

Theme D: Religion, peace and conflict

|                  |                                                                                                                                 |
|------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Violence</b>  | The use of physical force intended to hurt, damage, or kill.                                                                    |
| Violence protest | Making your views on something known in a violent way, e.g. a march that includes vandalism and attacking police or bystanders. |
| Terrorism        | The unlawful use of violence, usually against civilians, to achieve a political goal.                                           |

|                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>War</b>     | Armed conflict between two or more nations or groups. War usually results in loss of life and widespread suffering                                                                                                                                               |
| Peace          | The absence of conflict and violence, and the presence of justice, harmony, and cooperation.                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Reconciliation | The process of restoring relationships after conflict, disagreement, or wrongdoing. This may involve forgiveness and cooperation.                                                                                                                                |
| Justice        | Fairness; everyone getting what they deserve. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Muslims believe Allah is just, one of the 99 names</li></ul>                                                                                                               |
| Forgiveness    | Letting go of resentment or blame towards someone who has caused harm. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Christians this is important, key part of the Lords prayer</li><li>- In Islam Allah forgave Adam and Eve for eating the forbidden fruit</li></ul> |
| Key Quote      | “Let justice roll on live a river” Bible                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

|                        |                                                                                                                                                                    |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Reasons for war</b> |                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Greed                  | Wanting to take land, resources etc.                                                                                                                               |
| Self defence           | To protect yourself against violence being done to you.                                                                                                            |
| Retaliation            | To get back at someone who has hurt you, revenge.                                                                                                                  |
| Religion               | People may go to war for religion if they believe; <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- it is Gods will.</li><li>- It can earn them a place in heaven</li></ul> |

|                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Just War</b>                   | A theory that sets out: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- When it is acceptable to go to war</li><li>- What is allowed and forbidden during a war</li></ul>                                          |
| Christian Just War; when to fight | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- War must be a last resort</li><li>- War must aim to bring about good</li><li>- Must have a just cause</li><li>- Must have a reasonable chance of success</li></ul> |
| Christian Just War; how to fight  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Must use proportional force</li><li>- Must not attack civilians</li></ul>                                                                                          |

|                 |                                                                                                                                              |
|-----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Holy war</b> | A war that is fought for God in the name of a religion.                                                                                      |
| The crusades    | When Christians attacked Muslim held holy lands of Jerusalem believing God wanted them to control the holy sites where Jesus story happened. |

|                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Lesser Jihad (a holy war)</b> | Struggle to defend Islam and Muslims. Muslim teachings about how and when it is acceptable to fight a war, following Muhammad’s example of defending Mecca.                                                 |
| Lesser Jihad; when to fight      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Last resort</li><li>- Decision to fight made by a religious leader</li><li>- An Islamic community has been attacked</li><li>- Just cause; to protect only</li></ul> |
| Lesser Jihad; how to fight       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Women, children and the elderly must not be attacked</li><li>- No crops or trees can be destroyed</li></ul>                                                         |
| Key Quote                        | “We have finished the lesser Jihad, let us now focus on the greater” – Muhammad Said after returning from battle.                                                                                           |

|                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Pacifism</b>                                           | Believe that all violence is always wrong.                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Different religious views on pacifism and violence</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Supporting pacifism                                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Jesus was crucified and tortured and never fought back, Christians should follow his example</li></ul>                                       |
| Key quote                                                 | “If someone slaps you on the right cheek, turn them the other cheek” Jesus                                                                                                           |
| Key quote                                                 | “All who draw the sword, die by the sword” Jesus                                                                                                                                     |
| Supporting violence                                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Muslims have duty to defend other Muslims which is lesser Jihad.</li><li>- In Islam Muhammad fought in wars and he is a role model</li></ul> |
| Key quote                                                 | “An eye for an eye” Bible                                                                                                                                                            |

|                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Weapons of mass destruction</b>                              | Weapons that cause a huge amount of damage over a large area. Can be nuclear, chemical or biological.                                                                                                          |
| Nuclear deterrent                                               | Theory that if a country has nuclear weapons other countries will not attack it, creating peace.                                                                                                               |
| <b>Different religious views on weapons of mass destruction</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| For (some Christians and Muslims)                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- If it creates peace Christians may be in favour of it;</li></ul>                                                                                                       |
| Key Quote                                                       | “Blessed are the peacemakers” Bible                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Against (Most Christians and Muslims)                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Christians and Muslims argue WMDs could never fit into the rules of just war or lesser Jihad</li><li>- Goes against the Christian belief in sanctity of life</li></ul> |

|                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Religious responses to war</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Peace-making                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Desmond Tutu led the ‘truth and reconciliation commission’ in South Africa</li><li>- Aimed to make peace between the blacks and whites who had been in conflict when the racist laws were ended.</li></ul> |
| Quaker peacemaker teams           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Volunteers who go to places where there is conflict</li><li>- ‘get in the way’ and record what is happening to discourage violence</li></ul>                                                               |
| Helping victims of war            | Christian aid; <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Send food, shelter and medicine to civilians effected by war</li><li>- Support victims of war long term by rebuilding infrastructure like roads and schools</li></ul>                       |
| Key quote                         | “Blessed are the peacemakers” Jesus                                                                                                                                                                                                                |