

Chapter Title

Word for word translation ¹

“That which has been reported showing that the cause of the *kufr* of Banoo Aadam and their leaving their religion was *ghuloo* (going beyond the due limits) with regards to the righteous beings”

And the statement of Allaah, the Mighty and Majestic:

O People of the Book, do not make *ghuloo* (go beyond the due limits) in your religion!²

Al Maimum version³

“Excessive Reverence for the Righteous”

Allah, Exalted be He, says:

O People of the Scripture, do not commit excess in your religion...

Relevance of the Chapter to *Kitaab ut Tawheed*

Word for word translation

That having made clear some of that which the worshippers of the graves do towards the dead people, by way of *shirk* - which opposes *tawheed* - the author *rahimahullaah* wished to make clear in this chapter the cause of that, in order that it should be warned against and avoided; and it was *ghuloo* (going beyond the due limits) with regards to the righteous beings.

Al Maimum version

The present chapter represents a warning against excessive reverence and adoration of the righteous. Such excessive reverence may lead to polytheism.

¹ Corresponding to page 158 of *al mulakh-khas* of Shaykh al Fawzaan

² Soorah an Nisaa (4) aayah 171

³ Page 155 of al Maiman translation

Phrases to be explained

Word for word translation

That which has been reported – meaning by way of evidences

Al Maimum version

Not translated or mentioned at all

Word for word translation

Their leaving (*tarkihim*) - in the genitive form, conjoining it with the *mudaaf ilayhi* (noun of the genitive construction mentioned earlier in the sentence) “*kufr*”

Al Maimum version

Not translated or mentioned at all

Word for word translation

ghuloo - it is to go beyond the due limit and to be excessive in glorifying, in speech and creed/belief and to transgress that which Allaah, the Most High, has commanded with.

Al Maimum version

An excessive reverence may occur by exceeding the proper limits of praise or veneration either through deeds or sayings.

Word for word translation

With regards to the righteous beings - from the prophets and *awliyaa* (especially beloved friends of Allaah) and other than them.

Al Maimum version

The term includes Allah’s prophets, friends, etc.

Word for word translation

People of the Book - They are the Jews and the Christians.

Al Maimum version

The Jews and the Christians.

Word for word translation

Do not make *ghuloo* in your religion - do not go beyond that which Allaah has set as a limit for you. So the Christians made *ghuloo* with regards to the Maseeh and the Jews made *ghuloo* with regards to 'Uzayr.

Al Maimum version

Do not commit excess in your religion - do not transgress the limits set by Allah for you. However the Christians excessively revered Jesus and the Jews extremely adored 'Uzayr.

The General Meaning of the aayah

Word for word translation

Allaah forbade the Jews and the Christians from transgressing that which Allaah had set down as a limit for them, in that they should not elevate a created being above his station which Allaah had set for him and that should not set him at a station which none but Allaah is deserving of.

Al Maimum version

Allah forbids the Jews and Christians to transgress the limits He has set for them. They have been commanded not to ascribe any of the unique attributes of Allah to any of His creatures (i.e. not to overly revere any of His creatures).

The relevance of the aayah to the chapter

Word for word translation

That it contains an absolute, unrestricted prohibition of *ghuloo*; so this includes *ghuloo* with regards to the righteous beings. And the address – even if it is to the People of the Book – is a general one, so it encompasses the whole *ummah* (Muslim nation), warning them against acting towards their prophet and their righteous ones in the way that the Christians did towards 'Eesaa and the Jews did towards 'Uzayr.

Al Maimum version

The Qur'anic verse implies a prohibition of showing excessive reverence for any of Allah's creatures such as righteous persons or Allah's prophets. Though the Qur'anic directive is addressed to the People of the Scriptures, the warning is so general that it includes the Muslim nation. Muslims, therefore, are prohibited to excessively praise Allah's Prophet or the righteous among them.

What can be taken as a benefit from the aayah

Word for word translation

1. The prohibition of *ghuloo* (going beyond the due limit) with regards to individuals and actions and other than that.

Al Maimum version

1. The prohibition of being excessive in revering persons or in offering good deeds.

Word for word translation

2. A refutation of the Jews and Christians and whomever resembles them in their *ghuloo* of individuals and actions and other than that.

Al Maimum version

2. The Qur'anic verse condemns the practices of the Jews and the Christians who exceedingly praised righteous persons and practiced their religion excessively.

Word for word translation

3. An encouragement upon sticking to being justly balanced in the Religion and in all the affairs, between the two extremes of *ifraat* (going to excess) and *tafreet* (being negligent).

Al Maimum version

3. Muslims are urged to take the moderate path in acting upon the commands of Allah. They should not be excessive or inadequate in fulfilling their obligations.

Word for word translation

4. A warning against *shirk* and its causes and the means leading to it.

Al Maimum version

4. Muslims are warned against polytheism and all avenues leading to it.