

## **SHIRK: Prohibited In Islam**

1. Shirk is an unforgivable sin in Islam.
2. The foundation of Islam all over the world is the centrality of One God (Allah) and this principle applies throughout both the known parts of the universe to mankind and the unexplored parts of the universe to mankind.
3. One God (Allah) is everywhere, on earth and throughout the universes.
4. In short, Shirk is any form of practising idolatry or polytheism.
5. The centrality of One God also means that God is the single Supreme Power, Whose greatness is beyond all material descriptions known to humanity.
6. Shirk also means the deification of any person, object, idol, statue, picture, Trinity or other deification fractions of God.
7. Inclusion of any partners to God, such as a consort or any off-spring (i.e. a son of God) are all practises of Shirk and there is no forgiveness for Shirk.
8. Some people also worship few of the great scholars of religion (*Pir* worship), including the graves of those who have died; and this aspect is strictly prohibited in Islam as yet another practice of Shirk.
9. It is important to note what Prophet Muhammad (*pbuh*) directly stated about Shirk. There are several Hadith and here is an example: *"Whoever dies claiming that Allah has a rival, will enter Hell."* This is in Hadith Sahih Bukhari 4497 and Hadith Sahih Muslim 92.
10. Further, the wearing of *taweez* as amulets for self-protection is another example of Shirk.
11. Belief in astrology and belief and practising citations in horoscopes are also examples of Shirk, practised by many religious and cultural communities. There is one of several Hadith stated as *"The salah (daily prayer) of whoever approaches a fortune-teller and asks him about anything will not be accepted for forty days and nights."* Hadith Sahih Muslim, vol. 4, p. 1211, no. 5440.
12. Furthermore, belief, practise and acceptance of superstition are also examples of Shirk.  
**Polytheism (Shirk) is unforgivable sin and prohibited practice to Muslims:** The Holy Qur'an states an Ordinance at **HQ4:48** *"Surely Allah does not forgive that a partner should be set up with Him, and forgives all besides that to whom He pleases. And whoever sets up a partner with Allah, he devises indeed a great sin."*
13. Other forms of shirk in Islam are:
  - a) Bowing down to anybody other than Allah is Shirk.
  - b) Bowing to Pir or any religious leader is Shirk.
  - c) Bowing down to graves of anybody is Shirk.
  - d) Speaking to dead people in their graves is Shirk.
  - e) Believing that anybody other than Allah can save them from sin is Shirk.
  - f) Believing that anybody other than Allah can reward them to Heaven is Shirk.
  - g) Believing that anybody or anything (idols, statues, and pictures) can listen to prayers other than Allah is Shirk.
  - h) Believing that anybody has same Power as Allah is Shirk.
  - i) Believing anybody other than Allah can save you on Judgement Day is Shirk.
  - j) Believing in superstition is Shirk.

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