

Basic Beliefs and Duties of Muslims

It is with this understanding that Muslims are dedicated to the teachings and example of Mohammad, and they must believe in the following cardinal doctrines:

- 1) ***In Allah*** – the One Supreme God, with whom exist no equals, who has no beginning nor end and was not begotten nor begets. Muslims use the term “Tawheed” to describe Allah’s oneness. This term comes from the number “one” in Arabic “Wahad” and Tawheed emphasizes the indivisibility of Allah.
- 2) ***In all The Prophets*** mentioned in the Qur’an—most of these appear in some form in the Bible, but some are unique to the Qur’an
- 3) ***In the 4 Heavenly Books:*** Torah, Psalms, Gospels, & Quran).
- 4) ***In Angels***—God’s spiritual servants superior to humans
- 5) ***In Fate (Al-Qada’ wa al-Qadr):*** Allah has predetermined and written all matters before they occur
- 6) ***In the Day of Judgement*** with resurrection

As part and parcel of their creed and obligations, Muslims must perform the following 5 religious duties:

- 1) Say the testimony (***Shahada***): “There is no god but Allah, and Mohmmad is the messenger of Allah”
- 2) Prayer (***Salat***). 5 set times a day
- 3) Fasting (***Sawm***). 30 days annually during the daylight hours of the month of Ramdan (which shifts days annually due to lunar reckoning) they are to abstain from all carnal pleasures—drink, food, smoking, and conjugal relations
- 4) Giving of Alms – ***Zikat*** (aprox 3% of income to poor)
- 5) Pilgrimage (***Hajj***) once in a lifetime to Mecca & Medina in Saudi Arabia.