

Islam Revision

PRACTICES			
<p>The Five Pillars and Ten Obligatory Acts</p>	<p>Overview of the important practices for Sunni and Shi'a Muslims</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"> <p>The most important duties for <u>Sunni</u> Muslims</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shahada - Declaration of faith 2. Salah - Prayer 3. Sawm - Fasting 4. Zakah - Compulsory charitable giving 5. Hajj - Pilgrimage </td> <td style="width: 50%;"> <p>Important duties for <u>Shi'a</u> Muslims.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Salah - Prayer 2. Hajj - Pilgrimage 3. Sawm - Fasting 4. Zakah - Charitable giving 5. Khums - 20% additional tax (½ to charity, ½ to religious leaders) 6. Jihad - the struggle for faith 7. Amr-bil-Maruf - encouraging good deeds 8. Nahi Anil Munkar - discouraging bad deeds 9. Tawallah - be loving to friends of God 10. Tabarra - disassociating from enemies of God </td> </tr> </table>	<p>The most important duties for <u>Sunni</u> Muslims</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shahada - Declaration of faith 2. Salah - Prayer 3. Sawm - Fasting 4. Zakah - Compulsory charitable giving 5. Hajj - Pilgrimage 	<p>Important duties for <u>Shi'a</u> Muslims.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Salah - Prayer 2. Hajj - Pilgrimage 3. Sawm - Fasting 4. Zakah - Charitable giving 5. Khums - 20% additional tax (½ to charity, ½ to religious leaders) 6. Jihad - the struggle for faith 7. Amr-bil-Maruf - encouraging good deeds 8. Nahi Anil Munkar - discouraging bad deeds 9. Tawallah - be loving to friends of God 10. Tabarra - disassociating from enemies of God
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<p>Shahada (declaration of faith)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Translated in English as '<i>there is no God but Allah and Muhammad is his messenger</i>'. • It is said when a baby is born, it is included in daily prayers and it is usually the last phrase said by a Muslim before death. • The Shahada is a constant reminder to Muslims of the key principles of their faith. 		
<p>Salah (prayer)</p>	<p>Prayer creates an awareness of God and motivates Muslims to do God's will.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wudu (also known as Ablution) - ritual washing before prayer for spiritual and physical cleanliness • Direction - Muslims pray in the direction of Makkah. The Qiblah wall in a mosque has a mihrab (niche) pointing in the direction of Makkah. • Imam - the person who leads prayer in a Mosque • Prayer mats - knelt on during prayer for spiritual cleanliness • Rak'ah - Daily prayers are made up of a sequence of actions and Qur'an recitations. This includes prostration (kneeling in submission to God) • Jummah prayer - weekly prayer at midday on Fridays which includes a sermon - men are expected to attend, whilst for women it is optional but they may choose to pray at home due to their commitments to look after children. • Places of prayer - where possible Muslims aim to pray in a Mosque. However, this is not always possible, so some Muslims pray at home or in designated prayer rooms. When prayer is done in places other than a Mosque, Muslims still aim to use prayer mats, perform wudu and undertake Rak'ah. It is perfectly acceptable to pray in alternative places such as the home, especially for women whose role it is often to look after children and the home. <p>Differences and similarities in the practice of salah:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Both Sunni and Shi'a Muslims complete 17 sequences of prayer per day. • Sunni Muslims pray 5 times per day: sunrise, midday, afternoon, sunset, night. They only combine prayers when travelling or during hajj. Sunni Muslims prostrate with their heads directly on a prayer mat. • Shi'a Muslims combine some of the 5 prayers and so only pray 3 times per day. Shi'a Muslims pray on natural material such as rock or clay. <p>Differences in Muslim views regarding the importance of prayer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within Islam, some believers may see prayer 5 times a day as less important than others. For example, some might believe they honour Allah throughout all their actions (lesser Jihad) and so don't feel the need to pray so regularly. 		
<p>Sawm (fasting)</p> <p>Takes place during the month of Ramadan</p>	<p>Fasting purifies thoughts and cleanses the soul to free it from harm.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Origins of Sawm/Ramadan (the 9th month of the Muslim calendar) - This is the month during which the Qur'an started to be revealed to Muhammad. Muslims fast (don't have food and drink) during daylight hours. • Fasting - is not just to do with food or drink; smoking and sex is also forbidden during daylight hours. Also, Muslims are expected to be charitable to the poor. • Benefits of fasting 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Shows submission to God ○ Brings Muslims closer to God due to less distractions ○ Builds up self discipline ○ Fasting helps Muslims to sympathise with the poor. ● Exceptions - Some can be excused for health reasons e.g. pregnant women, children, the elderly etc. ● The night of power - the night during Ramadan that marks the beginning of God's revelation to Muhammad through the angel Jibril. <i>'The night of glory is better than a thousand months'</i>. (Quran) Meaning that there are great benefits by praying on the night of power. 												
Zakah (charitable giving)	<p>The giving of Zakah purifies of wealth of a Muslim person.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Almsgiving / Giving Alms - is another word for zakah (charitable giving) ● Zakah - is the giving of 2.5% of wealth to the poor (for those who can afford to do so) ● Origins of zakah - <i>'But if they repent, establish prayer and pay the poor, they are your brothers in faith'</i>. Qur'an ● Why give Zakah? - purifies wealth, reminds Muslims that all they own comes from Allah, teaches self discipline, helps Muslims sympathise with the poor. ● Who receives Zakah? - The poor (those with no money) or the needy (those whose income does not cover their expenses) <p>Additional giving by Shi'a Muslims</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Khums - 20% tax only paid by Shi'a Muslims on excess income. This is given to fund the leadership of Shi'a Islam. 												
Hajj (pilgrimage)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pilgrimage - a journey to a holy site for religious reasons ● Hajj - the annual pilgrimage to Makkah which should be made once in every Muslim's life time if they can afford it. ● Benefits of Hajj: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The sense of equality is a humbling experience. ○ It makes Muslims more focussed on their faith and on their prayers. ○ It affects how Muslims think about what is really important in life. ○ Having sins forgiven allows a clean start. <table border="1" data-bbox="329 1054 1497 1455"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="329 1054 938 1100">Some of the actions undertaken on Hajj</th> <th data-bbox="938 1054 1497 1100">Significance of actions</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="329 1100 938 1178">Entering into a state of Ihram (wearing plain white garment and praying).</td> <td data-bbox="938 1100 1497 1178">Shows equality between all Muslims - as will be the case on judgement day.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="329 1178 938 1255">Circling the Ka'aba 7 times in the Grand Mosque (the place of worship that Muhammad set up).</td> <td data-bbox="938 1178 1497 1255">Circling the Ka'aba shows love for Allah.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="329 1255 938 1304">Collecting stones in a place called Muzsdalifah.</td> <td data-bbox="938 1255 1497 1304">Getting ready to throw at Shayton in Mina</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="329 1304 938 1381">Praying at Mount Arafat (the place where Muhammad gave his last sermon).</td> <td data-bbox="938 1304 1497 1381">Muslims pray for forgiveness for their sins.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="329 1381 938 1455">Throwing stones at a structure represent Shaytan (the devil). This happens in a place called Mina.</td> <td data-bbox="938 1381 1497 1455">Muslims do this to show that they want to reject bad temptations from the Shayton.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Some of the actions undertaken on Hajj	Significance of actions	Entering into a state of Ihram (wearing plain white garment and praying).	Shows equality between all Muslims - as will be the case on judgement day.	Circling the Ka'aba 7 times in the Grand Mosque (the place of worship that Muhammad set up).	Circling the Ka'aba shows love for Allah.	Collecting stones in a place called Muzsdalifah.	Getting ready to throw at Shayton in Mina	Praying at Mount Arafat (the place where Muhammad gave his last sermon).	Muslims pray for forgiveness for their sins.	Throwing stones at a structure represent Shaytan (the devil). This happens in a place called Mina.	Muslims do this to show that they want to reject bad temptations from the Shayton.
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Jihad	<p>A struggle against for faith and against evil.</p> <p>Greater Jihad - the personal inward struggle of all Muslims to live in line with the teachings of their faith (following the five pillars or ten obligatory acts)</p> <p>Lesser Jihad - the outward struggle to fight when commanded by a legitimate ruler, under the conditions, and in ways, permitted by Qur'an and Shariah law. This is often referred to as a <u>holy war</u>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● It must be declared by a <u>fair</u> Muslim leader ● It must not be used to force people to convert to Islam ● It must only be used if there is a threat to Islam (the Muslim faith) ● It must not be used to gain land or wealth (greed) ● It must be a last resort - peaceful methods should have been tried first (e.g. negotiations) 												
Festivals	<p>Id-ul-Fitr - a Muslim festival that celebrates the end of Ramadan (the end of the Qur'an revelations to Muhammad). It is a day of celebration after the difficult month of Ramadan but also a day of reflection on the previous year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Muslims say special prayers in the Mosque. Imam's preach about forgiveness and helping the poor. Best clothes are worn, houses decorated and food shared. Muslims greet each 												

other on this day by saying 'Id Mubarak' meaning blessed celebration.

Id-ul-Adha - a Muslim festival that celebrates the prophet Ibrahim's willingness to sacrifice his son for God 'O my son, I have seen in a dream that I should sacrifice you'. The day reminds Muslims that they should submit to Allah and be prepared to make sacrifices for him.

- Muslims say special prayers in the Mosque. Imam's preach about sacrifice on this day (linked to Abraham's sacrifice). Sometimes a lamb is slaughtered and the meat split three ways between the family, relatives and the poor. Families join together for festive meals.

Day of Ashura -

- Sunni Muslims fast for the day and give generously to charities and to the poor. Muslims pray on this festival but celebrations are usually more solemn.

Reason for celebrating	Ways of celebrating
Shi'a Muslims in particular, who remember the battle of Karbala and the death of Husayn (Muhammad's grandson) on this day. Don't forget that Shi'a Muslims believe that Muhammad's successor should be a descendant of Muhammad.	Shi'i Muslims take part in public displays of grief and sorrow. Some even go as far as beating their own backs with chains but recently these practices have been condemned.
Sunni Muslims remember the Israelites who were saved from the Pharaoh. It is a day of atonement when sins are forgiven if repented.	Sunni Muslims fast for the day and give generously to charities and to the poor. Muslims pray on this festival but celebrations are usually more solemn.

Ma'roof and Munkar

Ma'roof - means doing good and just/fair actions. Anything that is allowed in Islam is referred to as Hala!

Munkar - means doing things that are wrong according to Shari'ah law. Forbidden practices are referred to as Haram.

Qur'an quote	Link to key words - there are many more ways you can use these quotes too!
<i>'Say He is Allah, the One, the eternal, the absolute, he begot no one nor is he begotten. No one is comparable to him.'</i>	Tawhid, Monotheistic,
<i>'He made angels messengers with two, three, four pairs of wings'.</i>	Akhira, Angels (Jibril and Mika'il), Risalah
<i>'Muhammad is... the messenger of Allah and the Seal of the Prophets'.</i>	Risalah, Prophets (Muhammad), Sunnah,
<i>'He who is the all-knowing, the All powerful, able to do anything'</i>	Omnipotent, Omniscient, Supreme
<i>'Allah is with you wherever are'.</i>	Immanence, Omniscience
<i>'Allah is above all comprehension'</i>	Transcendence
<i>'Those who believe and do righteous deeds will have the gardens of paradise'.</i>	Aakhirah, Life after death, Heaven (paradise), Adalat (justice and mercy)
<i>'Only what Allah has decreed will happen to us'.</i>	Predestination (Sunni)
<i>'Allah does not change the condition of people'</i>	Predestination (Shi'a) God knows but doesn't decide everything that will happen.
<i>'Garments of fire will be tailored for those who disbelieve'.</i>	Aakhirah, Life after death, Hell, Adalat (justice and mercy)
<i>'This is the scripture in which there is no doubt containing guidance for those who are mindful of God.'</i>	Holy books, Qur'an, Angel Jibril
<i>'You who believe, when you are about to pray, wash'.</i>	Salah, Hajj, Greater Jihad,
<i>'Establish prayer and give zakah and bow with those who bow.'</i>	Salah, zakah, rak'ah, Jumma prayers
<i>'The night of glory is better than a thousand months'.</i>	Salah, Ramadan, Night of Power
<i>'The Lord says call on me and I will answer you'.</i>	Salah, Hajj, Greater Jihad,
<i>'Pilgrimage to the house is a duty owed to God'.</i>	Hajj
<i>'God is well aware of whatever good you do'.</i>	Angels, Akhira, Zakah, Sawm
<i>'The person who struggles so that Allah's word is supreme is the one serving Allah's cause'.</i>	Lesser Jihad
<i>'O my son, I have seen in a dream that I should sacrifice you'.</i>	Prophet Abraham, Id-ul-Adha
<i>'And He taught Adam the names - all of them.'</i>	Adam received knowledge and names
<i>'But if they repent, establish prayer and pay the poor, they are your brothers in faith'.</i>	Sawm, Zakat, Forgiveness
<i>'There is no God but Allah, the creator of all things so worship him. He is in charge of everything... he is all aware'.</i>	Prayer/worship, Tawhid, Monotheism, Supremacy, Omnipotent, Omniscient
<p>Al Fatiha (the opening chapter of the Qur'an) <i>In the name of Allah, the benevolent, the merciful. Praise be to Allah, Lord of the worlds. The benevolent, the merciful, owner of the day of judgement. You alone do we worship, and you we ask for help. Guide us on the straight path - the path of those who you have favoured. Not the part of those who earn your anger, nor of those who go astray.</i></p>	
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