

Starter



In the back of your books, write down which laws you would have in your new community if you could only choose 3 laws.



What Laws Will You Put in Place?

Literacy focus
Discussion, reading for
information

RE Skills focus
Evaluation & Reflection

What laws will you put in place?



Evaluate whether Shari'ah law is too strict.



Explain the main points of Shari'ah law from Islam.



Consider what laws you think are important in your new community.



Title:

**What Laws Will You Put
in Place?**



Read through the sheet on the following slide:

Answer the following questions

- 1) What is Shariah?
 - 2) Give examples of some punishments in Shariah
 - 3) “Some Shariah punishments are too harsh”. Do you agree?
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Punishments in Shari'ah Law

In Shari'ah law the punishment depends on the crime and whether or not it is a first offense.

Punishments range from :

- Fines
- Flogging
- Stoning
- Removal of fingers
- Hanging
- Beheading
- Crucifixion



Shari'ah is the name given to Islamic religious law and literally translates as the straight path to the water. Muslims believe that by following the rules and laws set out in Shari'ah they can live their lives in accordance with what Allah would want.



Shari'ah is based first and foremost on what it says in the Muslim holy book, the Qur'an. So if something is forbidden in the Qur'an then it is forbidden in Shari'ah law.

If information can not be found in the Qur'an about an act then Muslims turn to the Sunnah and Hadith of Prophet Muhammad. Sunnah are the things that Muhammad did and hadith are the things Muhammad said.

Therefore the 2 main sources of Shari'ah law are The Qur'an and the Sunnah and Hadith of Muhammad.

Shari'ah

The Goals of Shari'ah Law:

- 1) To preserve religion—therefore idolatry is forbidden (worshipping false idols)
- 2) To preserve life—therefore murder and abortion are forbidden
- 3) To preserve intellect—therefore drinking alcohol is forbidden
- 4) To preserve family—therefore adultery is forbidden
- 5) To preserve private property—therefore gambling and theft is forbidden.

Some claim if you lock a person up their whole family suffers— children lose parents, women lose husbands— a main source of income is lost to the family. If you remove a thief's finger at least he is punished but still gets to support his family and the children don't have to grow up without their dad etc...



Is Shari'ah Law too Strict?

Many people think that the punishments of Shari'ah law are barbaric and outdated. However some people argue that the punishments are meant to reflect how serious the crime is and act as a deterrent. In other words they are meant to put people off committing the crime in the first place. Also there has to be indisputable evidence that a person did commit the crime— so much so that most people never get to the stage where the punishment is actually issued.

If the crime is against a person the family of the victim can and are encouraged to pardon the criminal as forgiveness is very important in Islam. The picture shows a famous example of a Muslim woman pardoning her son's murder just as he was about to be hanged.



Is Shari'ah too strict?



Shari'ah means the straight path and is the name given to Islamic Religious Law.

Write this in your book

Go through your Shari'ah fact sheet. Highlight

- 1) any arguments suggesting Shari'ah is too strict in one colour and
 - 2) any arguments suggesting Shari'ah is not too strict in a different colour
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Exam Practice

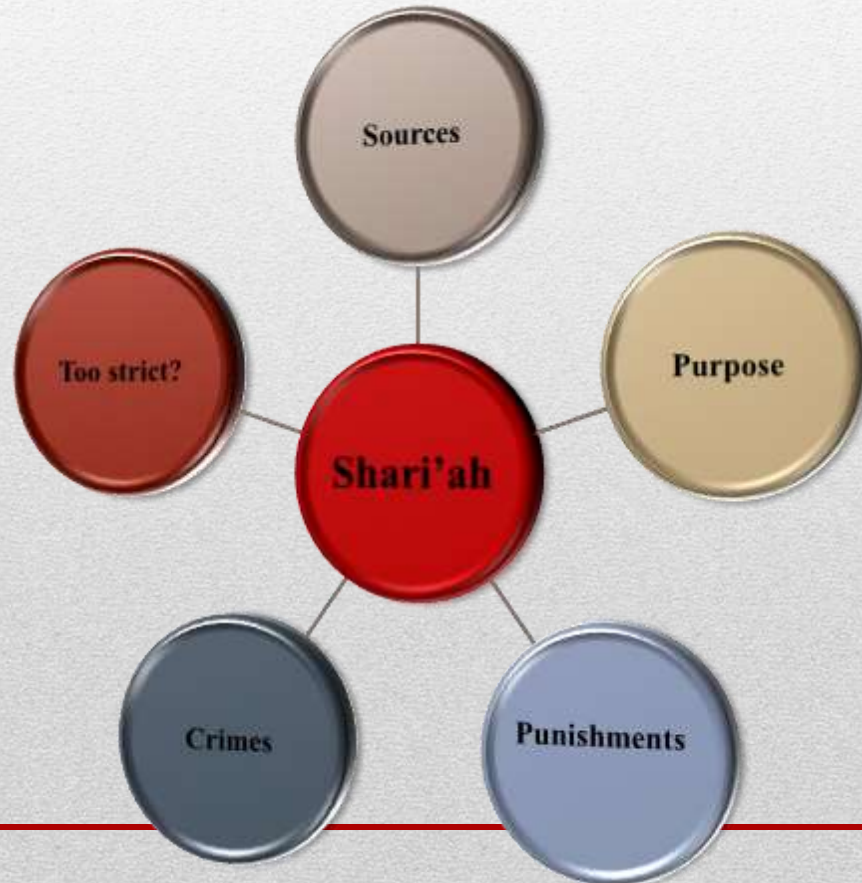
**“Shari’ah Law is too strict”
Do you agree?
6 marks**

| Success Criteria | Inclusion List |
|--|--|
| Your view | For Point- e.g. some harsh punishments |
| Include a religious perspective | Against point- e.g. victims can pardon the accused, meant to deter |
| Give examples | Religious point- Muslim might disagree as it's based on Qur'an so word of God. Christian might agree as Bible teaches forgiveness |
| PEEL each point | |
| Use your highlighted comments on factsheet | |

Create a Mind Map

Using your knowledge from the lesson and the Fact sheet to help you create a mind map on Shari'ah Law with the following sections:

- 1) Purpose
- 2) Sources
- 3) Crimes
- 4) Punishments
- 5) Too Strict or Not?



Plenary: Shari'ah splat

