



Islam - Hajj

Does completing Hajj make a person a better Muslim?

Key Vocabulary	
	Definition
Salah	Muslims must pray five times a day. Before prayer , they must wash themselves.
Shahadah	This Pillar is believing and saying the words. "There is no god except Allah.
Pilgrimage	A special journey to a place of (religious) significance.
Five Pillars	The five things that Muslims are expected to do: Salah (Prayer), fasting, have faith, give charity and Hajj.
Hajj robes	Special clothes worn during the pilgrimage to Mecca.

The Five Pillars of Islam.

Muslim people have five duties which are called the Five Pillars of Islam. Every Muslim tries to carry out these five things, and it helps them to feel that they are members of the worldwide Muslim community.

Hajj

An annual Islamic **pilgrimage** to Every Muslim is expected to make the journey (pilgrimage) to Mecca at least once in their life (as long as they are well enough and are able to afford it). This is known as Hajj. They gather at Mount Arafat for Hajj prayers.

Kaaba

In Mecca there is a huge mosque called **Grand Mosque**. Inside the mosque is a stone building covered in black cloth which is seen as the holiest place in the world for Muslims. Muslims face the Kaaba when praying, no matter where they are in the world.

Mecca (Makkah)

Mecca is the heart of Islam and is a very special place to all Muslims. Every day, Muslims pray in the direction of this city no matter where they are in the world.

Key Questions

- What makes a journey special?
- What does the word ummah/community mean?
- What is a pilgrimage?
- Does completing Hajj make a person a better Muslim?
- Is Hajj compulsory for every Muslim?
- What are the five pillars of Islam?

