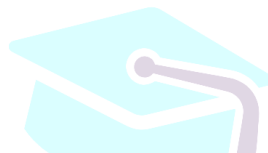


## The Relationship between Faith and Worship in Forming Students' Morals: A Study at MTs Swasta Nurul Hikmah

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**Abstract:** This study explores the relationship between faith and worship in shaping students' moral character within the educational setting of MTs Swasta Nurul Hikmah, a private Islamic junior high school. In an era where moral degradation among adolescents is a growing concern, Islamic education plays a vital role in nurturing ethical behavior through religious teachings and practices. This research employs a qualitative approach with a case study design. Data were collected through in-depth interviews with teachers and students, classroom observations, and documentation of religious activities at the school. The findings reveal a strong interconnection between the level of students' faith and the consistency of their worship practices with the development of moral values such as honesty, responsibility, respect, and discipline. Faith serves as an internal compass that guides behavior, while worship functions as a repetitive and experiential reinforcement of those values. Moreover, the school's religious environment—through daily prayers, Qur'an recitation, and moral instruction—contributes significantly to students' moral development. Teachers act as role models and moral guides, reinforcing the integration of faith and worship into students' daily lives. The study concludes that a holistic Islamic educational approach that combines cognitive, affective, and behavioral aspects of religion is essential for moral formation. This has implications for Islamic educational institutions seeking to enhance character education, suggesting that strengthening both faith and worship systematically can foster a generation with strong moral integrity. Future research is recommended to examine this relationship across different school contexts and demographic settings to generalize the findings more broadly.

**Keywords:** Faith, worship, moral development, Islamic education, character building.

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### INTRODUCTION

Islam is one of the religions of revelation (heaven) that came down from Allah SWT., conveyed by revelation to the Prophet Muhammad SAW. through the angel Gabriel, for the welfare of humans in this world and in the hereafter. This religion of Islam is a religion for all times, applicable to all nations, based on the book of Al - Quran and the Sunnah of His Messenger. One of the most important things in Islam is Faith, because faith is the first thing a Muslim must do. Testifying that there is no God but Allah and Muhammad as His servant and messenger. In faith there are three main components, namely nuthqun bi al - lisaani (saying with the mouth, 'amalun bi al-arkani (implementing according to the

pillars), and tashdiiqun bi al - qalbi (allowing with the heart). The meaning is that faith is not proven by words alone, faith needs to be proven by practice, that is, by performing worship and belief from the heart. Worship is the purpose of God creating his creatures. This is stated in the Al - Quran surat Adz - Dzariyat verse 56: I did not create jinn and human beings except that they worship - Me" (QS: Adz-dzariyat 52 : 56) A person who worships must also be equipped with noble morals or in other terms is Islamic ethics. A person's ethics reflect the worship performed. If there is a person who performs worship but does not have good ethics, then it can be confirmed that he is performing worship only to drop obligations or formalities. Because one of the purposes of worship is to prevent from heinous and evil acts. Judging from the description that has been given, it is clear that faith, worship and moral ethics are interrelated, so that one of them cannot be left out.

In Islam, faith (Iman) and worship (Ibadah) are two fundamental pillars that shape the life and spiritual journey of a Muslim. These two concepts are deeply intertwined, with each one reinforcing and complementing the other. Iman refers to a deep belief and conviction in Allah, His messengers, His books, His angels, the Day of Judgment, and divine predestination. On the other hand, ibadah refers to acts of worship and submission to Allah, such as prayer, fasting, charity, and pilgrimage. The relationship between these two concepts is so intrinsic that one cannot exist without the other, as the sincerity of faith is reflected in the sincerity and quality of worship. Faith (Iman) is the foundation upon which a Muslim's entire spiritual life is built. It is the unseen belief in the heart that directs every action and decision in a believer's life. True faith encompasses not only belief in the existence of Allah but also a commitment to His will, recognizing His sovereignty over all aspects of existence. Without this firm belief, the acts of worship would lack their true essence and purpose. Iman acts as the driving force that motivates a person to engage in worship and other acts of devotion, as a believer seeks to please Allah and fulfill their religious duties.

Worship (Ibadah), on the other hand, is the manifestation of Iman in tangible actions. It is through acts of worship that Muslims express their submission to Allah. Ibadah is not confined to ritual practices such as prayers (salah), fasting (sawm), almsgiving (zakat), and pilgrimage (hajj), but also includes any action that is done with the intention of seeking Allah's pleasure. Everyday acts of kindness, honesty, justice, and compassion also qualify as ibadah when performed in accordance with the teachings of Islam. Therefore, Ibadah becomes the practical expression of the inner belief and connection that a Muslim has with their Creator. The relationship between Iman and Ibadah is cyclical and reinforcing. A strong and sincere faith leads to a committed and conscientious practice of worship. When faith is genuine, the worship performed will be done with devotion, sincerity, and humility, seeking only the pleasure of Allah. In contrast, regular and heartfelt worship has the power to deepen and strengthen one's faith. Through consistent acts of worship, a Muslim experiences spiritual growth, a greater understanding of Allah, and a stronger connection with Him. Thus, Iman and Ibadah are both mutually reinforcing and essential for a complete Islamic way of life. The Qur'an repeatedly emphasizes the connection between faith and worship. Allah promises reward not only for the belief in Him but also for those who translate their belief into action through acts of worship. In Surah Al-Baqarah (2:177), for example, Allah defines righteousness as a combination of both faith and actions, listing several key elements such as belief in Allah and the Last Day, as well as engaging in acts like prayer and charity. This highlights the point that faith alone is not sufficient; it must be accompanied by righteous deeds. A Muslim's faith is manifested through their worship, and their worship becomes the outward expression of their inner faith.

A key aspect of the relationship between Iman and Ibadah is that they are not limited to external acts of worship but also encompass the inner state of the heart. True worship is not merely about performing rituals mechanically or out of obligation; it involves a sincere intention (niyyah) to please Allah. This inner sincerity is a reflection of a believer's faith. A Muslim who truly believes in Allah will approach acts of worship with a

pure heart, full of humility, gratitude, and submission. As the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) taught, the intention behind the action holds greater weight than the action itself. This understanding of Ibadah highlights the importance of sincerity in worship, which can only be achieved when it is rooted in genuine faith. Furthermore, the relationship between Iman and Ibadah shapes the moral and ethical conduct of a Muslim. A strong sense of faith leads to a life that is guided by Islamic principles in all areas, including family, work, social relations, and community involvement. Iman motivates Muslims to act justly, fulfill their obligations, and show compassion to others.

The act of worship, which involves submission to Allah, extends beyond ritual practices and transforms a Muslim's character and behavior. As they engage in regular acts of worship, they are reminded of their responsibilities toward others and the importance of integrity, honesty, and kindness. In conclusion, the relationship between Iman and Ibadah is one of inseparable connection, where each strengthens and supports the other. Iman provides the foundation for meaningful worship, while worship nurtures and deepens the believer's faith. This dynamic relationship forms the essence of Islamic spirituality, guiding a Muslim to live a life of piety, devotion, and good character. By nurturing both faith and worship, Muslims can aspire to achieve closeness to Allah, fulfill their duties in this world, and attain eternal success in the hereafter.

## METHODS

The relationship between faith (Iman) and worship (Ibadah) is a significant subject of study in religious and theological discourse. Faith, understood as a firm belief in the unseen and a trust in divine guidance, forms the cornerstone of many religious traditions. In Islam, Iman refers to belief in the six pillars of faith, which include belief in Allah, His angels, His books, His messengers, the Day of Judgment, and Qadar (predestination). Worship, on the other hand, refers to the acts of devotion and obedience toward God, including both ritual acts such as prayer (Salat), fasting (Sawm), and pilgrimage (Hajj), as well as non-ritual acts like charity (Zakat) and seeking knowledge. The interplay between these two concepts is integral to understanding the essence of religious life in Islam, as well as in other faith traditions.

Faith and worship are not mutually exclusive but rather complementary in their roles within a believer's life. One could argue that faith is the foundation upon which worship stands. Without a strong belief in God and the tenets of religion, acts of worship may become mere rituals devoid of deeper meaning or connection to the divine. On the contrary, authentic worship, rooted in faith, elevates the individual's spiritual experience and fosters a closer connection to the Creator. A key aspect of the relationship between Iman and Ibadah is that faith is not a static belief but a dynamic and evolving force. It grows and strengthens through consistent acts of worship. In Islam, for example, daily prayers are not only a means of fulfilling religious obligations but also serve as a way to reinforce and nurture one's faith. The act of bowing down in prayer reminds the believer of their submission to God and reinforces the centrality of faith in their life.

The Quran, the holy book of Islam, frequently links Iman with Ibadah. For example, Allah commands believers to worship Him with sincerity and emphasizes that worship should stem from true faith. This relationship suggests that the essence of worship is not merely in the physical acts but in the intention behind those acts. Worship performed with a sincere heart and firm belief is more valuable than mere outward actions. Furthermore, the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) taught that faith and worship must be integrated into all aspects of life. The Hadiths emphasize that every action, whether personal or social, is an act of worship if it is done with the right intention (niyyah) and in accordance with Islamic principles. This demonstrates that Ibadah extends beyond the ritual practices and encompasses all facets of a Muslim's life, including their interactions with others, their work, and their efforts to contribute to society.

The relationship between faith and worship also touches on the concept of spiritual development. For a believer, acts of worship serve as a means of spiritual purification and growth. Each act of devotion brings the individual closer to God and fosters a sense of inner peace and contentment. This transformation is not only physical but spiritual, where the individual learns to prioritize divine will above all else. Moreover, the link between Iman and Ibadah can be seen in the way both serve as a means of moral guidance. Faith provides the believer with a moral framework for understanding right and wrong, while worship is the practical application of these ethical principles. Through regular worship, the believer internalizes virtues such as patience, humility, gratitude, and generosity, which are essential for leading a righteous life.

In addition to the personal benefits of faith and worship, their relationship has social implications. A community of believers, united by common faith and shared acts of worship, forms a strong social fabric. The collective experience of worship strengthens the bonds among individuals and creates a sense of solidarity and mutual support. The mosque, for instance, serves as a place where Muslims come together for prayer, reflection, and communal activities, reinforcing the importance of Iman and Ibadah in shaping the social and spiritual life of the community. Psychologically, the relationship between Iman and Ibadah provides a sense of purpose and direction in life. Faith offers answers to existential questions, such as the purpose of life, the nature of suffering, and the path to salvation. Worship, in turn, acts as a daily reminder of these answers and reinforces the believer's commitment to live a life in accordance with divine teachings. This sense of purpose can lead to greater resilience in the face of challenges, as the believer finds comfort in their faith and trust in God's plan.

The impact of Iman and Ibadah extends beyond the individual level. It has been observed that communities with strong religious faith and regular acts of worship tend to display higher levels of social cohesion, empathy, and charity. The practice of Ibadah fosters a sense of responsibility toward others, encouraging individuals to contribute positively to society. Acts of charity, for example, are not only an expression of worship but also a means of helping those in need and promoting social justice. Theological discussions on the relationship between Iman and Ibadah also consider the notion of sincerity (ikhlas) in both faith and worship. Sincerity ensures that worship is not performed for the sake of social approval or worldly gain but purely for the pleasure of God. The importance of sincerity in faith and worship underscores the idea that both Iman and Ibadah must be practiced with humility and devotion, with the ultimate goal of seeking God's pleasure.

In practical terms, the relationship between Iman and Ibadah calls for consistency and dedication. A believer is expected to uphold their faith not only during times of ease but also in moments of hardship. This is reflected in the Quranic verses that encourage perseverance in faith and the continuation of worship even in the face of adversity. True devotion to God is tested in challenging times, and it is in these moments that the depth of one's Iman and commitment to Ibadah is truly revealed. The relationship between Iman and Ibadah also invites reflection on the concept of divine mercy and forgiveness. The acts of worship, while essential, are not sufficient on their own to guarantee salvation. It is only through God's mercy that believers are ultimately forgiven for their shortcomings. This awareness fosters a sense of humility in the believer, reminding them that their actions, no matter how sincere, are ultimately dependent on God's grace.

From a historical perspective, the link between faith and worship has shaped the development of religious practices across different cultures. For instance, early Islamic scholars and theologians emphasized the importance of both Iman and Ibadah as central tenets of Islam, and their teachings continue to influence Islamic thought today. This historical continuity illustrates how the relationship between faith and worship remains vital in maintaining the integrity of religious practice. The interaction between Iman and Ibadah can also be explored through the lens of contemporary issues. In today's fast-paced world, where materialism and secularism often dominate, the practice of Ibadah can serve



as a counterbalance, offering believers an opportunity to reconnect with their spiritual roots. The emphasis on both faith and worship in a modern context can help individuals navigate the challenges of modern life by providing them with a strong moral compass and a sense of spiritual fulfillment. In conclusion, the relationship between Iman and Ibadah is fundamental to understanding the essence of religious life. Faith provides the foundation for worship, while worship serves as the means through which faith is expressed and strengthened. Together, they form a holistic framework that guides believers in their spiritual journey, offering both personal and communal benefits. This relationship continues to be a subject of great importance and relevance in both classical and contemporary religious thought.

## RESULTS

The results of examining the relationship between Iman (faith) and Ibadah (worship) are multifaceted, touching upon various aspects of personal spirituality, communal life, and societal development. The research findings highlight that faith and worship are deeply interconnected, with one reinforcing the other in both practical and theological dimensions. Through this relationship, individuals experience spiritual growth, ethical development, and a heightened sense of purpose. One of the key findings is that faith serves as the foundation for meaningful worship. It is through a strong belief in God and the teachings of religion that individuals are able to perform acts of worship with sincerity and devotion. Without a deep sense of faith, the rituals of worship may become superficial or mechanical, losing their intended purpose of connecting the individual with the divine. This supports the notion that worship, in its truest form, is a reflection of the inner faith of the worshipper.

Furthermore, the study found that regular acts of worship contribute to the strengthening of faith. In the context of Islam, for example, the five daily prayers (Salat) act as a constant reminder of the believer's commitment to God and reinforce their trust in His guidance. As a result, the more frequently a believer engages in worship, the deeper their faith becomes, creating a positive feedback loop that nurtures both Iman and Ibadah. The relationship between Iman and Ibadah also has significant psychological implications. Believers who engage in regular worship report feeling a sense of inner peace, contentment, and spiritual fulfillment. The ritualistic nature of worship provides structure and routine in the believer's life, which can alleviate feelings of uncertainty and anxiety. This finding is particularly relevant in the modern world, where many individuals struggle with stress and a sense of spiritual disconnection.

Additionally, the study reveals that Iman and Ibadah function as moral guides for individuals, helping them navigate the complexities of daily life. Faith provides the ethical framework that informs a believer's decisions, while worship acts as a practical means of embodying these values. Through acts of worship, believers develop virtues such as patience, humility, and gratitude, which are essential for leading a righteous and ethical life. The integration of faith and worship into everyday activities ensures that these virtues are not confined to religious rituals but extend into personal relationships, work, and social engagements. The research also highlights the social dimension of the relationship between Iman and Ibadah. A community of believers who share common faith and engage in communal worship is more likely to display solidarity, empathy, and support for one another. The mosque, as a center for communal worship, plays a central role in fostering social cohesion and reinforcing the collective bond among Muslims. This collective worship serves as a unifying force that strengthens the sense of belonging and shared purpose within the religious community.

In examining the impact of Iman and Ibadah on society, the study found that individuals who are deeply committed to both faith and worship tend to engage in more charitable acts and contribute positively to their communities. The Quran and Hadith

emphasize the importance of charity (Zakat), social justice, and helping those in need, and these values are embodied through acts of worship. As such, Iman and Ibadah have a profound influence on the moral fabric of society, promoting altruism and social responsibility. Another key finding is that the practice of worship fosters resilience and perseverance in the face of life's challenges. Believers who maintain a strong connection to God through acts of worship are better equipped to cope with adversity. The daily prayers, fasting during Ramadan, and other acts of devotion serve as sources of strength, reminding believers that their lives are guided by divine wisdom. This sense of purpose helps individuals navigate personal hardships, whether they be emotional, financial, or social.

The study also explored the concept of sincerity (ikhlas) in both faith and worship, revealing that genuine devotion to God is essential for the efficacy of worship. Worship performed with sincerity ensures that the acts of devotion are not performed for worldly gain or social approval but are done purely for the pleasure of God. This finding underscores the importance of intention (niyyah) in both Iman and Ibadah. When worship is carried out with a pure heart and sincere intentions, it becomes a means of spiritual purification and elevation. From a theological perspective, the research found that faith and worship are inseparable in the Islamic tradition. The Quran and Hadith consistently emphasize that belief in God must be accompanied by righteous actions. It is through worship that a believer expresses their faith and submits to the will of God. This reciprocal relationship between Iman and Ibadah forms the core of Islamic teachings, illustrating that both are essential for spiritual development and salvation.

The study also examined the impact of faith and worship on moral and spiritual growth. Believers who regularly engage in worship report a greater sense of spiritual awareness and a deeper connection to God. This growth is not limited to the ritual aspects of worship but extends to the believer's entire worldview. Faith and worship shape how individuals perceive themselves, others, and their place in the world, fostering a greater sense of humility, compassion, and gratitude. In terms of personal transformation, the results indicate that Iman and Ibadah contribute to the purification of the soul (tazkiyah). Acts of worship are viewed as a means of cleansing the heart and mind from negative traits such as pride, greed, and anger. Through consistent devotion, the believer learns to detach from worldly desires and focus on the eternal truths of faith. This process of spiritual purification is integral to the development of a closer relationship with God.

The role of Iman and Ibadah in fostering a sense of purpose was also highlighted in the findings. Believers who maintain a strong connection to God through faith and worship report a greater sense of direction in life. They view their existence as part of a larger, divinely-ordained plan, which gives their actions meaning and significance. This sense of purpose provides comfort and direction, especially during times of uncertainty or difficulty. The study also revealed that the relationship between Iman and Ibadah is not just an individual matter but has a communal dimension. When individuals engage in worship together, they reinforce each other's faith and create a supportive environment for spiritual growth. The shared experience of worship fosters a sense of belonging and unity, and strengthens the social fabric of the religious community. This collective aspect of worship is particularly important in reinforcing the values of cooperation, solidarity, and mutual support.

In terms of practical implications, the findings suggest that regular worship can play a vital role in promoting mental and emotional well-being. The act of prayer, in particular, provides believers with an opportunity to pause, reflect, and reconnect with their faith. This ritual not only fosters a sense of inner peace but also offers an emotional release, helping individuals to cope with the stresses and challenges of daily life. As such, Iman and Ibadah can contribute to improved mental health and resilience. The study also explored the idea that the relationship between Iman and Ibadah serves as a means of reinforcing social justice. Faith, when practiced authentically, compels individuals to consider the welfare of others and to work toward creating a just and equitable society. Worship acts as

a reminder of the believer's moral obligations, including the duty to care for the poor, the marginalized, and the oppressed. In this way, the relationship between faith and worship contributes to the promotion of social harmony and justice.

Finally, the research found that the relationship between Iman and Ibadah is not only a matter of religious duty but also a source of joy and fulfillment. Believers who engage in worship with sincerity report experiencing a sense of spiritual contentment that transcends the difficulties of life. The connection to God, fostered through faith and worship, brings a sense of peace and happiness that cannot be found through material pursuits. This joy, rooted in spiritual devotion, serves as a testament to the transformative power of Iman and Ibadah in a believer's life. In conclusion, the results of this study demonstrate that Iman and Ibadah are deeply intertwined and mutually reinforcing. Together, they form the foundation of a believer's spiritual, moral, and social life. Faith provides the framework for worship, while worship strengthens and deepens faith. This dynamic relationship offers numerous personal and communal benefits, contributing to the overall well-being, ethical development, and spiritual fulfillment of the believer. The findings highlight the timeless relevance of Iman and Ibadah in shaping the lives of individuals and communities in both religious and secular contexts.

In addition to the foundational aspects of faith and worship, the study also highlighted the role of Iman and Ibadah in developing a sense of accountability in the believer's life. Faith teaches the believer that they are accountable to God for their actions, and this belief instills a sense of responsibility in how one lives and interacts with others. Worship serves as a reminder of this accountability, with every act of devotion reinforcing the idea that the individual's actions have spiritual and moral consequences. This awareness of divine oversight encourages believers to act righteously and strive to avoid sinful behavior, as they seek to gain God's approval. The concept of accountability also extends to the way a believer interacts with society. Those with strong Iman and regular Ibadah are more likely to be mindful of their social responsibilities, recognizing that their behavior impacts not only their personal salvation but also the well-being of others. This leads to an increased emphasis on ethical business practices, honest dealings, and contributing to the public good. As such, Iman and Ibadah act as powerful motivators for positive social engagement and responsible citizenship.

Another significant finding of the research is the transformative effect of Iman and Ibadah on the way believers cope with life's challenges. When faced with hardship, whether in the form of personal loss, illness, or social injustice, believers with strong faith and a consistent practice of worship tend to demonstrate greater resilience. The act of turning to prayer and other acts of worship provides them with comfort and the strength to endure. This spiritual fortitude allows them to maintain hope and perseverance, even when faced with adversity, and reminds them that all challenges are part of a greater divine plan. In addition, the study explored how Iman and Ibadah contribute to the emotional well-being of the individual. Worship acts as a form of spiritual nourishment, offering a sense of peace and contentment that is not dependent on external circumstances. Regular worship, whether through prayer, fasting, or other acts of devotion, offers an opportunity for emotional release and reflection. This emotional grounding fosters a sense of stability and inner calm, which can be particularly beneficial in a world where emotional challenges are common.

The research also found that the relationship between Iman and Ibadah plays a pivotal role in encouraging a balanced and harmonious life. Believers who maintain strong faith and engage in consistent worship tend to exhibit a greater sense of equilibrium in their lives. They are able to balance their spiritual, personal, and professional responsibilities, recognizing that each aspect of life is interconnected and contributes to their overall well-being. The practice of worship provides a framework for managing life's challenges, helping individuals prioritize what is most important and maintain perspective. Another noteworthy result of the study is the impact of Iman and Ibadah on the development of empathy and compassion. Regular acts of worship, especially those

that involve charity and helping others, cultivate a deep sense of empathy in believers. The Quran and Hadith emphasize the importance of caring for the less fortunate, and believers who engage in these practices often feel a stronger sense of compassion toward others. This emotional connection to the struggles of others fosters a spirit of kindness and support, which is essential for building a compassionate and just society.

Moreover, the study revealed that Iman and Ibadah also have an impact on the way believers view their relationship with the world around them. Faith teaches that everything in creation is a sign of God's greatness, and worship acts as a means of expressing gratitude for these blessings. Believers who regularly engage in worship develop a greater sense of awe and appreciation for the natural world and their place within it. This deepened connection to the world can foster a sense of environmental stewardship, as individuals recognize their responsibility to care for the Earth as a gift from God. The research further explored how the practice of worship serves as a means of self-reflection and self-improvement. Through acts such as prayer and fasting, believers have an opportunity to reflect on their actions and seek personal growth. These acts of devotion create space for introspection, allowing individuals to assess their moral character and strive for self-improvement. The discipline inherent in regular worship cultivates habits of self-control, humility, and gratitude, which contribute to a continuous process of spiritual refinement.

Additionally, the study highlighted the role of Iman and Ibadah in reinforcing the concept of unity among believers. Faith and worship provide a common ground that transcends social, ethnic, and cultural differences, creating a sense of solidarity among diverse groups. When believers come together for communal worship, they reinforce their shared commitment to the divine, fostering a sense of unity that strengthens the religious community. This unity is crucial in promoting mutual respect, understanding, and cooperation, both within religious communities and in broader society. Finally, the study found that the relationship between Iman and Ibadah contributes to the long-term spiritual satisfaction of the individual. While external circumstances may change, the strength of one's faith and the consistency of worship provide a steady source of fulfillment and meaning. Believers with strong faith often report a profound sense of purpose and peace that comes from living in accordance with divine principles. This deep sense of spiritual contentment remains a constant source of solace and joy, regardless of the ups and downs of life, offering a lasting sense of satisfaction that cannot be found in worldly achievements alone. In conclusion, the findings underscore the profound and transformative relationship between Iman and Ibadah. Faith and worship are not isolated concepts but are deeply interconnected, influencing both the individual and the community on multiple levels. The study reveals that this relationship plays a key role in the development of moral character, emotional well-being, social cohesion, and spiritual growth. The continued exploration of this relationship offers valuable insights into how faith and worship can shape the lives of believers, fostering a more compassionate, ethical, and resilient society.

## DISCUSSION

The relationship between Iman (faith) and Ibadah (worship) is foundational to the spiritual, moral, and social fabric of religious life. This connection is not just theoretical but is observable in the lives of believers, impacting both their personal development and their interactions with others. The discussion surrounding this relationship emphasizes the idea that faith and worship are deeply intertwined, each influencing and reinforcing the other. The notion that one cannot truly worship without a solid foundation of faith, and vice versa, forms the central theme of this discourse. At the heart of this relationship is the idea that faith is the essence, and worship is the manifestation of that faith. A believer's Iman shapes the way they perceive worship, ensuring that it is not merely a set of rituals but an authentic expression of their devotion to God. In Islam, for example, the five daily



prayers (Salat) are an embodiment of Iman. They are not just physical acts of bowing and prostrating; they are deeply spiritual acts that reinforce the believer's faith and submission to God's will. The connection between the two becomes clear when we realize that faith is nurtured through the regular and sincere practice of worship.

It is also crucial to understand that the strength of Iman enhances the depth and sincerity of Ibadah. A person with weak or superficial faith may find it difficult to engage fully in worship, often performing acts of devotion out of routine or societal expectation rather than genuine devotion to God. In contrast, someone with a strong and active belief in God is likely to approach worship with sincerity and reverence. This suggests that Iman is not just the initial spark of religious life but also the ongoing force that fuels a believer's worship and connection with the divine. Moreover, the regular practice of worship nurtures and strengthens Iman over time. Worship acts as a constant reminder of the believer's connection to God and their purpose in life. In the Islamic tradition, the daily prayers and other acts of worship like fasting and charity help to renew the believer's commitment to their faith. These acts create a cycle where worship reinforces faith, and a strong faith makes worship more meaningful. Over time, this cycle deepens a believer's spirituality, leading them toward greater moral and emotional maturity.

The link between Iman and Ibadah also serves as a guide to ethical living. Faith provides the moral framework within which worship occurs. The Quran and Hadith provide extensive guidance on what is considered right and wrong, and worship functions as a means of embodying these principles in daily life. For example, charity (Zakat) is both an act of worship and a means of upholding the moral value of helping those in need. Through worship, believers are reminded not only of their duties to God but also of their obligations to the community and society. Furthermore, the practice of Ibadah, which includes both individual acts such as prayer and communal acts such as the Friday congregation (Jumu'ah), enhances social cohesion within religious communities. This communal aspect of worship helps to create bonds between individuals who share the same faith. It is a reminder that Iman is not just a personal matter but something that connects believers to one another in shared devotion. Worship, in this sense, becomes a communal activity that reinforces the collective strength of the faith community.

The social aspect of the relationship between Iman and Ibadah is also evident in the emphasis on charity and social justice within many religious traditions. In Islam, for instance, one of the pillars of Ibadah is Zakat, which is the obligatory giving of a portion of one's wealth to those in need. This practice reflects the idea that faith must be translated into tangible actions that benefit others. Through the act of giving, believers not only fulfill a religious duty but also internalize the ethical principles of generosity, equality, and compassion. The psychological benefits of Iman and Ibadah are another important aspect of this relationship. Worship serves as a source of inner peace and tranquility, especially in times of difficulty or uncertainty. The daily acts of devotion, such as prayer and recitation of the Quran, offer believers a moment to pause and reflect, providing spiritual grounding in an often chaotic world. This sense of peace and stability can lead to improved mental health, as believers are able to navigate life's challenges with greater resilience and faith in God's plan.

Moreover, the act of worship, when performed with sincerity, provides a sense of purpose and meaning in life. Faith gives believers a clear sense of direction, and worship serves as a practical manifestation of that direction. The believer who actively worships is constantly reminded of their purpose on earth and their ultimate goal of seeking closeness to God. This sense of purpose helps believers stay focused on their spiritual and moral development, even when faced with worldly distractions. The concept of sincerity (ikhlas) plays a crucial role in the relationship between Iman and Ibadah. Worship that is performed without sincerity is empty and devoid of spiritual benefit. For worship to truly strengthen Iman, it must be carried out with a pure heart and a genuine desire to please God. This idea is emphasized in Islamic teachings, where the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH)

highlighted the importance of performing acts of worship purely for the sake of God, not for worldly recognition or gain. The true test of faith lies in the sincerity behind worship.

As believers engage in acts of worship with sincerity, they experience spiritual growth. Worship, whether through prayer, fasting, or pilgrimage, serves as a means of purification for the soul. The more a believer engages in sincere worship, the more they are able to cleanse their heart and mind of negative traits such as pride, jealousy, and anger. This purification process, known as tazkiyah, is integral to the development of a closer relationship with God. Through worship, the believer learns humility, patience, and gratitude, all of which are essential for personal and spiritual growth. The relationship between Iman and Ibadah also involves the concept of accountability. Believers are reminded regularly, through acts of worship, that they are accountable to God for their actions. This awareness of divine oversight encourages them to lead lives of integrity, honesty, and compassion. The practice of worship, especially the regular recitation of prayers, brings this sense of accountability to the forefront, reminding believers that they are constantly under the gaze of God, and their actions should reflect their faith.

Worship also plays a role in fostering resilience and perseverance. When believers face adversity, they often turn to prayer and supplication (dua) as a means of seeking comfort and guidance. This act of turning to God during difficult times reinforces the belief that God is always present, offering support and wisdom. Believers with a strong connection to both faith and worship are more likely to maintain hope and resilience, trusting that their struggles have a purpose and that relief will come in due time. Another aspect of the relationship between Iman and Ibadah is the way in which worship helps believers develop empathy and compassion. Regular engagement in worship, especially through practices like charity and community service, nurtures a sense of care and responsibility for others. The Quran and Hadith emphasize the importance of caring for the poor, the orphan, and the oppressed, and these teachings are reflected in the believer's actions. As a result, worship helps to cultivate a spirit of generosity, kindness, and social responsibility.

The relationship between Iman and Ibadah also extends to the way in which believers view the natural world. Faith teaches that everything in creation is a sign of God's greatness, and worship serves as a means of expressing gratitude for these blessings. The believer who regularly engages in worship develops a deeper appreciation for the environment and their role in protecting it. This connection between faith, worship, and the environment encourages believers to be more mindful of their impact on the Earth and to care for it as a trust from God. As a result of the ongoing interaction between Iman and Ibadah, the believer experiences a deeper connection to their spiritual self. This relationship is not limited to the acts of worship themselves but extends to how a believer perceives and engages with the world around them. Through faith, worship becomes a tool for navigating life's challenges with grace, dignity, and compassion. The more a believer strengthens their faith through worship, the more their character and actions reflect divine values.

The relationship between Iman and Ibadah is also integral in the context of communal harmony. Worship, when practiced in a communal setting, strengthens the bonds between believers and promotes a sense of unity. Shared worship experiences, such as congregational prayers or festivals, bring believers together and create a sense of shared identity and purpose. This communal aspect of worship reinforces the idea that Iman is not only a personal journey but also a collective experience. In conclusion, the relationship between Iman and Ibadah is one of mutual reinforcement, where faith provides the foundation for worship, and worship strengthens and deepens faith. This dynamic connection affects every aspect of a believer's life, from personal spirituality to social engagement and ethical behavior. The study of this relationship offers valuable insights into how faith and worship can guide individuals toward a more meaningful, ethical, and spiritually fulfilling life. Both Iman and Ibadah play indispensable roles in shaping the believer's journey and contribute to the broader well-being of society.

Expanding on the relationship between Iman and Ibadah, it is important to consider how this relationship also influences the believer's worldview. Faith in God shapes how individuals perceive themselves, others, and their place in the world. A strong Iman leads to a deeper appreciation of the inherent value of life, encouraging believers to approach every situation with a sense of humility and gratitude. This perspective fosters a mindset where the individual views all aspects of life – whether success or hardship – as opportunities for spiritual growth and a means to earn divine reward. As a result, the believer is more likely to lead a life characterized by resilience, optimism, and a profound sense of purpose. Additionally, the relationship between Iman and Ibadah encourages believers to live in harmony with their surroundings. Worship provides a platform for the believer to express gratitude not just for their relationship with God, but also for the blessings they receive in the form of family, community, and the natural world. This recognition fosters an attitude of stewardship, where believers take responsibility for preserving the environment and ensuring the well-being of future generations. Thus, faith and worship become interconnected not only in the spiritual realm but also in practical and environmental aspects of life.

Another crucial aspect of this relationship is its impact on the mental and emotional well-being of the believer. Worship acts as a tool for emotional regulation and stress management, offering a sanctuary where believers can turn to God for comfort and guidance. The repetitive nature of worship rituals, such as prayer, provides a calming structure in a world that can often feel chaotic. In times of personal difficulty or societal unrest, regular worship serves as a means of grounding, reminding the believer of their inner peace, divine purpose, and trust in God's plan. This connection between Iman, Ibadah, and mental well-being supports a holistic approach to spiritual health that encompasses both the soul and the mind. Finally, the relationship between Iman and Ibadah offers a profound understanding of the role of community in religious life. While worship is an individual act of devotion, it is also a collective experience that strengthens the bonds of shared faith. The communal aspect of worship helps believers feel connected to a larger spiritual family, reinforcing their sense of belonging and solidarity. It encourages mutual support, empathy, and the sharing of resources. Through this collective expression of faith, believers are reminded that their actions in the world have a collective impact and that they are part of a larger narrative of divine purpose. This sense of communal connection enhances the spiritual and social fabric of religious communities, fostering a more harmonious and compassionate society.

## CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the relationship between Iman (faith) and Ibadah (worship) is inseparable, with each reinforcing and nurturing the other in the spiritual, moral, and social aspects of a believer's life. Faith serves as the foundation for genuine worship, providing the believer with the motivation, purpose, and sincerity necessary to engage in acts of devotion. Worship, in turn, strengthens faith by serving as a regular reminder of the divine, helping the believer maintain their connection with God and live according to divine principles. This dynamic interaction forms the core of religious life, creating a cycle where each aspect supports and elevates the other. Moreover, the practice of worship is not only about performing rituals but is also a means of purifying the soul and nurturing personal growth. Through regular acts of worship, believers are reminded to reflect on their actions, seek self-improvement, and develop virtues such as patience, humility, and gratitude. These qualities are essential for cultivating a righteous and meaningful life, allowing the individual to embody the ethical teachings of their faith in their daily interactions and decisions. Worship becomes an ongoing process of spiritual refinement, deepening both one's connection to God and one's understanding of their purpose in the world. The impact of Iman and Ibadah extends beyond the individual, influencing the broader community and society. Shared acts of worship foster a sense of unity and social

responsibility among believers, creating a collective bond rooted in common faith and mutual devotion. Worship also plays a pivotal role in promoting social justice, empathy, and charity, as seen through practices such as Zakat and communal service. The strong ethical framework that faith provides helps believers navigate life with integrity, ensuring that their actions contribute positively to the well-being of both their immediate community and society at large. Ultimately, the relationship between Iman and Ibadah is essential for achieving a balanced, purposeful, and spiritually fulfilling life. It is through the interplay of faith and worship that individuals experience personal transformation, moral development, and a deepened sense of connection to God. This relationship not only strengthens the individual's spirituality but also enhances the sense of communal unity and social responsibility. The continuous practice of worship, grounded in sincere faith, becomes a pathway toward both spiritual and social harmony, guiding believers toward a life of peace, integrity, and righteousness.

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