

The five pillars of islam – shahadah

[Religion](#), [Islam](#)



The Shahadah (profession of faith) What is it? Specific, religious description
Shahadah (testimony, oath) (witness, to know and believe without suspicion)
Summary and declaration of Muslim faith One enters Islamic faith when
reciting the Kalima (statement of faith) " I bear witness that there is no other
deity but, Allah, and I bear witness that Muhammad is the messenger of
Allah" (in Arabic) Muslims recite the Kalima with understanding and full
internal acceptance It is not sufficient for anyone to just recite these words
but one should believe in it by heart with a firm conviction

Reciting the Kalima, they proclaim that : 1. Allah is the only God and
Muhammad is his prophet; 2. accepts that this is true -> Should be
constantly and consciously present in the heart of every muslim 3. and that
they will obey all the commitments of Islam in their life These words are the
first words newborns hear, and the last words heard by the dying. A Muslim
lives with these sentences, hears them and utters them at least once every
day Part of the ritual prayer in the 2nd pillar of Islam

For sunni Muslims, it is the first of the five pillars of faith; while the Shi'a
connects it to their lists of pillars of faith The Shahadah has certain
conditions that makes a person benefit from the Kalima (testimony of faith) 9
Conditions of the Shahadah: Knowledge (' ilm) having the basic and general
knowledge of the shahadah what this testimony concerns? As a normal
person would have to know what they are testifying about when making an
oath. because not knowing what you are testifying about is absolutely
unacceptable.

It would mean nothing, basically. Certainty (yaqeen) In Islam, any kind of
doubt is similar to disbelief (Kufr) Muslims have to be certain of the truth of
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the Shahadah Allah describes the believers in the Qur'an " the (true) believers are those only who believe in Allah and His messenger and afterward doubt not, but strive with their wealth and their lives for the cause of Allah. Such are the sincere. " (al-Hujjarat : 15). Muslims have to be certain of the truth of the Shahadah and that there is no sense of doubt or wavering of hearts. Doubts and suspicions are more dangerous than lusts and desires for a person's faith cure: is the sound knowledge of the Qur'an and Sunnah Acceptance (qabool) after knowing and being certain of the shahadah, one must accept it believer accepts the implications of the shahadah = also means believing in what the Qur'an states or by the Prophet without any questions asked whatever comes from Allah or Muhammad, a true Muslim believes in it as the truth Submission (Inqiyad) he actual physical enactment with the deeds of the shahadah duties to be performed with sincerity to Allah and seeking forgiveness and guidance from him the meaning of Islam itself, " the submission to the will and commands of Allah" eg. performing the five daily prayers as it is compulsory for them to do so; and reciting the Kalima everyday of their lives Truthfulness (as-sidq) saying the shahadah honestly. One to mean it. Hypocrites -> not believing in it but saying it to protect themselves and gaining something from doing so Sincerity (ikhlass) meaning of sincerity is opposite of shirk (nifaaq)->(avoiding or neglecting a duty or responsibility) when making the shahadah, must do it for the sake of Allah they are Muslims only for the sake of Allah, all of their actions are done only for the sake of Allah are they Muslims for their parents and would do whatever their parents would like them to do? or are they muslims for allah's sake and would do whatever Allah wants them to do?

Love (mahabbah) love of the shahadah, its meaning and being happy with it
Denial of False worship orship only Allah and deny any false deities(Taghoot)
Adherence (astaeem) adherence or support of it until death reflects in the
Hereafter the shahadah is a Muslim's banner until death to be in complete
state of surrender, submission, obedience to Allah Muftah ul Jennah (Key to
Paradise) Proclaims it with sincerity and devotion and acts and lives in
accordance to its requirements How and why is this pillar important for the
everyday life of a muslim? Most important article of faith
Reinforces(strengthens, promotes) the muslim faith and represents
acceptance f Allah and Muhammad and the religion, Islam The significance of
this declaration is the belief that the only purpose of life is to serve and obey
Allah through the teachings and practices of Muhammad Reciting the Kalima
is the most essential act of Islam The Second Pillar - Prayer The faithful
perform ritual prayer - which is known as Salat - at least five times each day
This the expression of gratitude and love towards Allah By practicing Salat is
also the recognition of the greatness of Allah and the inferiority of man
Prayer offers guidance and peace of mind for the faithful

To prepare for Sadat, Muslims perform wudu or ritual washing of the face,
arms and feet. Formal prayer incorporates various postures such as
standing, kneeling, bowing and touching one's forehead to the ground. This
demonstrates the act of submission and surrender before Allah The five
prayer times are determined by the position of the sun in the sky, and not
the clock, both men and women Muslims prayer at dawn, midday, mid
afternoon, sunset and before going to bed. dawn; is known as fajr and is

called when there is merely the slightest glimmer of light on the eastern horizon and homes are still in total darkness.

The prayer must be performed before the sun appears over the horizon. It includes the words ' prayer is better than sleep' midday; is known as zuhr is just after the sun has reached its highest point or zenith mid afternoon; known as ' asr, is just after the sun has reached the midpoint between the zenith and the western horizon sunset; known as the Maghrib is performed when the sun has touched the western horizon Before bed; known as ' isha when the last glimmer of red has faded from the western sky Muslims usually say their prayers on small prayer mat, known as sajjada, lways facing towards the holy city of Mecca. The recitation that is essential for every unit of every prayer is the al-Fatiha - the first chapter of the Qur'an. How to pray to Allah: Make sure your body and place of prayer are clean. Perform ablutions if necessary. Make the intention to perform your obligatory prayer. Standing, raise hands up and say " Allahu Akbar" (God is Most Great). Standing with hands folded over chest, recite the first chapter of the Qur'an in Arabic. Then recite any other verses of the Qur'an that you would like. Raise hands up, saying " Allahu Akbar. Bow, reciting three times, " Subhana rabbiyal adheem" (Glory be to my Lord Almighty). Rise to standing while reciting " Sam'i Allahu liman hamidah, Rabbana wa lakal hamd" (God hears those who call upon Him; Our Lord, praise be to You). Raise hands up, saying " Allahu Akbar. " Prostrate on the ground, reciting three times " Subhana Rabbiyal A'ala" (Glory be to my Lord, the Most High). Rise to a sitting position, saying " Allahu Akbar. " Prostrate again in the same manner. Rise to

a standing position, saying " Allahu Akbar. " This concludes one rak'a (cycle or unit of prayer).

Begin again from Step 3 for the second rak'a. After two rak'as, one remains sitting after the prostrations and recites the first part of the Tashahhud in Arabic. If the prayer is to be longer than these two rak'as, one now stands up and begins again to complete the prayer, sitting again after all rak'as have been completed. Recite the second part of the Tashahhud in Arabic. Turn to the right and say " Assalamu alaikum wa rahmatullah" (Peace be upon you and God's blessings). Turn to the left and repeat the greeting. This concludes the formal prayer. The third pillar of faith: The Poor Tax. Description:

The Poor Tax is also known as Compulsory Charity or Zakat. It requires every financially stable Muslim to give to this charity. Zakat is viewed as " compulsory charity", for those who have received their wealth from God are obligated to give to the community in need. Islam requires man to consider his personal wealth as belonging to Allah and, therefore, to set apart a portion for Him. No maximum limit has been prescribed, but a minimum limit has definitely been fixed. According to statutory Zakat, each individual must abide by this and spend a fixed minimum percentage of his wealth every year in the way prescribed by Allah.

Zakat must be paid on different categories of property including gold, silver, money, livestock and agricultural produce. It also requires an annual contribution of 2.5% of an individual's wealth and assets. This money that is given as Zakat can only be used for certain specific things, like to support the poor and needy, free slaves and is a form of social security in a Muslim society. Importance: Islam encourages the sharing of their wealth with

others and helps people to stand on their own and become active members of society. In Arabic, Zakat literally means “ purification” this is considered to purify one’s heart of greed.

The Zakat is also a means of helping those poor Muslims. If all Muslims paid their taxes there would be no poverty in the world. It is a system made by Islamics to help poor people and to maintain balance between luxury and poverty. It’s main purpose is to discourage the accumulation of wealth within groups in society and to fix the uneven distribution of wealth in society. Zakat, first and foremost, makes it plain to people that their entire ‘ possessions’ are gifts of Allah The Zakat has great importance in the life of Muslims: It is a test of their faithfulness.

It tests how one will help a those in need with what they have been given by God’s wealth. It is obligatory for all muslims. Those who refuse to pay the Poor Tax have false claims about being Islamic It separates the believers from the non believers. Those who believe in God would not ignore their requirement to pay the Poor Tax A payment of the Zakat brings Muslims together. The money collected is spent for the welfare of needy persons It removes social evils. The poor tend to commit theft because of their lack of money and by giving them financial support the crime level is lowered.

It spreads wealth throughout the community. It gets a proportion of the money that many richer Muslim’s keep hoarded and it is then circulated throughout the market Importance: Zakat is the third ‘ pillar’ of Islam. Zakat means setting apart for Allah every year a certain portion of one’s savings and wealth (generally 2.5 percent) and spending it upon religious duties and on needy members of the community. The fulfillment of this duty is, in fact, a

kind of reminder that all one has is in trust for Allah. Man should, therefore, hold nothing back from Allah.

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Zakat is an annual tax, or duty, in essence and spirit: it is recognition on the part of man of the share which Allah, and other men, have in his wealth. - Zakaah purifies and cleanses wealth, and purifies the soul from stinginess and miserliness. It strengthens the love between the rich and poor, takes away hatred, makes security prevail and brings happiness to the ummah happy. The Fourth Pillar: FASTING IN ISLAM: Who must fast? Fasting ramadan is compulsory upon every Muslim, male or female, who has these qualifications: 1. To be mentally and physically fit, which means to be sane and able 2.

To be of full age, the age of puberty and discretion, which is normally about fourteen. Children under this age should be encouraged to start this good practice on easy levels, so when they reach the age of puberty they will be mentally and physically prepared to observe fasting. 3. To be present at one's permanent settlement, your hometown, one's farm, and one's business

premises, etc. This means not to be on a journey of about fifty miles or more.

4. To be fairly certain that fasting is unlikely to cause you any harm, physical or mental, other than the normal reactions to hunger, thirst etc.

Exemption from Fasting These said qualifications exclude the following categories: 1. Children under the age of puberty and discretion. 2. Insane people who are unaccountable for their deeds. People of these two categories are exempted from the duty of fast, and no compensation or any other substitute is enjoined on them. 3. Men and women who are too old and feeble to undertake the obligation of fast and bear its hardships. Such people are exempted from this duty, but they must offer, at least, one needy poor Muslim an average full meal or its value per person per day. . Sick people whose health is likely to be severely affected by the observance of fast. They may postpone the fast. as long as they are sick , to a later date and make up for it, a day for a day. 5. Travelers may break the fast temporarily during their travel only and make up for it in later days, a day for a day. 6. Pregnant women and women breast-feeding their children may also break the fast, if its observance is likely to endanger their own health or that of their infants. But they must make up for the fast at a delayed time, a day for a day. . Women in the -period of menstruation (of a maximum of ten days or of confinement (of a maximum of forty days). They must postpone the fast till recovery and then make up for it, a day for a day. General Recommendations ? It is strongly recommended by Prophet Muhammad to observe these practices especially during Ramadan: 1. To have a light meal before the break of the dawn, known as Suhoor. 2. To eat a few dates or start breaking the fast by plain water right after sunset, saying this prayer

Allah humma laka sumna, wa' ala rizqika aftarna. (O God! for your sake have we fasted and now we break the fast with the food you have given us). 3. To make your meals as light as possible because, as the Prophet put it, the worst thing man can fill his stomach. 4. To observe the supererogatory prayer known as Taraweeh. 5. To exchange social visits and intensify humanitarian services. 6. To increase the study and recitation of the Qur'an. 7. To exert the utmost in patience and humbleness. 8. To be extraordinarily cautious in using one's senses, one's mind and, especially, the tongue; to abstain from careless gossip and avoid all suspicious motions.

No food, drink, smoke or sexual pleasures are allowed during this month of Ramadan. 5th Pillar of Islam: The Hajj Where did the belief originate from In Muslim belief, Mecca has a unique status that goes back to the dawn of time. The Qur'an tells the story of the disobedience of Adam and Eve, and their expulsion from the Garden of Eden for eating the forbidden fruit, in much the same way as does the book of Genesis. There are a number of popular stories about where they fell. One is that Adam fell on Sri Lanka, on the top of what is now known as Adam's Peak, and that Eve fell in Arabia.

They spent many years looking for each other and at last met each other on the site of one of the great rituals of the Hajj, not far from Mecca: the plain of Arafat. Millions of pilgrims congregate here each year. The word Arafat in popular etymology means 'recognition', and the plain has this name as the place where Adam and Eve at last met, recognised each other and were reunited. Adam built the original Ka'ba, to be known as the House of God—the first place of worship on earth. It thus preceded any other sacred site on earth.

Description of pillar

Hajj (pilgrimage) is a great annual event for Muslims. Hajj is an important ritual worship that should be performed by any adult Muslim (man or woman) at least once in life if one can afford it physically, financially and safely. There are many reasons for why Hajj is important and for why Muslims perform hajj. First of these reasons is that Hajj is the fifth pillar of the Islam 5 pillars. You as adult Muslim (man or woman) is required to perform hajj at least once in your life if you can afford it financially, physically, and safely.

Hajj (pilgrimage) is a great annual event for Muslims. Hajj is an important ritual worship that should be performed by any adult Muslim (man or woman) at least once in life if one can afford it physically, financially and safely. Performance of the rites of the pilgrimage to Mecca, the Hajj to the seventh to the 10th day of dhu'l-hajja (12th month of the muslim calendar) Obligation for every Muslim to visit Mecca once in there life, who is of age, and of stable health, who has the financial means Significance of pillar

The pilgrimage to Mecca is an important aspect of the Islamic religion. Every Muslim person with the financial means to go to Mecca are expected to visit the sacred site. Mecca is the birthplace of Muhammad but this is not the central reason for its importance to Muslim people. The central reason for the significance of the 5th pillar of Islam is that Mecca is considered by the Muslims as the city of God. At the centre of Mecca is the Sacred Mosque, built around the Ka'ba. Mecca has its own unique status as it goes back to the dawn of time.

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same way as does the book of Genesis. Passage that relate to it The first House [of worship] established on earth is indeed that at Bakka [Mecca], [set there] as a blessing and guidance for all peoples. In it are signs that give testimony. [In it is] the place where Abraham stood. Whoever enters it is secure from harm. The Pilgrimage to the House is a duty humankind owes to God. (Sura 3: 96-97) Proclaim to humankind the Pilgrimage! They will come to you on foot, hey will come on every scrawny camel, they will come from every distant valley to behold the blessings prepared for them and recite the name of God on the appointed days, [as they sacrifice] the beasts and cattle He has provided for them. Then eat of these cattle, and feed the poor and destitute. (Sura 22: 27-28) The 'Five Pillars' of Islam are the foundation of Muslim life: Faith or belief in the Oneness of God and the finality of the prophethood of Muhammad; Establishment of the daily prayers; Concern for and almsgiving to the needy; Self-purification through fasting; and The pilgrimage to Makkah for those who are able.