

# Islam: Religion of Surrender & Submission



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

The image displays the Basmala, the opening of the first chapter of the Quran, written in elegant black Arabic calligraphy on a light green background. The text is arranged in a flowing, cursive style, starting with the Bismillah and ending with the word 'Ar-Rahim'. The calligraphy is centered within a rectangular frame.

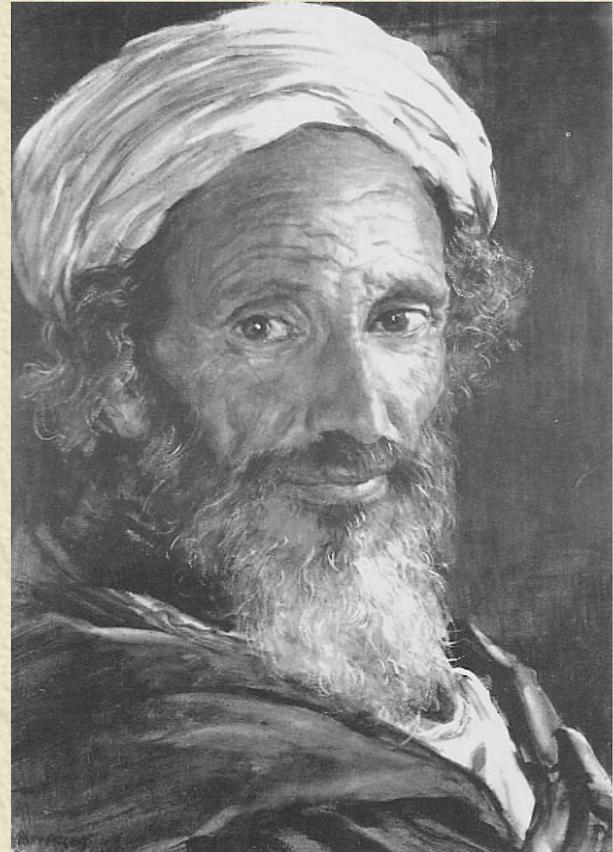
# Prophets of Islam

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- ✦ A prophet's role is to teach people how to worship God.
- ✦ There are 25 prophets mentioned in the Koran.
- ✦ Important prophets include:
  - ◆ Adam
  - ◆ Abraham
  - ◆ Moses
  - ◆ Jesus
  - ◆ Muhammad-The final messenger from God sent to confirm the messages of previous prophets.

# Muhammad: Final Messenger

- ✦ 570 ad: Born in Mecca
- ✦ 610 ad: Revelations from Allah (The God) began through the Angel Gabriel to correct errors made to God's original teachings.
- ✦ These revelations became the Koran.
- ✦ His life was to serve as a model for all to follow.



# Teachings/Beliefs

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- ✦ There is One God.
- ✦ He is the: lawgiver, judge and restorer of life.
- ✦ There is a Heaven and a Hell.
- ✦ All people can be saved.
- ✦ Children are born sinless.
- ✦ Must respect parents, protect widows/orphan.; No gambling, cheating, pork, alcohol, adultery.



# The Five Pillars of Islam

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- ✦ Formal Acts of Worship, including:
  - ◆ Shahada-Allah is the only God.
  - ◆ Prayer-5 times per day: just before dawn, midday, mid-afternoon, just after sunset, night facing Mecca.
    - Must clean selves, recite from Koran, prostrate selves saying “God is greatest.”



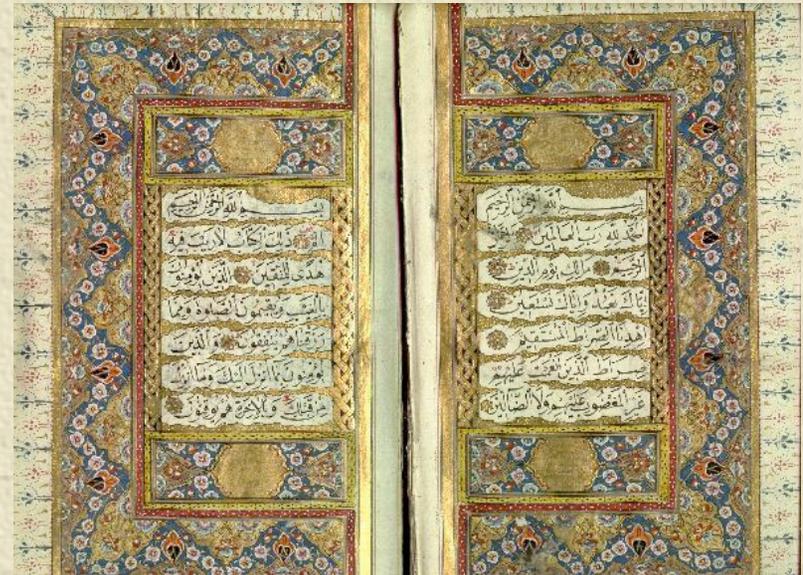
# 5 Pillars continued...

- ✧ Almsgiving-assisting the poor. Paid once a year.
- ✧ Fasting- self-restraint
  - ◆ During Ramadan (9<sup>th</sup> month of the Islamic year).
  - ◆ From Dawn to sunset
- ✧ Pilgrimage- Act of traveling to Mecca.
  - ◆ Once in a lifetime if able.



# The Koran: Muhammad's Revelations

- ✦ Also spelled Qur'an
- ✦ Koran means:  
something to be recited.
- ✦ 114 chapters of rhymed  
Arabic prose.
- ✦ Taught orally and  
memorized.
- ✦ Muslims refused to  
translate it from Arabic  
for hundreds of years.
- ✦ Teaches Muslims to be:  
humble, temperate,  
brave, charitable,  
loving, just and  
prayerful.



# Muslim Women

- ✦ Women make up half of the population.
- ✦ Believed to have a different, not an inferior role.
- ✦ A woman's place is in the home.
- ✦ Islam is to protect women: keep covered, controlled, etc.
- ✦ Arranged marriages



# Why did Islam split into two groups?

✧ Muhammad did not choose a successor before he died. After his death two ideas emerged:

1) Sunni and 2) Shi'ite

- ◆ Sunni: Leadership based on religious order-Largest group. (Ex: President→VP).
- ◆ Shi'ite: Leadership based on heredity (Muhammad's family line).



# Extremists

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- ✦ Islamic radicals who believe that Islam and the West are locked in an ongoing battle that reaches back to the early days of Islam (Crusades).
- ✦ Westerners are atheists and enemies of God, against whom all true Muslims must wage holy war in the form of  Jihad .
- ✦ Frequently use terrorism as a way to draw attention.



# Extremist Groups

- ✦ There are over 20 Islamic extremist groups.
- ✦ One powerful group:
  - ◆ Al-Qaeda (the base” or “the camp): seeks to purge Muslim countries of Western—and especially U. S.—influence.
    - Led by Osama Bin Laden
    - Considers the U.S. military forces in Saudi Arabia a threat to the location of Islam’s two holiest shrines, Mecca and Medina.
    - Responsible for 1998 suicide bombings, 2001 WTC Attacks.

