

## INTRODUCTORY ACTIVITIES

JURISPRUDENCE

LEVEL 2

### Objectives >>>

#### Students should:

- Engaging in introductory activities related to some basic beliefs and practices in Islam

## Lesson 1: Months of Islam

Just like we have 12 months in the English calendar, we also have 12 months in the Islamic Calendar.



Who can tell me, which is the first month of the Islamic Calendar?

That's right, it is Muḥarram. Now in the English calendar, January is the first month and most people celebrate the first day because it is the start of the New Year. But in the Islamic calendar, we do not celebrate the 1<sup>st</sup> of Muḥarram, can anyone tell the class why?

Yes, it is a sad month in which Imam Ḥusain and his companions were martyred in Karbala. Therefore we mourn and attend mosques to show our sadness.

Now let us see how many of us know all the Islamic Months?

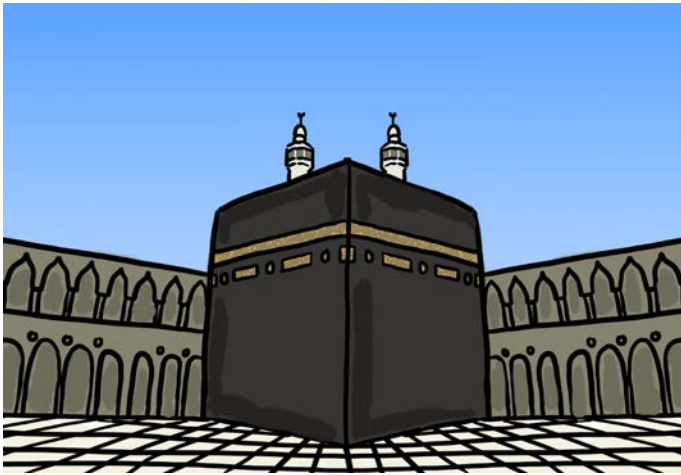
Let us know sing a song together, this will help us remember the names of the months easily!

*Muḥarram*  
*Ṣafar*  
*Rabi'ul Awwal*  
*Rabi'ul-Thāni*  
*These are the months of Islam,*

*Jamādil Awwal*  
*Jamādil Thāni*  
*Rajab and*  
*Sha'bān*

*Ramaḍānu, Ramaḍānu, Ramaḍān*  
*And Shawwal*  
*Dhul Qa'dah and*  
*Dhul Hijjah,*

*These are the months of Islam!!!!*  
*Sing it again and again until we all know the whole*



## Activity:

Answer the following questions and then find that month in the Word search puzzle below:

- 1) In which month was Imam Ḥusain martyred?.....
- 2) In which month do we fast?.....
- 3) The 2<sup>nd</sup> month of Islam is?.....
- 4) What month was Imam al-Mahdi (as) born in?  
 .....
- 5) In which month do Muslims around the world go for Ḥajj? .....
- 6) The 5<sup>th</sup> month of Islam is? .....
- 7) Imam 'Ali (as) was born in what month?  
 .....

Now with the answers you have, find the months in the word search.

M	U	H	A	R	R	A	M	A	D	F	J	L	K
A	S	D	F	G	H	H	J	K	L	M	A	Q	M
A	S	C	V	B	R	G	R	O	Y	Q	M	W	H
N	Z	Q	G	M	E	O	I	O	T	W	A	E	F
A	X	W	N	N	A	F	B	G	R	R	D	R	T
H	C	E	J	B	S	A	F	A	R	U	I	T	H
D	V	R	S	G	S	S	N	F	F	J	L	Y	A
A	B	T	Y	H	D	A	B	D	G	N	A	U	J
M	N	Y	H	F	A	F	M	S	H	G	W	I	J
A	M	U	G	D	R	B	F	E	L	F	W	O	I
R	K	I	E	S	T	G	A	Q	K	D	A	P	H
Q	L	I	S	E	R	H	K	A	J	S	L	L	L
W	O	O	D	R	F	N	J	P	N	A	C	K	I
E	P	P	F	Y	G	H	F	K	N	X	X	J	H
B	A	J	A	R	S	D	D	F	F	G	J	H	D

## Lesson 2: Respecting Elders

One of the most important manners in Islam is respecting our elders. This does not only apply to our family and friends, but also to the elders in the community and the society around us.

Islam teaches us how to respect elderly people in our community. Elders can be:

- 1) Our parents
- 2) Older siblings
- 3) Grandparents
- 4) Aunts and uncles
- 5) Friends' parents
- 6) Older people in the mosque
- 7) People on the train



Let us look at few scenarios, and we can discuss what you would do if you were in that situation:

Scenario 1: You are sitting on a train, and an elderly woman enters the cabin. What should you do?

Scenario 2: Your father is washing his car outside, and you are playing your play station inside, and he calls you to help him. Will you continue playing your game?

Scenario 3: You are sitting against the wall at the centre during a lecture. An elderly person whom you don't know walks in and there is no more space against the wall. What is your duty?



## Class Activity

Now we will act out the following scenario:

Choose 3 students. Let 2 of them (Ahmad and Hamid) pretend they are playing with a ball in an outside field. The 3<sup>rd</sup> student should be an old man walking with a stick. The old man walks through the park, and his stick falls. He is too weak to bend down.

Ahmad says to Hamid: "Let us go and help the man, he's dropped his stick" and before Hamid replies, Ahmad runs to the man and gives him his stick, and the old man walks away thankfully, praying for him.

Hamid says to Ahmad "That was very nice of you. I wish I could help others like that too".

Ahmad says "It is very important in Islam to help anyone who needs help, especially the elderly."

## Lesson 3: Shahādah

In previous years, we already discussed that as Muslims, there are two major beliefs we have:

- There is no God but Allah (SWT)
- Muḥammad is the Messenger of Allah

When someone wishes to become a Muslim, they must express these two beliefs. In Arabic, this is how we say these two expressions:

- Ash-hadu an La ilāha illa Allah (I bear witness that there is no God but Allah (SWT))
- Wa ash-hadu anna Muḥammadan Rasulu Allah (And I bear witness that Muhammad (SAW) is the Messenger of Allah(SWT))



As Muslims, we recite this in our prayers and constantly remind ourselves of these two major beliefs. As Shi'a Muslims and followers of the Ahlul Bayt, we also have a third major belief. This is the belief that Imam 'Ali is the leader of the Muslims chosen by God to lead us after Prophet Muḥammad (saw). Hence we continue on to say:

- Ash-hadu anna 'Aliyun Waliyu Allah (I bear witness that Imam Ali (AS) is the trustee of Allah (SWT))

## Class Activity

- Now, repeat the Shahādah, including all three expressions of faith, after your teacher three times, and your teacher will check you are saying it correctly.
- Then repeat the meaning in English three times as well.