

Islam is to believe that this universe and what it contains have a Creator Who is Allah the One and the Unique. Allah does not have any partner and He deserves to be worshipped alone. Also, Islam is to believe that Allah is fully aware of all creation and that He sees them and hears them. As well as to believe that He is over his throne above the heavens, One must leave off all worship directed to other than Allah. Also, Islam is to believe that Allah did not create mankind for amusement; rather He created them to worship Him. And He will raise them once again on the Day of Judgment to take them to account of their actions of this life.

Islam is to believe that Allah has angels that are unlike humans. He created them from light, and appointed jobs for them. Among them is the angel Gabriel, whom Allah has placed in charge of delivering the revelations to the Prophets, and an angel to take the souls, and many more.

Islam is to believe that Allah has sent down books to the Prophets like the Torah, the Gospel, the Psalms and the last being the Qur'an which He sent down to Muhammad **Peace be Upon him**. All these books command to worship Allah alone with no partners. These books were faced with alteration due to the extensive length of time. This was done by the enemies of the religion who consume the money of the people by deception. Except the Qur'an which was sent down to the Prophet Muhammad. It has been completely preserved within the chests of men, women, and children. Allah has made it a miracle for mankind and has taken it upon Himself to protect it from any kind of loss or alteration. Moreover, Allah has made the Qur'an dominate over the previous books. And it consists of various scientific facts which make the leading figures of modern science witness its challenge.

Islam is to believe that Allah created Adam from clay, and that he is the first human which Allah entered into paradise. Adam down to the earth and made for him offspring to test them. After

many years people went astray, and the devils misled them to worshipping idols. So Allah sent Messengers from mankind to convey the message of Allah to them. The Message was to worship Allah alone with no partners, to follow the Messengers and to leave off any sort of worship to other than Allah. From the Prophets are Noah, Abraham, Moses, Jesus, and the last of them, Muhammad, the seal of all Prophets. The muslim is not considered a true muslim unless he honors and believes in all Allah's Messengers.

Islam is to believe that everything which happens in this universe is from the decree of Allah, and that He has already written it before it takes place. Of course, a person is Commanded to do action he is responsible for all his/her deeds in this life and in the after-life. So, a person must work and should not argue Allah's decree. And this believe makes you satisfied.

Islam commands to have mercy, kindness, integrity, close family relations, honesty and all the other good characters and manners. And it forbids oppression, fornication, stealing, violence, cheating, killing the innocent, treachery, lying, deception, boasting, insulting and all the other immoral characteristics and manners. The mistakes which some Muslims make do not represent Islam, but they represent those who commit them.

Islam does not differentiate between black and white, nor between the rich and the poor, nor between Arab and non-Arab. Rather, Islam looks at the one who is more in piety, faith, and good deeds. This is the one who is closest to Allah.

Islam commands to be in constant repentance to Allah. Anyone who commits a sin, then regrets what he has done, afterwards intends never to return to it, and asks Allah for His forgiveness, Allah will forgive him. No one can come between him and his repentance to stop it from reaching Allah. Because this repentance between him and Allah, the One who sees him, hears him, and knows what is in his heart.

Islam orders to be clean and remove impurities.

Islam commands to respect women and points out the importance of her rights concerning money spending, inheritance, and to treat her with kindness when living with her.

Islam encourages using any modern means that can assist and simplify the lives and livelihood of people. Which are consistent to the principles of Islam.

Islam has plain simple rulings. Furthermore, for every act of worship there is evidence which a Muslim follows. Islam is not from the inspiration of a human; rather it is from Allah, and all of mankind must submit to it.

Islam fights against crimes and punishes those who commit them, so the people can feel safe for their lives and wealth. It has come to protect five important matters: The mind, the self, the offspring's, wealth, and religion.

Islam is to perform five daily prayers in its specified times according to the way Allah has ordered it to be done. These prayers strengthen the relationship of Muslim with Allah.

Islam commands to give a little amount of money every year to the needy by those who have a certain amount of wealth. This is called Zakah, which is the purification of money and kindness towards the poor.

Islam orders to fast one month of the year. To perform this fast, one refrains from food and drink from dawn till sunset. This month is called Ramadan, which Allah has made as a reminder of the poor, a preserver of health, and as a test of a salve's obedience.

Islam commands for the Pilgrimage to be fulfilled once in a life-time for the one who is able to do it. The Pilgrimage consists of traveling to Makkah, and performing specific actions following the example of Abraham, and Muhammad. By this way, all the Prophets of Allah have performed Hajj.

Islam is to believe that the Prophet Muhammad was sent to all of mankind and his message is the same message of all the previous Prophets. Anyone who hears of him must believe in him and obey him. Allah does not accept a religion other than Islam.

Islam is to worship Allah according to the way that it was brought by the Prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him. These ways of the Prophet have been recorded in authentic Hadith (prophetic traditions) which are reported by the scholars of Hadith, like Bukhari, Muslim, and others. Islam does not follow acts of innovations and falsehood that are unacceptable to neither one's mind nor religion.

Islam is a religion which frees the mind from superstition and from worshipping others than Allah. For instance, at the time in which Islam encourages visiting graves for taking admonition. However, it prevents circling round cemeteries or slaughtering animals there or praying to the dead and asking them to fulfill their demands.

Islam orders to put trust in Allah, then to take the necessary steps to obtain one's goal. And it forbids using amulets, consulting with magicians, fortune-tellers who consume the money of the people by deception.

In Islam there are two celebrations, Eid Al'Fitir, and Eid Al'Adha. Therefore, it does not agree with the other celebrations and innovative parties which have been invented by people today.

Islam commands to adhere to this religion by studying its rules. From the most important of them are the rulings of purification, prayer, Zakah, fasting, and Pilgrimage.

If you are convinced with Islam you only need to testify to the two statements, which are (ash-hadu alla ilaaha illa Allah wa ash-hadu anna Muhammadan rasulu Allah) I testify that there is no god worthy of worship except Allah and Muhammad is His Messenger. Then you become a Muslim. After that one must act in accordance to these two statements until he dies. Then he will have the privilege to enter paradise and be safe from the fire.

In Islam one must wash his entire body in the following circumstances:

- 1 - When one has embraced the religion of Islam.
- 2 - When sperm exits from the body by ejaculation.
- 3 - When purifying from menstruation.
- 4 - When purifying from post - natal bleeding.

Islam commands to purify before praying. This is done by performing the following steps:

1-Wash the hands by water (to the wrists) once, twice, or three times.

2-Rinse the mouth, along with sniffing water up with the nose and blowing out, once, twice, or three times.

3-Wash the face once, twice, or three times.

4-Wash the right hand then the left to the elbows once, twice or three times.

5-Wipe the head with water followed by the ears.

6-Wash the right then the left foot to the ankles once, twice or three times.



Islam

also commands to pray according to the following manner:

1. Face the direction of the Ka'bah. Then say, "Allaa hu akbar" (Allah is the Greatest), by raising both hands up to the level of shoulders or that of the ears, and placing the right hand on the left upon your chest.



After that recite Al'Fatiha (The Chapter of The Opening, which is the first chapter of the Holy Qur'an), which is transliterated as, "Bis millaa hirrah maa nirra heem. Al ham du lillaa hi rabbil aa la meen. Arrah maa nirra heem. Maa iki yow middeen. Iy' yaa ka l na budu wa iy' yaa ka nas ta een. Ih di nassi raa tal mus ta qeem.

Si raa talla dheer na an am ta alai him ghair ril magh doo be alai him wa la daaalleen. Ameen" (In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful. All praise and thanks are Allah's, The Lord of the mankind, Jinn and all that exists. The Most Gracious, The Most Merciful. The Only Owner and the Only Ruling Judge of the day of Recompense. You Alone we worship and You Alone we ask for help. Guide us to the Straight Way. The Way of those on whom You have bestowed Your Grace, not the way of those who earned Your Anger nor of those who went astray

(. At this point he can recite whatever he wishes from the Qur'an. For example, Suratul Ikh'laas. (The chapter of The Purity, which is the 112th chapter of the Holy Qur'an). This is recited as follows, "Bis millaa hirrah maa nirra heem. Qul hu wallaa hu a had. Allaa husa mad. Lam ya lid wa lam yoo lad wa lam ya kulla'hu ku fu wan a had" (In the Name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful. Say He is Allah, the One. Allah-the Self-Sufficient Master, Whom all creatures need. He begets not nor was He begotten. And there is none co-equal or comparable to Him).



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2. After that, say "Allaa hu akbar" (Allah is the Greatest) and bow forward. While being in this position say "Sub haa na rabbi'yal a dheem" (Glory be to be to my Lord the Great One) it is better to be repeated.



3. Then stand up and say "Sa mi allaa hu le man ha me dah". (Allah listens to the one who praises Him) When he completes his standing, he says: "Rabba naa wa la kal hamd" (Our Lord, the praise is Yours).

4. Now say "Allaa hu akbar" (Allah is the Greatest) and descend into prostration. While being in prostration say "Sub haa na rabbi'yal a'laa" (Glory be to Allah the most High) it is better to be repeated.



5. After that, say "Allaa hu akbar" (Allah is the Greatest) and sit up. While sitting say "Rab'high fir lee" (My Lord forgive me). it is better to be repeated.



6-Then say "Allaa hu akbar" (Allah is the Greatest), prostrate and again say "Sub haa na rabbi'yal a'laa" (Glory be to my Lord the most High) it is better to be repeated.



7-Now say "Allaa hu ak bar" (Allah is the Greatest), stand up for the second unit and do the same as the first unit. (One unit consists of: A standing, a bow, and two prostrations)



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8- after the last prostration in the second unit, say "Allahu akbar" (Allah is the Greatest) and sit to recite the first Ta'shah'hud. The first Ta'shah'hud is recited as follows, "Atta he'yaa tu lillaa hee wassa la waa tu wat'tay'yi baa tu assa laa mu a'lai ka ay'yu hanna be'yu wa rah ma tullaah he wa ba ra kaa tu hu assa laa mu a'lai naa wa a'laa e baa dillaa hissaa li heen. Ash ha du allaa e laa ha illallaah wa ash ha du anna mu hamma dan ab da hu wa ra soo luh" (All services reported by words, by prayers, and all good things are due to Allah, peace be upon you, O Prophet, and Allah's mercy and blessings, peace be upon us and upon Allah's upright slaves, I testify that there is no god worthy of worship except Allah and I testify that Muhammad is His slave and messenger).



9-If the prayer is two units, then recite the last Tashahhud and say the Sa'laam (The method of the Sa'laam has been explained in point 12). If the prayer is more than two units then stand up after reciting the first Ta'shah'hud, and complete the necessary units needed for that prayer, (excluding the second recitation after Al'Fatihah).

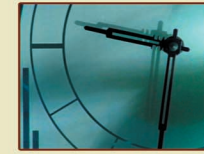
10-At the end of the prayer say "Allaa hu akbar" (Allah is the Greatest), then sit and read the first Tashahhud. After that recite the last Tashahhud. The last Ta'shah'hud is recited as follows, "Allaa humma salli alaa mu hamma din wa alaa aa le mu hamma din ka maa sallai ta alaa ib raa heem wa alaa aa le ib raa heem inna ka ha mee dun ma jeed. Allaa humma baa rik alaa mu hamma din wa alaa aa le mu hamma din ka maa baa rak ta alaa ib raa heem wa alaa aa le ib raa heem inna ka ha mee dun majeed" (O Allah bless Muhammad and the members of his family as You have blessed Abraham and the members of his family. Grant favors to Muhammad and the members of his family as You have granted favors for Abraham and the members of his family. You are indeed praise worthy and Glorious



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11-After the last Ta'shah'hud say "Rabba naa aa te naa fid'dun yaa ha sa na wa fil aa khe ra te ha sa na allaa humma innee a o dhu be ka min a dhaa bil ja hanna me wa min a'dhaa bil qab ri ea min fit natel mahya wal mamatwa min fit na til ma see hid'daj'jaal" (Our Lord grant us in this life goodness and in the hereafter goodness. O Allah verily I seek refuge in You from the punishment of Hell and from the punishment of the grave and from the trial of life and death and from the trial of the anti-Christ).

12-After that, turn the head to the right and say "Assa laa mu a'lai kum wa rah ma tullaah" (May the peace and mercy of Allah be upon you). Then turn it to the left and say "Assa laa mu a'lai kum wa rah ma tullaah" (May the peace of mercy of Allah be upon you). The Prayer is done.



Prayers (it is bows)	APPOINTED TIME (you must perform them on this time).
Dawn (Fajr) 2	From the rising of dawn till sunrise. (-)
Noon (Dhuhr) 4	when the sun reaches its highest to asr prayer. (-)
After noon (Asr) 4	When the shadow of every thing is equal to its length till sun yellowness. (-)
Sunset (Maghrib) 3	From sunset till the setting of twilight. (-)
Evening (Isha) 4	From the setting of twilight until midnight. (-)

Islamic sites to benefit from
www.islamtoday.net
www.discoverislam.com
www.islamworld.net
www.islamqa.com

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ENGLISH

This is ISLAM briefly

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