

ESSENTIALS OF ISLAMIC BELIEFS

Imam Ahmad al-Dardir's Kharida Explained

Lesson One: Introduction

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Recap of Lesson One

Author and Text

Author's Opening

Basmala

By the Name of Allah... *{specific action}* for Allah
by Allah with Allah

Praising Allah Most High

Blessings on the Prophet (peace be upon him)



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Lesson Two: The Rational Rulings

Lines 9-16

Why begin with 'Rulings'?

Imam Ghazali's teacher, Imam al-Haramayn al-Juwayni, said: "Whoever does not understand the rational rulings cannot be called intelligent..."



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Part One. Three Types of Rulings (ahkam) Rational (aqli). Normative (adi). Legal (shar`i).

What is a 'Ruling' (hukm)?

A 'ruling' is: affirming something for another, or negating it.

Example:

Coffee is enjoyable

The weather is hot

Ritual prayer is obligatory

Wudu is necessary for prayer

Three Types of Rulings

Three rulings:

(a) Rational Ruling

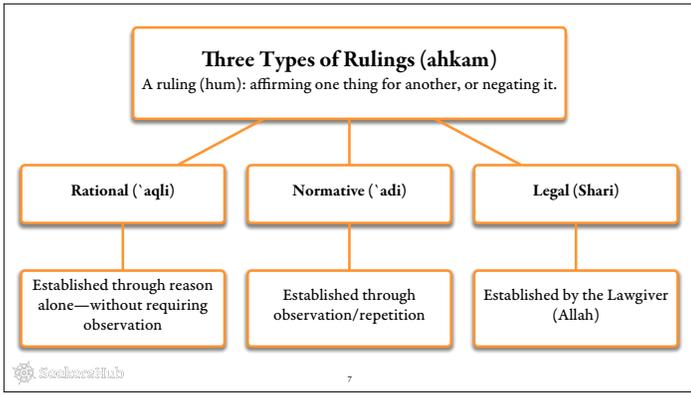
Established through reason alone—without requiring observation

(b) Normative Ruling

Established through observation/repetition

(c) Legal Ruling

Established by the Lawgiver (Allah)



Normative Ruling (hukm `adi)

The normative ruling (hukm `adi): affirming one thing for another, or negating it, on the basis of repetition—without affirming causality, and with the possibility of it being otherwise.

Examples:
Fire burns. Food satiates. Medicine cures. Knife cuts.

SeekersHub

Legal Ruling (hukm shar`i)

The legal ruling (hukm shar`i) is the command of Allah to those morally responsible to make an action required, interdicted, or allowed.

Examples:
Zuhr prayer is obligatory. Wine is prohibited. Coffee is permitted.

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**Part Two. The Rational Ruling
(hukm `aqli)
Necessary (wajib). Possible
(ja'iz). Impossible (mustahil).**

Line 9-10: Necessary, Possible, Impossible

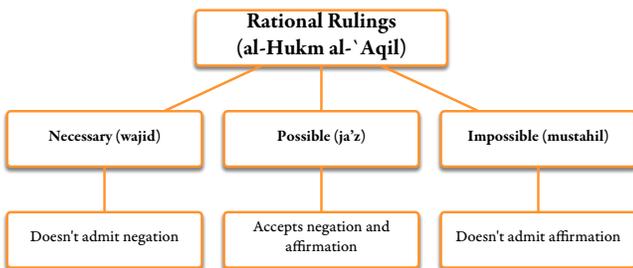
٩- أقيامُ حُكْمِ الْمُغْفَلِ لِأَمْحَالِهِ هِيَ الْوَجُوبُ ثُمَّ الْإِسْتِحَالَةُ
١٠- ثُمَّ الْجَوَازُ ثُمَّ الْإِسْتِحَالَةُ فَافْتَهُمْ مُبِيحَاتُ لُدَّةِ الْأَفْهَامِ

- 9. The categories of rational rulings, without exception, Are necessity, possibility, and impossibility**
- 10. Understand these well, my friend And you'll have gained the joy of true understanding**

Lesson:

Know how to distinguish between the 'rational ruling' (hukm aqli) and the 'normative ruling' (hukm `adi)

The Rational Ruling



Line 11-12: Belief is Legally Obligatory

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١١- وَوَجِبَ فَرَعًا عَلَى الْمُكَلَّفِ مَعْرِفَةُ اللَّهِ الْعَلِيِّ فَاعْرِفْ

١٢- أَيُّ يَنْعَرِفُ الْوَجِبَ وَالْمُحَالًا مَعَ جَائِزٍ فِي حَقِّهِ تَعَالَى

11. It is legally necessary for those morally responsible

To know Allah Most High—so be well aware!

12. This entails knowing the necessary, possible,

And impossible regarding Allah Most High

Lesson:

The obligation to believe is legal (shar`i)—not rational

Three conditions of morally responsibility (taklif): sane, adult, whom the message of Islam reached

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Line 13: Belief in the Prophets

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١٣- وَمَنْعُلٌ ذَا فِي حَقِّ رُسُلِ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِمْ تَحِيَّةُ الْإِلَهِ

13. To know likewise regarding Allah's

Messengers,

May God's greetings be upon them.

Lesson:

Knowing the necessary, possible, and impossible attributes of Prophets: clarity, certitude—navigation through Revelation

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Line 14-16: Defining Rational Rulings

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١٤- قَالَ الْوَجِبُ الْعَقْلِيُّ مَا لَمْ يَقْبَلِ الْإِنْفِصَافَ فِي ذَاتِهِ فَابْتِهَافِي

١٥- وَالْمُسْتَجْتَبِيلُ كُلُّ مَا لَمْ يَقْبَلِ فِي ذَاتِهِ التُّبُوتَ جِسْدَ الْأَوَّلِ

١٦- وَكُلُّ أَمْرٍ قَابِلٍ لِلِإِنْفِصَافِ وَاللُّغُبُوتِ جَائِزٌ بِلا عَقْفَا

**14. The rationally necessary is that which intrinsically
Does not admit negation—so turn to Him in submission!**

**15. The impossible is everything that intrinsically
Does not admit affirmation—it is the opposite of the necessary.**

**16. And every matter that accepts negation
And affirmation is the possible, as is clear.**

Lesson:

Know (1) the necessary (wajib); (2) possible (ja'iz); (3) impossible (mustahil).

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**Next Lesson Three: The Possible
and Impossible for Allah**

This world is created, and needs a
creator. The proof of change.

Reflect: Qur'an, 3.190-200
