109208 - Does the one who becomes Muslim have to change his name?

the question

Does the one who embraces Islam have to change his old name to a new, Muslim name?

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

That is not obligatory, unless the name is one that is not permissible according to Islamic teachings, such as a name that is indicative of servitude to someone other than Allah, and the like. In that case he must change his name. The same applies if it is a name that is uniquely used by the disbelievers, and is not used by anyone else. In that case it must also be changed, so that he will not be resembling the disbelievers, and so that he will not feel attached to this name that belongs only to the disbelievers, and so that no one will think that he has not become Muslim yet. (End quote)

Shaykh Ibn ‘Uthaymin (may Allah have mercy on him).

Al-Ijabat ‘ala As’ilat al-Jaliyat (1/4)