

# ESSENTIALS OF ISLAMIC BELIEFS

## Imam Ahmad al-Dardir's Kharida Explained

Lesson One: Introduction

Faraz Rabbani



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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**

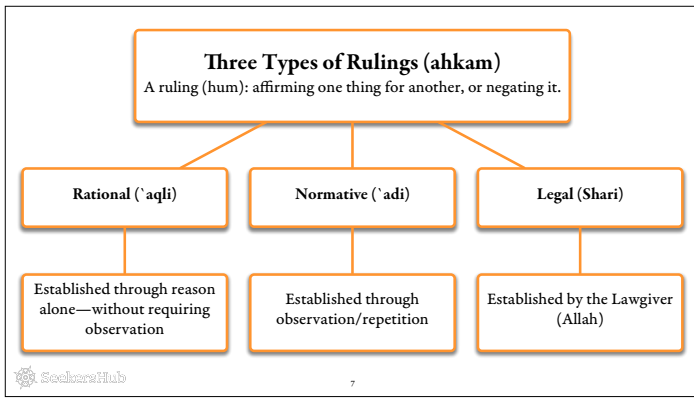
Established through reason alone—without  
requiring observation

**(b) Normative Ruling**

Established through observation/repetition

**(c) Legal Ruling**

Established by the Lawgiver (Allah)




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## 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.

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## 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- أَفْهَامُ حُكْمِ الْمُغْلَى لَا مَحَالَةَ فِي الْوَجُوبِ ثُمَّ الْإِسْخَالَةُ  
١٠- ثُمَّ الْجَوَازُ ثَالِثُ الْأَقْسَامِ فَافْهَمْ مِنْحَتَ لَذَّةِ الْأَفْهَامِ

#### 9. The categories of rational rulings, without exception,

Are necessity, possibility, and impossibility

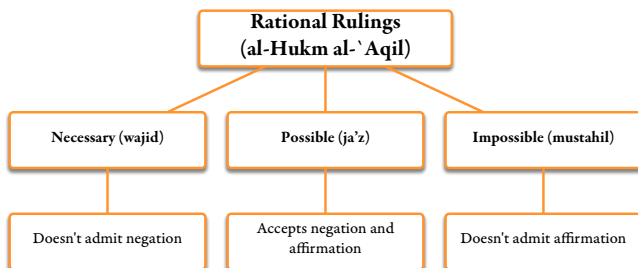
#### 10. Understand these well, my friend

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

١١-وَوَاجِبٌ شَرْعاً عَلَى الْمُكَلَّفِ مَعْرِفَةُ اللَّهِ الْعَلِيِّ فَاعْرِفْ

١٢-أَيُّ يَنْعَرِفَ الْوَاجِبَ وَالْمُحَالاً 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

١٣-وَمَثَلُ ذَا فِي حَقِّ رُسُلِ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِمْ تَحِيَّاتُ 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

١٤-فَالْوَاجِبُ الْعَقْلِيُّ مَا لَمْ يَقْبَلِ الْإِنْفِاقَ فِي ذَاتِهِ فَاقْبَلْهُ

١٥-وَالْمُسْتَحِيلُ كُلُّ مَا لَمْ يَقْبَلِ فِي ذَاتِهِ التَّجْبُوتَ خِلَافَ الْأَوَّلِ

١٦-وَكُلُّ أَمْرٍ قَابِلٍ لِلِإِنْفِاقِ وَلِلتَّجْبُوتِ جَائِزٌ بِلا غَفَا

**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