

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION GRADE 6
LOCKDOWN PROGRAMME WEEK 6



Let us Pray:
Lord Jesus Christ,
Son of the Father,
Send now your Spirit over the Earth,
Let the Holy Spirit live in the hearts of all nations,
That they may be preserved from illness,
Especially the coronavirus.
May the lady of all nations,
The Blessed Virgin Mary,
Be our Advocate,
AMEN!

LESSON 27: The Origins of Islam

Islam in Africa and the rest of the world:

1. Islam began to have an influence in Africa very early on. Ten years after Mohammed's death in 632, Egypt came under Muslim rule. Before that, in 615, Mohammed had sent a small band of his followers to Ethiopia to escape the persecution of their countryfolk in Arabia who still followed the old pagan gods.
2. Over the next thousand years Islamic influence spread through North, West and East Africa, but its development in Southern Africa was prevented by White conquest and European settlement.
3. Islam spread north and west into Turkey and parts of Europe, particularly Spain. Eastwards it spread into countries like Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan, which today are predominantly Muslim countries. India also has a large Muslim population. In the Far East, Islam reached Malaysia and Indonesia (East Indies) where it is today the main religion.

4. The Five Pillars of Islam are;

- **faith in God** whom Muslims call Allah.
- prayer (*salat*),
- Giving to charity (*zakat*),
- fasting (*samm*), and
- pilgrimage(*hajj*).

4 Islam in South Africa:

Islam came to South Africa with political prisoners and slaves that the Dutch brought to the Cape of Good Hope more than three hundred years ago. They came from East Africa and the East Indies. Many of the prisoners were princes and religious leaders in their communities in the East Indies, where they were resisting Dutch rule. Some of them were imprisoned on Robben Island.

Sheik Yusuf of Macassar, or Abidin Tadia Tjoessoep, was brought to the Cape as a political prisoner in 1694 together with his family. He had previously been exiled to Ceylon (now Sri Lanka) for opposing the Dutch authorities in his home country. Before his exile he had travelled widely - to Mecca and Medina, the holy cities of Islam, and to Damascus and Istanbul.

Sheik Yusuf taught the Qur'an to Khoikhoi and slaves on the farm Zandfliet, near Faure in the Cape, where he was held. He helped spread the Muslim faith at a time when slaves and Khoikhoi were not accepted into the Christian churches of the Dutch. In fact, the public practice of Islam was prohibited at the time under the pain of death. He is buried near the sea, and his burial place is now a place of pilgrimage.

There were also many Muslims among the Indian traders and labourers who came to work on the sugar plantations in Natal in the 1860s. They have made an important contribution to all aspects of life in South Africa.



TASKS TO BE COMPLETED

1. Copy and complete the following table:

In each block write down a sentence to explain how the spread of Islam occurred.

The Spread of Islam into the world

YEAR	EVENT
1. 615	
2. 632	
3. 633 - 1633	

2. **ISLAM COMES TO SOUTH AFRICA**

Read the following story. Choose the words from those given to fill in the empty spaces.

Write down the number and answer in your book.

- exile*
- Mecca and Medina*
- slaves*
- Yusuf of Macassar*
- Indian*
- practice of Islam*
- Sri Lanka*
- Khoikhoi and slaves*
- Robben Island*
- the East Indies*

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