

What are the general beliefs held by the Muslim religion?

Islam is:



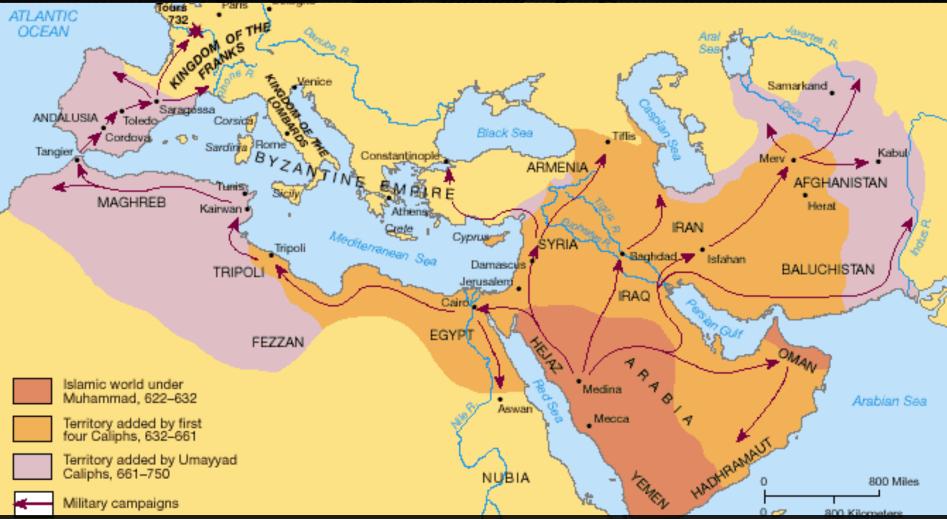
Monotheistic. Muslims believe in the Judeo-Christian God

Islam was founded by:



Muhammad. Muslims believe that he was a prophet of God.

How does the diffusion of Christianity and Islam differ?



Islam initially spread by word of mouth which transitioned into conquest of other lands and the establishments of trade routes.

Islam and Muslims

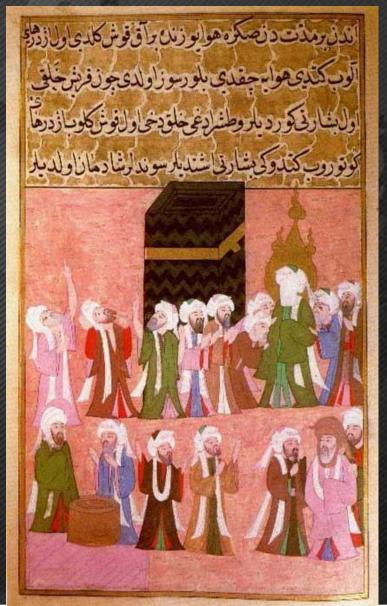
The religion is called Islam.
The people who practice Islam are called Muslims.

Muhammad: he Prophet of Islam

- O Muhammad was born in 570 AD.
- ${\mathcal O}$ His parents died when he was 7.
- ✓ Liked to go off by himself and pray in the desert.
- He heard the voice of the angel Gabriel telling him to proclaim the one true God.

Muhammad

O Muslims do not believe that the face of Muhammad should be shown. O He is often depicted as in the picture on the right.



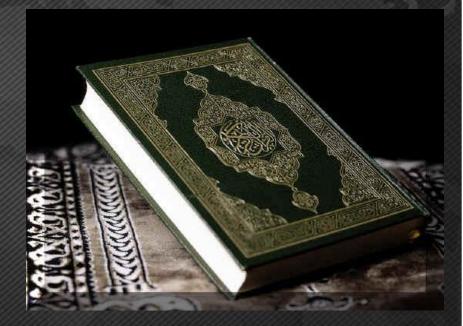
Allah

O Allah is the name of God to Muslims. O You will never see an image of Allah. **Muslims believe that** He does not resemble any other form in creation in any way."



The Qur'an

- Holy Book of Islam
- ✓ Written in Arabic
- Muslims believe that Allah revealed the Qur'an to Muhammad.
- Many Muslims memorize the Qur'an
- The Qur'an has the rules Muslims live by.



The Sunnah

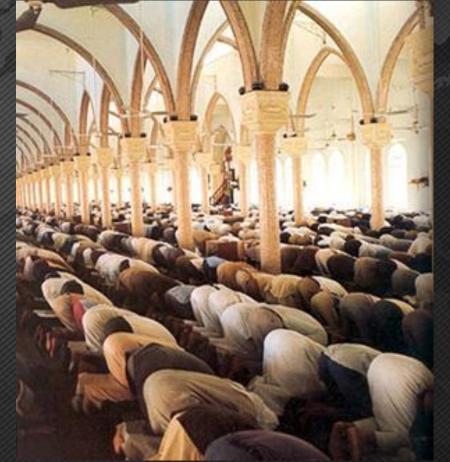
In Islam, the Arabic word "sunnah" means the way Prophet Muhammad, the Messenger of Allah, lived his life. O Muslims strive to live their life as Muhammad did.



Practices of Islam

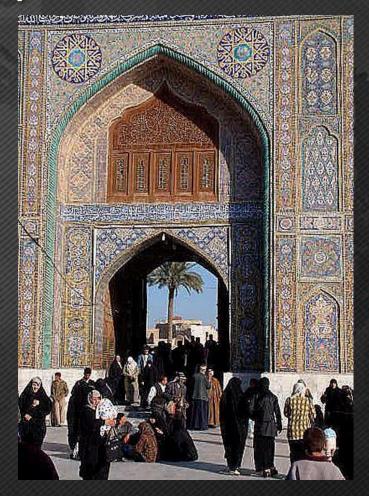
Muslims pray 5 times a day





A Mosque

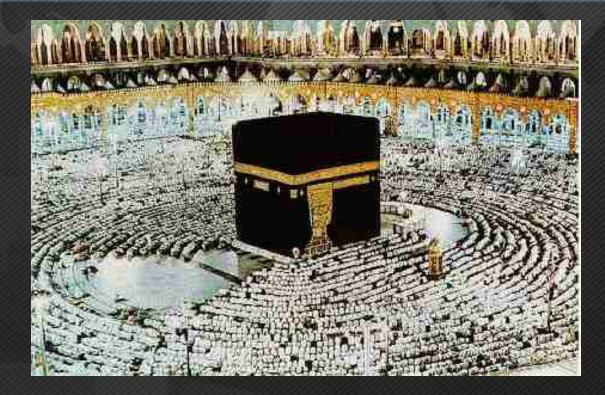
A Mosque is the place of worship for Muslims.



The Five Pillars of Islam

- 1. Faith: There is only one God, and Muhammad is the Prophet
- Q 2. Prayer: Five times a day
- O 3. Sharing: All Muslims pay a tax to help the poor
- 4. Fasting: Not eating or drinking during daylight during the month of Ramadan
- O 5. Pilgrimage (Hajj): All Muslims want to make a pilgrimage to the Holy City of Mecca once in their lifetimes.

The pilgrimage to Mecca



Islam's Important Holidays:

Ramadan (A month of fasting and prayer)

Islam's Important Places:

Mecca, Medina, Jerusalem

The Two Main Branches of Islam

Sunnis

- 83% of all Muslims and is the largest branch in the Middle East and Asia.
- The country with the largest Sunni population is Indonesia.
- Believe that Muhammad's Successor should be chosen by religious leaders.

Shiites

- 16% of all Muslims and is located in only a few countries of the Middle East.
- 40% live in Iran, 15% in Pakistan
- Believe that Muhammad's Successor should be a member of his family.