



# Islam - Glossary

<b>Adl</b>	Divine Justice
<b>Ali</b>	Son-in-Law of Muhammad, the fourth Caliph for Sunni Muslims, and the first Shi'a Imam.
<b>Allah</b>	The Arabic word for the One God
<b>Ancient House</b>	Ka'bah, the temple to the One God built by Abraham and Ismail in Makkah.
<b>Arafat</b>	A plain, south east of Makkah where pilgrims gather during the Hajj.
<b>Asr</b>	Salaat performed in the late afternoon
<b>Azan</b>	The call to prayer.
<b>Bismillah</b>	The phrase "In the Name of God, All Merciful, All Compassionate."
<b>Black Stone</b>	The Hajr al Aswad set into one corner of the Ka'bah.
<b>Deen</b>	The Islamic Way of Life.
<b>Du'a</b>	Informal prayer or calling on God.
<b>Dzikr</b>	Remembrance of God, often by repetition of a word or phrase.
<b>Eid Mubarak</b>	"Blessed Eid" the greeting used by Muslims on the two Eid festivals.
<b>Eid ul Adha</b>	The festival marking the end of the Hajj, the annual pilgrimage.
<b>Eid ul Fitr</b>	The festival to mark the end of Ramadhan, the month of fasting.
<b>Fajr</b>	Salaat performed between first light and sunrise.
<b>Five Pillars</b>	The five essential Islamic duties – Shahada, Salaat, Zakat, Saum and Hajj.
<b>Hadith</b>	A report of word or actions attributable to the Prophet.
<b>Hadith Qudsi</b>	Saying which the Prophet attributed to God, but expressed in his own words.



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<b>Hadith Sharif</b>	The Prophet's personal statements and example.
<b>Hajj</b>	The annual pilgrimage.
<b>Hajjah</b>	A woman who has completed the Hajj.
<b>Hajji</b>	A man who has completed the Hajj.
<b>Hajr al Aswad</b>	The Black Stone set into one corner of the Ka'bah.
<b>Hijra</b>	The emigration of the early Muslim community from Makkah to Madinah, and start of the Muslim calendar.
<b>Ibadat</b>	Worship – in the form of any actions performed in the service of God, including the five pillars.
<b>Ihram</b>	State of purification for performance of the Hajj.
<b>Ihsan</b>	Goodness – right action, living according to the eternal moral values.
<b>Ilm</b>	Knowledge and understanding.
<b>Imam</b>	For Shi'a Muslims, the Spiritual Leader of the community, but for Sunni Muslims anyone who leads the prayer.
<b>Imamate</b>	The Shi'a doctrine of the transmission of Spiritual Authority through a line of Imams traced back to Ali.
<b>Iman</b>	Faith – Essential Belief in the truth of certain concepts which are beyond logical proof.
<b>Isha</b>	The Salaat performed in the dark of the night.
<b>Islam</b>	Literally meaning Peace and Submission, it is also used as a specific term for the Five Pillars.
<b>Isnad</b>	The chain of transmission used to verify Hadith.
<b>Jamarat</b>	The three columns stoned by pilgrims as part of the rites of the Hajj.
<b>Ka'bah</b>	The temple to the One God built by Abraham and Ismail in Makkah.
<b>Kiswah</b>	The cloth covering the Ka'bah.
<b>Kufr</b>	Choosing to believe that there is no God.



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<b>Madinah</b>	The town north of Makkah where Muhammad established the first multicultural community to live by Islamic law.
<b>Maghrib</b>	The Salaat performed after sunset.
<b>Mi'raj</b>	Muhammad's ascent through the heavens at the institution of the formal Salaat.
<b>Mihrab</b>	The niche, or alcove, in a mosque indicating the direction of Ka'bah.
<b>Mina</b>	A small town just outside of Makkah, site of the stoning of the jamarat during Hajj.
<b>Minaret</b>	A high tower traditionally built into mosques, from which a muezzin can call the Azan.
<b>Mosque</b>	A space in which the Muslim community gather to perform Salaat together.
<b>Muezzin</b>	Whoever calls the Azan.
<b>Muzdalifah</b>	A resting place between Arafat and Mina for pilgrims on the Hajj.
<b>Nas</b>	Textual basis in Qur'an or Hadith for a legal judgement.
<b>Night of Power</b>	The night towards the end of Ramadhan when Muhammad first received Divine Revelation.
<b>Nisab</b>	Minimum requirement for Zakat.
<b>People of the Book</b>	People whose right to worship is guaranteed under Islamic Law, specifically Jews and Christians, but other religions being included by some Muslims.
<b>Prophet</b>	A recipient of Divine Revelation.
<b>Qur'an</b>	The Divine Message revealed to Muhammad.
<b>Rakah</b>	A sequence of actions and words repeated cyclically in the performance of Salaat.
<b>Ramadhan</b>	The month of fasting.
<b>Sadaqah</b>	Charity of all kinds.



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<b>Sahur</b>	The traditional meal before commencing a day's fasting in Ramadhan.
<b>Sajda</b>	The act of prostration in Salaat.
<b>Salaat</b>	The formal prayer of Islam.
<b>Salaat ul Jummah</b>	The communal mid-day prayer on a Friday, which includes a sermon by the imam.
<b>Saum</b>	Fasting between first light and sunset.
<b>Shahada</b>	The declaration of belief in the One God.
<b>Shari'ah</b>	Islamic Law.
<b>Shi'a</b>	Approx. 10% of Muslims, mainly in Iran and Iraq, differing from the Sunnis on various matters, mainly succession, authority and law.
<b>Shirk</b>	Worshipping more than One God.
<b>Surah</b>	A chapter in the Qur'an.
<b>Takbir</b>	The phrase "God is Great".
<b>Tarwih</b>	A sequence of rakahs performed after the Isha prayer in Ramadhan, with 1/30 <sup>th</sup> part of the Qur'an recited each night, thus finishing the Qur'an during the month.
<b>Taslim</b>	The phrase "Peace be upon you".
<b>Tawaf</b>	Circumambulation of the Ka'bah.
<b>Tayammum</b>	A symbolic form of the Wudu performed with dust when water is unavailable.
<b>Ummah</b>	The world community of Muslims.
<b>Wudu</b>	Ritual washing required to achieve the state of cleanliness required for Salaat.
<b>Zakat</b>	That part of a Muslim's wealth paid in charity as a compulsory annual tax to purify the remainder.
<b>Zuhr</b>	The Salaat performed after mid-day.