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LECTURE ONE

The first pillar of Islam: the Shahada.

Syllabus

Introduction to Islam

Pillars of Islam

Pre-teaching Vocabulary

word	Translation
Submission	تسليم
Obedience	طاعة
Commitment/ dedication	التزام
Peace	سلام
Reason	العقل
Sincerity (n)	الإخلاص
The will of Allah	إرادة الله
Actions/deeds	أفعال
Sayings	أقوال
Revelation	وحي
To accept (v)	يقبل
Cheerfully (adv.)	بابتهاج
Purpose	هدف
To put ourselves on His charge	نُسَلم لحكمه

word	Translation
To commit ourselves to his charge	نأتمر بأمره
Laws (n)	شرائع/ قوانین
Truth (n)	الحق
Until the end of time	حتى نهاية الزمان
Preserved (adj.)	محفوظ
Scriptures	الكتب المقدسة
Approved	معتمد
Beneficent	الرحيم
Practical interpretation	تطبيق عملي
Merciful (adj.)	رحيم
Wise (n)	حكيم
Perceive (v)	يدرك
Comparison (n)	مقارنة
Essential (adj.)	جو <i>هر ي</i>
Allah's design	مراد الله

What is Islam?

The word Islam is an Arabic word that derived from the root ((اس ل م The most famous meanings of that root are as follows:

- 1. Submission: to submit to the will of Allah
 - 2. Obedience: to obey the orders of Allah
 - 3. Commitment/ Dedication: to dedicate all our deeds and sayings to Allah.
- 4. Peace: to reach peace within ourselves and with others.

Is Islam a new religion?

- ➤Islam is NOT a new religion. Misconception
- ➤Islam has always been the same religion with the same fundamentals from Adam to Muhammad (PBUH). It is the last ring in the chain of revelation as prophet Muhammad (PBUH) is the seal of prophets.
- ➤ Muslims believe that life is meaningful and has a purpose.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF LIFE?

- 1. To know Allah through His divine attributes.
- 2. To obey His orders and abstain from His prohibitions.
- 3. To become a life example and true reflection of His divine attributes.



□What does "to worship Allah" really mean?

- 1. To do what is right and what He loves.
- 2. To abstain from what is wrong.
- 3. To become life examples of His divine attributes

□What is the difference between a prophet and a messenger?

The word prophet refers mainly to written scriptures Such as: Quran, the Gospel and the Scrolls

The word messenger refers mainly to oral messages nus, prophet Muhammad (PBUH) was both a prophet and a messenger with a written scripture which is the Quran and an oral message which is the Sunnah.

The first pillar of Islam: the Shahada

The Arabic word Islam means submission, obedience, commitment and peace. Submission means we should cheerfully accept and act upon God's commandments. Obedience means abiding by God's Law. Commitment means we bind ourselves to God; we put ourselves in His charge, obey His laws, and commit ourselves to His charge. If we submit to God's Will, we will have peace.

Islam is the religion of truth and righteousness. It is not a new religion. Islam was ordained by God. It has always been and will be until the end of time. A person who holds the beliefs and follows the practices of Islam is called a Muslim. They worship God alone and believe that "There is no God except Allah".

Allah has no partner. He is the Only One, so a Muslim always turns to God and to no one else for help and guidance.

■Who is a Muslim?

➤ A person who holds the beliefs and follows the practices of Islam.

■What is a messenger?

➤ A messenger is a person sent by God to specific peoples mostly d with a with an oral message, but prophets were connected with a written scripture.

How was the Quran revealed?

The Quran was revealed to Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) in Arabic, in portions in different places at different times, over a period of 23 years.

•What is the relation between the Quran and the Sunnah?

The Sunnah is the practical interpretation of the Quran.

PLLARS OF ISLAM



THE FIRST PILLAR: SHAHADA

The first pillar is the profession of faith "There is no God except Allah, Muhammad is a messenger of Allah". When this profession of faith is made with sincerity, an individual is on the way to the Islamic way of life. When this profession is put into force, then an individual has become a Muslim.

Messengers were sent by God to specific peoples mostly with an oral message, but prophets were connected with a written scripture. Muhammad has the advantage of being at once a messenger and a prophet. God revealed the Qur'an to Muhammad. It was revealed in Arabic sentence by sentence at different times over a period of twentythree years. The Qur'an is the only scripture in human history preserved in its complete and original form without any change in style, wording or punctuation. Whereas the Qur'an is the word of God, the Traditions of Muhammad (Hadith) are the practical interpretations of the Qur'an. Hadith includes the recorded sayings and deeds of the prophet. It also includes the deeds of the prophet's companions which had his approval.

Muslims believe that as God is Merciful, Beneficent and Wise, everything he ordains is for the good of man. Although we may be unable to perceive God's design ,we accept His Will.. We must realize the limits of the human mind in comparison with God's limitless knowledge. Surrender to God's Will is therefore an essential article of the Muslim faith .

☐ The Revelation of the Qur'an:

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Muslims believe that life is meaningful, and that the purpose of life is to worship and serve God. To worship God means more than prayer. It means to love Him, to obey His commandments and to do what is right. God expects each of us to carry His Islamic commitments.

Muslims believe that individuals must work for their good in this world and the next. Each Muslim must combine faith with action, belief with practice. Faith must come through rational thinking and acceptance of God's ordainments. The teachings of the Qur'an are based on revelation and reason. Islam will propagate not by force but by conviction.

Muslims are commanded by God to observe five basic creeds. We call these creeds the five pillars of Islam. The first pillar is the profession of faith "There is no God except Allah and Muhammad is the messenger of Allah". When this profession of faith is made with sincerity, an individual is on the way to the Islamic way of life. When this profession is put in force, then an individual has become a Muslim.

Post reading MCQs:-

1) What is a person who holds the beliefs and follows the practices of Islam called?

An Islamist	A Muhammadan	A Muslim	A Kafir

2) Who do Muslims worship?

The Kaaba	God alone	Muhammad	The trinity
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3) Where does a Muslim turn to for help and guidance?

To the local saint	To his friends	To his family	To God

4) What are Prophets connected to?

An oral	A written	A chain of	A collection of sayings
message	scripture	narration	

5) In which language was the Quran revealed?

Aramaic	Sanskrit	Arabic	Hebrew

6) What is the word of God?

The Bible	The Hadith	Al-Bukhari	The Quran
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7) What does Hadith not include?

Sayings of the Prophet (saw)	Deeds of the Prophet (saw)	Deeds of the companions	Sayings of the Abassid Caliphs
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8) What do Muslims think about everything Allah ordains for men?

Some of it is good	Some of it is bad	We can't understand	All of it is good
		it	

9) What is an essential article to the Muslim faith?

Faith without	Reason	Surrender to God's	Blind following
reason		will	

10) Which one of these is not from the worship of God?

To love him	To pray	To obey him	To do wrong

Translate into Arabic

1)	The Arabic word Islam means submission, obedience, commitment and peace. Submission means we should cheerfully accept and act upon God's commandments.
Ġ	We must realize the limits of the human mind in comparison with od's limitless knowledge. Surrender to God's Will is therefore an sential article of the Muslim faith.

> ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

- 1-What does the word Islam mean?
- 2-Who is a believer?
- 3-What are the pillars of Islam?
- 4-What is the difference between a prophet and a messenger?
- 5-How was the Qur'an revealed to the prophet?



Most Important Questions:

- 1. How was the Quran revealed?
- 2. What does the Sunnah include?
- 3. What does to worship Allah really mean?
- > Recommendation:
- Listen to the lectures of Timothy Winter عبد الحكيم مراد on the pillars of Islam on Youtube.
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wXoL wyelxOq