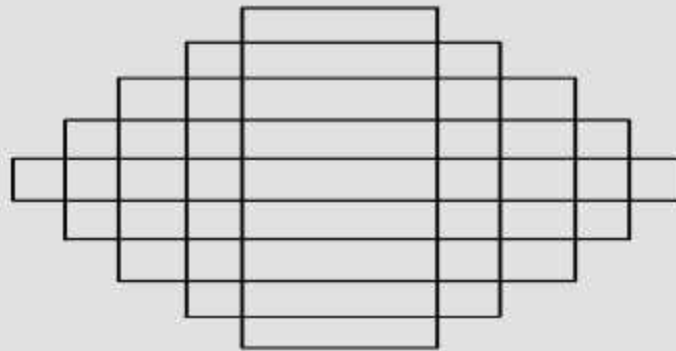


**DID YOU KNOW
ONE LAST
PROPHET CAME
AFTER
JESUS (PBUH)**



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Islam is no new religion- Muslims believe in the SAME One True God as the Jews and Christians.

- The jews go by the teachings of Moses (peace be upon him).
- The Christians go by the teachings of Moses and Jesus (peace be upon them both).
- The Muslims go by the teachings of Moses and Jesus and Muhammad (peace be upon them all).

God gave His message ONE LAST TIME to the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) who came after the Prophet Jesus (peace be upon him) to complete and perfect His guidance for the whole of mankind to believe in God Alone and do good actions and forbid evil actions, to protect us from our arch-enemy satan and not to work in satan's ways by doing evil actions, otherwise God will punish us with the Hell fire on the Day of Judgement, when we will be accountable for all our actions we did in this life as to whether we enter Paradise or Hell fire. The grave is surely not the end as all the Prophets have warned us! This final guidance for all of us is written in the Holy Quran.

Allah is the Arabic word for God, Islam is the Arabic word for peace and Muslim is the Arabic word meaning someone who obeys, submits and surrenders to God. Think about the word Allaluaia for a moment said by Christians, the word Allah is there! The Truth is all around you - keep an open mind.

“Say: We believe in Allah and that which was revealed to Abraham and Ishmael and Isaac and Jacob and the tribes and that which was given to Moses and Jesus and to the Prophets from their Lord; we make no distinction between any of them, and to Him we submit.”
(Holy Quran 3:84).

THE FIVE PILLARS OF ISLAM.

Every action done with the awareness that it fulfils the will of Allah (God) is considered an act of worship in Islam. Specific acts of worship termed the pillars of Islam provide the framework for the spiritual life of a muslim.

These are given below:

1. The Declaration of Faith.

To become a Muslim, that is to obey, submit and surrender to the One True God, all you have to do is say the declaration of faith written below sincerely and all your past sins will be forgiven. You will have a clean record and be judged accountable for all your deeds/actions from this moment, as long as you live your life as a sincere practising muslim, it is a promise from God that you will enter Paradise when you die:

“Bismillahir rahmanir rahim.

Ash hadu an la ilaha illal lahu wahdahu la sharikalahu wa ash hadu anna muhammadan ‘abduhu wa rasuluhu.’”

“In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful.
I bear witness that there is no god but Allah and He is one and has no partner and I bear witness that Muhammad is His servant and messenger.”

The prophethood of Muhammad (peace be upon him) necessitates Muslims to follow his exemplary life in every aspect.

2. Prayers.

Prayers are prescribed five times a day as a duty towards God. Prayer strengthens and enlivens beliefs in God and inspires man to higher morality. It purifies the heart and controls the temptation, wrong-doing and evil.

3. Fasting.

Fasting during the month of Ramadhan, the ninth lunar calendar month in which Angel Gabriel(as) came down and recited the words of Allah (God) to the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) over 1400 years ago. These same true words of God are written in the holy Quran. Fasting means abstention from food, beverages and sex from dawn to sunset and curbing evil intentions and desires. It teaches love, sincerity and devotion. It develops patience, unselfishness, social conscience and willpower to bear hardship.

4. Zakah.

Zakah is 2.5% fixed contribution collected from wealth and earnings of the well to do and rich. It is spent on the poor and needy in particular and the welfare of the society in general. The payment of Zakah purifies ones income and wealth and helps to establish economic balance and social justice in the society.

5.Hajj.

Hajj or pilgrimage to the holy building called the Ka’bah in Makkah in Saudi Arabia once in a lifetime provided one has the means to undertake the journey. It is the Holy building which Adam (peace be upon him) built to worship God when Adam (peace be upon him) and Eve were taken out of Paradise when they both forgot and were tempted by satan, but because Adam (peace be upon him) and Eve both repented and were forgiven, God placed Adam (peace be upon him) and Eve along with satan, all three together on earth for one last chance to see if humankind will worship God and obey Him and shun the temptations of satan.

An important duty enjoined on all Muslims by Allah (swt) is to be witnesses to the Truth before all mankind, that means we should proclaim and explain to the world the guidance that has come to us through Allah's messengers, to act upon it and to invite others to the way of our Lord. Most muslims neglect this duty which is sinful.

All muslims are witnesses to mankind, to make them understand and remember the will of God Almighty (Allah swt). To teach people the proper way of conducting their lives, enjoining the good and forbidding the evil and remind people that all of us return to God (Allah swt) when we die and will be brought to account for the things we did as to whether we enter Heaven/Paradise or the Hellfire. In the Holy Quran it says:

‘And thus We! made you a community of the middle way, so that you may be witness (to the Truth) before all mankind, and the Messenger may be witness (to it) before you’, (Holy Quran 2:143)

For more information on Islam please read
Towards Understanding Islam (available free from
UKIM Dawah Centre)

This leaflet was written by Sister Julie Aliya Paine, who grew up in a middle class family with no religious teaching. At the age of seven she was encouraged to attend Church by her friend's father who was a practising Christian. This prompted her to ask her mother to buy her a copy of the Bible.

After reading the Bible she started to believe in one true God and realised that after prophet Moses came prophet Jesus (pbuh), then it made sense to her that she should follow the last revelation from God.

It wasn't until she met a Muslim that she discovered that there was one last Messenger from God after prophet Jesus (pbuh) and that after the Bible came the Holy Quran (the last revelation) for the whole of mankind.

Upon hearing this she bought the Holy Quran as she says in her own words ‘I was so happy, this was everything I dreamed and hoped for’, she took the declaration of faith to become a Muslim In April 1997.

Since then her Grand Mother at the age of 77 and her Father have both embraced Islam. Sister Julie is now embarking on a B.A Islamic Studies course to become a teacher.

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