

ALI 225: Goal of Life

A four week course on lectures on
'Goal of Life'

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<http://www.al-islam.org/short/goal/>

Goal of Life

Session One

Questions

- 1) What would you describe as the goal of life for yourself?
- 2) What are the different goals of life discussed in this paper?
- 3) Choose a sentence from today's reading which stands out for you.

Understanding the word 'Goal' of Life

- 1) Aim of life, not life itself
- 2) What life moves towards
- 3) The motive behind actions in life
- 4) The ultimate achievement
- 5) Beyond the self and worldly life

**What is a part of life cannot be
the aim of life**

Different Goals in Life

- Knowledge
- Perfection
- Happiness
- Worship
- Pleasure of God

All these goals can be valid but must revolve around getting closer to God. The goals are means of returning back to God pure and perfect.

God as the Goal of Life

O People you are like the sick patient
while God is the Doctor.

The well being of the patient lies
in following the orders of the Doctor
not inclining towards what he himself likes.

So submit to the commandments of Allah
so that you may join those who are saved
and get happiness and good fortune.

Holy Prophet (s)

Role of the Prophets

O people of understanding who believe!
Allah has indeed revealed to you a reminder.
A Messenger who recites to you the clear
communications of Allah so that he may
bring forth those who believe and do good deeds
from darkness into light;
and whoever believes in Allah
and does good deeds
He will cause him to enter gardens
beneath which rivers now
to abide therein forever . .
(Sura Talaq, 65:10-11)

Points to Remember

- 1) The goal of life cannot be something that is part of life.
- 2) The goal of a human being is to return to his original, pure essence.
- 3) God has shown us how to reach the goal through:
 - a) Fitrat
 - b) Aql
 - c) Prophets
 - d) Holy Book

- 4) Faith and good deeds are the vehicles which take us to the goal.
- 5) Pursuing the goal brings peace of mind and relief, even if it may entail hardship.
- 6) All human beings, regardless of gender, ethnicity, ability, have the same goal.