Understanding Islam

# Part 1: Summary

| Summary |
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| At around 570 AD, the birth of Prophet Mohammad took place in Mecca. When he turns 6-year-old, his parents pass away and are left with his grandfather. Following the death of his grandfather, he is left under the care of his uncle. In 610 AD, Muhammad gets the first vision while contemplating in the cave of Hira which situated at a close proximate from Mecca (Nawwab, Speers &Hoye, 2014). He perceives an authoritative voice lecturing him and reforms to God’s Messenger. He is forced to move to Medina following persecution in Mecca in 622. This immigration symbolizes the beginning of the Islamic epoch.  The primary incidents of Muhammad’s lie are celebrated and remembered by Muslims are vital flashes in the antique of the religion. As per this community, Muhammad started to receive the visions that ultimately came to encompass the Qur’an amid the Ramadan month in the period around 610 AD. The 'Night of Power’, which honors that event,is among the most divine moments of the Islamic almanac and is feted with significant seriousness annually amid the fasting month, Ramadan.  Muslims regard Hijra, which is the trip from Mecca to Medina that was made by Muhammad with some affiliates because of prosecution, as the most important event in the antique of Islam. It was a shift of pale that permitted the budding Muslim group to endure and grow into the powerful religious group in has become (Nawwab, Speers &Hoye, 2014). This trip is highly valued, as it is perceived as the starting point of this religion. Following this, the year 622 AD is perceived as the starting pointof the Islamic calendar, which is currently in the first quasi of the 15th century.  The other commemorated occurrence of Mohammad’s life is based on Qur’an 17:1, which talks about God moving “His servant from the sacred mosque to the furthest mosque.” The interpretation of this verse by the Muslims depicts this passage as the citation to Muhammad and a marvelous night voyage he accomplished to Jerusalem from Mecca, where the utmost most are located. Referencing this tradition, the Prophet went through different heights of heaven, where he was received and esteemed by all the famous historical prophets.This occasion has been often portrayed in artwork, and some Islamic Sufis or mystics, have comprehended it as a symbol of the spirit’s expedition of God.  Another vital occasion is Muslim antique took place in 680, when the son of Husayn was murdered by Sunni soldiers at Karbala which in present-day Iraq, Husayn and his affiliates were headed to Damascus to advocate for the headship of Muslim group which they trusted was legally his when they were assailed and inhumanly killed by their foes (Nawwab, Speers &Hoye, 2014). This awful occurrence is remembered every year by Shi`a Muslims, who lament the torment of Husayn and rebuild the contexts of his demise in a ceremonial passion drama termed as the ta`ziya. |

# Part 2: Important Elements

| Qur’an | **The Qur'an is the sacred script of Allah's original words. It encompasses a compilation of God's vision to the prophet. Allah offers his message through the prophets regarding the unity of God;the augmented lifestyle, and how to respect him.** |
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| Five Pillars | * Shahadah is the first pillar which depicts that Allah is the sole God * The second pillar comprises of 5 daily prayers, which depicts the dedication of the followers to God * Giving of alms is the third pillars * Celebration of Ramadan is the fourth pillar * The fifth one is regarding the journey to Mecca, which entails the fiscal forfeits, and it depicts dedication and devotion. |
| Ramadan | Ramadan is the month of fasting, it is the 9th month of the Islamic calendar, and it symbolizes the epoch in which Muhammad first got a vision. The Islamic affiliates are required to abstain from sexual actions, eating and drinking during the day, among other requirements. |
| General Islamic Ethics | The Creed is the initial words, which the newborn hears and is declaimed in everyday players. It is written in mosques and on doors in the Arabic language, and it ascertains that only Allah is God and Muhammad is his messenger. For the dedicated and true Muslims, prayers are required five times a day. |

# Part 3: Similarities and Differences

| Shiite | Shiites embraced the legality if the first four descendants. They are further classified on views of how many Imams were present. |
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| Sunni | Sunni trust that the Council must inevitably select the Caliph, despite his bloodline. |

| Similarities | Differences |
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| Both branches trust that the Mahdi is the only head of the Islamic affiliates  The followers of both groups divided into those categories after the demise of Muhammad in 632 AD | Shittetrust that the birth of Mahdi can be traced at around 869 AD while Sunnis trust that Mahdi was ye to be born (Bradley, 2016).  In the time of prayers, Shittes places their arms by their sides whereas Sunnis traverse their arms. |

| References |
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| Bradley, M. (2016). Differences Between Sunnis and Shiites. Retrieved from https://blogs.wsj.com/briefly/2016/01/04/5-differences-between-sunnis-and-shiites/  Nawwab, I., Speers, P., &Hoye, P. (2014, April 14). A Brief History of Islam (part 1 of 5): The  Prophet of Islam. Retrieved April 10, 2017, from <https://www.islamreligion.com/articles/317/viewall/brief-history-of-islam/>. |