

Q: 347 Title: Are the sifat (Attributes) of Allah Ta'ala eternal and everlasting?

Question

a/w Mufti Saab.

I have faith and believe that Allah is eternal and everlasting, but does **all sifat(all attributes)** of allah are also
eternal
and
everlasting (without beginning or end; lasting forever; always existing)

I would appreciate If you can clear me ?by giving the reference of quran and hadis in details.

Lots of Thanks.

Answer

In the Name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

As-salamu alaykum wa-rahmatullahi wa-barakatuh

Just as the Dhat (Being) of Allah Ta'ala is eternal and everlasting, so are His sifat (Attributes OF His Being) eternal and everlasting.

Imam Abu Ja'far al-Tahaw

mentions in his book of 'Aqidah (beliefs):

"Allah Ta'ala always had His sifat (Attributes) without any beginning, before His Creation; none of His Sifat (Attributes) increased by the Creation becoming what they were not before them (being created)(i.e. non-existent); and like how He always had His sifat (Attributes) without any beginning, similarly, He will always remain having them, forever."

Imam Abu Hanifah mentions in his book, al-Fiqh al-Akbar:

"(Allah Ta'ala) always had and will always have His Attributes and His Names. No new attribute or new name later occurred for Him. He was always knowing by His Knowledge, and knowledge is an attribute (of His) without any beginning; and (was always) powerful by His Power, and power is an attribute (of His) without any beginning; and (was always) a speaker by His Speech, and speech is an attribute (of His) without any beginning; and (was always) a creator by His Creating, and creating is an attribute (of His) without any beginning; and (was always) a doer by His Doing, and doing is an attribute (of His) without any beginning; and the doer is only Allah Ta'ala, and doing is an attribute (of His) without any beginning, and that which is done is a creation, and Allah's Ta'ala doing is not a creation; and His Attributes, which are such that they do not have a beginning, are not an invention nor a creation."

Furthermore, all the attributes of Allah Ta'ala are perfect. If one says that the attributes of Allah Ta'ala are not eternal and everlasting, then this would be tantamount to saying that Allah Ta'ala was not perfect at some time, as He did not have His perfect attributes at that time (We seek the protection of Allah Ta'ala from such a belief or statement.)

And Allah Ta'ala Knows Best