



**Islamic Beliefs**  
**Knowledge Organiser**  
**Year 8**

## Islam Beliefs – Knowledge Organiser

Key Words			
<b>Allah</b>	The Arabic word for God	<b>Polytheism</b>	Belief in many gods
<b>Arabic</b>	The language of the Qur'an	<b>Prophet</b>	A person who receives revelation from God
<b>Caliph</b>	A religious and political leader who succeeded Muhammad	<b>Qur'an</b>	The holy book of Islam – Muslims believe it was delivered word-for-word from God
<b>Fatiha</b>	The opening sura of the Qur'an	<b>Revelation</b>	God revealing themselves to prophets
<b>Hafiz</b>	A title given to someone who has memorised all of the Qur'an	<b>Shi'a</b>	The smaller of the two divisions of Islam
<b>Hijrah</b>	The departure of Muhammad from Mecca	<b>Shirk</b>	Comparing yourself or someone else to God
<b>Idol</b>	An image which is the subject of worship	<b>Sufi</b>	The mystic tradition within Islam
<b>Kabbah</b>	The place of pilgrimage which Muhammad's tribe looked after	<b>Sunni</b>	The larger of the two divisions of Islam
<b>Monotheism</b>	A belief in one God	<b>Sura</b>	A chapter of the Qur'an
<b>Muhammad</b>	The final and most important prophet in Islam	<b>Tawhid</b>	The belief in the oneness of God

Key Ideas	
<b>The Qur'an</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The <b>Qur'an</b> is the holy book of Islam. Muslims believe it was revealed to Muhammad by God without human editing.</li> <li>- It contains 114 <b>suras</b> (chapters) – the first of which is the <b>Fatiha</b> which is repeated daily by Muslims</li> <li>- Muslims read and recite the Qur'an in <b>Arabic</b> – the original language in which it was written</li> <li>- It is a great honour to learn the Qur'an by heart and someone who achieves this called a <b>hafiz</b></li> </ul>
<b>God</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Islam is a monotheistic religion which means they only believe in one God known as <b>Allah</b> in Arabic</li> <li>- Muslims have <b>99 names</b> which describe the characteristics of God such as mercy and creation</li> <li>- As well as believing in only one God Muslims also believe God is indivisible – this belief in the oneness of God is called <b>tawhid</b></li> <li>- <b>Shirk</b> is the act of comparing yourself or something else to God and it is not allowed in Islam – this includes trying to depict Allah in paintings or statues.</li> </ul>
<b>Prophets</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A <b>prophet</b> is a messenger sent by God who is able to receive God's revelation</li> <li>- The Qur'an mentions 25 prophets by name including many figures from the Christian and Jewish traditions such as <b>Abraham</b> (Ibrahim), <b>Moses</b> (Musa) and <b>Jesus</b> (Isa)</li> <li>- Muslims have a high level of respect toward prophets and do not depict them in pictures</li> </ul>
<b>Muhammad</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The last and most important prophet for Muslims was <b>Muhammad</b></li> <li>- Muhammad was born in 570 AD in the city of <b>Mecca</b> on the Arabian Peninsula</li> <li>- The tribe in which he lived was <b>polytheistic</b> meaning it worshipped many gods</li> <li>- In 610 AD Muhammad went out to <b>Mount Hira</b> and met the angel <b>Jibril</b> who told Muhammad to recite the words which would later be recorded in the Qur'an – this was the <b>Night of Power</b></li> <li>- He returned to Mecca to preach the word of one God and reject drinking, gambling and idol worship</li> <li>- In 622 AD Muhammad left Mecca for <b>Medina</b> – this marks the beginning of the Islamic calendar</li> <li>- He brought Islamic beliefs to a wider audience in Medina and then returned with an army to Mecca to take over the city – he destroyed the idols in the <b>Kabbah</b> which his family used to look after</li> <li>- Before his death in 632 AD Muhammad became the most important religious and political leader in Arabia</li> </ul>
<b>The Caliphs and Sunni and Shi'a</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Following Muhammad's death the religious + political leadership of Islam was in the hands of four <b>caliphs</b></li> <li>- <b>Abu Bakr</b> was the first of these – he used force to put down rebellions and keep up the power of Islam</li> <li>- There was disagreement about whether Abu Bakr, or Muhammad's cousin <b>Ali</b>, should have been the first caliph. Those who agreed on Abu Bakr are known as <b>Sunni</b> Muslims, those who wanted Ali are <b>Shi'a</b>.</li> <li>- That split still exists today with Sunni being the majority of Muslims in the world and Shi'a concentrated mainly in Iran, Iraq and Yemen.</li> </ul>
<b>Sufism</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sufism is the <b>mystic</b> tradition within Islam – it is not a split within the religion but a way of practising Islam</li> <li>- It concentrates on dedication to worship of Allah including reciting the 99 names of Allah known as <b>dhikr</b> and following strict adherence to Islamic rules of prayer and fasting</li> <li>- One way Sufis meditate on Allah is through a dance known as '<b>whirling dervishes</b>' where they spin very quickly whilst reciting the 99 names of Allah.</li> <li>- <b>Rumi</b>, born in 1207, is probably the most famous Islamic poet and is well known around the world – his poetry was inspired by his love for Shams and by his Sufi Islamic faith</li> </ul>

### Big Questions:

Lesson 1: What is Islam      Lesson 2: What is the Qur'an?      Lesson 3: What do Muslims believe about God?

Lesson 4: Who are the prophets in Islam?      Lesson 5: How did Muhammad become the most important prophet in Islam?

Lesson 6: How did Muhammad begin the spread of Islam?

Read the following passage and make notes of the key points in the bullet-points below the text. You will be quizzed testing your knowledge of this text in your next lesson.

**Facts about Islam**

- 1. Islam is a Monotheistic faith. This means that Muslims only believe in One God.
- 2. Islam means Peace and a Muslim is someone who Submits him/herself to the will of God.
- 3. The name Muhammad is the most common name in the world.
- 4. The Qur'an is written in the Arabic Language.
- 5. The following English words are borrowed from Arabic: Sofa, candy and algebra.

**What do Muslims believe?**

Muslims believe that there is one God, whom they called ALLAH. They believe that Allah is ETERNAL which means he was never born and will never die. He made everything, knows everything and is All-powerful, so human beings must worship Him. Muslims believe that Allah sent PROPHETS to teach people how to live. A prophet is someone who tells people what God wants.

**Islam is...**

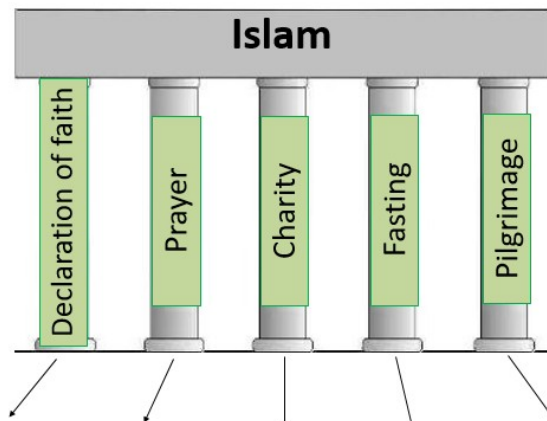
- ...the fastest growing religion in the world
- ...the second largest religion in the UK
- ...the second largest religion in the world

- ...the fastest growing religion in the UK
- ...2.6 million people in the UK are Muslim

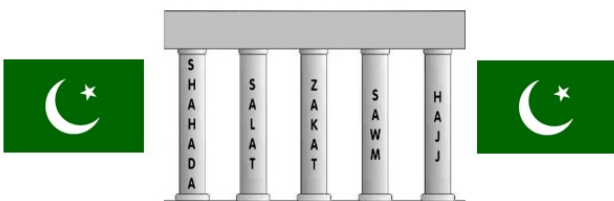
**The 5 Pillars of Islam**

Muslims have 5 rules to help them maintain the community and their faith. They are known as **The 5 Pillars of Islam**.

The 5 Pillars of Islam



Muslims call the 5 rules of Islam the 5 Pillars. This is because Muslims believe that these 5 Pillars keep their community and faith strong, and show their trust in Allah.



Key Points:

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## Homework Task 2

Due in:

Read the following passage and make notes of the key points in the bullet-points below the text. You will be quizzed testing your knowledge of this text in your next lesson.

### The importance of the Qur'an for Muslims

#### **Key words:**

Qur'an – literally means 'recitation'. It is the Holy book for Muslims  
Respect – to treat something or someone with the best of manners.

Illiterate – Someone who can neither read nor write.

Haafiz—Someone who has learnt all the Quran off by heart.

Wudu - a special way of washing. which involves washing hands, faces,

#### **Basic facts:**

- The Qur'an is the holy book for Muslims just like the Bible is for Christians.
- It is written in Arabic.
- Muslims believe that no part of the Qur'an can be changed or re-written because it is the word of God and so it is perfect.

#### Where did the Quran come from?

Over a period of 23 years God (Allah in Arabic) revealed his message through the archangel Gabriel to Muhammad. The message was to worship the one true god. These revelations were written down by his companions (Muhammad was illiterate) to form the Qur'an. Muslims believe the Quran is the final book to be revealed by Allah after a collection of other books including the Torah and the Bible.

#### What is written in the Koran?

The Quran has rules and laws written in it about believing In one God, prayer, charity, fasting, what types of food are and are not allowed to be eaten. It explains about marriage, divorce, buying and selling, crimes and punishments and many more.

#### What are some of the laws in the Quran?

Some of the laws in the Qur'an include the following: 'Worship God and obey and be kind to your parents', 'Do not kill those who have not harmed you', 'Do not eat pork (as it is a filthy animal)', 'Do not drink Alcohol or use any drugs, as these harm the body', 'Show forgiveness and be forgiving' and 'Don't be evil to the person who has been evil to you – be patient and forgiving'.

#### How do Muslims show respect to the Quran?

Because Muslims believe the Quran IS the word of God they do the following to show their love and respect for it:

Firstly, they perform Wudu (a special way of washing themselves) which involves washing their hands, faces, arms and feet.

Secondly, copies of the Qur'an are sometimes kept wrapped up in a cloth around it and they are always places on a high shelf in order to keep it safe and to show respect. Thirdly, they put it on a special stand like the one in the picture so that it doesn't touch the floor as the floor can be a dirty place and sometimes even smelly!



#### **Key Points:**

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