

The Universal Religion



English

✦ Islam is the final divine message. Indeed, it is the very religion that Allah has chosen and approved for all mankind. Allah Almighty says: (Today I have perfected your religion for you, and completed My favour upon you and chosen Islam to be your religion.) *The Qur'an, 5:3*

✦ Muhammad ﷺ, is Allah's messenger and last prophet, and for this reason he was sent forth to all mankind. Allah Almighty says: (Say, [O Muhammad], 'O Mankind, indeed I am Allah's messenger to you all.) *The Qur'an, 7:158*

The Messenger of Allah ﷺ, once mentioned that he was given five qualities which were not given to any prophet before him: (Of these, he stated, "every prophet was sent to his own people but I have been sent to all mankind.)



✦ The Holy Qur'an is the final divine book. Allah Almighty says: (We have revealed to you, [O Muhammad], the Book with the truth, confirming the previous scriptures and with final authority over them.) *The Qur'an, 5:48*

✦ Thus, the message of Islam is for all people, regardless of their nationality and ethnic group, be they Arab, Berber, Mongolian, Caucasian, White or any other ethnicity.

✦ Islam sets a shining example when it comes to fighting racism and racial discrimination. Addressing Muslims during his farewell pilgrimage, the Messenger of Allah ﷺ, said: “People, your Lord is One and your father [Adam] is one. An Arab is not better than a non-Arab, nor is a non-Arab better than an Arab; a white person is not better than a black person, nor is a black person better than a white person except in piety.”

Once Abu Dharr had an argument with Bilal the Abyssinian, two of the Prophet’s companions. Abu Dharr grew so angry that he said to Bilal; “You, son of a black woman!” Having heard Bilal’s complaint, the Prophet ﷺ, disapprovingly said to Abu Dharr: “You taunted him about his mother, Abu Dharr? You still have some traits of the pre-Islamic days of ignorance.”

Meaning, you making such racist remarks by insulting him with respect to his mother’s skin colour is not a trait of Islam; rather, it is one of the traits of the days of ignorance before the advent of Islam.

No Islamic ruling whatsoever is made based on people’s skin colour.

Indeed, Bilal enjoyed a high and respectable status among the Prophet’s companions even though he was a black Abyssinian slave. Second Rightly-Guided Caliph ‘Umar Ibn al-Khattab, may Allah be pleased with him, once said: “Abu Bakr is our master and he freed our master”, referring to Bilal.

By contrast, Abu Lahab, who was of noble ancestry, was a paternal uncle of the Prophet and had a very handsome appearance, will be destined for Hell, simply because he did not believe in Allah and His Messenger.

✦ The message of Islam is for all people regardless of the language they speak, be it Arabic, English, French or Urdu - or any other language in the world, whether local or international.

✦ The message of Islam is for all people at all times. It is not limited to those who were at the Prophet's time; rather, it is directed to all people, since the advent of Islam until the end of time.

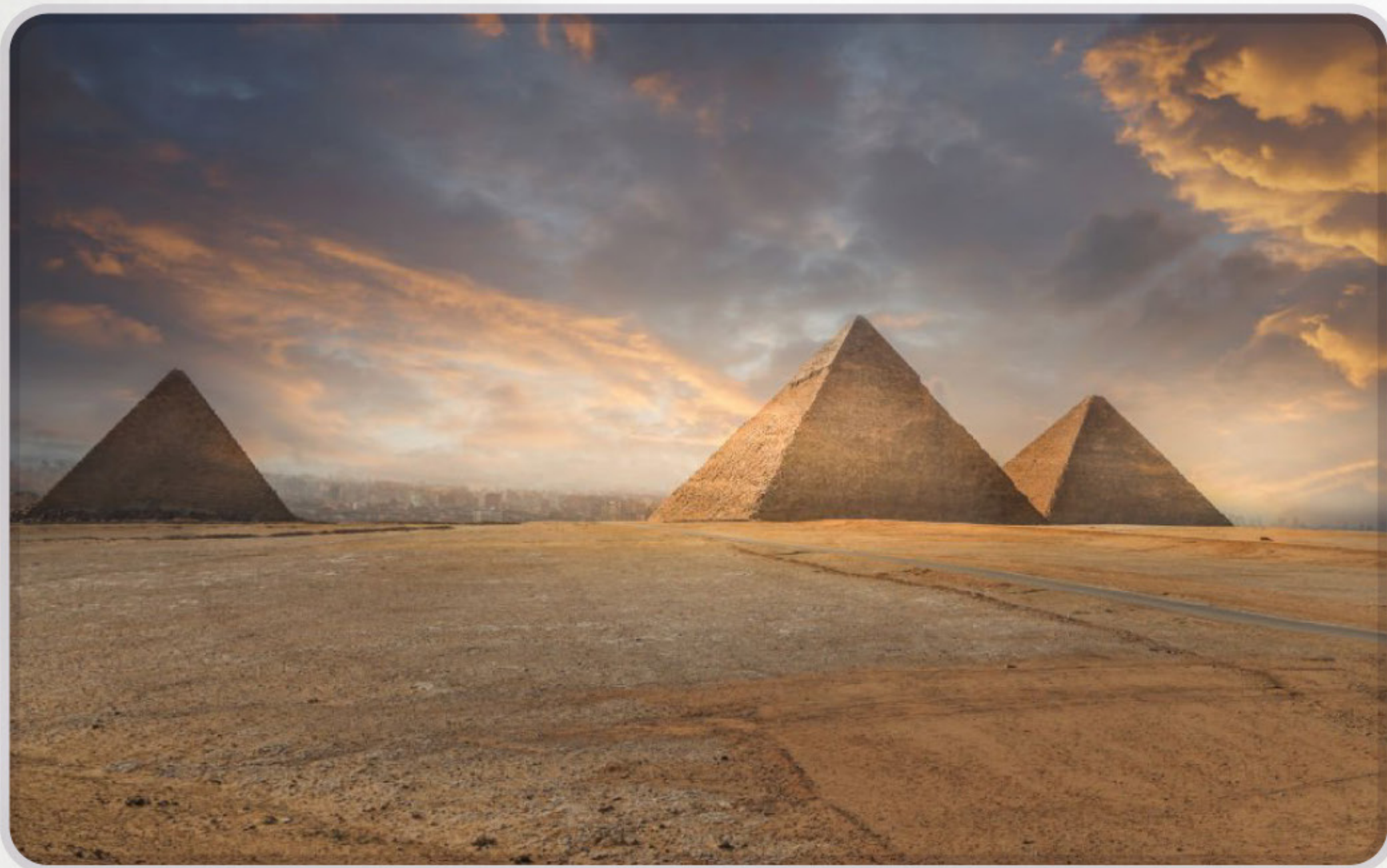
It is for this reason that the Prophet ﷺ, enjoined Muslims to convey the Qur'an and his own practices (Sunnah) generation after generation. Praising the true believers. Allah Almighty says: (Those who convey the messages of Allah, fearing Him and fearing none besides Him. Sufficient is Allah as a reckoner.) *The Qur'an, 33:39* And the Messenger of Allah ﷺ, said: "Convey from me, even if it is one verse from the Qur'an."



✦ He also said: "May Allah brighten up the face of a person who hears a hadeeth from us, memorises it and then conveys it to others. Perhaps there are many bearers of knowledge who convey it to those who are more versed than they are; and perhaps there are many bearers of knowledge who are not versed in the knowledge they carry."

The message of Islam is for all people in all places without exception. Islam has spread throughout all the continents of the world and has reached people living everywhere, in skyscrapers, mountain caves, forests, wildlands and deserts. Allah Almighty says: (This Qur'an has been revealed to me so that I may thereby warn you and whomever it may reach.) *The Qur'an, 6:19* That is to say, "whomever this Qur'an reaches at all times and in all places."

Although the Prophet's companions and those who came after them did not have fast means of transport like we have today—for they relied on horses and camels in their travels—they managed to spread Islam to almost all corners of the earth: The Indian subcontinent, China, East Asia, the farthest parts of Africa and even the outskirts of Europe.



Islam will reach virtually every location on the surface of the earth, **The Messenger of Allah ﷺ**, said: “This religion will reach every place that the night and the day have reached. Allah will not leave an urban or desert dwelling except that He will make this religion enter it, raising and honouring some while humbling and lowering others. He will raise and honour Islam while humbling and lowering unbelief.”

✦ Islam calls on establishing relationships and cooperation between people based on kindness and righteousness. **Allah Almighty says:** (O Mankind, indeed We have created you from a male and a female and made you into nations and tribes so that you may get to know one another.) *The Qur'an, 49:13*

Meaning for people get to know one another, and thus achieve cooperation based on virtue and mutual interest.

✦ The Islamic law is suitable for all mankind. Indeed, its immaculate flexibility and promotion of all aspects of justice, compassion and well-being makes it fit enough to adapt to all kinds of circumstances. Islam is in no way a rigid religion which thwarts people's interests.

✦ Therefore, the message of Islam is universal. It suits all times, all places and indeed all types of people. It addresses minds and hearts, does good to both soul and body and serves people's interests both in this world and the next.

It comprises creed and belief, acts of worship, rulings, social dealings and matters that rectify the economy. Likewise, it comprises effective methods of upbringing and education which fully suffice the people's religious and worldly needs.

Allah Almighty says: (Is it then not sufficient for them that We have revealed to you the Book which is recited to them? Surely in this there is mercy and a reminder for people who believe.) *The Qur'an, 29:51*





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