

# ISLAM

Submitting Ourselves to God's Will  
A Conceptual Overview

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## THE WAVES of ISLAM in AMERICA

The 19<sup>th</sup> Century:

African Muslim Slaves to Work in  
American Plantations.

## **THE WAVES of ISLAM in AMERICA**

### **The 20<sup>th</sup> Century**

- 1. The Disintegration of The Ottoman Empire After WWI – Blue Collar Workers & Merchants from The “Fertile Crescent”, Palestine, Syria and Lebanon, mainly in N.E. US to Work at Automobile Plants & Associated Industries 1920’s**
- 2. The Academic Translation of The Qur’aan and Hadeeth (Sayings & Teachings of Prophet Muhammad (s)) to English**
- 3. The Black Muslims Movement, 1950’s**

## **THE WAVES of ISLAM in AMERICA**

### **The 20<sup>th</sup> Century**

- 4. The Educated from the Indian Subcontinent and the Middle East, 1960’s (Crème de la crème of Muslim Educated Individuals) Seeking Advanced Education and Degrees in America.**
- 5. The Iranians Before the Islamic Revolution, 1960’s**
- 6. The Emergence of the American Muslim Identity – Muslim Students Association of the US & Canada (Now ISNA) and the Islamic Centers, 1960’s and 1970’s**
- 7. The Oil Price Jump in 1973**

## **THE WAVES of ISLAM in AMERICA**

### **The 20<sup>th</sup> Century**

8. The Iranians After the Islamic Revolution, 1978 –1980's
9. **The Islamic Revolution in Iran and Salman Rushdi,80**
- 10.The Emergence of the Islamic Schools, 1980's
11. **The Emergence of the Islamic Political Organizations, 1980's**
- 12.The Growing Up of the American Born Muslims and Presence in Schools and University Campuses

## **THE WAVES of ISLAM in AMERICA**

### **The 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

**Islam As Another Prominent Religion  
in America**

**SHAPING THE FUTURE OF AMERICAN  
MUSLIMS AND ISLAM IN AMERICA**

## **A CONCEPTUAL OVERVIEW OF ISLAM**

1. Submit oneself to the Creator GOD.
2. **There is only ONE GOD.**
3. Believe in All Prophets and Messages of God.
4. **The Locomotive of History is GOD. Man (M/F) are His Tools on Earth.**
5. Islam Reinforces All God's Faiths Especially Judaism and Christianity.

## **A CONCEPTUAL OVERVIEW OF ISLAM**

6. The Empowerment of Man (M/F) – The Power of Free Choice.
7. **Creation of Adam and Eve – Partnership to Struggle Against and to Fight the Temptation of the Devil (satan.)**
8. The Responsibility of Man (M/F) on Earth – The Vicegerent of God on Earth.
9. **The Value of Time – Time is NOT Gold - Time is Irreplaceable Time is Life.**

## **SOURCES OF ISLAM**

### **THE HOLY QUR'AAN**

**The Last Word of God to Man (M/F).**

**It includes all God's Messages to Man (M/F).**

**The Legal Code of Living.**

**Overview of the Lessons of History of All Nations and All Prophets Since Arch-Prophet Abraham including Moses & Jesus (Peace be Upon All His Prophets.)**

**The Rewards to Loving of and Living by God's Laws in this Life and in the Hereafter.**

## **TEACHINGS FROM QUR'AAN**

- Sincerity, Responsibility and Integrity
- Honesty, Truthfulness
- Keeping of Commitments
- Justice and Fair Dealing
- Discipline and Self Control
- Humility, Patience and Endurance
- Kindness, Helpfulness and Cooperation
- Charity, Generosity and Hospitality
- Consideration and Good Manners
- Brotherliness, Warmth and Love
- Striving and Hard Work
- Love of Knowledge

**SOURCES OF ISLAM**  
**THE TRADITION AND PRACTICES OF**  
**PROPHET MUHAMMAD**  
**AND ALL PRIOR PROPHETS(S)**

**Putting the Qur'aan into Practice.**

**Keeping the Tradition of All Prophets**

**Universal Way of Living by Glorifying God By  
Cleansing but NOT Removing Cultural  
Heritage towards worshiping God**

**THE FIVE PILLARS OF ISLAM**

**1. ARTICLES of FAITH: One God, All Prophets of  
God, The Angels, The Books, The Day of  
Judgment and the Unseen Powers of God.**

**2. PRAYERS: Five Times – Connecting with God and  
Friday Congregational Prayers.**

**3. FASTING the Month of Ramadan.**

## **THE FIVE PILLARS OF ISLAM**

- 4. ECONOMIC SYSTEM – Zakah (Alms Giving), Inheritance and No-Riba (Asset-Based Equity Financing and Community Investing.)**
- 5. HAJJ – Pilgrimage to Makkah – The First House Ever Built by Man to Worship God. A Universal State of The Nation Spiritual & Business Conference.**

## **FACTS ABOUT ISLAM**

- 1. ISLAM – Means to Submit and it is Derived from PEACE – The Religion of Peace.**
- 2. No Compulsion in Faiths. People are Free to Choose their Beliefs.**

### **FACTS ABOUT ISLAM (contd.)**

- 3. Majority of Muslims are Non-Arabs. Indonesia, India, Pakistan and Nigeria Represent Over 65% of the Muslims. The Arabs Represent 20%.**
- 4. Islam Refers to the People of the Jewish Faith and Christian Faith as “People of the Book.”**
- 5. The Crusades are called “The Wars of the Foreigners” in Respect for the Christian Faith.**

### **FACTS ABOUT ISLAM (contd.)**

- 7. WOMEN were Given Their Rights to Vote, Participate in Government and Society as Independent Entity and Were Given Right to Own Property and to Inherit.**
- 8. Nations of All Faiths, Ethnicities, Cultures and Languages were Created to Know Each Other and to Cooperate, Know and Trade with Each Other**



## **FACTS ABOUT ISLAM**

- 9. LIFE is God's Property – Interfering with it is Interfering with God's Rights. Suicide and Killing are some of the Worst Sins.**
- 10. JIHAD – Means Struggle for Excellence towards Spiritual Purity within. Armed Self Defense (in Just War) is its Lowest Expression.**

## **DEFINITIONS**

- **Allah**
  - The Arabic name for God.
- **Qur'aan**
  - Collection of all the divine revelations to the Prophet, compiled in a book form.
- **Sunnah**
  - Teachings and practice of the Prophet.
- **Hadeeth**
  - Sunnah is recorded in several books of Hadeeth.

## DEFINITIONS

- **Shari'aa**
  - Guidance contained in Quraan and Sunnah.
  - All Islamic law is based on Shariah.
- **Fiqh**
  - Islamic Jurisprudence with five major schools:
    - 1 - Abu Haneefah    2 - Malik    3 - Shafai
    - 4 - Ibn Hanbal    5 - Jafar Sadiq
  - Sunnis follow first four, Shi'aa follow the fifth.

## Islam & Life

Life is given by God

He, God, alone has the right to take it away.

- **Qur'aan On Sanctity Of Human Life**

*Who ever kills an innocent soul is as if he has killed the whole of humanity, and who ever saves a life is as if he has saved the whole of humanity. (5:32)*

- **Prophet Muhammad**

*Who ever kills a non-Muslim, Christian, or Jew, who share his city or country will never even smell the air of paradise.*

# Jihad

- Literally means struggle.
- Best “Jihad” is to improve one’s self.
- Fighting is allowed in defense only.
- Explicitly forbidden to start a fight.
- Retaliatory response has to be proportionate.
- Forgiveness and patience to be preferred.

# Jihad & Defense

## Strict Rules of Conduct for Defensive Fighting

- No Harm to Innocents, Places of Worship and Property
- Prohibited to kill
  - Women
  - Children
  - Old, weak and sick people
  - Non combatants
  - Animals & Plants

**THANK YOU**

**MAY THE LORD BLESS ALL & SHOWER HIS  
PEACE AND WISDOM UNTO ALL AND GRANT YOU SUCCESS IN YOUR  
STUDIES**

**MAY GOD CONTINUE TO BLESS AMERICA  
AND THE WORLD**

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