



AKHIRAH (AFTERLIFE) – Afterlife

Key terms

Akhirah	Akhirah is the Muslim belief in an afterlife which follows human life on earth.	Day of Judgement	The final day of life on earth when all will receive judgement.
Al-Qadr	Everything which happens is part of Allah's plan, or is predestined.	Heaven	A place of reward in the afterlife.
Barzakh	A state of waiting until the sound of the final trumpet is sounded by the Angel Israfil.	Hell	A place of punishment in the afterlife.
Faith	Belief in God and the teachings of a religion.	Niyah	The intention to worship Allah.

Key quotes

'And give good tidings to those who believe and do righteous deeds that they will have gardens [in Paradise] beneath which rivers flow. Whenever they are provided with a provision of fruit therefrom, they will say, "This is what we were provided with before." And it is given to them in likeness. And they will have therein purified spouses, and they will abide therein eternally.'

Qur'an 2:25

'But if you are unable to do so — and you will never be able to do so — then fear the Fire fuelled with people and stones, which is prepared for the disbelievers.'

Qur'an 2:24

Exam practice

'Belief in an afterlife is the most important Muslim belief'. (15)

Discuss this statement showing that you have considered more than one point of view.

You must refer to religion and belief in your answer.

Key connections

How do beliefs about the afterlife relate to other areas of your study?

Angels (Malaikah), Nature of Allah (mercy, fairness and justice), Greater Jihad and Prophethood (Risalah)

Key beliefs

Afterlife	Muslims believe in an afterlife (akhirah); human life on earth is regarded as a test for the afterlife. It is believed two angels, Munkar and Nakir , will test the faith of human beings when they die and question each person about their earthly lives.
Al-Qadr	The Muslim belief in predestination has important implications for human freedom. Predestination means nothing may take place unless it is the will of Allah and Allah knows all things which will take place. All human beings possess the gift of free will with the ability to make choices in their lives.
Day of Judgement	The Day of Judgement will be announced by the Angel Israfil with the blowing of a trumpet. This will mark the end of life on earth and those awaiting judgement will be rewarded or punished, according to the way they lived their lives.
Heaven	Heaven, or Janna , is the destination in the afterlife for those who have lived a good life and Heaven is described as an eternal paradise .
Hell	Hell, or Jahannam , is the destination in the afterlife for those who have not lived a good life; it is a place of eternal punishment .