

A brief introduction to Islam and Muslim peoples

What does Islam mean?

Islam is a monotheistic religious tradition based on the belief in God, Creation and the Day of Judgment. Its followers are called Muslims.

What do Muslims believe?

Muslims believe that the Qur'an is the Word of God revealed to the Prophet Muhammad in the 7th century CE. The core message of the Qur'an is "for humanity to believe in and worship God and to live by a set of ethical principles of peace, tolerance, and service to others. The Qur'an also contains histories, parables, and stories that teach life lessons that have inspired great art.

Where do Muslim peoples live and how are they so diverse as a group?

- Muslims live in over 57 countries around the world and have large populations on the continents of Europe, North America, Africa and South and Southeast Asia. (p. 9)
- They speak many languages including, but not limited to: Chinese, English, Malay, Dari and Swahili. (p. 9)

Source:

Kana'an, Ruba, and Patricia Bentley. *Learning at the Aga Khan Museum: A Curriculum Resource Guide for Teachers, Grades One to Eight*. Toronto, Ontario: Aga Khan Museum, 2015. Print.