

## THEO 330 – SECTION #06 ACTIVITY (ANSWER KEY)

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

### *Fill in the Blank/Short Answer*

1. Muhammad is said to have ascended through the seven heavens, to the Divine Presence, witnessed former prophets, and saw heaven and hell. This religious experience of his is known as what?

*Night Ascension*

2. A vast though not fully authenticated literature containing stories about Muhammad's life and sayings is called what?

*Hadith*

3. Name the Five Pillars of the Muslim Religion:

- a. *Believe in only one God and Muhammad is his messenger. (Shahadah)*
- b. *Pray in the direction of Mecca five times a day. (Salaat)*
- c. *Donate money to the poor. (Zakat)*
- d. *Fast during the month of Ramadan.*
- e. *Make a journey, or Hājj, to Mecca at least once.*

4. What Muslim word commonly is mistranslated as "holy war" instead of its proper meaning of "striving?"

*Jihad*

5. Name the three central Islamic teachings.

- a. ALLAH IS ONE - no other gods besides him.
- b. ALLAH IS ETERNAL AND ABSOLUTE in all attributes.
- c. ALLAH IS ALMIGHTY, all-seeing, all-hearing and all-merciful.

6. What are Muhammad's sayings and actions called?

*Sunnah*

7. What is the sacred law of Islam called?

*Sharia*

*True or False*

- 1. True Islam is the world's fastest growing religion.
- 2. True Islam means peace or submission.
- 3. False A Muslim is one who has submitted and is at peace with God.
- 4. True Shi'a Muslims recognize imams as prophets or guide.
- 5. False The Islamic vision of the afterlife is spiritual and not physical.
- 6. True In Islamic tradition, the funeral is conducted without elaborate ceremony.
- 7. True In the Qur'an, Muslims are told that they should never say they will do a particular thing in the future without adding "Insha'Allah" ("If God wills it") to the statement.
- 8. True

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- The spirit is the seed from which a higher form of life grows within man, higher than physical life.
9. True Islam calls for the burial of the deceased as soon as possible.
10. False The Qur'an signifies that God gives life before the believer is put to death.
11. True Among the major Western Monotheistic religions, Islam puts the greatest emphasis on the concept of "*The Angel of Death*."
12. False Some Muslims believe that, after a person dies, "two black-faced, blue-eyed angels named *Shadrach* and *Meshach* visit the grave and interrogate the deceased about his beliefs and deeds in life."
13. True The Heaven or Hell developed in the Muslim heart is unfolded before the believer and becomes the world in which they live, and they live in it not with the physical body of this life but the "spiritual" body made from deeds.
14. False *Hell is an everlasting punishment*, meant to punish forever the effects of their bad deeds, making it impossible for further advancement.
15. True *The Day of Judgment* is the day which will bring the spiritual world into full manifestation, in place of the present physical one.
16. True *The Sharia* is based on the Qur'an and Hadith (the practices and sayings of the prophet Muhammad).

17. True The rituals of a Muslim burial often is more expedited than those of other faith traditions.

### Multiple Choice

1. What is the sacred book of Islam is called?
  - a. Sharia
  - b. Qur'an**
  - c. Murshid
  - d. Suras
2. What is the name for God in Islam?
  - a. Yahweh
  - b. Allah**
  - c. Jehovah
  - d. Ulama
3. What angel who came to Muhammad during an intense spiritual retreat – his *Night Vision*?
  - a. Gabriel**
  - b. Moroni
  - c. Raphael
  - d. Ariel
4. What are the mystical tradition of Islam called?
  - a. Mujahid
  - b. Islamist
  - c. Dervishes
  - d. Sufism**
5. Islamic teachings about death include the idea about what below?
  - a. That God determines a person's lifespan.**
  - b. That God has no power over an individual's fate.
  - c. That hell does not exist.
  - d. That hellish states are only temporary.

6. Which of the following is **NOT TRUE**?
- a. The life to come is the eternal abode where one will reap the fruit of one's endeavors on earth.
  - b. *For a faithful Muslim, participation in the rituals of the faith supersedes the interior journey of the believer.***
  - c. Islam views life as sacred and a trust from God (Allah).
  - d. The daily prayers play a pivotal role in the day-to-day life of a Muslim, and prayer assumes an even greater role in times of suffering and distress.
7. What is a basic premise of Qur'anic teaching about death?
- a. That it involves intermediate states.
  - b. That the released soul merges with the universe.
  - c. *That God determines the span of a person's life.***
  - d. That the soul journeys into transmigration.
8. What is the Islamic vision of the afterlife?
- a. It is Only Physical
  - b. It is Only Spiritual
  - c. *It is Both Spiritual and Physical***
  - d. It is Neither Spiritual nor Physical
9. According to Islamic tradition, what is the role of the angelic beings Munkar and Nakir?
- a. They Punish Wrongdoers with Death.
  - b. *They Interrogate the Deceased.***
  - c. They Represent the Devil.
  - d. They Inspire the Deceased's Family.

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14. Which of the following *does NOT apply* in reference to Muslim funeral and burial customs?
- a. The burial of the deceased should take place as soon as possible.
  - b. The burial ritual includes cleaning the body and wrapping it in a white cotton shroud.
  - c. When a Muslim dies, the eyes and mouth should be closed and the limbs should be straightened.
  - d. That cremation be afforded for a faithful Muslim's burial.**
  - e. All of These Apply.
15. Which of the following *does NOT apply* in reference to a Muslim soul?
- a. Islam teaches continuous progress of the soul and so it cannot return to this world after death of the body.
  - b. Islam believe that each person is born with a pure soul, without any burden to bear from a past life.
  - c. The inner part of man is "the real thing" and which survive forever, while the outward possessions are certainly lost a death and often before then.
  - d. A faithful Muslim nourishes the spirit through prayer to Allah, and does good and righteous deeds so that the spirit will develop and grow properly.
  - e. They all apply.**

## *Essay*

1. For this essay of NO LESS THAN TWO PAGES, on the first page, compare the soul/body distinction in Islam, in comparison held to the views of Christianity and Judaism.

On the second page, compare the views of the Western monotheistic religions to those of the Eastern polytheistic religions. What do the two sets of religions have in common concerning the subject of Death & Dying? What major differences exist?

Do this assignment thoroughly and well – it may reappear in your first exam (HINT HINT).

Key Terms	
Allah	Literally means, 'the God'; Muslim name for the deity.
Caliph	From <i>Khalifa</i> (literally, 'deputy,' 'representative'); successors of Muhammad in leading Islam.
Five Pillars	The basic obligations individual Muslims observe... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) the profession of faith</li> <li>2) daily prayer</li> <li>3) the alms tax for the needy</li> <li>4) fasting during the month of Ramadan</li> <li>5) taking the hajj at least once.</li> </ul>
Hadith	Arabic for "speech, news, event"; refers to the narratives of what Muhammad said, did, or was like when he established the first Muslim community in Medina. Next to the <i>Qur'an</i> the major source for determining Muslim law ( <i>Sharia</i> ).
Häjj	Pilgrimage each Muslim is supposed to make once in a lifetime to the shrines in and around Mecca
Hijrah	Literally means, "migration"; the migration of Muhammad and his disciples from Mecca to Medina in 622 AD.
Iblis	Fallen angel who is the Satan figure in Islam.
Imam	Literally means, "one who stands before"; in Sunni Islam, the leader of worship in the mosque. In Shi'ite Islam, a spiritual successor to Muhammad who is endowed with the power to interpret the truth in the age in which he lives.
Jihad	Literally means, "struggle" or "striving"; referring to the obligation of all Muslims to struggle against error. In one sense refers to the defensive military struggle against those who would attack Muslims and subvert their faith, hence the concept of the 'Holy War.'
Kaaba	Literally means, "cube"; the central shrine of Islam, located in the Grand Mosque of Mecca. It symbolizes the center of the world and is visited by Muslims on the Häjj.
Koran ( <i>Qur'an</i> )	Literally means, "reading," "recitation"; Muslim scripture.

Mahdi	Literally means, “the guided one”; in Islam in general, a descendant of Muhammad who will restore justice on earth. In Shi’ite Islam in particular, a messianic imam who will appear to end corruption.
Mosque	Muslim house of prayer.
Muslim	Literally means, “submitter” (one who submits to the will of God); one becomes a Muslim by utterance of the Shahadah.
Night Ascension	Through this vision, Muhammad is said to have passed through the seven heavens, to the Divine Presence, witnessed former prophets, and saw Heaven and Hell.
Ramadan	Month during which devout Muslims do not eat or drink between sunrise and sunset. The fast celebrates the month in which the Prophet received the <i>Qur’an</i> .
Shahadah	Creedal statement of Islam: “There is no God but Allah, and Muhammad is his prophet.”
Sharia	Based on the Qur’an and the Sunnah; its dictates are applicable to all areas of life from diet to inheritance to social justice.
Shi’ite	Literally means, “the party of”; this Muslim group, which accounts for approximately 15% of all Muslims, split from Sunni over the issue of rightful succession to Muhammad.
Sufism	Mystical Islamic belief and practice in which Muslims seek to find the truth of divine love and knowledge through direct personal experience of Allah.
Sunni	The largest of the two main branches of Islam (about 85% of all Muslims); where the Qur’an is not explicit this movement appeals to <i>Sunna</i> (the manner of behavior associated with Muhammad; via <i>Hadith</i> ).
Umma	Literally means, “community”; the entire community of Muslims throughout the world.