

SHAITAN

WITH THE NAME OF ALLAH, MOST GRACIOUS, MOST MERCIFUL.

By his very nature, Shaitan belongs to such an order of creation that thrives on going against all good and positive values.

Iblis and Shaitan refer to one and the same creature.

Al-Quraan uses the name or word Iblis whenever his evil is limited to himself – hence Iblis is the proud one.

However, when he influences others to commit evil, he is called Shaitan --- hence Shaitan is the deceiver.

The term Iblis is derived from *ba-la-sa*, meaning *he despaired* and the word Shaitan from *sha-ta-na*, meaning *he became remote or distant*.

- 1) Iblis proudly despised the angels who obeyed Allah (S.W.T.) by bowing down to Nabie Adam (A.S.).
- 2) He became rebellious by not obeying his Rabb.
- 3) He was extremely jealous because Allah (S.W.T.) had honoured humans above him.

Iblis was guilty of a triple crime --- pride, rebellion and jealousy!

In point of fact, he was a racist! When he was asked as to why he refused to bow down, he replied: "I am better than he: You created me from fire and him from clay."

---Sura A'raf (ch. 7): verse 12

Does his answer not remind you of light skin people who think they are better than dark skin people?