

ISL201 - Islamic Studies

Frequently Asked Question (FAQ's)

Question: What was the message to which all Messengers called the people?

Answer: All the prophets of Allah called their peoples towards the message of "Oneness of Allah".

Question: Q2. What are the three fundamentals a Muslim should know?

Answer: A. About his Lord (Allah), religion (Islam) and Prophet Muhammad (pbuh).

Question: What are the pillars of Islam?

Answer: They are five: 1.the Testimony of Faith 2.Prayers 3.Zakat (alms giving) 4.Fasting 5.Hajj (pilgrimage).

Question: What are the pillars of Iman (Faith)?

Answer: They are six: 1) Belief in Allah 2) Belief in angels 3) Belief in His Messengers 4) Belief in His Books 5) Belief in Resurrection 6) Belief in fate and destiny.

Question: Give Names of the persons who were appointed to write the revelation of the Holy Quran.

Answer: 1.Ali Ibn Abi Talib 2.Obey Ibn Ka'b 3.Mu'awia Ibn Abi Sufyan 4.Zaid Ibn Sabit

Question: Who is Allah?

Answer: Allah is the Arabic word for "one God". Allah is not God of Muslims only. He is God of all creations, because He is their Creator and Sustainer.

Question: Q7. Do Muslims have many sects?

Answer: A. Muslims have no sects. In Islam, there are two major schools of thought, the Shia and the Sunni. Both have many things in common. They follow the same book Qur'an. They follow the same prophet Muhammad. Both offer their prayers five times a day. Both fast in the month of Ramadan. They both go for hajj, pilgrimage to Mecca. Those who follow Prophet Muhammad, in accordance with his sayings and actions, are called Sunni and those who in addition follow the

sayings and views of Ali (Muhammad's son-in-law), as the rightful successor to Prophet Muhammad (P), are called Shia. Shia means a partisan (party of Ali) and it started more as a political party to help Ali in his conflict with his political adversaries. Most Shias live in Iran and Iraq while the rest of the Muslim world is mostly Sunni. Shias comprise about 16-percent of the Muslim population.

Question: What is Jihad?

Answer: The word "Jihad" means struggle, or to be specific, striving in the cause of God. Any struggle done in day-to-day life to please God can be considered Jihad. One of the highest levels of Jihad is to stand up to a tyrant and speak a word of truth. Control of the self from wrong doings is also a great Jihad. One of the forms of Jihad is to take up arms in defense of Islam or a Muslim country when Islam is attacked. This kind of Jihad has to be declared by the religious leadership or by a Muslim head of state that is following the Qur'an and Sunnah.

Question: What is a mugiza (miracle) ?

Answer: Allah, sometimes, makes His prophets show something's against the usual course which is beyond the capacity of others so that, on seeing it, people may realize that they have been set by Allah. Such acts are called Mu'jizahas (miracles)

Question: Q10: What is Mi'raj (Ascent)?

Answer: Ans: The Prophet (peace be on him), by Allah's will and command, started fully awake from the holy city of Mecca on the Pegasus (the Bur-raq) in the right and traveled to Baitul Maqdis (Jerusalem) and onwards to the seven heavens and beyond to a point appointed by Allah. He also went round the Paradise (Jan-nah) and the Hell (jahan-man0), and returned to his place. This is known as Mi'raj.

Question: Q11: Who was Muhammad? (P)

Answer: In brief, Muhammad (Peace be upon him) was born in a noble tribe of Mecca in Arabia in the year 570 AD. His ancestry goes back to Prophet Ishmael (P), son of Prophet Abraham (P). His father died before his birth and his mother died when he was six. He did not attend a formal school since he was raised first by a nurse as it was the custom those days, and then by his grandfather and uncle. But all kind of knowledge was given to him from Allah Subhanho wa Taala. As a young man, he was known as a righteous person who used to meditate in a cave. At age 40, he was given the prophet hood when the angel, Gabriel, appeared in the cave. Subsequently, the revelations came over 23 years and were compiled in the form of a book called the Qur'an which is the final and the last word of God. The

Quran has been preserved, unchanged, in its original form and confirms the truth in the Torah, the psalms and the Gospel.

Question: Can we write Roman Urdu instead of English in isl201?

Answer: As you know the medium of instructions in VU is English however considering the difficulties of students VU gives you relaxation to attempt ISL201 paper and assignments in Roman Urdu so my dear if you face difficulty in attempting the paper or assignment in English you can use Roman Urdu.

Question: How many lectures in midterm and final term?

Answer: Midterm exam will be conducted from lecture 1 to 8 whereas final term exam will be conducted from lecture 1 to 16.

Question: Q.13. Can we submit assignments and projects in Roman Urdu?

Answer: Ans. Yes, you can submit your assignments and projects in Roman Urdu. It should be kept in mind that Roman Urdu is not a proper word but the word "transliteration" is correct use in this case.

Question: What are the requirements of Faith?

Answer: The requirement of faith is to believe in Allah and His Angels, His Books and His Messengers, and the Day of Judgment and that all good and evil and fate is from Almighty Allah and it is sure that there will be resurrection after death.

Question: What is the Exact meaning of Uswa? Whether the COLLECTIVE or The INDIVIDUAL life of Prophet S.A.W is Pracrical Example for us.

Answer: The Uswa means example, pattern or way of life. The individual and the collective life of our Holy prophet Muhammad (S.A.W) both are an excellent pattern for us, and we have to both of them. Allah (S.W.T) says in Holy Qura'n: "Indeed in the Messenger of Allah (Muhammad SAW) you have a good example to follow for him who hopes in (the Meeting with) Allah and the Last Day and remembers Allah much" (Surah: Al-Ahzab Verse:21) But, there are some exceptional acts and characteristics which are associated with our Holy prophet Muhammad (S.A.W) and we never follow these for example, keeping 9 wives at a time in Nikah, obligation (farziyyat) of Tahajjud prayer, Fasting without any break (soam-e-wisaal) seeing of Allah (S.W.T) in this life etc..... Beside these exceptional cases the whole life of our Holy Pprophet Muhammad (S.A.W) is good example for every Muslim to success in this life and in hereafter.

Question: If HAZRAT MUHAMMAD(SAW) was just like a normal human, with no extraordinary things then why ALLAH made him(SAW) a messenger and not someone other?

Answer: It is a fact without a doubt that Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), like all the other prophets was a human and a mortal. The prophets frequently stated, and proved with their acts, that they were mortals like everybody, that they would be held responsible for their acts of worship and for all orders given to them by Allah, that they had no immunity, that they had no freedom or choice to act against the orders of Allah which they conveyed to the people, rather that they abstained from such acts and sought shelter in Allah. To those who were baffled by the fact that a human was sent as a prophet, Allah reminded the people that the previous prophets who had been sent to the people had been mortals who had fathered children, ate and drank, and walked in the markets among the people and Allah explained that they should not see this as being unusual. He could have sent them prophets who were angels, yet even if angels had been sent, people would still think in a similar way and be amazed and confused. Allah depicts and eternalizes his humane and compassionate identity in the following words: "Now hath come unto you an Messenger from amongst yourselves: it grieves him that ye should perish: ardently anxious is he over you: to the Believers is he most kind and merciful, but if they turn away, Say: "(Allah) sufficeth me" (Al-Tauba, 9/128). "Thou wouldst only, perchance, fret thyself to death, following after them, in grief, if they believe not in this Message" (Al-Kahf, 18/6).

Question: What is the difference between "NABUWAT" and "RISALAT"?

Answer: Difference between "NABUWAT" and "RISALAT" is as difference between "Nabee" and "Rasool". Different Scholars have different point of views about this. I quote you a great scholar Imam Fakhruddin Raazi who has explained the differences between a Rasool (prophet) and a Nabi (messenger). He says: A Rasool is one who has performed miracles and has received a new Divine book. He establishes a new code of law (Shar'iah) and cancels the previous code of law and book. He has also visibly seen the angel that comes with the Divine message, and the Rasool is commanded to invite the people towards the Deen. A Nabi is one who is not given a new book, but rather establishes the book which was revealed to the Rasool before him. He does not cancel the book and the code of law which was in trend before him. He sees the angel in a dream or the Rasool of the time informs him that he has been chosen as a Nabi. "(Tafseer Mafaateehul Ghayb known as (Tafseer e Kabere le Imam Razi) V23 p43

Question: Who is 'zimmi'?

Answer: None Muslim citizens of a muslim state are known as "Zimmi"

Question: What is the meaning of sincerity in Faith?

Answer: Sincerity in faith means to perform an act for the sake of Allah only?

Question: What is meant by the Miracle of prophets?

Answer: First of all one must be aware about the term miracle so my dear the term miracle means "a supernatural event". In other words 'A miracle is simply an event which is not explicable in any normal way'. Scientists may think of a 'miracle' as an extraordinary event which have no scientific explanation. Now the question arises what are the miracles of prophets? A miracle of prophet is something extraordinary which happened in the favor of prophets and is thought to be when Allah does something to break all the normal rules and laws of nature. Allah , sometimes ,makes His prophets show something's against the usual course which is beyond the capacity of others so that , on seeing it , people may realize that they have been set by Allah . such acts are called Mu'jizahas (miracles) For example the incidence of Ascension {Mi'raj} of Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) is a miracle. This incidence took place and the prophet SAW was transported from Makkah to Quds. Such incidents always happened with prophets and to have a firm belief on these miracles is an integral part of our faith.

Question: What is the definition of the term "Momin"?

Answer: The term Momin is usually translated as believer. A believer is one who is sincere in his efforts and strives for Allah
