### Key Vocabulary...

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Tawhid	Oneness & supremacy of Allah
Risalah	Belief in prophet hood
Akhirah	Belief in life after death
Day of Judgement	Belief that people will be judged on how they have lived their life as a good Muslim.
Sunnah	Following the teachings & actions of Muhammad
Night of Power	The first night of the revelation of the Quran
Night Journey	The night Muhammad went on a miraculous journey to heaven (Jannah) to talk to the prophets
Hijrah	The journey Muhammad made from Mecca to Medina to escape persecution
Ummah	The Muslim community
Six articles of faith	Sunni Muslim key beliefs: Supremacy of Allah, Tawhid, Day of Judgement, authority of the Quran, authority of prophets and angels
Five roots of usul ad-Din	Shi'a Muslims beliefs: Resurrection, imamate, prophets, Tawhid and Judgement Day

#### Angels

Muslims have many beliefs about angels. Firstly, Muslims believe angels are spiritual beings of light and have no free will so follow Allah's will and give messages from Allah to humans. Jibril, (Gabriel) for example, is a special angel (archangel) who gave the words of the Quran to Prophet Muhamad as this is what God wanted. Secondly, Muslims believe that angels are involved in the lives of humans from conception to death. Some angels are **guardian angels** who take care of each person through their lives. Other angels are responsible for writing down in the **Book of Deeds** everything a person does. This book will be used on the **Day of Judgement** to decide if a person goes to Paradise of Hell. The sacred writing about angels in the **Quran** is: "Each person has angels before him and behind, watching over him by God's command."(Qur'an). This sacred writing shows that Muslims believe angels have an important role in the lives of humans and connecting humans to Allah and the belief in angels is one of the **Six Articles of Faith**.

### Muhammad

Muhammad received the first revelation of the Quran from angel Jibril on the Night of Power

<u>Muhammad in Mecca:</u> Three years after the first revelation Muhammad began preaching the words he had received from Angel Jibril: there is only one God and complete surrender to God is the only way to live life. He challenged the people of Mecca to give up cheating, drinking alcohol, gambling and idol worship. This was not the message the leaders of Mecca wanted to hear so he was persecuted. He left Mecca to avoid persecution in 622CE and went to the city of Medina. This is known as the Hijrah (departure) and is the beginning of the Ummah (worldwide Muslim community).

#### The Night Journey

Before the Hijrah Muhammad had a miraculous experience. Angel Jibril took Muhammad on a journey to Jerusalem. This event is known as the Night Journey. Muhammad was carried on a horse-like creature with wings to Jerusalem and then he ascended to heaven and spoke to other prophets like Jesus. He was told that Muslims should pray 5 times every day. When he

returned, he circled the Ka'aba 7 times.

It is important for Muslims to follow the example of Muhammad because firstly, Muhammad is a role model and is an example of a perfect human being. He is a living example of Allah's message. Secondly, Muhammad is the last prophet who Allah gave his final message/Qur'an to – the seal of the prophets. Muhammad's teachings and actions called Sunnah, influences how a person lives their life. The Sunnah teaches Muslims how to carry out Allah's will in their daily lives, for example, how to pray five times every day. The sacred writing which shows Muhammad's importance is: *"He (Muhammad) is God's messenger and the seal of the prophets."* This shows that Muhammad is the last prophet, no other prophet is to follow, and that Muhammad is seen a the perfect prophet. He is the most important prophet of them all and seal of the prophet means he is the superior prophet.

#### Activity – Plan your evaluation answer to 12 mark questions.

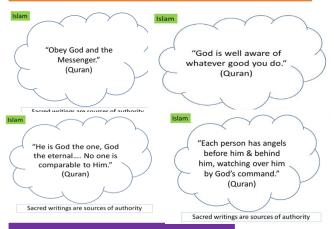
1. "The Quran contains all the guidance that Muslims need to live a perfect Muslim life." 2. "For Muslims, the prophets make better role models than the angels." 3. Predestination means Muslims have no free will." (12)

# Always Remember...

# Tawhid

Muslims believe in the Tawhid: the oneness & supremacy of Allah. All the prophets taught people to believe in the Tawhid. The Quran says: "He is God, the one, God the eternal ...No-one is comparable to Him."

# **Sacred writings**



## Deeper Learning...

Create a connection map to show the links between Muslim beliefs and Muslim practices: show how the beliefs in the six articles of faith (Sunni) and the five roots of Usul ad-Din (Shi'a) link to the Five Pillars of Islam, the celebration of festivals and the Ten Obligatory Acts.

