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Categories of Tawhid (Belief in the Oneness of Allah)

The first question of Fatwa No. 9772

What is the meaning of Tawhid-ul-Rububiyyah (Oneness of Allah's Lordship), Tawhid-ul-Uluhiyyah (Oneness of Worship), and Tawhid-ul-Asma' wal-Sifat (Oneness of Allah's Names and Attributes)?

A: Tawhid-ul-Rububiyyah is to believe in Allah's Omnipotence; He Alone is the Originator of Creation, maintenance, life, death, etc. As for Tawhid-ul-Uluhiyyah, it is the sincerity of devotional acts e.g. Salah (Prayer), Sawm (Fasting), Zakah (obligatory charity), vows and sacrificial animals. Tawhid-ul-Asma' wal-Sifat is to talk of Allah's Names and Attributes in the same manner He and His Prophet (peace be upon him) did; giving Him the same Names and Attributes He calls Himself therewith free from Tashbih (comparison), Tamthil (likening Allah's Attributes to those of His Creation), Tahrif (distortion of the meaning), or Ta`til (denial of Allah's Attributes).

May Allah grant us success! May the peace and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad, his family, and Companions.

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