The Origins of Islam

Part 1:
Muhammad noticed that the rich were corrupt and not helping the poor, and he was very concerned. When he was 40 years old, according to Islamic belief, Muhammad went to a cave and God said to Muhammad through an angel, "Recite in the name of your Lord who created, created man from clots of blood! Recite! Your Lord is the Most Bountiful one, who by the pen taught man what he did not know!" After this event, Muhammad only told close relatives about this including his wife, but later he spread the word with other people. The new religion is now known as Islam, and the followers of the religion are called Muslims. The holy book for this religion is called the Qur'an.

Part 2:
Some people however did not like this new religion. The new religion was also very similar to Christianity and Judaism. Muhammad taught that there was only one God, Allah, which means "the God" in Arabic. This is one reason that Islam is very similar to Christianity and Judaism. Muslims also believe in the same prophets Christians and Jews believe like Moses and Abraham. Muhammad treated Jews and Christians nicely because they were "the people of the book" because their holy books taught many of the same ideas. Before Islam became an official religion, Arabs practiced their religions in Shrines.

Part 3:
Eventually, more people began to follow Muhammad’s teachings. Eventually, Muhammad’s teachings were growing so much that people in Mecca were eventually threatening Muhammad. The people who were threatening Muhammad were even planning to kill Muhammad! People from Medina invited Muhammad to live in their city. Muhammad accepted the invitation due to receiving more threats. In 622 Muhammad and his followers went to Medina. This arrival is an important part of Islamic history. Muhammad’s first home in Medina became the first Mosque. Muhammad eventually reported new revelations for rules for a Muslim government. In 630, the Meccans let Muhammad come back and made Islam their new religion. In 632, Muhammad died, and according to Islamic belief, Muhammad went on a horse with wings and flew to heaven. However, a century after Muhammad’s death, Islam spread far beyond Arabia.