

Special Topics

9 Independent Topics

9.1 **Muslim Converts - Welcome to Islam!**

Word : N/A

Meaning : N/A

9.2 **Basic Dos and Don'ts of Being a Muslim**

Word : Zabiha

Meaning : where an animal is ritually slaughtered in accordance with the rules of Islamic law and thus permissible to eat afterwards.

Word : Tawzeeh al-Masa'il

Meaning : legal treatise by a marja where answers to queries for Islamic law can be found.

Word : Ghusl

Meaning : Major ablution one must do, among other things, after sexual relations and when one's monthly period. One can do it in the shower or in a pool of water.

9.3 **Halal Food and Zabiha**

Word : Zabiha

Meaning : Where an animal is ritually slaughtered in accordance with the rules of Islamic law and thus permissible to eat afterwards.

Word : Hand Slaughtered Zabiha

Meaning : Animal slaughtered around the neck by hand with a knife, as opposed to a robot/machine.

9.4 **Family, Parents and Marriage in Islam**

Word : N/A

Meaning : N/A

9.5

Marriage in Islam

Word : Zina

Meaning : Fornication or illicit sex

Word : Nafaqa

Meaning : Maintenance that the husband provides his wife with

9.6 Islam and Sex

Word : Zina

Meaning : Sexual intercourse through fornication or adultery

Word : Liwat

Meaning : Homosexual acts, more specifically, the act of sodomy.

9.7 Modesty in Islam

Word : Niqab

Meaning : refers to a piece of clothing that covers the face.

Word : Burqa

Meaning : enveloping outer garment that also covers the entire body, including the face.

Word : Chador

Meaning : A large piece of cloth that covers the head, upper and lower body.

Word : Khimar

Meaning : Head covering, the Qur'anic term for hijab.

Word : Hijab

Meaning : Culturally speaking, it refers to the regular hijab where only the head is covered with a piece of cloth. The rest of the body is covered with regular loose fitting clothes.

9.8 Women's Menstruation in Islam

Word : Qada

Meaning : Making up for missed prayers or fasting

Word : Istihada

Meaning : Irregular bleeding, as in irregular bleeding during menopause

Word : Had

Meaning : Menstruation

9.9 Music, Alcohol, Drugs and Pork in Islam

Word : Aql

Meaning : intellect, mind

9.10 Islam and Science

Word : Scientific Method

Meaning : "a method or procedure that has characterized natural science since the 17th century, consisting in systematic observation, measurement, and experiment, and the formulation, testing, and modification of hypotheses"

Word : Epistemology

Meaning : Epistemology has to do with "knowledge" and "how you know things"

Word : Materialism

Meaning : Materialism, also sometimes called naturalism or physicalism, is a worldview that assumes that all that exists is ultimately material. Only matter is real, anything beyond that is untrue and not real.

Word : Scientism

Meaning : Scientism holds that the scientific method is the only way to understand existence, or at the very least, that the empirical sciences are the most "authoritative" worldview and have the most legitimate claim on truth and knowledge.

Word : Is faith incompatible with science?

Meaning : It is incompatible if one assumes that faith means to "believe in something without evidence," but that is not the Islamic definition of faith.

9.11 A Reading List of Islamic Knowledge

Word : N/A

Meaning : N/A

9.13 Ritual Prayers and Supplications in Islam

Word : N/A

Meaning : N/A

9.14 Death & Burial Rituals in Islam

Word : Salat al-Mayyit

Meaning : prayer for the dead

Word : Ghusl al-Mayyit

Meaning : ritual washing of the dead

Word : Kafan

Meaning : burial shroud

Word : Salat al-wahsha

Meaning : a two rakat prayer for the departed soul on the first night of the funeral between Maghrib and Isha prayers.

Word : Barzakh

Meaning : purgatory

Word : Tahnit

Meaning : applying camphor on the seven areas of the body that touches the ground during prayers

Word : Munkir and Nakir

Meaning : the two angels that interrogate you in the grave

9.15 **The Battle of Armageddon: An Islamic View**

Word : Dajjal

Meaning : The Anti-Christ

Word : Sufyani

Meaning : Descendent of Abu Sufyan (Muawiyah's father), he will kill many followers of the Ahl al-Bayt (as) towards the end of times.

Word : Israfil

Meaning : Angel who will blow the horn and end life on earth. He will then blow it again and resurrect humankind again.

9.16 **The Muslim Calendar**

Word : Hijri

Meaning : The word hijri comes from the word Hijrah, which means migration. More specifically, it refers to the Prophet Muhammad's (s) migration from Mecca to Medina when he was fleeing his assassins.

Word : Muharram

Meaning : First month of the Islamic calendar.

Word : Safar

Meaning : Safar the second month of the Islamic calendar.

Word : Rabi al-Awwal

Meaning : Rabi al-Awwal means "the first spring" and is the third month of the Islamic calendar.

Word : Rabi al-Thani

Meaning : Rabi al-Thani means “the second spring” and is the fourth month of the Islamic calendar.

Word : Jumada al-Awwal

Meaning : Jumada al-Awwal is the fifth month of the Islamic calendar.

Word : Jumada al-Thani

Meaning : Jumada al-Thani is the sixth month.

Word : Rajab

Meaning : Rajab is the 7th month of the Islamic calendar.

Word : Sha'ban

Meaning : The month of Sha'ban is the 8th month of the Islamic calendar.

Word : Ramadan

Meaning : The month of Ramadan is the 9th month of the Islamic calendar.

Word : Shawwal

Meaning : The month of Shawwal is the 10th month of the Islamic calendar.

Word : Dhu al-Qa'dah or al-Qi'dah

Meaning : This is the 11th month of the Islamic calendar.

Word : Dhu al-Hijjah

Meaning : Dhu al-Hijjah is the last month of the Islamic calendar.

9.17 Muslims and non-Muslims in the Shariah

Word : izyah

Meaning : Poll tax for non-Muslims living under Islamic government

Word : Dhimmi

Meaning : Protected non-Muslim living under Islamic government

Word : Shari'ah

Meaning : God's revealed law

9.18 A Timeline of Major Events in Islamic History

Word : N/A

Meaning : N/A

9.19 Introducing the Qur'an: Why it is the way it is

Word : Surah

Meaning : Chapter of the Qur'an

Word : Ayah (pl. Ayaat)

Meaning : Verse of the Qur'an

Word : Juz

Meaning : Section of the Qur'an, there are 30 Juz in the Qur'an.

Word : Uthmanic Codex

Meaning : Imam Ali's (as) compilation of the Qur'an which the Caliph Uthman spread to the Islamic world.

9.20 The School of Imam Jafar al-Sadiq

Word : N/A

Meaning : N/A

9.21 Major Fields in Islamic Studies

Word : Ilm al-kalam

Meaning : theology

Word : Falsafah

Meaning : philosophy

Word : Fiqh

Meaning : Islamic law

Word : Mantiq

Meaning : logic

Word : Akhlaq

Meaning : Spiritual ethics

Word : Irfan

Meaning : Islamic mysticism

Word : Usul al-Fiqh

Meaning : the study and critical analysis of the origins, sources, and principles upon which fiqh or Islamic law is based on.

9.22 The Caliphate in Sunni and Shia Islam

Word : Caliph

Meaning : Successor of the Prophet (s)

Word : Caliphate

Meaning : Successorship, as in the office of successorship of the Prophet Muhammad (s)

Word : Khalifah

Meaning : Caliph

Word : Nass

Meaning : Designation of a Caliph or Imam by God through the intermediary of the Prophet

Muhammad (s) or a living Imam.

9.24 Islam, Racism and Anti-Semitism

Word : Misogyny

Meaning : prejudice or dislike of women

10 Islam, Religion, and Modern Controversies

10.1 Modern Fallacies about God: where Theists and Atheists Agree

Word : Tawhīd

Meaning : Unity and oneness of God.

Word : Contingent being

Meaning : A being who depends on something outside of it to exist, like other beings, or space, time and matter.

Word : Gods of mythology

Meaning : The gods in the stories of myths, like Zeus.

10.2 Tawhīd: The Muslim God according to the Prophet Muhammad and the Ahl al-Bayt (as)

Word : Contingent being

Meaning : A being that exists dependently, does not exist in and of itself

Word : Necessary being

Meaning : A being that exists independently, exists in and of itself

Word : Objective

Meaning : Pure fact, does not depend on human opinion.

Word : Subjective

Meaning : Depends on human senses, perceptions and opinion. Difficult to know for certain if it is 100% true.

10.3 God's Existence: The Argument From Being (Wujūd)

Word : Māhiyah

Meaning : Whatness of things, makeup of things

Word : Wujūd

Meaning : Existence, being

Word : Contingent being

Meaning : exists dependently, does not exist in and of itself

Word : Necessary being

Meaning : exists independently, exists in and of itself

Word : Logical priority

Meaning : Priority in the chain of cause and effect, may be simultaneous or not

Word : Temporal priority

Meaning : Priority in time

Word : Infinite regress

Meaning : Going back in the chain of cause-effect ad infinitum

Word : Logical absurdity

Meaning : Pure impossibility

Word : Objective

Meaning : A pure fact, it does not depend on human opinion.

Word : Subjective

Meaning : Depends on human senses, perceptions and opinion. Difficult to know for certain if it is 100% true.

10.4 **God's Existence: The Kalam Cosmological Argument**

Word : Virtual particles:

Meaning : a disturbance in a quantum field

Word : Quantum mechanics:

Meaning : the branch of mechanics that deals with the mathematical description of the motion and interaction of subatomic particles, incorporating the concepts of quantization of energy, wave-particle duality, the uncertainty principle, and the correspondence principle.

10.5 **God's Existence: The Argument From Design**

Word : Fine-tuning of the universe

Meaning : The idea that the conditions that allow life in the universe can only occur when certain universal fundamental physical constants lie within a very narrow range, so that if any of several fundamental constants were only slightly different, life would not be possible in the universe.

Word : Multiverse

Meaning : The multiverse is the hypothetical set of finite and infinite possible universes, including the universe in which we live.

Word : Cosmology

Meaning : The science of the origin and development of the universe.

Word : Teleological Argument

Meaning : Another term for the argument from design

10.6 The Problem of Evil, Suffering and Pain

Word : The emotional problem of evil

Meaning : People's dislike or even hatred of God who permits suffering in the world. They are angry that God doesn't do anything about it.

Word : The intellectual problem of evil

Meaning : This problem sees God and evil as mutually incompatible from a logical perspective.

10.7 Why did God Create Us? The Purpose of our Creation

Word : Al-Wadud

Meaning : God's characteristic, all-loving

Word : Al-Rahman

Meaning : God's characteristic, all-merciful

Word : Ibadah

Meaning : Worship, servitude to God

10.8 Why Humans Need Religion according to Islam

Word : Deen

Meaning : Religion

Word : Dā'ina

Meaning : Old Persian word for religion, meaning way of life

Word : Īmān

Meaning : faith and trusting relationship with God

10.9 Jahl and Spiritual Ignorance in Islam

Word : Aql

Meaning : intellect

Word : Jahl

Meaning : foolishness

Word : foolishness

Meaning : fool

Word : Safaaha

Meaning : foolishness

Word : Hikmah

Meaning : wisdom

10.11 Do Non-Muslims Go to Hell?

Word : Al-Jāhil al-Muqassir

Meaning : A person who rejects Islam while knowing it is the truth.

Word : Al-Jāhil al-Qāsir

Meaning : A person rejects Islam while not knowing it is the truth.

Word : Musta‘ḍaf

Meaning : In the Qur’anic sense, it sometimes refers to someone who is in a weakened position who cannot make proper decisions about the truth.