

Al-Wajeez

A Classroom Curriculum
for New Muslims

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ


In the name of Allah, the Most Beneficent,
the Most Merciful

Introduction

Praise be to Allah, who has guided us to Islam, showed us the paths of peace, sent forth to us the best of all people, may Allah bless him and grant him peace abundantly. We are pleased to offer you this course, which introduces the true religion, Islam, and explains its necessities at the level of knowledge and practice, to help you understand your religion and practise its teachings. This course offers you:

1. A brief explanation of Islam and its major topics.
2. An overview of the Holy Qur'an, along with the interpretation of some short Qur'anic *surahs*.
3. A brief explanation of the rulings relating to the obligatory acts of worship.
4. A brief explanation of the most prominent Islamic rulings on transactions, customs and moral character in Islam.

The course units are divided according to an educational plan in which the lessons in each unit are distributed over six days and the duration of each lesson is specified. The course has been designed in an educational way that includes a number of activities and exercises that help new Muslims memorize and understand new information, in addition to assessment questions at the end of each unit so that learners could assess their level of understanding the course. The course includes several drawings that are intended to contribute to improving the educational process of new Muslims and assist them in understanding the course. They are as follows:

 This colour indicates the importance of this piece of information and the possibility of a question that is related to it at the end of the lesson.



This note refers to a definition and explanation of a word or phrase in the text.

Discuss



This refers to a discussion topic between the teacher and the students, whose topic aims to develop students' thinking and reasoning skills.



Additional Reading

Enrichment material, produced by Osoul Centre, related to the topic of the lesson



Exercise

This consists of a practice activity based on thinking, deduction or memorization.

Welcome to this exciting educational journey.

Educational Plan

Session	Items/Key Points	Time
Day 1		
Session 1	Preliminaries <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction and alerts 2. Existential questions: Who are we? Where do we go? 3. The blessing of right guidance 	10 minutes
	Islam <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is Islam? 2. Why should I embrace Islam? 3. The universality of Islam 4. Islam wipes out the sins committed before it 5. Islam is the final religion 6. Prophethood of Muḥammad ﷺ 7. The criterion of superiority in Islam 8. Learning your religion; the pillars of Islam 	30 minutes
	How to become Muslim? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The two testimonies of faith 2. The meaning of the two testimonies of faith 3. Requirements of the two testimonies of faith 	20 minutes
Break		
Session 2	How to perform ablution (<i>wuḍooʿ</i>)? (practical)	20 minutes
	How to perform the prayer (practical)	20 minutes
	Memorize and understand <i>Soorat Al-Faatihah</i>	20 minutes

First-Day Diary



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Session	Items/Key Points	Time
Day 1		
Session 1	What is faith? Pillars of Faith: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Belief in Allah 2. Belief in the angels 3. Belief in the revealed books 4. Belief in the messengers 5. Belief in the Last Day 6. Belief in divine destiny (<i>qadar</i>) Benefits of faith	20 minutes
	The Holy Qur'an: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the Qur'an? 2. The Qur'an is food for the soul and the mind. 3. The Qur'an is a way of life. 4. The prophets' stories in the Qur'an 	20 minutes
	Memorize and understand <i>Soorat Al-Ikhlaas</i>	20 minutes
Break		
Session 2	Worship: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The meaning of worship 2. Conditions to be met for acts of worship to be accepted. 3. Types of acts of worship 	15 minutes
	Purification Types of Purification <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Physical purification: It is a general Islamic rule that things are naturally clean and pure; physically impure things; removing physical impurity; answering nature's call 2. Moral purification: removing ritual impurity; water used to remove ritual impurity 	45 minutes

Second-Day Diary



Session	Items/Key Points	Time
Day 3		
Session 1	The manner of performing ablution (theoretical) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The meaning of ablution. 2. How do we perform ablution? 3. Things that render ablution invalid 4. Things that require us to perform ablution 5. Wiping over socks 	40 minutes
	Memorize and understand <i>Soorat Al-Falaq</i>	20 minutes
Break		
Session 2	The manner of performing <i>ghusl</i> (ritual bath) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The meaning of <i>ghusl</i> 2. How to perform <i>ghusl</i> 3. When is <i>ghusl</i> required? 4. Things that a person who is in a state of ritual impurity (<i>junub</i>) must not do 5. <i>Tayammum</i> 	20 minutes
	Menstrual and postnatal bleeding <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The types of blood that are naturally discharged by women 2. Islamic rulings about menstrual and postnatal bleeding 	20 minutes
	Memorize and understand <i>Soorat An-Naas</i>	20 minutes

Third-Day Diary



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Session	Items/Key Points	Time
Day 4		
Session 1	Memorize and understand <i>Soorat Al-Kaafiroon</i>	20 minutes
	The manner of performing the prayer (theoretical) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is prayer? 2. Why do we pray? 3. The position of the prayer in Islam 4. The conditions of the prayer 5. The five daily prayers 6. How do we pray? 	40 minutes
Break		
Session 2	The prayer <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue the manner of performing the prayer 2. The Friday prayer 	60 minutes

Fourth-Day Diary



Handwriting practice area with 10 sets of horizontal lines (top, middle, bottom) on a light yellow background. The background is decorated with faint, repeating icons related to Islam, such as mosques, crescent moons, hands, and people in prayer.

Session	Items/Key Points	Time
Day 5		
Session 1	Memorize and understand <i>Soorat Al-Kawthar</i>	20 minutes
	Zakaat 1. What is <i>zakaat</i> ? 2. Why do we pay <i>zakaat</i> ? 3. The manner of paying <i>zakaat</i>	20 minutes
	Fasting 1. What is fasting? 2. Why do we fast? 3. Things that render fasting invalid 4. The types of people who are allowed to break the fast in Ramadan	20 minutes
	Hajj (The Pilgrimage) 1. What is <i>hajj</i> ? 2. Why do we perform <i>hajj</i> ? 3. Who is required to perform <i>hajj</i> ?	10 minutes
Break		
Session 2	Memorize and understand <i>Soorat Al-'Asr</i>	20 minutes
	Clothing 1. The general Islamic rule regarding clothing 2. Forbidden types of clothing	30 minutes
	Food and Drink 1. The general Islamic rule regarding food and drink 2. Forbidden types of food and drink 3. The conditions of Islamic slaughter 4. Islamic rulings about meat served in restaurants and shops	30 minutes

Fifth-Day Diary



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Session	Items/Key Points	Time
Day 6		
Session 1	Financial Transactions <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Financial transactions: Definition 2. The general Islamic rule regarding prohibited forms of financial transactions 3. Forms of prohibited financial transactions 	
	Moral Character <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Moral character in Islam 2. Virtues of good moral character 3. Domains of good moral character 	
Break		
Session 2	Revise the <i>surahs</i> that have already been memorized	
	Revise the manner of performing ablution and the prayer	

Sixth-Day Diary



Handwriting practice area with ten sets of horizontal lines (top, middle, bottom) on a yellow background, each set containing faint Islamic icons.

Course Contents

Unit 1

The Religion of Islam

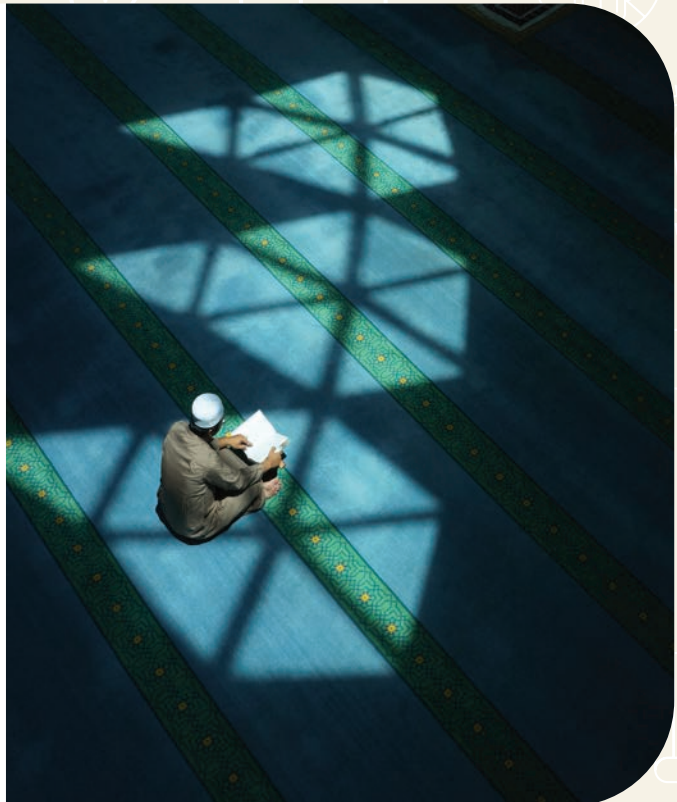
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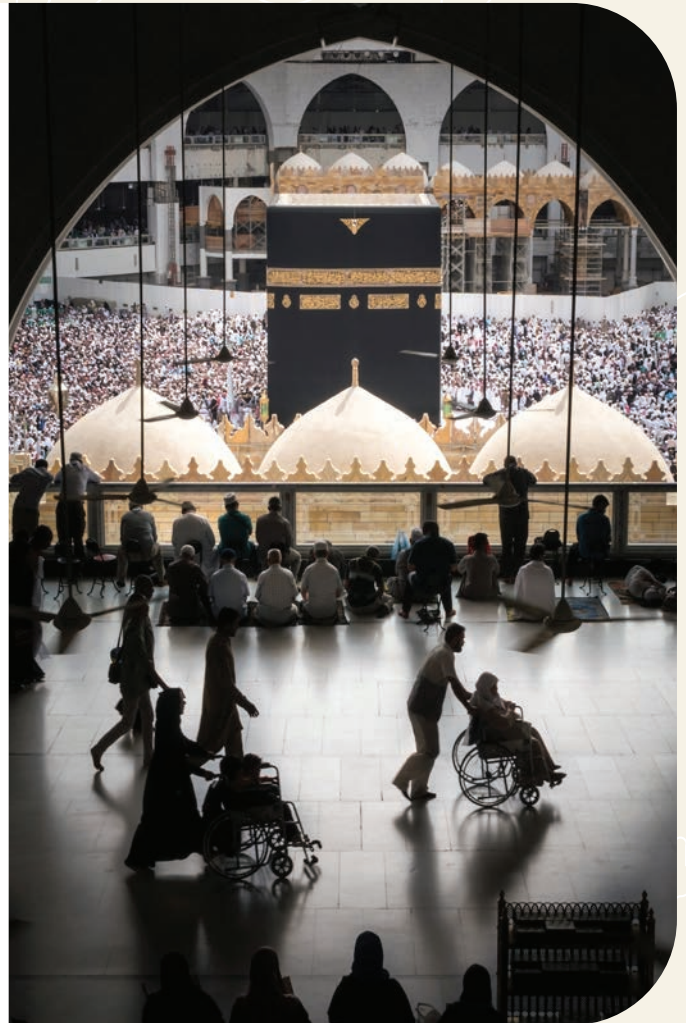
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Unit 1

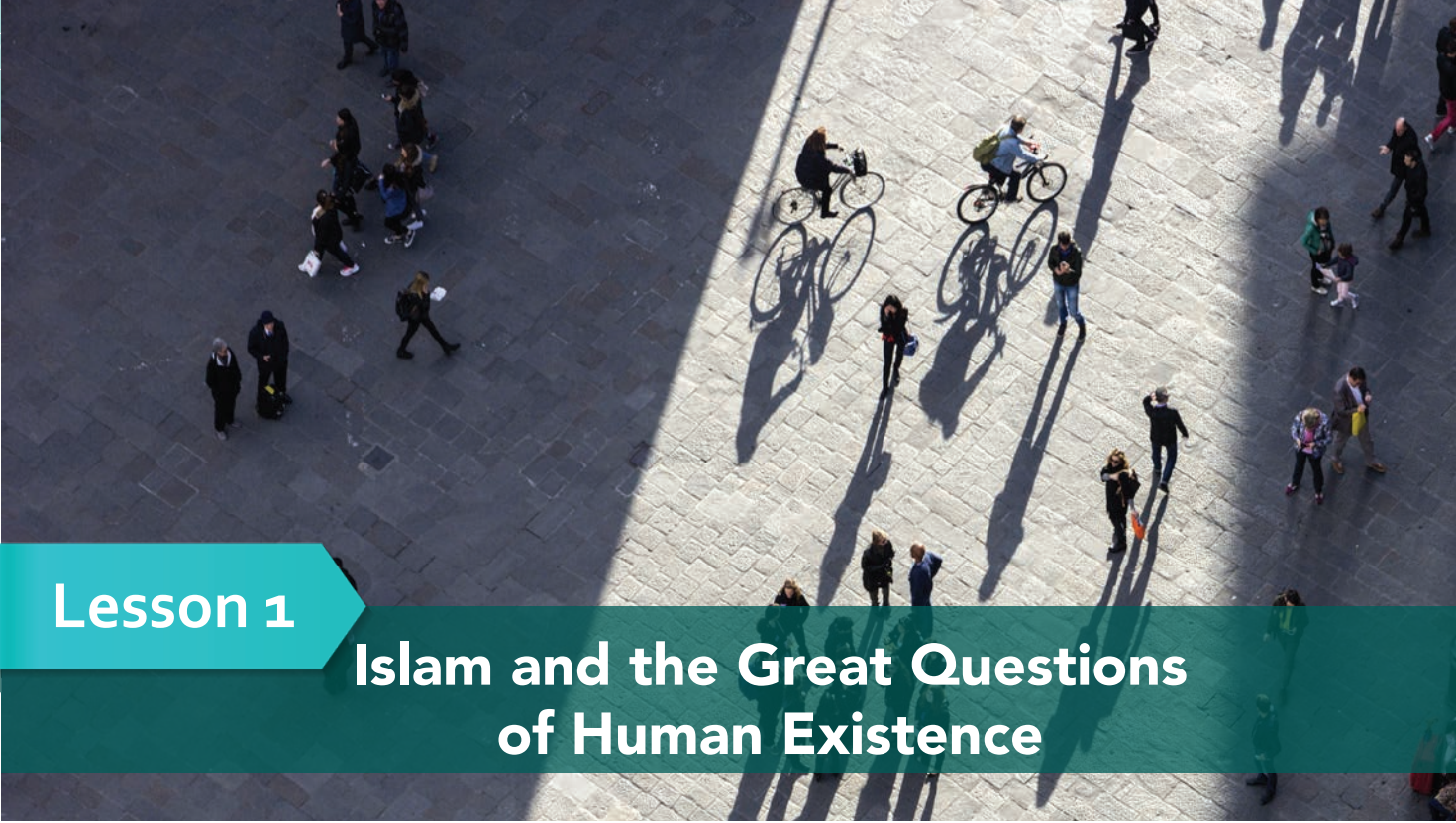
The Religion of Islam



Unit Lessons

- 1 Islam and the Great Questions of Human Existence
- 2 What is Islam?
- 3 How to Become Muslim?
- 4 Faith





Lesson 1

Islam and the Great Questions of Human Existence

Introduction

People have always pondered the big questions of human existence: Where did we come from? Why are we here? Where do we go after death? Islam provides definitive and conclusive answers to these questions which arise in the heart of every reflective human being.

The First Question

Who Are We?

Islam defines 'man' as one of Allah's many creatures. The Almighty has honoured man and favoured him greatly above many other creatures, and subjected many of them to him so that he may benefit from them to perform the duties required of him during his life. The Almighty says, "We have honoured the children of Adam, carried them on land and sea, provided sustenance for them out of life's good things and exalted them above many of Our creatures." (Surat Al-Israa', 17:70).

Allah Almighty has made in man some kind of likeness to:

- the angels in their purity and worship.
- the devils in their ingratitude and disobedience, and
- the animals in their satisfying their whims and desires.

He has provided him with an innate readiness to do good or evil but has at the same time furnished him with such cognitive tools as the innate human nature (*fitrah*) and the intellect to discern good from evil.

He has also given him free will to be responsible for his own choices and actions.

The angels are among Allah's creatures. The Almighty created them from light and with a natural predisposition to worship and obey Him. They are His honoured servants who never disobey His orders but always do as they are commanded. There are a great many of them, but only Allah knows their number.

The Second Question

Where Did We Come from, and Why Are We Here?

Islam explains that the origin of man's creation is clay from which Allah Almighty created Adam, the father of all mankind: "We first created man from an extract of clay." (Soorat Al-Mu'minoon, 23:12) Allah created mankind for the sole purpose of worshipping Him even though He is Self-Sufficient and does not stand in need of their worship. The Almighty says, "I have only created jinn and man to worship Me." (Soorat Adh-Dhaariyyaat, 51:56) A secondary reason for human existence is for man to settle on the earth and thus build civilisation, establish justice and spread good. The Almighty says, "He brought you into being from the earth and made you settle on it." (Soorat Hood, 11:61).

Adam
Allah tells us in the Qur'an the story of Adam's creation and how Satan's enmity towards him started. See the interpretation of Verses 30-39 in Soorat Al-Baqarah.

Discuss

Make a comparison between how you viewed the meaning of your existence before and after embracing Islam.



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The Third Question

Where Do We Go?

The Qur'an teaches that every human being will die and, following his death, the stage of doing deeds will end and the stage of judgement and recompense will begin. The Almighty says, "You, Muḥammad, will die and they, too, will die. Then on the Day of Resurrection you will dispute before your Lord." (Soorat Az-Zumar, 39:30-31).

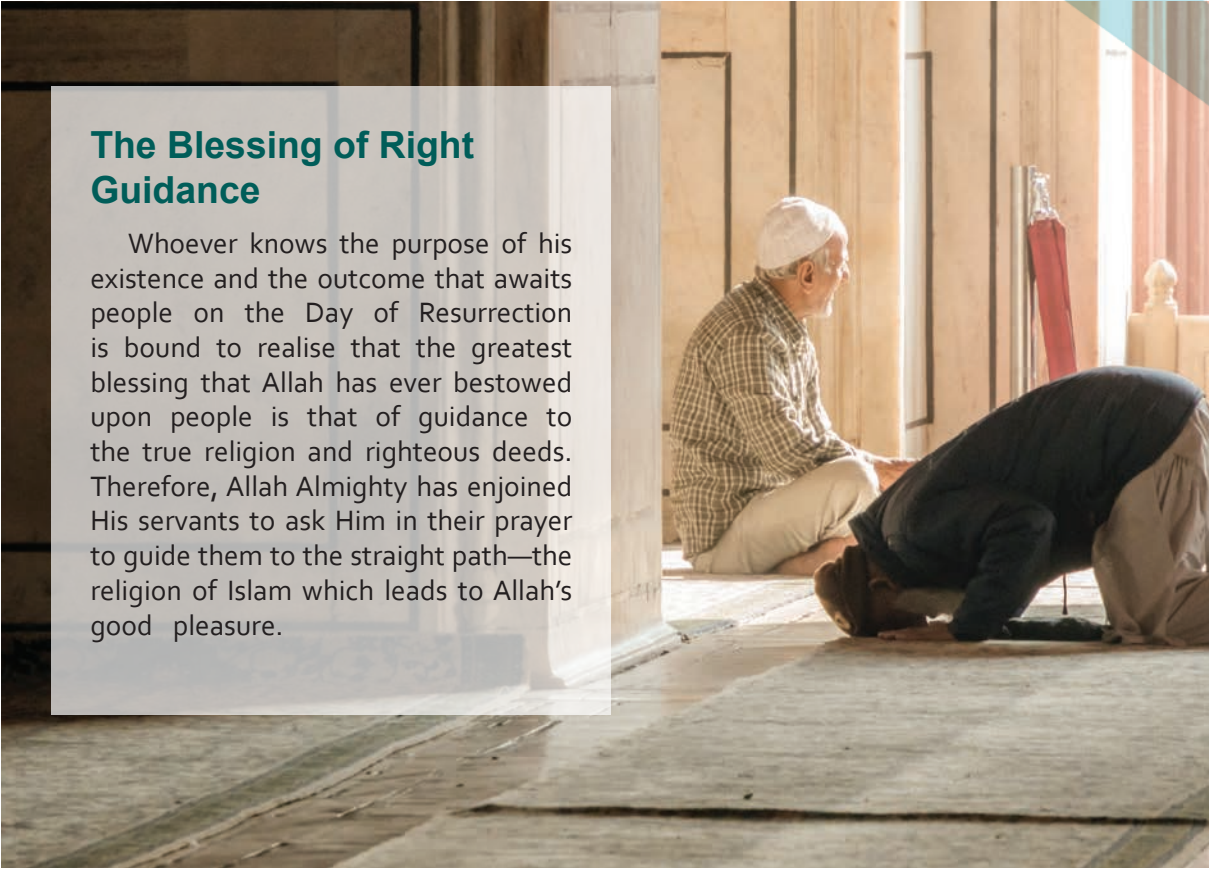
Thus when a person dies, he moves on to a stage in which he will be asked about his religion and will be repaid according to his deeds. The Almighty says, "Every person is bound to taste death, but only on the Day of Resurrection will you be repaid in full for whatever good or evil you have done. Whoever is, on that day, spared the Fire and admitted into Paradise will have certainly succeeded. The life of this world is nothing but a fleeting, illusory enjoyment." (Soorat Aal-'Imraan, 3:185).

When the Day of Resurrection comes, Allah will raise the dead from their graves for judgement and recompense. The believers will be rewarded with Paradise, while the unbelievers will be punished in Hell. The Almighty says, "Thus have We revealed to you, Muḥammad, the Qur'an in Arabic, so that you may warn the people of the Mother of Cities—Makkah—and all those around it; and that you may forewarn them of the Day of Gathering about which there is no doubt, when one group will be in Paradise and another group in the Blazing Fire." (Soorat Ash-Shoora, 42:7).



The Blessing of Right Guidance

Whoever knows the purpose of his existence and the outcome that awaits people on the Day of Resurrection is bound to realise that the greatest blessing that Allah has ever bestowed upon people is that of guidance to the true religion and righteous deeds. Therefore, Allah Almighty has enjoined His servants to ask Him in their prayer to guide them to the straight path—the religion of Islam which leads to Allah’s good pleasure.



Discuss



Settling on earth and building a civilization on it is one of man’s roles in this life. To enable him to perform this great and challenging task, Allah has provided him with such physical and mental make-ups to help him perform this role. Explain how, of all other creatures, only man can settle on earth and build a civilization?

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Mention some of the practical implications of getting to know the ultimate fate of people after death?

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Assessment Questions

1

How did Islam favour man over all other creatures?

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2

What is the purpose of human creation?

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3

Why did the Qur'an detail the story of the beginning of creation?

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4

When a person dies, he moves on to a stage in which he will be asked about his religion and will be repaid according to his deeds.

True False

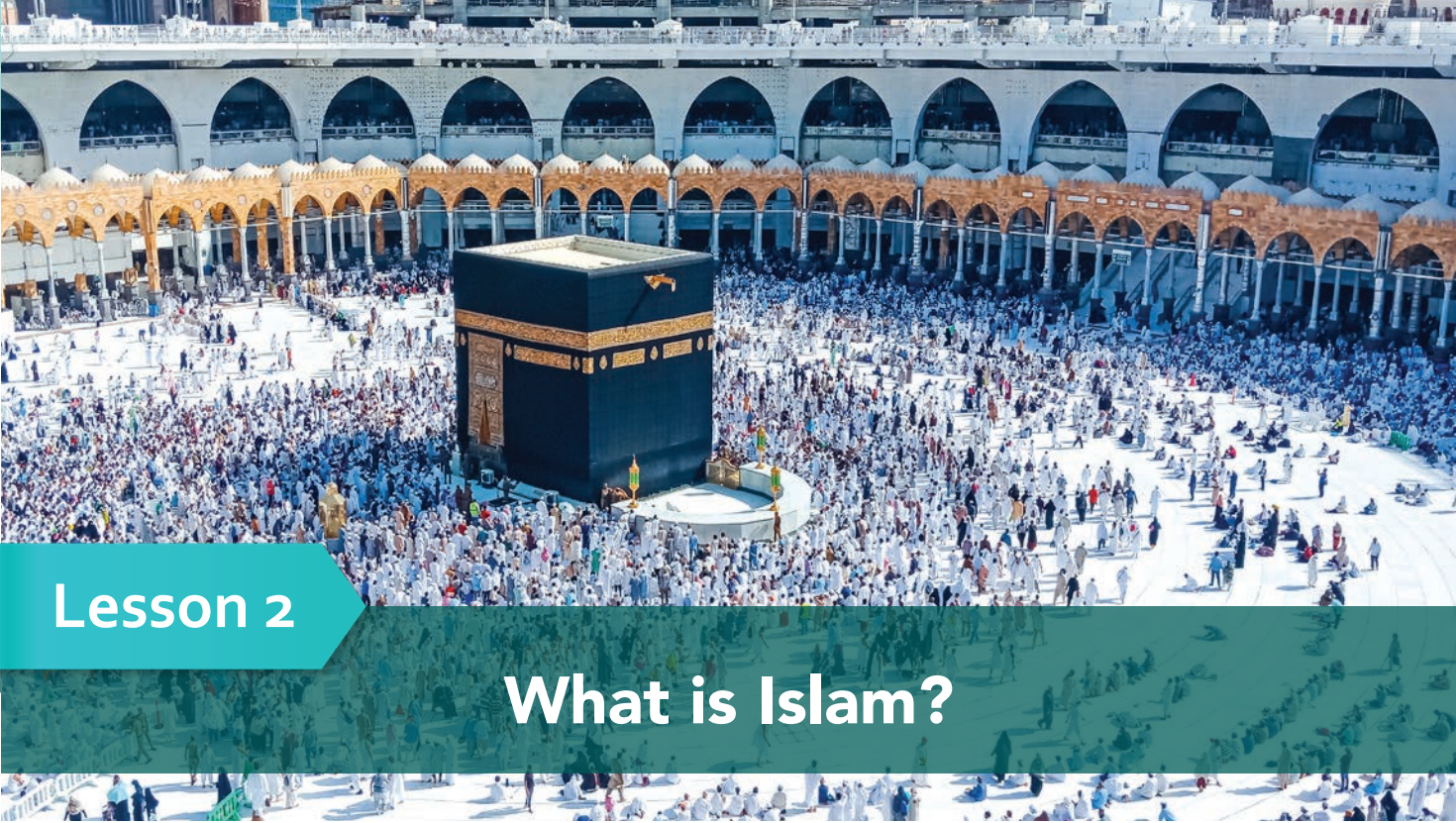
The purpose of man's creation is to settle on earth and build a civilisation.

True False

5

After studying the Islamic concept of human existence, describe the extent to which it agrees with your innate human nature and heartfelt feelings.

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Lesson 2

What is Islam?

Introduction

Islam is the religion with which Allah sent Muḥammad ﷺ and is an extension of the same religion with which all the previous messengers came. It is essentially based on the belief that Allah Almighty is the only deity deserving of worship, who has no partners or assistants whatsoever in His kingdom, and who has no intermediaries between Him and His servants. But why should I embrace Islam? Is it a religion for all people or is it only for the Arabs? Who is its prophet, and is there another prophet who will come after him?

Why Should I Embrace Islam?

Some people may ask: Why should I embrace Islam?

The answer is: I must do so for a number of reasons, including the following:

1. Islam is the religion that Allah has approved and chosen for His servants and will not accept any other religion. The Almighty says, "If anyone seeks a religion other than Islam, it will not be accepted from him and he will be among the losers in the hereafter." (Soorat Aal-'Imraan, 3:85).

2. Islam is the religion of all the prophets and commands its adherents to believe in all of them without exception. Allah says, "Say: We believe in Allah and in what He has revealed to us; and in what was revealed to Abraham, Ishmael, Isaac, Jacob, and the prophets from among the descendants of Jacob (the Tribes); and in what was revealed to Moses, Jesus and other prophets. We make no distinction between any of them, and to Him, we fully submit." (Soorat Al-Baqarah, 2:136).

The difference between prophets lies only in the laws relating to people's actions, as the Almighty says, "To each of you have We prescribed a code of law and a way of life." (Soorat Al-Maa'idah, 5:48) That is, for each nation before Islam, Allah appointed a law to which people referred for their disputes and a way of life whereby they drew near to Him. Thus, followers of every prophet had their respective laws and regulations, but the set of beliefs to which prophets called their people was the same. Then Allah sent the last prophet and messenger, Muḥammad ﷺ, with the final divine laws, and thus the only religion acceptable to Allah is Islam.

3. Islam is the way to happiness in this life and salvation in the life to come; therefore, those who believe in Prophet Muḥammad ﷺ and follow him after his message has reached them will be saved; as for those who deny him, they will be doomed to divine punishment. The Almighty says, "If anyone seeks a religion other than Islam, it will not be accepted from him and he will be among the losers in the hereafter." (Soorat Aal-'Imraan, 3:85) The Prophet ﷺ also said, "By Him in whose hand is the soul of Muḥammad, any person of this Community, Jew or Christian, who hears of me and dies without believing in what I have been sent with will be among the dwellers of Hell" (Ṣaḥeeḥ Muslim; No. 153).

4. Islam gives conclusive answers to the big questions of human existence: Where did we come from? Why are we here? Where do we go after death?

5. Islam is in perfect harmony with the innate human nature (*fitrah*), beginning with the greatest value it embraces, namely the declaration of Allah's unity, and ending with the rules of etiquette it teaches its adherents to enable them to attain great perfection in moral excellence.

Discuss



How can Islam be considered the religion of all the prophets?

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Some Distinguishing Characteristics of Islam

Islam is distinguished from other religions by many characteristics, the most prominent of which are:

1 Islam is a Universal Religion

Islam is not only for the Arabs; rather, it is the religion that Allah Almighty has approved for all mankind. Addressing His Messenger Muḥammad ﷺ, the Almighty says, "We have only sent you as a mercy to all the worlds." (Soorat Al-Anbiyaa', 21:107). Thus, Prophet Muḥammad ﷺ is a mercy to all people without exception, guiding them to the path of faith; and, of all laws, his law reflects all aspects of mercy for people.

Note

Islam respects the customs and traditions of all peoples and does not require them to change them unless they contravene any of the teachings of Islam.





2 Islam Wipes out the Sins Committed before It

If a person sincerely embraces Islam, the Most Gracious and the Most Merciful God will forgive him all his past sins, and this is one of the outstanding merits of Islam. The Almighty says to His Prophet ﷺ, **"Tell the unbelievers that if they mend their ways their past shall be forgiven"** (Soorat Al-Anfaal, 8:38). A man once showed interest in Islam, and so he went to the Prophet ﷺ but he stipulated that Allah should forgive him his past sins. The Prophet ﷺ gave him the good news, saying, **"Don't you know that Islam wipes out all the sins committed before it?"** (Reported by Muslim; No. 121).

3 Islam is the Final Religion

Allah Almighty has made Islam an extension of the previous divinely revealed religions and has approved and chosen it for all mankind until the end of the world. Thus, it is the only true religion on the face of the earth. The Almighty says, **"If anyone seeks a religion other than Islam, it will not be accepted from him and he will be among the losers in the hereafter."** (Soorat Aal-'Imraan, 3:85).

Discuss



How would you respond to those who claim that Islam is only for the Arabs?

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Who is the prophet of Islam?

Muslims believe that Muhammad ﷺ is the Last Prophet whom Allah has sent to all mankind to call them to worship Allah alone and to declare that Muhammad is His Last Prophet. Allah Almighty says, "Muhammad is the father of no man among you. He is the Messenger of Allah and the Seal of the Prophets. Allah has knowledge of all things."

(Soorat Al-Ahzaab, 33:40)

Learning Your religion

- A Muslim is required to learn his religion based on sound knowledge in order to worship his Lord properly.
- The Prophet ﷺ urges us to study and understand our religion. He once said, "When Allah wishes to bestow His favour on someone, He makes him understand the religion." (Reported by Al-Bukhaaree; No. 71).
- The Prophet ﷺ states that acquiring religious knowledge leads to Paradise. He once said, "Whoever treads a path in search of knowledge, Allah will ease the way to Paradise for him." (Saheeh Ibn Hibbaan; No. 84).



Additional Reading

To learn more about the biography of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ, read the book *Muhammad ﷺ, the Prophet of Islam*, which is available in Osoul Store in several world languages.



Scan the QR code to download the book



There are numerous books from which a Muslim can learn the rulings of his religion in order to worship his Lord based on sound knowledge. To this end, he must seek the assistance of specialists to show him the best of these books.

The Criterion of Superiority in Islam

Piety is the criterion whereby Allah grants superiority to some over others. Superiority among Muslims can only be attained through strong faith, not one's appearance, lineage, colour, or wealth. Allah Almighty says, "Mankind, We have created you from a male and female, and made you into nations and tribes to know one another. The most honourable of you in the sight of Allah are the most pious of you. Allah is All-Knowing, All-Aware." (Soorat Al-Hjuraat, 49:13).

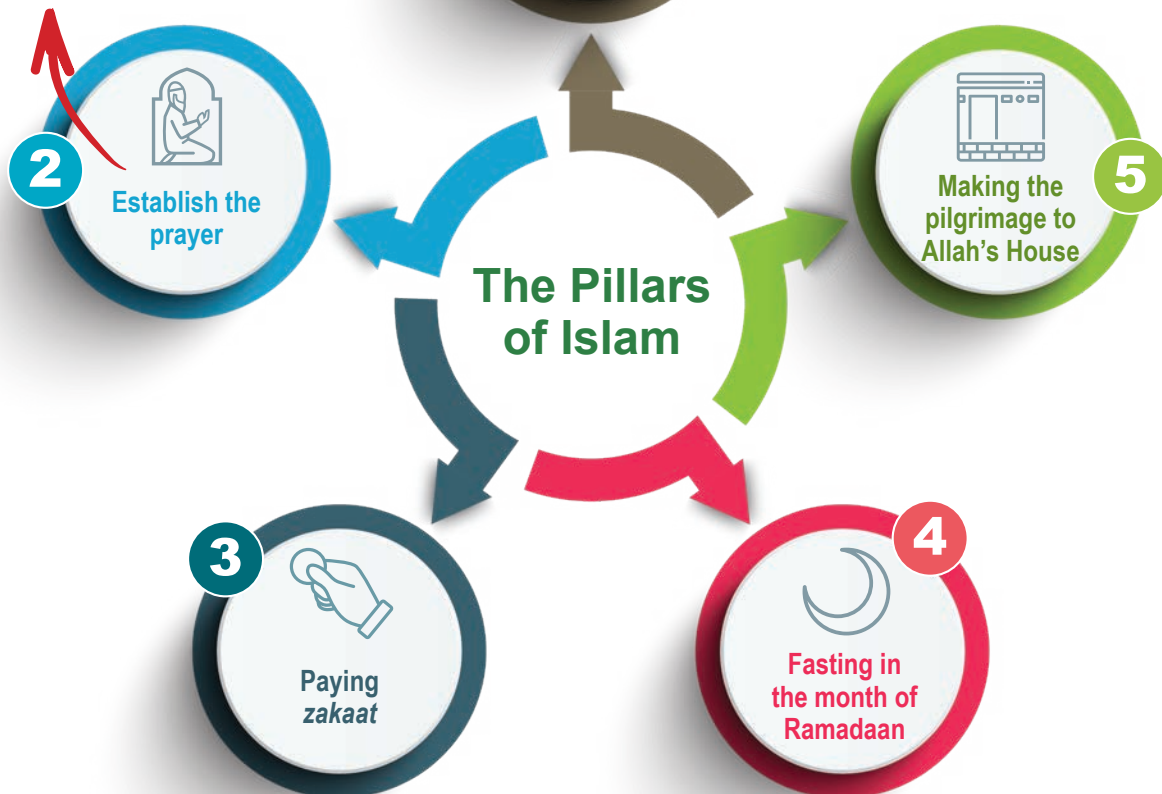
The Prophet ﷺ said: "O people! Your Lord is one and your father [Adam] is one. An Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab, nor does a non-Arab have any superiority over an Arab; a white person has no superiority over a black person, nor does a black person have any superiority over a white person except in piety." (Reported by Al-Bayhaquee in *Shu'ab al-Eemaan*; No. 4774).

The Pillars of Islam

Islam is built on five pillars:

Every Muslim must strictly adhere to these pillars to ensure he is practising Islam in full; negligence in one of these pillars is bound to render the way you practise Islam deficient.

A Muslim must pray five times a day. These prayers will be explained in due course.





Assessment Questions

1

Watch the video entitled "Muslim's new life", and then talk about the aspects of Islam appeal that to you most.

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Scan the QR code to watch the video

2

What are the basics of religion that a Muslim must learn in order to worship Allah Almighty as He has commanded him?

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3

Islam consists of:

- moral instructions
- practical instructions
- theoretical instructions
- all the above

How many pillars does Islam have?

- 6
- 5
- 4
- 3

4

After embracing Islam, by Allah's grace, a person must learn the basics of Islam in order to worship Allah properly.

- True
- False



Lesson 3

How to Become Muslim?

Introduction

One of the most memorable moments of a new Muslim's life must be the moment he joined the fold of Islam by pronouncing the two testimonies of faith. By so doing, he declared to himself before anyone else that he would begin a new chapter in his life and would, from the moment of making such a declaration, take the first steps towards finding the truth and adhering to it. In this lesson, we are going to learn about the two testimonies and their meaning and requirements.

The Two Testimonies of Faith

Allah Almighty has made the declaration of the two testimonies of faith the key to joining the fold of Islam. They are:

- I bear witness that there is no god worthy of worship but Allah,
- and I bear witness that Muḥammad is Allah's Messenger.

What Is the Meaning of the Two Testimonies of Faith?

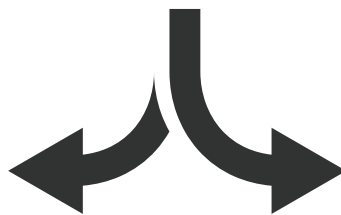
1. The Meaning of the Testimony that There Is no God but Allah

The meaning of "I bear witness that there is no god but Allah" is: I firmly believe that there is no god worthy of worship except Allah alone.

This testimony consists of two parts:

The first part

negates the existence of any other deity besides Allah Almighty



The second part

confirms that Allah is the only True God worthy of worship

Islam is essentially the religion of all the prophets: to worship Allah alone and reject all false deities that are worshipped besides or instead of Him. Allah Almighty, says, **“We never sent a messenger before you, Prophet, without revealing to him: ‘There is no god worthy of worship except Me; therefore, worship Me alone.’”** (*Surat al-Anbiyyaa’, 21:25*).

Therefore, it is not permissible, under any circumstances, to believe in any deity other than Allah Almighty, nor is it permissible to perform any act of worship to draw nearer to anyone other than Allah Almighty.

2. The Meaning of the Testimony that Muhammad is Allah’s Messenger

The meaning of the testimony that Muhammad is Allah’s Messenger is: I firmly believe that Muhammad ﷺ is the Messenger of Allah, that he is the Final Prophet without there being any prophet whatsoever after him, and that his message is for all people without exception. Allah Almighty says: **“Blessed is He who has sent down to His servant the Criterion to distinguish truth from falsehood, so that he may be a warner to all mankind.”** (*Surat Al-Furqaan, 25:1*).



Exercise

After consulting the book entitled *Muhammad ﷺ, the Prophet of Islam*, write down the following identifying information about Allah’s Messenger ﷺ.



Scan the QR code to download the book



His name:

His lineage:

His birth:

His upbringing:

His prophethood:

his migration:

his death:



The Requirements of the Two Testimonies of Faith

It is not enough to verbally declare the two testimonies of faith. In addition to this, it is imperative to know what they mean and to meet their requirements. The testimony that there is no god but Allah requires us to reject everything that is worshipped besides or instead of Allah, to firmly believe that Allah alone is our Lord and Cherisher and the One True God worthy of worship and to worship Him sincerely. Allah Almighty says, **“Whoever rejects false gods and believes in Allah has grasped the Firmest Handhold, which will never give way.”** (Soorat Al-Baqarah, 2:256) The testimony that Muḥammad is the Messenger of Allah requires us to believe what he says, do what he commands and avoid what he forbids and worship Allah only according to his instructions.

Discuss



Why does the testimony that there is no god but Allah require us to reject everything that is worshipped besides or instead of Allah?

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With your partners, discuss the reasons why some people are keen to invent all sorts of gods and invite others to worship them.



One of the rational arguments Prophet Ibraaheem (Abraham), peace be upon him, used against his idolatrous people was: **“How can you worship things you carve with your own hands?”** (Soorat As-Saafaat, 37:95)



Assessment Questions

1

It is enough to be a Muslim if you come to know that Allah is the Creator of the universe.

- True
- False

It is enough to believe that Muḥammad ﷺ is the Messenger of Allah and not obey him.

- True
- False

2

Watch the video entitled "Who is Muḥammad?", and then talk about the aspects of greatness in the personality of Prophet Muḥammad ﷺ and analyse the ways that enemies of Islam use to distort his image.

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Scan the QR code to watch the video

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Browse the webpage <https://jesusandquran.com/en> "Jesus in the Qur'an", and then discuss the relationship of Prophet Muḥammad with Prophet Eesaa (Jesus), peace and blessings be upon them.

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Scan the QR code to watch the video



Lesson 4

Faith

Introduction

A Muslim often experiences peace and tranquillity when he reads or recites the Qur'an or worships Allah Almighty by engaging in prayer or any other act of worship. This good feeling which elevates some to higher levels of happiness and joy is one of the significant effects of faith that motivates Muslims to dedicate all their lives to Allah, comply with His commands cheerfully and out of love and avoid what He forbids in utter submission and obedience. In this lesson, we are going to learn about the concept of faith and its pillars and benefits.

What is Faith?

Faith (*Eemaan* in Arabic) is to confess with one's mouth and believe in one's heart everything that has come from Allah, totally submit to His will, out of love, hope and fear, and translate that into reality. Allah Almighty says, "Believers, believe in Allah and His Messenger and the Book which He has revealed to His Messenger and the Books which He revealed before. Whoever denies Allah, His angels, His Books, His Messengers and the Day of resurrection has indeed strayed far away."

(Soorat An-Nisaa', 4:136)

Discuss



What is the difference between hope and fear?

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The Pillars of Faith

The Muslim faith rests on six pillars, namely:

- 1 **Belief in Allah:** A Muslim believes that Allah Almighty exists and believes in His names and attributes. He equally believes that He is the Lord and sole Creator of this vast universe, to whom belongs everything in it, who manages all its affairs and provides sustenance to all His creation, that there is no god is worthy of worship besides or instead of Him and that He has perfect attributes.
- 2 **Belief in the angels:** A Muslim believes that the honourable angels exist, that it is Allah Almighty who created them and that they worship Him, execute His commands and never disobey Him. He also believes in their attributes and duties which are mentioned in the Book and the Sunnah.
- 3 **Belief in the divinely revealed books:** A Muslim believes that Allah sent down divine books to His Messengers to guide people to the truth and teach them their religion. These include the Torah (*At-Tawraah*) which He revealed to Moses (Moosaa) son of 'Imraan, the Zaboor which He revealed to David (Daawood), the Gospel (*Al-Injeel*) which He revealed to Jesus ('Eesaa) son of Mary and the Qur'an which He revealed to Muḥammad, peace be upon them all. He also believes that the Qur'an is the last of them and that it has final authority over them all.
- 4 **Belief in the prophets:** A Muslim believes that Allah Almighty sent messengers to their people and supported them with miracles to prove their truthfulness. He sent them to give the believers good news of reward, warn the unbelievers of punishment and teach their people their religion. Those to whom they were sent must obey and follow them. Muḥammad ﷺ was the final prophet whom He sent to all mankind.
- 5 **Belief in the Last Day:** A Muslim believes in Resurrection Day. He believes that Allah will raise the dead from their graves on that day and judge and repay them according to their deeds. Some will enter Paradise while others will enter Hell.
- 6 **Belief in the divine decree:** A Muslim believes that everything in this universe, whether good or evil, happens according to Allah's decree, that He foreknows all events which He has already written in the Preserved Tablet, and that everything in this universe happens according to His will.



Shirk

This means the act of holding someone or something as equal to Allah and directing acts of worship to them. It is a grave and an unforgivable sin. The Qur'an says, "Allah does not forgive those who worship others besides Him, but He forgives anything else to whoever He pleases. Whoever associates a partner with Allah has indeed committed a very great sin."

(Soorat An-Nisaa', 4:48).

By the phrase "the Book and Sunnah" is meant the Noble Qur'an and the sayings of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ, as they are the two main sources of legislation in Islam.

Al-Lawh Al-Mahfoodh (the Preserved Tablet) is the book in which Allah has written everything He has decreed for all creation until the Day of Resurrection.



Al-Qadar, or divine decree, refers to the things Allah Almighty has already preordained and His foreknowledge that they will occur at times known only to Him and in a particular manner.

Benefits of Faith

Faith has many benefits, including the following:

- **Peace and tranquillity:** Faith gives the believer tranquillity and reassurance. He submits to Allah's decree, or qadar, and fears none but Allah.
- **Getting to know Allah Almighty:** A believer gets to know his Lord and His names, attributes and actions, so much so that he becomes more attached to Him.
- **Glorying Allah:** the more a believer gets to know his Lord, the more he extols and loves Him, the more he hopes for His mercy and the more God-fearing he becomes.
- **Getting to know Allah's graciousness to His servants:** for sending messengers to them and divine books to them to guide them to the true religion.
- **Loving the angels:** for worshipping Allah and showing obedience to Him.
- **Loving Allah's Messengers:** Allah Almighty chose them to convey His message to people.
- **Diligent worship:** the stronger the faith, the more worship one performs.
- **A truly happy life:** A believer is content with what Allah has apportioned to him and knows that whatever calamities befall him in this world elevate his rank and efface his sins. He also hopes for the bliss He has prepared for the believers in the life to come.
- **Not to be deluded by this world:** The life of this world is temporary and only serves as a means to eternal life in the hereafter.
- **Exposing myths:** Faith exposes and nullifies many myths.
- **Entering Paradise:** This is the abode of eternal bliss which Allah Almighty has prepared for His believing servants.



My Notes

Write down some of the benefits of faith that you have enjoyed after embracing Islam.

Lined area for writing notes.



Assessment Questions

1 Believing in Allah’s messengers means believing that Muḥammad ﷺ was the only prophet.

True False

2 Watch the video entitled “Who is Allah?”, and then talk about the greatness of the Creator.

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 Scan the QR code to watch the video

3 Watch the video entitled “The Six Fundamentals of Faith” and list the benefits that you gain from your belief in each of the six fundamentals, or pillars, of faith.

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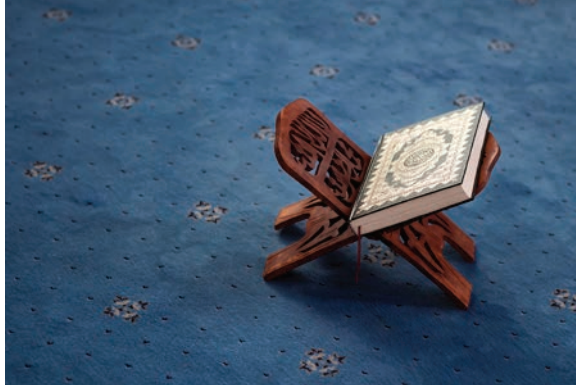
Self-Assessment

	Learning Aim	Self-Evaluation Rating Level			
		No	poor	good	excellent
1	Do you know the answers to the questions about human existence?				
2	Can you explain the meaning of Islam in very simple terms?				
3	Do you know how to become a Muslim?				
4	Do you understand the meaning of the two testimonies of faith?				
5	Can you explain the requirements of the two testimonies of faith?				
6	Do you know the pillars of faith?				
7	Can you explain the meaning of belief in Allah?				
8	Can you explain the meaning of belief in the angels?				
9	Can you explain the meaning of belief in the divinely revealed books?				
10	Can you explain the meaning of belief in the messengers?				
11	Can you explain the meaning of belief in the Last Day?				
12	Can you explain the meaning of belief in divine decree (<i>al-qadar</i>)?				
13	Do you know how to pronounce the two testimonies of faith correctly?				
14	Do you know how a new Muslim can strengthen his faith?				
15	Do you feel the love of Islam in your heart?				



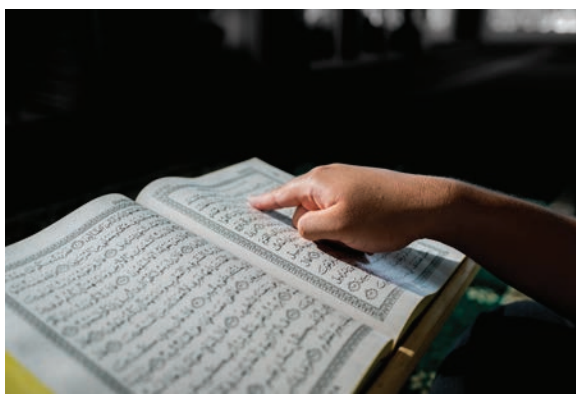
Unit 2

The Holy Qur'an



Unit Lessons

- 1 Learn about the Holy Qur'an
- 2 The Interpretation of Short *Surahs*





Lesson 1

Learn about the Holy Qur'an

Introduction

When Allah sent prophets to their people to call them to the truth, he supported them with some miracles to prove to them that they were true prophets. These miracles, however, ended with the passing of these prophets. As for the Messenger of Islam ﷺ, Allah also furnished him with certain miracles to show his people, and all mankind, for that matter, but the greatest of all of them was His Glorious Book, which He took upon Himself to preserve even after the demise of His prophet ﷺ. In this lesson, we are going to learn about some virtues and etiquette associated with the Qur'an.

What Is the Qur'an?

The Holy Qur'an is the Word of Allah Almighty that He revealed to His Messenger, Muhammad ﷺ. It is the last of Allah's revealed books, and there is no other book after it.

The Virtue of Reading/Reciting the Qur'an

- The Prophet ﷺ said, "If anyone reads/recites one single letter in Allah's Book, he will be credited with a good deed, and a good deed gets a tenfold reward. I do not say that *alif*, *laam*, *meem* are one letter; rather, *alif* is a letter, *laam* is a letter and *meem* is a letter" (Reported by At-Tirmidhee; No. 2910 with an authentic chain of narrators).
- The Prophet ﷺ also said, "Read the Qur'an, for it will come on the Day of Resurrection as an intercessor for those who read it." (Reported by Muslim; No. 804).

The revealed books are the books that Allah Almighty revealed to His prophets. A Muslim believes that these books were revealed by Allah Almighty, and that Allah spoke in them in a manner that befits Him. These books include Az-Zaboor (the Psalms), which He revealed to Daawood (David) ﷺ; At-Tawraat (the Torah), which He revealed to Moosaa (Moses) ﷺ and Al-Injeel (the Gospel), which He revealed to Jesus, ﷺ. All these books have undergone alteration and corruption through the ages.

The Qur'an is Food for the Soul and Mind

The Holy Qur'an addresses both people's minds and souls. It addresses the mind by:

- encouraging them to use logical reasoning on the various issues. The Almighty says, "Were there other gods in heaven or earth besides Allah, both heaven and earth would be corrupted. Exalted be Allah, Lord of the Throne, above their falsehoods" (Soorat Al-Anbiyyaa', 21:22).
- calling them to exercise their intellects and contemplate His signs and the proofs of His power. The Almighty says, "Thus does Allah make plain to you His signs so that you may reflect" (Soorat Al-Baqarah, 2:219).
- reproving those who do not use their intellects to reflect on His signs. The Almighty says, "Or do you think that most of them listen or ponder? They are only like brutes; indeed, they are far worse!" (Soorat Al-Furqaan, 25: 44).

It also addresses the soul and emotions by:

- spotlighting and depicting human feelings in many cases. The Almighty says, "Some people set up equals to Allah, loving them as they should love Allah. But those who believe have a greater love for Allah" (Soorat Al-Baqarah, 2:165).
- calling attention to human emotions and pointing out their good and bad effects. The Almighty says, "You will surely find that the most hostile of people to the believers are the Jews and the idolaters; and you will surely find that the nearest in affection to the believers are those who say, 'We are Christians.' That is because there are priests and monks among them; and because they are free from pride" (Soorat Al-Maa'idah, 5:82).
- commanding Muslims to exercise kindness and gentleness when inviting others to Islam. The Almighty says, "Call to the way of your Lord with wisdom and fair admonition, and argue with them in the kindest way" (Soorat An-Nahl, 16: 125).
- incorporating aspects of faith into verses on legal rules. The Almighty says, "You, too, were once in the same condition, but Allah has been gracious to you" (Soorat An-Nisaa', 4:94).
- using moving words that evoke genuine emotions. The Almighty says, "Do you not wish Allah to forgive you?" (Soorat An-Noor, 24:22).

It may at times address the mind and the soul at the same time in one single verse which not only convinces the mind through logical reasoning but also arouses human passions. The Almighty says, "People! Remember the blessings Allah has bestowed upon you. Is there any creator other than Allah who can give you sustenance from the heavens and the earth? There is no god but He. How, then, are you deluded from the truth?" (Soorat Faatir, 35:3).

Discuss



What Qur'anic verses did you read before your conversion to Islam? How did they affect you?

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The Qur'an is a Way of Life

The Holy Qur'an is the Word of the Lord of all the worlds, who has created all mankind, knows them better than they know themselves and knows what benefits them and what harms them, hence the reason why Allah Almighty has made the Qur'an, which was the last of His revealed books, a didactic book which maps out a way of life for people, as evidenced by the following points:



The Holy Qur'an maps out the way of life for people and defines and explains to them their rights and obligations with great flexibility, making its laws valid for all times and places.

- It deals with human life extensively, taking into account its three intrinsic spheres: personal life, family life and community life.
- Its deals with a wide array of matters, including, among other things, beliefs, acts of worship, customs, social and financial relations, man's mental, emotional and physical states, international relations and peace and war.
- It promotes justice under all circumstances, even when dealing with enemies, and forbids injustice in all its forms.



A Muslim should be keen on reading/reciting the Holy Qur'an and studying the rules it prescribes.

Stories of the Prophets in the Qur'an

The Holy Qur'an is replete with stories of the previous prophets and their people, starting with Adam, and passing through Noah, Hud, Saalih, Shu'ayb, Abraham, Ishmael, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, Jesus, and other prophets and messengers, peace be upon them all. The Holy Qur'an mentions their stories for a number of reasons, including the following:

- to show that the religion of all the prophets is, in essence, the same and that its basis is to worship Allah Almighty alone.
- to give solace to Prophet Muḥammad ﷺ and make him stand firm and steadfast, reminding him that prophets before him suffered the same hardships he himself was experiencing.
- to give comfort and solace to the believers, reminding them that even Allah's honourable servants before them were afflicted with trials and tribulations.
- to afford people the opportunity to learn lessons from such true stories.



Exercise

Place each of the following phrases under the relevant heading.

intercedes for those who read it

the Word of Allah

commands exercising kindness and gentleness and calling others to Islam

calls to using one's intellect

uses moving words

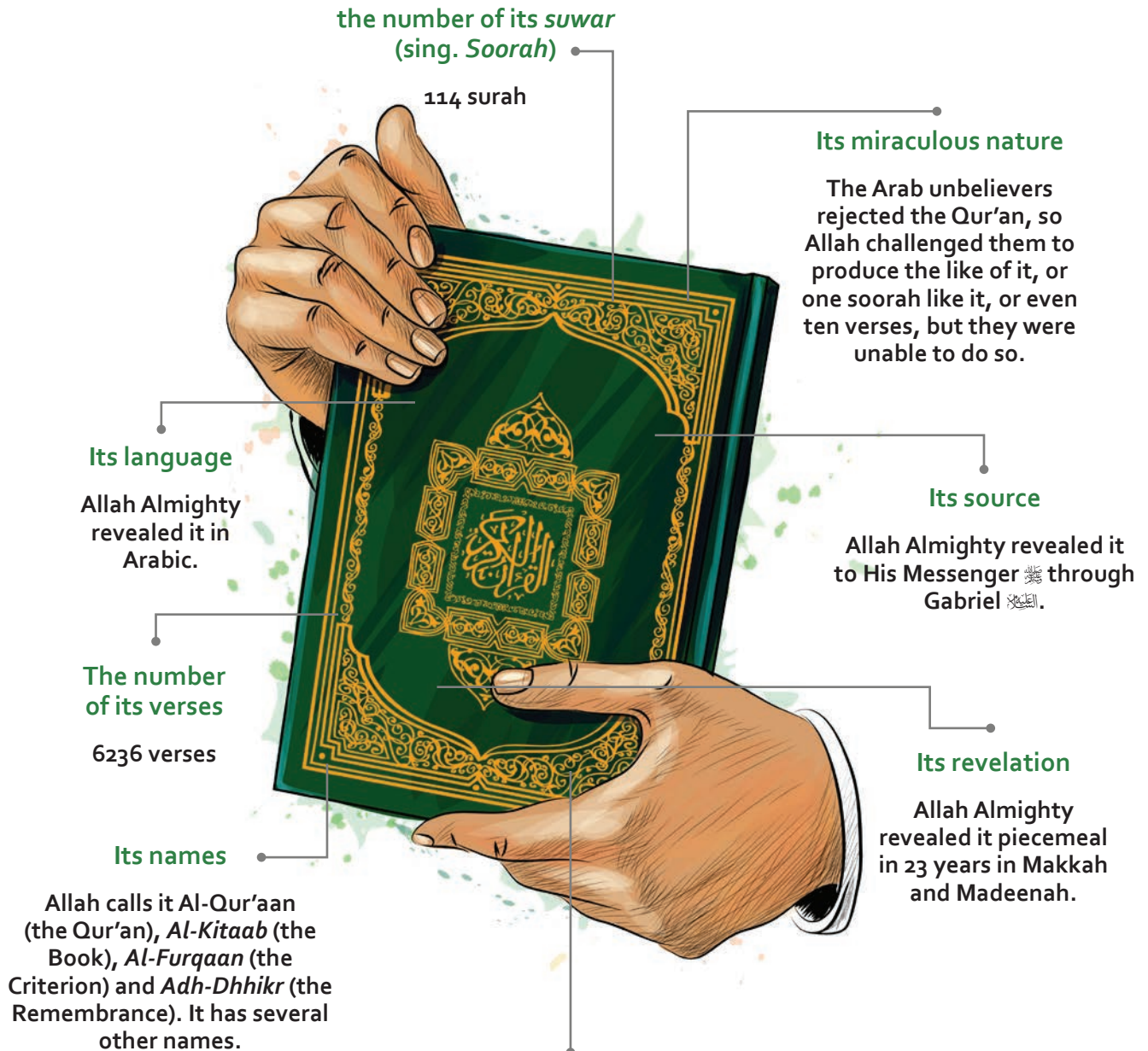
the final revealed divine book

was revealed to Prophet Muḥammad ﷺ

Some characteristics of the Qur'an:

Some virtues of the Qur'an:

The Holy Qur'an



Its Major Themes

The most important themes the Holy Qur'an deals with include:

- Allah's unity and the refutation of associating partners with Him
- The universe, whose perfect creation bears witness to its Creator, Exalted be He.
- Qura'nic stories, which are replete with lessons and admonitions.
- The beginning of creation and the resurrection on Judgement Day, when Allah will repay all according to their deeds.
- Enlightening the believers and laying down laws for them



Assessment Questions

1

The Qur'an addresses the mind by encouraging people to use logical reasoning on the various issues

True

False

2

Why did Allah send down the Qur'an?

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Browse the website "alnaba.ws", then provide some evidence of the truth and authenticity of the Qur'an, citing some aspects of its miraculous nature.

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Allah revealed the Qur'an to:

a) all the prophets

b) Muhammad ﷺ



Lesson 2

The Interpretation of Short Surahs

Introduction

Soorat Al-Faatiḥah is the greatest *soorah* in the Qur'an. The Messenger of Allah ﷺ emphasized its virtues and greatness in many of his sayings. It is the *soorah* that every Muslim must learn by heart because it is the only *soorah* that he must recite in every single prayer. In this lesson, we are going to study this *soorah*, memorize its verses and understand its meanings, in addition to studying several other short *suwar* (sing, *soorah*) that have great significance.

Soorat Al-Faatiḥah (The Opening)

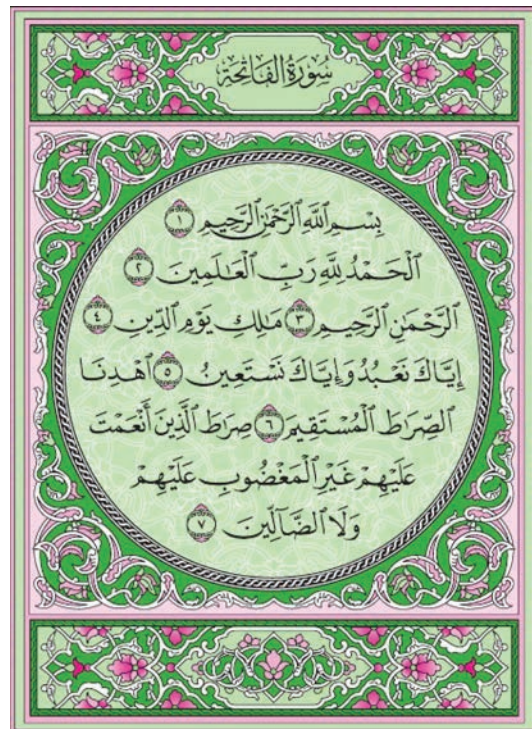
Soorat Al-Faatiḥah Explained

"In the name of Allah, the All-Compassionate, the All-Merciful"

I begin reading the Qur'an in the name of Allah, seeking the help of Allah, the True Deity, the All-Compassionate, whose mercy encompasses all creation in general, the All-Merciful, who bestows His special mercy to the believers.

"Praise be to Allah, Lord of all the worlds"

All praise is due to Allah for His perfect attributes and for His grace towards all His creation. He alone is worthy of all forms of praise and is the Lord of all creation, who has created all that exists out of absolutely nothing, who manages all their affairs and improves their condition.



“The All-Compassionate, the All-Merciful”

Ar-Rahmaan: The All-Gracious whose mercy encompasses all His creation; Ar-Raheem: The All-Merciful who bestows His special mercy to the believers.



The All-Gracious towards all His creation



The All-Merciful towards the believers in particular

“Master of the Day of Judgement” Owner of the Day of Judgement, the day He will judge everyone and repay them according to their deeds.

“You alone do we worship and You alone do we ask for help” We worship You alone, our Lord, and we seek help from You alone in all our affairs, for indeed all matters are in Your hands.

“Guide us to the straight path” Show us the straight path and make us firm on it until we meet You. The straight path here is Islam, the clear path that leads to Allah’s good pleasure and to His Gardens in Paradise.

“The path of those whom You have blessed, not of those who have incurred Your wrath, nor of those who have gone astray”

It is the path of those whom You have blessed with guidance from among the prophets and their supporters, and those who follow in their footsteps—These are the ones who have been rightly guided.

Keep us away from the path of those with whom you are angry because they know the truth but choose not to follow it. Also, keep us away from the path of those who have not been guided to the straight path due to their ignorance.

Discuss



What are the means of memorizing *Soorat Al-Faatihah*?

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Soorat Al-Ikhlāas (Purity of Faith)

Soorat Al-Ikhlāas Explained

“Say: He is Allah, the One and Only”

Say, Messenger, to those who ask you about your Lord: He is Allah, the One and Only Lord and God, besides whom there is no deity deserving of worship.

“Allah, the Everlasting Sustainer of all”

He is Allah, the Eternal and Absolute God with perfect attributes, to whom all creation turns to fulfil their needs, while He stands in need of none.

“He has not begotten anyone, nor was He Himself begotten by anyone”

He is Allah, who has no offspring whatsoever, neither son nor daughter, and He has no parents, neither father nor mother.

“And none is equal to Him”

And there is no one and nothing among His creation that resembles Him in any way whatsoever with regard to His being, names attributes or actions.



Soorat Al-Falaq (The Day-break)

Soorat Al-Falaq Explained

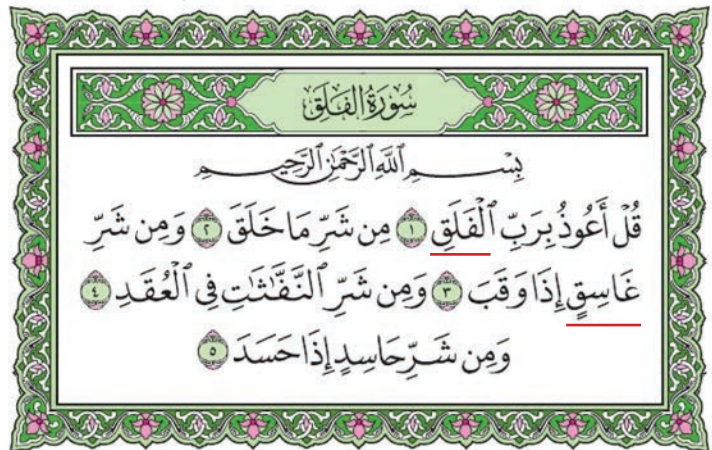
“Say: I seek refuge in the Lord of the daybreak” Say, Messenger: I seek refuge and protection in Allah, the Lord of the daybreak.

“from the evil of what He has created”

from the evil of everything He has created, visible and invisible.

“and from the evil of the night when it spreads its darkness”

and from the evil of the night when it comes and grows dark, and of whatever evil and harm that may happen in it.



Al-ghasaq: the intense darkness of the night



Al-falaq: the daybreak

“and from the evil of those who blow on knots”

and from the evil of those witches who blow on knots when they practise magic.

“and from the evil of the envier when he envies”

and from the evil of an envier who wishes for blessings to be removed from those they envy and for harm to come to them.

Soorat An-Naas (Mankind)

Soorat An-Naas Explained

“Say: I seek refuge in the Lord of mankind”

Say, Messenger, “I seek refuge and protection in Allah, the Lord of all mankind, who alone has power over all things.

“the King of mankind”

The King of all people, who manages all their affairs.

“the God of mankind”

The True God of all people, who alone deserves to be worshipped by them.

“from the evil of the slinking whisperer”

from the harm of Satan who whispers evil suggestions to people when they are heedless of Allah and refrains from doing so when they remember Him.

“who whispers into the hearts of mankind”

who whispers evil suggestions and thoughts into people’s chests and controls their feelings and thoughts.

“from among the jinn and mankind”

from the devils among the jinn and mankind.



Soorat Al-Kaafiroon (Tishe Unbelievers)

Soorat Al-Kaafiroon Explained

“Say: Unbelievers!”

Say, Messenger, to those who disbelieve in Allah and His Messenger: You unbelievers.

“I do not worship what you worship”

I do not worship the false gods, such as idols, that you worship.

“nor do you worship what I worship”

nor do you worship the True God whom I worship, and who alone is worthy of worship.

“I will never worship what you worship”

I will never worship the false gods that you worship.

“nor will you ever worship what I worship”

nor will you ever worship the True God whom I worship, and who alone is worthy of worship.

“You have your religion, and I have my religion”

You have your religion to which you adhere, and I have my religion to which I adhere.



Al-kaafir: The person who does not proclaim pure monotheism and does not follow the divine message Prophet Muhammad ﷺ has brought.

Discuss



What is the theme that is highlighted in *Soorat Al-Ikhlāṣ* and *Soorat Al-Kaafiroon*?

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Soorat Al-Kawthar (Abundant Good)

Soorat Al-Kawthar Explained

“We have bestowed on you abundant good”

We have given you, Messenger, immeasurable, abundant good in this life and the life to come, part of which is River Al-Kawthar in Paradise.

“So pray to your Lord and sacrifice to Him”

Therefore, sincerely pray to your Lord and worship Him alone, and sacrifice to Him, pronouncing Allah’s name alone when slaughtering animals, in gratitude to Him for the honour and good He has bestowed on you.

“He who hates you is the one who is truly cut off”

The one who hates you and hates the true religion you have brought is the most disgraced and contemptible, whose mention is short-lived and who is cut off from all good.



Shaan'i'aka: The one who hates you and hates the true religion you have brought.

Soorat Al-'Asr (The Time)

Soorat Al-'Asr Explained

“By the time”

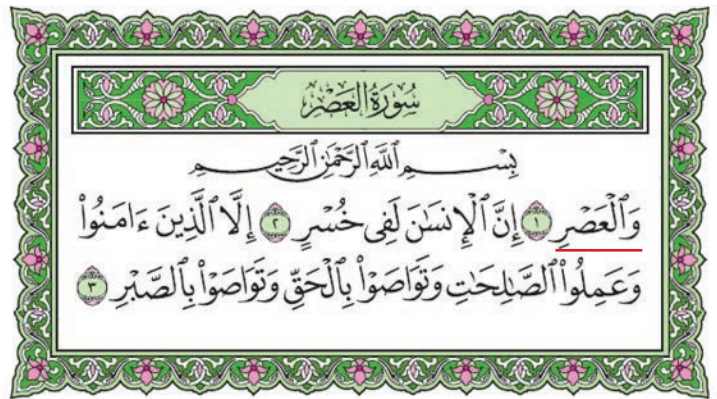
Allah swears by the time in which people’s good and evil deeds take place.

“Truly man is in loss”

Mankind is indeed in sheer loss and ruin,

“except for those who believe and do good works; who exhort each other to justice and to fortitude”

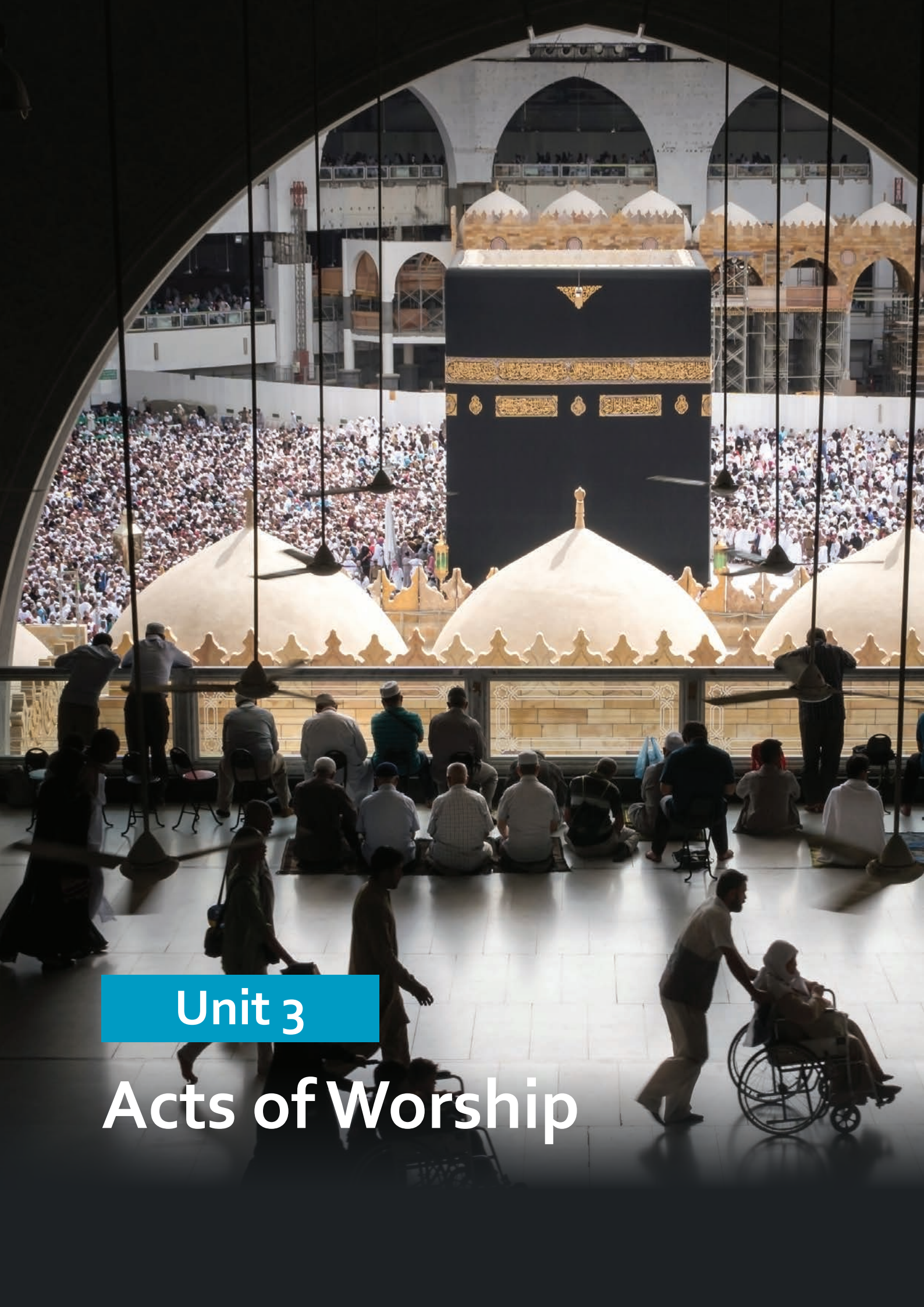
except for those who believe in Allah, do righteous deeds, and urge one another to adhere to the truth and to be patient and steadfast in doing so.



Self-Assessment

	Learning Aim	Self-Evaluation Rating Level			
		No	poor	good	excellent
1	Do you know what the Qur'an is?				
2	Do you know the relationship between the Qur'an and life?				
3	Do you know why Allah recounts stories of the prophets in the Qur'an?				
4	Do you understand the overall meaning of <i>Soorat Al-Faatihah</i> ?				
5	Do you understand the overall meaning of <i>Soorat Al-Ikhlaas</i> ?				
6	Do you understand the overall meaning of <i>Soorat Al-Falaq</i> ?				
7	Do you understand the overall meaning of <i>Soorat An-Naas</i> ?				
8	Do you understand the overall meaning of <i>Soorat Al-Kaafiroon</i> ?				
9	Do you understand the overall meaning of <i>Soorat Al-Kawthar</i> ?				
10	Do you understand the overall meaning of <i>Soorat Al-'Asr</i> ?				
11	Can you read <i>Soorat Al-Faatihah</i> correctly?				
12	Have you managed to memorize <i>Soorat Al-Faatihah</i> ?				
13	Can you read <i>Soorat Al-Ikhlaas</i> correctly?				

	Learning Aim	Self-Evaluation Rating Level			
		No	poor	good	excellent
14	Have you managed to memorize <i>Soorat Al-Ikhlaas</i> ?				
15	Can you read <i>Soorat Al-Falaq</i> correctly?				
16	Have you managed to memorize <i>Soorat Al-Falaq</i> ?				
17	Can you read <i>Soorat An-Naas</i> correctly?				
18	Have you managed to memorize <i>Soorat An-Naas</i> ?				
19	Can you read <i>Soorat Al-Kaafirun</i> correctly?				
20	Have you managed to memorize <i>Soorat Al-Kaafiroon</i> ?				
21	Can you read <i>Soorat Al-Kawthar</i> correctly?				
22	Have you managed to memorize <i>Soorat Al-Kawthar</i> ?				
23	Can you read <i>Soorat Al-'Asr</i> correctly?				
24	Have you managed to memorize <i>Soorat Al-'Asr</i> ?				
25	Do you appreciate the real significance of the <i>suwar</i> (sing. <i>soorah</i>) that you have studied?				



Unit 3

Acts of Worship



Unit Lessons

- 1 Worship
- 2 Purification
- 3 *Wudoo'* (Partial Ablutions)
- 4 *Ghusl* (Full Ablutions/Bath)
- 5 Islamic Rulings Pertaining to Muslim Women
- 6 The Prayer
- 7 *Zakaat*
- 8 Fasting
- 9 *Hajj* (The Pilgrimage)





Lesson 1

Worship

Introduction

In his life, a Muslim performs a number of acts of worship whereby he draws closer to his Creator, Glory is to Him. We do such acts to glorify Allah Almighty and submit to Him alone. The more a Muslim's heart glorifies Allah, Exalted be He, the greater the effect of doing so is on his worship. A true Muslim dedicates all life, including the time he spends at work, sleeping and having fun, to Allah Almighty, bearing in mind the verse: "Say: My prayers, my ritual sacrifice, my life and my death are all for Allah, the Lord of all the worlds, who alone is deserving of worship. Thus have I been commanded, and I am the first of the Muslims to submit to Him." (Soorat Al-An'aam, 6:162-163) In this lesson, we are going to learn about the meaning of worship, its types, the conditions that must be met for it to be accepted, and its levels.

The Meaning of Worship

By worship is meant everything that Allah has enjoined on us for us to draw closer to Him. It comprises all words and deeds that Allah loves, whether they are outward like the physical acts of worship, such as the prayer and pilgrimage, or inward, like the acts of worship involving the heart, such as love of Allah, fearing His punishment and hoping for His mercy. A person can transform everyday habits into acts of worship simply by having a good intention. If, for instance, he eats, drinks and sleeps with the intention of gaining enough strength to worship Allah better, he will certainly be rewarded for doing so

Types of Acts of Worship

Acts of worship fall into different categories:



Acts of worship involving the heart

A Muslim performs these with his heart. Examples include love, fear, hope and khushoo'.

Ar-Rajaa' (Hope): This refers to rejoicing in Allah's grace and hoping for His benevolence, while at the same time ensuring proper reliance on Allah by doing good deeds to the best of one's ability.



Physical acts of worship

A Muslim performs these physically. Examples include the prayer, *zakaat* and pilgrimage.

Al-khushoo' is a state of utter humility and calmness and deep concentration into which one gets while performing an act of worship, such as the prayer, bringing about outward composure and tranquillity.



Acts that are abandoned in obedience to Allah

A Muslim draws closer to his Lord by abandoning the acts He has forbidden him, such as drinking alcohol and committing adultery, or by refraining from certain permissible acts at specific times, such as abstaining from food and drink while fasting.

Ariyyaa' (showing off) is the act of doing an act of worship only to be seen and praised by people for doing it.

Conditions for Acts of Worship to Be Accepted

For an act of worship to be accepted, two conditions must be fulfilled:

The first condition: It has to be done sincerely for the sake of Allah to draw closer to alone, without showing off.

The second condition: It has to be done in the manner Allah has enjoined it and exactly as it was performed by the Prophet ﷺ.

Discuss



What will a person who shows off his acts of worship lose by not intending to do them for the sake of Allah?

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Levels of Worship

Acts of worship fall into various levels.

- Some of them must be done by every Muslim, such as the prayer;
- some of them must be performed only by some Muslims, such as *zakaat*, which only the rich must pay;
- and some are only recommended and not obligatory, such as the forms of remembering Allah and the supplications that are recited after the prayer.



Exercise

Place each of the following acts of worship in its appropriate category according to its level in Islam:

reciting the morning forms of remembering Allah

the 'Asr (late afternoon) prayer

the pilgrimage

honouring one's parents

zakaat

fasting Ramadaan

must be performed by every Muslim:

must be performed only by some Muslims:

recommended but not obligatory:



Assessment Questions

- 1** Watch the video entitled “Why do I surrender to Allah?”, and then talk about the benefits that a Muslim obtains by focusing on the will of Allah alone and devoting all his actions solely to Him.

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Scan the QR code to watch the video

- 2** For good deeds to be accepted, they must be done purely for Allah’s sake and in accordance with His laws.

True False



Lesson 2

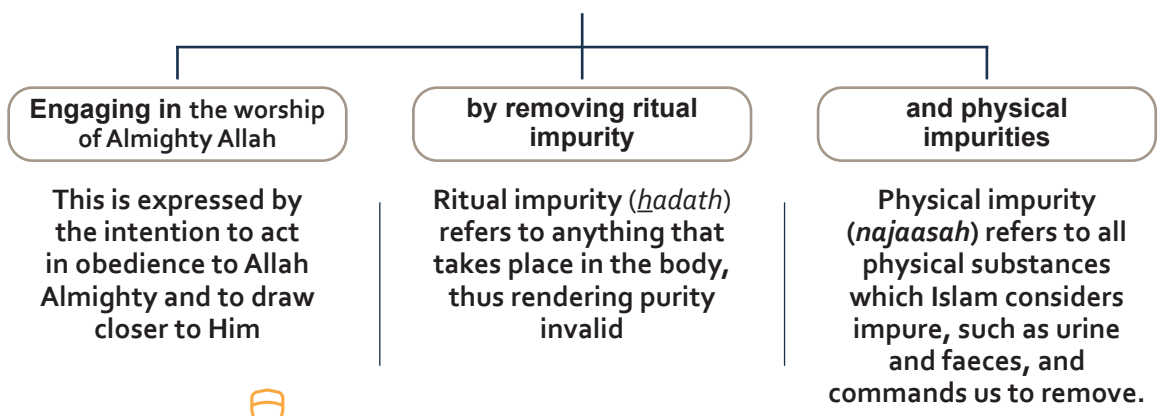
Purification

Introduction

Islam enjoins purity and cleanliness on its adherents and stresses that they must take good care of their personal hygiene and considers this matter one of the apparent rituals of religion and a requisite for the validity of many acts of worship. Indeed, observing purity and cleanliness is one of the characteristics of believers, which distinguishes them from others. In this lesson, we are going to learn the meaning of purity, its types, and some rulings on it.

The Meaning of Purification

Purification



Additional Reading

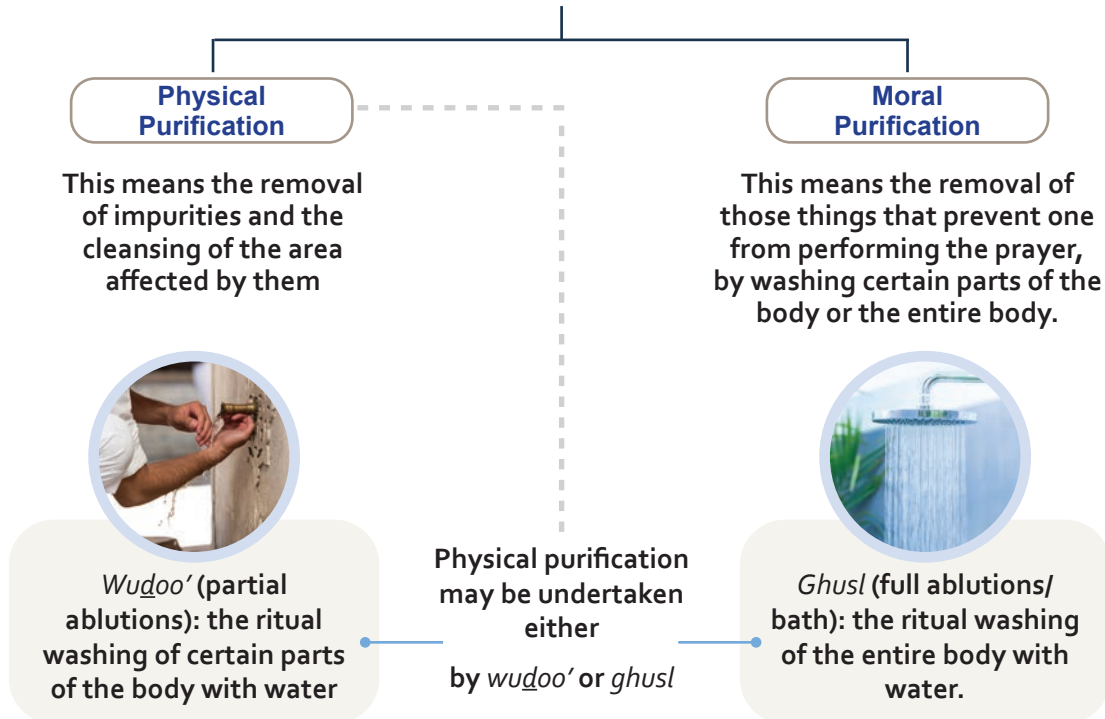
To learn more about the Islamic rulings on purity, which is available at Osoul Store in several world languages.



Scan the QR code to download the book

Types of Purification

Purification falls into two types:



Purification must be undertaken with pure water, such as seawater, river water, well water, or any other water that has not been mixed with impurity.



Certain Rulings on Purification

- It is a general Islamic rule that things are naturally clean and pure unless stated otherwise by Islam.
- It would suffice to cleanse the body or clothing of impurities by removing them with water or any cleaning substance that would serve the purpose.
- It would be better for a person who uses the toilet to cleanse the place of urine and faeces with water. It is also permissible for him to cleanse himself with tissues or any other material that serves to remove impurity.

Discuss



Islam stresses the necessity of maintaining personal hygiene. What does this indicate?

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Assessment Questions

Choose the correct answer

1

Purification means:

- A. removing ritual impurity (*hadath*)
- B. removing physical impurity (*najaasah*)
- C. all the above

2

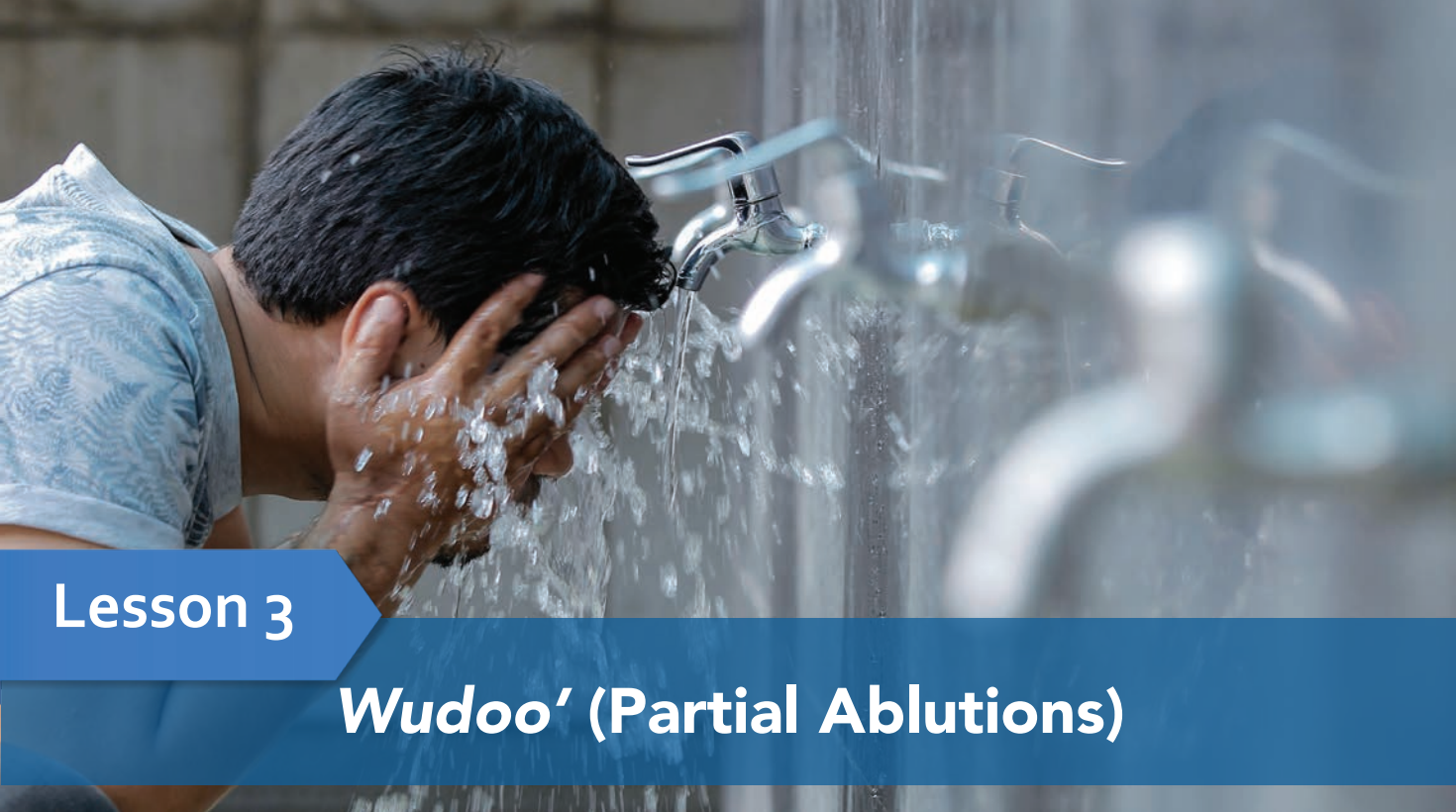
Washing the whole body with water is called:

- A. *wuḍoo'*
- B. *ghusl*
- C. *tayammum* (dry ablutions)

3

Purification is, generally speaking, of two types:

- A. physical and moral purification
- B. *wuḍoo'* and *tayammum*
- C. *wuḍoo'* and *ghusl*



Lesson 3

Wudoo' (Partial Ablutions)

Introduction

Wudoo' is very important in Islam because it is closely connected with the ritual prayer, which is itself the greatest ritual in Islam, hence the importance of learning it and performing it correctly. In this lesson, we are going to learn about the meaning of *wudoo'*, things that require us to perform it, things that make it invalid, and the proper manner of performing it.

The Meaning of *Wudoo'*

Wudoo': The ritual of washing the face, hands, and feet, and wiping over the head in a specific manner.

Things Which Require Us to Perform *Wudoo'*:

These are those things for which *wudoo'* is necessary and must be performed before engaging in them and which we are forbidden to do once *wudoo'* is broken. They are:

Hadath: This is the state of having our ablutions broken and thus prevents us from performing the prayer before purifying ourselves. It is of two types: one requires us to perform only partial ablutions (*wudoo'*) to remove it, and the other requires us to perform full ablutions (*ghusl*).



1 the prayer



2 circumambulation around the Ka'bah (*tawaaf*)



3 touching the Qur'an

The Manner of Performing *Wudoo'*

If a Muslim wants to perform his ablutions (*wudoo'*), he must do the following:

1

He intends in his heart to perform *wudoo'* and says, *bismillaah* "In the name of Allah".



2



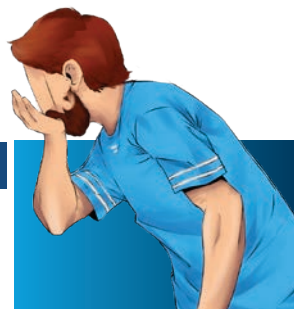
He washes his hands up to the wrists with water.

3



He rinses out his mouth thoroughly by moving water around in the mouth and then spitting it out. This process is called *madmadah* in Arabic.

4



He cleans his nose by sniffing water into the nostrils and ejecting it out by blowing his nose.

5



He washes his face thoroughly from the hairline at the top of the forehead to the bottom of the chin, along with the beard, if he is bearded, and from ear to ear.

6



He washes his hands from the fingertips up to the elbow, starting with his right hand.

7



With wet hands, and starting with his hands flat on the top of the head near the hairline, he wipes it to the back of the neck and back to the front.

8



With wet fingers, he wipes. He wipes the inner sides of the ears with his index fingers and behind them with his thumbs.

9



He washes his feet up to the ankles, which are the two prominent bones of the joint connecting the foot to the leg, starting with his right foot.



How Many Times Do We Wash the Parts of the Body that Are Usually Washed in *Wudoo'*?

According to the *Sunnah*, each part of the body is washed three times, except in the case of the head and ears, which are wiped only once. It would suffice, however, to wash these body parts once provided that they are washed thoroughly.

Things That Render *Wudoo'* Invalid

Wudoo' becomes invalid as a result of four things:

- Natural discharges from the private parts (both the external genital and excretory organs), such as urine, excrement, wind, semen and the clear, colourless, viscous fluid that is emitted during sexual arousal
- Loss of consciousness due to sleep or intoxication
- Lustfully touching the private parts with bare hands
- Eating camel meat

Additional Reading 

Watch this video material, produced by Osoul Centre, about the manner of performing one's ablutions.



Scan the QR code to watch the video

Discuss



List some of the means which help us learn *wudoo'* and perform it properly.

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When do I have to perform *wudoo'* again?

If a Muslim performs *wudoo'*, the general rule is that his *wudoo'* is still valid unless one of the previously-mentioned things that break *wudoo'* happens, in which case he must perform it again.



Exercise

Place each of the following words or phrases under the relevant heading.

touching the Qur'aan

passing urine

the prayer

sleep

lustfully touching the private parts

circumambulation around the Ka'bah (tawaaf)

eating camel meat

One must perform *wudoo'* before doing this:

Things that render *wudoo'* invalid:



Wiping over the Socks

If a person wants to perform *wudoo'* while he has his socks on, he is allowed to just wipe over the top of them with wet hands, and there is no need to take them off and wash the feet. Three conditions are required for this:

First

He must be in a state of purity before putting them on.

Second

The socks must cover the feet along with the ankles.

Third

The period of wiping over them must not exceed 24 hours for a resident and 72 hours for a traveller.





Assessment Questions

Choose the correct answer

- 1** Rearrange the following phrase in the proper sequence to perform *wuḍoo'*:
- a) wiping over the head
 - b) rinsing out the mouth
 - c) washing the face
 - d) wiping the ears
 - e) washing the feet
 - f) washing the hands

- 2** Identify the acts of worship for which *wuḍoo'* is required:
- a) the prayer
 - b) fasting
 - c) touching the Qur'aan
 - d) the call to prayer
 - e) circumambulation around the Ka'bah (*tawaaqf*)

- 3** Choose the correct answer.
The total number of those things that render *wuḍoo'* invalid is:
- 2
 - 3
 - 4



Lesson 4

Ghusl (Full Ablutions/Bath)

Introduction

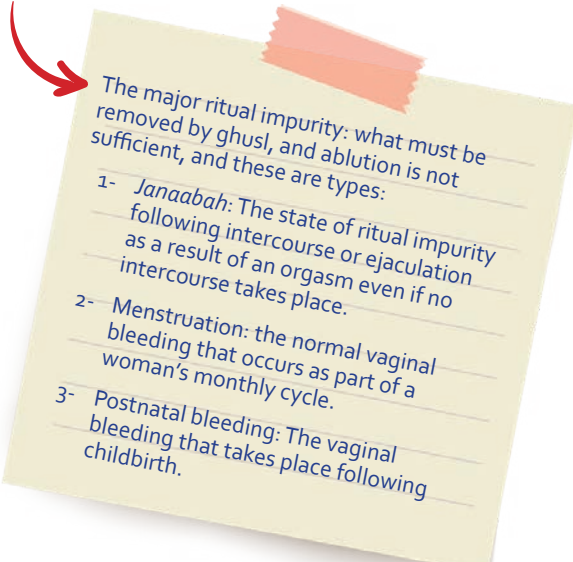
There are some cases where *wudoo'* is not sufficient to perform an act of worship, but *ghusl* is required. In this lesson, we are going to learn about the meaning of *ghusl*, the reasons for performing it, as well as how to perform it.

The Meaning of *Ghusl*

Ghusl: Washing the entire body with water to remove the major ritual impurity.

How to Perform *Ghusl*?

To perform *ghusl*, one must wash the entire body with water, rinse out one's mouth and clean one's nose by sniffing water into the nostrils and ejecting it out by blowing one's nose. A Muslim removes the major ritual impurity by simply doing so.



The major ritual impurity: what must be removed by *ghusl*, and ablution is not sufficient, and these are types:

- 1- *Janaabah*: The state of ritual impurity following intercourse or ejaculation as a result of an orgasm even if no intercourse takes place.
- 2- Menstruation: the normal vaginal bleeding that occurs as part of a woman's monthly cycle.
- 3- Postnatal bleeding: The vaginal bleeding that takes place following childbirth.

The Manner of Performing the Full Ritual Bath (*Ghusl*)

If a Muslim wants to perform *ghusl*, he must do the following:

- 1 He intends in his heart to perform *ghusl* and washes out his private parts with water.
- 2 He performs *wudoo'* like the one he performs before the prayer.
- 3 He washes his entire body with water.

When Does It Become Necessary to Perform *Ghusl*?

A Muslim must perform *ghusl* in three cases:

First Case

Ejaculation as a result of an orgasm, whether one is awake or asleep

Second Case

Intercourse, whether or not ejaculation takes place.

Third Case

Menstruation or post-natal bleeding: Once such bleeding stops, a woman must perform *ghusl*.

Discuss



What, in your opinion, does removing the major ritual impurity indicate?

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Things That a Person Who Is in a State of *Jannabah* Must Not Do

The state into which a person gets following intercourse or ejaculation and because of which he must perform *ghust* is called *janaabah*, and he is described as *junub*. In this case, he is not allowed to do the following:



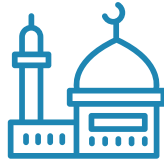
1 perform the prayer



2 circumambulate the Ka'bah (*tawaaf*)



3 touch or carry the Qur'an



4 stay in the mosque

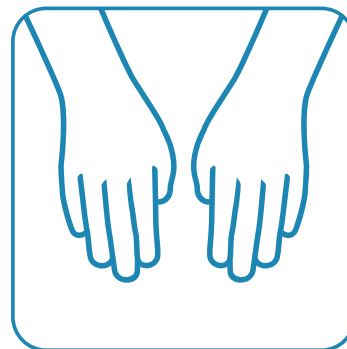


5 read the Qur'an

Tayammum (Dry Ablution)

If a person who wants to perform *wudoo'* or *ghusl* is unable to do so due to illness, or when water is not readily available, or for any other legitimate reason, he may resort to dry ablution (*tayammum*) instead.

The Manner of Performing *Tayammum*: (1) Intend in his heart to perform *tayammum* and strike both hands slightly on pure earth once, (2) wipe the face with them, (3) wipe the back of the right hand with the palm of the left, and then the back of the left hand with the palm of the right hand.



What shall I do if I find water after having performed *tayammum*?

If a Muslim finds water or can use it, his purity becomes invalid, in which case he must perform *wudoo'* or *ghusl*.



Assessment Questions

1

For one's *ghusl* to be correct and serves to remove the major ritual impurity, the entire body must be washed with water.

- True False

Ghusl is not required following ejaculation whether one is awake or asleep.

- True False

It is not permissible for a person who is *junub* to stay in the mosque.

- True False

2

A Muslim is allowed to perform *tayammum* when:

- A- he is unable to use water
 B- he cannot find water
 C- all the above



Lesson 5

Islamic Rulings Pertaining to Muslim Women

Introduction

Allah Almighty has bestowed some characteristics on women that distinguish them from men and enjoined on them certain acts of worship to the exclusion of men. In this lesson, we are going to learn about some rulings that pertain to Muslim women.

The Position of Women in Islam

Examples of rulings that honour and show respect to women in Islam:

- Islam has granted women the right to inheritance, allocating them equitable shares with men, which sometimes differ under certain circumstances depending on their relationship with others and the financial obligations they have to discharge. While men support the family as a matter of religious obligation, women are not obliged to spend anything at all.
- It has established total equality between men and women in numerous matters including financial transactions.
- It has granted them the right to choose their own husbands.
- It has granted them the right to retain their maiden names. In Islam, a woman does not change her surname to that of her husband upon marriage; rather, she retains her maiden name, and thus her independent personality.
- It has made it the husband's duty to spend on those women entitled to his support, such as his wife, mother and daughters, without attempting in the least to remind them of his favours.
- It stresses the importance of helping weak and vulnerable women who are in need of support, even if they are not one's relatives, and urges its adherents to engage in such a noble act, which it considers one of the meritorious deeds in the sight of Allah.

Additional Reading



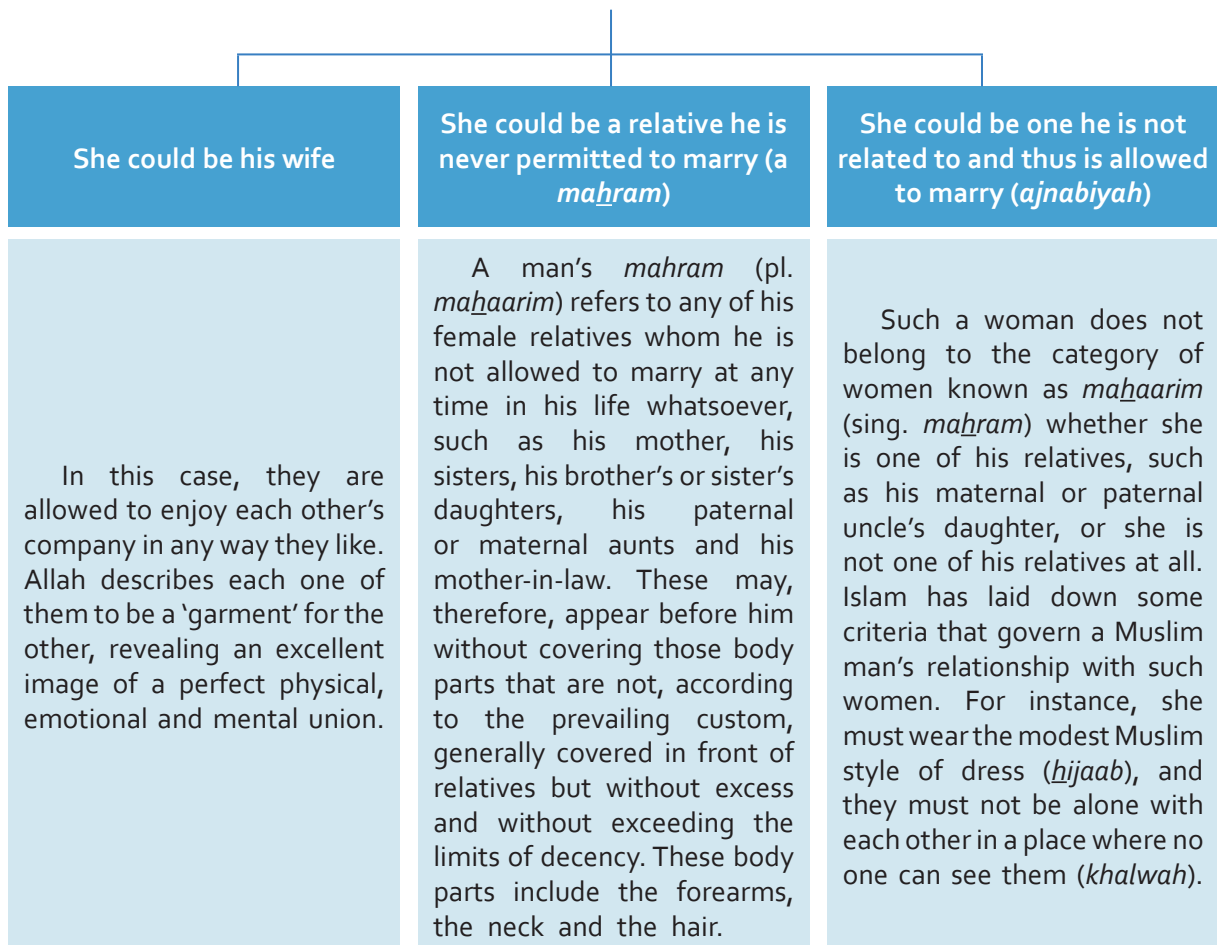
Watch this video material that shows a comparison between the position of women in Islam and some other religions.



Scan the QR code to watch the video

Women in Relation to a Man

Women in relation to a man fall into three categories:



Muslim Women's Modest Style of Dress (*Hijab*)

Allah enjoins women to wear the *hijab* because women enjoy natural beauty and attraction that could easily tempt men into sinful acts, more than the other way round. Women are to cover their entire bodies when in the presence of men who are not related to them, and they may choose any design or colour they like for their *hijab* as long as the following four conditions are met:

First Condition

It must appropriately cover the parts of the body that must be covered in public.

Second Condition

It must hang loose and must not fit very closely to the body so that the shape of the body is not revealed.

Third condition

It must not allow the wearer's body to be seen through its fabric.

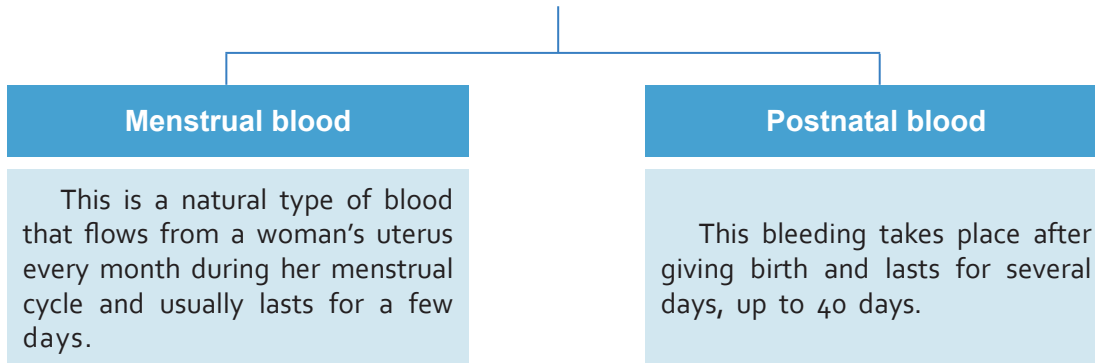
Fourth Condition

It must not be a type of clothing that is generally considered attractive.



The Types of Blood that Are Naturally Discharged by Women

The blood that is naturally discharged by women is of two types:



Islamic Rulings Pertaining to Menstrual and Postnatal Bleeding


Allah Almighty has prescribed several rulings relating to menstruating women and women experiencing their postnatal bleeding, including the following:

- They are exempt from performing the prayers during this period and do not have to make up for the prayers they have missed while in this state after the end of menstrual and postnatal bleeding.
- They are exempt from fasting and are not allowed to fast while in this state, but they must make up for the fasting days they have missed in Ramaḍaan.
- During this period, a husband must not have intercourse with his wife during her menstrual or postnatal period. He is allowed, however, to satisfy his sexual desire but without having intercourse.
- At the end of the menstrual and postnatal period, when bleeding stops completely, women must take a ritual bath (*ghusl*).


Additional Reading

To learn more about how Islam has honoured women, read the book entitled *Women in Islam*, which is available at Osoul Store in several world languages.



 Scan the QR code to download the book

Discuss

List some of the reasons why women are exempt from certain religious obligations.

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Assessment Questions

1

Islam has made it the husband's duty to spend on those women entitled to his support without attempting in the least to remind them of his favours.

- True False

A woman's style of dress (*hijaab*) does not have to be loose.

- True False

If a woman's monthly period stops, she must take a ritual bath (*ghusl*) before she can pray.

- True False

Menstrual blood is a natural type of blood that flows from a woman's uterus after childbirth.

- True False

2

A Muslim woman must cover her entire body from:

- A- other women
 B- men who are not related to her
 C- her father-in-law

If a menstruating woman or a woman experiencing post-natal bleeding becomes clean and the bleeding stops, she must make up for

- A- the prayer
 B- the fasting days she has missed
 C- all the above



Lesson 6

The Prayer

Introduction

The prayer is the greatest religious duty that a Muslim must learn and perform. Allah's Messenger ﷺ has taught us how to perform it in the manner most pleasing to Allah Almighty. In this lesson, we are going to learn about the obligatory prayers, the position of the prayer in Islam, its conditions, and the correct manner of performing it.

The Meaning of the Prayer

The prayer: It is a daily act of worship that consists of a set of words and actions with which a Muslim seeks to draw closer to his Lord, and it is performed five times a day and night.

The prayer is the second pillar of Islam.

The Position of the Prayer in Islam

The prayer has a number of distinctive characteristics, including the following:

- It is the second pillar of Islam after the two testimonies of faith.
- It is the act of worship that must be performed under all circumstances, in times of war and peace, and whether one is sick or in good health.
- It is the act of worship that distinguishes a Muslim from a non-Muslim.

Why Do We Pray?

We pray because the prayer is an act of worship that Allah has enjoined on Muslims.

Some of the Ultimate Objectives and Benefits of the Prayer:

It is the direct, special and personal communion a Muslim establishes with his Lord.

It relieves the mind of worry and all worldly anxieties.

It strengthens a Muslim's willpower and determination.

It refines morals and keeps those who observe it away from evil.



The Conditions of the Prayer

To perform the prayer, several conditions must be met:

There are several conditions required to perform the prayer, which are:

- Purity: Once's body and the place where the prayer is to be performed must be cleansed from physical impurities, and any ritual impurity must be removed with *wudoo'* or *ghusl*.
- Covering the intimate parts of the body ('*awrah*): The word '*awrah*' refers to the parts of the body that must be covered in front of people. A man's '*awrah*' that must be covered during the prayer extends from the navel to the knees; a woman's '*awrah*' that must be covered during the prayer is her entire body except for the face and hands.
- Facing the *qiblah*: The *qiblah* is the direction of the Ka'bah in Makkah. One must, therefore, pray in the direction of the Ka'bah in Makkah.
- When its appointed time becomes due: The prayer will not be valid if it is performed before its time has started. It is not permissible to delay it beyond its due time, and it is best to perform it at the beginning of its time.

Additional Reading

Watch this video material, produced by Osoul Centre, about the manner of performing the prayer



Scan the QR code to watch the video

The Five Obligatory Prayers

Allah Almighty has enjoined Muslims to perform five prayers throughout the day and night, namely:

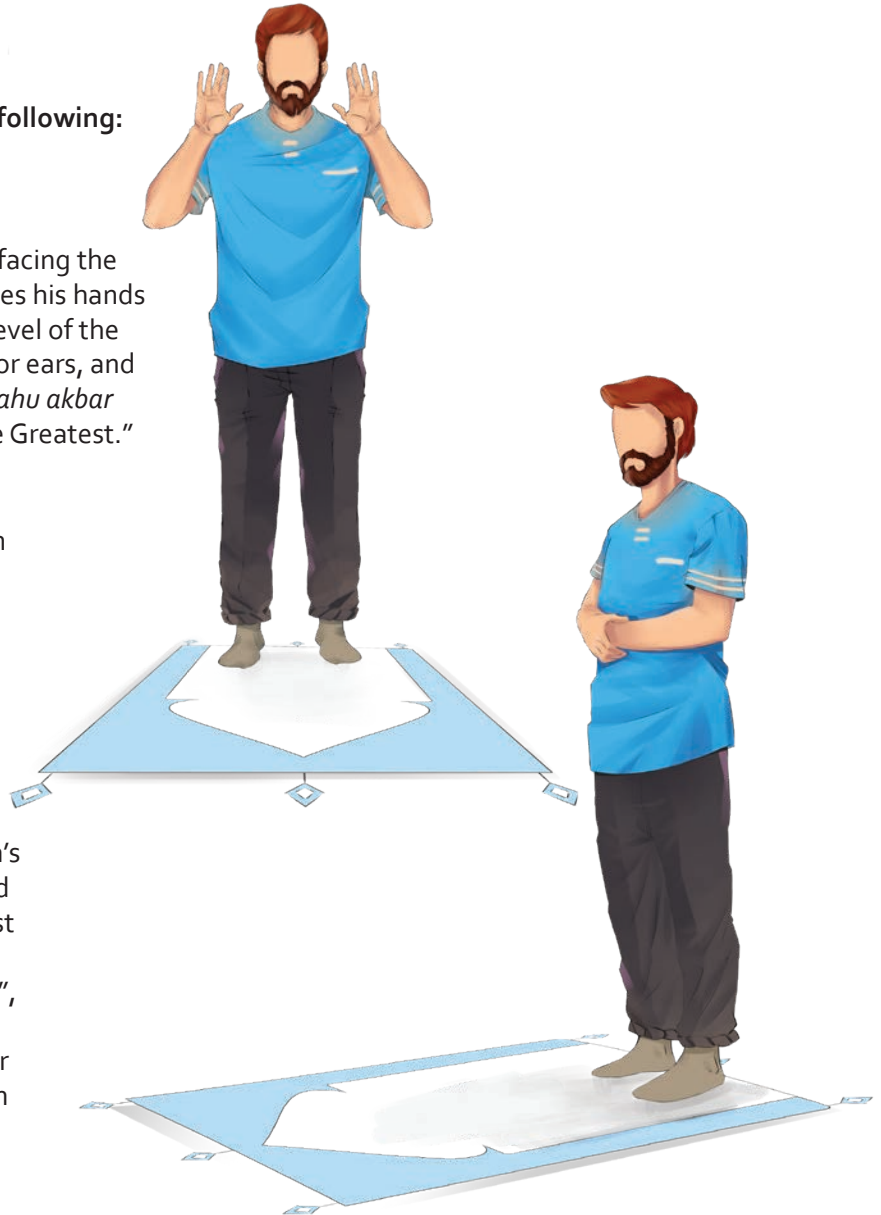
The Prayer	Beginning Time	Ending Time	Number of units (<i>rak'ahs</i>)
<i>Fajr</i> (Dawn) Prayer	at the break of dawn	sunrise	2
<i>Dhuhr</i> (Midday) Prayer	when the sun starts declining westward at midday after reaching its zenith	when the shadow of an object becomes equal in length to the object itself	4
' <i>Asr</i> (Late Afternoon) Prayer	when the shadow of an object becomes equal in length to the object itself	sunset	4
<i>Maghrib</i> (Sunset) Prayer	sunset	when the red glow (evening twilight) on the western horizon disappears	3
' <i>Ishaa'</i> (Late Evening) Prayer	when the red glow (evening twilight) on the western horizon disappears	midnight	4

How Do We Pray?

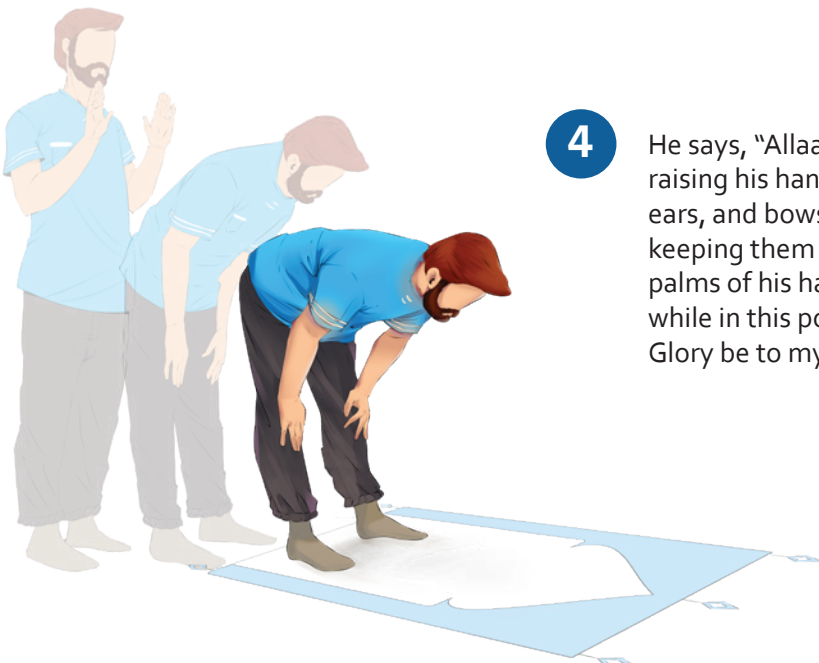
If a Muslim wants to pray, he must do the following:

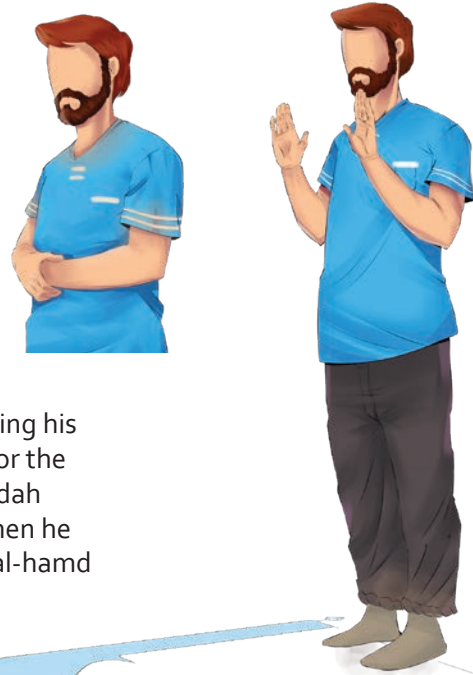
- 1 He intends in his heart to pray.
- 2 He stands facing the *qiblah*, raises his hands up to the level of the shoulders or ears, and says, "Allaahu akbar Allah is the Greatest."

- 3 He places his right hand on his left hand. Then he recites one of the opening supplications, such as, Subhaanak-Allaahumma wa bi hamdika, wa tabaarak-asmuka, wa ta'aalaa jadduka, wa laa ilaaha ghayruka "Glory be to You, O Allah; Yours is the praise, blessed is Your name, exalted is Your majesty, and there is no god besides You." Then he says, A'oodhu billaahi min-ash-shaytaan-ir-rajeem. Bismillaah-ir-rahmaan-ir-raheem "I seek Allah's protection from Satan, who has been expelled from His mercy. In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful." Then he recites *Soorat Al-Faatihah* and says after it, "Aameen", which means "Answer our supplications, O Allah". After that, he recites whatever number of verses of the Qur'an as is easy for him, even if it is one verse.

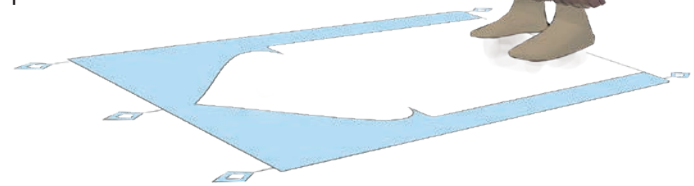


- 4 He says, "Allaahu akbar Allah is the Greatest" while raising his hands up to the level of his shoulders or ears, and bows down, lowering his head and back and keeping them straight at a right angle, placing the palms of his hands on the knees. He says three times while in this position, "Subhaana rabbiy-al-'adheem Glory be to my Lord, the Almighty."



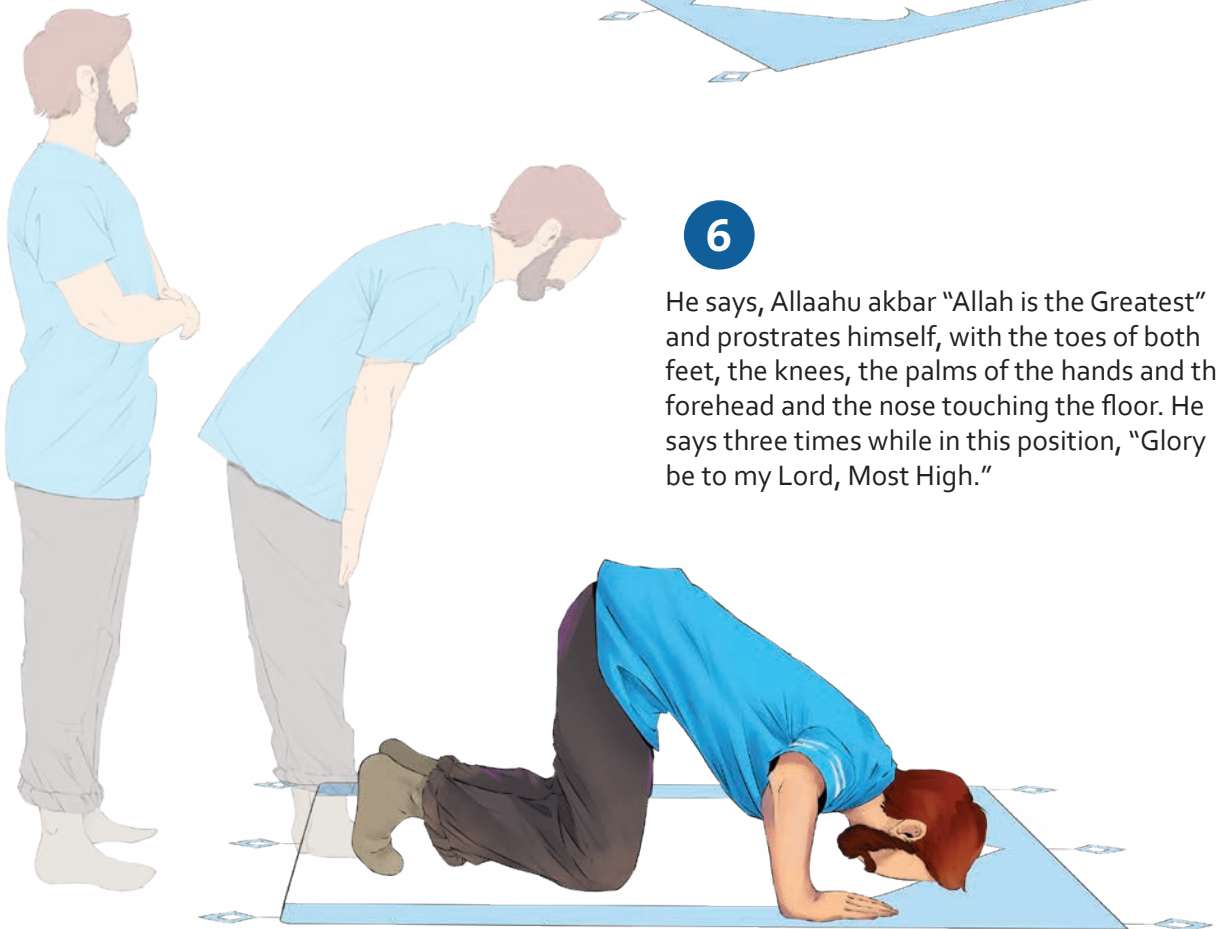


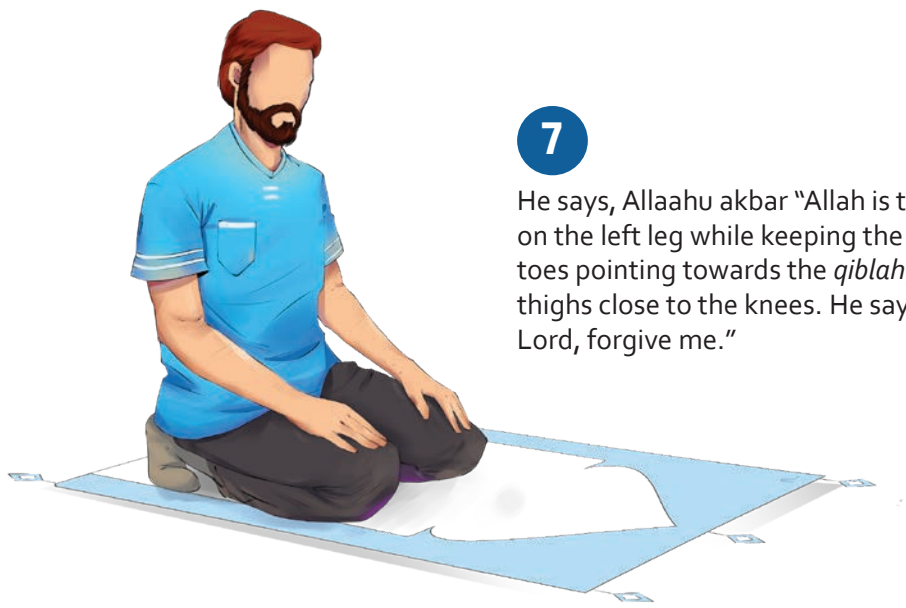
- 5** He resumes the standing position, raising his hands up to the level of the shoulders or the ears, saying: *Sami'allaahu li man hamidah* "Allah hears those who praise Him." Then he says while standing: *Rabbanaa wa lakal-hamd* "Our Lord, to You is due all praise."



6

He says, *Allaahu akbar* "Allah is the Greatest" and prostrates himself, with the toes of both feet, the knees, the palms of the hands and the forehead and the nose touching the floor. He says three times while in this position, "Glory be to my Lord, Most High."





7

He says, Allaahu akbar "Allah is the Greatest" and sits down on the left leg while keeping the right foot upright with the toes pointing towards the *qiblah*, resting his hands on his thighs close to the knees. He says while in this position, "My Lord, forgive me."



8

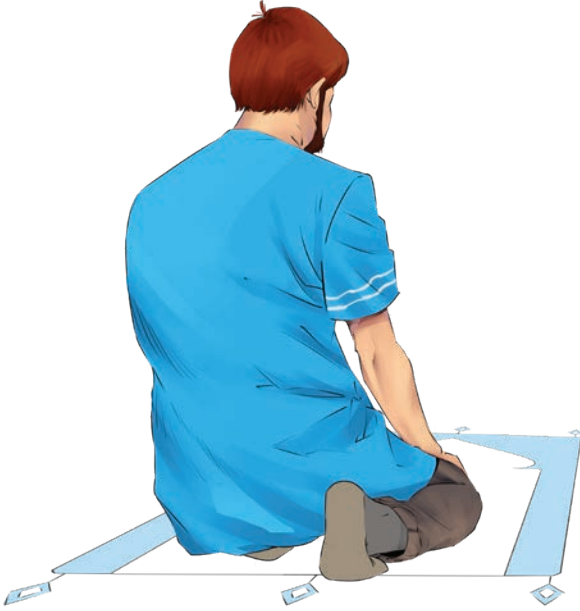
He says, Allaahu akbar "Allah is the Greatest" and prostrates himself again just as he has done the first time, saying the same thing.

9

Then he rises to the standing position again, saying, Allaahu akbar "Allah is the Greatest" as he does so, and performs the second unit (*rak'ah*) in exactly the same way as the first one.

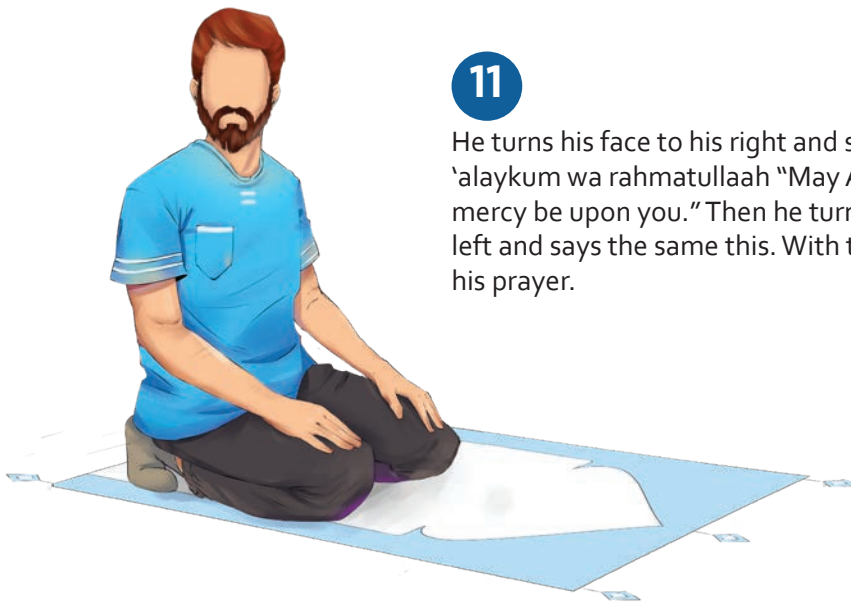


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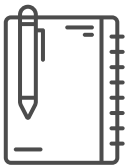


After the second prostration in the second unit (*rak'ah*), he takes a sitting posture and says, "All reverence, all the prayers and all the good things are due to Allah. Peace be on you, O Prophet, and the mercy of Allah and His blessings. Peace be on us and all the righteous servants of Allah. I bear witness that none is worthy of worship except Allah, and I bear witness that Muḥammad is His servant and His Messenger." This is called the first *tashahhud*. Then he recites the following, "O Allah, exalt Muḥammad and the family of Muḥammad, as You have exalted Abraham and the family of Abraham. Verily, You are Praiseworthy and Glorious. O Allah, bless Muḥammad and the family of Muḥammad, as You have blessed Abraham and the family of Abraham. Verily, You are Praiseworthy and Glorious." This is called, "*Aṣ-Ṣalaatu Al-Ibraaheemiyyah*.'

11



He turns his face to his right and says: Assalaamu 'alaykum wa rahmatullaah "May Allah's peace and mercy be upon you." Then he turns his face to his left and says the same this. With this, he concludes his prayer.



This manner only applies to a prayer that consists of two units (*rak'ahs*), such as *Fajr* and *Jumu'ah* prayers. If, however, the prayer consists of three units (*rak'ahs*), namely *Maghrib*, or four units (*rak'ahs*), namely *Dhuhr*, 'Asr and 'Ishaa', he completes the remaining units after concluding the first *tashahhud*, in the same way he has performed the first *rak'ah* but without reciting anything else after *Soorat Al-Faatihah*, then sits as he has done after the second *rak'ah*, recites the first *tashahhud* and *Aṣ-Ṣalaatu Al-Ibraaheemiyyah*, and then concludes the prayer by saying, Assalaamu 'alaykum wa rahmatullaah May Allah's peace and mercy be upon you." first to the right and then to the left.



The Friday Prayer (*Salaat-ul-Jumu'ah*)

- Allah Almighty has enjoined Muslims to perform a special prayer on Friday, called *Salaat-ul-Jumu'ah* (the Friday prayer). It is performed in a special manner, has special conditions and takes the place of the daily *Dhuhr* (midday) prayer on this day.
- Muslims gather together to perform it in the mosque. The *imaam* delivers a two-section *khutbah* (sermon), then he leads them in a two-*rak'ahs* prayer in which he recites the Qur'an aloud.
- It is recommended to take a ritual bath (*ghusl*) to attend the Friday prayer and proceed early to the mosque. It is not permissible to miss it without a legitimate excuse, and if for any reason a person misses it he must perform the four-unit *Dhuhr* (midday) prayer instead but without reciting the Qur'an aloud.
- Women and people on a journey are exempt from performing the Friday prayer.

Discuss



Discuss with your classmates some of the challenges facing Muslims that prevent them from performing the prayers on time, and how to overcome these challenges.

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"Believers, when the call is proclaimed to prayer on Friday, hasten earnestly to the remembrance of Allah and leave off business and traffic. That is best for you if you only knew." (Soorat Al-Jumu'ah, 62:9)



Assessment Questions

1

It is permissible for a Muslim to perform the obligatory prayer even before its time becomes due.

- True False

The time for *Fajr* prayer ends at sunrise.

- True False

2

Mention two acts of worship that are specially performed on Friday.

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What is the impact of the five daily prayers on a Muslim's daily life?

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Visit this site: <https://islamicfqh.net/en>, and then talk about the Islamic ruling regarding those who do abandon prayer in Islam.

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3

The '*awrah* that a man must cover during the prayer is:

- A- the entire body except for the face, hands and feet
 B- from the navel to the knee
 C- from the shoulders to the knees

The direction that a Muslim must face during the prayer is:

- A- the north
 B- The west
 C- the Ka'bah

A Muslim says while in the prostrate position in prayer:

- A- Subhaana rabbiy-al-'adheem (Glory be to my Lord, the Almighty)
 B- Subhaana rabbiyal-a'laa (Glory be to my Lord, Most High)
 C- Rabbighfir lee (My Lord, forgive me)



Lesson 7

Zakaat

Introduction

Since ancient times, people on this earth have led different lives with varying living standards. Some are very well-to-do; others are destitute and can barely find anything to eat. This is one of Allah's ways in this universe. Islam enjoins the wealthy to pay a certain percentage of their wealth to the poor to relieve them of the burden of poverty and urges Muslims to spend more of what they are required to spend, promising them great rewards for doing so both in this life and after death. It also urges them to give charity to the needy at all times and on every occasion and encourages them to feed the hungry and clothe the naked in order for the Muslim community to become close-knit, just as Allah Almighty wants it to be. In this lesson, we are going to learn about the Islamic ruling on *zakaat*, the manner of paying it and the types of wealth upon which it is due.

What Is Zakaat?

Zakaat: a religious obligation whereby wealthy Muslims give away a certain portion of their wealth to the poor in their midst. It is the third pillar of Islam.

Additional Reading



Watch this video material, produced by Osoul Centre, about the positive effect of *zakaat* on society.



Scan the QR code to watch the video

Why Do We Pay Zakaat?

We pay *zakaat* in compliance with the command of Allah who has enjoined us to pay it.

Some of the Ultimate Objectives and Benefits of Zakaat

First

to purify one's heart from over-attachment to wealth and from selfish greed

Second

to increase one's wealth, for *zakaat* does not decrease it, but rather increases it and even blesses it.

Third

To help the poor and the needy

What are the types of wealth upon which *zakaat* is due?



Gold and silver



All types of currency (banknotes and coins)



Farm produce (crops and fruit)



Grazing livestock

Commercial commodities: all properties owned with the aim of investing them in trade. They generally include assets, such as a house, a shop, a car and an animal.

Commercial commodities



Grazing livestock: This refers to camels, cattle, sheep and goats.



How Do We Pay Zakaat Due on Cash?

A Muslim pays *zakaat* due on his cash once a year. 2.5% of its value must be given out as *zakaat*.



Exercise

Place each of the following words or phrases under the relevant heading.

a wrist watch

gold and silver

Household furniture

an amount of money

Sheep

Chicken

an apple farm

A Muslim must pay *zakaat* on these:

There is no *zakaat* due on these:

Discuss

What do you think would happen if all the rich Muslims paid *zakaat* due on all their wealth?

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Assessment Questions

1

Watch the video entitled “Why do Muslims pay zakat?”, and then talk about the sublime objectives of paying *zakaat*.



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2

A Muslim must pay *zakaat* due on his money:

- A- Once in a lifetime
- B- Once a year
- C- Once a month

The amount of *zakaat* due on cash is:

- A- 25%
- B- 10%
- C- 2.5%



Lesson 8

Fasting

Introduction

Fasting is one of the acts of worship that Allah Almighty has enjoined on all nations. In Islam, a Muslim performs this religious duty in obedience to Allah Almighty. In this lesson, we are going to learn about what fasting means, the things that render it invalid and some of the most important rulings regarding it.

What Is Fasting?

Fasting: an act of worship whereby a Muslim abstains from food, drink and sexual intercourse from dawn to sunset.

Fasting in the month of Ramadaan is the fourth pillar of Islam.

Why Do We Fast?

Muslims fast in obedience to Allah Almighty and in response to His command.



Allah has enjoined fasting on Muslims, just as He prescribed it on the other nations before them: "Believers, fasting has been prescribed for you, just as it was prescribed for those before you, so that you may become righteous." (Soorat Al-Baqarah, 2:183).

Some of the Ultimate Objectives and Benefits of Fasting

- To attain true piety by increasing acts of worship and avoiding sins as much as possible.
- To experience the pangs of hunger from which the poor and needy often suffer.
- To train oneself to bring one's whims and desires under control.

Things that render the Fast Invalid

The fasting person must abstain from several things which, if he does them, his fast will be invalid. They are:

- 1 Eating and drinking, including intravenous injections which have some nutritional value.
- 2 Deliberate seminal emission as a result of intercourse or any other means. Intercourse during the day in Ramaḍaan is a grave sin.
- 3 Deliberate vomiting.

A woman's fast is broken as a result of:

- 4 Menstrual or postnatal bleeding.

The Blessed Month of Ramaḍaan

Ramaḍaan is the ninth month of the Islamic lunar calendar. It is a blessed month, in which Allah revealed the Qur'an to His Messenger, Muḥammad ﷺ. Allah has promised to forgive all the past sins of those who fast during the daylight hours and stands in prayer at night throughout this month. The Almighty has also distinguished it with a night that is better than a thousand months. It is called *Laylat-ul-Qadr* (The Night of Decree; also called the Night of Power), and whoever spends it remembering Allah and standing in prayer will have all his past sins forgiven.



Muslims perform the *Taraaweeh* prayer in the month of Ramaḍaan. It is one of the Prophet's practices (*Sunnah*) that is particularly associated with it, and it is performed after '*Ishaa*' (late evening) prayer.

The Types of People Who Are Exempt from Fasting

Allah Almighty has permitted several types of people to break their fast during the day in Ramaḍaan. They are:

- 1 Sick people whose medical condition is bound to be further worsened by fasting.
- 2 The elderly who are unable to fast.
- 3 Travellers, while moving from one place to another.
- 4 Menstruating women and women experiencing postnatal bleeding.
- 5 Pregnant and nursing mothers if they fear it would be dangerous for them or for their babies if they fast.

Important Notes Related to Fasting



- Whoever breaks his fast in Ramaḍaan for a legitimate reason must make up for every day he has missed after than Ramaḍaan.
- If a sick person breaks the fast because of an incurable disease, he is exempt from fasting the month of Ramaḍaan, but he must feed one poor person for each day he does not fast.
- If a Muslim cannot possibly fast due to old age, he is exempt from fasting the month of Ramaḍaan but he must feed one poor person for each day he does not fast.



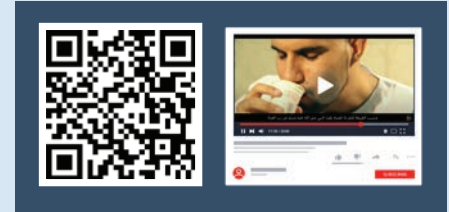
Muslims break their fast as soon as the call to *Maghrib* (sunset) prayer is announced, and many Muslims are very keen to share their Ramaḍaan breakfast, or *iftar*, with fellow Muslims.



Assessment Questions

1

Watch the video entitled "Why do Muslims fast Ramadaan?", and then talk about the positive effect that Muslims experience when they fast.



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2

Allah has exempted certain types of people from fasting. Mention some of them and talk about the reason behind that.

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3

While observing a fast, a Muslim must abstain from:

- A-Eating and drinking
- B- sexual intercourse
- C- all the above

The number of the things that invalidate the fast is:

- A- 6.
- B- 5.
- C- 4.



Lesson 9

Hajj (The Pilgrimage)

Introduction

Hajj, the annual Muslim pilgrimage to Makkah, is one of the pillars of Islam and one of the best deeds whereby Muslims seek to draw closer to Allah Almighty. Its virtues are mentioned in numerous traditions of the Prophet ﷺ. In this lesson, we are going to learn a little information about this great act of worship.

What is *Hajj*?

Hajj is an act of worship for which physically and financially able Muslims travel to Makkah to perform certain acts of worship during the month of Dhul-Hijjah, which is the last month of the lunar calendar.

Hajj is the fifth pillar of Islam

The Islamic *Hijri* Calendar is a lunar calendar is associated with the Prophet's migration, or *hijrah*, from Makkah to Madeenah. Third Rightly-Guided Caliph 'Umar ibn Al-Khattaab, may Allah be pleased with him, decided that the most appropriate reference point for the Islamic calendar would be the Prophet's *hijrah*. The Islamic Calendar has twelve months, beginning with the month of Muharram and ending with the month of Dhul-Hijjah. Muslims have adopted the Islamic *Hijri* calendar to date incidents and events.

Who is Required to Perform *Hajj*?

Hajj is a religious obligation that must be carried out once in a lifetime by every able Muslim man and woman. Thus, anyone who is physically and financially able must perform the pilgrimage.

Important Notes Related to *Hajj*



- A Muslim cannot perform *hajj* except in a specific place, namely Makkah, and only at a specific time of the year.
- *Hajj* includes several acts of worship that a Muslim must learn before going to perform the pilgrimage.



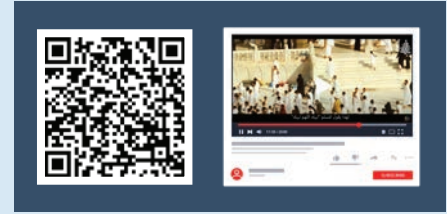
Every year, Muslims from different countries perform *hajj* in large groups. Donning uniform simple clothing, both rich and poor appear to be the same with all social barriers and distinctions broken down.



Assessment Questions

1

Watch the video entitled "Why Do Muslims Perform Pilgrimage (*Hajj*)?", and then talk about the aspects which show the perfect harmony that exists between *hajj* and the innate pure human nature.



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Muslims perform *hajj* in:

- A- the month of Ramadaan.
- B- the month of Dhul-Hijjah.
- C- the month of December.

Muslims must perform *hajj*:

- A- once in a lifetime.
- B- twice in a lifetime.
- C- as often as they are able to do so.

Self-Assessment

	Learning Aim	Self-Evaluation Rating Level			
		No	poor	good	excellent
1	Do you now understand the meaning of worship?				
2	Can you mention the conditions of worship?				
3	Can you mention the types of acts worship?				
4	Do you understand the meaning of purification?				
5	Do you know the types of purification?				
6	Can you explain the manner of performing ablutions (<i>wudoo</i>)?				
7	Do you know the invalidators of ablutions?				
8	Do you know the Islamic rulings on wiping over the socks?				
9	Do you know the manner of taking a ritual bath (<i>ghusl</i>)?				
10	Do you know the things that require us to have a ritual bath (<i>ghusl</i>)?				
11	Do you know the things that a person who is in a state of ritual impurity following intercourse (<i>janaabah</i>) must not do?				
12	What are the types of blood that are naturally discharged by women?				
13	Do you know the Islamic rulings on the types of blood that are naturally discharged by women?				
14	Do you understand the meaning of prayer?				
15	Do you know why we pray?				
16	Do you know the conditions of the prayer?				
17	Do you know what the five daily prayers are?				
18	Do you know how to perform the prayer?				

	Learning Aim	Self-Evaluation Rating Level			
		No	poor	good	excellent
19	Do you know the Islamic rulings regarding the Friday prayer?				
20	Do you know the meaning of <i>zakaat</i> ?				
21	Do you know why we pay <i>zakaat</i> ?				
22	Do you know the types of wealth upon which <i>zakaat</i> is due?				
23	Do you know the conditions of <i>zakaat</i> ?				
24	Do you know the types of people who are entitled to <i>zakaat</i> ?				
25	Do you understand the meaning of fasting?				
26	Do you know why we fast?				
27	Do you know the obligatory fast?				
28	Do you know the things that can render the fast invalid?				
29	Do you know the types of people who are allowed to break the fast in Ramaḍaan?				
30	Do you understand the meaning of <i>hajj</i> ?				
31	Do you understand why we perform <i>hajj</i> ?				
32	Do you know who are required to perform <i>hajj</i> ?				
33	Can you perform ablutions (<i>wuḍoo'</i>) properly?				
34	Can you take a ritual bath (<i>ghusl</i>) properly?				
35	Can you perform the prayer correctly?				
36	Do you experience the ease and tolerance of Islam?				



Unit 4

Islamic Rulings



Unit Lessons

- 1 Clothing
- 2 Food and Drink
- 3 Financial Transactions
- 4 Good Moral Character





Lesson 1

Clothing

Introduction

The clothes we wear are some of the countless blessings Allah has bestowed on us. The Qur'an states, "Children of Adam, We have sent down clothing to you to conceal your private parts and as adornment for you, but the garment of piety is the best of them all. That is one of Allah's signs, so that people may take heed." (Soorat Al-A'raaf, 7:26).

The General Islamic Rule Regarding Clothing

The general Islamic rule is that all types of clothing are allowed, unless stated otherwise in the Qur'an or the Prophet's *Sunnah*.

the general Islamic rule regarding dealings in general, including clothing, is that everything is permissible unless there is evidence to the contrary. All types of clothing mentioned here are forbidden due to textual evidence either in the Qur'an or the Prophet's *Sunnah*.

Discuss



What purposes does clothing serve?

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Forbidden Types of Clothing

A man's 'awrah that must be covered extends from the navel to the knees. A woman must cover herself entirely in the presence of men not related to her; as for men to whom she is related and is forbidden to marry, such as her father, son and brother, she may appear before them as she would normally do in in front of other women, showing such parts of her body as the face, hair, the neck and feet.

- Clothing that reveals the 'awrah and does not conceal it
- Clothing that involves dressing like or imitating the opposite sex, such as when men dress like women and vice versa.
- Clothing that is worn with an air of pride and conceit
- Extravagant clothing
- Men are particularly forbidden to wear silk clothing or adorn themselves with gold or silver jewellery.
- Clothing that involves imitation of the dress traditionally worn by non-Muslims and specific to a certain religion, such as the type of clothing worn by monks and priests

With your partners, discuss the reasons why some types of clothing are forbidden in Islam.

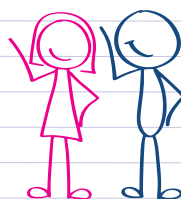


The Prophet ﷺ forbade men from imitating women and women from imitating men. This prohibition includes the type of clothing and the manner of speech. Islam strictly forbids imitation of the opposite sex, considering it a major sin that invites Allah's punishment unless one repents and desists from committing it. Islam enjoins men to ensure that their true nature and appearance are distinct from that of women, and vice versa, which clearly testifies to common sense and sound logic.



Exercise

Specify the types of clothing that are forbidden for men only, and those that are forbidden for both men and women.



Clothing that involves dressing like or imitating the opposite sex

Clothing that reveals the 'awrah and does not conceal it

Extravagant clothing

Clothing that is worn with an air of pride and conceit

Clothing that involves imitation of the dress traditionally worn by non-Muslims

Silk clothing or clothing adorned with gold and gold objects



Discuss



Can we turn to fashion trends, customs, traditions or official regulations to determine for us what the appropriate clothing for men and women is?

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Assessment Questions

1

Consider the forbidden types of clothing and think about the reasons why Islam has forbidden them.

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2

Choose the correct answer.

■ Wearing gold jewellery is forbidden for

- A- men
- B- women
- C- children

■ Men are forbidden

- A- to wear wool clothing
- B- to wear silk clothing
- C- all the above



Lesson 2

Food and Drink

Introduction

Muslims consider food and drink to be among the countless blessings of Allah for which they must show gratitude. Part of showing gratitude for them lies in gaining strength from them to perform the acts of worship properly. In this lesson, we are going to learn about a set of rulings and etiquette related to food and drink, as well as forbidden foods that Muslims must avoid.

The General Islamic Rule Regarding Food and drink

The general Islamic rule is that everything is presumed permissible unless proven otherwise in the Qur'an or the Prophet's *Sunnah*. The Almighty says, "Mankind, eat what is good and lawful on the earth." (*Soorat Al-Baqarah*, 2:168).

Allah Almighty has forbidden different types of food and drink, including the following:

- Alcohol, because it clouds the mind; indeed, preserving the mind is one of the objectives of Islamic law (*Sharee'ah*).
- Drugs, because they destroy the mind and body.
- Animals that die without having been slaughtered, or those that are slaughtered but the name of Allah (i.e., saying *Bismillaah* (in the name of Allah) was not mentioned at the time of slaughter.
- Pork—and indeed any of the pig's body parts and by-products—because it is impure and thus forbidden for human consumption.
- Predatory animals, such as lions, tigers, hawks and eagles.
- Any animals that are sacrificed to false deities, such as idols.

The objectives of *Sharee'ah*: This is one of Islamic sciences by which Islamic laws are determined, such as the reason why Allah has laid down such-and-such a rule.

What Are the Conditions for Islamic Slaughter?

Islamic slaughter is one that satisfies the following conditions:

- 1 The person undertaking the slaughtering process must be Muslim, Jew or Christian who has reached the age of discretion and carries out this act for the intended purpose.
- 2 The tool used for slaughter must be suitable for the intended purpose, causes blood to flow and sharp, such as a knife. It is forbidden to use anything that may kill the animal due to its heavy weight, hit its head to death or render it unconscious by resorting to electric stunning, for instance.
- 3 The name of Allah must be pronounced by saying *Bismillaah* (in the name of Allah) at the time of slaughtering the animal.
- 4 Cutting what must be cut in the Islamic slaughter, namely, the oesophagus, the throat, and the two jugular veins, or just three of these four.

What is the Islamic Ruling on Seafood Consumption?

It is permissible to eat dead aquatic animals that can live only in water, such as fish and prawns, whether they live in the sea, rivers or lakes.



It is permissible to hunt wild, nonpredatory animals and consume their flesh provided that the name of Allah is mentioned before the hunting weapon is discharged, and the hunted game must be slaughtered if found still alive.



Islamic Rulings Pertaining to Meat Served in Restaurants and Shops

- 1 The meat of animals that are slaughtered by other than a Muslim or a member of the People of the Book (a Christian or a Jew), such as a Buddhist, or a Hindu is strictly forbidden. This includes meat served in restaurants and shops in countries where Muslims or People of the Book constitute a minority.
- 2 The meat of animals killed by a Muslim or a member of the People of the Book is lawful based on textual evidence to this effect in the Qur'an.
- 3 The meat of animals that are not killed according to Islamic law, such as by electrocution and drowning, is strictly forbidden.
- 4 The general rule is that it is permissible to consume the flesh of animals slaughtered by People of the Book as well as meat of animals generally found in their restaurants and shops, making sure, however, to invoke Allah's name at the time of eating (that is, by saying *Bismillaah*), but it is better for Muslims to eat only meat that has been proven to be lawful (*halaal*).

Discuss



With your partners, browse some Internet websites that help you find lawful (*halaal*) foods in your country.

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The Islamic rulings on the meat of animals that are sold in shops and restaurants vary according to the religion of the person who slaughtered such animals.



Assessment Questions

1

Consider the types of forbidden foods and drinks, then think about the ultimate objectives and reasons why they are forbidden.

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2

It is permissible to eat the flesh of a sacrificial animal that is slaughtered by a Jew or a Christian even if the name of Allah is not mentioned at the time of slaughter.

True False

It is not permissible to eat meat of animals that are killed by electrocution.

True False



Lesson 3

Financial Transactions

Introduction

One of the aspects of the greatness of Islam is that it covers all facets of human endeavour, including the great care it takes to control people's dealings with one another, safeguard their rights and prevent them from being subjected to any form of injustice. Part of this care lies in the fact that it has laid down rules and criteria that govern financial transactions. In this lesson, we are going to learn about a set of Islamic rulings pertaining to financial transactions, and the reasons why some of them are prohibited.

What Are Financial Transactions?

A financial transaction is an agreement which involves the exchange of a valuable property (*maal*), whether in exchange for another form of valuable property, such as a sale, or in exchange for a usufruct (a legal right to use and derive profit from property belonging to someone else provided that the property itself is not injured in any way), such as leasing, or in exchange for nothing at all, such as a gift.

The General Islamic Rule Regarding Financial Transactions in Islam

The general Islamic rule is that all types of transactions are permissible, and that none of them is forbidden unless declared as such in the Qur'an or the Prophet's *Sunnah*.

The general Islamic rule regarding transactions in general, including financial transactions, is that they are permissible, and thus nothing is considered impermissible without evidence, as opposed to acts of worship, where the general rule regarding them is that they are not permissible unless there is evidence which states otherwise.

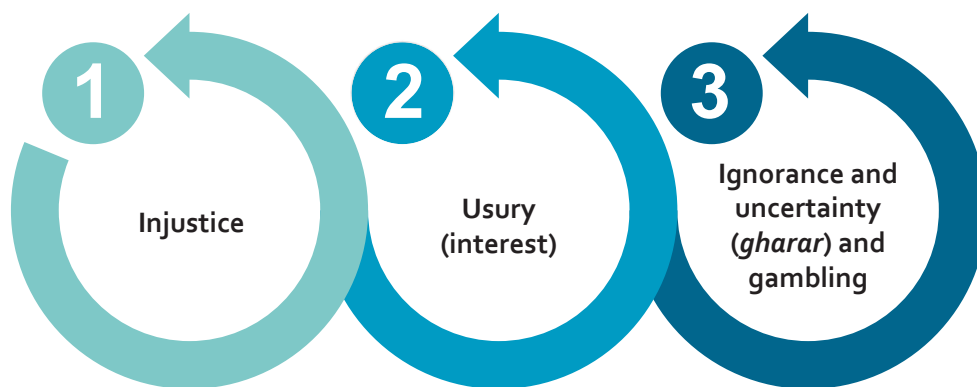
Prohibited Forms of Financial Transactions

Allah Almighty has forbidden some financial transactions, including the following:

- The unlawful taking of other people's property, such as by using deceptive tricks or by force.
- Conducting a transaction under coercion, such as by forcing someone to enter into a transaction against his will.
- Trafficking in substances that are injurious to human health, such as alcohol, drugs and tobacco.
- Charging interest on loans, an example of which is to lend money to someone on condition that the borrower must pay, say, 5% on the borrowed amount to the lender.
- Selling things that are not known, such as selling a box the contents of which are unknown.
- Gambling and betting whereby the winner unlawfully takes the money of the loser.

The Reasons for the Prohibition of Financial Transactions

The main reasons for the prohibition of financial transactions are:



Discuss



In the light of the large number of financial transactions that Muslims carry out in their daily lives, how can they be aware of what transactions are permissible or prohibited?

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Assessment Questions

1

Consider the forbidden types of financial transactions and think about the reasons why Islam has forbidden them.

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2

Gambling is permissible if the parties who engage in it do so by mutual consent.

True False

It is permissible for a Muslim to pay interest (*riba*) on a loan if he needs to do so.

True False



Lesson 4

Good Moral Character

Introduction

Islam urges its followers to observe high moral character. The Prophet ﷺ stressed the importance of morals in many of his traditions, combining many acts of worship Muslims perform with good moral character. Islam promises a Muslim who displays such good character great rewards both in this world and the hereafter. In this lesson, we are going to learn about the importance of good moral character in Islam, as well as some of its virtues.

Good Moral Character in Islam

- Good moral character occupies a lofty position in Islam, as it is one of the important objectives of *Sharee'ah* and one of the goals behind the Prophet's mission.
- Good moral character is closely linked to faith, and the believers with complete faith are those who demonstrate the best moral character.
- A Muslim will be rewarded for his good manners, just as he will be rewarded for the prayer and fasting.

Discuss



How should a Muslim's moral character be with others? Do you think that such good character has an impact on their opinion about Islam?

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Domains of Good Moral Character in Islam:

Good moral character in Islam is not restricted to one domain; rather, it covers many of them, namely:

- Good moral character vis-à-vis Allah Almighty, such as by devoting oneself sincerely to Him and showing total obedience to Him.
- Good moral character vis-à-vis the Prophet ﷺ, such as by loving him, respecting him, showing politeness when talking about him and invoking Allah's peace and blessings upon him when his name is mentioned.
- Good moral character vis-à-vis Allah's laws, such as by honouring and obeying them.
- Good moral character vis-à-vis oneself, such as by gently encouraging oneself to show obedience to Allah and firmly avoiding laziness in this respect.
- Good moral character vis-à-vis others, such as by being honest and trustworthy.
- Good moral character vis-à-vis animals, such as by showing kindness to them and not being cruel to them.
- Good moral character vis-à-vis the environment, such as by preserving it, planting trees and not being extravagant with its natural resources.

Additional Reading

To learn more about good moral character in Islam and its virtues, as well as its positive impact on people, read the book entitled "Islam is the Religion of Peace", which is available at Osoul Store in several world languages.



Scan the QR code to download the book



Good moral character in Islam is not confined to dealing with humans, but extends to include dealing with animals and the environment.



Assessment Questions

- 1** Watch the video entitled “The beauties of Islam” and then describe the extent to which Islam meets people’s spiritual and moral needs.

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Scan the QR code to watch the video

- 2** Mention one *hadeeth* of the Prophet ﷺ about the virtues of good moral character.

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- 3** Good moral character in Islam is restricted to dealing with people only.
- True False

Self-Assessment

	Learning Aim	Self-Evaluation Rating Level			
		No	poor	good	excellent
1	Can you explain the general rule regarding clothing in Islam?				
2	Do you know what the forbidden forms of clothing in Islam are?				
3	Do you know what the general rule regarding food and drink in Islam is?				
4	Do you know what the forbidden foods in Islam are?				
5	Do you know what the forbidden drinks in Islam are?				
6	Do you know what the forbidden forms of financial transactions are?				
7	Do you know what the forbidden financial transactions in Islam are?				
8	Do you feel and experience the ease and tolerance of Islam?				

Conclusion

In conclusion, a new Muslim is recommended to do the following:

- Be keen to learn what he needs of his religion, trying his best to refer to reliable sources, be they scholars and preachers, reference books, or audio or visual materials.
- Translate the knowledge he acquires into practice. A Muslim is required to practise whatever useful knowledge he gains.
- Gradual progression of knowledge and practice. A person cannot possibly acquire knowledge, cultivate good morals and perform acts of worship all at once. He can only do so step by step.
- Staying away from everything that negatively affects one's faith, be they whims and desires or dubious opinions and destructive doubts.
- Persistently seeking Allah Almighty to guide us to the truth and help us distinguish truth from falsehood.
- Islamic rulings are dependent upon one's ability to act on them; therefore, a Muslim does whatever he can possibly do without burdening himself more than what he can bear.
- Be keen to seek good company and associate with righteous, practising Muslims who will serve to increase one's faith and righteousness, and to stay away from bad company and those who follow whims and desires and dubious opinions.

Final Test

Name

Final score:

/40 marks

A. Choose the correct answer.

15 marks

1

Allah has made in man some kind of likeness to:

the angels

the devils

the animals

all the above

2

The origin of man's creation is:

water

clay

fire

stone

3

Islam teaches that all human beings are descended from the same father, namely:

Abraham

Jesus

Adam

Mohammad

4

If a person dies, he moves to the stage of:

work and test

judgement and recompense

utter extinction and nothingness

all the above

5

After the mission of Muḥammad ﷺ, Allah will not accept any religion from mankind except one, namely:

Judaism

Christianity

Islam

Hinduism

6

The number of the pillars of Islam is:

3

4

5

6

7

Allah Almighty informs us in the Qur'an that He forgives all sins if He wills, except:



murder



theft



associating other deities with Him (*shirk*)



lying

8

For every letter that a Muslim reads or recites in the Book of Allah, he will be credited with:



one good deed



two good deeds



seven good deeds



ten good deeds

9

The names of the Noble Qur'an include:



Adh-Dhikr (the Remembrance)



Al-Furqan (the Criterion)



Al-Kitaab (the Book)



all the above

10

The meaning of the word ﴿كُفُوًا﴾ in the Qur'anic verse ﴿وَلَمْ يَكُنْ لَهُ كُفُوًا أَحَدٌ﴾ is:



complete



idol



equal



one

11

The meaning of the word ﴿أَفَلَقَ﴾ in the Qur'anic verse ﴿قُلْ أَعُوذُ بِرَبِّ أَفَلَقَ﴾ is:



dusk



moonrise



daybreak



sunset

12

The meaning of the phrase ﴿أَعُوذُ﴾ in the Qur'anic verse ﴿قُلْ أَعُوذُ بِرَبِّ النَّاسِ﴾ is:



I seek refuge and protection



I worship and draw nearer



I praise and remember



I surrender and I submit

13

The meaning of the phrase ﴿الْوَسْوَاسِ الْخَنَّاسِ﴾ in the Qur'anic verse ﴿مِن شَرِّ الْوَسْوَاسِ الْخَنَّاسِ﴾ refers:



the magician



the envious person



Satan



the unbeliever

14

The meaning of the word ﴿شَانِئَكَ﴾ (*shaani'aka*) in the Qur'anic verse ﴿إِنَّكَ شَانِئُهُوَ الْأَبْرَرُ﴾ is:



the one who hates you



the one who loves you



the one who believes you



the one who turns away from you

15

The physical acts of worship include:



love



hope



the prayer



all the above

B. Place each of the following words or phrases under the relevant heading

8 marks

circumambulation

the prayer

eating

facing the *qiblah* (the direction of the Ka'bah)

passing urine

covering the private parts

drinking

sleeping

Things that require one to perform ablutions (*wudoo'*):

The conditions of the prayer:

Things that render *wudoo'* invalid:

Things that render the fast invalid:

C. Arrange the following acts of ablutions (*wudoo*) in the right order, beginning with the first one.

6 marks

wiping over the head

washing the hands up to the elbows

washing the face

washing the feet

wiping the ears

rinsing out the mouth and cleaning out the nose

1

2

3

4

5

6

D. Arrange the following acts of the prayer in the right order, beginning with the first one.

6 marks

reciting *Soorat Al-Faatihah*

bowing down

the opening *takbeer*

saying, "*Assalaamu 'alaykum*" to one's right and then to one's left

reciting the *tashahhud*

prostrating

1

2

3

4

5

6

E. Put a tick mark (✓) next to each true statement and a cross mark (X) next to a false statement.

5 marks

1. Muslims perform *hajj* in the holy month of Ramadaan.

2. It is forbidden for Muslim men to wear gold.

3. It is permissible for Muslims to eat pork.

4. The general rule regarding financial transactions is that they are permissible.

5. The closest believers in rank to the Prophet ﷺ on the Day of Resurrection are those who have excellent moral character.



This course offers you:

1. A brief explanation of Islam and its major topics.
2. An overview of the Holy Qur'an, along with the interpretation of some short Qur'anic surahs.
3. A brief explanation of the rulings relating to the obligatory acts of worship.
4. A brief explanation of the most prominent Islamic rulings on transactions, customs and moral character in Islam.

The course units are divided according to an educational plan in which the lessons in each unit are distributed over six days and the duration of each lesson is specified. The course has been designed in an educational way that includes a number of activities and exercises that help new Muslims memorize and understand new information, in addition to assessment questions at the end of each unit so that learners could assess their level of understanding the course. The course includes several drawings that are intended to contribute to improving the educational process of new Muslims and assist them in understanding the course.



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