



I.R.E NOTES

GRADE 8

OVERVIEW OF ISLAM

1. Introduction to Islam

- **Islam:** A monotheistic religion founded on the teachings of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). Islam means “submission to the will of Allah.”
- **The Quran:** The holy book of Islam, revealed to Prophet Muhammad by Allah through the angel Jibril (Gabriel). It contains guidance for all aspects of life.
- **Hadith:** The sayings and actions of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) that guide Muslims in their daily lives.
- **Shahada (Declaration of Faith):** The testimony of faith: “There is no god but Allah, and Muhammad is His messenger.”

2. The Five Pillars of Islam

The Five Pillars are fundamental acts of worship and practice that define a Muslim’s faith and actions:

- **Shahada (Faith):** Belief in the oneness of Allah and the finality of Prophet Muhammad’s message.
- **Salat (Prayer):** Performing five daily prayers at specific times of the day—Fajr, Dhuhr, Asr, Maghrib, and Isha.
- **Zakat (Almsgiving):** Giving a portion (usually 2.5%) of one’s wealth to the poor and needy, purifying wealth.
- **Sawm (Fasting):** Observing fasting during the month of Ramadan from dawn to sunset as an act of worship and self-control.
- **Hajj (Pilgrimage):** Performing the pilgrimage to Makkah at least once in a lifetime, if financially and physically able.

3. Prophet Muhammad (PBUH)

- **Early Life:** Prophet Muhammad was born in Makkah around 570 CE. He was known for his honesty and integrity before receiving the divine revelation.