heir, Rama, to regain his throne and rescue his wife, Sita, from the demon King of Lanka.

Valmiki's Ramayana is a Hindu epic tradition whose earliest literary version is a Sanskrit poem attributed to the sage Valmiki. Its principal characters are said to present ideal models of personal, familial, and social behavior and hence are considered to exemplify Dharma, the principle of moral order.

##### B. Mahabharata:

The nucleus of the Mahabharata is the war of eighteen days fought between the Kauravas, the hundred sons of Dhritarashtra and Pandavas, the five sons of Pandu. The epic entails all the circumstances leading up to the war. Involved in this Kurukshetra battle were almost all the kings of India joining either of the two parties. The result of this war was the total annihilation of Kauravas and their party. Yudhishtira, the head of the Pandavas, became the sovereign monarch of Hastinapura. His victory is supposed to symbolise the victory of good over evil. But with the progress of years, new matters and episodes relating to the various aspects of human life, social, economic, political, moral and religious as also fragments of other heroic legends came to be added to the aforesaid nucleus and this phenomenon continued for centuries until it acquired the present

shape. The Mahabharata represents a whole literature rather than one single and unified work, and contains many multifarious things.

### C. Bhagavad Gita:

Bhagavad Gita is a part of Mahabharata. It is the advice given by Krishna to Arjun on the battlefield of Kurukshetra. It contains the essence of the Vedas and is the most popular of all the Hindu Scriptures. It contains 18 chapters.

The Bhagavad Gita is one of the most widely read and revered of the works sacred to the Hindus. It is their chief devotional book, and has been for centuries the principal source of religious inspiration for many thousands of Hindus.

The Gita is a dramatic poem, which forms a small part of the larger epic, the Mahabharata. It is included in the sixth book (Bhismaparvan) of the Mahabharata and documents one tiny event in a huge epic tale.

The Bhagavad Gita tells a story of a moral crisis faced by Arjuna, which is solved through the interaction between Arjuna, a Pandava warrior hesitating before battle, and Krishna, his charioteer and teacher. The Bhagavad Gita relates a brief incident in the main story of a rivalry and eventually a war between two branches of a royal family. In that brief incident - a pause on the battlefield just as the battle is about to begin - Krishna, one chief on one side (also believed to be the Lord incarnate), is presented as responding to the doubts of Arjuna. The poem is the dialogue through which Arjuna's doubts were resolved by Krishna's teachings.

## **1.4. Introduction- JUDAISM**

Judaism is one of the important Semitic religions. Its followers are known as Jews and they believe in the prophetic mission of Prophet Moses (pbuh). Jews Believe in One GOD. Judaism is an ancient monotheistic religion, with the Torah as its foundational text. Judaism is considered by religious Jews to be the expression of the covenantal relationship that God established with the Children of Israel. Judaism thus begins with ethical monotheism: the belief that God is one and is concerned with the actions of humankind.

**Note: Jews believe in Moses (P.B.U.H) to whom Muslims and Christians believe as a prophet of GOD as well**

## 2.1. GOD is one - ISLAM

The Most Concise Definition of God

"Say: He is Allah,

The One and Only.

"Allah, the Eternal, Absolute.

"He begets not, nor is He begotten.

And there is none like unto Him."

**[Al-Qur'an 112:1-4]**

"If there were, in the heavens

And the earth, other gods

Besides Allah, there would

Have been confusion in both!

But glory to Allah,

The Lord of the Throne:

(High is He) above

What they attribute to Him!"

**[Al-Qur'an 21:22]**

If there were more than one God, they would have taken away what they created. The Qur'an says:

"No son did Allah beget,

Nor is there any god

Along with Him: (if there were

Many gods), behold, each god

Would have taken away

What he had created,

And some would have

Lorded it over others!

Glory to Allah! (He is free)

From the (sort of) things

They attribute to Him!"

**[Al-Qur'an 23:91]**

## 2.2. GOD is one - CHRISTIANITY

The following verse from the book of Deuteronomy contains an exhortation from Moses (pbuh):

"Shama Israelu Adonai Ila Hayno Adna Ikhad".

It is a Hebrew quotation which means:

"Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord"

**[The Bible, Deuteronomy 6:4]**

## 2.3. GOD is one – HINDUISM

- "Ekam Evadvitiam"

"He is one only without a second."

[Chandogya Upanishad (Chapter 6, Section 2, Verse 1)]

(The Principal Upanishad by S. Radhakrishnan pg. 447 & 448)

**(Sacred Books of the East Volume 1, the Upanishads Part I Page 93)**

- "Nacasya kascij janita na cadhipah"

"Of Him there are neither parents nor Lord."

**(Shwetashvatara Upanishad 6:9)**

(The Principal Upanishad by S. Radhakrishnan pg. 745)

(and in Sacred books of the East volume 15, the Upanishads Part II Page 263)

The oldest and most sacred amongst all the Vedas is the Rigveda.

- Rigveda Book no. 1, Hymn No. 164, verse 46

It is mentioned in Rigveda Book no. 1, hymn No. 164 verse 46

"Ekam sat vipra bahudha vadanti"

"Sages (learned Priests) call one God by many names".

**(Rigveda 1:164:46)**

Truth is one, God is one, sages call it by various names.

A similar message is given in Rigveda, Book 10, hymn 114, verse 5.

➤ **Rigveda Book 2 hymn 1**

Rigveda gives no less than 33 different attributes to Almighty God. Several of these attributes are mentioned in Rigveda Book 2 hymn 1

➤ **Rigveda Book 8 hymn 1 verse 1**

It is mentioned in Rigveda

“Ma Chidanyadvi Shansata”

“Do not worship anybody but Him, the Divine One, Praise Him alone”

**(Rigveda 8:1:1)**

(Rigveda Samhiti Vol. IX, pg. 1 & 2 by Swami Satyaprakash Sarasvati & Satyakam Vidhya Lankar)

➤ **Rigveda Book no. VI, Hymn 45, verse 16**

It is mentioned in Rigveda

“Ya Eka Ittamushtuhi”

“Praise Him who is the matchless & alone”.

**(Rigveda 6:45:16)**

(Hymns of Rigveda by Ralph T. H. Griffith pg. 648)

The Brahma Sutra of Hindu Vedanta is:

‘Ekam Brahm, dvitiya naste neh na naste kinchan”

“Bhagwan ek hi hai dusara nahi hai, nahi hai, nahi hai, zara bhi nahi hai”.

“There is only one God, not the second, not at all, not at all, not in the least bit”.

## **2.4. GOD is one – JUDAISM**

The following verse from the book of Deuteronomy contains an exhortation from Moses (pbuh):

➤ "Shama Israelu Adonai Ila Hayno Adna Ikhad"

It is a Hebrew quotation which means:

"Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord"

**[The Bible, Deuteronomy 6:4]**

The following verses are from the Book of Isaiah:

- "I, even I, am the Lord; and beside me there is no saviour."  
[The Bible, Isaiah 43:11]
- "I am Lord, and there is none else There is no God besides me."  
[The Bible, Isaiah 45 : 5]
- "I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me."  
[The Bible, Isaiah 46:9]

### 3.1 Prohibition of Idol worship - ISLAM

"Remember Abraham said: 'O my Lord! make this city one of peace and security: and preserve me and my sons from worshipping idols.' **(The Noble Quran, 14:35)**"

Such (is the Pilgrimage): whoever honors' the sacred rites of God, for him it is good in the Sight of his Lord. Lawful to you (for food in Pilgrimage) are cattle, except those mentioned to you (as exception): but shun the abomination of idols, and shun the word that is false. **(The Noble Quran, 22:30)**"

Verily ye, (unbelievers), and the (false) gods that ye worship besides Allah, are (but) fuel for Hell ! To it will ye (surely) come ! (The Noble Quran, 21:98)". And "Lo! Abraham said to his father Azar: "Takest thou idols for gods? For I see thee and thy people in manifest error. **(The Noble Quran, 6:74)**"

We took the Children of Israel (with safety) across the sea. They came upon a people devoted entirely to some idols they had. They said: 'O Moses! fashion for us a god like unto the gods they have.' He said: 'Surely ye are a people without knowledge.' As to these folk,- the cult they are in is (but) a fragment of a ruin, and vain is the (worship) which they practice. **(The Noble Quran, 7:138-139)**"

## 3.2 Prohibition of Idol worship – CHRISTIANITY

Old Testament condemns idol worship in the following verses:

"Thou shalt have no other gods before me."

"Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth:"

"Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God."

**[The Bible, Exodus 20:3-5]**

A similar message is repeated in the book of Deuteronomy:

"Thou shalt have none other gods before me."

"Thou shalt not make thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that in the earth beneath, or that is in the water beneath the earth."

"Thou shalt not bow down thyself unto them, nor serve them; for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God."

**[The Bible, Deuteronomy 5:7-9]**

## 3.3 Prohibition of Idol worship – HINDUISM

### **Shwetashvatara Upanishad Chapter 4 verse 19**

“Na tasya pratima asti”

“There is no likeness of Him”.

(Shwetashvatara Upanishad 4:19)

(The Principal Upanishad by S. Radhakrishnan pg 736 & 737)

(And in Sacred books of the East Volume 15, the Upanishads part II, Page no. 253)

### **Shwetashvatara Upanishad Chapter 4 verse 20**

“na samdrse tisthati rupam asya, na caksusa pasyati kas canainam”.

“His form cannot be seen, no one sees Him with the eye”.

(Shwetashvatara Upanishad 4:20)

(The Principal Upanishad by S. Radhakrishnan pg. 737)

(And in Sacred books of the East Volume 15, the Upanishad part II, Page no. 253)

Yajurveda, Chapter 32, Verse 3



“na tasya pratima asti”

There is no image of Him(Translation)

It further says as He is unborn, He deserves our worship

There is no image of him whose glory verily is great. He sustains within himself all luminous objects like the sun etc. may he not harm me, this is my prayer. As he is unborn, he deserves our worship.

**(The Yajurveda by Devi Chand M.A. page 377)**

Yajurveda Chapter 40 Verse 8

“He is bodiless and pure”.

(Yajurveda 40:8)

(Yajurveda Samhita by Ralph I. H. Griffith pg. 538)

**Yajurved Chapter 40 Verse 9**

“Andhatma pravishanti ye assambhuti mupaste”

“They enter darkness, those who worship **natural things.**”

E.g. worship of natural elements air, water, fire, etc.

**(Yajurveda 40:9)**

It further continues and says

“They sink deeper in darkness those who worship sambhuti i.e. created things”

E.g. created things such as table, chair, idols, etc.

(Yajurveda Samhita by Ralph T. H. Griffith pg. 538)

Na tasya pratima asti”

“There is no image of Him”.

**(Yajurveda 32:3)**

BHAGWAD GEETA Chapter 7, Verse 20

Bhagwad Geeta mentions

“Those whose intelligence has been stolen by material desires worship demigods” that is “Those who are materialistic, they worship demigods” i.e. others as deities besides the True God.

**(Bhagwad Geeta 7:20)**

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