



## ISLAM: THE FATH OF FAITH, PEACE, AND HARMONY

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**Abstract:** *Islam, as presented in the Qur`an, is a comprehensive way of life which is grounded in faith, peace and harmony. This article explores the core principles of Islam, emphasizing iman (faith) as a foundation for moral responsibility and spiritual development. The Arabic word Islam means It highlights how the concept of peace (salam) is deeply embedded in Islamic teachings, encouraging reconciliation, justice, and coexistence among individuals and communities. The study also examines the Qur`anic emphasis on harmony, including respect for diversity, compassion, and social balance. Through selected interpretations. The Arabic word Islam oneself means to turn over to, to resign oneself, to submit. In religious terminology, it means submission or surrender to God, or to God`s will. The Koran uses the term and its derivatives in about seventy verses. We have already seen that the Koran and the Hadith use the word din (religious) in a range of meanings. This is typical for many important terms employed in Koran and the Islamic tradition. In the broadest sense, islam means submission to God as an undeniable fact of existence. If God is understood as the only reality truly worthy of the name – or reality with an uppercase then nothing else is truly real. So, in this article, you will know about how Islam, as articulated in Qur`an, represents a balanced system of faith that fosters inner spirituality, promotes peace, and establishes harmony within diverse societies.*

**Key words:** *Islam, Qur`an, peace, religions, belief, God, Allah, Prophet, Pillars, sura, Muslim, Muhammad, pray, society, harmony, faith, world, ayahs, juz.*



Islam is one of the world's major monotheistic religions, centered on the belief in one God, known as Allah. The Arabic word Islam means “to turn one self over to, to resign oneself, to submit.” It was established in 7<sup>th</sup> century through the teachings of Prophet Muhammad, who is regarded by Muslims as the final messenger of God. The primary source of Islamic belief and practice is the Qur`an. The Qur`an uses the term and its derivatives and about seventy verses. In only a few of these verses can we claim that the word refers exclusively to “Islam”, meaning thereby the religion established by the Qur`an and the Prophet Muhammad.

## **The Qur`an**

The main purpose of this article is to explain some of the clear meanings and implications of the Qur`an's teachings, including how the Qur`an describes itself.

The Qur`an consists of 114 surahs, or chapters, each of which is divided into ayahs, meaning individual statements or “signs.” In total, the Qur`an contains more than 6,000 ayahs, traditionally counted as 6,236. The surahs are not arranged according to the chronological order of their revelation; instead, they are generally organized by length, from longer to shorter ones. For ease of reading, the Qur`an is also divided into 30 parts, known as juz, which allows it to be completed over the course of a month, especially during Ramadan. The Qur`an is written in classical Arabic.

The Qur`an is organized into chapters of different lengths, known as suras. The word “sura” literally means something like a boundary, enclosure, or a part of a structure. The shortest suras contain around ten words, while the longest one—placed second in the text—has about 6,100 words. The first sura, called the Fatihah (“the Opening”), is quite brief, with only about twenty-five words. Generally, after the second sura, the chapters tend to become shorter, although this pattern is not always strict. Interestingly, the last sixty suras together take up about the same amount of space as the second sura alone.

## **The five pillars**



A pillar is a support, something that holds up a structure. The structure is the religion of Islam, with its three dimensions. If the five fundamental practices of Islam are called “PILLARS”, the implication is that everything else depends upon them.

The Shahadah.

The pillars of Islam are actions, meaning they are defined by what Muslims do. The question “What do you do to be a Muslim?” The first pillar is the essential act that all other Islamic practices depend on. It is the verbal declaration that one accepts the reality of God and the prophethood of Muhammad, and therefore the truth of the Qur’an. This declaration is called the Shahadah, which means “to testify” or “to bear witness.” The Qur’an also uses “shahada” in the sense of giving testimony, such as requiring witnesses in financial transactions. Bearing witness to God’s unity is the most fundamental act of a Muslim. By doing this, a person follows the example of God and the angels and joins those who possess true knowledge.

In its simplest form, the first pillar is the statement: “There is no god but God” and “Muhammad is God’s messenger.” Often, the phrase “I bear witness” is added before each statement.

The Salat

Although uttering the Shahadah is the fundamental act of Muslims, performing the salat (ritual prayer) is, in a certain sense, even more basic. The Prophet called salat the “centrepole” of the religion, suggested the image of a tent with a single pole holding it up the middle and with other poles as secondary supports.

Like many other Qur’anic terms, the word salat has several meanings. The basic sense of the word in Arabic is to pray or bless. Just as God and the angels utter the Shahadah, so also they perform the salat. And just as people bear witness to God’s oneness in imitation of God, so also they perform the prayer in imitation of God.

It is He who performs the salat over you, and His angels, that He may bring you forth from the darkneses into the light. (33:43).

The Fasting



The next pillar is "to fast during the month of Ramadan." Ramadan is the ninth month of the Islamic calendar. Since this is a lunar calendar of 355 days, each month lasts twenty-nine or thirty days. For a month to be considered as having twenty-nine and not thirty days, the new crescent moon must have been sighted . This helps explain why day begins at sundown: the new moon is seen at sunset on the western horizon, and then it sets. If it is cloudy and people have to depend upon calculation to decide if the new month has begun or not, the month is counted as lasting thirty days. Fasting consists of refraining from eating, drinking, smoking, and sexual activity. All Muslims who have reached the age of puberty are required to fast, although there are several valid excuses for not fasting, such as illness and travel, and, while pregnant or menstruating, 40 women are forbidden from fasting. Missed fasting needs to be made up for at another time, at the discretion of the person.

## The Future of Islam in a Globalized World

However, the Muslim community continues to face myriad challenges in the 21st century. One significant concern is the perception of Islam in the global arena, often shaped by media coverage of extremist groups that do not represent the vast majority of Muslims. These misrepresentations fuel Islamophobia, leading to discrimination and social ostracization.

## Prophet Muhammad on Peace: A Living Example

To truly understand the role of peace in Islam, one must look at the life and teachings of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him). Often referred to as "Rahmatan lil Alamin", a mercy to the worlds. Prophet Muhammad(PBUH) was a living and breathing spirit of peace in times of great turmoil. His conduct, even toward enemies, was marked by patience, forgiveness, and dignity.

An example of the Prophet Muhammad's teaching on peace is the Treaty of Hudaibiyyah. Despite facing injustice and opposition, the Prophet agreed to terms that seemed disadvantageous to the Muslim people, all in the interest of preventing bloodshed as well as promoting reconciliation. His commitment to peace as a principle, rather than just a strategy, sets a powerful precedent for Muslims



everywhere that it is righteous to sometimes let go of the thought of following a plan if it compromises the peace of an environment. **“The strong person is not the one who can wrestle others. Rather, the strong person is the one who controls himself when he is angry.”**

– Prophet Muhammad (Hadith, Sahih al-Bukhari) This hadith really shows the value of peace in Islam. Inner peace and self-restraint are the foundation for building peaceful societies.

Islamic teachings emphasise peace at every level—between individuals, families, communities, and nations. The Qur’an and hadiths are full of inspiring words that promote tranquillity, unity, and compassion:

- “The servants of the Most Merciful are those who walk upon the earth humbly, and when the ignorant address them harshly, they say words of peace.” (Qur’an 25:63)
- “If they incline towards peace, then incline towards it [also] and rely upon Allah.” (Qur’an 8:61)
- “Do not turn your face away from people in arrogance, nor walk proudly on the earth. Allah does not like the arrogant and boastful. ” (Qur’an 31:18)

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