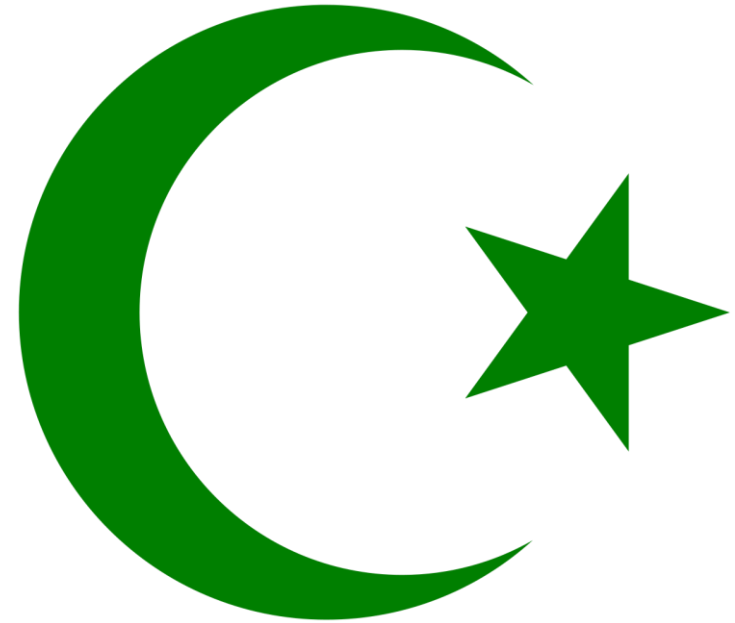
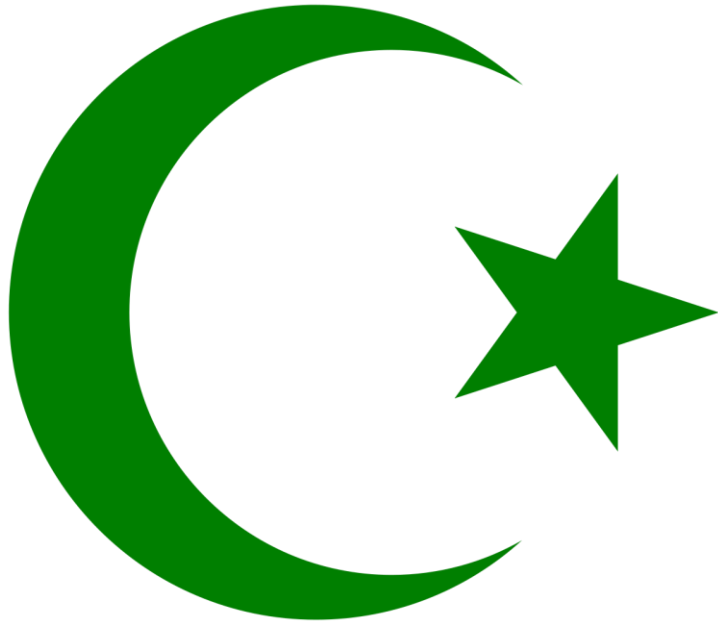


The Study of Religion: Paper 1

Islam Beliefs

Revision Cards



The Oneness of God

Beliefs about God

- Sunni and Shi'a Muslims believe that there is **only one God**; **Tawhid**.
- Islam is a **monotheistic** religion.
- The Arabic word for God is **Allah**.
- The **Shahadah** shows the belief in one God. "**There is one God but Allah and Muhammad is his prophet.**"
- God is an undivided entity.
- No one else and no other object has God's attributes or qualities.
- The only sin that God will **not forgive** is the sin of **shirk**. Which is attributing God-like qualities to any other being or thing.

"He is God the One, God the eternal. He begot no one nor was He begotten. No one is comparable to him."

"You who believe, obey God and the Messenger."

They show their belief in their daily lives.

They make God their number 1 priority

Live according to God's will

They worship God

The impact of these beliefs on Muslims

"Misfortunes can only happen with God's permission."

They respect the prophets (not worship them)

Muslims accept that bad things happen and they are 'meant to be'

The Supremacy of God's will

- God is the **creator** therefore nothing happens unless God allows it, whether it is good or bad.
- Everything happens under **God's will**.
- The **supremacy of God's will** is an article of faith.
- God's will is supreme and above all things.
- Muslims often add the words '**God willing**' (**Inshallah**) after they promise to do something.
- This lead to the belief that **God controls everything** and humans do not have Free Will.

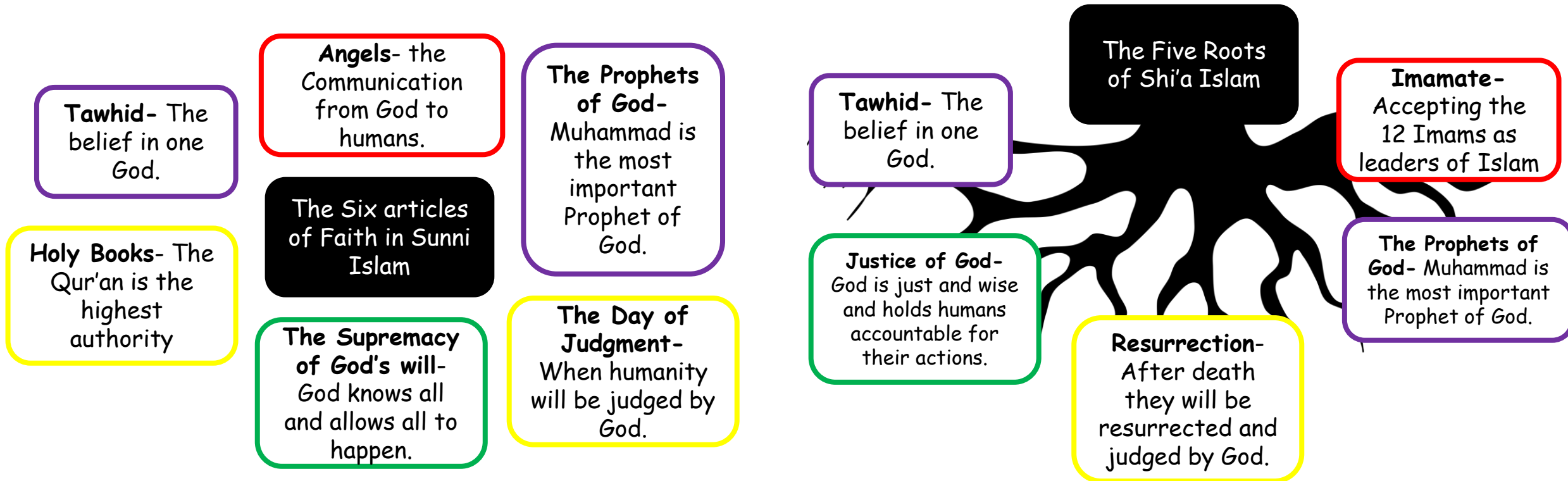
Key beliefs of Sunni and Shi'a Islam

Sunni Islam

- When Muhammad died, Sunni Muslims believe that the **Qur'an** and the **Sunnah** had the authority to guide Muslims.
- They elected **Abu Bakr** to be their leader (**Caliph**) to make sure people **follow God's laws**.
- The **Caliph's** don't make the laws, they **enforce them**.
- Sunni meaning followers of the Sunnah.

Shi'a Islam

- Shi'a Muslims believe that Muhammad had named his **cousin Ali as his successor**.
- Ali and his supporters thought that the true leaders (**Imams**) had to be descendants of Muhammad and chosen by God.
- Shi'a Muslims only accept the sayings of Muhammad that have been passed to Ali or his followers.



Nature of God

'God is the greatest':

Every day Muslims hear and say the words '**Allahu Akbar**' meaning God is the greatest.

The names of God

- God has **revealed** himself to the people through **Muhammad and the Holy Books**.
- There are **99 names of God** in the Qur'an.
- These names help Muslims to understand **God's nature**.
- Many Muslims memorise the names of God and recite them when praying.
- They help Muslims to **feel God's presence**.

"The Most Excellent Names belong to God: use them to call on Him."

"He is with you wherever you are."

Immanent: Within all things and close to his people

Justice and Fair: He treats people fairly and justly, and requires Muslims to do the same. **Links to the Day of Judgement.**

Merciful: He understands suffering, cares for them and forgives if they are truly sorry.

Qualities of God

Beneficent: Source of all goodness. Life and the Earth is a gift.

Omnipotent: He is the creator, sustainer and owner of all things. He is all powerful

Transcendent: Beyond all things



Angels

The belief
in angels in
Islam is
called
Malaikah



Beliefs about Angels

- One of the **six articles** for **Sunni Islam**.
- Angels are **part of the unseen world**.
- Created from **light**.
- Receive **God's word** and pass them to the **prophets**.
- They are **pure** and **sinless**.
- They do not have **free will**.
- They live to please and **worship God**.
- The power to **take human form**. Example- Ibrahim's story and Mary (appeared as men)

Jibril

- Also called **Gabriel**.
- He is an **archangel** and is a **trusted messenger of God**.
- Jibril relayed the **Qur'an** to Muhammad.
- He appeared to Muhammad when he was a child and purified his heart.
- When Muhammad was 40 he appeared to him and told him what God wanted him to do and **guided him** throughout his entire life.

Mika'il

- High ranking **archangel**.
- The angel of **mercy**.
- God assigned Mika'il to **reward the righteous** for the good during their lives.
- He also sends **the rain, thunder and lightening to earth**.
- Mika'il warns that anyone who is an **enemy of God's angels** is also an **enemy of God**.

Israfil

- Will **blow a trumpet** to announce the **day of judgement**.

Others

- Record actions of humans in the book of deeds. Used on the **day of judgement**.
- Guardian angels and look after us from conception until our death.
- The angel of death and his helpers take people's souls to God.
- Angels escort people to heaven and hell.

Predestination

Predestination-The idea that **God** knows everything and **determines** everything that will happen in the universe.

What is it?

- God has everything **written** down that **determines** everything that is going to happen in the universe,
- It is written in the '**book of decrees**'.
- Links to the **supremacy of God's will**

Link to Human Freedom

- Shi'a Muslims believe that God knows all but does not **decide all**- meaning we have **free will/ choice**.
- God is the **creator of time** and therefore is not bound by it. He is **outside of time**. This means he knows what has happened, is happening and what will happen.
- Humans **act freely** and God just **knows what they will do**.

"Only what God has decreed will happen to us. He is our Master: let the believers put their trust in God."

The Day of Judgement

- God will **judge** humans for their actions on Earth.
- This is why God has given humans **free will, to make judgement fair**.
- He will punish those for their bad choices and reward those for the good.
- God puts **the responsibility** back to people even though he knows what they are going to do.

"God does not change the condition of a people [for the worse] unless they change what is in themselves."



Life after death

Akhirah:

The belief in everlasting life after death.

Beliefs about life after death

- Muslims believe that when they die a person still has a **conscious existence** in the grave.
- They enter a state of waiting called **barzakh** which means barrier.
- They are waiting for the **day of judgement**.
- While lying in the grave, God will send **two angels** to question them about their faith. This results in their **rewards and punishments**.
- Others believe that they will stay in their graves until the end of the world when the **day of judgement** will come.

Accept suffering and know what God will provide justice

Encourages responsibility for their actions

How does it influence Muslims?

Avoid sin and do the right thing

Aware they are accountable for their actions

<u>The Day of Judgement</u>	<u>Resurrection</u>	<u>Heaven</u>	<u>Hell</u>
			
• Will come when God's purpose for the universe has been fulfilled. • Angel Israfil will blow the trumpet and announce that the world will be destroyed. • God will forgive those who are truly sorry for what they have done. • God souls the souls by making them cross a narrow bridge that is over the fires of hell.	• When Angel Israfil blows the horn again, everyone who had ever lived will be raised from the dead and judged by God. • The book of their life will be handed to them and read out.	• If they are given the book in their right hand they will go to heaven. • Described as the gardens of happiness. • It is a rewards for those of faith and good deeds.	• If they are given the book in their left hand they will go to hell. • Described as a place of fire and torment. • It is a punishment for those who reject God and do evil. • It is absence from God.

Prophethood and Adam

What is a prophet?

- Prophets are **God's chosen people** to bring the message of Islam to people.
- Belief in prophets is known as **Risalah**.
- Method of **communication** between God and humans.
- God gives **instructions** to prophets to teach people about how he wants them to live.
- They are considered **role models** to believers.
- They are **good people** who live according to God's will.

Prophet Adam

- First man on earth and the first prophet of Islam.
- **Created** by God from the **dust of the ground**.
- **Father of the human race**.
- God taught Adam the **names of all things**.
- God then asked Adam to teach the angels. The angels then bowed to him
- **Iblis** (the Devil) refused to bow and was **thrown out** of paradise and he vowed to tempt humans to sin.
- God created Eve (Hawwa) for Adam and they lived in the **garden of Eden**.
- Iblis deceived them into **disobeying God and eating from the tree**.
- They were thrown from paradise and brought **sin into the world**.

"He taught Adam the name of all things.,,"



First to learn to plant seeds

First to cook food

Bury the dead correctly

Had many Children

God told him what food to eat.

First to harvest crops

First to repent for wrongdoings

Importance of Adam

Prophet Ibrahim

Passed all of
God's tests

Muhammad
was on of his
descendants

Why is
Ibrahim
important?

Role model-
obedience,
kindness and
compassion

Father of all
nations

Refused to
worship
idols

Ibrahim's link to:

The Ka'aba

- Small building in the middle of the mosque in Mecca.
- **House of God and holiest place in Islam.**
- Original built by **Adam** but was destroyed by the flood at the time of **Noah**.
- **Ibrahim** and Ishmael rebuilt It on the same site.

Ishmael

- Ibrahim had a dream to **sacrifice his son to God**.
- Ibrahim's willingness to be obedient save Ismael's life and God swapped him with a lamb.
- **He was a man of faith.**
- During the festival of **Id-ul-Adha**, Muslim's slaughter an animal to remember Ibrahim's willingness to sacrifice his son.

Hajj

- Pilgrimage returns Muslims to Ibrahim's perfect faith.
- At **Mina**, Muslims throw stones at the pillars in the same way Ibrahim threw stones at the devil that tried to tempt him.
- When pilgrims run between the two hills they drink the water from **Zamzam**. This remembers the story of Ibrahim's wife **Hagar**, who searched for water for her and Ishmael and God rewarded her with the well.
- Mecca is sometimes known as **the city of Ibrahim**.

The Story of Ibrahim

- Ibrahim always wondered about who created the universe,
- He declared his **belief in one God** (Allah).
- He determined to **stop idol worship**.
- One day, when everyone left the town, **he took an axe and destroyed all the idols in the temple.**
- He left an axe around the neck of the biggest idol. He asked why people **worship an idol that cannot speak, hear or defend themselves.**
- Ibrahim was burned alive.
- A **miracle** occurred and burned the chains and he walked out completely unscathed.
- Many people began to **follow God**.

Prophet Muhammad and the Imamate

Muhammad

Muhammad's Life

- He is known as the last and **greatest prophet**.
- Born in Mecca, was an orphan and married a wealthy widow, **Khadija** at the age of 25.
- **Angel Jibril** appeared to him with a message from God. For more than 20 years, Muhammad received further revelations from God making the **Qur'an**.

Muhammad's preaching

- After his revelation, Muhammad proclaimed that **God is one**.
- He challenged the people of Mecca to give up cheating, gambling, drinking and idol worship.
- Muhammad **fled persecution** with his followers to **Madinah** in 622CE.
- This was the start of **Hajj** and **Ummah**.
- After the night journey, Muhammad gathered a tribe of 10,000 Muslims converts and conquered the city in the name of Allah.

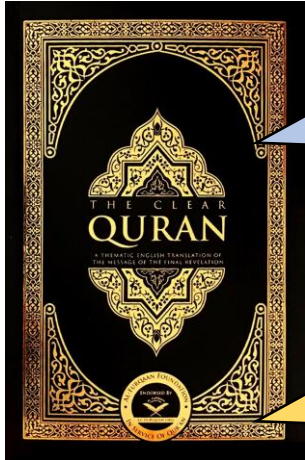
The Night Journey

- Muhammad recorded this in the **Qur'an**.
- The angel Jibril took Muhammad to **Jerusalem** on a horse-like creature with wings.
- He then ascended into **heaven** and spoke to God and the **past prophets**.
- Isa (Jesus) told Muhammad that people should **pray 5 times a day**.

The Imamate

- When Muhammad died, Muslims split into two groups, **Shi'a** and **Sunni**.
- Shi'a believe that Muhammad named Ali, his successor- he became the first **Imam**.
- Shi'a believe that Ali appointed him by divine instruction and therefore leadership should follow in the family line.
- **The Twelver branch** of Shi'a Islam believes that there have been 12 Imams in total.
- **Muhammad al-Mahdi** was the last Imam and kept alive and hidden somewhere on earth and will return with Jesus to bring justice and equality.
- The Imams rule justly and are also the only people who can interpret the Qur'an without fault.

Holy Books



"This is the Scripture in which there is no doubt, containing guidance for those who are mindful of God."

"This is truly a glorious Qur'an on a preserved Tablet."

The Qur'an

The Contents

- Mixture of historical accounts and advice on how to follow God.
- It begins with a short prayer to God and is used in the daily prayers.
- Arranged in length of chapters.
- Muslim children are encouraged to learn Arabic so they can read the Quran.

The importance

- Word of God
- Foundation of every believer's faith.
- Most sacred text of Islam.
- Infallible source of authority.
- Written in perfect Arabic.
- Original is in heaven, so when Muslims read it they believe God is directly speaking to them.

Other Holy Books



The Torah (Tawrat)
Revealed to **Moses (Musa)**.
It is mentioned 18 times in the Qur'an.



The Psalms (Zabur)
Revealed to **David**.
It is mentioned 3 times in the Qur'an. Similar to Psalms in the Bible.



The Gospel (Injil)
Revealed to **Jesus (Isa)**
It is believed to been lost but some messages can be found in the Bible.
Mentioned 12 times in the Qur'an



The Scrolls of Abraham (Ibrahim)
Referred to in the Qur'an but have been lost and no longer exist.
Revealed to **Ibrahim**.