

Definition of Deen

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allaah, the Most Merciful, the Bestower of Mercy

All the beliefs that people hold and acts of worship that they perform are called Deen, even if they are false.

Question: On the evening of Friday on the 4th of Safar 1403 A.H., I watched the TV show "The Natural World" presented by Ibrahim Al-Rashid. The episode was about India. While giving a quick introduction to the episode, he said that India is indeed called the land of religions where you can find Buddhism, Hinduism, Sikhism, etc. Please explain the following:

Are the beliefs the presenter mentioned considered to be real faiths?

Are they revealed and sent down by Allaah?

May Allaah help you to correct any misconceptions.

Shaykh bin Baaz (*May Allaah the Most High have mercy on him*): All that people believe in and whereby perform acts of worship is called a Deen, even if it is false. Examples of these beliefs include Buddhism, Hinduism, Christianity, Judaism, paganism, and other false concepts. In Soorah al-Kaafiroon, Allaah (*Exalted be He*) states, "**To you be your religion, and to me my religion (Islaamic Monotheism).**" Allaah calls paganism a religion. However, the only true Deen is Islaam as Allaah (*The Exalted, The Most High*) states, **Truly, the religion with Allaah is Islaam. And, 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.** He (*Exalted be He*) also states, **This day, I have perfected your religion for you, completed My Favour upon you, and have chosen for you Islaam as your religion.**

Islaam is to worship Allaah Alone associating no partners with Him, obey His Commands, avoid His Prohibitions, abide by the limits He has set, and believe in what Allaah and His Messenger informed us about regarding the past and the future. None of these false religions was revealed or accepted by Allaah; rather, they all are innovated. Islaam is the Deen of all the Messengers, however, their laws differed. Allaah (*Exalted be He*) states, **To each among you, We have prescribed a law and a clear way.**