

Subject Islamic studies

Instructor: Mr. Saad Haider

Final term Assignment

50 Marks

Department Radiology

Second Semester

**Name: Abdul Mobeen**

**ID Number: 16850**

### **Answer the following questions.**

Q1. What is the meaning of zakat ? and explain its objectives

Ans:

#### **Meaning of Zakat:**

- a Tax
- Comprising percentages of personal income of every kind
- Levied as almsgiving for the relief of the poor
- The third of the Pillars of Islam.

“And establish prayer and give Zakat, and whatever good you put forward for yourselves – you will find it with Allah.” (2:110, Qur’an)

As one of the pillars of Islam, zakat is a form of obligatory charity that has the potential to ease the suffering of millions.

According to the Hanafi madhab, zakat is 2.5% of wealth that has been in one’s possession for a lunar year. If wealth amounts to less than a threshold figure, termed the nisab, then no zakat is payable. If wealth amounts to more than the nisab, zakat becomes obligatory.

“Of their goods, take zakat, so that you might purify and sanctify them.” (9:103, Qur’an)

Islamic Relief utilises zakat to help some of the world’s poorest and most destitute communities. Your donations bring joy to these people, and brings hope that one day they will be able to give rather than receive zakat.

## Objectives of Zakat:

### **Zakat: An Act of Devotion and Worship**

The objective of Zakat,

- As emphasised in the Qur’an, is a glorious objective of purification and upliftment (Surah Al-Taubah 9:103).
- In that sense, Zakat washes away sins and impurities in the same way that Salaah washes away sins and impurities.
- This is why it is mentioned in the sayings that Zakat carries the “dirt” (awsakh) of people.
- Allah created the worlds with the objective of worshipping and praising Him.
- Creation worships Allah using all their faculties and abilities, including physical, mental and material forms of worship.
- Some financial worships of previous nations required them to feed their material resources to a burning fire.
- Islam as the final and complete message doesn’t allow wastage of resources.
- Therefore, all financial worships in Islam find their route to the pockets of the poor and needy.
- The inner intention when discharging Zakat should be based on the fulfilment of the Commandments of Allah.
- The objective is to engage in a specialised form of worship, solely for the pleasure of Allah.

- The individual who sincerely dispenses his Zakat most definitely becomes the recipient of the promised rewards and benediction of Allah.
- Surah Al-Baqarah (2:276) tells us that: “Allah will deprive usury of all blessing, but will give increase for deeds of charity: For He does not love the one who is ungrateful and wicked.”
- The Hadith of the Prophet (peace be upon him) enunciates this concept very beautifully: “When a slave of Allah pays Zakat, the Angels of Allah pray for him in these words: “O Allah! Grant abundance to him who spends (in Your cause) and destroy him who does not spend and restricts to himself his wealth.”” (Bukhari)
- Abdullah bin Abi Aufa narrated: When the people brought Sadaqah to the Prophet (peace be upon him) he used to say, “O Allah! Bless them with your Mercy.” Once my father came with his Sadaqah to him whereupon he i.e. the Prophet (peace be upon him) said. “O Allah! Bless the family of Abu Aufa.”
- (Bukhari) When a Muslim pays Zakat, Allah increases his sustenance.
- Although at a human level it may seem that giving of wealth means reduction of wealth, in reality it is not.
- At a metaphysical level, Allah blesses the giver of Zakat to an extent that is beyond human perception. This is very well-defined by the following Hadith: “Charity does not diminish wealth.” (Muslim)
- Sadaqah and Zakat are mentioned in the Qur’an and Sunnah, sometimes interchangeably, and often refer to the same thing, i.e. the obligatory payment.  
For example:

1. The word Zakat is mentioned 30 times in the Qur’an.
2. Salaah and Zakat are interlinked in 28 places in the Qur’an.
3. Zakat is not linked with Salaah in 2 places in the Qur’an. (Surah Al-‘Araf 7:156 & Surah Ar-Rum 30:39)
4. Zakat always refers to the annual obligatory fixed payment from one’s wealth.

On the other hand:

1. The word Sadaqah is mentioned 13 times in the Qur’an.
2. Sadaqah covers the meaning of obligatory and voluntary charity.
3. Sadaqah is referred to as feeding the poor as an expiation for shaving the head while in Ihram. (Surah Al-Baqarah 2:196)

4.Sadaqah means the obligatory charity (i.e. Zakat) in 2 places. (Surah Al-Taubah 9:60 and 9:103).

## **Warning Against the Rejection of Zakat**

Several Hadith mention the warning the Prophet (peace be upon him) gave to those who reject the payment of Zakat. His warning of severe punishment in the hereafter was aimed at awakening dormant hearts and shaking miserly souls to give, both by positive encouragement and fear of punishment. If they do not perform this duty with awakened consciences, the power and authority of the state was used to collect Zakat.

Abu Hurairah (RA) reported: The Messenger of Allah said: “He who is given wealth by Allah but he does not pay its Zakat, that wealth is made for him, on the Day of Judgment, into the form of a huge bald serpent with two horns, encircling that person and squeezing him all day, then holding him by lips telling him, ‘I am your wealth, your treasure that you hoarded.’” Then the Prophet (peace be upon him) quoted [Surah Al-Imran 3:180], “And let not those who covetously withhold the gift that Allah has given them of His grace think that it is good for them. Nay, it will be worse for them. Soon shall the things which they covetously withheld be tied to their necks like a collar on the Day of Judgment.” (Bukhari)

Not only did the Prophet (peace be upon him) issue a stern warning with regard to the punishment in the Hereafter, but he went on to warn of a punishment in this life as well, both from Allah and from the State.

The Prophet (peace be upon him) said: “Zakat is never intermingled with any amount of wealth without destroying and rotting it.” (Bukhari). This saying has two meanings according to Al Mundhiri. Firstly, that whenever due Zakat is not paid it will be a cause for ruining that wealth. “Whenever any amount of wealth is destroyed in the land or in the sea it could be because its Zakat was not paid.” (Al-Tabarani). Secondly, if a person who takes Zakat as recipient without deserving that Zakat and mixes it with his wealth, it will be a reason for rotting all his wealth. (Ahmad)

Q2. Write prime categories of prayers and what is the difference between nafl and wajib prayer?

Ans:

## Prime

The word "Prime" comes from Latin and refers to the first hour of daylight (that which begins at sunrise).

"Seven times a day I praise you for your righteous rules" and which he distinguishes from the one nocturnal office of Night Watch.

- Prime or Early Morning Prayer (First Hour = approximately 6 a.m.)
- Terce or Mid-Morning Prayer (Third Hour = approximately 9 a.m.)
- Sext or Midday Prayer (Sixth Hour = approximately 12 noon)
- None or Mid-Afternoon Prayer (Ninth Hour = approximately 3 p.m.)

Canonical hour

- Any of certain periods of the day set apart for prayer and devotion
- these are matins and lauds, prime, tierce, sext, nones, vespers, and compline. prime
- The second canonical hour; about 6 a.m.

How do you spend an hour in prayer?

Listen and Read Along

1. PRAISE. Start your prayer hour by praising the Lord. ...
2. WAIT. Spend time waiting on the Lord. ...
3. CONFESS. Ask the Holy Spirit to show you anything in your life that might be displeasing to Him. ...
4. READ THE WORD. ...
5. ASK. ...
6. INTERCESSION. ...
7. PRAY THE WORD. ...
8. THANK.

Difference between nafl and wajib prayer

## Nafil

- means it is optional.
- If done, one will be rewarded for it.
- However, if one fails to do it, then there is no harm.
- It will not be regarded as sin unlike for fardh Salah.

## Wajib

- Wajib Islam A religious duty
- Something that Muslims are obliged to do.
- Wājib means essential or necessary.
- Technically, it is an act that must be performed, and abandoning it is a [sin](#) and causes.

## WAJIB PRAYERS

1) Festival Prayers (Salat-al-Eidain): The two yearly festival prayers consist of two rakahs. They are performed in congregation. Salat of Eid al-Fitr and Salat of Eid al-Adha.

2) Odd-Numbered Prayer (Salat al-Witr): It composed of three rakahs. It is performed daily after the Night Prayer (Salah 'Isha). If one misses the Odd-Numbered Prayer, it is also wajib to make it up.

1- Starting the prayer with the takbir "Allah-u Akbar";

2- Reciting the Fatiha Completely;

3- Reciting a surah (chapter) of the Noble Qur'an after the Fatiha in the first two rakats of the any obligatory prayer and in all the rakats of the Odd-Numbered Prayer (Salat al-Witr) and again in all the rakats of any optional (Nafilah) prayer;

4- Reciting the Fatiha before the additional Surah (chapter);

- 5- When prostrating, placing the fore head and nose on the ground together;
- 6- Performing the two prostrations (Sajdah) successively;
- 7- Paying attention to "tadil arkan" (i.e. perform all pillars of the prayer with ease, not shortening them);
- 8- In the three rakat or four rakat prayers, sitting at the completion of the second rakat;
- 9- Reciting at-Tahiyatu at the end of the second rakat and when one sits before one has made salutation (Salaam);
- 10- When performing any of the obligatory three-rakats and four rakats prayers, Odd-Numbered Prayer (Salat al-Witr) and the first sunnah part of the Noon prayer (Salat az-Zuhr), Standing up for the third rakat as soon as one has recited the at-Tahiyatu at the end of the second rakat;
- 11- When performed congregation, the prayer leader (imam) reciting aloud the Fatiha and the additional surahs of the Noble Qur'an in the obligatory rakats of the Morning Prayer (Salat al-Fajr), in the first two rakats of the obligatory rakats of the Sunset Prayer (Salat al-Maghrib) and the Late Evening Prayer (Salat al-Isha), in the Friday Assembly Prayer (Salat jum'a), and in both the Festival Prayer (Eid Prayers)
- 12- Again in the Tarawih Prayer and Odd-Numbered prayer following it in the month of Ramadan, the imam's reciting aloud the Fatiha and the additional surahs;
- 13- In the obligatory sections of the Noon Prayer (Salat az-Zuhr) and the Late Afternoon Prayer (Salat al-Asr), the imam reciting silently the Fatiha and the additional surahs of the Noble Qur'an;
- 14- While following the imam, not reciting anything but remaining silent;
- 15- Reciting the Supplications in the Odd-Numbered prayer;
- 16- Performing the additional Takbirs in the Eid Prayers;
- 17- Giving salaam at the end of the prayer;

18- Making sajdah sahw (prostration for forgetfulness) at the end of the a prayer if a mistake has been made in it;

19- Making a prostration after finishing an ayat where a sajdah is called for. This prostration is called the "recitation prostration" or Sajdah Tilawat.

On, we must not only perform the missed prayers, but we also must ask Allah forgiveness.

Q3. write any five signs of before the day of judgememnt.

Ans

**Five signs of before the day of judgememnt.**

- 1) The Arrival of Imam Mehdi. ...
- 2) Dajjal Will Come. ...
- 3) The Descent Of Jesus. ...
- 4) The Emergence Of Yajooj And Majooj. ...
- 5) The Smoke Will Appear. ...

1) **The Arrival of Imam Mehdi**

*"The world will not pass away before the Arabs are ruled by a man (referring to Mahdi) of my family whose name will be the same as mine"*

*(Abu Dawud).*

## **Signs that will Precede Imam Mahdi**

### **1) A General Sign**

There are many signs that will precede him, a general and very important sign is that he will come at a time when there is great confutation, intense disputes and violent deaths. When people are afflicted by disturbance and experiencing great fear. Calamities will fall upon the people, so much so that a man shall not find a shelter to shelter him self from oppression. There will be battles and fitnaas before



his appearance. Every time a fitnaa has come to end, another will start, spread and intensify. The people will be troubled to such an extent that they will long for death. It is then that Imam Mahdi will be sent.

Abu Saeed Al-Khudri has reported that the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said "He will be sent at a time of intense disputes and differences among people and earthquakes..." (Ahmed)

## 2) The Double Eclipse In Ramadan

Note. The Double Eclipse In Ramadan statement quoted from Darequtni is NOT verified, indeed it's authenticity is questionable. It is NOT to be considered as authentic Hadith.

## 3) The Battle in Mina

Before Imam Mahdi emerges an inter-tribal fight will take place. In the same year hajis will be looted and a battle will erupt in [Mina](#) in which many people will be killed. Ameer bin Shauaib reported from his grandfather that the messenger of Allah ﷺ said:

***"In Dhul Qaidah (Islamic Month) the tribes will fight, Hajis will be looted and there will be a battle in Mina in which many people will be slain and blood will flow until it runs over the Jamaratul Aqba. Their companion (referring to Imam Mahdi) will flee to a point between the corner and the Maqaam and will be forced to accept people's allegiance."***  
(Al-Fitan, Nuaim ibn Hammad)



## 4) The Euphrates will Disclose a Mountain of Gold

The Final Hour will not come until the river Euphrates (which flows through Syria and Iraq and finally opens in the Gulf) will disclose a mountain of gold over which people will fight and die Abu Hurairah رضي الله عنه reported that the Messenger of [Allah](#) ﷺ said:

***"The shall not occur until the Euphrates will disclose a mountain of gold, over which people will fight. 99 out of every hundred shall die, and every one of them shall say, 'perchance I shall be the one to succeed'"***  
(Muslim)

In another narration we have been told that who ever is present at the time when the Euphrates discloses a mountain of gold should not take the gold

### 5) Emergence of the Sufyani

The Sufyani (a descendant of Abu Sufyan) will emerge before Imam Mahdi from the depths of Damascus. According to some weak narrations, his name will be Urwa bin Muhammad and his kunniya 'Abu Utbah'. The Ahadith regarding the Sufyani specify that he is a tyrant who will spread corruption and mischief on the earth before Imam Mahdi. He will be such a tyrant that he will kill the children and rip out the bellies of women. When he hears about the Mahdi, he will send an army to seize and kill him. However the earth will swallow this army before it even reaches Imam Mahdi. Abu Hurairah  has narrated that the Prophet  said:

***"A man will emerge from the depths of Damascus. He will be called Sufyani. Most of those who follow him will be from the tribe of Kalb. He will kill by ripping the stomachs of women and even kill the children. A man from my family will appear in the Haram, the news of his advent will reach the Sufyani and he will send to him one of his armies. He (referring to Imam Mahdi) will defeat them. They will then travel with whoever remains until they come to a desert and they will be swallowed. None will be saved except the one who had informed the others about them."***  
**(Mustadrak).**

### 2) Dajjal Will Come.

**Al-Dajjāl**, (Arabic: “The Deceiver”), in Islamic eschatology, a false messianic figure who will come forth before the end of time; after a reign of 40 days or 40 years, he will be destroyed by Christ or the *mahdī* (“rightly guided one”) or both, and the world will submit to God. Al-Dajjāl first appeared as the Antichrist in pseudoapocalyptic Christian literature and is reworked in *ḥadīth* (sayings) ascribed to the Prophet Muhammad. There he is described as a plump, one-eyed man with a ruddy face and curling hair and the Arabic letters *k-f-r* (“unbelief”) on his forehead. Al-Dajjāl will appear during a period of great tribulation; he will be followed by the Jews and will claim to be God in Jerusalem. He will work false miracles, and most people will be deceived. At this moment will occur the Second Coming of Christ

### 3) The Descent Of Jesus

the Prophet of Allah Jesus son of Mary (peace be upon him) will descend at the end of time and judge among the people with justice, following the Law of our Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him). He will break the crosses and kill the swine. He shall put an end to the payment of the jizya. He will only accept Islam from the people.

The People of the Book, the Jews and Christians, will all believe in him before his death, after he descends at the end of time. Allah has stated, "There is none of the People of the book but must believe in him (as only a Messenger of Allah) before his death. And on the Day of Resurrection, he (Jesus) will be a witness against them." [an-Nisa, 4:159]

Allah has stated that all of the People of the Book, Jews and Christians, will believe in Jesus son of Mary (peace be upon him) before his death - that is, before the death of Jesus. That will be when he descends at the end of time as a judge and just caller to Islam, as shall be noted in the hadith describing his descent.

### 4) The Emergence Of Yajooj And Majooj.

They are mentioned in [suras 18 and 21](#) of the [Qur'ān](#), the holy book of Islam. According to the [Qur'ān](#), a certain people terrorized by [Yājūj](#) and [Mājūj](#) induced [Dhū al-Qarnayn](#) (a figure identified by some scholars as [Alexander the Great](#) and by others as either of the Persian kings [Cyrus II](#) or [Darius I](#)) to construct between [Yājūj](#) and [Mājūj](#) a great wall that neither could scale or penetrate (18:94–97), trapping both between two mountains until just before the [Last Judgment](#) (18:98–100, 21:96). A [hadith](#) (recorded saying of the Prophet [Muhammad](#)) states that they dig under the wall every night trying to escape, only to find each morning that the wall has been restored by [Allāh](#) (God). Only at the appointed time will [Allāh](#) allow the wall to collapse, freeing [Yājūj](#) and [Mājūj](#).

Some later traditions expand the portrayal of [Yājūj](#) and [Mājūj](#), providing various descriptions of them. Some [Yājūj](#) and [Mājūj](#) are as tall as cedars, others as wide as they are tall, and some completely covered by their ears. They will appear in large numbers in the northeast of the ancient world as portents of the end, then proceed south toward Israel, drinking up the waters of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers or the [Sea of Galilee](#) and killing everyone along the way. When there are no more human targets left for their arrows, [Yājūj](#) and [Mājūj](#) will shoot at the sky, hoping to destroy heaven. Then [Allāh](#) will attack their necks with worms that will fill their ears and noses, thus killing them.

## 5) The Smoke Will Appear.

The Quran says '*Wait for the day when smoke appears from the sky*'. According to Hadith '*The smoke will come from the Sky and will cover all the world for the 40 days*' It is said that smoke will be like a chill for the believers but will give a hard time to non-believers. Now, there are a lot of perceptions about what actually smoke will be like. The most common assumption is environmental pollution or an atomic explosion. Whatever the case may be, the result will be one of the signs of the day of judgement in Islam

Q4.what is hajj and explain benefits of hajj.

Ans:

## **Hajj:**

Every year, the world witnesses the huge gathering of Muslims on one of their holiest sites – The Mecca! The sole reason for a huge gathering is to reconnect with the creator and ask for His forgiveness. Salam Planet knows that many of you (regardless of the religion) have the question ‘What is hajj and why it is important’, well, you do not have to think much about it as you are at the right place! Read the article thoroughly and get the answers in an appropriate way.

### **Facts About Hajj (Pilgrimage) To Know!**

- Pilgrimage is a three to five days ritual in honor of Hazrat Muhammad (Saww) and his ancestor Prophet – Hazrat Ibrahim
- More than three million people have been recorded who attended the pilgrimage.
- It starts on 8<sup>th</sup> and ends on 12<sup>th</sup> date of the month Zil Hajj
- People from all over the world and belonging to different fields of life come at one place – Mecca for one purpose.

### **What Is Hajj And Why Is It Important?**

Pilgrimage or Hajj in Arabic, is one of the pillars of Islam whose acceptance is must if one call himself/herself Muslims. It is performed annually and is obligatory only for those who can afford it financially and physically. Muslims perform the ritual in the month of Zil Hajj which is the 8<sup>th</sup> month of Islamic Lunar Calendar and between dates 8<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. After performing Hajj, Muslims celebrate Eid ul Adha! The rites of Pilgrimage were first explained by the Holy Prophet (Saww) and later preserved and taught by scholars to new generations.

Now, one may wonder what are the benefits of performing pilgrimage and why it has been made compulsory for the financially and physically able Muslims to perform it once in their lifetime. The significance of Hajj is described below:

### **Pillar Of Islam**

Islam stands on five major yet important pillars. One of them is Hajj. It is an essential pillar as one has to have faith in all the five pillars to complete their faith

in the religion of Islam. So, by performing pilgrimage you are completing your faith

### **Unity For All Muslims**

The most beautiful sight on Hajj, you can witness is Muslims setting aside their differences and coming under the umbrella of unity. They do not look at each other with different perspectives, rather appreciate them for coming all the way from their countries for one purpose. Such a feeling is worth millions of dollars and can only be achieved once you enter the holy place.

### **Purpose**

Hajj renews your purpose of life. Those who come with empty hearts, return with filled hearts. During the pilgrimage, you meditate, meet different inspiring individuals, listen to amazing soulful sermons and focus on yourself; all these factors contribute in renewing your purpose and relive your personality which you lost during the way in trying to follow the worldly matters.

### **Humility**

Islam teaches us to let go of our ego and make us humble in various ways. The ways may be hard or easy depending on the stamina, strength and nature of an individual. The ultimate result is achieving humility. When you are performing Hajj, you see people sleeping on the ground, eating on the ground and no matter the rank everyone sits alongside in the sermons and listen to the message of Allah. These acts promote humility.

### **Tranquility**

Among the things that are prohibited when you enter the Ihram is staying away from anger, fights or anything that provokes you. When a person observes this behavior continuously and 24-hours, they start building a habit and as a result, they achieve the state of Tranquility, which is an important aspect of Muslim in faith.

### **A Learning Journey**

The three to five days' journey is not just for the scholars but those who have questions relating to their religion, are newcomers in the fold of Islam or just in search of unlimited knowledge; Hajj proves to be a beneficial journey as you can meet hundreds of people belonging from different ethnicity, race, culture and parts of the world. Everyone having knowledge of its own, is seeing sharing with a group of aspirants. Through this practice, one's knowledge regarding Islam, daily routine issues and materialistic problems, is increased.

## **A Fresh Start**

“He who performs Hajj for ALLAH’s pleasure and avoids all lewdness and sins will return after Hajj free from all sins as he was the day his mother gave birth to him.” – **Holy Prophet (Saww)**

As promised by the Last Messenger of Allah, you will get a fresh start free of sins once you perform Hajj. It is one of the many facts about hajj and Muslims hold strong believe in it.

No doubt, Hajj fulfills your desires and make you a better person. You can feel the change before coming to the holy place and after leaving it. It is one of the beautiful feelings in the world and we pray that everyone gets the chance to perform pilgrimage at least once in a lifetime.

Q5, what is tawhid and prophethood in islam?

Ans:

## **Tawhid**

The oneness of God All Muslims accept the idea that there is one God – known as Tawhid or monotheism. Shi'a Muslims believe the Qur'an is clear on al-Tawhid, stating that Allah is the one and only God who has no peers, no match and no partners. He is believed to be eternal, the first and the last

- ✓ Tawhid is a fundamental belief within Islam.
- ✓ the Qur'an describes this as a duty for all humans.
- ✓ Surah 112' 'Say he is Allah , the one the only'
- ✓ 1st Principle of Shi'a Islam: 'Allah is the only God in the world', etc
- ✓ Tawhid is practised throughout a Muslims life and must never be forsaken.
- ✓ 'Verily, Allah forgives not the sin of setting up partners in worship with Him, but He forgives whom He wills sins other than that'
- ✓ (4:116) / Al Ahad: the One and only (one of the Beautiful Ninety-Nine Names), etc.
- ✓ The Prophet Muhammad taught Tawhid for 13 years in Makkah / this shows that Muslims should also take this duty seriously / and never commit the mistake of shirk.
- ✓ when giving instructions about teaching nonMuslims,
- ✓ Muhammad said, 'Let the first thing to which you will invite them be the tawhid', etc.
- ✓ 'There is no God but Allah' / this is the first part of the Shahadah / the Muslim declaration of faith / so Tawhid is at the heart of every Muslim's faith, etc.

## **Prophethood**

Prophethood is a key belief in Islam.

It is based around the fact that Allah has sent a series of messengers to give human kind guidance on how to follow the straight path.

Risalah, meaning prophethood or the belief in prophets, is a basic article of faith for Muslims.



Prophets are messengers sent from God, or Allah, to help Muslims follow the straight path. Although the names of many prophets are recorded in both the Bible and the Qur'an, the Qur'an records the names of twenty-five prophets.

However, there are only a select few who are considered to be true prophets according to Islam. They are:

- Adam
- Abraham and Isaac (also known as Ibrahim and Ishmael)
- Jesus (also known as Isa)
- Prophet Muhammad

Say, [O believers], "We have believed in Allah and what has been revealed to us and what has been revealed to Abraham and Ishmael and Isaac and Jacob and the Descendants and what was given to Moses and Jesus and what was given to the prophets from their Lord. We make no distinction between any of them, and we are Muslims [in submission] to Him. [Qur'an 2:136](#)

### **Islamic teachings on Adam**

Adam is the first man and the first prophet. Muslims believe Adam is the ancestor of the human race. He married Hawa, another name for Eve, and had two sons called Cain and Abel.

Muslims believe he first built the Ka'bah and worshipped Allah. For Muslims, the Ka'bah is the most sacred place on Earth and is located in Mecca, Saudi Arabia. It is the place to which all Muslims face as they pray.

The Ka'bah is a building situated in the middle of the Al-Masjid Al-Ḥaram mosque in Mecca. It is the most sacred site in the world for Muslims.

In the Qur'an, Adam is both the physical and spiritual ancestor of humankind.

Allah has a special relationship with Adam and commands the angels to bow down to Adam.

### **Teachings on Ibrahim and Ishmael**

Ibrahim (Abraham) and Ishmael (Isaac) are very significant prophets. This is because they understood the monotheistic nature of God at a time in history when many others believed in the existence of many gods, also known as polytheism.

Both prophets displayed an inner knowledge that there was really only one true God.

Ibrahim demonstrated his complete faith in Allah when told to sacrifice his son Ishmael. The story is commemorated in the annual celebration of the festival of **Id-ul-Adha**.

Ibrahim is a very interesting figure because he is depicted in the **Qur'an** as somebody who, from a very early age, had problems trying to understand God and trying to discover God. Ibrahim lived in a society where polytheism, or a belief in many gods, was the common belief. Ibrahim searched for God and discovered there was only one God.

And so from that perspective, Abraham is considered to be neither a Jew, a Christian nor a Muslim. He is a 'hanif', ie somebody who essentially and intrinsically knows that there is really only one God.

### **Teachings on Isa (Jesus)**

Muslims believe that Jesus is one of the greatest prophets and often refer to him as Isa.

And We did certainly give Moses the Torah and followed up after him with messengers. And We gave Jesus, the son of Mary, clear proofs and supported him with the Pure Spirit. But is it [not] that every time a messenger came to you, [O Children of Israel], with what your souls did not desire, you were arrogant? And a party [of messengers] you denied and another party you killed. **Qur'an 2:87**

Muslims accept:

- the Virgin Birth - that Jesus was born in a special way
- the teachings of Jesus regarding how people should have a deep relationship with God and live a moral life

Muslims do **not** accept:

- that Jesus was the son of God
- the Christian belief of the Trinity, as this undermines the belief in Tawhid

Most Muslims believe in the Second Coming, or Parousia - the idea that Jesus will return to the Earth at the end of time. However, a small minority disagree with this.

## Teachings on Muhammad

Muhammad was born in Mecca. The Prophet Muhammad became the messenger of Allah after his first experience of revelation in the year 610. Muhammad had escaped to the mountains near Mecca during the month of Ramadan and was meditating in a cave when the Angel Jibril appeared to him. Muhammad was aged forty at the time and could not read, but three times Jibril ordered him to 'recite'. The angel said:

Proclaim! In the name of thy Lord and Cherisher, who created – created man, out of a (mere) clot of congealed blood. Proclaim! And thy Lord Is Most Bountiful! He who taught (the use of) the pen taught man that which he knew not. **Qur'an 96:1-5**

Muslims believe Allah chose Muhammad to be his prophet because he was a fair and wise man and because he was concerned for the people.

Allah continued to reveal his word to the prophet for the next 23 years. The revealed teachings were written down by the Prophet Muhammad's close friends and followers. The popular view amongst Muslims is that the final words of Allah to Muhammad were: This day I have perfected your religion for you, completed My favour upon you, and have chosen for you Islam as your religion.

## Importance

Muhammad is the last prophet sent by God and is referred to as the Seal of the Prophets. This means the Qur'an is the final revelation sent by God.

Because the Prophet Muhammad is of such importance to them, Muslims try to live in the ways of the prophet, and the Hadith and Sunnah are important sources of authority for Muslims to guide their lives.

## Message

Muslims believe the Prophet Muhammad has been chosen by Allah to give a universal message to all humanity. The message is that Allah is one and he is the God of all. God is to be worshipped by all. God is the final judge.

The End