

R.E. Activities

13.7.2020

Read the following information, then think about the question...

The qualities of Allah

In the Qur'an, a number of different names are used for Allah. These names, or adjectives, give Muslims an insight into the nature of what Allah is like.

Many Muslims commit these names to memory and are able to pray and meditate using these names.

Allah's qualities

Muslims believe that Allah has many qualities. Some qualities are beyond human understanding, but all of them help Muslims understand what Allah is like. The table shows some of the many qualities of Allah and their meaning.

| Quality | Meaning |
|---------------|-------------------------------|
| Beneficence | All good |
| Immanence | Throughout the universe |
| Merciful | All forgiving / compassionate |
| Omnipotence | All powerful |
| Transcendence | Beyond the universe |

Although Allah has many qualities, the Qur'an shows that Allah is the creator of the universe or the heavens and earth, and is able to resurrect the dead.

Do they not see that Allah, who created the heavens and earth and did not fail in their creation, is able to give life to the dead? Yes. Indeed, He is over all things competent.

Qur'an 46:33

Allah is both the creator and the sustainer of life.

Misbaha beads

Misbaha beads are Muslim prayer beads. The use of misbaha beads in worship reflects Muslim beliefs about Allah.

Muslims may be seen using misbaha beads, in particular during private personal prayer. It is an act of devotion to use the beads in prayer, but also a practical way of counting some of the many names of Allah as they are recited.

There are often two sorts of beads, which are either made up of 33 or 99 beads. Muslims can often be seen carrying these beads around and using them in everyday life. The beads are left in mosques for worshippers to use.

Allah as one God - Tawhid

The Qur'an contains guidance for Muslims on the nature of Allah, and how to live a good life that pleases him.

Allah witnesses that there is no deity except Him, and [so do] the angels and those of knowledge - [that He is] maintaining the creation in justice. There is no deity except Him, the Exalted, in Might, the Wise.

Qur'an 3:18

Key beliefs about God include:

- **Tawhid** - the belief in the oneness and unity of Allah as expressed in the first of the Five Pillars of Islam, the Shahadah. Belief in this oneness or unity of Allah is an essential aspect of Islam.
- **Monotheism** - Muslims believe in only one God, Allah.

Islam is a monotheistic religion.

A Muslim should live a life in submission to the will of Allah in all things.

Now think about the question below and write your ideas around the thought bubble:

The Mention of God in the Qur'an

What do the verses from the Qur'an tell us about the Islamic belief of God? Write your answers around the thought bubble.

| | |
|--|---|
| 'The most excellent names belong to God: use them to call on Him' Qur'an 7:180 | 'This is God, your Lord... No Vision can take Him in, But He takes in all vision. He is the Subtle, the all aware' Qur'an 6:102-103 |
| 'He is with you wherever you are' Qur'an 57:4 | 'Praise be to God, Creator of the heavens and earth.' Qur'an 35:1 |

