

Key Vocabulary

Islam	Islam is the second most popular religion in the world.
Muslim	A follower of the religion of Islam .
Allah	The Arabic name that Muslims use for God.
Five Pillars of Islam	The five things that Muslims are expected to do.
Prophets	Special messengers sent from Allah .
Muhammad	The last prophet and the key prophet in Islam .



Key Beliefs

Muslims believe that there is only one God called **Allah**. They believe **Allah** is the only ruler of the universe. The word '**Islam**' means submission and obedience to **Allah**.

Muhammad is so highly respected by **Muslims** that they will say "peace be upon him" after his name is spoken.

The Six Main Beliefs

1. Belief in **Allah** as the one and only God.
2. Belief in angels.
3. Belief in the holy books.
4. Belief in the **prophets** and that **Muhammad** was the final **prophet**.
5. Belief in the Day of Judgement (the day when **Allah** decides if a person goes to heaven or hell).
6. Belief in predestination (the belief that **Allah** has already planned out what will happen).

The Five Pillars of Islam

As well as the six main beliefs, there are **Five Pillars of Islam**.

Shahadah: **Muslims** say a declaration of faith.

Salah: **Muslims** pray five times a day. Before prayer, they must wash themselves and then face **Mecca** whilst praying.

Zakat: **Muslims** must donate to charities.

Sawm: **Muslims** fast for one month during a time called **Ramadan**.

Hajj: **Muslims** have to travel to **Mecca** once in their lifetime, if they can afford to.

Key Vocabulary	
Mecca	Mecca is an important place to Muslims . It is where Muhammad was born. Muslims face Mecca to pray and try to visit it sometime during their lives.
Hajj	The name Muslims give to the special pilgrimage to Mecca .
The Qur'an	The holy book of Islam .
Ramadan	A Muslim festival where Muslims fast during the daylight and only eat after the sun has set.
fast	A period of time when Muslims do not eat.
mosque	Muslim place of worship.
pilgrimage	A journey to a special place of religious meaning.

Place of Worship

The **Muslim** place of worship is called a **mosque**. Services are held in **mosques** every day. The most important service for **Muslims** is on a Friday.

Mosques often have a domed roof. There are no images of people or animals in **mosques**. They are decorated with patterns and words from **the Qur'an**.

Muslims take off their shoes before going into the **mosque** and wash before they pray. **Muslims** pray kneeling on the floor on a prayer mat. The wall of the **mosque** which faces **Mecca** is called the qibla wall. It has an empty arch to show the direction of Mecca.

Symbol of Islam

There is no official symbol of **Islam**, but the star and crescent symbol is the symbol most commonly associated with Islam.



The Qur'an

The **Muslim** holy book is called **the Qur'an**. **Muslims** believe that it is a record of the exact words that Allah said.



Eid al-Fitr

The main **Muslim** festivals are: **Ramadan**, Eid-al-Fitr, Eid-al-Adha, Dhu al-Hijja. During **Ramadan**, **Muslims** try to give up bad habits and become better **Muslims** by praying more.

Muslim Festivals

Mecca

Mecca is an important place to **Muslims**. It is where **Muhammad** was born and the direction that **Muslims** face when they pray five times a day. **Muslims** are expected to make a **pilgrimage** to **Mecca** once in their lifetime.

