

The image shows the interior of a large, ornate dome, likely from a mosque. The dome's surface is covered in intricate geometric and floral patterns in shades of blue, gold, and red. A large, multi-tiered chandelier hangs from the center of the dome. The lower part of the image shows arched openings and more decorative elements.

Islam

Part One: Intro to Islam

1. Islam: Intro

A. Muslim: “one who submits”.

B. Islam: “Submission”

“In relation to Allah, religion is submission.”

Qur'an 3:19

1. Islam: Intro

C. Muhammad

- ✦ Lived 570 to 632 AD.



Muhammad
Born in Mecca 570 AD

1. Islam: Intro

C. Muhammad

- ✦ Lived 570 to 632 AD.
- ✦ Claimed to receive revelations from God beginning in 610 AD.

1. Islam: Intro

D. Qur'an: Reciting

- ✿ 114 chapters called “surahs”
- ✿ Arranged longest surah to shortest
- ✿ Considered to be the very words of Allah, dictated to Muhammad.
- ✿ Arabic language

1. Islam: Intro

E. Sunna: the way of the Prophet

- ✦ Muhammad's life is the perfect example for how to interpret the Qur'an and live the Muslim life.
- ✦ Stories were collected and written down 120-150 years later; individual stories are called "HADITH", or traditions.

1. Islam: Intro

E. Sunna: the way of the Prophet

- ✿ Indispensable guide for Muslim life.

“Sharia”: Islamic Law

- ▶ Codified during 9th & 10th centuries
- ▶ Qur'an + Hadith + Scholarly Consensus
- ▶ Four Sunni schools of Sharia; Two Shi'a
- ▶ Mostly deals with religious life, but includes family, business, social and criminal law as well.

1. Islam: Intro

F. Two eras in Muhammad's Life

Meccan era 610-622 AD

- ✿ Message of monotheism
- ✿ Continuity with “People of the Book”
- ✿ Muhammad sees himself as “just a warner” and a “herald of good news to people who believe.”

1. Islam: Intro

F. Two eras in Muhammad's Life

Meccan era 610-622 AD

- ✿ Small group of followers.
- ✿ A persecuted prophet.
- ✿ Believers forbidden to fight; *jihad* is a spiritual struggle

1. Islam: Intro

F. Two eras in Muhammad's Life

Medinan era 622-632 AD



Hijra 622 AD
Migration from Mecca to Medina

1. Islam: Intro

F. Two eras in Muhammad's Life

Medinan era 622-632 AD

- ✿ Large numbers accept Islam
- ✿ Initial treaties with the Jewish tribes
- ✿ Established laws for religious, family and social life

1. Islam: Intro

F. Two eras in Muhammad's Life

Medinan era 622-632 AD

- ✦ Permission to fight defensively; *jihad* is a physical struggle.
- ✦ Caravan raids
- ✦ 65 Campaigns and Raids; Muhammad led 27 raids, fought in 9 battles.

1. Islam: Intro

F. Two eras in Muhammad's Life

Medinan era 622-632 AD

- ✦ Harsher revelations regarding Jews and Christians; change in direction of prayer
- ✦ Fighting in the cause of Allah (jihad) is made an obligation; martyrdom themes
- ✦ Conquest of Mecca 630 AD

1. Islam: Intro

F. Two eras in Muhammad's Life

Medinan era 622-632 AD

✦ Authority of Muhammad

“And when Allah and Allah's Messenger have decided a matter, it is not for a believing man or woman to have any choice in their decree; for anyone who defies Allah and Allah's messenger is already in error.” Qur'an 33:36

1. Islam: Intro

G. The big split: Sunni and Shi'a

- ✿ 632 AD Muhammad died without a successor and no male children.
- ✿ Some favored selecting a new leader (Caliph) from Muhammad's blood line: Ali (his cousin and son-in-law). "Party of Ali."
- ✿ Some favored selecting the most capable leader who would follow the Prophet's sunna.

1. Islam: Intro

G. The big split: Sunni and Shi'a

- ✿ The “Sunni” won out and Abu Bakr was selected as the first Caliph.(632-634)
- ✿ Fourth Caliph was Ali.(656-661)
- ✿ Ali's son, Hussein (Muhammad's grandson) was killed by the Muslim Umayyad army at the battle of Karbala (Iraq) in 680.

1. Islam: Intro

G. The big split: Sunni and Shi'a

- ✦ Shi'a: Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, President Assad in Syria (15%)
- ✦ Sunni: 85%

1. Islam: Intro

H. Sufism

- ✿ Mystical Islam (8th-9th Century)
- ✿ Focus on direct encounter, and ultimately a mystical union, with God, rather than legalism
- ✿ Unique beliefs and practices
- ✿ Considered unorthodox by many Muslims
- ✿ Prevalent in India, Pakistan, Iran and Africa



Part Two: Practicing Islam

A. The Five Essential Beliefs

1. Allah

- ✦ God
- ✦ The Creator of the Heavens and the Earth
- ✦ Sovereign; Almighty, Eternal, Self-existent



A. The Five Essential Beliefs

I. Allah

- ✿ All-knowing, wise and just
- ✿ Benevolent, compassionate, merciful
- ✿ Forgiving

A. The Five Essential Beliefs

I. Allah

✧ Love?

- ✧ Allah loves the believers
- ✧ Allah loves those who submit and obey him
- ✧ No universal love

A. The Five Essential Beliefs

1. Allah

✦ Doctrine of *Tawheed*: oneness of Allah

“Say, ‘It is Allah, unique, Allah the eternal, not begetting or begotten, not having any equal.’” Qur’an 112

Tawheed

Those who say Allah is one third of three have certainly blasphemed for there is no deity but one Allah.”

Qur'an 5:73

Tawheed

“And yet they say, ‘The Benevolent One has begotten a son.’ You have certainly come up with a terrible thing! The skies are nearly rent asunder from it, the earth nearly splits, and the mountains nearly crumble, that they should assign a son to the Benevolent One.” Qur’an 2:88

A. The Five Essential Beliefs

2. Prophets

- ✿ Islam accepts the Old Testament prophets, as well as John the Baptist and Jesus.
- ✿ The Prophets were sinless.
- ✿ Muhammad is the final prophet.

The Prophet Jesus

- ✦ Born of the virgin Mary, but just human, not divine

“How can the creator of the heavens and the earth have a son without having a consort?”

Qur'an 6:101

The Prophet Jesus

- ✿ Born of the virgin Mary, but just human, not divine
- ✿ Did miracles (with Allah's permission)
- ✿ Preached the basic message of Islam.
- ✿ The injil (gospel) came through Jesus.
- ✿ Jesus prophesied the coming of Muhammad.

The Prophet Jesus

- ✿ Jesus did *not* die on the cross.
- ✿ Jesus will return, to first judge the Christians and break all crosses.

A. The Five Essential Beliefs

3. Judgment

- ✦ Each human being is born pure.
- ✦ Human beings have a strong tendency to stray from Allah.
- ✦ Human beings need guidance, not a savior, so God sends prophets & scriptures.

A. The Five Essential Beliefs

3. Judgment

- ✦ Allah will judge each person's thoughts and actions.

“Then, when the trumpet is sounded . . . those whose balances are heavy [with good deeds] will be the happy ones, while those whose balances are light are the ones who have lost their souls, to abide in hell.”

Qur'an 24:101-102

A. The Five Essential Beliefs

3. Judgment

- ✦ Allah offers the *possibility* of forgiveness.

“Allah does not forgive idolatry of anyone or anything, but forgives all else for whomever Allah wills.” Qur’an 4:116

A. The Five Essential Beliefs

3. Judgment

- ✦ Allah will assign each person either to paradise or hellfire.

Paradise



“They will recline on carpets lined with silk brocade, and the fruit of two gardens will be near at hand . . . In them will be women who restrain their glances whom no previous man ...has deflowered.” Qur'an 55:54-56

Hellfire



“Those who repudiate Our signs We will burn in a fire; when the skins are roasted, We will change their skins, so they can taste the torment.” Qur'an 4:57

A. The Five Essential Beliefs

3. Judgment

- ✦ There is no assurance of salvation in Islam (with the exception of true martyrdom).

A. The Five Essential Beliefs

4. Scriptures

- ✦ Allah gave the *Torah* to the Jews and the *Gospel* to the Christians, so they are called “People of the Book” (or People of Scripture)
- ✦ According to Islam, the Jews and Christians changed and distorted their Scriptures.
- ✦ The Qur’an is the final, correct Scripture, kept completely pure.

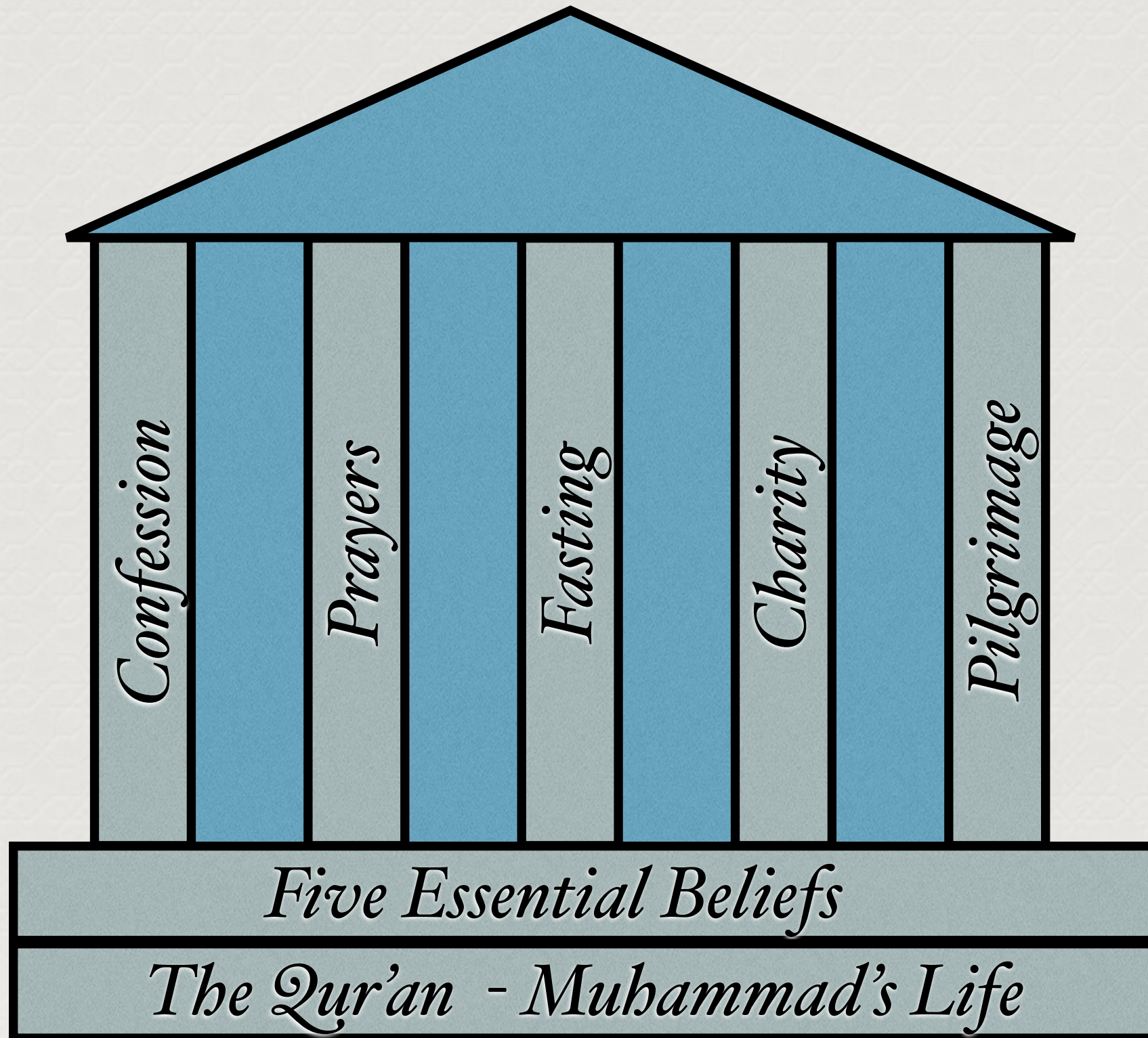
A. The Five Essential Beliefs

5. Spirit Beings

- ✧ Angels
- ✧ Jinn
- ✧ Satan



The House of Islam



B. The Five “Pillars” of Islam

I. Shabadah: Confession of faith

“There is no Allah but Allah,
and Muhammad is the prophet of Allah.”

“La illa ha il Allah wa
Muhammadan rasul Allah.”

B. The Five “Pillars” of Islam

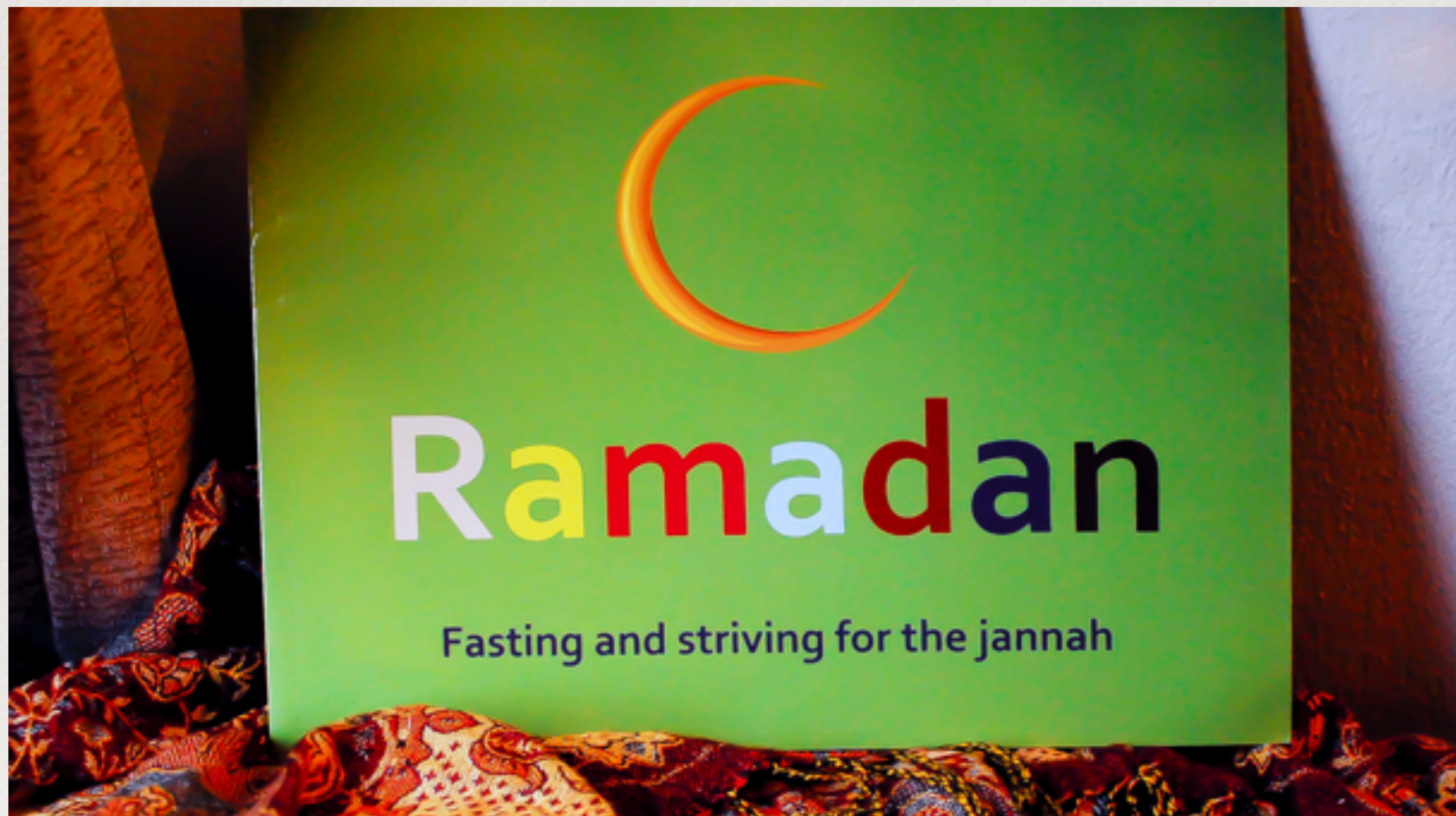
2. *Salat*: Ritual Prayers 5 times daily



Dawn, Noon, Afternoon, Sunset, Night

B. The Five “Pillars” of Islam

3. *Ramadan*: Fasting



B. The Five “Pillars” of Islam

4. *Zakat*: Charity



B. The Five “Pillars” of Islam

5. *Hajj*: Pilgrimage to Mecca



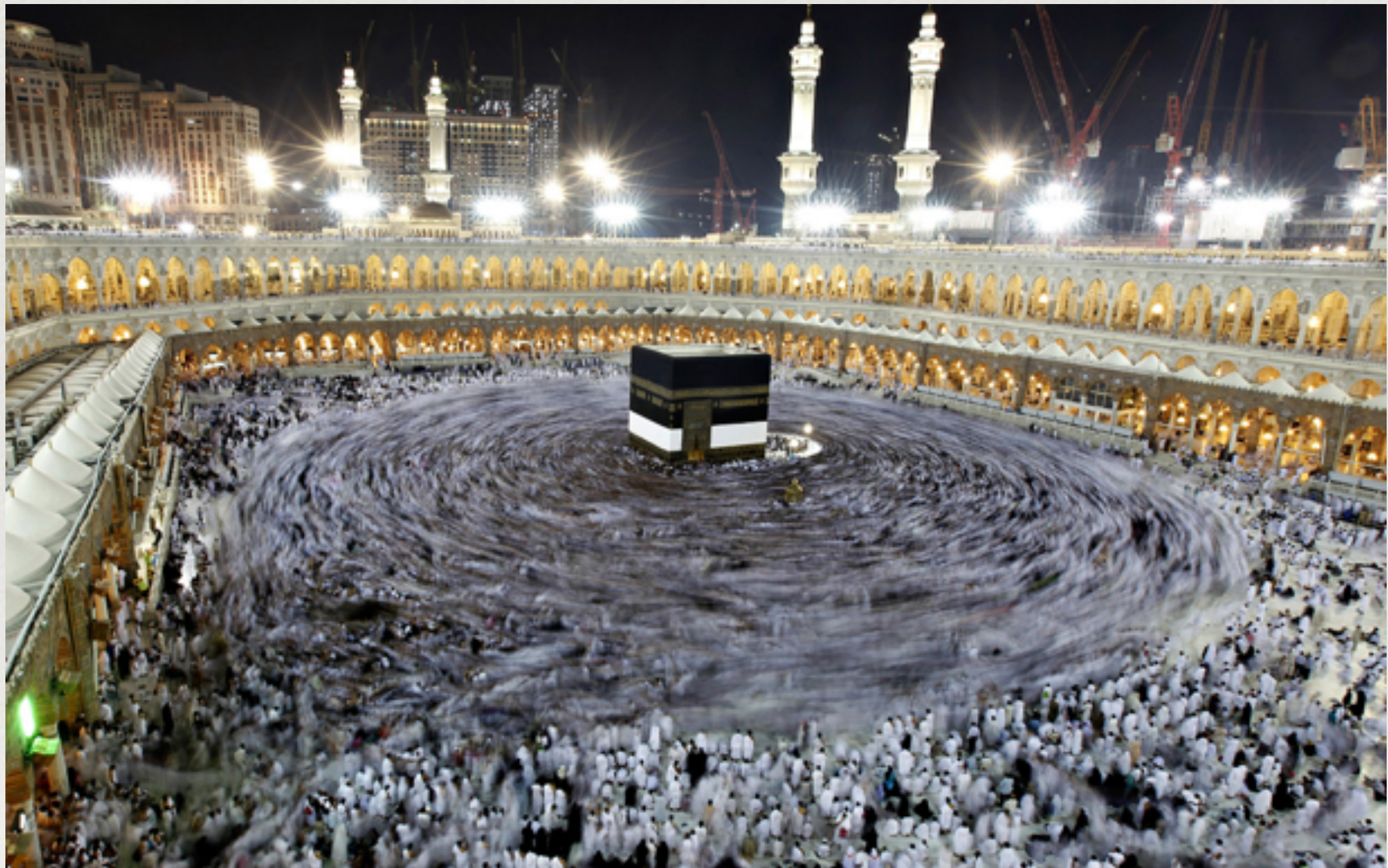
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B. The Five “Pillars” of Islam

5. *Hajj*: Pilgrimage to Mecca

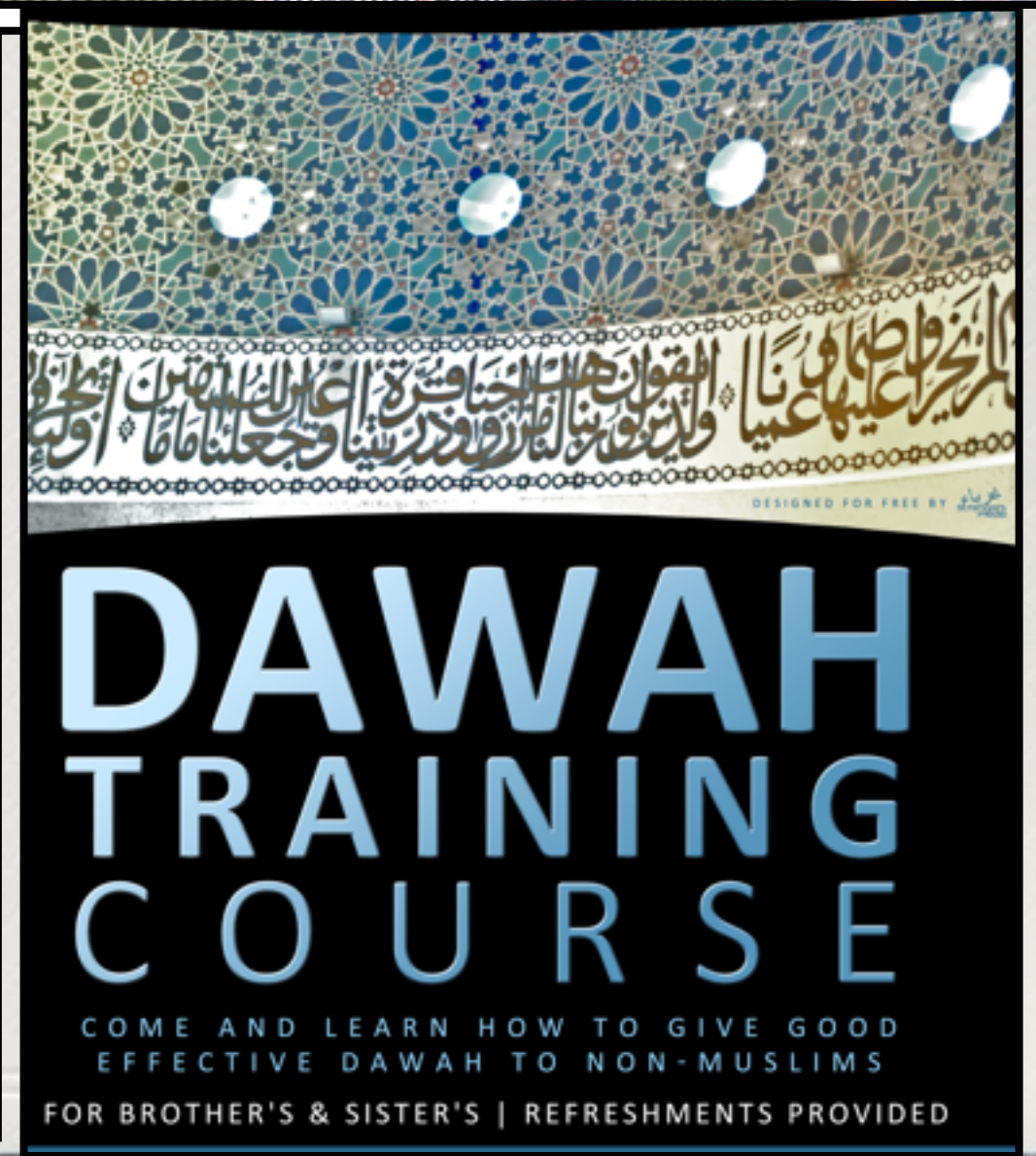


C. Da'wah: the Call to Islam

“It is He [Allah] who hath sent his apostle with guidance and the religion of truth, to proclaim it over all religion, even though the pagans may detest it.

Qur'an 9:33

“Invite to the way of your Lord with wisdom and good advice, and debate with others in the most dignified manner. For your Lord knows best who is astray from the way of Allah, and knows best who are the ones who are guided.” Qur’an 16:125



Next Week

Islamic Extremism