

## Revision Sheet for Muslim beliefs

### 6 Articles of Faith Sunni Islam

Tawhid: 'The Oneness of God', Angels, The 5 Sources of Authority (The Psalms, The Gospels, The Scrolls of Abraham, The Torah, The Qur'an), Al Qadr. God knows everything that will happen, Judgement Day, Nubuwwah :The Prophets

### The Five Roots of Shi'a Islam

Tawhid: 'The Oneness of God', Al-Maa'ad: Resurrection and Judgement Day, Adalat: The Justice of God, Nubuwwah: Prophethood, Imamate: Leadership

### Tawhid

The Shahadah, one of the five pillars of Islam is 'there is no God but Allah and Muhammad is his final messenger.'

The Qur'an says 'He is God the one...no-one is comparable to him.'

### 99 names of Allah

In the Qur'an and Hadith (Muhammad's sayings) there are many 'names' used to describe Allah.

2. Allah is too great to be described fully by these names but they remind Muslims of Allah's qualities.

3. They aid Muslims in prayer when meditating or contemplating on Allah's nature.

The Powerful, The Loving, The First, The Peace, The Forgiver

There is a danger of thinking of Allah as being fully understood as he has different names that we can understand. This goes against the idea of him being transcendent. 'No vision can grasp him' – Qur'an

### Prophethood

In Islam, prophets are people who are guided by truth (by Allah) to understand the truth

They are Messengers of this truth of Allah

There are two types:

Rasul – this means they are given divine (from Allah) revelation to deliver to everyone (e.g. Muhammad was given the Qur'an to deliver to everyone)

Nabi – this means they are given news or revelations concerning themselves or others (like Yousuf was given news about his community)

Ibrahim was the prophet who built the first Kabbah and was willing to sacrifice his son for Allah.

Dawid fought and killed Jalut (Goliath) and prayed for a third of each night.

Muhammad had the Qur'an revealed to him and is the last Prophet

Muslims believe that Jesus was a prophet. 'We gave him the gospel as a guide and lesson for those to listen to Allah.'

Whereas Christians believe Jesus is the Son of God. 'He is my son, with him I am well pleased.'

'We make no distinction between any of them.' Qur'an

'He taught Adam the names of all things and then set them before the angels,.' Qur'an

### What is the Imamate?

The divine appointment of Imams. The 12 leaders who God elected to lead the Shia Muslims after Mahammad's Death.

### What do Shi'a Muslims believe about Imamate?

Muhammad appointed Ali to succeed him to lead the group of Muslims after Muhammad died becoming the first Imam. 'O Allah, be a supporter of whoever supports Ali and an enemy of whoever opposes him.' Hadith

The Imamate is needed to guide Muslims with how to interpret the Qur'an. The Imamate do this without fault.

### Al Qadr

Allah's will – everything that happens in the world is the will of Allah.

### Predestination – Allah is in control Sunni Belief

Everything happens as a result of Allah's will and nothing is ever random - 'Only what Allah has decreed will happen to us.' – Qur'an

Allah is in charge of everything in life and has a purpose for everything as part of His plan - 'Misfortune can only happen with Allah's permission.' – Qur'an

### Freewill – Shi'a belief

Allah just knows what will happen in advance, he does not decide. For example if a mother knows her child well, she will be able to predict what he will want if given a choice.

Allah does not force things to happen but he allows people to make choices and does not interfere with their free will - The Qur'an says 'Allah does not change people unless they change themselves.'

### Oneness of God

Muslims believe that God is indivisible and absolute. Nothing can be compared or likened to him.

### Nature of God

God is Omnipotent (All Powerful), there is nothing he cannot do 'He who is All Knowing, the All Powerful, able to do anything' The Qur'an

Muslims believe that God is Immanent (With us). This means he is amongst all humans 'And he is with you wherever you may be' The Qur'an

God is Transcendent, and is therefore outside of space and time. Incomprehensible (We can't ever fully understand him) 'No vision can grasp him ... he is above all comprehension'.

God is loving and merciful. He has shown this by sending the prophets to guide humans, and offering forgiveness for our sins. God is Fair and Just. All humans will be judged and receive their fair reward or punishment (Heaven or Hell).

### Angels

Angels watch over humans, they bring peace to believers and instil fear in non-believers.

The Angel Jibril is God's Messenger Angel, and he delivered the Qur'an to Muhammad to help humans.

The Angel Mika'il offers help and support to humans in their journey to become more faithful and better people.

Be guardians who take care of people throughout their lives. 'They guard him by the Command of God.' Qur'an

Others are responsible for recording people's thoughts and actions in a 'book of deeds.' 'There are honourable recorders, they know what you do.' Qur'an

Angels are messengers of Allah and reveal the words of Allah to the prophets. 'Jibril brings down the revelation to your heart.' Qur'an

### Life after Death (Akhira)

Muslims believe in life after death. That when they die their soul is taken by the Angel of Death, and other angels will question them about their life while they await Judgement Day.

At the end of the World, there will be a final judgement where everyone will either go to Heaven or Hell.

Heaven (Jannah) is a place of paradise 'No soul knows what delights of the eye are kept hidden from them as a reward for what they did' Qur'an

Hell (Jahannam) is a place of fire and suffering for sinners. Guarded by the Angels who inflict pain on those who are there.

### Holy Books

The holy book (Torah) was given by Allah to Musa (Moses). It literally translates as 'instructions'

According to the Qur'an the Zabur (Psalms) was revealed to King Dawud (David) of Israel.

The Arabic word for the original revelation to Isa (Jesus), is Injil (Gospel).

All the three books above have been changed

Qur'an given to Muhammad over 22 years. 'You read a book that has not been distorted' – Hadith The Qur'an has not been changed.