

Key Content and Sources of Authority

Beliefs about prophethood, Muhammad and other significant prophets

Prophethood (Risalah) – *Qur'an 2:136 '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... Moses and Jesus.'*

- Islamic teachings on Adam, the first prophet.
- Islamic teachings on Ibrahim and Ishmael.
- Isa: Islamic teachings on Prophet Jesus (*Qur'an 2:87 'And we gave Jesus, the son of Mary, clear proofs and supported him with Pure Spirit [i.e., the Angel Gabriel]'*)
- Islamic teachings on Muhammad: the Seal of the Prophets.

Beliefs about Akhira (afterlife)

- Al-Qadr (predestination): Implications for human freedom.
- Akhirah: human responsibility and accountability.
- Human freedom and its relationship to the Day of Judgement.
- Muslim beliefs about the nature, stages and purpose of heaven.
- Muslim beliefs about the nature and purpose of hell.

Practices

- Muslim Identity and Ummah.
- Features of mosques in Wales and elsewhere: domes, minarets, qibla wall, mihrab, minbar.
- Pilgrimage to Mecca as an obligatory act: purpose and practices/rituals (*Qur'an 3:18 Allah witnesses that there is no deity except Him*).
- Clothing: hijab, niqab, burkha – diversity of attitudes and practices within Islam as seen in different Muslim communities in Wales.
- Lesser Jihad; the conditions for declaration of lesser jihad (*Qur'an 2:190, 'Fight in the way of Allah those who fight against you but do not transgress. Indeed, Allah does not like transgressors'. 22:39 'Permission [to fight] has been given to those who are being fought, because they were wronged. And indeed, Allah is competent to give them victory.'*)

Festivals and commemorations

- Id-ul-Adha: how Muslims celebrate this in Wales and elsewhere.
- Id-ul-Fitr: how Muslims celebrate this in Wales and elsewhere.
- The Night of Power: how the giving of the Qur'an is commemorated.

Key Concepts

Prophet	A person regarded as an inspired teacher or proclaimer of the will of God.
Mosque	A Muslim place of worship
Al-Qadr	Predestination of the will of Allah
Isa	Arabic name for the prophet Jesus
Makkah	Muslim Holy city in Saudi Arabia
Akhira	Islamic term for a belief in the afterlife
Muhammad	Founder of Islam, messenger of God and Seal of the prophets
Burkah	A loose garment covering the entire body, but the eyes
Lesser Jihad	The outward struggle to defend one's faith, family and country from threat.
Ummah	The worldwide community of believers in Islam
Hijab	A headscarf worn by Muslim women
Id-ul-Fitr	The festival celebrated at the end of Ramadan

Exam Practice

- Describe Muslim teachings about Adam. [5]
- Describe how Muslims prepare for pilgrimage. [5]
- Explain ways in which Muslims might celebrate Id-ul-Fitr in Wales or elsewhere. [8]
- Explain why prophets are important in Islam. [8]
- 'Pilgrimage for Muslims is no longer important.' Discuss this statement showing that you have considered more than one point of view. (You must refer to religion and belief in your answer.) [15]
- 'Muslim dress customs are out of date'. Discuss this statement showing that you have considered more than one point of view. (You must refer to religion and belief in your answer.) [15]

Refer to band descriptors to see what is expected.

Key Connections

- How do beliefs about judgement relate to the wearing of a hijab or burkha?
- How do beliefs about key prophets relate to Hajj?
- How do beliefs about the afterlife relate to *life on earth*?