

Race to Jannah - 6

Group C: Names of Allah

Allah is the Lord of the worlds and our Creator. He is one and there is no god other than Him. Only He is worthy of being worshipped. He is different from His creations in every way. He is the All-Mighty, the All-Wise. All that is in the heavens and the earth glorify Him. He has the best and the perfect attributes. He has the most beautiful names (Al-Araf: 7-180). In Arabic, the names are called “Al-Asmaaul Husna”. We should call on Him by these names. Prophet Muhammad (S) has said that Allah has ninety nine names, and whoever knows them will go to Paradise (Bukhari and Muslim).

Let’s memorize the following names of Allah, understand them, and reflect their meanings in our daily activities.

SI	Name	Translit.	Meaning	Explanation
1	الرَّحْمَنُ	Ar-Rahmaan	The Beneficent	He who wills continuous goodness and mercy for all His creations
2	الرَّحِيمُ	Ar-Raheem	The Merciful	He who acts with extreme kindness
3	الْمَلِكُ	Al-Malik	The Eternal Lord	The Supreme Lord who has the complete dominion
4	الْقُدُّوسُ	Al-Qudduus	The Most Holy	The One who is pure from any imperfection
5	السَّلَامُ	As-Salaam	The Provider of Peace	The One who is the source and provider of peace
6	الْخَالِقُ	Al-Khaaliq	The Creator	The One who brings everything from non-existence to existence
7	الْغَفَّارُ	Al-Ghaffaar	The Great Forgiver	The Forgiver who forgives the sins of His slaves time and time again
8	الْعَزِيزُ	Al-Azeez	The Mighty One	The Strong and Defeater who cannot be defeated
9	الرَّزَّاقُ	Ar-Razzaaq	The Total Provider	The Sustainer and Provider
10	الْعَلِيمُ	Al-A'leem	The All-Knowing One	The Knowledgeable One from Whose knowledge nothing is absent

Race to Jannah - 6

Group C: Books of Allah

1. What are the names of the major holy books? Who were they sent to?

- Quran sent to Prophet Muhammad (S)
- Injil (Gospel) sent to Prophet Isa (A)
- Tawrat (Torah) sent to Prophet Musa (A)
- Zabur sent to Prophet Dawud (A)

2. In which language is the Quran?

Arabic

3. Which angel brought the Quran to Rasulullah (S)?

Angel Jibreel

4. How long did it take to complete sending down the Quran?

23 years

5. When was the Quran sent down for the first time?

Quran was sent down for the first time in Laylatul Qadr in Ramadan

6. How many Juzz is the Quran divided into?

30

7. What is the meaning of the word Quran?

The word 'Quran' is derived from the root "qara'a" which means "to read" or "to recite". The meaning of Quran is "reading or reciting".

8. How many suras are in the Quran?

114

9. What is a person called who memorizes the entire Quran?

Hafiz

10. What is the greatest ayah of the Quran?

Ayatul Kursi (Ayah 255 of Surah Baqarah) is the greatest ayah of the Quran.

11. Importance of reciting Quran

Prophet (S) said, "The believer who recites the Qur'aan is like a citrus fruit - its fragrance is pleasing and its taste is sweet. The believer who does not recite the Qur'aan is like a dry date - it has no fragrance but its taste is sweet. The hypocrite who recites the Qur'aan is like a basil - its fragrance is sweet, but its taste is bitter. The hypocrite who does not recite the Qur'aan is like a colocynth - it has no smell, and its taste is bitter" (Muslim)

12. Name the prophet whose name is most mentioned in the Quran?

Prophet Musa (A): 136 times

13. Name the Surah without Bismillah

Surah At Tawba

14. Name the Surah with Bismillah twice

Surah Naml

15. Name the surahs having the titles named after different Prophets

- A. Surah Yunus
- B. Surah Hud
- C. Surah Yusuf
- D. Surah Ibrahim
- E. Surah Nuh
- F. Surah Muhammad

Race to Jannah - 6

Group C: Pillars of Islam

1. How many pillars does Islam have? What are they?

The Messenger of Allah (S) said: Islam has been built on five [pillars]:

- A. Testifying that there is no deity worthy of worship except Allah and that Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah,
- B. Establishing the salaah (prayer),
- C. Paying the zakah (obligatory charity),
- D. Making the Hajj (pilgrimage) to the House, and
- E. Fasting in Ramadan. (Bukhari and Muslim)

In brief, the five pillars of Islam are - i) Shahadah, ii) Salah, iii) Zakah, iv) Hajj and v) Sawm.

2. Who is the Creator of the universe?

Allah

3. Which direction do Muslims face while offering salah?

Towards the holy city Makkah

4. How many times Muslims have to pray? Name them with time.

5 times a day:

- A. Fajr- Before sunrise
- B. Dhuhr- Mid-day Prayer
- C. Asr- When the sun turns orange
- D. Maghrib - after sunset
- E. Isha - the night prayer

5. Name four prominent angels and their duties assigned by Allah.

- A. Jibreel (Gabriel) the Trustworthy, who is entrusted with conveying revelation to the messengers of Allah the Almighty
- B. Mikaa'eel who is entrusted with rainfall

- C. Israafeel who is commissioned to blow the Trumpet on the Day of Judgment
- D. The Angel of Death, who is assigned the task of taking the souls of man at death

6. Before performing salat, we clean ourselves with water. What is the name of the process called?

Wudoo

7. In which month do all Muslims fast?

Ramadan

8. During hajj, men wear a special cloth. What is the color of the cloth?

White

9. Where do Muslims go for hajj?

Makkah

10. During hajj, we remember the teachings of a prophet. Which Prophet do we remember?

Prophet Ibrahim (A)

11. What is the name of meal we eat to break our fasting and start our fasting in Ramadan?

- The meal that we eat to break our fast: Iftar
- The meal that we eat to start our fast: Suhoor

12. What is Akhirah?

The life in hereafter. The real success or failure of one's life is the success and failure of afterlife. We will get the result of our deeds in the hereafter. The life in hereafter will be everlasting.

13. Benefits of performing Salah

Few benefits of salah- 1. Obeying Allah 2. Remembering Allah 3. Being close to Allah 4. Getting our sins forgiven 5. To be a better Muslim

14. What are the things we must do before salah?

Fard tasks include: i) cleanliness of body, ii) cleanliness of garments, iii) cleanliness of place, iv) covering of required parts of the body ('sitr'), v) ascertaining the right time for a prayer, vi) facing the Ka'ba, vii) having the intention to offer the salah in the mind.

15. Compulsory surah to read in salah

Surah Fatiha

Race to Jannah - 6

Group C: Life of Prophet Muhammad (S)

1. Who was the last prophet in Islam? What is the meaning of his name?

Prophet Muhammad Sallallahu alayhi wa sallam (S). The meaning of Muhammad is Praiseworthy.

2. What were Prophet Muhammad's (S) parents' names?

- Father : Abdullah
- Mother: Amina

3. What was Prophet Muhammad's (S) grandfather's name?

Abdul Muttalib

4. Who became the guardian of young Muhammad (S) after his grandfather passed away?

Uncle Abu Talib

5. What are the names of Prophet Muhammad given by his community people?

Al Amin (the trustworthy), Al Sadiq (The truthful)

6. During migration from Makkah to Medinah, who accompanied Prophet Muhammad (S)?

Abu Bakr (R)

7. How old was Prophet Muhammad (S) when he passed away?

63 years old

8. What is the name of the cave where the first few verses of the Quran were sent down? How many verses were sent down?

Cave Hira. The first revelation revealed to the Prophet was the first 5 verses of Surah Al-Alaq.

9. What is the name of the first battle fought by Rasulullah (S)?

Battle of Badr

10. Write down names of Prophet Muhammad's children

Qasim, Zainab, Ruqayyah, Umm Kulthum, Fatimah, Abd-Allah and Ibrahim.

11. What is the significance of "the year of elephants"?

- This is the year when Abraha, the king of Yemen attacked Kabah. He had a huge army with elephants and was destroyed by pebbles dropped by small birds. It is mentioned in the Quran in Surah Al-Fil.
- Also, this is the year when Prophet Muhammad (S) was born.

12. Why should we follow the Prophet (S)?

- Allah says: "There has certainly been for you in the Messenger of Allah an excellent pattern for anyone whose hope is in Allah and the Last Day and [who] remembers Allah often." (Quran 33:21)
- Allah also says: "Whatsoever the Messenger (Muhammad PBUH) gives you, take it, and whatsoever he forbids you, abstain (from it), and fear Allah. Verily, Allah is Severe in punishment." (Quran, 59:7)
- Prophet (S) said: "Pay attention to my sunnah (way) and the way of the Rightly-guided Khaleefahs after me, adhere to it and hold fast to it." (Saheeh Abi Dawud, Kitaab al-Sunnah).

13. What did Khadijah say when she saw the Prophet in distress after the first revelation to console prophet?

Khadijah (R) wrapped him in a blanket, comforted him and said, "You have nothing to fear. Have a rest and calm down. God will not let you suffer any humiliation, because you are kind to your kinsfolk, you speak the truth, you help those in need, you are generous to your guests, and you support every just cause."

14. How old was Muhammad (S) when he became a prophet?

40 years

15. What was the first Masjid built by Rasulullah(S)?

Masjid e Quba

Race to Jannah - 6

Group C: Life of Prophet Ibrahim (A)

Long long ago, about 4000 years ago in the faraway lands of Iraq a child whose name was Ibrahim (Abraham) was born in the village of Ur. Most people of that time including their leaders used to worship idols. Even Ibrahim's (A) forefather worshipped idols. In addition to worshipping idols, they also worshipped the moon, the sun and the stars in the sky. Even as a little boy, Ibrahim (A) did not like to worship idols. He wondered how can something be "God" when it cannot do anything at all.

Ibrahim's desire to find the truth grew. One night, while looking at the sky, Ibrahim (A) saw a particularly bright star. "This is my lord," he said. But when it set, he said, "I do not love that which fades." After seeing the same thing happening with the moon and the sun, Ibrahim (A) said, "I will turn my face to Him who has created the heavens and the Earth, and live a righteous life..." He was very sad to see his father worshipping idols. One day he asked his father, "Why do you worship things that cannot hear or cannot see and that cannot help you at all?" He wanted his father to think about this and stop worshipping things other than Allah.

Ibrahim (A) tried his best to convince his father and other people to give up idol-worshipping. He asked them "why are you so attracted and devoted to these idols and pictures?" They did not have a good answer, so they answered, "We worship them because our forefathers worshipped them." Ibrahim (A) continued to explain his point, but the people did not want to understand this simple point. Finally, Ibrahim (A) set a plan to show them how powerless the idols were!

One day every one of his community went to a fair. When they came back they were shocked to see their idols were broken all over the place. They asked, "Who has done this to our gods?" Obviously they were furious and wanted to punish the person. Some of the people remembered that Ibrahim (A) spoke against worshipping idols. So they confronted Ibrahim (A) and

asked him, "Are you the one who has done this to our gods?" Ibrahim (A) had waited for this opportunity. He answered cleverly saying, "Surely someone did it, but your chief idol is still around. Ask him if he had seen anything and why he didn't try to stop this destruction".

Ibrahim (A) wanted the people to realize that Idols can't do anything and they have no power to do any good or harm. He wanted the people to realize that if Idols can't protect themselves, how they could protect human beings. They answered, "Surely you know that they don't speak, how can we ask them?" Ibrahim (A) said, "Do you then worship besides Allah things that can neither profit you nor harm you, shame upon you and upon that which you worship beside Allah."

Although the priests realized Idol worshipping was meaningless, they became furious. A fire of hatred increased everywhere. People wanted to burn Ibrahim in a fire. A huge heap of firewood was piled up and set alight. The people shouted: "Death to Ibrahim! Burn him!" As the bright red flames leaped up, Ibrahim (A) felt no fear, as his faith in Allah was very strong and he knew that the people were wrong. As soon as the fire was at its hottest, they picked up Prophet Ibrahim (A) and threw him into it. But Allah commanded: "O fire, be cool and peaceful for Ibrahim." A Miracle took place, and the fire, instead of burning Ibrahim (A), became a cool safe place for him. The people could hardly believe their eyes! They became speechless.

The moral of the story is that faith in Allah is the only thing that can save a believer in this world and the world to come. Ibrahim (A) did not know the fire will turn into a cool place, but he trusted in Allah and did not lose his belief. Ibrahim's (A) struggle to establish the truth shows that we can win over people through careful and proper discussion. The path to establish the truth is always difficult but Allah says that when truth comes, falsehood vanishes. The Quran also wants us to speak gently and politely when we talk about the truth. The purpose of argument is to listen to the opinion of both sides and then speak about your belief. Argument doesn't mean we have to shout or call someone names. All we have to do is tell the truth

without being scared or nervous when and where appropriate. Ibrahim (A) didn't shout at his people or his father. He told them the truth in a gentle manner without being scared. So, whenever we speak about religion or any matter, we should always talk in a gentle manner. The Quran says if people don't listen, then walk away from them.

Race to Jannah - 6

Group C: Muslim Contributions that Changed the World

1. Coffee

Coffee is one of the most favourite drinks in Canada. The discovery of coffee is as interesting as the drink itself. 1200 years ago a person named Khalid took his goats out to graze in the Ethiopian slopes and noticed a change in the behaviour of his goats after they ate a particular type of berry. The beans were coffee beans which people brewed prepare a drink which we now know as coffee. It is there in Ethiopia that historian believed that coffee beans were first used as a drink. Coffee gained more popularity in Yemen during the 15th century, where Muslim drank coffee, which they called al qahwa, to stay awake for the late night prayers.

By the 16th century coffee spread to different parts of the Muslim world as travelers, pilgrims and traders, took coffee beans with them and spread it as a drink. Turkish merchants named Pasqua Rosee first brought coffee to England in 1650. The word "coffee" entered the English language via the Dutch koffie, borrowed from the Ottoman Turkish kahve, in turn borrowed from the Arabic Qahwah.



2. Hospital

Islam encourages people to care for people who are sick, weak and infirm. Caring for people specially the sick ensures enormous reward and is a sign of strong faith and good character. One of the first organized hospitals, like the ones that we have now, was built in Cario between 872 and 873 which was called Ahmad Ibn Tulun Hospital. Because caring is considered to be a noble virtue, hospitals did not charge money to patients and every one received free treatment and medicines.

Famous hospital in Muslim lands included the Al Qayrawan hospital built in the 9th Century in Tunisia. The hospital had had waiting room for visitors, female nurses, a mosque to pray, a place to study and group of regular doctors. Another well organized hospital known in history was the Baghdadi hospital in Baghdad, built in 982 with a 24 physicians. The Nuri hospital in Damascus, built in the 12th Century was even larger and even had druggists, barbers and orthopedists, oculists and physicians. The hospital also had teaching facility to allow students to learn about medicine and treatment.

Gradually, this idea of hospitals, spread all over the Muslim world reaching Spain and North Africa and then spreading to Europe. Today's modern day hospitals were largely influenced by Muslim innovators of the 8th century.



Ibn Tulun Mosque and hospital in Cairo