

Name: _____

Date: _____

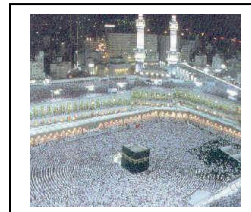
Five Pillars of Islam Worksheet

Select which of the Five Pillars is best associated with each of the ten following passages. Write the correct responses in the blanks following each passage. Chose from the following choices:

Faith	Pilgrimage	Alms Giving	Fasting	Prayer
--------------	-------------------	--------------------	----------------	---------------

1. This occurs five times a day and always requires that you kneel towards Mecca _____
2. Muslims will take this trip every year to the holy city of Mecca. _____
3. "There is no god but Allah, Muhammad is the messenger of Allah." _____
4. You must do this daily during sunrise, noontime, afternoon, sunset, and evenings. _____
5. This occurs every year during the holy month of Ramadan. _____
6. This is also referred to as the "hajj", and refers to Muhammad's journey to Mecca _____
7. This pillar describes the process of giving money to those less fortunate. _____
8. This pillar emphasizes that Muhammad is not God, but is nearly a prophet. _____
9. This Pillar refers to the process of not eating from sunrise to sunset for an entire month. _____
10. This comes in the form of both private giving and public contribution through a tax. _____

PLEASE LABEL EACH OF THE FIVE PILLARS BELOW



1. _____

3. _____

5. _____

2. _____

4. _____

5 Pillars of Islam Descriptions

Shahaadah (testimony of faith)

The "Shahaadah" or "testimony of faith" is the greatest of the pillars of Islam. It consists of the speaking of the words "La ilaha illa Allah, Muhammadur rasoolu Allah" meaning "There is none worthy of worship except Allah, and Muhammad is the messenger of Allah." Muslims believe that the speaking of these words with true belief by a Muslim at least once in his or her life is the true declaration of his/her faith. The importance of this statement is the belief that the goal of the life of a follower of Islam is to serve and obey God, and this is achieved through following the teachings and practices of Prophet Muhammad, the messenger of Allah.

Salat (prayer)

The Salat (prayer) is held to be an act communication between the worshipper and God and forms an important part of the daily Muslim life. Muslims perform five prayers every day: at dawn, noon, mid-afternoon, sunset and night. Though a mosque (Muslim holy building) is the place where prayers are usually performed, a Muslims may pray anywhere - inside their home or outside, in schools, workplaces or elsewhere. Each of the five prayers take only a few minutes and is made up of the speaking of some important verses from the Qur'an in Arabic, the language in which the holy knowledge was said to be revealed to Prophet Muhammad. There are however, no rules to be followed in personal prayers and one can wish to pray to God in his/her own language.

Zakat (almsgiving)

According to Islam, everything belongs to God and human beings are only trusted with the control of wealth by god. By giving part of his things and money to needy persons, the wealth of a Muslim is supposed to be "purified" and it is also believed to increase. Thus, charity, or "Zakat", is an important pillar of Islam faith. In ancient days, every Muslim capable of making a donation had to set aside a certain amount of his earnings as "zakat", which was collected by the Muslim "Calipha" or Muslim government each year. Now Muslims give when they see fit

Sawm (fasting)

In Islamic tradition, much importance is attached to the ritual of Sawm (fasting). The ninth month of the Islamic calendar, Ramadan, is supposed to be a time when Muslims should fast during the entire daytime eating only after sundown and in the hours before dawn. The whole month is a time when Muslims should not only keep themselves away from foods but also abstain from drinking. The purpose of "Sawm" is to cut off the body from all worldly pleasures for a month and concentrate the mind on spiritual thoughts and actions that take one closer to God. It is also held to be a kind of reflection for one's sins. However, the sick, elderly people, pregnant are allowed to break the fast due to their health.

Hajj (pilgrimage)

The Hajj (pilgrimage) is held to be one of the most important pillars of Islam. This holy journey to Mecca is undertaken during the Islamic month of "Dhu al-Hijjah". One of the capitals of Saudi Arabia, Mecca is located in the western part of the country. It is highly regarded as the birthplace of Muhammad and is considered to be the holiest city for the followers of Islam. Every Muslim male and female who is physically and financially able to do so must make the "hajj" to Mecca at least once in their lifetime. For any Muslim, the "hajj" is a matter of great importance and honor and on completion of the pilgrimage he/she is highly revered in his/her community. During the Hajj Muslims dress in two white sheets when within 10 kilometers from Mecca, walk around the Kaaba for seven times, touch the Black Stone, travel seven times between Mount Safa and Mount Marwah, and throw stones in Mina as a gesture of cursing the Devil.