

Islam

Important Facts About Islam:

- Islam is the second largest religion in the world. 20% of the world is Muslim.
- Islam is presently the fastest growing religion in the world.
- Two major sects of Islam are:
 - Sunni** (80%)
 - Leader based on election
 - Emphasize the authority of the written traditions(Sunna/Hadith)
 - Decisions based on consensus.
 - Separation of church/state
 - Sufism: monastic/mystical part of Islam.
 - "Islam" means "submission" to the will of God (Allah).
 - The person who submits is called a "Muslim"
 - The religion of Islam can be divided into beliefs and obligations.
 - Shi'ite** (20%)
 - Leader based on bloodline of Muhammad
 - Authority based on one man (Imam/caliph)(Ayatollah Khomeini)
 - Await 12th Imam/Mahdi/prophet
 - One man controls religious & political
- Minor sects: Wahhabis (Saudi), Druze (Lebanon, Syria), Alawites (Syria), & Ahmadiyahs (Pakistan). Similar to Sikhism and Baha'i faiths.

History:

- 570 A.D. Muhammad was born in Mecca.(an orphan)
- Mecca became the religious center. (Ka'bah- polytheism)
- In 610 A.D. Muhammad received his first of revelations from the angel Gabriel.
 - Initially doubted the origin of the revelations. He thought he had been possessed by demons. (jinn) He preached strict monotheism.
- Muhammad's revelations became Islam's sacred scripture. (Koran - "Qur'an")
- Forced to flee from Mecca to Medina in 622 A.D. (Hijrah)
- Military take over of Mecca in 630 A.D.
- Muhammad successfully unified the Arabian tribes.
- Muhammad died in 632 A.D.

Major Beliefs:

- Strict Monotheism (God [Allah] is one - to associate any thing with Him is blasphemy or idolatry and guilty of unforgivable sin. God is not personally knowable/approachable.
 - God is not a father and has no son/sons)(Surahs 19:88-92; 112:3)
 - (Ps. 2:6 Prov. 30:4; 2 Sam. 7:14; Heb. 1:5; 5:5; Acts 13:33; Jn. 19:7; Mk. 12:37)
 - (Gen. 1:26; 2:24; 3:22; 11:7; Deut. 6:4; Is. 6:8; 46:5; 48:16; Ps. 45:6,7; 110:1)
 - No Trinity/Jesus ≠ God (1 Jn. 2:22;1 Cor. 8:4-6; 12:4-6; Eph. 4:6; Jn. 17:11,22; 14:23)
 - (John 1:1,14,18; 5:18,23; 8:24,58,59; 10:30,33; 14:9,10; 20:28)
 - (Phil. 2:6; Col. 1:15,17,19; 2:9; Heb. 1:3,6,8-10; Ti. 2:13; 1 Jn. 5:20; Rom. 9:5)
 - (Matt. 14:33; 28:9; Jn. 1:3; 5:23; 8:24; 9:38; Lk. 24:52; Mk. 2:5-10; Col. 1:16)
 - (My Father: Jn. 2:16; 5:17,18,23; 6:65; 10:29,30,33; 14:2)
 - (Jesus= Messiah: Jn. 4:25,26; Matt. 26:63,64; Mk. 14:61,62; Lk. 22:70; 23:3)
 - (Jesus died on the cross and rose: 1 Cor. 15; Acts 2;29-33)
 - (Jesus was virgin born "ibn" "Son of God" not literal but sameness -Jn. 5:18)

Jesus is the spiritual "Son of God" (not physical man/woman act)
The god of the Qur'an is not a father or loves, forgives, or is merciful. (Rom. 5:8)
Justice/wrath overrules love/mercy/grace.

(Surah 4:171; 4:48; 19:88-92; 112:3; 6:142; 7:31; 5:49)(Ezk. 18:23; 2 Pet. 3:9)
(Eph. 2:4; Rom. 9:16,18,22,23; Titus 3:5; 1 Tim. 1:15,16; Rom. 8:3,4)

- Each person has two angels to record good and bad deeds kept till judgment.
(Psalms 130:3,4; 143:2; Revelation 20:11-15)
- Allah (God) has sent a prophet to every nation to preach the message of one God.
(Heb. 1:1,2; Jn. 14:6; Acts 4:12)
Many Bible characters are seen as prophets who have been sent.
Muhammad is the greatest of Allah's messengers.
- Four Holy Books - Torah (Moses), Psalms (David), Gospel (Jesus), and Qur'an (114 revelations/Muhammad).
Only the Qur'an has been preserved in an uncorrupted state. (Bible was altered)
(Surah 2:75,78,79; 6:115; 6:34; 10:64)(Issue of misinterpreting Scripture)
(Yet Surah 2:136; 4:136, 163; 5:68; 7:157; 10:94 "the Book" is seen as authoritative/authentic)
(Matt. 5:18; 24:35; Jude 3; 2 Pet. 1:12-14, 19-21)
* Manuscript evidence does not support textual corruption
- Judgment/Heaven/Hell - Those whose good deeds outweigh their bad deeds on Judgment Day will be rewarded with earthly Paradise. Those whose bad deeds outweigh their good will be judged to hell. (A Muslim has no assurance that he will be accepted by God.)(Ezek. 18:20; 33:12,13; Ps. 49:8,9; 1 Jn. 5:11-13)
(Fallacy of works righteousness: Rom. 10:2-4; 3:20,28; 4:2-6; 9:30-32; Jn. 6:28,29)
(Faith/not works saves: Ephesians 2:8,9; Titus 3:5; Rom. 3:20-28; 4:3-8; 9:16, 30-32; 10:2-4; Galatians 2:16,21; 3:2,3,10,11)
(God's standard is perfection: Matt. 5:48; 1 Pet. 1:15,16; Gal. 3:10-13; Ja. 2:10; Ps. 5:4; Ps. 130:3,4; Heb. 12:14; Rev. 21:8,27; 1 Cor. 6:9-11)
(Christ's substitutional atonement: Gal. 3:13; Is. 53:6,12; 1 Pet. 2:24; 1 Jn. 1:7; 2:2)
- Fate (kismet) - God is the source of all good and evil.

Obligations Of Islam: (5 Pillars of faith)(Surah 10:109)

- The Creed "I bear witness that there is no God but Allah and that Muhammad is His Messenger." (statement of faith to become a Muslim)(the Shahadah)
- Pray five times each day seventeen cycles of prayer facing Mecca. (meet on Friday noon at the mosque)
- Daylight fast during the holy month of Ramadhan in memory of Muhammad/Qur'an and atonement for sin.
- Give 1/40th (2.5%) of income to poor.
- Pilgrimage to Mecca (once during lifetime)
- Holy War (Jihad)
- Marriage required- maximum of 4 wives/divorce acceptable

Contrasts To Christianity:

Islam

- Singular Unity (no =)
Allah
Transcendent

Christianity

- Compound Unity (3 in 1)
1 essence - 3 persons (Jn. 1:1)
Distinction (with God)
Sameness (was God)
Father, Son, Holy Spirit
Mk. 12:29-32; Jn. 10:30; 8:58;

Matt. 28:19; Acts 5:3,4

- Man is basically good
Man is sinful by act.
- Sin forgiven by repentance.
No atonement necessary.
- Salvation - good outweighs bad. 100% Human effort.
(Surahs 7:8,9; 21:47)
- Heaven must be earned.
(Surahs 17:15; 35:18)
- Jesus was a prophet.
(not God)(one of many)
- virgin birth
- miracles
- Jesus didn't die on the cross.
Judas died in His place.
Jesus ascended into heaven.
Jesus did not atone for sin
(Surah 4:157,158; 19:34,35; 3:54)
- The Bible is corrupted.
Originals are trustworthy.
(Surah 2:75-79,136;4:136,163)
(Surah 5:68; 6:115;6:34;10:64)
- Man is sinful by nature
Rom. 3:23;5:12,19; Ps. 51:5
- Sin is rebellion, results in physical/spiritual death & separation from God.
Atonement is necessary.
Romans 3:23;6:23; Eph 2:1
- Perfect standard=heaven
Matt. 5:48; Rom. 2:13; Gal. 3:10; Ps. 5:4; Rev. 21:27
- Salvation is a free gift and cannot be earned.
Eph. 2:8,9; Titus 3:5
- Christ's righteousness is received by grace through faith. Gal. 2:16; Phil. 3:9; 2 Cor. 5:21
- Jesus was God!
John 1:1,18; 5:18;10:30; 8:58
Phil. 2:6-9; Col. 1:15; 2:9
1 John 2:22
- Jesus died on the cross to pay for the sins of the world
He rose from the dead.
The tomb was empty!
1 Cor. 15; Matt. 20:28; 28:7,9
Jesus predicted his death.
Matt. 12:39,40; 16:4,21; 17:22,23
He ascended visibly.
Acts 1:11; Lk. 24:39,51
- The Bible is authentic and our final authority.
2 Tim. 3:14-17; 2 Pet. 1:19-21;
Gal. 1:11,12; Matt. 24:35

Witnessing To Muslims:

- Have a humble attitude. (1 Pet. 3:15; 2 Tim. 2:23-25)
- Pray for them. (Eph. 6:19; Col. 4:2-5)
- Give personal testimony (emphasize your assurance of heaven/relationship w/ God.)
- Ask probing questions.
 - Who was Jesus Christ?
 - How can a man become right before God?

(Job 9:2,14,15,20) (be at peace with God)

- Is the Bible trustworthy?
- Can you know if you are going to heaven?
- Can you know God personally?
- Can anyone keep the 10 commandments perfectly?
- Tell them the truth. (2 Cor. 4:2; 1 Cor. 2:1-5)
- Key in on God's Mercy, Love, and Grace found in Christ.
John 3:16; Titus 3:4,5; 1 Tim. 1:15,16; Rom. 9:15-23
- Key in on the fallacy of works righteousness.
Rom. 4:2-6; 10:2-4; Gal. 2:21; 3:3,10,11; Ezek. 33:12,13
- Ask them to read the Gospel of John.
- Be sensitive in your choice of words/criticism of Islam.

Testimonies:

<http://www.youtube.com/user/Muslims4Jesus#p/a/u/0/Ml2Jl-lul3l>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H-G-DwNRXW0&feature=related>

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=05ZJz9t_drl&feature=related

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oDMsUZwuybl>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MmxwrgbbCec&feature=related>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yS6GzslWih0&feature=related>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9MdM7rKEXM0&feature=related>

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uprN9_3gahc&feature=related

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F60lv2eKiNQ>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Jy4qLDUMJk&feature=related>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WYgLFm0CQGQ&feature=related>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=25dZmSzE4tQ&feature=related>

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zprT_TY7iJU&feature=channel

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EsBKuYWZD-4&feature=related>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y7sZeRSv3fs&feature=related>

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A1zU_mojmmQ&feature=related

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=smPw1dRJ2RU&feature=related>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gFFIZeXahqY&feature=related>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yNI8aCG4pJY&feature=related>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yPe8NtArqiE&feature=related>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ia-3PXbqepI&feature=related>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9uIOIG-mIE8&feature=related>

Muslims for Jesus:

<http://www.youtube.com/user/Muslims4Jesus>

<http://www.answering-islam.or>

<http://www.jesusformuslims.org/>

<http://www.muslims4jesus.com/>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vWydZ9YhwUc&feature=related>

<http://www.muslimjourneytohope.com/>

<http://www.exmuslim.com/>

Islam Demographics.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6-3X5hIFXYU&feature=related>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XK1pnCldKZI&feature=related>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mINChFxRXQs>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wwJPfCokwm>