

Why Allah deserves worship?

- **Allah is the most perfect Being:** 'God', by the very definition, is the One who is entitled to our worship and all acts of worship are to be directed to Him alone; this is a necessary fact of His own existence. The Qur'an repeatedly highlights this fact about Allah: "Indeed, I am Allah. There is no deity except Me, so worship Me and establish prayer for My remembrance." (20:14) and "And I did not create the jinn and mankind except to worship Me." (51:56). Allah deserves to be worshipped because of who He is. Even if He did not give us anything He would still deserve worship.
- **He possesses all the perfect names and attributes to the highest degree possible.** It is because of these names and attributes that Allah must be worshipped. Any person who is wise, merciful and kind deserves some kind of praise. However, Allah who is The-Wise, The-Merciful and The-Kind, and all of that to the highest degree possible, is worthy of the most extensive form of praise (i.e. worship).
- **Allah is also the only One entitled to our supplications and prayers.** He knows best what is good for us, and He also wants what is good for us. Such a Being with these attributes must be prayed to, and to be asked assistance of. An important point regarding worshipping Allah is that it is His right, even if we are not recipients of any type of comfort. If we were to live a life full of suffering, Allah is still to be worshipped. Worshipping Allah is not dependent on some kind of reciprocal relationship; He gives us life, and we worship Him in return. No doubt Allah showers us with many blessings; however, He is worshipped because of who He is and not necessarily how He decides — via His boundless wisdom — to distribute His bounty.
- **For our own benefit:** "O mankind, worship your Lord, who created you and those before you, that you may become righteous" (2:21)
- **It is our purpose in life and in line with our nature:** The Prophet (peace be upon him) said, "Every new-born child is born in a state of fitrah." (Muslim)
- **He created and sustains the universe and everything in it:** Allah says, "Is He [not best] who begins creation and then repeats it and who provides for you from the heaven and earth? Is there a deity with Allah? Say, "Produce your proof, if you should be truthful." (27:64)
- **His favours & provisions:** Allah says, "O mankind, remember the favour of Allah upon you. Is there any creator other than Allah who provides for you from the heaven and earth? There is no deity except Him, so how are you deluded?" (35:3)
- **If we love ourselves, we must love Allah:** We all want pleasure, happiness and to prolong our existence. This is a form of self-love. If we love ourselves, we must love Allah because it is He who sustains us, created us, created the causes in the universes to achieve pleasure and happiness. He is the source of love! When talking about God and love, Al-Ghazali said: "Therefore, if man's love for himself be necessary, then his love for Him through whom, first his coming-to-be, and second, his continuance in his essential being with all his inward and outward traits, his substance and his accidents, occur must also be necessary."

