

Living

Year: 5 Term: 5 and 6

Key question: What does it mean to be a Muslim in Britain Today?

In this unit, a rich knowledge of the practice, meaning and significance of the Five Pillars of Islam as an expression of ibadah (worship and belief in action), Shahadah (belief in one God and his Prophet); salat (daily prayer); sawm (fasting); zakat (alms giving); hajj (pilgrimage) will be developed.

Muslims follow the Five Pillars. This makes a difference to individual Muslims and to the Muslim community (Ummah).

The Holy Qur'an is very important for Muslims: The way it was revealed to the Prophet Muhammad, how it is used, treated and learnt are all important aspects in Islam. There are many stories and teachings, e.g. Surah 1, Al-Fatihah (The Opening); Surah 17, the Prophet's Night Journey and many people memorise the Qur'an (hafiz, hafiza).

There are other forms of guidance as well as the Qur'an for Muslims such as Sunnah (practices, customs and traditions of the Prophet Muhammad); Hadith (sayings and actions of the Prophet Muhammad).

Vocabulary

Salat al-jama'ah	Salat al-jama'ah (Congregational Prayer) or prayer in congregation (jama'ah) is considered to have more social and spiritual benefit than praying by oneself. When praying in congregation, the people stand in straight parallel rows behind the chosen imam, facing qibla.
Eid-ul-Fitr	Eid al-Fitr is a time of official receptions and private visits, when friends greet one another, presents are given, new clothes are worn.
Ramadan	Ramadan is the Arabic name for the ninth month in the Islamic calendar. It is considered one of the holiest months for Muslims.
salah	It is an obligatory form of prayer performed five times a day that was revealed in the Holy Qur'an and taught to us by Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him).
Rah'ah	to look at, see, regard, look after, see after, learn about, observe, watch, look upon, look out, find out.
Ummah	Ummah refers to the whole Muslim world, or the community of believers.
Mecca	Mecca is the capital of Mecca Province in the Hejaz region of western Saudi Arabia and considered the holiest city in Islam.
Hajj	Hajj is a sacred pilgrimage that is required of every Muslim at least once in their lifetime - it is one of the fifth pillars of Islam.

Key Questions:

- What helps Muslims through the journey of life?
- What is the key belief of Muslims and how does this affect their life?
- Why does prayer matter to Muslims?
- How is charity important to Muslims?
- Why do Muslims fast?
- Why do Muslims want to go on a pilgrimage?
- Where do people get advice and guidance?
- What is a special place for Muslims?
- What similar commitments to the five pillars do you have in your life?
- What does it mean to be a Muslim in Britain today?



Hajj



Salah



Salat al-jama'ah