



SESSION 12 Political Islam

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FOUNDED, LOCATION

Founded in Mecca (and Medina), Arabia by Muhammad (AD 570–632).

The Beginnings in Mecca were peaceful but few followers. In Medina the movement became aggressively, militant with forced conversions.

Muhammad is considered the greatest man who ever lived and the last of more than 124,000 messengers sent by Allah.

Main types: Sunni (“people of the tradition”), Shi’a (“party of Ali”), Sufi (mystics).



Muhammad in heaven

KEY WRITINGS

The Holy *Qur’an* (Koran), revealed to Muhammad by the angel Gabriel.

Essential commentaries on Muhammad’s life in the Sunnah,

composed of Hadith and Sirah. The life of a Muslim is not

so much following the Koran but copying the life of Muhammad.

Qur’an affirms the biblical Torah, Psalms, and Gospels—

but says that Jews and Christians have corrupted the original texts.



BASIC BELIEFS—Basically, Islam is both a _____ and a _____ system. In fact, the political aspect is dominant. The life of a Muslim is not so much following the Koran but copying the life of _____ as found in his autobiography the *Sirah* and *Haddith* (sayings and traditions of Muhammad). These two books make up almost 90% of what Islam is. If you know Muhammad you know Islam!

WHO IS GOD?

Allah is One and absolutely unique. He cannot be known.

The greatest sin in Islam is *shirk*, or associating anything with Allah. Human qualities like fatherhood cannot be attributed to Allah.

Muslims think that Christians believe in _____ and are therefore guilty of *shirk*.

WHO IS JESUS?

Jesus (*Isa* in Arabic) was not God or the Son of God.

His virgin birth is likened to _____.

He was sinless, a worker of miracles, and one of the most respected prophets sent by Allah (though inferior to Muhammad).

He was not crucified or resurrected.

He, not Muhammad, will return to play a special role before the future judgment day, perhaps turning Christians to Islam.

WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

“Holy spirit” can refer to Allah, to the angel Gabriel, or to a spirit used by Allah to give life to man and inspire the prophets.

HOW TO BE SAVED

Unbelievers are called _____ which is the worst word possible to a Muslim. Kafir are to be abused in every way until they convert. Infidels are a special class of Kafir (Jews & Christians). The balance between good and bad deeds determines one's destiny in paradise or hell—but Allah may tip the balances toward heaven. Man is basically good but needs help. One should always live with the fear of Allah and judgment day.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER DEATH?

One may pray for and seek favor for the dead before judgment day.

Belief in _____.

Paradise includes a garden populated with *houris*, maidens designed by Allah to provide sexual pleasure to righteous men.



OTHER BELIEFS, PRACTICES The Five Pillars of Islam

1. **Confession**---shahada---“There is no god but Allah and Mohammed is his prophet.”
 2. **Almsgiving**—zakat---This is only dispersed to Muslims or support *jihad.
 3. **Prayer**---salat-- 5 times daily.
 4. **Pilgrimage**--Hajj---At least one trip to Mecca required during life.
 5. **Fasting** (especially during Ramadan)---sawm---No food or drink while sun is up.
- ***Jihad**—war/struggle against Kafir. It is a pillar since it is _____ of all Muslims. However, it does not have to involve a sword, gun or bomb. Jihad can be done with the sword, with the mouth, with a pen and with money.

Islam is **NOT** a religion of peace. Also, Islam is a _____. They have their Sharia law, religion and political system and structure. They mean to convert the world.

Kafir either convert or die or submit to *Dhimmitude* which is a provision in Islam that allows unbelievers to live within the Islam community. Under these conditions (and they are abusive so as to force you to convert) you can still practice your religious beliefs (just don't get caught). The goal of *dhimmitude* is to shame persecute/pressure a person until they _____.

To understand Islam you must also understand _____. Our western thinking is the wrong frame of reference for understanding a Muslim. For example, a Muslim cannot lie to another Muslim but can to a Kafir to advance the cause Allah. Also, when they tell Kafir they are tolerant of other religions they are referring to *Dhimmitude*. In *Dhimmitude* you are physically abused, pay 50% or more taxes and still follow Sharia Law! Another example is “peace.” “Peace” to us means absence of conflict but to the Muslim it means submission to Allah through Jihad.

OTHER

Muslims meet in mosques for prayers, sermons, counsel.

Emphasis on hospitality, developing a sense of community, and maintaining honor (or avoiding shame) among other Muslims but not the Kafir.

ANSWERS:

Qur'an, Religion, Political, Muhammad, Sirah, Haddith,
Three Gods, Adam's Creation, Kafir, Bodily Resurrection,
Not, Complete Civilization, Convert, Duality