



**GCSE Religious Studies**

**Theme D: Religion,  
Peace and Conflict  
Revision Booklet**



## Paper 2: Theme D - Peace and Conflict

**Red** - Help!

**Amber** - Not 100% but nearly there.

**Green** - Bring it on! I know this!

What you need to know	Red Amber Green	How can I revise this topic?
I can give religious views on <b>justice</b> (Christian and Muslim.)		Flashcards Poster
I can give religious perspectives on <b>forgiveness</b> (Christian and Muslim.)		Create a quote poster on forgiveness from each religion.
I can explain religious beliefs about <b>violence</b> (Christian and Muslim.)		Do a for and against table with quotes.
I can evaluate religious views on <b>terrorism</b> (Christian and Muslim.)		Mind map the effects of terrorism.
I can explain religious views about <b>reasons for war</b> (Christian and Muslim.)		List reasons and add symbols to help you remember.
I can explain in detail religious views on <b>war and peace</b> (Christian and Muslim.)		Create a for and against info poster.
I can give religious views that allow war- <b>holy</b> and <b>just</b> wars and explain the Christian view.		Mind map each keyword
I can suggest and give examples of how <b>victims of war</b> are helped.		Create a list, draw a stick person with how they can be helped.
I can give religious views on <b>weapons of mass destruction</b> and nuclear weapons (Christian and Muslim.)		Create an info poster on each type of WMD and say <b>how</b> it works
I can explain religious attitudes to <b>peace and pacifism</b> (Christian and Muslim.)		Write out key teachings from each religion about peace.
I can explain the <b>Golden Rule</b> for religions (Christian and Muslim.)		Create info poster.

**Forgiveness definition:**

**Christian view:**

Christianity is based on the concept of forgiveness, agape and reconciliation. Jesus said if people do not forgive those who have sinned against them, God will not forgive their sins.

**Islamic view:**

**Peace definition:**

**Christian view:**

The teachings of Christianity are peaceful. Jesus taught a message of love and Christianity has a strong pacifist tradition.

**Islamic view:**

There is an emphasis on peace in the Qur'an. The word Islam means peace. A common greeting to Muslims is 'peace be with you.'

**Key concepts**

**Justice definition:**

To bring about what is right and fair according to law, or making up for a wrong that has been committed.

**Christian view:**

**Islamic view:**

**Reconciliation definition:**

**Christian view:**

**Islamic view:**

# Violent Protest

- The right to ..... is considered to be a ..... democratic freedom.
- The law in the UK allows individuals and groups to protest in public to ..... their point of view.
- If the protest involves a ..... or march, legally the police must be informed at least ..... days before it takes place.
- The police can request changes to the route of the protest and they can apply for an order to ..... the march.
- This may happen if it will ..... other people or if they predict that violence will be involved.

procession

ban

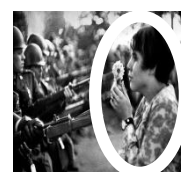
fundamental

protest

demonstrate

6

intimidate



## Islam

Islam means peace and Muslims should act in a peaceful manner, but violence may be used in self-defence. Muslims have a duty to protest about anything unfair and in the UK we have seen protests over wars and issues in the Middle East, what is perceived as Islamophobia, terrorism and racism issues. Some have become violent in nature. For example, in 2015 in Palestine, Muslims threw missiles at the Israeli police/army in protest over the shooting dead of a 13-year-old boy.



## Christianity

Christianity again teaches non-violence, as Jesus said 'Blessed are the peacemakers' and told his followers to turn the other cheek in the face of violence. Christians are told to love their enemies and love each other. However, God gave humans free will and choice and sometimes non-violent protest is ignored, so violence may be used to force change for the common good.

# Terrorism

**Terrorism is an act of violence which is intended to create fear.** A terrorist is anyone who plans or carries out such an act. Terrorist acts are often directed at civilians and because of this many consider them to be **unlawful acts of war and violence**. The United Nations Security Council regards terrorist attacks as criminal: *Acts intended to cause death or serious bodily harm to civilians or non-combatants with the purpose of intimidating a population or compelling a government or an international organization to do or abstain from doing any act.*

## Why do terrorists carry out attacks? They claim that:


- They are fighting against social and political injustice, where a group of people are being denied their human rights.
- They are fighting against poverty.
- They are fighting to assert their religious beliefs, especially where they feel these are denied to them.

Summarise the above information  
into a tweet #140characters



## Reasons for war.

1. Define the reason.
2. A Christian response.
3. Muslim response.



Include  
a quote

### Greed

- This is war to gain, for example more land, more power or more resources.

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### Self - defence

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- the Qur'an allows fighting in self-defence, if it is a last resort. "Those who have been attacked are permitted to take up arms because they have been wronged – God has power to help them." Qur'an 22:39

### Retaliation

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- The Bible says "Do not repay evil for evil...if possible live at peace with everyone." Jesus also taught to turn the other cheek, do not retaliate.

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**There are several types of WMD weapons:**  
\*Include Christian and Muslim responses to each WMD.

**1 Nuclear weapons –**

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**2 Biological warfare –**

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**3 Chemical warfare –**

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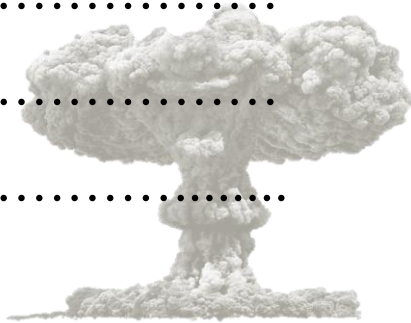
**4 Radiological weapons –**

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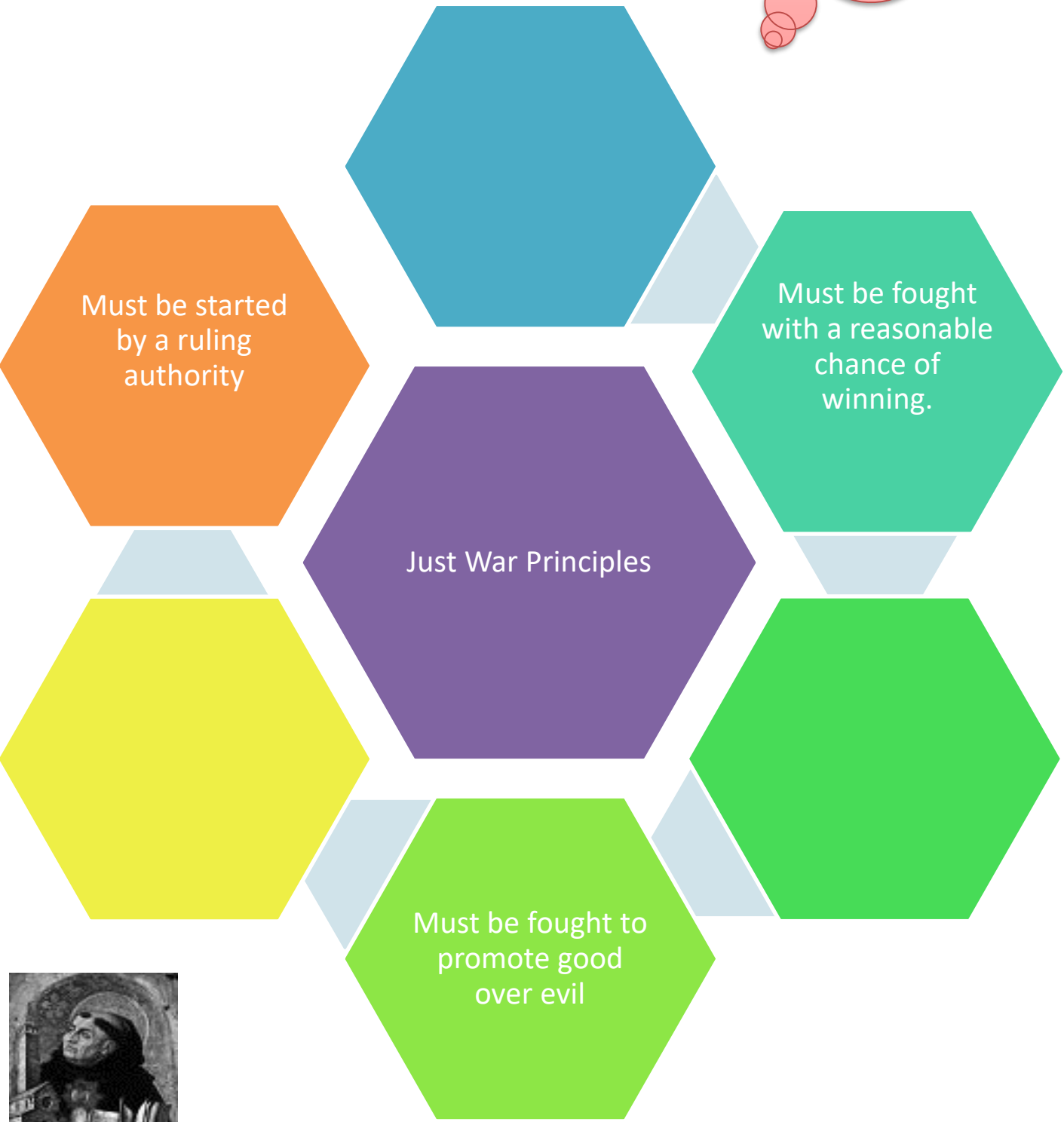
.....



St Thomas Aquinas, a 13<sup>th</sup> century monk and philosopher, drew up the theory of a just war **to help Christians know whether war was the right action to take.**

## Complete the mind map

Have you revised the Christian and Muslim attitudes to conduct in war??





**WAR:** Armed conflict between two or more sides.

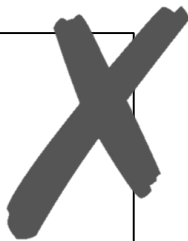


For war



- In the **Old** ..... it states on a few occasions that **God encouraged people to go to war** to defend themselves: this suggests that war is justified if it is to ..... yourself. **“You shall ..... them!”**
- On one occasion **Jesus lost his temper** at the Temple and overturned a table: this shows that **sometimes ..... is needed.**

Against War



- Jesus, was very clear in his teachings about **LOVE (.....) and PEACE**
- Jesus taught that people who followed peace would be **rewarded in .....**– **“blessed are the.....”**
- **Do not kill** is one of the **10.....**



defend

commandments

destroy

peacemakers

Testament

Heaven

violence

agape

# WAR: Armed conflict between two or more sides.



**For war**

- War should only occur when all ..... means have been exhausted. Only then do Muslims have a duty to fight in the ..... of Allah and the weak and.....
- Greet others salaam....., which means 'peace be upon you'.
- Greater jihad is every Muslim's personal struggle to follow Allah, the lesser jihad is holy war in defence of Islam.
- To those against whom war is made, permission is given to fight. (Qur'an)
- Those who die in the name of Allah will be rewarded with..... (Qur'an)
- When ..... was alive, the Muslim community had to defend themselves by fighting. If they had not, they would all have been killed. Allah ordered Muslims to fight back when....., so holy war became a duty for Muslims. The Muslim religion realises that sometimes to defend people's rights or to change a terrible situation, we have to fight.

peaceful

defence

Muhammad

oppressed

attacked

alaikum

paradise

**Against War**

- .....your enemy mildly; for he may become your friend one day. (Hadith)
- One meaning of the word Islam is..... Allah has 99 names known to Muslims. One of them is As-salaam, which means 'the source of peace'. It is said that if all people followed the .....way of life, there should only be peace. Muslims should work to keep the peace.
- "Do not..... each other, for God is ..... to you. If any of you does these things, out of hostility and ....., we shall make him suffer Fire." Qur'an 4:29

injustice

merciful

Muslim

kill

Hate

peace



# Holy War

While Christians don't refer to holy wars nowadays, they are often found in the Old Testament.

Lots of battles in the Old Testament are described about winning the Promised Land back to the Israelites, through God's help.

A key example is Joshua and Jericho, where Joshua followed God's commands to blow trumpets and bring down the walls of Jericho.

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- In Islam, Lesser Jihad can also mean holy war. It must be a last resort. Muhammad and his followers often had to defend themselves.
- It can only be started by a religious leader.
- Can only begin in response to an attack. Must end when the enemy want peace.
- Civilians, crops and holy building must be left alone.
- Prisoners of war must be treated well.



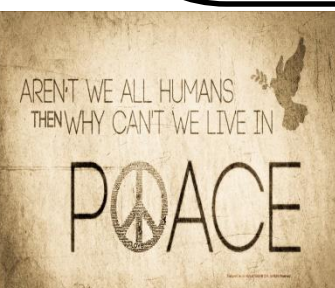
Summarise the rules of conduct for a holy war.

Is a holy war necessary in the 21<sup>st</sup> century? Why/Why not? Research Charlie Hebdo – how does it link?

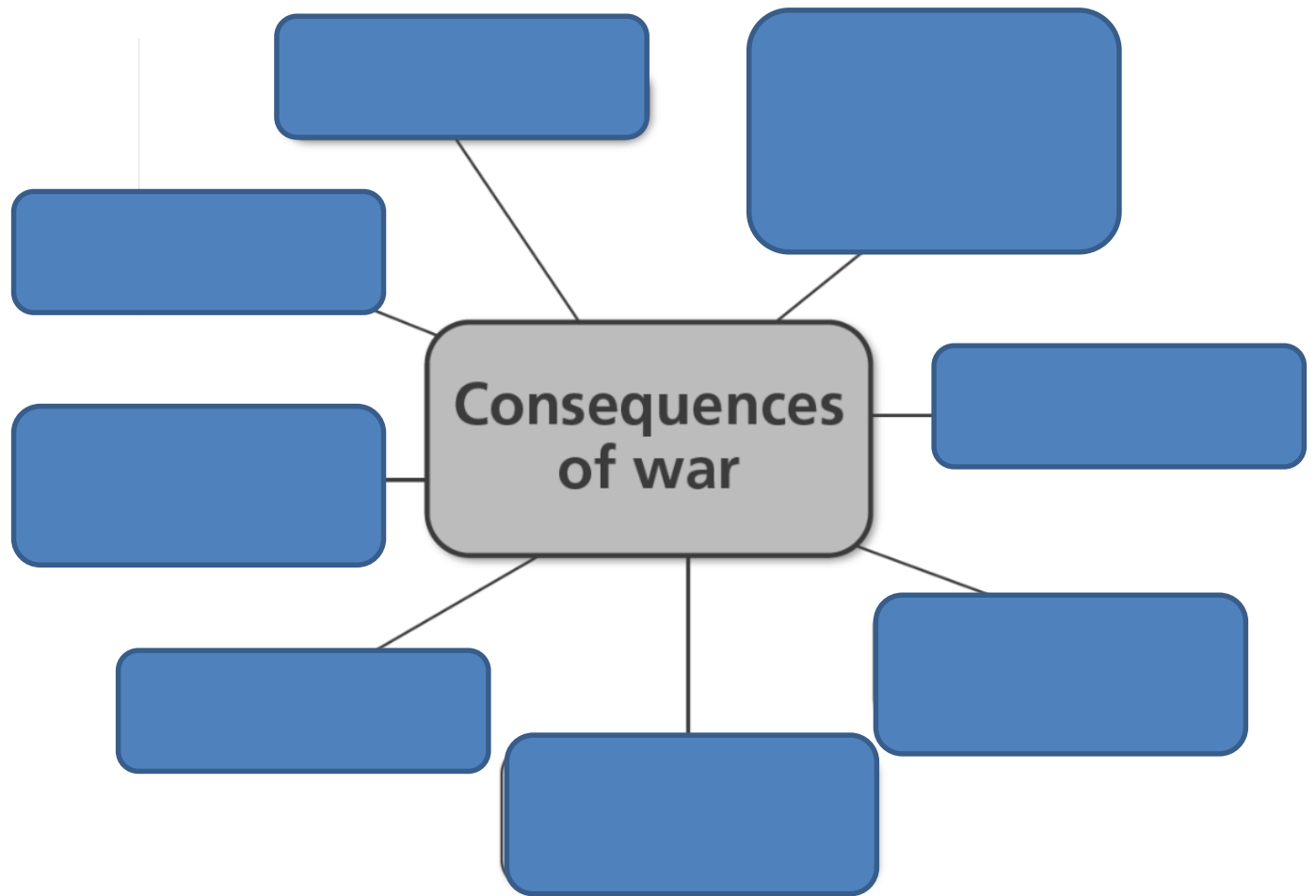
## Pacifism & Peace Making



1. What is a pacifist?
2. What is a conscientious objector?
3. Who are the Quakers? What do they believe?
4. Give a Biblical quote that promotes peace?
5. Who is known as the 'Prince of Peace' in Christianity?
6. Who is Dietrich Bonhoeffer? What did he do and why?
7. What does this quote in the Qur'an mean: "But if they incline towards peace, you must also incline towards it, and put your trust in God."
8. Who are the Muslim Peace Fellowship? What do they believe and why?



## Support for victims of war



## Helping the victims of war

There are many organisations which try to help the victims of war, both when war is happening and after it. Part of that is to try to bring about peace. It is part of all religions to help those in trouble and defend those who cannot defend themselves, so it is natural that religions will try to help the victims of war. To do so fits with the basic teaching of the Golden Rule 'Treat others as you would be done by' which every religion follows.

Task: Research Islamic Relief and Muslim Aid 13/  
Caritas and Christian Aid – what do they do?