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Difference Between Shia and Sunni

1. In the Islamic world, Shia Muslims can be found in Iran, Iraq, Syria, Yemen, Bahrain, etc. And Sunni Muslims can be found in every major Muslim country and they are about 90% of the whole Muslim society.
2. According to Shia people, after the prophet's death, his cousin and son-in-law Ali should have been the rightful leader and the fact that leadership went to the prophet's other confidants before Ali is not acceptable to Shia Muslims. On the other hand, according to Sunni Muslims, the rightful successor after the prophet's demise was Abu Bakr, Omar, Osman, and then Ali, as we have already discussed above.
3. While praying salah, Shias tend to pray by putting their hands on their sides. And regarding the same matter, Sunnis tend to pray by putting their hands on their chest or stomach.
4. Shias mostly believe in one best leader among the whole community. But Sunnis are most liberal and dissimilar in nature and views. They believe it is alright to have multiple leaders in different Muslim countries.
5. Another particular difference between these two groups is- on the day of "Ashura" Shias follow the tradition of self-flailing and grieving. Sunni Muslims don't follow such acts. To them, these actions are not acceptable and they don't believe it – expresses the right path of Islam.



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6. Shia people believe that after the prophet's death, the Muslim community should have followed certain Imams and leaders and the responsibility must pass on to the descendants of those leaders. On the other hand, the Sunni people believe in the Holy Quran and in the word of their beloved prophet which is called the Sunnah.

Source and more details: <https://askanydifference.com/difference-between-shia-and-sunni/>