

## The Ninety-Nine Names of God

Islam insists that there is only one God. But God can be called on by many names, as the Qur'an says: "God has the Most Excellent Names. Call on Him by His Names" (7:180; quoted in N. J. Dawood, translator, *The Koran*, fifth revised edition [London: Penguin Classics, 1990], page 124; copyright © 1956, 1959, 1966, 1968, 1974, 1990 by N. J. Dawood. Used with permission of Penguin Books, Ltd.).

Traditionally there are ninety-nine names for God, most of which are given in the Qur'an. The names are important in Muslim piety; each name is sometimes repeated dozens of times in prayer, and each of the ninety-nine beads on the Muslim rosary stands for one of the names. After reading the following list of the ninety-nine names of God, complete these tasks:

1. Check off any names whose meanings you do not know. Using a dictionary, look up the meanings of those names and write them below the names.
2. Circle all the names you have not previously thought of as applying to God.
3. From the names you just circled, star the four that you would be most likely to use for God.

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|---------|--------------------|---------|-------------------|
| ___ 1.  | The Beneficent     | ___ 27. | The All-Seeing    |
| ___ 2.  | The Compassionate  | ___ 28. | The Judge         |
| ___ 3.  | The King           | ___ 29. | The Equitable     |
| ___ 4.  | The Holy           | ___ 30. | The Subtle        |
| ___ 5.  | The Giver of Peace | ___ 31. | The All-Aware     |
| ___ 6.  | The Guardian       | ___ 32. | The Forbearing    |
| ___ 7.  | The Powerful       | ___ 33. | The Magnificent   |
| ___ 8.  | The Almighty       | ___ 34. | The Remitter      |
| ___ 9.  | The Compeller      | ___ 35. | The Prodigal      |
| ___ 10. | The Greatest       | ___ 36. | The Sublime       |
| ___ 11. | The Creator        | ___ 37. | The Most Great    |
| ___ 12. | The Evolver        | ___ 38. | The Preserver     |
| ___ 13. | The Fashioner      | ___ 39. | The Sustainer     |
| ___ 14. | The Forgiver       | ___ 40. | The Sufficer      |
| ___ 15. | The Vanquisher     | ___ 41. | The Majestic      |
| ___ 16. | The Bestower       | ___ 42. | The Bountiful     |
| ___ 17. | The Sustainer      | ___ 43. | The Vigilant      |
| ___ 18. | The Revealer       | ___ 44. | The Responder     |
| ___ 19. | The Omniscient     | ___ 45. | The All-Embracing |
| ___ 20. | The Restrainer     | ___ 46. | The All-Wise      |
| ___ 21. | The Munificent     | ___ 47. | The Kind One      |
| ___ 22. | The Degrading      | ___ 48. | The All-Glorious  |
| ___ 23. | The Enhancer       | ___ 49. | The Resurrector   |
| ___ 24. | The Exalting       | ___ 50. | The Witness       |
| ___ 25. | The Abasing        | ___ 51. | The Truth         |
| ___ 26. | The All-Hearing    | ___ 52. | The Champion      |



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|---------|------------------|---------|----------------------------|
| ___ 53. | The All-Powerful | ___ 77. | The Transcendent           |
| ___ 54. | The Firm One     | ___ 78. | The Benign                 |
| ___ 55. | The Protector    | ___ 79. | The Acceptor of Repentance |
| ___ 56. | The Laudable     | ___ 80. | The Avenger                |
| ___ 57. | The Appraiser    | ___ 81. | The Pardoner               |
| ___ 58. | The Originator   | ___ 82. | The Most Kind              |
| ___ 59. | The Restorer     | ___ 83. | The Owner of Sovereignty   |
| ___ 60. | The Life-Giver   | ___ 84. | The Lord of All Majesty    |
| ___ 61. | The Life-Taker   | ___ 85. | The Equitable              |
| ___ 62. | The Ever-Living  | ___ 86. | The Gatherer               |
| ___ 63. | The Dominating   | ___ 87. | The Absolute               |
| ___ 64. | The Entire       | ___ 88. | The Endower                |
| ___ 65. | The Illustrious  | ___ 89. | The Averter                |
| ___ 66. | The One          | ___ 90. | The Distressor             |
| ___ 67. | The Sanctuary    | ___ 91. | The Harmer                 |
| ___ 68. | The Potent       | ___ 92. | The Enricher               |
| ___ 69. | The Omnipotent   | ___ 93. | The Splendid               |
| ___ 70. | The Advancer     | ___ 94. | The Guide                  |
| ___ 71. | The Delayer      | ___ 95. | The Superb                 |
| ___ 72. | The First        | ___ 96. | The Everlasting            |
| ___ 73. | The Last         | ___ 97. | The Heir                   |
| ___ 74. | The Evident      | ___ 98. | The All-Knowing            |
| ___ 75. | The Hidden       | ___ 99. | The Patient One            |
| ___ 76. | The Lord         |         |                            |

