



# YEAR 6 ISLAM



## ISLAM

Islam is one of the world's major religions, followed by millions of people across different countries. It is based on the teachings of the prophet Muhammad, who Muslims believe was chosen by Allah to spread His message. People who follow Islam are called Muslims. Let us explore some important aspects of Islam.

## PLACE OF WORSHIP

In Islam, the place where Muslims gather to pray and worship is called a **mosque**. A mosque is a special and sacred building where people come together for prayers, especially on Fridays. Before entering the mosque, Muslims take off their shoes to show respect. Inside the mosque, there is usually a large open space where people stand in neat rows to pray. Muslims face a direction called **qibla**, which points towards the city of Mecca in Saudi Arabia, while they pray. Every mosque has a special tower called a **minaret**, from which a call to prayer is announced to remind people to pray at the correct times.

## HOLY BOOK

The holy book of Islam is the Qur'an. Muslims believe that the Qur'an is the word of Allah (God), revealed to the Prophet Muhammad through an angel called Jibril (Gabriel). The Qur'an is written in Arabic, and Muslims consider it to be the final and complete message from God. It contains guidance on how to live a good and honest life, how to treat others, and how to worship Allah. Muslims believe that the Qur'an is a miracle because it has been preserved in its original form for over 1,400 years. Every Muslim is encouraged to read, understand, and follow the teachings of the Qur'an to help guide their actions.

## RELIGIOUS SYMBOL

The most common symbol associated with Islam is the **crescent moon and star**. This symbol is often seen on flags, buildings, and mosques in many Muslim countries. The crescent moon and star represent the **Islamic calendar**, which is based on the moon's cycles. This symbol also reminds Muslims of the month of **Ramadan**, when they fast from sunrise to sunset. During Ramadan, Muslims look for the first sighting of the crescent moon to mark the start of the month. The crescent moon and star are important because they are connected to the Muslim way of measuring time and the lunar months.

## VALUES



Islam teaches many important values that help people live together in peace and harmony. Some of the most important values in Islam include kindness, honesty, patience, and respect for others. Muslims are taught to always be generous and help those who are in need. One of the main ways this is done is through charity, called Zakat, which is one of the Five Pillars of Islam. Muslims also strive to live their lives with humility, forgiveness, and compassion. These values are meant to help people live in a way that pleases Allah and promotes peace and happiness in the world.

## MAIN CELEBRATIONS

Muslims celebrate two major holidays every year: **Eid al-Fitr** and **Eid al-Adha**.

- **Eid al-Fitr** is a joyful celebration that happens at the end of the holy month of **Ramadan**, when Muslims fast from dawn until sunset. During Ramadan, Muslims focus on self-discipline, prayer, and charity. Eid al-Fitr marks the end of this month of fasting, and it is a time for Muslims to celebrate with their families and communities. They wear new clothes, share meals, exchange gifts, and thank Allah for giving them the strength to fast. On this day, Muslims also give **Zakat al-Fitr**, a special form of charity, to help those in need.
- **Eid al-Adha** is the second major holiday, and it happens during the time of **Hajj**, the pilgrimage to Mecca. It remembers the story of **Prophet Ibrahim (Abraham)** and his willingness to sacrifice his son, **Isma'il (Ishmael)**, as an act of obedience to Allah. Just as Ibrahim was ready to sacrifice his son, Allah provided a ram to be sacrificed instead. On Eid al-Adha, Muslims who can afford to do so sacrifice an animal, usually a sheep, goat, cow, or camel. The meat is then shared with family, friends, and the poor.

## KEY STORIES

One of the most important stories in Islam is the story of the Prophet Muhammad. He was born in Mecca in Saudi Arabia more than 1,400 years ago. Muslims believe that Muhammad was chosen by Allah to deliver His message to people. There is also the story of Prophet Ibrahim, who was willing to sacrifice his son to show his obedience to Allah. This story teaches Muslims about trust, faith, and sacrifice. Another key story is about the Night Journey, when the Prophet Muhammad was taken to the heavens, where he spoke to Allah.

Through these stories and teachings, Islam encourages Muslims to be good, kind, and to help others.

## FIVE PILLARS OF ISLAM

The Five Pillars of Islam are the five main acts of worship that every Muslim follows. These pillars are important because they help Muslims stay connected to Allah and guide their daily actions. The Five Pillars are:

1. **Shahada** – The declaration of faith. This is when a person says, "There is no god but Allah, and Muhammad is His messenger." This statement is the foundation of a Muslim's belief.



2. **Salat** – Prayer. Muslims pray five times a day, facing Mecca. The prayers are an important way for Muslims to connect with Allah and ask for His help and guidance.
3. **Zakat** – Charity. Muslims are required to give a portion of their wealth to those in need. This helps to reduce poverty and spread kindness.
4. **Sawm** – Fasting during the month of **Ramadan**. Muslims do not eat or drink from dawn until sunset during Ramadan. This teaches self-control and empathy for those who are hungry.
5. **Hajj** – The pilgrimage to **Mecca**. Every Muslim who is able must travel to Mecca at least once in their life to perform special rituals during the Islamic month of Dhu al-Hijjah. The Hajj is a journey that brings Muslims from all over the world together in worship.

## PROPHETS IN ISLAM

Islam teaches that many prophets were chosen by Allah to guide people and deliver His messages. The most important of these prophets is **Prophet Muhammad**, who Muslims believe is the last prophet. However, there were many other prophets before him, such as:

- **Prophet Adam** – The first human being created by Allah.
- **Prophet Nuh (Noah)** – Known for building the ark and saving the animals during the great flood.
- **Prophet Musa (Moses)** – Who led the Israelites out of Egypt and received the Torah from Allah.
- **Prophet Isa (Jesus)** – A prophet who taught about love, kindness, and forgiveness.

Each of these prophets brought important teachings to their people, and Muslims believe that all of them were sent by Allah to guide humanity towards the truth. They all preached the same message of **monotheism**, the belief in one God, and living a righteous life.

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### EXAMPLE QUESTIONS:

1. What is the name of the holy book in Islam, and who is it believed to have been revealed to?
2. What is the purpose of fasting during the month of Ramadan, and how do Muslims observe this month?
3. What is the significance of the mosque in Islam, and what do Muslims do there?
4. What are the Five Pillars of Islam, and why are they important for Muslims?
5. Who was Prophet Ibrahim, and what lesson do Muslims learn from his story?