

## Key Vocabulary

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



## 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.

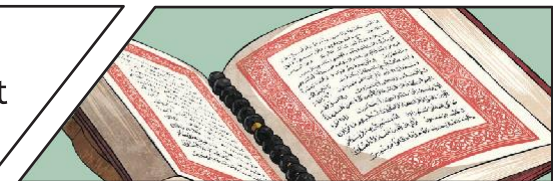
### Symbol of Islam

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.

