

Cultural Differences Lesson Plan, Islam and cultural differences

Session Objective

To provide young people with an opportunity to:

- Discuss the Islamic perspective on cultural differences

Session Outcomes:

Young people will:

- Understand the Islamic perspective on cultural differences.
- Know a range of Quotes from the Quran and Ahadiths about the role cultural difference within Islam.

Duration:

- 50 Minutes (approx)

Resources:

- Quotes and Ahadiths on cultural differences

QCA Link: Learners are able to:

Key Stage 3

- describe differences and diversity and demonstrate respect and empathy towards others who live their lives differently from them

Key Stage 4

- explain how differing cultures, faiths and beliefs may influence lifestyle choices, and demonstrate respect for these differences.

Methodology:

Time	Activity	Resources
0-5 mins	Explain to the participants that this session will be examining Islamic perspective when looking at the role of cultural differences	
5-15 mins	Divide the group into 2 and ask one group to create a definition of culture and the other group a definition of difference. Bring the group back together and share each definition. Hand out the 'Cultural difference definition sheet'	Cultural difference definition sheet
15-20 mins	Explain to the group the role of the Quran and Ahadiths within Islam. The Quran is recognised by Muslims as the word of God (Allah) which was revealed over a period of 23 years through the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). Ahadiths are a chain of narrations which have been carefully preserved since the time of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) which document his sayings, teaching and practices as examples of ways to practice Islam.	
20-35 mins	Divide the group into smaller groups and hand each group a quote from the Quran or a hadith. Ask each group to discuss the quote/hadith and to consider the following questions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) What does Islam say about people who are maybe of a different culture/faith? 2) What responsibilities do Muslims have towards Non-Muslims? 3) How can different people of faith, culture and ethnicity live peacefully together? 	Quotes from The Holy Quran hadiths
35-45 mins	Bring the groups back together and ask each group to present their quote/hadith to the group and their answers to the questions posed.	
45-50 mins	Close the session by asking each participant to post either a comment or question into the comments box which will be answered at a later date. Remind participants that they only have to add their names to the comment if they would like 1-2-1 feedback. Hand out 'Quotes from the Quran and hadith sheets.	Quotes from The Holy Quran and hadith sheets

Facilitator's notes:

It may be useful for facilitators to nominate a person to write notes during group discussions.

Due to the sensitive nature of this session the facilitator may want to be available for a short while after the session to support pupils on a one to one basis.

The use of a comments/question box during the closing activity will allow participants to raise any personal questions or fears which can then be picked up by staff and explored in an appropriate environment.

Resources

Cultural differences definition sheet

Culture

The activities, practices, rituals, knowledge and symbols which are common to a group with shared traditions

Culture influences individuals' perceptions of themselves and the worlds in which they live

Culture can be expressed through music, language, food, dress, art, social pursuits, etc

May include particular beliefs or moral values.

Ethnicity/Ethnic Group

The classification of people including cultural, linguistic, religious and historical identity.

Recently has been used to describe people who are a minority in a country.

Classification is subjective and can be complex

Faith

Belief or trust: belief in, devotion to, or trust in somebody or something

Religion or religious group: a system of religious belief, or the group of people who adhere to it

Trust in God: belief in and devotion to God

Resources

Ahadiths

This relates that when some disagreement occurred between Abu Dharr and Bilal, the former said to the latter: "You son of a black woman!" The Messenger of God—on him be blessing and peace—was displeased by Abu Dharr's comment and he rebuked him by saying: "That is too much, Abu Dharr. He who has a white mother has no advantage which makes him better than the son of a black mother."

Tradition found in Ibn al-Mubarak's (d.797) book, Kitab al-Birr wa'l-Sila.

'We ought not to be embarrassed of appreciating the truth and of obtaining it wherever it comes from, even if it comes from races distant and nations different to us. Nothing should be dearer to the seeker of truth than truth itself, and there is no deterioration of the truth, nor belittling either one of us who speaks it or conveys it.'

Abu Yusuf Yaqub ibn Ishaq Al-Kindi

'Remember when dealing with others that either they are your brothers and sisters in faith, or they are your human creatures in kind'

Ali ibn Abi Talib

Resources

Quotes from the Holy Quran

"O ye who believe! Stand out firmly for justice, as witnesses to God, even against yourself, or your parents, or your kin, and whether it be (against) rich or poor." (4:135)

"O Humankind! We have created you from male and female and have made you into peoples (shu'ub) and tribes (qaba'il) that you may know one another; truly, the noblest (akram) among you before God are the most pious (atqa) among yourselves; indeed, is God the All-knowing, the All-seeing." (49:13).