



To the call of the adhān

# HAJJ

WORSHIP COUNCIL ASSEMBLY

JUNE 24<sup>TH</sup> 2025



# WELCOME TO THE WORSHIP COUNCIL ASSEMBLY

## WHO ARE THE WORSHIP COUNCIL?

The worship councillors are:

Aleena  
Manahil  
Iman  
Yahya  
Ashan



Today, we will focus on the Muslim pilgrimage to Mecca known as Hajj.

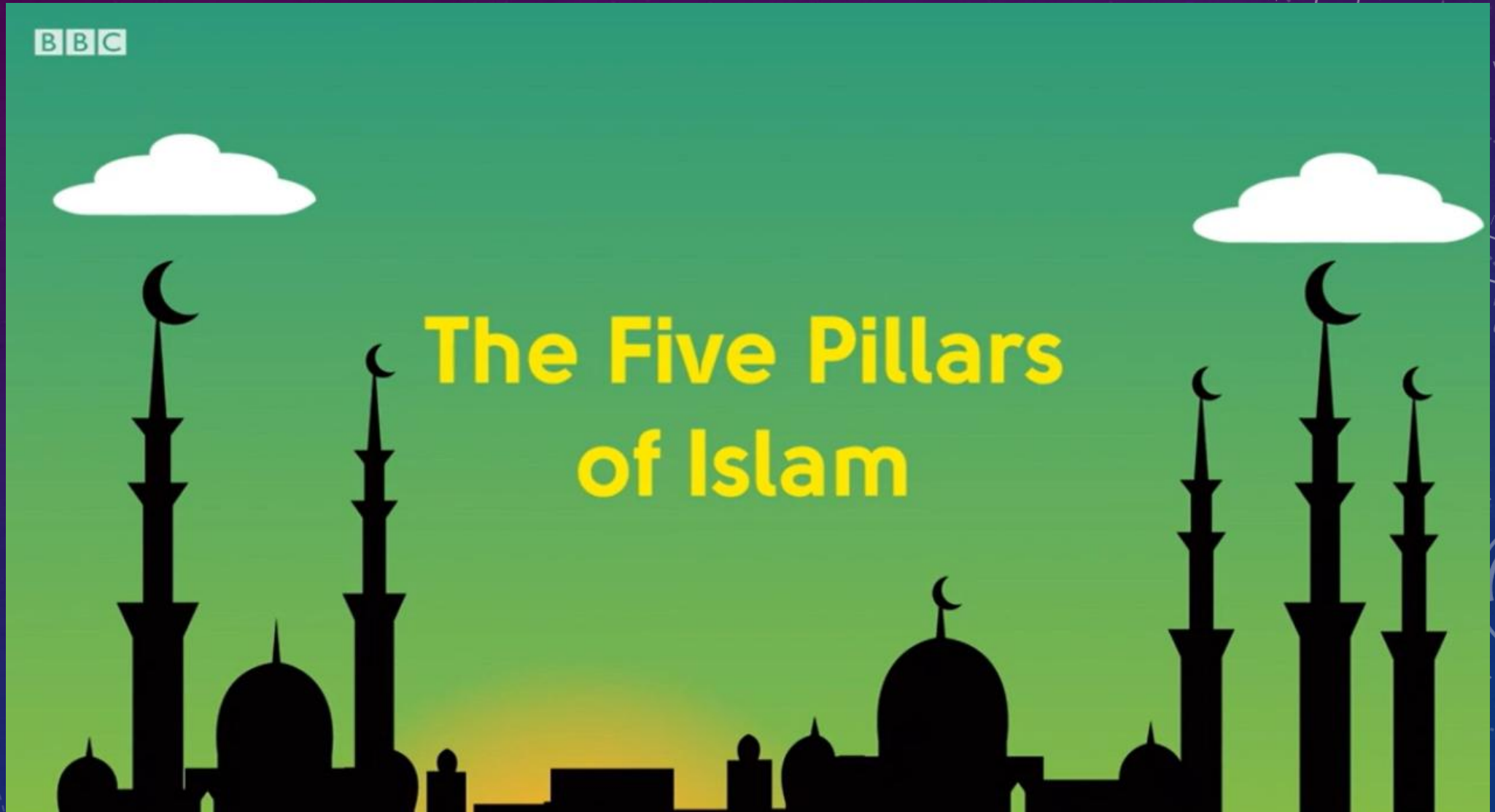
But first, we need to talk about the 5 Pillars of Islam



# WHAT ARE THE 5 PILLARS OF ISLAM?

BBC

## The Five Pillars of Islam





Hajj is the fifth pillar of Islam.

The Five Pillars are:

- Shahada (faith),
- Salat (prayer),
- Zakat (charity),
- Sawm (fasting during Ramadan), and
- Hajj (pilgrimage to Mecca).

Every Muslim who is physically and financially able must perform Hajj at least once in their lifetime.

# WHAT IS HAJJ?



Hajj is a pilgrimage (a special religious journey) to the holy city of Mecca in Saudi Arabia.

It is one of the most important religious duties for Muslims



## WHY IS HAJJ IMPORTANT?

Hajj is a demonstration of the solidarity of the Muslim people and their submission to Allah.

It is a spiritual journey that cleanses the soul and brings Muslims closer to Allah.



# WHY IS MECCA SO IMPORTANT?

Mecca is the place where the Islamic religion started. It is where the Prophet Muhammad was born and received the first revelations from Allah that went on to become the Qur'an - the holy book read by Muslims.

The city is home to the Ka'bah, built by prophet Ibrahim and his son prophet Ishmael. Muslims pray in the direction of this sacred building, which is found within the Great Mosque of Mecca.

The Ka'bah is the holiest site in Islam and symbolises the oneness of God.



# WHAT HAPPENS DURING HAJJ?

Muslims carry out several important rituals while they are on the pilgrimage.

During the first stage of Hajj, Muslims walk around the Ka'bah in an anti-clockwise direction seven times. This is known as Tawaf and is done to show that all Muslims are equal.

The next ritual requires Muslims to run between two hills, Safa and Marwah, seven times. Muslims believe that the prophet Ibrahim's wife Hagar did this when she was in search of water for her infant son Ishmael. Ishmael is believed to have struck his foot on the ground, and this produced a spring of water known as Zamzam. It is common for those on the pilgrimage to take water from Zamzam with them when they go back home.

Pilgrims travel to the plain of Arafat. This is where the Prophet Muhammad gave his final sermon, and Muslims pray to God here for forgiveness and guidance.

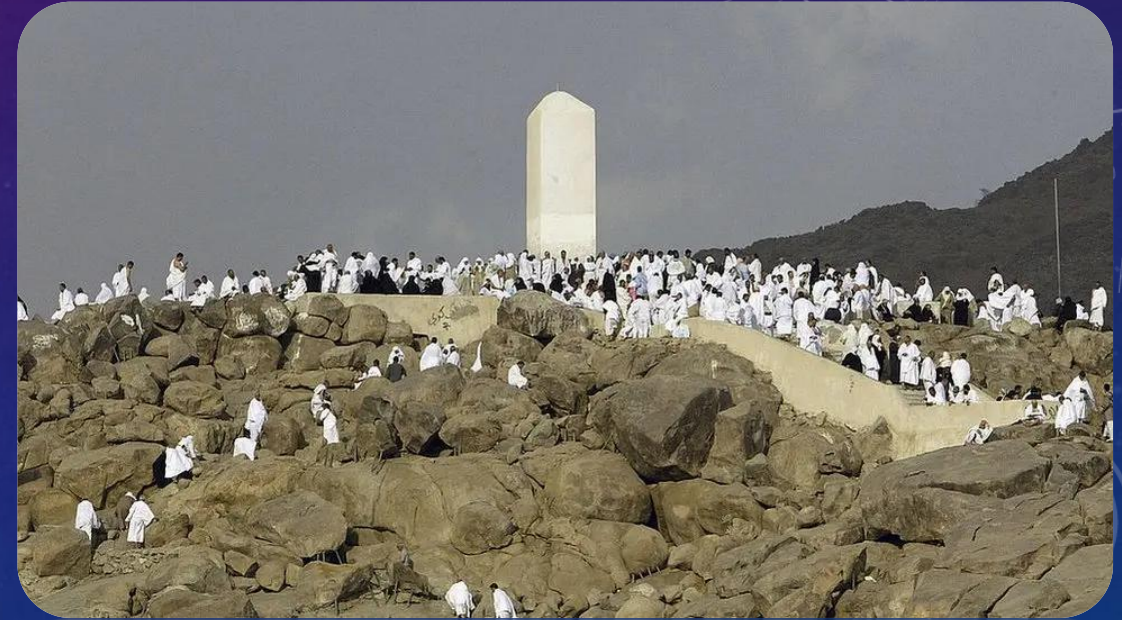


# WHAT HAPPENS DURING HAJJ?

Muslims also stop at three pillars called Jamarat in the city of Mina. This is where pilgrims throw stones at pillars which stand at the place where Satan is believed to have tempted the prophet, Ibrahim.

Muslims celebrate the festival Eid ul-Adha during Hajj. This is the second holy festival in the year.

Eid ul-Adha marks Allah asking the prophet Ibrahim, in a dream, to sacrifice his son Ishmael as an act of obedience to Allah. Ishmael agreed to it but Allah stopped him and gave him a lamb to sacrifice instead, rewarding them for their faith.



## WHAT DO PEOPLE WEAR WHEN PERFORMING HAJJ?

When performing Hajj, pilgrims wear special clothing called Ihram.

Men wear two simple white sheets. One is wrapped around the waist, covering the lower body, and the other is draped over the shoulder, covering the upper body. Men do not wear any stitched clothing, including underwear, socks, or shoes. They usually wear sandals or flip-flops.

Women wear simple, modest clothing that covers their entire body except for their face and hands. This can be a long dress or a loose-fitting outfit. Women cover their hair with a headscarf.



## WHAT DOES THE CLOTHING SYMBOLISE?

The white clothing symbolises purity and equality. Everyone, regardless of their status or wealth, looks the same.

The simple attire helps pilgrims focus on the spiritual aspects of Hajj rather than material concerns.

Wearing Ihram is an important part of the Hajj rituals, helping pilgrims enter a state of spiritual purity and humility.





Which of our school values do Muslims show during the pilgrimage to Mecca?



# Our School Values

Loving to learn, learning to love



**R**esponsibility  
**E**quality  
**S**pirituality  
**P**erseverance  
**E**nthusiasm  
**C**ommitment  
**T**rust

*'Let all that you do be with love.' 1 Corinthians 16:14*

Our School Values include perseverance and commitment (being committed to something even if it is difficult), enthusiasm (showing your excitement and willingness to participate), equality when they wear the Ihram as well as spirituality (celebrating the things that bring you joy and meaning in your life).

**Our School Values**  
*Loving to learn, learning to love*

St. Mark's CE Primary School

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**E**quality  
**S**pirituality  
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Travelling to Saudi Arabia and performing Hajj for Muslims is the ultimate declaration of commitment to their faith and is an example to us all.

This spiritual journey to the holy city of Mecca, shows us the power of belief, equality and unity that occurs when people have a common goal and celebrate what brings them joy and meaning in life.

# PLEASE GET INTO YOUR PRAYER POSITIONS

Dear God

Please help us to trust in your guidance.

Give us the strength to stay true to our beliefs and live our lives helping our neighbours and celebrating your name.

Amen