

Islam - The Six Articles of Faith (Sunni Islam)

1. **Belief in one God (Tawhid)** This means having absolute faith in the oneness of God. Allah is simply the Arabic word for God. It has no plural in Arabic, which shows that there is only one God. Muslims believe that no being is like Allah.
2. **Belief in angels (malaikah)** Muslims believe that God's greatness means he cannot communicate directly with humans. Instead, God passed messages, called risalah, to his prophets via the angels, called Malaikah, who were his first creation and who always obey him.
3. **Belief in holy books (kutub)** The holy books of Islam should be respected. This is especially true of the Qur'an, which is the unchanged word of Allah, revealed to the Prophet Muhammad.
4. **Belief in the prophets (nubuwwah)** Allah is believed to have communicated with the prophets, called nubuwwah, through the angels. Muslims believe the prophets should be respected but never worshipped.
5. **Belief in the Day of Judgement and the afterlife (Akhirah)** Muslims believe that life on Earth is a test and that, after they die, they will be judged by God and sent to either Paradise or Hell.
6. **Belief in predestination (Al-Qadr)** This means that everything in the universe follows Allah's masterplan – Muslims believe that Allah has decided everything that happens. This shows the importance of God's will: In all things the master-planning is God's (Surah 13:42). The Prophet Muhammad also told his followers: There is not one amongst you who has not been allotted his seat in Paradise or Hell (Sahih Muslim, Book 33, Hadith 6400). Muslims take this as further proof that every person's life is already mapped out in Allah's plan.