

The Prophet Muhammad and the Revelation of the Qur'an

Islam is the world's second largest religion. It teaches that God is merciful and powerful and that people can call on God when they are in need. God is known as Allah. People who follow Islam are known as Muslims. Muslims believe that Islam has always existed and became known to them through prophets. It is believed that the last prophet was Muhammad.

The Qur'an is written in Arabic and is the holy writings of Islam. Muslims believe it is the word of God and that it teaches people about right and wrong. Anyone who handles or touches the Qur'an has to follow special rules. They must wash in ways called ablutions.

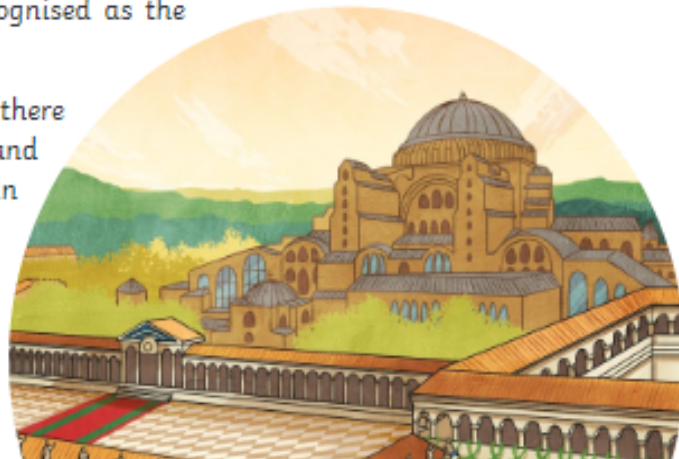
Muhammad was born in Mecca in Saudi Arabia. He worked as a merchant and became known for his honesty. He was a deeply spiritual person and would often meditate on Mount Hira.

One day, he was meditating in a cave on Mount Hira when the Angel Gabriel appeared and spoke to him. Muhammad began to recite words which he believed came straight from God. This was his first revelation from God.

Over the next 22 years, Muhammad received more revelations from God. These revelations were written down as the Qur'an. From that time, Muhammad was known as Prophet Muhammad and he preached about the revelations for the rest of his life. He is recognised as the founder of Islam.

The main message is that there is no God but Allah and that life should be lived in submission to Allah.

Prophet Muhammad died in AD 632 in Medina. He is buried there.



Questions

Use the text to answer these questions.

1. What is Islam?

2. How did Muslims learn about Islam?

3. Write two facts about the Qur'an.

4. What are 'ablutions'?

5. Explain how Muhammad had the Qur'an revealed to him.

6. What did Muhammad do after the Qur'an had been revealed to him?

7. Write the main message in your own words.

Answers

1. What is Islam?

Islam is a religion which people who are Muslims follow.

2. How did Muslims learn about Islam?

Islam was revealed to Muslims through prophets.

3. Write two facts about the Qur'an.

Any two of the following: it is written in Arabic; it is the holy writings of Islam; Muslims believe it is the word of God; it teaches people about right and wrong; anyone who handles or touches the Qur'an has to wash in ways called ablutions.

4. What are 'ablutions'?

Ablutions are a special way Muslims wash before they handle the Qur'an.

5. Explain how Muhammad had the Qur'an revealed to him.

The Qur'an was revealed to Muhammad when the Angel Gabriel appeared to him and spoke to him. Muhammad started to recite words which he believed came from God.

6. What did Muhammad do after the Qur'an had been revealed to him?

After the Qur'an had been revealed to him, Muhammad preached about what he had been told and became known as the founder of Islam.

7. Write the main message in your own words.

Children's own words which mention that there is no other God but Allah and that people must be humble/meek/obedient to God.