

FUN FACTS 🌙



Islam & Muslims

- Islam is the name of the religion.
- A person who practices Islam is known as a Muslim.



Muslims Around the World

- There are an estimated 1.9 billion Muslims globally.
- That's about 1/5 of the world's population.



Abrahamic Faiths

- Islam is one of the three Abrahamic faiths, sharing prophets, beliefs, and history with Christianity and Judaism.



The Hijra & Islamic Calendar

- Prophet Muhammad's migration (Hijra) from Mecca in 622 A.D. marks the rise of Islam and the start of the Islamic (Hijri) calendar.



Islam in Europe

- The Islamic empire once spread into Spain and the Balkans.
- Today, there are an estimated 44 million Muslims in Europe.

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💡 Contributions & Inventions

- Citric acid (Jābir ibn Hayyān)
- Arabesque architecture & minarets
- Bridge mill & vertical-axle windmill
- Teaching hospitals & marching bands
- Early torpedoes, the guitar, the lute
- The pinhole camera & algebra
- Coffee ☕ and more!

🏠 The Ka'aba

- Makkah is believed to be the place where a spring appeared for Hagar and Ishmael.
- Abraham and Ishmael built the Ka'aba, dedicated to the worship of the One True God.

📖 Prophets

- Muslims believe that over 124,000 prophets were sent to mankind, from Adam to Muhammad.
- Only 25 are mentioned by name in the Qur'an.

☀️ Core Beliefs (Six Articles of Faith)

- 1) One God (Allah)
- 2) All prophets of God
- 3) Original scriptures (Torah, Psalms, Gospel, Qur'an)
- 4) Angels
- 5) Day of Judgment & Hereafter
- 6) Divine decree (Destiny)

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Five Pillars of Islam

- 1) Shahada (faith)
- 2) Salat (prayer)
- 3) Zakat (charity)
- 4) Siyam (fasting during Ramadan)
- 5) Hajj (pilgrimage to Makkah)



Celebrations

- Eid al-Fitr: Feast of the Breaking of the Fast of Ramadan.
- Eid al-Adha: Feast of Sacrifice.



Mary in Islam

- Mary (Maryam), mother of Jesus, is mentioned many times in the Qur'an.
- She has a whole chapter named after her and is considered one of the greatest women.



Knowledge & Learning

- In 10th-century Cordoba, Spain, the palace library had over 60,000 handwritten volumes.
- At that time, the best Latin library in Europe had only 600 books.
- Islamic astronomy was advanced, helping Muslims determine the direction of Makkah for prayer.



Diversity

- Fewer than 15% of Muslims are Arabs.
- Muslims are found among nearly all ethnic groups, nationalities, and countries.



Tolerance & Kindness

- The Qur'an stresses tolerance between Muslims and non-Muslims.
- Jews and Christians are given particular respect in the Qur'an.
- During WWII, the Grand Mosque of Paris helped Jews by providing Muslim IDs to hide them from the Nazis.



Becoming Muslim

- To become Muslim, a person must say the Shahada: the declaration of faith in One God and Muhammad as His prophet.