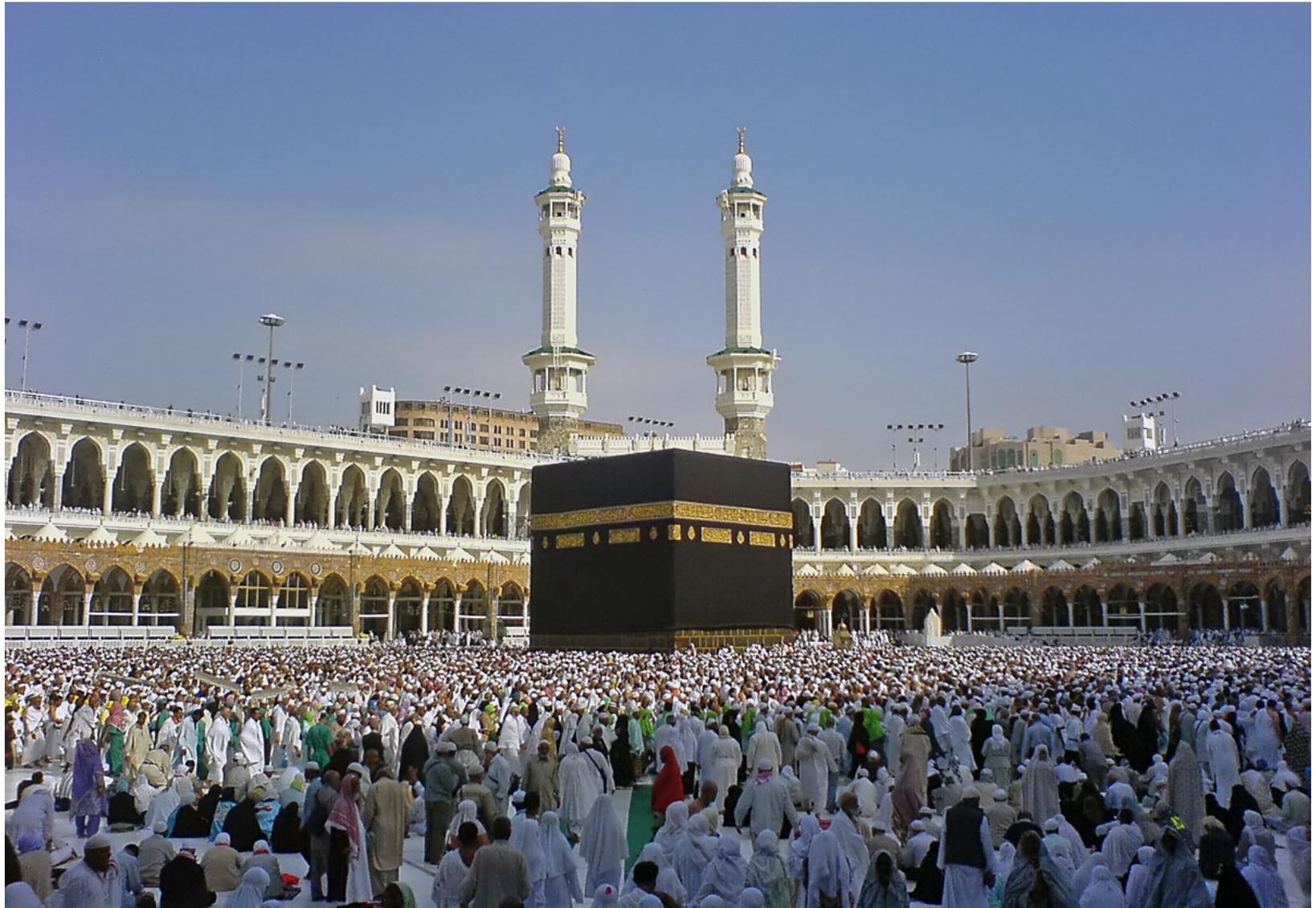


# Islam



# Islam



*Crescent and Star*

**Beliefs:** There is no official creed to which one must adhere to be considered a Muslim. All that is required is to believe and recite the *Shahada*: "There is no God but God, and Muhammad is his Prophet."

People who follow the Islamic religion are known as Muslims.

## **The five pillars or central teachings of Islam:**

A statement of faith

Prayer (five times a day in the direction of Mecca)

Charity

Pilgrimage to Mecca at least once in your lifetime  
(called the Hajj)

Fasting (during the month of Ramadan)

The holy text of Islam is the ***Qur'an (Koran)***, which contains God's revelations to Muhammad. It is written in ***Arabic***.

***Monotheistic:*** The single most important belief in Islam, and arguably the central theme of Islam, is that there is only one God, Allah.

Islam was ***founded in Saudi Arabia around 610 CE*** by the Prophet Muhammed. Muhammad is revered as "the Seal of the Prophets" - the last and greatest of the messengers of God.



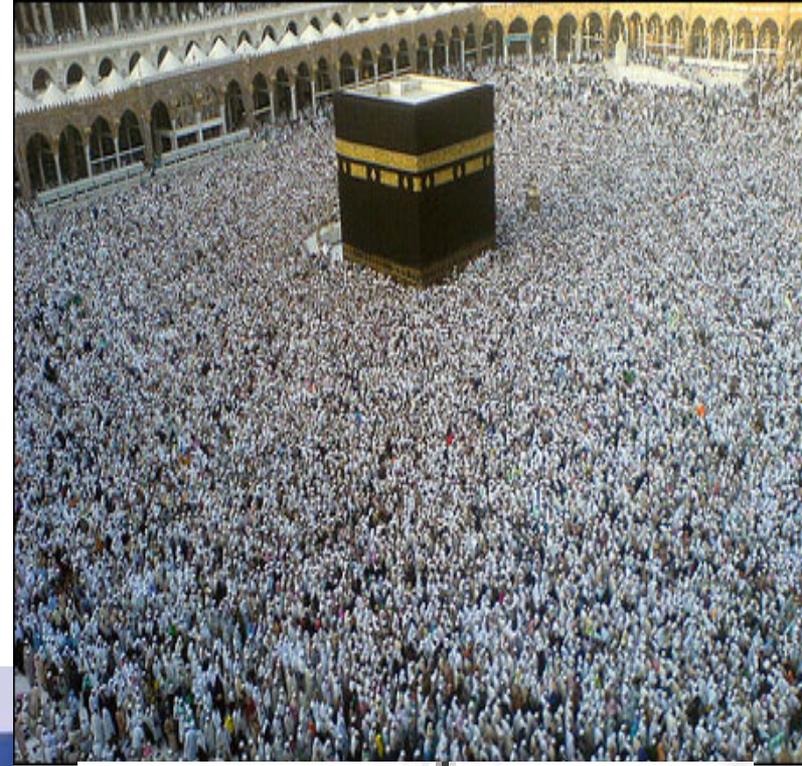
## Shahada

In some Muslim countries the legal system is not separated from religion. These countries have Sharia Law, or law based on the Koran.

The word islam means "submission"--specifically, submission to the will of the one God, called Allah in Arabic. Arabic is the dominant language of the Islamic religion.

Followers of Islam are called to be Kahlifa (stewards of protectors of the Earth) and to follow sustainable practices (Sustainable Development).

Observant Muslims pray five times a day. There is community worship on Fridays at the **mosque**, led by an **iman**. Every believer must make a pilgrimage or **hajj** to **Mecca**, the holiest city, at least once in a lifetime.



الله أكبر

أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ مُحَمَّدٌ عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ  
أَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ

Shahada



الله

# Culture of Islam



Abaya and Niqab



Burka



Thobe and Ghutra

Muslims eat only halal (permitted) foods. Alcohol and pork are haraam (forbidden).



Muslims celebrate Muhammad's birthday-Eid Al-Fitr. It is celebrated at the end of Ramadan (a month of fasting). His ascension into heaven is celebrated as Eid Al-Adha.

# Dome of the Rock



Blue Mosque



Faisal Mosque  
Pakistan

# The Spread of Islam

