

Keywords

Islam	The religious faith of Muslims including belief in Allah as
	the sole god and in Muhammad as his prophet.
Muhammad	The founder of Islam and according to Islam he was a propjet and God's messenger.
Qur'an	The Qur'an is the holy book of Muslims, revealed in stage to the Prophet Muhammad over 23 years.
Mosque	A place of worship. It is palace to gather for prayer, to study and to celebrate festivals.
Allah	Muslims believe made everything, knows everything and is all powerful, so human beings must worship him.
Hajj	A journey that every adult Muslim must undertake at least once in their lives if they can afford it and are physically able.
Ramadan	Muslims give up food and liquid for daylight hours for 29 or 20 days of Ramadan.
Prophet	A prophet is an individual regarded as being in contact with god and said to speak on their behalf.
Fasting	Is the willing to stop or reduce from some or all food, drink or both for a period of time.
Ka'aba	The ka'aba is built around a sacred black stone, a meteorite that Muslims believe is a symbol of God's covenant.
Arabic	The language of Islam
Mecca	The most scared place in Islam. The Ka'aba is in Mecca, Saudi Arabia
Imans	Islamic leader
Muslim	Someone who follows the religion of Islam.
5 Pillars	The five most important duties for all Muslims.

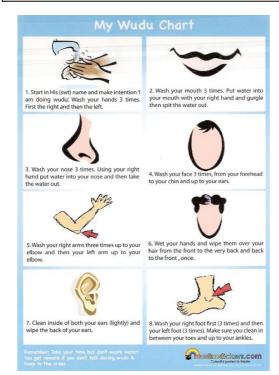
Muslim life

- The five pillars of Islam help Muslims put their faith into action.
 - C Shahadah: declaration of faith.
 - C Salah: ritual prayer 5 times a day.
 - C Zakah: giving a fixed proportion to charity.
 - C Sawm: fasting during the month of Ramadan.
 - C Hajj: pilgrimage to Makkah.
- Muslims follow the Shari'ah in their daily lives. This a code of behaviour that tells Muslims how they can live their lives in a way that pleases Allah. It is based on the Qur'an and the Sunnah (the example set by the prophet Muhammad (pbuh)). Haram means 'behaviour which is forbidden'. Halal means 'behaviour which is permitted'.

The Prophet Muhammad

- Muslims believe the last prophet to be sent by Allah was Muhammad. For them he is the Seal or the Prophets the final vessel through which Allah's message was conveyed.
- During his life he received a series or revelations from Allah. These revelations and visions were written down to form the Quran.
- Muhammad remains of great importance today. There are many stories told about his
 life and teachings that hep Muslims to understand the kind of person he was and how
 they should aspire to live their lives.











The Mosque

A Mosque is a Muslim Holy place for workship. There are many physical features that can help recognise the building as a mosque.

The Mosque is more than a place of worship

- The Mosque has more than just a prayer hall; It has a library and school room so that it can be used to educate members of the community.
- The Mossque has a community space where the community of Muslims can gather and hold functions.
- The Mosque is seen as a focal point for the community; the Imam can act as both a spiritual leader and councillor in everyday life.

The Dome – Symbolises Heaven arching above the worshippers. It also helps to resonate the Imam's voice around the prayer hall.

The Minaret – The tall tower has 2 uses, the first is that it helps people find the Mosque and it is used for the Muezzin to call people to prayer

Wash room – This room enables Muslims to perform a special wash before they pray, Wudu. This is done to symbolise purity.

Prayer Hall – The main prayer room is normally a large empty hall with the dome above. There are no chairs as worshipers kneel and prostrate on the flor. Men and women have separate rooms.

Mihrab – When Muslims pray they must face towards the Ka'ba in Mecca. The direction is symbolized by the Qibla wall and the Mihrab is the archway set into the wall at the front of the prayer room.

MUEZZIN
This person chants the prayer call 5 times a day.

MINARET
From the top of this tower the prayer call is sounded.

MUDU AREA
Each mosque has an area with water accessibility where obligatory ritual washing takes place before prayers.

WUDU AREA

WOMEN'S AREA
Women are separated from the men in the mosque. Often they and the children overlook from a gallery above.

IMAM
Head of the mosque who leads congregational prayer.

Pulpit from which an imam or political leader issues a sermon each Friday.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYERS

Diagram of a Mosque

