

Islam – Holy places in Islam

Year 5



What should I already know?	The cave on Mount Hira is a special place for Muslims because Muslims believe it was here the angel Gabriel gave messages to Muhammad from Allah (God). What are the characteristic features of prayer in Islam? - What do Muslims go without during the month of Ramadan? Why do Muslims fast during Ramadan? - How Muslims celebrate the end of Ramadan at the festival of Id Ul-Fitr? The Qur'an - The revelation of the Qur'an to the Prophet Muhammad - The content of the Qur'an: it has many people and stories found in the Bible - The fact that Jesus (Isa) is a revered prophet in Islam.			
Images 	A mosque, also called masjid, is a place of worship for Muslims. 		Saudi Arabia is in the Middle East and is one of the Holliest places in the world. 	
Vocabulary 	Kaaba 	A cube shaped structure made of stone at the centre of Islam's most important mosque,	Quick Facts 	Did you know, for the great majority of Muslims, any representation (drawing) of Muhammad is regarded as sacrilegious? This means to show a lack of proper respect for a sacred person, place, or object. Muhammad – a Prophet of Allah - was born in 570CE into the Quraish tribe in the city of Makkah (Mecca). When Muhammad was 35, the Kaaba was being rebuilt after a flood. There was disagreement as to which tribe should have the honour of lifting the sacred black stone back into place. The black stone, encased in silver, is set into the south-eastern corner of the Kaaba. It is said that it was originally white, but turned black when humankind's sins multiplied. Muhammad solved the dispute by rolling the black stone onto his cloak and allowing all the tribal leaders to take hold of the cloak and to lift it together. Muhammad himself guided the black stone back into position. The Kaaba is constructed of granite blocks. It is covered in a black cloth called the Kiswa on which are embroidered verses from the Qur'an. The Kiswa is made of silk and the embroidery is made from gold thread. A mihrab is a niche in the wall of a mosque or religious school that shows the direction of Makkah (Mecca) which Muslims face when praying. It is the architectural and symbolic focal point of religious buildings. The City of Makkah is the holiest place in Islam, only Muslims are allowed in the city, with millions arriving for the annual Hajj (pilgrimage).
	Muhammad 	Muhammad was the founder of Islam. Muslims believe he was a messenger and a Prophet of Allah (God).		
	Makkah (Mecca) 	The holiest city and birth place of Muhamad. A niche in the wall of a mosque.		
	Mihrab, 			