

## Introduction

This book explains the **foundations of the Sunnah**, meaning the correct beliefs of Islam. These are the beliefs that the companions of the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم followed.

Imam Ahmad رحمه الله said that the correct way is to follow the companions, stay away from innovation, and hold firmly to the Sunnah.

## 1. Hold Firmly to the Way of the Companions

The first and most important rule is to follow the companions of the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم.

They:

- Saw the Prophet
- Learned directly from him
- Understood Islam correctly

Imam Ahmad said:

“The foundation of the Sunnah with us is holding onto what the companions of the Messenger of Allah were upon.”

This means:

- Their way is the correct way
- We do not change their understanding

## 2. Leave All Innovations

Any new belief or practice in religion that was not taught by the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم is wrong.

Imam Ahmad said:

“Leave innovations, and every innovation is misguidance.”

This means:

- Islam is already complete
- We do not add anything new

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### **3. Stay Away from People of Innovation**

A Muslim must protect his religion by staying away from people who follow wrong beliefs.

Imam Ahmad said:

“Leave sitting with the people of desires (innovation).”

This means:

- Sitting with them can slowly affect your belief
  - Protect your heart and your faith
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### **4. Do Not Argue About Religion**

Too much arguing about religion leads to confusion and misguidance.

Imam Ahmad said:

“Leave arguing, debating, and disputes in the religion.”

This means:

- Religion is based on submission, not arguments
  - Follow, do not fight over it
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### **5. Sunnah Means the Teachings of the Prophet**

The Sunnah is everything that came from the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم.

Imam Ahmad said:

“The Sunnah for us is the narrations from the Messenger of Allah.”

This means:

- His words
  - His actions
  - His teachings
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### **6. Sunnah Explains the Qur’an**

We cannot understand the Qur’an properly without the Sunnah.

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Imam Ahmad said:

“The Sunnah explains the Qur’an and shows its meaning.”

This means:

- Qur’an + Sunnah go together
  - You cannot separate them
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### **7. Do Not Use Personal Opinions in Religion**

Religion is not based on personal thinking or logic.

Imam Ahmad said:

“There is no analogy in the Sunnah... it is only to be followed.”

This means:

- Do not say “I think” or “I feel”
  - Follow what is revealed
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### **8. Believe in Qadr (Destiny)**

Everything that happens is from Allah.

- Good things
- Bad things

Imam Ahmad said:

“Belief in Qadr, the good of it and the bad of it.”

This means:

- Allah controls everything
- We accept it

Also:

- Do not ask “why” or “how”
  - Just believe and accept
-

## Usul as-Sunnah

### **9. Do Not Argue About Qadr**

Talking too much about destiny leads to confusion.

Imam Ahmad said:

“Do not argue or debate about Qadr.”

This means:

- Accept it as it is
  - Do not go deep into arguments
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### **10. The Qur’an is the Speech of Allah**

The Qur’an is not created. It is the speech of Allah.

Imam Ahmad said:

“The Qur’an is the speech of Allah, it is not created.”

This means:

- It is from Allah
  - It is not like creation
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### **11. Do Not Debate About the Qur’an**

Some people argue about the Qur’an. This is wrong.

Imam Ahmad said:

“Whoever debates about it is an innovator.”

This means:

- Accept what Allah said
  - Do not create confusion
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### **12. Belief in Seeing Allah**

On the Day of Judgment, believers will see Allah.

Imam Ahmad said:



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“Believe in seeing Allah on the Day of Resurrection as reported in authentic hadith.”

This means:

- It is true
  - Even if we do not understand how
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### **13. Accept Hadith Without Arguing**

We accept authentic hadith fully.

Imam Ahmad said:

“Believe in them as they came, without debating them.”

This means:

- Do not reject hadith
  - Do not twist meanings
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### **14. Belief in the Scale (Mizan)**

On the Day of Judgment, deeds will be weighed.

Imam Ahmad said:

“The scale will be set up and deeds will be weighed.”

This means:

- Every action counts
  - Even very small deeds
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### **15. Allah Will Speak to People**

On the Day of Judgment, Allah will speak to people directly.

Imam Ahmad said:

“Allah will speak to His servants with no interpreter between them.”

This means:

- No one in between

- Direct accountability

### 16. Belief in the Hawd (Pond)

The Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم will have a pond.

Imam Ahmad said:

“The Prophet will have a Hawd on the Day of Judgment.”

This means:

- His followers will drink from it

### 17. Belief in Punishment of the Grave

After death, people will be tested in the grave.

Imam Ahmad said:

“The Ummah will be tested in their graves.”

They will be asked:

- Who is your Lord?
- What is your religion?
- Who is your Prophet?

### 18. Belief in Intercession

The Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم will intercede.

Imam Ahmad said:

“Believe in the intercession of the Prophet.”

This means:

- Some believers will be saved from Hell

### 19. Belief in Dajjal

Dajjal will come before the Day of Judgment.

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Imam Ahmad said:

“Believe that the Dajjal will come.”

This means:

- It is real
  - It will happen
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### **20. Return of Isa عليه السلام**

Isa عليه السلام will return and kill Dajjal.

Imam Ahmad said: “Isa ibn Maryam will descend and kill him.”

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### **21. Belief in Yajuj and Majuj**

We must believe that Ya’juj and Ma’juj (Gog and Magog) are real.

They are a large group of people who will come near the end of time.

Imam Ahmad رحمه الله said:

“Believe in the coming of Ya’juj and Ma’juj.”

This means:

- They are not a story
  - They will appear before the Day of Judgment
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### **22. Belief in the Signs of the Hour**

There are many signs before the Day of Judgment.

Some have already happened, and some will happen later.

Imam Ahmad said:

“Believe in what has come about the signs of the Hour.”

This means:

- The Day of Judgment is near
- The signs are real

### **23. Belief in Death and What Comes After**

Every person will die, and life does not end there.

Imam Ahmad said:

“Believe in death and what happens after it.”

This includes:

- The grave
- Questioning
- Reward or punishment

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### **24. Belief in Resurrection**

After death, all people will be brought back to life.

Imam Ahmad said:

“People will be resurrected after death.”

This means:

- Everyone will stand before Allah
- No one will escape

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### **25. Belief in Judgment Day**

Allah will judge all people.

Imam Ahmad said:

“Believe in the reckoning and the judgment.”

This means:

- Every action will be counted
- Justice will be done

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### **26. Belief in Paradise and Hell**

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Paradise and Hell are real.

Imam Ahmad said:

“Paradise and Hell are created and will never end.”

This means:

- Paradise is for believers
  - Hell is for disbelievers
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### **27. The Qur’an is Not Created (Again Emphasized)**

This belief is very important.

Imam Ahmad strongly repeated:

“The Qur’an is the speech of Allah, not created.”

This means:

- Do not change this belief
  - It is from the foundations
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### **28. Belief Without Asking “How”**

Many things in Islam we believe even if we do not understand how.

Imam Ahmad said:

“Believe in them without asking how.”

This means:

- Accept what is in Qur’an and Sunnah
  - Do not try to imagine or change it
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### **29. Do Not Reject Any Authentic Hadith**

If a hadith is authentic, we accept it.

Imam Ahmad said:

“Whoever rejects a hadith of the Messenger is on the edge of destruction.”

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This means:

- Hadith is part of Islam
  - Do not reject it
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### **30. Do Not Speak Without Knowledge**

A Muslim must be careful when speaking about religion.

Imam Ahmad said:

“Do not speak about anything without knowledge.”

This means:

- Learn first
  - Then speak
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### **31. Stay Firm on the Sunnah**

A Muslim must stay firm on the correct path.

Imam Ahmad said:

“Hold firmly to the Sunnah.”

This means:

- Do not change your religion
  - Stay strong
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### **32. Stay Away from Doubts**

Doubts can destroy faith.

Imam Ahmad said:

“Stay away from doubtful matters.”

This means:

- Do not follow confusing ideas
- Stick to clear truth

### **33. Unity Upon Truth**

Muslims must stay united upon the truth.

Imam Ahmad said:

“Stay with the **جماعت** (main body) of Muslims.”

This means:

- Do not separate
- Follow the correct group

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### **34. Obey the Muslim Leader (In Good)**

A Muslim must obey the leader in good matters.

Imam Ahmad said:

“Obey the ruler as long as he does not command sin.”

This means:

- No rebellion
- No disobedience in good matters

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### **35. Do Not Rebel Against Leaders**

Even if the leader is not perfect, we do not rebel.

Imam Ahmad said:

“Do not fight against the rulers.”

This means:

- Keep peace
- Avoid chaos

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### **36. Make Du‘a for the Leaders**

Instead of cursing leaders, we make du‘a for them.

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Imam Ahmad said:

“Make du‘a for their guidance.”

This means:

- Ask Allah to guide them
  - Not to harm them
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### **37. Respect the Scholars**

Scholars have a high position.

Imam Ahmad said:

“Respect the people of knowledge.”

This means:

- Learn from them
  - Do not insult them
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### **38. Stay Away from Major Sins**

Major sins are dangerous but do not remove a person from Islam.

Imam Ahmad said:

“A believer does not leave Islam because of a sin.”

This means:

- Sin is bad
  - But not disbelief (unless it is shirk)
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### **39. Do Not Call Muslims Disbelievers**

We do not call a Muslim a disbeliever without clear proof.

Imam Ahmad said:

“We do not declare a Muslim a disbeliever because of a sin.”

This means:

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- Be careful with your words
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### **40. Love and Hate for Allah**

We love what Allah loves and hate what Allah hates.

Imam Ahmad said:

“Love for Allah and hate for Allah.”

This means:

- Your heart should follow Islam
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### **Final Summary**

This book teaches:

- Follow the companions
  - Stay away from innovation
  - Believe in all matters of the unseen
  - Accept Qur’an and Sunnah fully
  - Do not argue or change religion
  - Stay firm on Tawheed and Sunnah
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