

A Comprehensive Research, Analytical And Comparative Review Of The Concept Of God

Hafiz Muhammad Hamid¹, Nayab Gul², Hafiiz Muhammad Ismail Tabish³, Dr. Hafiz Irfanullah⁴, Dr. HM Azhar Usama*⁵

¹Ph.D. Scholar, Department of Islamic Studies, Lahore Garrison University, Lahore, Punjab, Pakistan
hmhamidfaridi@gmail.com

²PhD. Scholar, Department of Islamic studies and Arabic, Lahore Garrison University, Lahore, Pakistan
nayyabgul786@gmail.com

³PhD. Scholar, Department of Islamic Studies, the University of Lahore, Lahore, Punjab, Pakistan
muftitabish786@gmail.com

⁴Assistant professor, Department of Islamic Studies and Arabic, Lahore Garrison University, Pakistan
irfanullah@lgu.edu.pk

⁵Assistant Professor, Department of Islamic Studies, the University of Lahore, Lahore, Punjab, Pakistan
(Corresponding Author): mohammad.azhar@ais.uol.edu.pk

ABSTRACT

The harmony and similarity found in the major religions of the world will be mentioned In this research paper. The divinity was found in images and monuments or ascribed to some dead or non-existent human being and then methods of worship were invented such as bells and drumming, whistling and clapping, incense burning in front of deities and statues and burning wax, making God happy through incense and vapors, etc., but Islam rejected all these notions and gave belief in God alone, who is characterized by all attributes of perfection and beauty, who is always connected with his servants and Who is the life itself that does not get sleep or drowsiness, everything is under His control. He knows the theft of the eyes of the servants and the secrets of the hearts. He knows every particle in the heavens and the earth. He listens to the prayer of the afflicted and relieves his distress. He is the owner of profit and loss; with him are the treasures of the heavens and the earth did and directly established the relationship of the servant with God. There is no need for a Brahmin, a priest, a priest, a rabbi, or a priest. Islam abolished all these external and intermediate customs and restrictions and established the relationship of the servant directly with God. Each person is his own priest, priest, priest and Brahmin. Islam also abolished the confinement of house, temple, church, church and cathedral for worship and declared the entire surface of the earth as a place of worship. God can be worshipped in every place and in every condition, in every place and in every situation.

Keywords: God, Religions, Islam, Judaism, Christianity Hinduism, Sikhism, Zoristrunism Teachings, Concept, Scriptures.

INTRODUCTION:

Westerners called religion an opium, meaning that religion is an obstacle to development and isolates its believer from worldly affairs. The background of this opinion regarding the religion of the people of the West is the cruel behavior of the people of the church, due to which religion was rightly considered as a useless thing. However, the same impression about religion was tried to be attached to Islam and the world was made to believe that Islam is not different from other religions. He also isolates his believer from the world of business and has no role in the construction and development of the world. On the other hand, the political and intellectual retreat and decadence of Muslims in the past centuries as if presented a clear testimony to the people of the world that Islam is really not capable of keeping up with the times and that it is a defunct religion. In this century, after 9/11, doubts and doubts have started to arise in the minds of Muslims themselves about the effectiveness and dynamics of Islam. In this article, it has been examined in the light of Islamic teachings, how much capacity Islam has for the construction and development of the times and what is the capacity of spiritual, moral and material guidance of human beings and also how dynamic and active it makes its followers.

Islamic teachings are mainly divided into four components: beliefs, acts of worship, affairs and morals.

Below is an overview of the concept of God related to the following beliefs.

❖ TAWHEED BARI ALMIGHTY:

The oneness of Allah is mentioned in the holy books of all major religions. The common and central point of the call of all the prophets who came to the world was monotheism. In the Holy Qur'an, Allah says:

(O Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him) Say, O People of the Book, come to this word which is common between us and you, that we worship none but Allah, and that we associate nothing with Him, and none of us do not take anyone as your Lord but Allah."¹

• MONOTHEISM IN HINDUISM:

Generally, Hinduism is taken as a religion in which the concept of many gods is found. In fact, many believe in one god. Some Hindus believe in three gods, while some Hindus believe in 33 million gods. Let us read. Literary Hindus, who are familiar with their books, say that a Hindu should worship only one God.

Now we present the references of these sacred books of Hindus in which monotheism is mentioned:

• BHAGAVAD GITA:

The Bhagavad Gita is very famous among the books of Hinduism. There is a verse in the Gita:

"Those whose understanding has been clouded by material desires, have bowed down before the gods (incarnations) and then made rules of worship according to their own will."²

Here the Gita is saying that materialistic people leave the real God and start worshiping demigods.

• UPANISHADS:

Upanishad is also considered as the holy book of Hindus. It has a verse:

"He is the only one without any other."³

Here is a stanza from the Upanishad:

"He has neither parents nor God"⁴

See another verse of the same Upanishad:

"There's no one like him."⁵

Now compare the above verses with these Quranic verses:

"And none is his equal."⁶

"Nothing in the universe is like Him, He is all-hearing and all-seeing."⁷

The following verses of the Upanishads refer to man's inability to imagine God as an embodiment:

"His form is invisible; no one can see him with eyes. Those who see him with heart and mind, he stays in their heart and makes them immortal."⁸

The Holy Quran describes the same thing in this way:

Do not perceive the sight, and He perceives the sight, and He is the All-Knowing.

"The eyes cannot find Him and He finds the eyes, He is very subtle and aware."⁹

- **VEDA:**

Vedas are considered the most important books in Hinduism. Four books of Vedas are more famous, namely Rig Veda, Yajar Veda, Sama Veda and Athar Veda.

Among all the Vedas, the Rig Veda is the oldest. According to the Hindus, it is also the most sacred book. Monotheism is explained in the following verses of the Rigveda:

"O friends! Worship none but Him, He alone is God."¹⁰

Among the many attributes of God described in the Rigveda, the most beautiful attribute is found in the third stanza of the second shabadha of the Rigveda, where the word Brahma is used for God. Brahma is translated into Arabic. It will mean the Creator.

In another place it is written:

"The wise Jogi concentrates his mind and his thoughts on the Supreme Reality, which is the Almighty, the Great and the Sovereign. He alone

is aware of their actions and matters assigned to the sense organs. Verily, He is the Great and is the heavenly creator."¹¹

Another excellent attribute of God is described in the third stanza of Manajat I, Book II of the Rigveda. Here God is called Vishnu. Vishnu means "the nurturer". If translated into Arabic, It would mean "Lord".

It is written in Yajar Veda:

"Those who worship the natural phenomena, will enter darkness. For example, wind, water and fire, etc. Those who worship Sambhuti, will sink deeper into darkness."¹²

Sambhuti means created objects like chairs, tables and idols etc.

Atharveda verse says:

"Surely God is great."¹³

It is clear from the above references that the concept of monotheism has been presented in the religious books of Hinduism and idolatry has been condemned.

❖ **MONOTHEISM IN SIKHISM:**

Sikhism is a non-Semitic, Aryan but non-Vedic religion. Although it is not one of the major religions of the world, it is a branch of Hinduism, which was founded by Baba Guru Nanak at the end of the fifteenth century. Pakistan and the region of northwestern India also known as Punjab. Guru Nanak grew up in a Khatri (or warrior caste) Hindu family, but he was deeply influenced by Islam and Muslims.

The word "Sikh" is actually derived from the word "Sisya". It means a follower of Meredyia. There are ten Gurus in this religion. Guru Nanak is the first Guru while Guru Gobind Singh is the tenth and last Guru. The holy book of Sikh religion. The name is Sri Guru Granth also known as Adi Granth Sahib.

There is a verse from Sri Granth Sahib:

"There is only one God who is truly the Creator, He is free from fear and hatred, He is not born of anyone but is immortal, He is self-existent, Great and Merciful."

Sikhism strongly exhorts its followers to monotheism. This means that there is only one Supreme Lord. He exists in a vague and ambiguous form called "One Omkara". When describing the clear attributes of God If done, it is called Omkara. In Sikhism, many attributes of God are described, such as Kartar (Creator), Sahib (King), Akal (Eternal), Sunta Naam (Holy Name), Pravardgar (Nurturant with love).) and Rahim (the Merciful).

Sikhism also has the words "Vahe Guru" meaning "One True God" for God. Since the Sikh religion strongly advocates oneness, it does not believe in Avatar Veda at all, which can be called the belief of incarnation and dissolution. According to the Sikh religion, God does not transform into other forms by incarnating Himself and thus the concept of Avatar is completely rejected. No. Sikh religion strongly opposes idolatry as well.

❖ MONOTHEISM IN PARSI RELIGION:

The Parsi religion came into being in Iran about two and a half thousand years ago. Its founder is Zoroastrian. In this sense, these people are also called Zoroastrian, Magian or fire worshipers. It is an ancient Aryan religion and its sacred books are Dasatir and known as Avesta. The Persians call God as "Ahormazda". "Ahor" means "Lord" and "Mazda" means "Wise". Therefore, "Ahormazda" means "wise master". Tawheed is also very involved in the concept of Ahur Mazda.

Tawheed in Dasatir:

The attributes of God described in Dasatir are as follows:

- He is one.
- He has no spouse.
- He is bodiless and formless.

- It has neither beginning nor end.
- He has no father, no son, no wife and no children.
- Neither the eye can cover it, nor can it be conceived by the mind.
- He is above all that we can think of.
- He is closer to us than we are.
- **Concept of Monotheism in Avesta:**

Following are some of the attributes of Ahura Mazda according to Avesta, Gatha and Yasna:

- The creator¹⁴
- Of great strength and greatness¹⁵
- Giver¹⁶
- Generous. "Spenta"¹⁷

❖ MONOTHEISM IN JUDAISM:

Judaism is an important religion among the Semitic religions. Its followers are called Jews and they believe in the prophetic mission of Prophet Moses (peace be upon him).

In the fifth book of the Old Testament, Sayyiduna Musa (peace be upon him) advises and says: The translation of the Hebrew verse goes something like this:

"Listen O Children of Israel! Our Lord is God, He is one Lord."¹⁸

The opposition to polytheism in Judaism is evident from the following verse:

"There is no god but Me. You shall not make any image of Me. There is no likeness to Me, neither in heaven, nor on earth, nor under the water. So do not bow down to anyone else, to them." Do not look, I am your God."¹⁹

There is a similar message in Kitab Sana'iyyah:

"There is no god but Me, so do not worship Me. There is no one like Me in the heavens, on the earth, or in the depths of the water. So you should not worship them or serve them." I am God and Lord."²⁰

Therefore, the basic teaching of Judaism is also related to monotheism.

❖ MONOTHEISM IN CHRISTIANITY:

Christianity is a Semitic religion. It is claimed that it has about two billion followers all over the world. Christians believe in Jesus. Jesus is also highly respected in Islam. Islam is the only non-Christian religion that exhorts faith in Jesus. A clear difference between Islam and Christianity is that Christians insist on the divinity of Jesus. It is clear from the study of the Christian holy books that Jesus Christ (peace be upon him) never claimed to be God, in fact, there is not a single sentence in the entire Holy Bible in which Jesus (peace be upon him) has made the statement that "I am God." or "Worship me." In fact, the things attributed to Jesus in the Holy Bible are the exact opposite. The statements attributed to Jesus in the Holy Bible are as follows:

"My father is greater than me."²¹

"My father is high and great."²²

"I smite demons by God's command."²³

Jesus (peace be upon him) never claimed to be the Lord. He was sent by God Almighty to fulfill and confirm Judaism. The following statement is recorded in the Gospel of Matthew, which is a clear proof of this.

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets, I have come to fulfill them rather than to destroy them. As long as the earth and the heavens last, not one particle of the law will remain unfulfilled, even All will be followed. Whoever breaks the minor commandment of God and teaches it to the people, his name will be called in heaven at the end, but whoever acts according to it and teaches it, he will be in heaven. I will be called by a great name."²⁴

See another verse of the Gospel:

"And this life is immortal; perhaps they will know the one true God, even me whom he has sent."²⁵

The statements written above negate the Christian way of thinking that Hazrat Isa (peace be upon him) had divine attributes and was saved by his crucifixion. Hazrat Jesus (peace be upon him) advised that the true God is only one Allah and Salvation can be attained only if His commands are followed.

The Bible does not support the doctrine of the Trinity of Christianity. When a man who wrote the manuscript of the Holy Book asked Jesus, peace be upon him, which is the first commandment of God above all, he only repeated what Prophet Moses, peace be upon him, said. A Hebrew phrase translates as:

"Lord, our God is one Lord."²⁶

❖ MONOTHEISM IN ISLAM:

Historically, the general practice of idolatry among the Arabs certainly remained, however, despite this idolatry; they had a clear concept of God. Therefore, they used to worship idols with the purpose of attaining closeness to Allah. The appearance of Islam happened at a time when various kinds of evils were spreading among the Arabs even beyond the concept of God. Now it was necessary to correct these ideas regarding the concept of God and at the same time purify the Arab society from these spiritual diseases. In view of this situation, the philosophy of Tawheed of Islam not only corrected the scattered ideas of people regarding God, but also corrected many other intellectual errors

The philosophy of the Qur'an and other inspired books regarding the concept of God is the same. However, due to distortions in other inspired books, the concept of God's unity over human beings had gone into confusion. The same thing is clearly narrated as follows: Listen, O Israel. Our Lord is only one God.

Islam gave a complete concept of God. In which there is no saqam of any kind. From the Islamic point of view, Allah is the creator of the entire

universe and there is no partner in this creative process [93]. Now, if this concept regarding God is established, then there is no doubt of shirk and similarity in it.

The very meaning of "There is no god but Allah" provides humans with such a strong monotheistic basis for the One True Lord that it completely refutes the idea of multiple Gods and this philosophy makes the person of Allah the Exalted above the human existence. In this way (Bismillah al-Rahman al-Rahim), there is a reference to the real attributes of the same entity, such as mercy and compassion. All the attributes of Allah Ta'ala are eternal and free from any change. Allama Shehrestani writes in his book (Al-Millam Wal-Nahl).

(Know that a large group of the predecessors would establish for God the eternal attributes of knowledge, power, majesty, will, will, speech, speech, pleasure, anger, life, will, hearing, sight, speech, majesty, dignity, joy, rewards, majesty, and majesty.)

That is, a large group of the Salaf consider the attributes of Allah Tabarak wa Taali, such as knowledge, dignity, honor, majesty, kindness, speech, pleasure, life, hearing, speaking, glory, generosity, and greatness to be eternal.

In Islam, man's relationship with God is that of the Creator and the creature, and God's means of communication with the Messenger is a direct and perfect revelation. In addition, this series of revelations was completed after the passing away of the Holy Prophet. From the Islamic point of view, God never took a physical form and did not make anyone a partner in divinity, so the Qur'an has clarified the humanity and prophethood of Christ by rejecting this theory of incarnation-

Ibn Sina says that Allah, may He be blessed and exalted, is superior to the universe in terms of his nature, rank and disability. It is impossible for the universe to be later than Allah Tabarak wa Ta'ali, because in that case it would mean that Allah Ta

Barak Wa Ta'ali decided to create this universe at some point in time, that is, Allah did not intend it in the first place. Then he intended to make it, although any kind of change in the intention of Allah Tabarak wa Taali is impossible-

It is as if the concept of Islam regarding God consists of pure monotheism in which there is no doubt of frequency and participation. In the Holy Qur'an, Allah has been described with the word Wahid in several places and everywhere its use has been taken into consideration. So it is said: (Inma Ho Allah Wahid) [98]. In the same way, it is said in another place (Falahkam Allah is One). In another place, while rejecting the belief in duality, it is said (Wila tatkhwa ilhin two, inma ho ilaha wahid). In all such ayat-i-karima, the monotheistic view of Allah is clearly stated.

Islam is also one of the Semitic religions. Islam means "total obedience to Allah". Those who believe in it are called Muslims. Muslim means "obedient". The number of Muslims in the world is more than twenty-two billion. Muslims believe in the Qur'an, which was revealed by Allah to His last prophet, Muhammad, the Messenger of Allah. It has been declared obligatory for Muslims to believe in all the prophets sent by Allah and in all the books revealed by Allah. The oneness of Allah has been described in the Qur'an many times. Is. Therefore, Surah Ikhlas is:

"Say that He is Allah alone. He is without need. He is neither the father of anyone nor the son of anyone. And there is no one as his consort."²⁷

At another place he said:

"Allah is the living and eternal being who is managing the entire universe. There is no god but He. He neither sleeps nor slumbers."²⁸

Muslims prefer the word Allah instead of the English word "God". In Arabic, this name "Allah" is pure and unique and the English word "God" cannot replace it because the English word has more room for interpretation. If you add an "s" to the end of the word "God", it becomes

"Gods", the plural of God. In contrast, the word Allah is singular and is not even used for the plural form. Can be done, nor can it be made female.

There are numerous arguments against monotheism in the Holy Qur'an. Many polytheists say that the concept of more than one God is not illogical. We will now consider this point. In the case of God, they can also quarrel with each other because each God will want to do his own will and work compared to other Gods. Could he be God? Of course, he cannot be the true God. In pluralistic religions, the concept of many gods is common, each god having a different function. Each god is responsible for some part of the existence of the universe. For example, Sun God or Rain God etc. Similarly, one God proves to be inadequate to perform many tasks. On the other hand, one God is indifferent and ignorant of the duties and functions of other gods. Can God be ignorant and incompetent? No, not at all. If there were more than one God, the result would be disorder, chaos and destruction in the universe. However, we see that there is complete order and balance in the universe. Allah says:

REFERENCES:

- ¹ Al-Qur'an al-Kareem, Al-Imran 64:3
- ² Bhagavad Gita, Chapter 7, 20
- ³ Chandogya Upanishad 1:6,2
- ⁴ Sveta Swatra Upanishad 9:6
- ⁵ Sveta Swatra Upanishad 19:4
- ⁶ Al-Qur'an al-Kareem, Ikhlas 4:112
- ⁷ Holy Quran, Shura 11:42
- ⁸ Sveta Swatra Upanishad, 20, 4
- ⁹ Al-Qur'an al-Kareem, An'am 103:6
- ¹⁰ Rigveda 8:1
- ¹¹ Rigveda 81:5
- ¹² Yager Veda 9:40
- ¹³ Atharvaveda 3:58

"If there were other gods besides Allah in the earth and the sky, the system of both (the earth and the sky) would have been corrupted. Therefore, Glorified is Allah, the Lord of the Throne, from the things that these people are creating."²⁹

If there were more than one God, He would have taken possession of the things He had created. The Holy Qur'an says:

"Allah has not created anyone as His offspring, and there is no other God with Him. If that were the case, then every God would have taken His creatures and separated, and then they would have rushed against each other. Glorified be God for the things that this People are making it."³⁰

Therefore, the concept of only one, great and supreme God is logically the correct and true concept of God and all the major religions teach the same. Therefore, it is clear from the above arguments that monotheism in the world of religions refers to the Almighty. There is harmony and similarity.

¹⁴Yeshna 7:44

¹⁵ Yeshna 11:33

¹⁶ Yeshna 3:48

¹⁷ Yesna 2:44, Yesna 9:46

¹⁸ The Holy Bible, Deuteronomy 4:6

¹⁹ Holy Bible, Exodus, 20, 3

²⁰ The Holy Bible, Deuteronomy 5:7

²¹ Holy Bible, John 28:14

²²Holy Bible, John, 29, 10

²³ Holy Bible, Matthew, 28, 21

²⁴ Holy Bible, Matthew, 5, 17-20

²⁵Holy Bible, John, 17, 3

²⁶ Holy Bible, Mark, 12,29

²⁷ Al-Qur'an Al-Kareem, Al-Ikhlas 1:112-4

²⁸ Al-Qur'an al-Kareem, Al-Baqarah 2:255

²⁹ Holy Quran, Prophets 22:21

³⁰ Al-Qur'an Al-Kareem, Al-Mu'mininun 91:23