

Lesson 07

Summary Notes

Belief in the Jinn

THE JINN

1. Their nature

The word jinn and its derivatives occur at least 29 times in the Qur'ān, and the word shayṭān and its plural shayāṭīn together occur more than 80 times. There is an entire surah called Sūrat al-Jinn (72).

They are **created from smokeless fire**.

"And verily, We created mankind . . . and the jinn We had created before from smokeless fire." Q[15:26-27]

" and jinn were created from smokeless fire." [Muslim]

They were **created before mankind**, and existed on earth. Q[2:30]

They are the **descendants of Iblīs**. Q[7:12]

They **cannot ordinarily be seen** by us.

"He and his family see you from whence you see them not." Q[7:27]

They **can materialize**, usually in **unpleasant forms**.

Iblīs materialized into the form of a man named Suraqah ibn Mālik. Q[8:48]

2. Their lives

They **eat and drink**.

"So do not perform istinjā' with them (bones) for they are the food of your brothers, the jinn." [Muslim]

"Satan eats with his **left hand** and drinks with his left hand." [Muslim]

They **marry** and **have children**

"Will you then take him and his offspring as protectors besides Me? " Q[18:50]

"Neither humans nor jinn have had intercourse with them (the women of Paradise) before." Q[55:56]

They die, except for Iblīs who has been reprieved to the end of the world. Q[7:15]

A shaytan is an evil jinn.

3. Their religion

They are morally **accountable**.

“O assembly of jinn and humans, did there not come to you Messengers from among yourselves? ” Q[6:13]

They **have fiqh regulations** similar to ours.

There are Muslims amongst them, as well as disbelievers.

They will **go to Heaven** or **Hell** just like humans.

4. Interaction with humans

Every human being has a companion from among the jinn.

“There is not any one of you except that he has been assigned his companion from among the jinn and his companion from among the angels.” They said, “Even you, O Messenger of Allāh?” He replied, “Even me, except that Allāh has helped me against him, so that I am unharmed (or, so that he has accepted Islām), and so he orders me to do nothing but good.” [Muslim]

Iblīs has his **throne in the sea**, and sends out dispatchments. [Muslim]

They **gaze at uncovered** women. [Tirmidhī]

They **eavesdrop** on the heavens, and meteorites are sent against them. Q[72:9]

They frequent **dirty places**.

They **can possess human** beings.

“Those who consume interest (ribā) do not arise except as he arises whom Satan has driven to madness by his touch.” Q[2:275]

Sorcery (**Siḥr**) is **a reality**, and is **forbidden**. Q[2:102]

The penalty for sorcery is death.