



Start of Islam

Aim: What are the beliefs and practices of Islam?

Do Now: 1) Why is Arabia's location a good one for trade?



GEOGRAPHY SKILLBUILDER: Interpreting Maps

1. **Location** Why is Arabia's location a good one for trade?

2. **Movement** Why was the location of Mecca ideal for the spread of ideas?

Muslim Population

2014



What is the Middle East?

- The Middle East is a region of the world that includes parts of southwestern Asia and Egypt, in North Africa.
- This is generally a hot and arid (desert-like) climate, but there are fertile river valleys like those of the Nile in Egypt and the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers in modern-day Iraq.
- Throughout history, the Middle East has played an important role. It was the home of two ancient civilizations, Ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia, and three of the world's largest religions: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. In addition, the region's location between Europe, Africa, and Asia made it a center of trade and cultural diffusion.
- This area is was once known as the "Near East" but is most often referred to as the "Middle East." Both names demonstrate the power that European countries have had in writing world history since "the east" is a term that assumes the "center" of the world is Western Europe.

Deserts, Towns, and Trade Routes



Bedouins

- 1) Arab nomads
- 2) lived in the desert.
- 3) Warriors
- 4) lived in clans

- **Arabia is the Crossroads of Trade and Ideas**
- By the early 600s, many Arabs had chosen to settle in an oasis or in a market town. Larger towns near the western coast of Arabia became market towns for local, regional, and long-distance trade goods. The group of people associated with this region were the Bedouins.
- This different tribes of Bedouins would become the first followers of Islam

Deserts, Towns, and Trade Routes

- Mecca
 - Pilgrims come to Mecca to worship at the city of Kaaba, and ancient shrine.
 - Arabs associate shrine with Hebrew prophet Abraham and monotheism.
 - Some tribes worship many gods and spirits and bring idols to Kaaba.
 - Some Arabs believe in one God—Allah in Arabic
 - **Kaaba - place of trade and sharing religious beliefs – come for the shrine of Hebrew prophet Abraham**
 - This practice of worshipping many different gods at the Kaaba in Mecca would bother Muhammad

Muhammad

- Read about the life of Muhammad as a class
- Answer questions with a partner
- 1) Why was Muhammad's early life difficult?
- 2) What evidence is there that Muhammad was a good business leader?
- 3) Why did the Meccan merchants object to Muhammad's message?



Many Muslims believe it to be explicitly prohibited to draw or use images of Muhammad

Muhammad

- Muhammad became convinced that he was the **last of the prophets**. He began to teach that Allah was the one and only God and that all other gods must be abandoned. People who agreed to this basic principle of Islam were called Muslims.

Political leader—joins different groups into one community (Jews and Muslims)

Religious leader—draws more converts to Islam.

Military leader—tackles growing hostilities between Mecca and Medina

The Beliefs and Practices of Islam

Links to Judaism and Christianity

- Muslims believe Allah is the same God worshiped by Christians and Jews.
- Muslims believe the Qur'an, Gospels, and Torah contain God's will as revealed through others. They call Christians and Jews "People of the Book"
- Muslims, Christians, and Jews trace their roots to Abraham.
- All three religions believe in heaven, hell, and a day of judgment.

Qur'an



- The Qur'ān literally means "the recitation" and it is the central religious text or scripture of Islam. Muslims believe it to be the word of Allah, revealed to Muhammad by an angel named Gabriel over a period of 23 years between 610 and 632 C.E. Tradition says that Muhammad recited the content to his companions, some of whom later recorded it. This exercise was often repeated to ensure that the recordings were accurate. However, no single copy existed during Muhammad's lifetime.
- Muslims view the Qur'an as God's final revelation and complete message to humanity. The Qur'an influences Muslim conduct, law, faith and practice across the whole spectrum of religious and daily life.

Sunna—Muhammad's example for proper living.

Sharia - Guidance of the Qur'an and Sunna are assembled in a body of law.

Mosques - houses of worships that point towards Mecca.

Video – Introduction to Islam (Questions)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wgP_OSOS3IA&t=104s

- 1) What are some characteristics of Islam
- 2) What are the Five Pillars?

Mid Assessment

- 1. According to Muslims, Muhammad was a(n)
A) Son of God
B) prophet.
C) caliph
D) angel.
- 2. The religious duties, known as the Five Pillars of Islam, include all of the following EXCEPT
A) praying five times daily.
B) giving alms.
C) taking part in a jihad.
D) fasting during Ramadan.
- 3. Write one similarity between Islam, Christianity, and Judaism

ISLAM

Confession of Faith

“There is only one God
and Muhammad is his prophet”

Prayer (5 x Day)

Alms to Poor

Fasting during
Ramadan

Performing the Hajj
(pilgrimage) once in your life

Read the rules of Islamic Regulated Life

- Take notes on the laws and rules of the Quran (Koran)
 - 1) What are the five pillars?
 - 2) What things are prohibited?
 - 3) What are laws regarding marriage?
 - 4) What is the significance of Friday?
 - 5) What are the beliefs concerning Heaven and Hell?

The Rules of Islam Regulated Life

- **The Five Pillars:** Muslims must carry out these five duties.
 - **1) Statement of Faith to Allah and to Muhammad as his prophet.**
 - **2) Prayer five times a day.** Muslims may use the mosque for this (an Islamic house of worship).
 - **3) Giving alms, or money for the poor.**
 - **4) Fasting during the holy month of Ramadan.**
 - **5) the hajj—pilgrimage to Mecca—**at least once in a lifetime.

National Geographic – Trip to the Hajj

• https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jM81wroj_MQ

2) Pray 5 times a day

- Doesn't have to be in a mosque
- Face Mecca
- Specific times 1) Dawn/Sunrise 2) Noon 3) Afternoon 4) Sunset 5) Evening



3) Alms

- Money to the poor (Zakat)
- It is a tax of 2.5% of one's annual savings.
- Islamic Law stipulates that alms are to be used to support the poor and the needy, to free slaves and debtors, as specifically mentioned in the Quran (9:60)



4) Fasting during Ramadan



- For the holy month you are not allowed to eat or drink while the sun is up.

5) Hajj

- Once in your life pilgrimage to Mecca to see the Kaaba
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jM81wroj_MO

- **WHILE THE VIDEO PLAYS WRITE DOWN DIFFERENT THINGS THAT MUST BE COMPLETED DURING THE HAJJ**





masjid al haram – most holy site in Islam, located in Mecca. Is what all Muslims pray towards

Kaaba



Dates back thousands of years before the start of Islam, those lucky enough get to touch the Kaaba during the Hajj

Black stone in the Kaaba

- The Black Stone is a rock set into the eastern corner of the Kaaba, the ancient building located in the center of the Grand Mosque in Mecca, Saudi Arabia. It is revered by Muslims as an Islamic relic which, according to Muslim tradition, dates back to the time of Adam and Eve.

The Black Stone according to Muslims

Source: Islam Q&A, Sheikh Muhammed Salih Al-Munajjid, <http://islamqa.info/en/1902>, June 17, 2015

1. The Black Stone was sent down by Allah from Paradise.
2. The Stone was whiter than milk, the sins of men made it black.
3. The Black Stone will come forth on the Day of Resurrection and will testify in favour of those who touched it in truth.
4. Touching, kissing or pointing to the Black Stone – the first thing to be done when starting Tawaaf (pilgrimage).
5. Muhammad kissed the Black Stone, so Muslims do the same.
6. If a person is unable to kiss the Stone, he should touch it with his hand or something else, then he can kiss the thing with which he touched it.
7. If a person is unable to do the above, then he can point to it with his hand and say "Allahu akbar" (Allah is the greatest).
8. Touching the Stone expiates sins.

