

Islamic Practices Knowledge Organiser



The Five Pillars of Sunni Islam

Shahadah	Statement of faith – “There is one God and Allah is the messenger of God”.
Salah	Prayer 5 times a day using special rak’ahs (prayer positions)
Zakah	Giving 2.5% of your savings to charity
Sawm	Fasting during daylight hours during the month of Ramadan.
Hajj	Going to Makkah on a religious pilgrimage at least once in your life.

Greater Jihad

- “to strive” The daily struggle to live as a good Muslim.
- Muhammad said that the supreme jihad was against oneself.

It is:

- To practice the 5 pillars
- To follow the Sunnah (the way of) the Prophet Muhammad
- To seek justice for all
- To rise above greed and selfishness

Lesser Jihad

- The use of violence in self-defence, or to defend Islam/Allah
- It was set out by Muhammad when people were trying to wipe out Islam and its followers.
- It cannot be used aggressively and should never be used to kill civilians (non-soldiers)
- The Crusades were an example of a true Jihad.
- Terrorism is NOT jihad!

Examples of Muslim converts (or reverts):

Muhammad Ali
Janet Jackson
Yusuf Islam (Cat Stevens)
Malcolm X

Id-ul-Adha

- The festival of sacrifice
- Most important festival
- Marks the end of Hajj.
- Remembers Ibrahim being prepared to sacrifice his son Ishma’il.
- New clothes, food presents, Id prayers at mosque, animal eaten

Id-ul-Fitr

- Festival of fast-breaking
- End of Ramadan (fasting)
- Feast, clothes, mosque for special sermon
- Zakah-ul-Fitr – special charity contribution
- Generosity and gratitude

Ashura

- Most important to Shi’a – remembers when Husayn was killed (martyred)
- Sunni - Remembers when Allah saved the Israelites from Pharaoh

Other festivals:

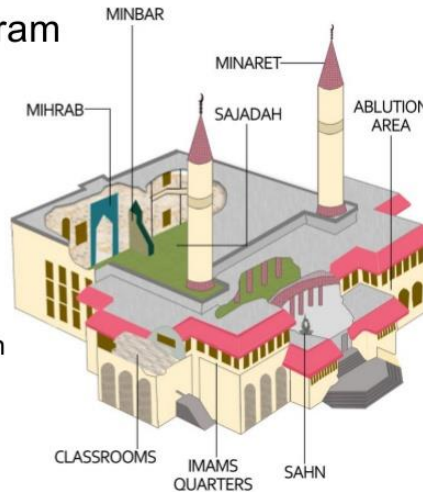
- Mawlid-an-Nabi – the birth of the Prophet Muhammad.
- Laylat-al-Qadr – the night of Power when the Qur’an was revealed to the Prophet.
- Muharram – the first month of the Islamic calendar. Marks the Hijrah – when the first Islamic community was set up. Differently celebrated between Sunni and Shi’a.

The Ten Obligatory Acts of Shi’a Islam

Shahadah	Statement of faith
Salat (prayer)	5 prayers 3 x a day.
Hajj	Pilgrimage
Zakah	Alms 2.5 %
Sawm	Fasting
khums	20% of surplus income
Jihad	The struggle to be a good Muslims
Amr-bil-Marooif	Encouraging people to do good
Nahil Anril Munkar	Discouraging bad actions
Tawalia	Duty to love friends of Allah
Tabarra	Disapproval of evil-doers

The Mosque

Mosque Diagram



1. Minaret
2. Dome
3. Entrance
4. Ablution Area
5. Masjid/Sajadah
6. Mihrab
7. Minbar

Uses of the Mosque:

- Place for worship
- Madrasah (mosque school)
- Library
- Place of study
- Shari’ah court
- Marriage bureau (to help people find potential wives/husbands)
- Community centre
- Zakah collection and distribution
- Feeding the homeless

Prayer

- Prepare – wudu (ritual cleansing)
- Times: Fajr, Zuhr, As’r, Maghrib and Isha
- Face Makkah
- Rak’ahs (prayer positions)

Why?

- Feel close to Allah
- Shows submission
- Unites all Muslims
- Removes sins and temptation to do bad

Key terms:

Ibadah 	Every action a Muslim does is a form of worship – Ibadah.
Niyah 	Having the right intention to worship Allah – being in the right frame of mind to worship.
Conversion and Reversion 	Some Muslims believe a new follower converts to Islam; others believe we were all born Muslims so we return (revert) to Islam if we discover the faith of Islam in our life.
Greater Jihad 	The struggle to live according to Allah’s laws – being the best Muslim you can. Overcoming things that you find difficult.
Lesser Jihad 	Holy war – fighting a war to defend Allah and/or Islam. A war that Allah would stand by as being morally right.
Sunnah 	The way the Prophet Muhammad did things. Muslims follow his example.
Laylat Al-Qadr 	The night of power when the Qur’an was revealed to the prophet Muhammad.
Jihadists 	Groups who are prepared to use violence to create their own Islamic state. These are extremists and their victims are mainly Muslims. IS/ISIS is an example of this.
Imam	A religious leader within Islam. For Sunnis he is an ordinary man. For Shi’as he is a holy figure.