

WHAT IS ISLAM ?

WITH THE NAME OF ALLAH, MOST GRACIOUS, MOST MERCIFUL.

The Arabic term 'Islam' means, *peace* --- a kind of peace which can only be gained by submitting oneself to the will of our Rabb.

In other words, Islam calls for a commitment to the commandments of Allah (S.W.T.).

Everything in the universe glorifies our Rabb.

We read in Sura al-Isra (ch. 17): verse 44:-

"The seven heavens and the earth, and all beings therein, declare His glory: there is not a thing but celebrates His praise; and yet you understand not how they declare His glory! Verily He is Oft-Forbearing, Most Forgiving!"

Hence everything in the universe, including the universe itself, is a Muslim!

However, jinns and humans have been granted freedom of will, - i.e., to be committed to divine laws or to be rebellious.

The Islamic life-style is to follow the natural path of healthy development !

Listen to Sura Rum (ch. 30): verse 30:-

"So set your face steadily and truly to the faith: (establish) Allah's handiwork according to the pattern on which He has created mankind: no change let there be in (the laws of) Allah's creation. That is the right religion: but most among mankind understand not."

Remember, a natural and healthy development in society is not possible without a struggle (jihad).

The task of a Muslim is to root out evil in society.

We read in Sura al-Imran (ch. 3): verse 110:-

“You are the best of peoples, evolved for mankind, enjoining right, forbidding what is wrong, and believing in Allah. ...”

Every Nabie and Rasool was a Muslim. Each one undertook the task of developing a natural and healthy society!

We are reminded in Sura al-Imran (ch. 3): verse 52 in respect of Nabie Isa (A.S.) and his followers:-

“When Isa found unbelief on their part he said: ‘who will be my helpers to (the work of) Allah?’ said the disciples: ‘We are Allah’s helpers: we believe in Allah, and do thou bear witness that we are Muslims.’ ”

Worksheet

1) Were Nabie Moosa and his followers Muslims?

2) What is meant by the terms *Islam* and *Muslim*?

3) Will a Muslim follow divine laws or human laws?

4) What is our Islamic duty?
