

Sunni Islam is the largest Islamic sect. known today. Followers of this religion are known as Sunnis or Sunnites. In Sunni history the majority of people followed Abu Bakr, who was a leader and was the Prophet Muhammad's successor.

Their religion is based around the Quran and the Sunnah, it is understood by the majority of the followers that the books are structured into four schools of law, the Hanafi, the Maliki, the Shafi'i and the Hanbali. These are sometimes thought to be cults though they are not. The four schools of law are associated with four scholars of early Islam. Abu Haneefah, Malik, Shafi'i, and Ahmad bin Hanbal. They were known for their wisdom and faithfulness through out the Muslim culture. All of their principles differ though none are the complete opposites of each other. In fact, Ahmad bin Hanbal was a student of Shafi'i, who was a student of Malik.

The five practises of the Sunni Islam religion are....

- *shahada*, bearing witness that there is nothing worthy of worship but God and that Muhammad is God's messenger;
- *salat*, performing the prescribed Islamic prayer;
- *zakat*, almsgiving of a 2 1/2 % tax on one's asests;
- *sawm*, fasting from sunrise to sunset during the month of Ramadan; and
- *hajj*, performing the pilgrimage to Mecca.

Relating to the context Encountering conflict, recently the head of Egypt's important seat of the Sunni Islam religion, al-Azhar, fated U.S. troops' disposal of the body of Osama bin Laden at sea on Monday the 2nd of May as an attempt to offend religious and human values, he was dropped in the ocean to supposedly up hold Islamic religion.

Najaf Mazari the narrator and author of the novel "The Rugmaker of Mazar-E-Sharif" was muslim and followed the other half of the Sunni Islamic religion, Shi'a. He shows in his book that conflict between the two halves is a common cause for most wars in his home country.