



# The Islamic Calendar

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Unit 1 from “Knowing The “Mercy to  
Mankind” by Shaykh Saleh as Saleh

# Introduction



All praise is due to Allah. We praise Him, we seek His aid, we ask for His forgiveness, and we repent to Him. We seek refuge from the evils of ourselves and the evil consequences of our actions. Whomsoever Allah guides, then none can misguide him and whomsoever Allah sends astray there is no guide for him. I testify that none has the right to be worshipped except Allah alone, having no partners, and I further testify that Muhammad ibn Abdullah (salla allahu alaihi wa salaam) is His slave and Messenger.



# Calendar Facts

- A **calendar** is a system for naming periods of time, typically days.
- A lunar month is determined by the period required for the moon to complete its full phased cycle of 29 and a half days
- A **lunar calendar** is a calendar whose date indicates the moon phase.



# Hijrah Calendar Calculations



- Muslims measure the passage of time using the Islamic (*Hijrah*) calendar. This calendar has twelve lunar months, the beginnings and endings of which are determined by the sighting of the crescent moon.
- The Islamic calendar is the official calendar in many Muslim countries, especially Saudi Arabia. Other Muslim countries use the Gregorian calendar for civil purposes and only turn to the Islamic calendar for religious purposes. [www.saudia-online.com](http://www.saudia-online.com)
- Islamic months begin at sunset, on the day when the lunar crescent is visually sighted. The lunar year is approx. 354 days inshaAllah.



# Allah Says in the Noble Qur'aan

- *“Verily, the number of months with Allah is twelve months (in a year), so it was ordained by Allah on the Day when He created the heavens and the earth; of them four are sacred. That is the right religion, so wrong not yourselves therein, and fight not against the Mushrikin idolaters collectively as they fight against you collectively. But know that Allah is with those who have taqwaa.” 9:36*
- *Apply the 4R's here...*



Imam Ahmad recorded that Abu Bakrah said that the Prophet (salla allahu alaihi wa salaam) said in a speech during his Hajj,

- *“The division of time has turned to its original form which was current when Allah created the heavens and the earth. The year is of twelve months, out of which four months are sacred: Three of them are in succession Dhul-Qa’dah, Dhul-Hijjah and Muharram, and (the fourth is) Rajab of (the tribe of) Mudar which comes between Jumada (ath-Thaniyah) and Sha’ban.”*

*Ibn Kathir Vol. 4 pg. 419*



# What do you remember?

1. What is a calendar?
2. How many types of calendars exist in the world?
3. What are the names of the calendar which exist?
4. How many months are in the lunar calendar?
5. Which surah and ayat tell us how many months are in the lunar calendar?
6. Write in your own words (summarize) what the Prophet (salla allahu alaihi wa salaam) said concerning the number of months in the year?
7. How is the beginning and the end of each month in the lunar calendar determined?
8. In what part of the world is the Islamic calendar used?
9. Why is the Islamic calendar used?
10. Why is the Gregorian calendar used?



# Months of the Year



Muharram	Safar
Rabi' al-Awal	Rabi' ath-Thani
Jumada al-Awal	Jumada ath-Thani
Rajab	Sha'ban
Ramadan	Shawwal
Dhul-Qa'dah	Dhul-Hijjah





# Names for the days of the week...

- Yaum al Ahad
- Yaum al-Ithnayn
- Yaum ath-thalatha
- Yaum al-Arba'a
- Yaum al-khamees
- Yaum al-Jumuah
- Yaum as-Sabt
- Sunday
- Monday
- Tuesday
- Wednesday
- Thursday
- Friday
- Saturday



# 4 Sacred Months

- Dhul-Qa'dah
- Dhul-Hijjah
- Muharram
- Rajab

The postponing (of the Sacred Months) is indeed an addition to disbelief, thereby the disbelievers are led astray...





Sample calendars from Arts & Crafts Class April 2005 – Masjid Project



# Calendar Project

- What you will need:
- Several Pieces of Construction paper (Various Colors)
- Glue, crayons or markers or colored pencils
- Glitter
- Days of the week (words)
- Names of the Month (words)

This project will be started in class inshaAllah, please come prepared to create your calendar inshaAllah so that any questions you have can be addressed at that time. The rest can be done for homework inshaAllah.

Barakallahu Feekum



# Match the Month with the Phrase

- Fasting for Aashoora
- Eid al-Fitr
- Hajj
- Fasting for 29 or 30 days
- Umrah (once on any day)
- Recommended fasting any 6 days of this month
- Ramadhan
- Shawwal
- Dhul-Hijjah
- Muharram

You may use these calendar months more than once to match the correct phrase inshaAllah.  
Have Fun



# Credits

Alhamdulillah Rabbil Alamîn

Assalaamu Alaikum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakhatahu

We would like to thank all those who dedicated their time and expertise with the creation of this lesson inshaAllah. May Allah grant them and us tawfeeq and may He count this and other works to come on a scale of good deeds ameen.

For the student/parent/or volunteer who use the lesson unit if you have any questions, comments, or concerns please email us at [thmsadaqagroup@gmail.com](mailto:thmsadaqagroup@gmail.com) for questions regarding the Original Document please email [info@understand-islam.net](mailto:info@understand-islam.net) inshaAllah.

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