

*From the Desk of  
Syed Shaukat Zoha*

*Knock 3.*

“The tendency to equate faith with doctrine, and then argue terminology and concepts, distract us from what faith is actually about. Faith is not a commodity we either have or don’t have ----- it is an inner quality that unfolds as we learn to trust our own deepest experience.”

As I read this from the introduction Sharon Salzberg writes in her book titled “Faith”, I recalled,

*O you who have believed, fear Allah as He should be feared and do not die except as Muslims [in submission to Him].*

*Holy Qur’an sūrat āl ‘im'rān Verse (3:102)*

The above verse is repeatedly read in all sermons especially in

Friday Sermon and is a part of sermon at marriage too. Often, we take it about performing rituals without interpreting our own experiences of life to the meaning of faith. *Is it not that verse is about living all life with "Taqwa" (fear) as prescribed and this experience will give rise in belief to dedicate our life as Muslim?*