

Theme E: Crime and punishment

Causes of crime

- 'for love of money is the root of all evil'
- 'no authority except that which God has established'
- 'Competing for more distracts you until you go into the grave.' (Qur'an)

Attitudes to Law breakers

- 'For I was in prison and you came to visit me' (Parable of the sheep and goats)
- 'you are all one in Jesus Christ'
- 'God helped put the law in place'
- 'let justice roll on like a river'
- 'We must obey God rather than human beings'
- 'God commands justice...and prohibits wrongdoing, and injustice.' (Qur'an)
- 'He has prepared for them [the wrongdoers] a painful punishment' (Qur'an)

Aims of Punishment

- 'An eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth'
- 'If someone is caught in a sin...restore that person gently'
- 'Cut off the hand of thieves whether they are man or woman, as punishment for what they have done – a deterrent from God.' (Qur'an)
- 'If a woman or man is guilty of adultery, flog each of them 100 stripes' (Sharia law)

Suffering

- 'Love thy neighbour'
- 'For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink.'
- 'Be compassionate towards the destitute.' (Qur'an)

Treatment of criminals

- 'He who spared the rod, hates their children.'
- 'Treat others how you would like to be treated'
- 'do not repay anyone evil for evil'
- 'Love your enemies'
- 'Cut off the hand of thieves whether they are man or woman, as punishment for what they have done – a deterrent from God.' (Qur'an)
- 'whoever kills a believer by mistake must...pay the blood-money to the family of the slain' (Qur'an)

Forgiveness

- 'Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.' (Lord's prayer)
- Forgive 'not seven times but seventy-seven times'
- 'God is most forgiving and merciful.' (Qur'an)
- 'Pardon each other's faults and God will grant you honour.' (Qur'an)
- 'whoever forgives and makes amends, his reward is upon Allah' (Qur'an)

Corporal and capital punishment

- 'Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed'
- 'all who draw the sword die by the sword'
- 'Thou shalt not kill' (10C)
- 'Cut off the hand of thieves whether they are man or woman, as a punishment for what they have done – a deterrent from God' (Qur'an)
- 'If a woman or man is guilty of adultery, flog each of them 100 stripes' (Qur'an)
- 'Do not take life, which God has made sacred.' (Qur'an)
- 'Do not take life, unless it be for murder or for spreading mischief' (Qur'an)
- 'Whoever kills a soul...it is as if he had slain mankind entirely' (Qur'an)