



Year 6 RE **Islam**: How does a Muslim show commitment to God (Allah)?



Muslims show their commitment to Allah by following the five pillars of Islam:

Shahada is the **first pillar** of Islam. It is the Islamic declaration of faith which says:

"There no God except Allah and Muhammed is his messenger"

To become a Muslim you must recite the Shahada in Arabic.



Salah, or prayer, is the **second pillar** of Islam. Muslims pray five times a day, at set times. Muslims must perform **wudu**, or ceremonial washing before they pray.

Muslims always face Mecca when they pray (**qibla**) They use a **prayer mat** to make sure they pray in a clean place and **prayer beads** to help them remember the 99 names of Allah.

Muslim prayers always follow the same pattern and include saying the **Shahada**.



Zakat, or giving, is the **third pillar** of Islam. Muslims believe Zakat creates peace and harmony in the community.

Zakat is compulsory, Muslims have to give 2.5% of their money and wealth each year. It is an act of obedience of God.

Muslims believe that Zakat is a form of worship that purifies them and helps them not to be greedy or selfish. Muslims may also choose to give extra money to charities such as Islamic relief.



Sawm, or fasting, is the **fourth pillar** of Islam. Muslims fast during the month of **Ramadan**.

In Ramadan Muslims do not eat or drink during the hours of daylight. Muslim families eat a meal together before sunrise and a special meal, **iftar**, together after sunset.

Muslims believe fasting draws them closer to God and closer as a community.



Ramadan ends with the celebration of the festival of **Eid-al fitr**.



Hajj, or pilgrimage, is the **fifth pillar** of Islam.

Every Muslim has to make a pilgrimage to Mecca (the prophet Mohammed's birthplace) once in their lifetime. It is an act of of obedience to Allah.

On the Hajj muslims have to visit several places including the Ka-bah, a black cube in the centre of the Grand Mosque in Mecca that represents the oneness of God.

Key Vocabulary

Arabic	The language the Qu'ran is written in (and the Shahada)
compulsory	If something is compulsory it has to be done.
creed	A statement of belief or declaration of faith.
fasting	Going without food or water for a religious purpose.
qibla	The direction of Mecca.
pilgrimage	A pilgrimage is a journey with a special religious purpose.