African Scholars Document In Explaining

The most Important Principles of Islam

Praise be to Allah who has guided us to the faith, and honored us with Islam, and strengthened us with the Quran, and made us the best nation emanated to people, and Allah blessings and peace on whom sent as mercy to the worlds; Prophet Muhammad, and his family, and his all companions, and followers, and who followed them in truth until the Day of Judgment.

Now then,

Starting with what Allah undertook on scholars to say the truth and to advise human being, a group of people of knowledge and Dawa "i.e. call to Allah" in Africa, held a meeting to write a brief document that consists the most important principles of Islam and its essential beliefs which unanimously approved by Islam Imams (leading scholars) throughout eras and regions.

We hope that this document be a guiding light on the way of reform, walkers enlighten with it and steppers guided with its milestones, and Allah of the intent behind, He is the one who says Truth and guides the way.

The most important principles that included in religion of Islam are as follows:

Firstly: the determined faith in Allah and what must he has of monotheism; obedience; believe on what stated regarding the unseen affairs & biographies; and Islam ideologies which are methodical or practical.
We believe - with certainty - that Allah - as He described Himself - One and Unique, He neither begets nor is born. Nor is there to Him any equivalent. He has no partner in his Lordship, Divinity, His names and attributes, the Lord of the Worlds, who deserved alone all types of worship, and granting any type of worship to other than Allah is polytheism. **Allah the Exalted says: "Say, indeed my prayer, my rites of sacrifice, my living and my dying are of Allah, Lord of the worlds. No partner has He. And this is I have been commanded, and I am the first "among you" of the Muslims. (Al-An'am: ١٦٢-١٦٣)**

Secondly: the obligatory of absolute consent, compliance, Obedience for Allah and his Messenger no partner with Allah in His command and judgment, as no partner to him in worship. **Allah the Exalted says : " But no, by your Lord, they will not "truly) believe until they make you " O Muhammad" , judge concerning that over which they dispute among themselves and then find within themselves no discomfort from what you have judge and submit it in "full, willing" submission. Surah anNisa ٦٥"**

Thirdly: The steady belief that Mohammad Ibn Abdullah Ibn AbdulMutalab Al-Hashmy Al-Qurashy, is Allah's servant and messenger, Allah sent him to both prominent being i.e. Jinn & mankind, a bringer of good tidings and a warner, he is the seal "last" of the

prophets, the leader of messengers, his love is obligatory and before the love of soul, money, kinship, children and parents. **The Prophet peace be upon him says" no one of you believes till he loves me more than his children, parents and all people.**

Fourthly: The belief in Allah's Angels, and they are honored servants who are created from light. They never disobey Allah's order and they just do what they are ordered. They are a lot, Allah has named some of them such as Gabriel and Michael, and some are not named to us.

Fifthly: The belief in Scriptures of Lord of the worlds', which are mentioned in detail in Quran, and, which are revealed as an argument against mankind, an evidence and a guide for walkers. Refuting one of these scriptures is as refuting all it. Some of these books are either lost and not existed or transformed and not kept except which is saved by Allah guardianship i.e. the holy Quran, The word of the Lord of worlds. Falsehood cannot approach it from before it or from behind. **Allah the Exalted says: "Indeed, it is We who sent down the message "i.e. the Quran", and indeed, We will be its guardian**. **Al-Hijr: ٩"**. Allah certainly made it a seal of these scriptures, a ruling and a criterion over its legislations**. Allah the Exalted says: 'And We have revealed to you" O Mohammad" the Book " i.e. the Quran" in truth, confirming that which preceded it of the Scripture and as a criterion over it. " al-Ma'idah ٤٨".**

Sixthly: The belief that the Quran which is now existed with us is complete without any lessening, and whoever alleges that it is incomplete, or the companions transformed or changed it, is an infidel and he has no share in Islam even so he prays or fasts and claims that he is a Muslim. Because Allah never leaves the custodianship of His Book to an infallible prophet or to an alleged Imam "leading scholar", He himself saved it and He is the best guardian and the most merciful of the merciful.

Seventhly: The belief in the prophets and apostles who Allah designated with superior qualities, and bestowed them the Message, the Prophecy, and the Infallibility. **Allah the Exalted says: "their messengers said to them, We are only men like you, but Allah confers favor upon whom He wills of His servants..." Ibrahim: ١١"**. They deserved from us faith on their messages, respect and a mighty victory. Not worshiping or calling them beside Allah. And that the seal of the prophets & apostles, and their best, is Prophet Mohammad - upon him blessing and peace. He is the leader of all Adam's offspring.

We believe in miracles with which Allah supported his prophets, and phenomena which Allah awarded to His Ally. We believe that all devout believers are allies of Allah the Most Compassionate. Any believer deserves custodianship according to his faith, and the custodianship of Allah to his righteous worshipers is varied.

On the other hand the paranormal habits and phenomena which Satan makes at hands of liars, magicians, sorcerers, and conjurers; is a form of seduction, faithlessness and misguiding. **Allah the exalted Says: " Say, " Whoever is in error – let the Most Merciful extend for him an extension (in wealth and time)." Maryam: ٧٥**

Eighthly: The belief in predestination, all things are created with predestination. What Allah wills happens and what Allah never wills doesn't happen. And what happened to a person never misses him and that missed him never happens to him.

Ninthly: Belief in the Last Day, and that includes belief in everything uttered by Holy Quran and authenticated **Sunnah** such as a trial of the grave, its torment & bliss, Signs of the Hour, and what will happen in a Place of Return, and the events in that Day as Intercession, Haudh " i.e. Fount/river of Abundance " and the Scale. We believe in resurrection, and really there isn't return back to life after death except in Day of Resurrection, **Allah the Exalted says:Have they not considered how many generation We destroyed before them – that they to them will not return" (Yaseen:٣١), and He " Say Allah causes you to live, then causes you to die, then He will assemble you for the Day of Resurrection" (Al-Jathiyah: ٢٦)**

The claim of retuning back to life after death before the Day of Resurrection and the claim of the Imams come back to live after their death and return again to this world to punish their adversaries is a clear invalid speech; opposing Quran verses & the authenticated Sunnah of Al_Adnany i.e. Prophet Mohammad". And no one of prominent Imams of Muslims said it.

Tenthly: The belief that both Paradise and Hell are remained and they will never perish. The people of Paradise are in bliss and the people of Hell are in torment, and the people of paradise will see their Lord and it the utmost and best bliss. **Allah the Exalted says: " For them who have done good is the best "Reward" – and extra. (Yunus: ٢٦)**. **He also says: "(some) faces, that Day, will be radiant, looking at their Lord". (The Resurrection: ٢٢,٢٣).**

Eleventh: The belief that Islam is the Religion and Allah never accepts another religion but it, **since Allah the Exalted says: "Indeed the religion in the sight of Allah is Islam. (Al-Imran: ١٩)** . **And He says also: "And whoever desires other than Islam as a religion – never will it be accepted from him, and he, in the Hereafter, will be among the losers (Al-Imran: ٨٥)**. Our prophet Mohammad uttered that **" I swear with the One in whose hands is my soul, No one hears of me among this nation whether Jew or Christian and he died without believing in what I was sent with, indeed he is among companions of Hell. Reported by Moslem**. The religion "i.e. Islam" is that which Prophet Mohammad and his companion accomplished in a perfect way so as to be a guiding curriculum till the Day of Resurrection.

Twelfth: The belief that all fundamentals of Religion were explained by Prophet Mohammad, and he never passed away from this world till Allah perfected with him the Religion and accomplished with His Great Bounty the bliss and favor. **As Allah says: This day I have perfected for you your religion and completed My favor upon you and have approved for you Islam as religion. (Al Ma'ida ٣)**. A-Imam Malik Allah's Mercy upon him, said: "What was not religion at that time will never be a religion today. (Al-Itsam for Shatby ٢/٥٣)

No one has the right to tell something and then claims that it is from religion such as the allegation that argument of Allah never exists against creatures unless there is Imam "leading scholars", and the existence of this Imam whom Allah has appointed in this

world is important so as to be an a plea against Allah's worshipers. The slave never becomes a believer till he knows all Imams, and knows Imam of his time. All these are not only a clear falsehood but also an alien addition in Islam belief, and it has no evidence from Holy Book or from Sunnah.

Thirteenth: It is oblige to induce people by precise verses in Quran, Sunnah and genuine consensus, and it is inacceptable to examine common Muslims with illegitimate invented affairs.
There should be no dispute in religion and no Fitnah " i.e. tumult & dissension, trial" among Muslims, and in case of dispute among Muslims it is obligatory to refer it back to Allah's Book , and His Messenger's Sunnah.

Fourteenth: The belief that "*Ismah* " i.e. infallibility & trustworthiness" is for the Prophet Mohammad and for the entire nation, however individual person among nation has no *Ismah*. And the disputes between scholars should be referred back to Quran and Sunnah. Whatever meets the evidence is acceptable, and we should excused diligent scholars of nation in their mistakes, and that they are awarded for their due diligence. We don't think that they have Ismah or they deserve desolation & negligence.

Fifteenth: The Al-Iman "i.e. the Faith" consists utterance and acts, and it increases with obedience and decreases with disobedience. The believer never exiled from faith unless he commits sins that invalidate and contradict Faith.
Saying that Muslims are infidel or deviated without proof or evidence leads to serious consequences. **"Prophet Mohammad says: "Any man who says to his brother: "Oh infidel" one of them will entitle with it" (approved by ALBUKHARI and MUSLEM).** Muslim who commits major sin is among Muslims but he is disobedient and his faith is incomplete because of his major sin. We don't condemn him of infidelity or that he will be in Hell endlessly. A Muslim who insists on doing major sin and dies without repentance, his affairs rest with Allah, if He wills He forgives him/her, and if He wills He punishes him/her. Then his return to the paradise **since Allah says: Indeed Allah doesn't forgive association with Him, but he forgives what is less than that for whom He wills. And he who associates others with Allah has certainly fabricated a tremendous sin.(Al-Nisa: ٤٨)**

Sixteenth: we ally Prophet's household, we love them and we believe that is from perfection of faith. As they have a privilege not with others, this firstly for their belief in Allah and secondly their relationship to Prophet; **Allah says: "Say (O Mohammad) I don't ask you for it (i.e. this message) any payment (but) only good will through (i.e. due to) kinship"; (ashSHura:٢٣)** and thirdly for achieving his bequest, as he said: " my household, I remind you Allah for my household, I remind you Allah for my household, I remind you Allah for my household. Reported by Muslim. This Hadith "Prophet Speech" ,and what is similar in mentioning prominent being, indicated the obligatory of loving and supporting them in truth and protecting them from any abuse. It

never indicates that the jurisprudence should be taken from them only & not others, or they have knowledge of religion not with others, as **Abu Juhayfah, may Allah be pleased with him, narrated that " I said to Ali, may Allah be pleased with him, " Do you have anything not in Quran? Or he said "not with other people? He said: With whom that causes the seed-grain split and sprout, and creates the soul, we have no more than what in Quran except an understanding given to a man in his book and what in the paper , I said what in this paper? He said: a compensation payment, Prisoner release and not to kill Muslim for infidel. Reported by Al-Bukhari"** Also it doesn't understood from this that the caliphs should be from them only. Prophet's household are his wives and whoever deprived from Zakat among his relatives believers such as Aqeel's household, Ali's household and Abbas's household. **Allah the Exalted says:" O wives of the Prophet, you are not like anyone among women. If you fear Allah, then do not be soft in speech (to men) lest he in whose heart is disease should covet, but speak with appropriate speech. And abide in your houses and do not display yourselves as (was) the display of the former times of ignorance. And establish prayer and give Zakah and obey Allah and His messenger. Allah intends only to remove from you the impurity (of sin), O people of the (Prophets's) household, and to purify you with (extensive) purification." (Al-Ahzab: ٣٢-٣٣)**

Seventeenth: We ally Allah's Messenger companions and the four caliphs, we love them and we neither overly love one of them, nor disassociate from one of them. We hate who hates them and with indecency mention them. We mention them with decency. And we think their love is a religion, faith & goodness. And their hate is infidelity, hypocrisy and injustice. They deserve Allah's blessing and love. **Allah says: " And the first forerunners(in the faith) among the Muhajreen and the Ansar and those who followed them with good conduct- Allah is pleased with them and they are pleased with Him, and He has prepared for them gardens beneath which river flow, wherein they will abide forever. That is great attainment (atTawbah:١٠٠)**

They differ in degrees, preeminence, belief and knowledge; their best in total are Muhajoroon "i.e. emigrants from Makah to Medina" and individually is Abu-Bakr then Omar, then Osman and then Ali. Allah be pleased with all of them.

The four caliphs "prophet's successors "as in position are: Abu-Bakr, Omar, Osman and Ali. Allah be pleased with all of them. Anyone who disputes in those successors or one of them has gone astray because he opposes the Companions' consensus.

We don't talk on what happened among them regarding Fitna i.e. tumult and killing, they are either a true one who has two rewards and a excused wrong one who has one reward. The way of safety it to be silent when dealing about what happened among them, and refer their affairs back to Allah.

Eighteenth: Anyone who says Prophet's companions are infidel, or describe them with Riddah " i.e. returns back to infidelity" even if he excluded few of them, he indeed negates the Book and Sunnah , exiled himself from Islam and nation, because he denied Allah's saying: **" Allah says: " … But to all Allah has promised the best (reward)…etc." (Al-Hadeed: ١٠)** (best reward) means the paradise, so anyone who

says they are infidel or disobedient that means he denies Allah and who denies Allah becomes infidel.

Allah's Messenger prohibited insulting them, and he says: **Don't insult my companions, don't insult my companions - with the Only in whose hands my soul - if one of you spends gold weighs as Ahud i.e. a mountain in Medina" , he never reaches a handful of them or a half of their handful. (Approved by ALBUKHARI and MUSLEM)**

Al-Imam Malik – May Allah have mercy on him, said: Anyone who insults companions of Prophet, has no share or part in Islam" Al-Sunnah for Khalal ٣/٤٩٣.

Abu-Bakr Al-Marozy said that he asked Aba Abdullah Al-Imam Ahmed Ibn Hanbal about who insult Aba-bakr, Omar and Aisha? He said: I don't think he is in Islam" Al-Sunnah for Khalal ٣/٤٩٣.

Ibn Kathir , the high eminent scholar– May Allah have mercy on him- while interpreting Allah's verse**: " … That their description in the Torah. And their description in the Gospel is as plant which produces its offshoots and strengthens them so they grow firm and stand upon their stalks, delighting the sowers- so that He (i.e. Allah) may enrage by them disbelievers" (Al-Fateh: ٢٩)**, said: from this verse Al-imam Malik – may Allah have mercy on him – deuced the infidelity of Rwafidh i.e. Shiite who hates the companions, because they enraged with them, and who enraged with companions is infidel for this verse. Many scholars agreed with him upon this. "Tafsir Al-Quran Al-Azeem. "i.e. The Holy Quran interpretation"

Nineteenth: We believe that the Mothers of Believers are the wives of prophet in this world and Hereafter, and Aisha, a mother of believers,- May Allah pleased with her- Allah exempted her - on above seven heavens –from what hypocrites condemned her with. So anyone who condemns her from what Allah has exempted, is out of Islam, he dissents the Quran. Al-Imam Malik said: "Anyone who condemned her; dissented the Quran, and who dissents the Quran should be killed. "Al-Muhala ١٣/٥٠٤"

This is what we collected of Islam most important principles, and no one from Muslims has the capability to contradict it. It is the creed of religion's eminent Imams i.e. Companions, their followers, the four followed imams; Abu-Hanifa, Malik, AshSHafi and Ahmad, may Allah have mercy on them all.

"And follow what is revealed to you (O Muhammad) and be patient until Allah will judge. And He is the best of judges" (Yunus:١٠٩)

We ask Allah to guide us and other Muslim to the straight path. Our lord forgives us and our brothers who preceded us in faith and put not in our hearts (any) resentment toward those who have believed. Our lord indeed You are kind and Merciful. Amen…