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10 nullifiers of Islaam by Shaykh Ibn Baaz (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ)

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

All praise is due to Allaah Alone. Peace and blessings be upon the Last Prophet, his family, Companions and those who follow his guidance.

A Muslim should know that Allaah (may He be Praised) enjoins all the creation to embrace Islaam, hold it firmly and avoid what contradicts it. Allaah sent His Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) to call for that, informing them that whoever follows him will be guided and whoever turns away from him will be misguided. In many Ayahs (Qur'aanic verses), Allaah warned people against causes of apostasy and all forms of Shirk (associating others with Allaah in His Divinity or worship) and Kufr (disbelief). Under the topic of the rulings of the apostate, scholars (may Allaah be merciful with them) mentioned that a Muslim may abandon Islaam by committing one of the nullifiers that make his blood and money violable and turn him out of the fold of Islaam. **The most dangerous and common ten nullifiers are mentioned by Shaykh and Imaam Muhammad ibn `Abdul-Wahhab and other scholars (may Allaah be merciful with them).** Here we will list them in brief so that a Muslim can keep away from them and warn people against them in hope for safety and wellbeing. We will briefly elaborate on them.

First: Shirk in the worship of Allaah. Allaah (Exalted be He) says: [Verily, Allaah forgives not that partners should be set up with Him (in worship), but He forgives except that (anything else) to whom He wills.]¹ He (Exalted be He) also says: [Verily, whosoever sets up partners (in worship) with Allaah, then Allaah has forbidden Paradise to him, and the Fire will be his abode. And for the Zaalemoon (polytheists and wrong-doers) there are no helpers.]² This includes invoking the dead and seeking relief, vowing or offering sacrifice for them.

Second: Whoever takes intermediaries between him and Allaah, invokes, and asks them for intercession with Allaah and puts his trust in them has committed Kufr (disbelief) according to the Ijma` (consensus) of scholars.

Third: Whoever does not hold the polytheists to be disbelievers, has doubts about their disbelief or considers their ways and beliefs to be correct has committed disbelief.

¹ Soorah an-Nisaa [4:48]

² Soorah al-Maa'idah [5:72]

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Fourth³: Whoever believes that some guidance other than that of the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم)⁴ is more complete than his guidance or that someone else's judgment is better than his judgment, such as those who prefer the judgment of the Taaghoot (false gods) over his judgment, then he is a disbeliever.

Fifth: Whoever hates something that the Messenger (صلى الله عليه وسلم) came with, even though he may act on it, has disbelieved. Allaah (Exalted be He) says: **[That is because they hate that which Allaah has sent down (this Qur'aan and Islaamic laws, etc.); so He has made their deeds fruitless.]**⁵

Sixth: Whoever mocks or ridicules any part of the Messenger's (صلى الله عليه وسلم) religion, its rewards or punishments has committed an act of disbelief. Allaah (Exalted be He) says: **[Say: "Was it at Allaah (عز وجل)⁶, and His Aayaat (proofs, evidence, verses, lessons, signs, revelations) and His Messenger (صلى الله عليه وسلم) that you were mocking?" Make no excuse; you disbelieved after you had believed.]**⁷

Seventh: Sorcery, which includes magic spells that cause a person to hate or love someone/something. Whoever practices it or is pleased with it commits disbelief. The proof for this is the saying of Allaah (Exalted be He): **[but neither of these two (angels) taught anyone (such things) till they had said, "We are only for trial, so disbelieve not (by learning this magic from us)."]**⁸

Eighth: Supporting and assisting the polytheists against the Muslims. The proof for this is the saying of Allaah (Exalted be He): **[And if any amongst you takes them as Auliya, then surely he is one of them. Verily, Allaah guides not those people who are the Zaalemoon (polytheists and wrong-doers and unjust).]**⁹

Ninth: Whoever believes that it is permitted for some people to be free of (implementing) the Sharee'ah (Islaamic law) brought with Muhammad (صلى الله عليه وسلم), then he is a disbeliever. Allaah (Exalted be He) says: And whoever seeks a religion other than Islaam, it will never be accepted of him, and in the Hereafter he will be one of the losers.

³ The Fourth Nullifier includes those who believe that man-made laws and constitutions are better than the Sharee'ah of Islaam, equal to it, or that it is permissible to resort to them for judgment even if he believes that the judgment of Sharee'ah is better. Likewise, whoever believes that it is not correct to implement the Laws of Islaam in the twentieth century, that this is a cause for the fall of Muslims, or that it is limited to relationship between the servant and his Lord and should not interfere in the other affairs of life. The fourth category also includes those who hold that carrying out Allaah's laws, such as cutting off the hand of a thief or stoning a guilty adulterer is not befitting for this modern era. This category includes those who believe that it is permissible to rule by something other than the Laws of Allaah (Sharee'ah) in matters of transactions, Hoodood (prescribed penalties) and so on, even if he does not believe that it is better than ruling by the Sharee'ah. This is because, by doing that, he makes lawful that which Allaah forbade, according to the consensus of scholars. Similarly, whoever makes lawful that which Allaah has prohibited and this prohibition is indisputably established, such as adultery, Khamr (intoxicant), Riba (usury/interest) and ruling by anything other than the Sharee'ah, then he is a disbeliever according to the consensus of Muslim scholars.

⁴ (صلى الله عليه وسلم) (sallallaahu 'alayhi wa sallam) May the peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him

⁵ Soorah Muhammad [47:9]

⁶ (عز وجل) (Azza wa Jaal) Mighty and Majestic is He

⁷ Soorah at-Taubah [9:65/66]

⁸ Soorah Baqarah [2:102]

⁹ Soorah al-Maa'idah [5:51]

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Tenth: Turning away from Allaah's religion, not learning it or implementing it (is an act of disbelief). The proof for this statement is the saying of Allaah: **[And who does more wrong than he who is reminded of the Aayaat (proofs, evidence, verses, lessons, signs, revelations, etc.) of his Lord, then turns aside therefrom? Verily, We shall exact retribution from the Mujreemoon (criminals, disbelievers, polytheists, sinners).]**¹⁰

There is no difference in committing these nullifiers between the one who utters them in humour, seriously, or even out of fear except for a person who says them under coercion. All of these (ten) matters are the gravest nullifiers that most often occur. A Muslim must beware of and keep away from these acts. We seek refuge with Allaah from the things that entail His anger and severe punishment. May Allaah's Peace be upon the best of His Creation Muhammad, his family, and Companions!

May Allaah guide all of us to what pleases Him. May Allaah guide us and all Muslims to His straight path! He is All-Hearer, Ever Near. May peace and blessings of Allaah be upon our Prophet Muhammad, his family, and Companions!

¹⁰ Soorah as-Sajdah [32:22]