I seek refuge with Allah from the evil insinuations of The Rejected, Accursed Shaitan.  With Allah’s name The Merciful Benefactor, The Merciful Redeemer, As-Salaam-u alaikum! (The Peace that comes from The G-d of The Peace that goes beyond all understanding be upon, to, and with you!)

**A SNAPSHOT OF SHARI’AH**

The word **shariah, shariy-‘ah, shari’ah** comes from the Arabic letters “sheen (**ش**) - ra (**ر**) -‘ain (**ع**); **sha-ra-‘ah**”.

According to “**VOCABULARY OF THE HOLY QURAN**, Second Print, p. 303, by Dr. Abdullah Abbas Nadwi” shariy-‘ah is an “active participle” meaning “law (divine).”  “Note: **الشَّرِيْعَةُ** is not only a ‘law or ordinance’ but also a religion, or a way of belief and practice in respect of religion.”  “<law (divine) (n.)”    **شِرْعَةٌ** litt. Custom, way.”

This is the form used in Surah (Chapter) Al Ma’idah (The Table spread) 5:48 “**وَأَنزَلۡنَآ إِلَيۡكَ ٱلۡكِتَـٰبَ بِٱلۡحَقِّ مُصَدِّقً۬ا لِّمَا بَيۡنَ يَدَيۡهِ مِنَ ٱلۡڪِتَـٰبِ وَمُهَيۡمِنًا عَلَيۡهِ‌ۖ فَٱحۡڪُم بَيۡنَهُم بِمَآ أَنزَلَ ٱللَّهُ‌ۖ وَلَا تَتَّبِعۡ أَهۡوَآءَهُمۡ عَمَّا جَآءَكَ مِنَ ٱلۡحَقِّ‌ۚ لِكُلٍّ۬ جَعَلۡنَا مِنكُمۡ شِرۡعَةً۬ وَمِنۡهَاجً۬ا‌ۚ وَلَوۡ شَآءَ ٱللَّهُ لَجَعَلَڪُمۡ أُمَّةً۬ وَٲحِدَةً۬ وَلَـٰكِن لِّيَبۡلُوَكُمۡ فِى مَآ ءَاتَٮٰكُمۡ‌ۖ فَٱسۡتَبِقُواْ ٱلۡخَيۡرَٲتِ‌ۚ إِلَى ٱللَّهِ مَرۡجِعُڪُمۡ جَمِيعً۬ا فَيُنَبِّئُكُم بِمَا كُنتُمۡ فِيهِ تَخۡتَلِفُونَ (﻿٤٨﻿)”** “And unto thee have **We revealed the Scripture with the truth**, confirming whatever Scripture was before it, and a watcher over it. So judge between them by that which Allah hath revealed, and follow not their desires away from the truth which hath come unto thee. **For each We have appointed a divine law** and a traced-out way. **Had Allah willed He could have made you one community**. But that He may try you by that which He hath given you (He hath made you as ye are). **So vie one with another in good works**. Unto Allah ye will all return, and He will then inform you of that wherein ye differ.” (48)  M. Pickthal   Emphasis mine, Tadar Jihad Wazir

 The following excerpts from “**LANE’S LEXICON**” pertain to religion, and are variants of the word sha-ra-‘ah.  “and in like manner, an affair, or a case; and religion.”  The following 3 on p. #1534 show how it’s used.  “*God made apparent, manifest, or plain, to us, such a thing.*”  “*Such a one made apparent, manifest,* or *plain, the truth, or right.*”  “*He instituted, established, or prescribed, for them,* or *to them,* a religious ordinance, a law,”

Page 1535 “then applied as a name for A manifest, a plain, or an open, track, or road, or way:--and then, metaphorically, to The divine way of religion; so says Er-Raghib”

“**شَرْعِىٌّ** Of, or relating to, the religion or law. –And Accordant to the religion or law; legal, or legitimate.”

“…And hence, … **ُالشَّرِيعَة, …** as also **الشِّرْعَةُ**, … and **الشَرْعُ**, …signifies likewise … **الدِينُ**; because it is a way to the means of eternal life; …or because of its manifestness; …The religious law of God…consisting of such ordinances as those of fasting and prayer and pilgrimage …and the giving of the poor-rate …and marriage,  …and other acts …of piety, or of obedience to God, or of duty to Him and to men”  “Signifies also [A law, an ordinance, or a statute: and] a religion, or way of belief and practice in respect of religion: …and a way of belief or conduct that is manifest  …and right …in religion; and so” **شِرْعَةٌ**

Page 1536 “**الشَّارِعُ** also means the learned man who practices what he knows and instructs others:  And hence it is applied to designate the Prophet: as meaning The legislator: or the announcer of the law:] or because he made manifest and plain the religion, or religious law of God.”

Read: **Al Baqarah 2**:122-**124**-**127-129**-132; **An-Nisa’ 4:58/59**; **Al Furqan 25**:63-**74**-76; Fussilat **41**:33-**34/35**-36; **Ash-Shuraa 42**:36-**37/38**-**43**; and “**Letter from Prophet Muhammad to all Christians**”.

In the Holy Book (the Bible in Arabic) the only True G-d calls Himself Allah **اللَّه** as do all of the key biblical people.  The Bible and its practitioners were in Arabia a very long time before the advent of Prophet Muhammad.  **A Christian monk** was the first person to recognize Muhammad ibn Abdullah as the Prophet of prophecy in their scriptures.

Variants of the word shari’ah are found in the following excerpted passages of revealed scripture, please read the cited passages in the context that they are given to get Allah’s definitive uses of His shariyah?  **Genesis 26:5**  **شَرَائِعِي**  **Exodus 12:49** **شَرِيعَةٌ** ; **13:9** **شَرِيعَة**ُ ; and **18:16**  **شَرَائِعَهُ** ; **Numbers 5:30  الشَّرِيعَةِ**; **Deuteronomy 1:5** **الشَّرِيعَةَ**; **17:11  الشَّرِيعَة**; and **33:2** **شَرِيعَةٍ** (Here note these passages: **Deut**. **32**:1-**17/18 [اللهَ, G-d]**-**39/40**-44; **Ezra 7**:10-**26 شَرِيعَةَ**; **Isaiah** **43**:**3**-**10-12 [أَنَا اللَّه**ُ**, I am G-d]**-15; **Mark** **13**:**19 [اللَّهُ,  G-d]**); **1 Kings 2:3** **شَرِيعَةِ** ; **1 Chronicles 22:12** **شَرِيعَةِ** ; **Matthew 5:17**  **الشَّرِيعَة**َ**/18 الشَّرِيعَةِ**; **7:12** **الشَّرِيعَةِ**; **11:13** **الشَّرِيعَةَ**; and **22:36** **الشَّرِيعَةِ**, and **40** **الشَّرِيعَة**َ; and **Romans 6:14** **لِلشَّرِيعَةِ** **/15  لِلشَّرِيعَةِ**.

From the above examples of the divinely prescribed/inspired uses of **Allah’s Manifesto called Shariah** one can see that **its’ goal is to establish intellectual, ethical, moral, civil people/societies under His Authority according to their capacity to so be**.  And **they are obligated to be in accord with His Word, Will, and Way**.

**The Shari’ah** is manifested through three (3) prioritized phases: **(1) The Shari’ah**: Originates with “**the only true   G-d**” (**John 17:3, KJV**): **Deuteronomy 8**:1-**3**-6; **Matthew 4**:1-**4**; **Luke 4**:1-**4**; and **Al ‘Alaq** or **Iqra’** **96:1-5**.  **(2) Codification of** **The** **Shari’ah**: **Guided by Allah** **Special Messengers** teach their book/ live the practical application(s) of its’ shari’ah: **The Torah** (**Moses, Exodus-Deuteronomy**), **The New Testament** (**Jesus, Matthew-John**), and **The Qur’an** (**Muhammad, especially Al Ahqaf 46:**1**-9-10 [9** Say: "I am no bringer of new-fangled doctrine among the messengers, nor do I know what will be done with me or with you. I follow but that which is revealed to me by inspiration: I am but a Warner open and clear." A. Y. Ali**]**).  **(3) Interpreting and applying the meaning(s) of the principles of** **The** **Shari’ah**: This is to be done by learned, spiritual, holy people of the various books down through the ages.  **Ezra 7**: 10-**26 شَرِيعَة**; **Matthew 22**:34-**40 الشَّرِيعَةُ**; **Al An’am 6**:70-**90**, **90** “**to those whom God has guided**.  **Follow, then, their guidance**, {and} say: ‘No reward do I ask of you for this {truth}: **behold**, **it is but an admonition unto all mankind!**’”  Muhammad Asad; and **Al Hujraat** **49**:10-**13** “…Verily the most honoured of you in the sight of Allah is (he who is) the most righteous of you. And Allah has full knowledge and is well acquainted (with all things).”  A. Y. Ali   Emphasis mine.

Formerly, in the USA to get admitted to a school of higher education one had to have a strong desire to “know G-d”.

This is the philosophy of **Arkansas AM&N** **College**, a.k.a. UA at Pine Bluff: “**The end of education is to know God and the laws and principles of His Universe, and to reconcile one’s life with these laws**.”  That is **shari’ah**.

The founding fathers of The United States of America understood this very well as they perused **their Bibles** and some **Qur’ans** in establishing the wording of **The Declaration of Independence** for this country that was being founded to establish “**the laws of Nature and of Nature’s God**”.  That is **shari’ah** stated concisely.

**Those eight words** in the Preamble to America’s Declaration of Independence **were the truths that they, and all right minded, Creator fearing people, held, and hold to be “self evident”**.

This is the **Preamble for the Constitution of 1875** for the State of Missouri “**We, the people of Missouri, with profound reverence for the Supreme Ruler of the Universe, and grateful for His goodness, do establish this Constitution for the better government of the state**.”  That is **shari’ah**.

The Preambles of each of the fifty (50) states of the United States of America acknowledges Allah’s Authority over people and our activities.  Their statements are **shari’ah**, also.

According to the 1st Amendment to the Constitution of the USA, a country established to establish “the laws of Nature and of Nature’s God”, “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech….”  That is **shari’ah**.

Under Common Law and “the laws of Nature and of Nature’s G-d” Ecclesiastical Law can be enforced in a house of worship except for imprisoning one, executing one, etc.  That is **shari’ah**.

In America a religious group can establish themselves geo-politically and establish their own religious oriented town, with its’ own set of laws, law enforcers, etc. that are subordinate to the laws of the land.  That is **shari’ah**.

For religious law violations one can be tried in an Ecclesiastical Court.  And or have the charges filed with a state court to be tried by Ecclesiastical Law in the state court.  This is done with qualified members of the faith group serving as lawyers, judges, special masters, etc.  Or the charges are to be tried by the state court.  That is **shari’ah**.

The first written authoritative constitution of a state, issued by its’ sovereign, was between Prophet Muhammad and the Jewish tribes of Yathrib (a.k.a. Medina/ Madinah).  See “**The First Written Constitution in the World**”, by M. Hamidullah or R. Doi

After their conquest of Sicily the Shari’ah was incorporated into the laws of the Normans (f.k.a. Vikings) which was under Muslim (a.k.a. Saracen) control and authority.  As the Normans spread their conquest into mainland Italy their laws were incorporated by the French and as they spread westward the English also incorporated their laws.  The Shari’ah is the foundation of the laws of these lands.

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