

Core Curriculum

2 Foundations of Islam - Theology

2.10 **Satan, Jinns and Angels: Their Influence in the World**

There is an internal battle inside everyone. It is a battle between good and evil, godliness and ungodliness. Our own whims and desires, and our regular habits in life play a central role in shaping the quality of our souls.

The battle, however, is not just personal. Other entities, that is, spiritual entities, try to influence our decisions by either whispering good thoughts or evil thoughts inside us. Among these entities are angels, who are good and do not commit sins. Angels suggest good thoughts in our minds.

Angels are made out of light and are wholly good. On the other hand, there are Jinns, many of whom are evil, and they try to entice us to evil by whispering evil thoughts in our minds. The worst among these Jinns is Satan. Satan in Islam, unlike Christianity, is a Jinn who fell out of God's favor when he disobeyed him when Allah asked him to prostrate to Adam (as).

Satan has made it his own “one-Jinn” mission to deviate humankind and drag them to hell.

The Qur’an says:

Truly, Shaytān is an open enemy to humankind (Chapter 12, verse 5 of the Holy Qur’an)

Shaytān and his legions want the destruction of humankind. He

encourages immorality, sinful pleasure, and pointless fun. Worst of all, he tries to instill the sense of despair among human beings.

However, the final choice belongs to individuals themselves. They have the choice to choose the good, or succumb to Satan's suggestions. Satan in Islam cannot force anyone to do anything.