**Learning About World Religions: Islam**

Section 8.2: Background on Islam

1. Where are Muslims found in the world today?

2. Complete the T-chart by listing ways in which Islam is similar to Judaism and Christianity and how Islam is different from Judaism and Christianity.

Similarities Differences

The Qur’an and Sunnah (8.3)

1. What is the Qur’an? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What is the Sunnah? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. What is the difference between the Qur’an and the Sunnah?

3. How are the hadith related to the Sunnah?

4. How are the Qur’an and the Sunnah related to the Five Pillars of Islam?

(8.4) The First Pillar: Shahadah= \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Explain the meaning of the two parts of the Muslim shahadah.

“There is no god but God….” “…and Muhammad is the messenger of God”

2. According to Muslims, who is Allah? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3. Provide some examples of how the shahadah influences the daily lives of Muslims.

4. What do Muslims believe about angels and about judgement?

5. How does shahadah compare to the practices/beliefs of Judaism and Christianity?

(8.5) The Second Pillar: Salat=\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. What is the purpose of salat?

2. Where and how often do Muslims pray?

3. Describe at least three of the rituals Muslims practice in their daily prayers.

4. How does salat compare to the practices/beliefs of Judaism and Christianity?

(8.6) The Third Pillar: Zakat= \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Why do Muslims practice zakat? What do they believe about it?

2. How much of their surplus wealth are Muslims expected to give to charity?

3. What kinds of things does zakat pay for?

4. How does zakat compare to the beliefs/practices of Judaism and Christianity?

(8.7) The Fourth Pillar: Siyam=\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. What is the name of the holiday when Muslims practice siyam?

2. When is siyam performed and for how long?

3. What rule about food do Muslims observe during this religious holiday?

4. What does Ramadan encourage and teach Muslims?

5. What is Eid al-Fitr (eed-AL-fitter)? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

6. How does siyam compare to the beliefs/practices of Judaism and Christianity?

(8.8) The Fifth Pillar: Hajj= \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. What is the hajj and what values does it promote?

2. What do Muslims do during the hajj?

3. What important sites to Muslims visit during the hajj?

(8.9) Jihad, which translates as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. What does jihad traditionally mean in Islam?

2. How does jihad influence how Muslim’s live?

3. How does jihad relate to Muslims and their personal struggles?

(8.10) Islamic Law: Shari’ah

1. What is shari’ah and how did it develop?

2. How does shari’ah guide Muslim life?

3. How has shari’ah changed over time?