

What do Muslims Celebrate?

Today we will be...

Finding out about Mawlid al-Nabi.



Islamic New Year

1 Muḥarram

21.09.17
11.09.18
31.08.19
19.08.20

Mawlid al-Nabi

12 or 17 Rabī' al-Awwal

30.11.17
20.11.18
9.11.19
28.10.20

Day of Ashura

10 Muḥarram

29.09.17
20.09.18
9.09.19
28.08.20

Mawlid al-Nabi is the birthday of the Prophet Muhammad. Sunni Muslims celebrate it on the 12th of the month, Shias celebrate it on the 17th.



On this day parents often tell stories about the Prophet Muhammad's life to their children. In some countries Muslims hold street parades to celebrate his birthday and decorate buildings with lights.

Photo taken
by Chrisinno
in East
Ungaran,
Central Java,
Indonesia



The day of Mawlid al-Nabi is also the anniversary of Muhammad's death. Some Muslims spend this day thinking about Muhammad quietly. Some Muslims do not celebrate this day, or any other birthdays, because celebrating birthdays is not mentioned in the Qur'an.





Muslims that celebrate this day think it is very important. They think the birth of Muhammad was a great **blessing** for all of humanity.



On Mawlid al-Nabi Muslims remember what Muhammad's character was like, his teachings, how he suffered and his ability to forgive.





Lots of people with different beliefs think about the things they have to be thankful for. The religious word for these things is blessings.



What do you have to be thankful for?

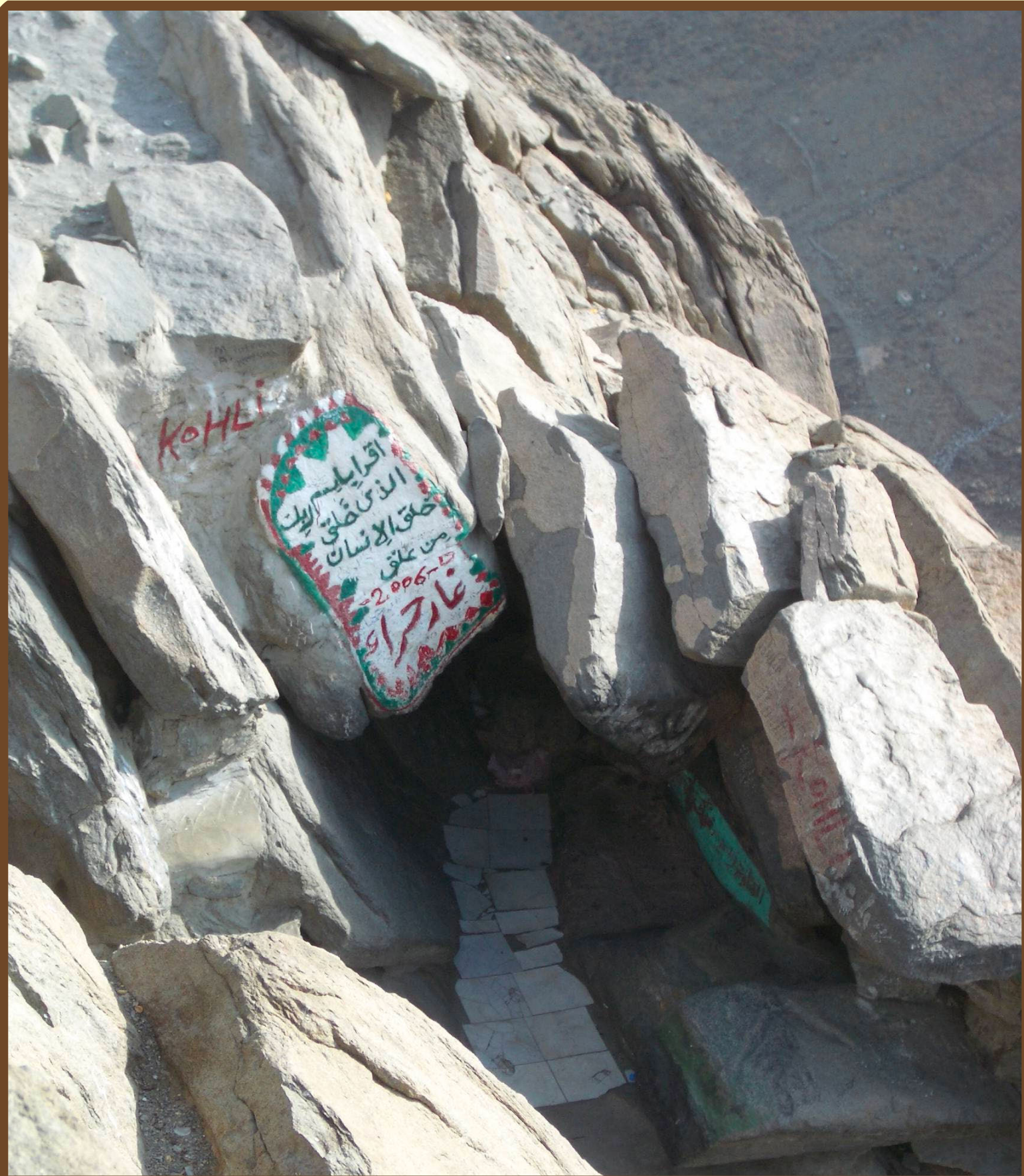
Think, pair, share.

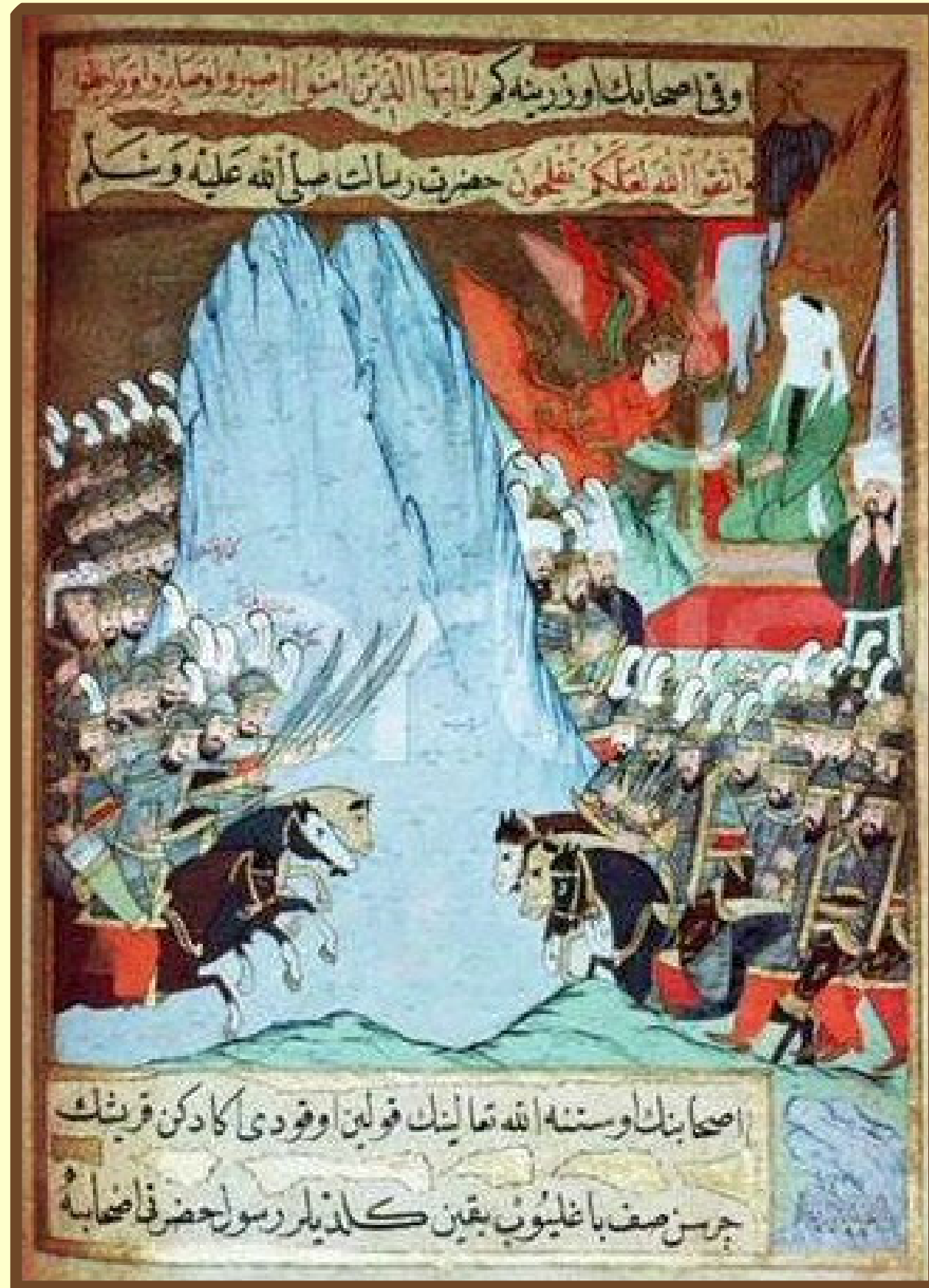
Muhammad is important to Muslims because they believe God told him the contents of the Qur'an. They believe God did this through the Angel Gabriel when Muhammad was in a cave. Muhammad remembered the words and recited them to his followers.

His followers then wrote the words down.

What is the Qur'an?

Think, pair, share.





The Qur'an is the Muslim holy book. It was originally written in Arabic. Muslims believe the Qur'an is the sacred word of God. They think the Qur'an was intended to correct mistakes in other holy books like the Bible.

This picture shows Muhammad receiving God's words from an angel during a battle.



The Qur'an has 114 chapters. The Arabic word for chapter is 'surah'. Most Muslims are still taught to learn and recite the Qur'an in Arabic. During special celebrations Muslims recite surahs from memory.

Some Muslims can recite the whole Qur'an from memory. Such a person is known as a **hafiz**.

