# A dictionary of superstitions oxford quick reference

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Superstition: A Closer Look\*\*

#### What is Superstition?

Various dictionaries define superstition as follows:

- Oxford Dictionary: An irrational belief or notion that certain events or actions will bring good or bad luck.
- Cambridge Dictionary: A belief that certain events, actions, or objects have supernatural or magical power, especially one that is not based on evidence or reason.
- Merriam Webster: A belief in the supernatural that is not based on reason or scientific knowledge.

# **Denotation of Superstition**

The denotation of superstition is an unreasoned belief in supernatural or extraordinary power, influence, or events. It implies a lack of rational basis and an adherence to irrational and often illogical beliefs.

#### Superstition in Wikipedia

Wikipedia defines superstition as "a widely held but irrational belief in supernatural beings, powers, or events." It highlights the notion's association with irrational beliefs and its prevalence in various cultures and societies.

#### Simple Definition of Superstition

Superstition can be simply defined as an irrational or unfounded belief in the power of certain actions, events, or objects to influence future outcomes or events. It is often based on fear, ignorance, and a desire for control over the unknown.

#### **Superstition in Islam**

In Islam, superstition is generally considered to be incompatible with the basic principles of faith. Superstitious beliefs and practices are discouraged as they can contradict the teachings of the Quran and undermine the importance of reliance on God's guidance.

### **Superstition in English Literature**

Superstition plays a significant role in English literature, often reflecting the beliefs and fears of different periods and cultures. Characters may be portrayed as adhering to superstitious practices or encountering supernatural phenomena. Examples can be found in works by Shakespeare, Chaucer, and Jane Austen.

# Is Superstition a Myth?

While superstitions may lack scientific evidence to support their claims, many people continue to hold and practice superstitious beliefs. Whether or not superstition is considered a myth is a matter of perspective.

# Meaning of Unlucky in English Oxford

The English Oxford Dictionary defines "unlucky" as "not bringing good luck or fortune." It is often used in conjunction with superstition to describe events or individuals that are believed to bring bad luck.

#### **Superstition in the World**

Superstitions are found in all parts of the world and have been a part of human culture for centuries. They can vary widely, from beliefs about lucky charms to taboos against specific actions.

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