



# Islam - Community and Belonging

Does going to a mosque give Muslims a sense of belonging?

Key Vocabulary	
	Definition
Muhammad (pbuh)	The last and most important prophet of Islam.
Qur'an	The Islamic holy book.
Allah	The Arabic word referring to God.
Mosque	The Islamic place of worship.
Minaret	A tall thin tower in a mosque.
Mihrab	An alcove that shows the direction of Mecca.
Minbar	A place in the mosque where the prayer leader stands.
Musalla	An open space used for prayer outside a mosque.

Mecca
Mecca is in Saudi Arabia and is the birthplace of the prophet Muhammed (pbuh). It is home to the Kaaba, which is the cube shaped building at the centre of the Grand Mosque.
Wudu
A washing routine conducted before Islamic prayers: Wash hands three times Wash mouth three times Wash nose, face and arms three times Wet head and wash feet.

Why do Muslims pray in a mosque?
Muslims believe that praying together in groups brings greater blessings than praying alone. The prophet Muhammad said, 'Prayer at home is counted once, prayer at the local mosque is equivalent to twenty-five prayers.'
Hajj
An annual Islamic pilgrimage to Mecca, which is the holiest city for Muslims. Muslims wear special <b>haji robes</b> .

Key Questions
• Does going to the mosque give Muslims a sense of belonging?
• What happens in a mosque?
• What are the features of a mosque?
• Does it matter where Muslims pray?
• Why would Muslims want to go to mosque to pray instead of praying at home?



Prayer mat

