

Lutley

Primary School

Learning, Caring, Aiming High - Together

Year 6

Spring Term

Peace, forgiveness, or violence
which is truly more Islam?

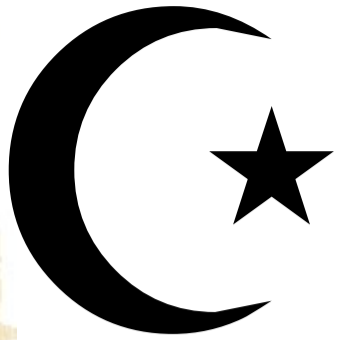
Name of religion: Islam

Holy book: The Qur'an

Name of people who study religion: Muslims

Founder of religion: The Prophet, Muhammad

Place of worship: Mosque



A local Mosque to us is, Dudley Central Mosque

Islamic festivals

Eid-al-Fitr
Festival of breaking the fast

Eid-al-Adha
Festival of Sacrifice

Key knowledge for this unit

The significant events in the story, "Muhammad and the taking of Makkah":

- For many years the wealthy merchants that ruled Makkah opposed Islam
- Muhammed formed an army with the intention of taking control of Makkah. With his army camped closed by, Muhammad promised the merchants and people of Makkah that if they stayed in their homes, they would be safe and not harmed
- The soldiers in the Muslim army were told to avoid violence or inciting violence. Muhammed ordered one of his commanders to be replaced as he thought he may not obey his order
- Although some people did die, Muhammad took control of the city and there was almost no bloodshed

Vocabulary you will use:

Word	Definition
executed	To put someone to death
peace	A time without wars or fights
forgiveness	The act of forgiving or pardoning someone's actions
inciting	Stir up
merchant	A buyer or seller of goods
vengeful	Wanting revenge
violence	The use of force that harms someone or something

The significant events in the story, "Muhammad and the story of the Wahshi":

- Wahshi was a slave known for his skill at throwing his spear. His owner, Jubayr, told him to kill Muhammad's uncle Hamza in a battle that was soon to take place
- If Wahshi was successful, then he would be given his freedom. During the battle, Wahshi killed Hamza and was granted his freedom
- Wahshi feared Muhammad would have him executed, so he left Makkah to live in a small village where he hoped Muhammad would not find him
- Wahshi's friends told him that Muhammad was not a vengeful man and he would not punish Wahshi
- Wahshi went to see Muhammad and told him what had happened and Muhammad did not have him arrested, punished or executed.

- ★ Muhammad did lead his followers into battle and as he was a religious leader.
- ★ Muhammad was not the only religious leader to lead an army in battle. Moses, Guru Hargobind and Guru Gobind Singh also led their followers in battle. Krishna in the Bhagavad Gita didn't lead the battle but he is described as fighting in a battle and making a case for why fighting was justified.
- ★ Muslim views about what their attitude should be to fighting and warfare vary.
- ★ Moderate Muslims that believe Muhammad set an example to Muslims that they should avoid force and violence. Most moderate Muslims believe that force should only be used when all other means to secure peace have failed. There are several verses in the Qur'an that urge Muslims to live in peace when possible (see: 4:90, 8:61, 17:33) and there are also verses that urge Muslims to be forgiving (see: 3:134, 7:199, 42:43). There are also individuals that identify themselves as Muslims (some may call them "purist" Muslims) who claim that Islam has been, and still is, oppressed and under attack from anti-Islamic governments and powers.
- ★ Purist Muslims who believe this to be true may argue that violence, including random attacks against civilian populations, are justified.
- ★ Through discussion and debate, pupils might consider whether the "moderate" or "purist" view more truly represents Islam.

Questions we'll ask you throughout the unit to check your knowledge and understanding.

What does the story of 'Muhammad and the taking of the Makkah' indicate about Muhammad's attitude to force?

What does the story of 'Muhammad and the taking of the Wahshi' indicate about Muhammad's attitude to force?

What are your own personal views about the use of force and forgiveness in your lives?