

Islamic Knowledge Competition: Study Notes Grade 3 & 4

Basics of Islam

Islam means to obey Allah and follow his commands.

If we obey Allah and do as He commands then we will have peace. That is why Islam also means peace.

Islam teaches us to live a good life on this earth. It tells us how to live as good people. Islam shows us the right way. If we follow Islam, we achieve peace.

We learnt about Islam from the messengers and Prophets of Allah.

A Muslim is a person who follows Islam. A Muslim will always try to do good works. He speaks the truth. He does not lie, he helps others, and he cares for the old and needy. He does not like bad things. He does as Allah commands him. We feel proud to be Muslims.

Iman means belief or faith. To be a good Muslim, we must believe in:

Allah

Angels of Allah (Malaikah)

Book of Allah (Kitabullah)

Messengers of Allah (Rasulullah)

The day of Judgement (Yawmuddin)

Predestination or Supremacy of divine will (Al-Qadr)

Life after Death (Akhirah)

One who has Iman is called a Mu'min.

Muslims have 5 basic duties:

Ash-Shahadah (The Declaration of faith)

As Salah (Five compulsory daily prayers)

Az Zakah (Welfare contribution)

As-Sawm (Fasting during Ramadan)

Al-Hajj (Pilgrimage to Makkah)

Ash-Shahadah:

A person becomes Muslim by reciting and believing in Ash-Shahadah. Ash-Shahadah is LA ILAHA ILLAL LAHU MUHAMMADUR RASULUL LAH. This means: There is no God But Allah, and Muhammad (s) is the messenger of Allah.

As Salah:

We offer Salah to remember Allah, to be close to Him and to gain His favour. Salah helps us to do the good and give up the bad.

Az Zakah:

Islam teaches that the poor and the needy have rights in the wealth of the rich. Islam therefore commands every

Muslim to pay Welfare money (Zakah) to the needy and for good causes.

As-Sawm:

Every grown up Muslim is required to fast during the month of Ramadan. Fasting begins at day break and ends at sunset. During this time, eating and drinking etc are not allowed. Sawm is a mean for spiritual training and development. It helps one to resist temptations and to have self-discipline in life.

Al-Hajj:

Hajj or the Pilgrimage, is visiting the Kabah at least once in a lifetime if one can afford it. Kabah is the house of Allah, located in the city of Makkah. Muslims gather in Makkah in the month of Zul-Hijjah and worship Allah. This special worship lasts for several days. The Hajj brings Muslims from all over the world of different colours and races to one place—The Kabah. This strengthens the spirit of unity, equality and brotherhood.

Salah

Learn how to perform Wudu and Salah (prayer).

What do we have to do as preparation for performing Salah?

What is the importance of Niyah (intention) for Salah?

What is the Qibla? Why do we face the Qibla during prayers?

What is Qiyam? What do we have to utter in Qiyam?

What is the meaning of that?

What is Ruku? What do we have to utter in Ruku? What is the meaning of that?

What is Sujud? What do we have to utter in Sujud? What is the meaning of that?

Life of Prophet Muhammad (S) (Seerah)

Muhammad (S) is our prophet.

Muhammad(S) was born into the noble tribe of Quraish in Makkah, Arabia in 570 CE (Christian era). His father, Abdullah, died before his birth. His mother, Aminah, died when he was only six. A few days after his birth he was given to the care of Halimah; his foster-mother. It was the custom of the tribe of Quraish to give their newborn babies to foster mothers for breast feeding; Muhammad (S) was with Halimah for two years. After the death of his mother, his grandfather, Abdul

Muttalib looked after him. His grandfather died when Muhammad (S) was only 8 years old. Muhammad (S) was then looked after by his uncle Abu Talib.

The name Muhammad (S) means praiseworthy.

At the age of 40 Muhammad (S) was given the first revelation from Allah through angel Jibrail. He became the prophet of Allah. For the next 23 years of his life he shared the teachings of Allah.

Important teachings of Prophet Muhammad (S)

Prophet Muhammad (S) asked people to worship Allah alone. He taught love and brotherhood. He asked his followers to be kind and polite towards both children and the elderly and to help one another. He stopped people from doing harm to one another. He asked us to always be truthful, and to practise what we preach. He established Truth, Justice and the Islamic Society.

Hadith's are the sayings and actions of the Prophet Muhammad (S) recorded by his followers after his death.

Some Hadith

Salah

Prophet (S) said: "The key to Paradise is Salah (five daily prayers) and key to Salah is Taharah (purity- performing wudu)."

Taharah (Cleanliness)

Prophet (S) said: "Cleanliness is part of one's faith."

Prophet (S) said: "Brushing your teeth makes your mouth clean and please Allah."

Intention (Niyah)

Prophet (S) said: "Action shall be judged only by intention; a man shall get what he intends."

Study of the Quran

Prophet (S) said: "The best person among you is the one who learns the Quran and teaches it to others."

Greetings

Prophet (S) said: "Greet each other with Assalamu alaikum"

Prophet (S) said: "Say Assalamu alaikum before you talk."

Prophet (S) said: "The person closest to Allah is one who says his salam (assalamu alaikum) first."

Study of the Quran

Memorize the last 15 Surahs of the Quran.

Learn the meaning of the names of the last 15 surah of the Quran.

Learn the meaning of Surah Al-Fatiha and Al-Ikhlās Study: Some important verses

Al-Baqarah, verse 2 – Dhalik al-kitabu la raiba fi-hi, hudal lil-muttaqin (This book, the Quran, has no doubts about it at all; it guides to right path those who are Muttaqin)

Al-Imran, verse 19 - Inn ad-dina ind Allah il-Islam (Surely the true religion with Allah is Islam)

Al-Ankabut, verse 45 – Innas salata tanha anil fahshai wal munkar (Surely prayer keeps one away from indecency and evil.)

What is Quran?

Quran is the book of guidance from Allah, each word of the Quran is the word of Allah.

What is the meaning of the word 'Quran'?

The meaning of word 'Quran' is "the reading" or "that which is to be read".

What are the other names of the Quran, mentioned in the Quran itself?

The other names of the Quran, mentioned in the Quran itself, are:

Al-Furqan (the Criterion between right and wrong)

Qitabullah (the Book of Allah)

Qalamullah (the words of Allah)

Al-Jibar (the Message of Allah)

To who was the Quran revealed?

The Quran was revealed to the last Prophet Muhammad (S).

Is the Quran the only guidance from Allah?

No, Allah sent many other books of guidance to different prophets of different times,.

What are the other books of guidance?

Sahifa given to Prophet Ibrahim (A)

Tawrah given to Prophet Musa (A)

Zabur given to Prophet Dawud (A)

Inzil given to Prophet Isa (A)

Those books no longer exist today, they are lost as the followers did not safeguard them and changed them as they pleased.

How was the Quran sent down to Prophet Muhammad (S)?

Allah revealed the Quran in pieces through the Angel Jibrail, to prophet of Allah Muhammad (S). Angel Jibrail delivered the message from Allah to the Prophet (S) as exactly stated to him by Allah.

When did the revelation of Quran begin?

The first revelation of the Quran was revealed on Lailatul Qadr, in the month of Ramadan. Lailatul Qadr is on one of the odd nights after the 21st Ramadan. Prophet Muhammad was at the age of 40 at the time (around the year 610 A.D.).

Where did the Prophet receive the first revelation?

Prophet received the first revelation in the cave of Hira on a mountain near Mecca.

How long did it take to complete the Quran?

The Quran was revealed though out a period of 23 years.

Has the Quran been changed since it was revealed to the prophet Muhammad (S)?

The Quran has not been changed since it was revealed it is as it was when it was delivered from Angel Jibrail.

What is the first word revealed to Muhammad (S)?

The first word revealed to Muhammad (S) is "IQRA".

What is Surah (plural: Swar) of the Quran?

Surah is like chapters of the Quran, there are 114 Surahs or chapters in the Quran.

What is Ayah, (plural: Ayat) of the Quran?

Ayah is a sentence of Quran, and Ayat means more than one sentence?

Do all the Surahs of the Quran have the same numbers of Ayat?

No.

Which is the longest Surah? How many Ayat is there?

Al-Baqara (no.2) number of ayats 286

Name one of the shortest Surah. How many Ayat is there in the shortest Surah?

Al-Asr (no. 103) It has 3 (three) Ayat.

Do all Surah begin with 'Bismilla hir rahmanir rahim'?

Yes, except one Surah: Surah at-Tauba).

Who are called 'Qari'?

Qari is the one who has learned and mastered perfect recitation of the Quran. Qari means the excellent reader of the Quran.

What is the meaning of 'Hafiz-UI-Quran'?

Whoever has memorized the Quran is called Hafiz-ul-Quran, meaning protector of the Quran.

Why and how do we know that the Quran hasn't been changed?

The Quran has not been changed since it was revealed, because we know from the Quran that Allah has stated that He will preserve the Quran. And we see today that thousands of people have memorized the Quran.

General Knowledge, Morals and etiquettes

Etiquettes of eating and drinking

Halal and Haram

Basic facts about the Quran

Islamic festivals

Islamic Greetings

Obligation to parents

Friendship and Respect to others

What is the importance of showing respect to others?

Showing respect to others is a means of getting respect from other. Islam teaches us to respect our parents, teachers, relatives and neighbours. We should respect our friends, our younger brothers and sisters.

How should we behave with our parents?

- we should be kind to our parents
- we should take care of them
- we should talk to them politely and not be rude or shout at them

How should we treat our neighbours?

- we should be helpful towards our neighbours
- we should visit them when they are sick
- we should be polite with them and not quarrel
- we should not be jealous of them but should celebrate their happiness
- we should help them when they are in trouble

How should we be with our friends?

- we should befriend those who have good manners
- we should help friends whenever they need help
- we should not abuse our friends
- we should treat them with good manners and share our knowledge with them