

7th Grade Islam and Sunni and Shia Web Quest

Today we will be looking at the difference between Sunni and Shia Muslims. Sometimes you will see Shia Muslims spelled Shiite.

PART I. Read this first:

After Muhammad died, there was disagreement about who should lead the Muslim community. This question was settled for a time by agreeing to place power in the hands of men who had been friends of Muhammad's in his lifetime. They ruled one after the other, and they were known as the "Four Rightly Guided Caliphs." When the last of these men died, a new argument arose over who should lead the Muslim community. One group thought leadership should go to whoever was most able to keep the community together. These people came to be known as the Sunni Muslims, those who saw themselves closely following Muhammad's example.

The second group felt leadership should go to a direct descendant of Muhammad. They wanted to choose one of Muhammad's grandsons, the children of his son-in-law Ali, for leadership. They became known as the Shia-Ali, or "supporters of Ali." This name has been shortened to Shia. A battle for control soon followed, resulting in the death of one of Muhammad's grandsons and the transfer of power soon followed, resulting in the death of one of Muhammad's grandsons and the transfer of power to the Sunni supporters.

These divisions in the Muslim community remain even today, though there is little difference in their basic religious beliefs. The Sunni Muslims has always been the majority, making up about 85 percent of those who call themselves Muslims today. The Shia Muslims, has always been a minority and most live southern Iraq and all of Iran. Iran is over 90 percent Shia.

Today, in Syria and Iraq, a terrorist group made of Sunni radical Muslims are killing Shia Muslims and Christians that live in Syria and Iraq.

PART II.

Now read these two articles that we will read on the differences between Sunni and Shia Muslims:

[ISIS Rebels are Sunnis](#)

<http://webhalal.com/sunni-vs-shia/>

You can also review our class PREZI

PART III:

Now click [this link](#) to create a chart on the differences.

When it opens, select **Start, Brochure, and Brochure 1.**

We will not do a back side, even though it has one there.

For the first and second column, you will compare Sunni and Shia Muslims.

You must have in each column:

- 1) Their basic beliefs on the leadership of Islam
- 2) % of the Muslim population
- 3) Current population in Iraq and how ISIS has affected their people
- 4) One other fact you found interesting.

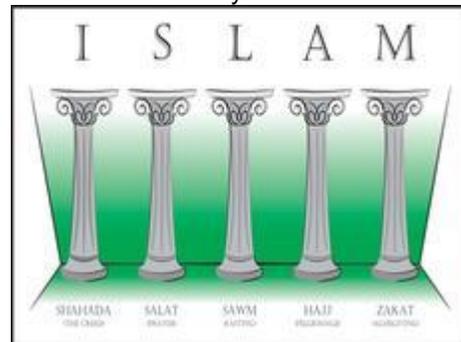
For your third column: You will detail the five pillars of Islam. You can use your notes and/or read this overview: <http://www.islam-guide.com/ch3-16.htm>

For your images, use these: right click and save image to desktop, then insert.

Sunni Muslim Symbol



5 Pillars of Islam Symbol



Shia Muslim Symbol

