

**ARISTOTLE UNIVERSITY OF THESSALONIKI**  
**FACULTY OF THEOLOGY**  
**Undergraduate Program of Islamic Studies**

Teaching material for the course  
**English for Islamic Studies I**

**Dr Smaragda Christidou - Kioseoglou**

**Academic Year 2021-22**

<b>Contents</b>		<b>Pages</b>
<b>Unit 1</b>	<b>Religions</b>	<b>2-8</b>
<b>Unit 2</b>	<b>Islam</b>	<b>8-13</b>
<b>Unit 3</b>	<b>Arabia at the time of Muhammad</b>	<b>13-18</b>
<b>Unit 4</b>	<b>The Life of Muhammad (Meccan period)</b>	<b>19-23</b>
<b>Unit 5</b>	<b>The Hegira</b>	<b>23-27</b>
<b>Unit 6</b>	<b>The Byzantine Empire at the time of Muhammad</b>	<b>27-31</b>
<b>Unit 7</b>	<b>The Hajj</b>	<b>31-37</b>
<b>Unit 8</b>	<b>The First Four Crusades</b>	<b>38-41</b>

## Unit 1

### Religions

Scholars offer us a variety of definitions of religion. One widely accepted definition describes religion as ‘a system of beliefs, values, and practices concerning what a person holds to be sacred or spiritually significant’. Religions grow in historical and social settings and can exercise a strong influence upon society. Throughout human history religion has played an important role, both on a personal and a societal level.

1 Human experience is characterized by a search for answers to the big questions of life, which are known as the *key religious questions*. The most significant of these questions relate to the *origin* (where did we come from?), *purpose* (why are we here?) and *destiny* (what happens to us when we die?) of humankind. Religions attempt to set down guidelines, which answer these key religious questions. Countless wars and conflicts have had an overt or covert religious dimension throughout history to the present day.

2 Scholars from different disciplines have strived to classify religions. One widely accepted categorization is according to whom or what their followers worship. In this regard religions might fall into one of these basic types: *polytheism*, *monotheism*, *atheism* and *animism*.

3 Geographers distinguish two types of religions: 1. *Universalizing religions*. These attempt to be global by appealing to all people regardless of location or culture, have an individual founder, their message is widely diffused through missionaries, and their followers are widely distributed (e.g. Christianity, Islam, Buddhism) 2. *Ethnic religions*. These appeal primarily to one group of people living in one place, their source is unknown, and their content is focused on place and landscape of origin (e.g. Hinduism. Confucianism). It should be noted that the majority (58%) of world’s population practices a universalizing religion, while 26 % an ethnic one.

Today there are over 4,200 religions in the world. The six major religions are Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Judaism, Christianity and Islam. These may be grouped into two categories: Abrahamic religions which regard the prophet Abraham as their  
4 common forefather, such as Christianity, Judaism, and Islam; and Indian religions that originated in the Indian subcontinent, which include Hinduism, Buddhism and others.

The oldest religion in the world is considered to be Hinduism, which dates back to about 7,000 BCE. Judaism is the next oldest, dating from about 2,000 BCE. Buddhism and Confucianism were founded circa 500-700 BCE. Then, in the 1st century CE came  
5 Christianity, followed about 600 years later by Islam.

Of the world's major universalizing religions, Christianity is the largest, with 2.3 billion believers or 31.2% of the total world population of 7.3 billion, followed by Islam with an estimated 1.8 billion or 24.1% followers worldwide. Hinduism, with an estimated 1.1 billion or 15.1% followers is the world's third largest religion and next comes  
6 Buddhism, with approximately 500 million or 6.9% followers worldwide and more than 250 million in China alone. Furthermore, it should be noted that 1.2 billion people in the world, or 16%, have no religious affiliation at all. This does not mean that all those people are committed atheists, but they don't identify with or practice an organized religion.

Geography is important in religion. Asia-Pacific is the most populous region in the  
7 world, and also the most religious. It is home to 99% of Hindus, 99% of Buddhists, and 90% of those practicing folk or traditional religions. The region also hosts 76% of the world's religiously unaffiliated people.

Every religion has some practices to which its believers adhere – for instance regular worship, preaching, and prayers. Most religions have structures that serve as places of worship. These include Hindu and Buddhist temples, Jewish synagogues, Christian  
8 churches and Islamic mosques. Many religions have formal leaders whose roles and functions vary in different religious traditions, but usually involve presiding over specific rituals and teaching their religion's doctrines and practices. Examples are

rabbis in Judaism, priests or ministers in Christianity, imams in Islam and monks or sangha in Buddhism. Many of the world's religions have Scriptures, also called *Sacred Scriptures*. These vary greatly in form, volume, age, and degree of sacredness, but their common attribute is that their words are regarded by the believers as sacred. The Hebrew Bible (Tanak) is the sacred scripture of the Jews, the Bible (Old Testament and New Testament) of the Christians and the Quran of the Muslims.

9 Religions may be subdivided into branches, denominations, and sects. For instance, the major branches of Christianity include: the Roman Catholic Church (51% of the world's Christians), the Protestant Church (24%) and the Orthodox or Eastern Orthodox Church (11%). The two major branches of Islam are Sunni (83% of all Muslims) and Shia (16%). Some of the many denominations that fall under the category of Protestant Christianity include: Anglican, Evangelist, Baptist, Lutheran and Presbyterian. Jehovah's Witnesses are a Christian sect and the Amish are members of a Protestant sect.

**Abbreviations for dating notation**

**Christian calendar**  
**BC** (before Christ)                      and                      **AD**, *anno domini*, (in the year of the Lord)

**BCE** (before the common era)   and                      **CE** (of the common era).  
 These express the same periods as B.C. and A.D., but without religious connotation.

**A. Find words in the text that are explained or can be replaced by the following:**

- |   |       |  |       |
|---|-------|--|-------|
| 1. <b>#materially</b> (1 <sup>st</sup> )  | ..... | 22. <b>ancestor</b> (4 <sup>th</sup> )     | ..... |
| 2. <b>to have</b>                         | ..... | 23. <b>arose</b>                           | ..... |
| 3. <b>innumerable</b>                     | ..... | 24. <b>to comprise</b>                     | ..... |
| 4. <b>looking for</b>                     | ..... | 25. <b>to establish</b> (5 <sup>th</sup> ) | ..... |
| 5. <b>concern</b>                         | ..... | 26. <b>has existed since</b>               | ..... |
| 6. <b>important</b>                       | ..... | 27. <b>about; around</b>                   | ..... |
| 7. <b>try</b>                             | ..... | 28. <b>approximate</b> (6 <sup>th</sup> )  | ..... |
| 8. <b>to formulate</b>                    | ..... | 29. <b>dedicated</b> (adj)                 | ..... |
| 9. <b>clear; apparent</b>                 | ..... | 30. <b>are associated</b>                  | ..... |
| 10. <b>secret</b> (adj)                   | ..... | 31. <b>densely</b> (7 <sup>th</sup> )      | ..... |
| 11. <b>to try hard</b> (2 <sup>nd</sup> ) | ..... | <b>populated</b>                           | ..... |

12. <b>field</b>	.....	32. <b>to get involved</b>	.....
13. <b>classification</b>	.....	<b>with</b> (8 <sup>th</sup> )	.....
14. <b>based on</b>	.....	33. <b>to entail</b>	.....
15. <b>in that case</b>	.....	34. <b>for example</b>	.....
16. <b>attracting</b> (3 <sup>rd</sup> )	.....	35. <b>feature;</b>	.....
17. <b>in spite of</b>	.....	<b>characteristic</b>	.....
18. <b>to spread</b>	.....	36. <b>dogma</b>	.....
19. <b>to concentrate</b>	.....		
20. <b>for example</b>	.....		
21. <b># minority</b> (9 <sup>th</sup> )	.....		

**B. Show your understanding of the text by answering the following questions:**

1. Where do religions grow?  
.....
2. What kind of role has religion played historically?  
.....
3. What do the the most important 'key religious questions' relate to?  
.....
4. According to what do scholars categorize religions?  
.....
5. What types of religions do geographers distinguish?  
.....
6. Who do universalizing religions appeal to?  
.....
7. What is the focus of the content of ethnic religions?  
.....
8. What kind of religion does the majority of world's population practice?  
.....
9. How are the major religions categorized?  
.....
10. Is Islam an Abrahamic religion?  
.....
11. When does the oldest religion in the world date back?  
.....
12. When did the newest of the Abrahamic religions emerge?  
.....
13. What is the largest religion and how many followers does it have?  
.....
14. How many people in the world are unaffiliated?  
.....
15. What is the most religious region in the world?

.....  
16. Do all religions have regular worship?  
.....

17. How are the places of worship of Hindus called?  
.....

18. How do believers regard the sacred scriptures?  
.....

19. What is the Protestant Church?  
.....

20. What are the major branches of Islam?  
.....

**C. Match the terms to their definitions**

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| 1. Monotheism   | a. A large and fundamental division within a religion.   |
| 2. Polytheism   | b. The belief that there is only one God.  |
| 3. Atheism      | c. A division of a branch that unites a number of local congregations in a single legal and administrative body. |
| 4. Animism      | d. A relatively small group that has broken away from an established denomination.                               |
| 5. Branch       | e. A belief or set of beliefs held and taught by a religion.   |
| 6. Denomination | f. The belief in or worship of more than one god.  |
| 7. Sect         | g. Disbelief or lack of belief in the existence of God or gods.  |
| 8. Scripture    | h. The belief that things in nature, such as animals, trees, and mountains, have spirits                         |
| 9. Missionary   | i. A ceremony in which the actions and wording follow a prescribed form and order.                               |
| 10. Scholar     | j. A person sent to do religious or charitable work in a foreign country.  |
| 11. Ritual      | k. The sacred writings or books of a religion.   |
| 12. Doctrine    | l. A specialist in a given branch of knowledge.  |

**D. Give the names of the following religious leaders:**

1. A Jewish religious leader. ....
2. A member of the clergy, especially in Protestant churches. ....
3. A clergyman in some Christian Churches such as Catholic, Orthodox, or Anglican Church. ....

4. A Muslim priest or leader. ....
5. A man who is a member of the Buddhist religious community. ....

**E. How are the following places of worship called?**

1. A building or place of meeting for worship and religious instruction in the Jewish faith. ....
2. A building used as a place of Muslim worship. ....
3. A building dedicated to religious ceremonies or worship in Buddhism or Hinduism. ....
4. A building designed for public forms of worship, esp Christian worship. ....

**F. Fill the following table with:**

Religious Classification	Who/What is Divine	Example
Polytheism		
Monotheism		
Atheism		
Animism		

**G. Fill the following table concerning the Abrahamic Religions**

	Judaism	Christianity	Islam
Founder			
Place of Origin			
Beginning Date			
Sacred Scripture			
Place of Worship			
Holy city			
Number of followers			

H. Many religions in the world use unique symbols representing their faith, beliefs and values. What religions do the following symbols belong?

						1. ....
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	2. ....
Cross	Star of David	Yin & Yang	Crescent & star	Wheel	Aum	3. ....
						4. ....
						5. ....
						6. ....

## Unit 2

### Islam

Islam is one of the three major monotheistic religions, along with Judaism and Christianity. These three religions are also called “*Abrahamic religions*” because they regard the prophet Abraham (in Arabic: *Ibrahim*) as their common  
 1 forefather. In the Arabic language the term “*islam*” means “submission” or “surrender” (to God, in Arabic, Allah). The believer in Islam is called a “*Muslim*” (from Arabic, *muslim*, one who surrenders). Islam's central teaching is that there is only one all-powerful, all-knowing God, and this God created the universe.

Islam was founded by the Prophet Muhammad in the Arabian peninsula in the  
 2 7th century CE. Muhammad is considered the last of a series of prophets (including Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses, Solomon, and Jesus), and his message completes the “revelations” attributed to earlier prophets.

Islam was taught by Muhammad to a small group of followers but within two  
 3 centuries after its rise, it spread from its place of origin in Arabia into Syria, Egypt, North Africa, and Spain to the west, and into Persia, India, and, by the end of the

10th century, beyond to the east. In the following centuries, Islam also spread into Anatolia and the Balkans to the north, and sub-Saharan Africa to the south.

4 The Muslim community comprises about 1.8 billion followers on all five continents, and Islam is the fastest-growing religion in the world. The most populous Muslim country is Indonesia, followed by Pakistan and Bangladesh. Beyond the Middle East, large numbers of Muslims live in India, Nigeria, the former republics of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR), and China.

5 The sacred scripture of Islam is the *Qur'ān*, also spelled *Quran* and *Koran*, which is written in an early form of Classical Arabic. For all Muslims, the Quran is the very word of Allah revealed through the archangel Gabriel to his messenger the Prophet Muhammad.

6 The mosque (in Arabic *masjid*, which means a "place of prostration" before God) is the Muslim place for the public expression of religiousness and communal identity. The mosque's main purpose is to serve as a place for formal worship in daily and Friday prayers.

7 Mecca is the holiest of Muslim cities. Muhammad was born in Mecca in 570 CE, and it is here within the Great Mosque that the *Ka'bah*, also spelled *Kaaba*, the most sacred shrine of Islam, is located. Muslims turn toward this shrine during the five daily prayers. Furthermore, all Muslims who are physically and financially able are required to make a pilgrimage to Mecca (*hajj*) at least once in their lifetime.

8 Although the followers of Islam belong to a single community of believers, they are separated into *Sunni* and *Shia*. This division has its origins in the struggles over the proper line of succession to Muhammad and dates back to his death in 632 CE. Sunni Muslims constitute 85 percent of the world's Muslims; Shia about 15 percent.

**A. Find words in the text that can be replaced by the following:**

- |                                   |       |                                    |       |
|-----------------------------------|-------|------------------------------------|-------|
| 1. gives in (1 <sup>st</sup> p)   | ..... | 17. written (5 <sup>th</sup> )     | ..... |
| 2. ancestor                       | ..... | 18. made known                     | ..... |
| 3. together with                  | ..... | 19. devotion (6 <sup>th</sup> )    | ..... |
| 4. greatest; main                 | ..... | 20. shared by the                  | ..... |
| 5. brought into                   | ..... | people of a community;             | ..... |
| existence                         | ..... | collective                         | ..... |
| 6. believer                       | ..... | 21. one time (7 <sup>th</sup> )    | ..... |
| 7. established (2 <sup>nd</sup> ) | ..... | 22. done every day                 | ..... |
| 8. regarded as                    | ..... | 23. situated                       | ..... |
| 9. ascribed to                    | ..... | 24. in respect to the              | ..... |
| 10. Common Era                    | ..... | body                               | ..... |
| 11. reached more                  | ..... | 25. with respect to                | ..... |
| and more                          | ..... | money                              | ..... |
| people (3 <sup>rd</sup> )         | ..... | 26. began after (8 <sup>th</sup> ) | ..... |
| 12. the place where               | ..... | 27. right; correct                 | ..... |
| something is                      | ..... | 28. only one                       | ..... |
| created                           | ..... | 29. make up                        | ..... |
| 13. apart from (4 <sup>th</sup> ) | ..... |                                    |       |
| 14. consists of; is               | ..... |                                    |       |
| made up of                        | ..... |                                    |       |
| 15. primary having a              | ..... |                                    |       |
| large population                  | ..... |                                    |       |
| 16. one-time;                     | ..... |                                    |       |
| previous                          | ..... |                                    |       |

**N.B.**

**1. The two branches of Islam**

**Sunni (Islam) and Shia (Islam)**

**2. The believers**

**A Sunni and a Shia or Shiite**

plural: **Sunnis and Shiites or Shias**

**3. Adjectives**

**A Sunni Muslim A Shia mosque**

**B. Show your understanding by answering the following questions:**

1. Who and when founded Islam?

.....

2. What does the term “*Abrahamic religions*” refer to?

.....

3. What does the term “*Islam*” mean in Arabic?

.....  
4. Where and when was Muhammad born?

.....  
5. In what direction do Muslims pray?

.....  
6. Who revealed the word of God to Muhammad?

.....  
7. What is the holiest place in Islam?

.....  
8. What is the main purpose of a mosque ?

.....  
9. How many times in their lifetime are Muslims required to make a pilgrimage to Mecca?  
.....

**C. Complete the following sentences:**

1. Islam is the religion of the .....

2. Judaism is the religion of the .....

3. Christianity is the religion of the .....

**D. Give the names of the religions that are defined below:**

1. Religion based on the Old Testament and the person and teachings of Jesus of Nazareth. ....

2. Religion based on the Old Testament and the Talmud. ....

3. Religion regarded as revealed through Muhammad as the Prophet of Allah. ....

**E. Match the following terms to their definitions:**

- |   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| 1. The Semitic language of the Arabs.                                     | a. Mosque           |
| 2. Islamic name of God in the Arabic language.                            | b. Muslim           |
| 3. The Divine Book revealed to the Prophet Muhammad.                      | c. Prophet          |
| 4. A follower of Islam.   | d. Pilgrimage       |
| 5. A person who has had messages from God.                                | e. Arabic           |
| 6. Belief in a single God.  | f. Quran            |
| 7. Small shrine located within the Great Mosque in Mecca.                 | g. Sacred scripture |
| 8. A Muslim place of worship, usually having one or more minarets.        | h. Monotheism       |
| 9. A journey to a sacred place or shrine as an act of religious devotion. | i. Kaaba            |
| 10. Any writing that is regarded as sacred by a religious group.          | j. Allah            |
| 11. The Muslim pilgrimage to Mecca.                                       | k. Hajj             |

**F. Complete the following sentences or fill in the missing words:**

1. The religion of Islam first developed in .....
2. The founder of Islam came from the city of .....
3. The holy book for Islam is the .....
4. A believer of Islam is named a .....
5. The Quran is written in .....
6. Like Jews and Christians, Muslims believe in .....
7. Muslims believe that God ..... the universe.
8. The quarrel over who should ..... Muhammad, split the Muslim world

into two branches, ..... and.....

9. ....are the Muslim houses of worship.

10. The Kaaba is situated within the ..... in .....

### **Grammar Reminder**

We can use different verbs in order to talk about the parts of something or how it is formed

The whole <b>consists of</b> its parts <b>is made up of</b> <b>is composed of</b>	The parts <b>make up</b> the whole <b>compose</b> <b>constitute</b> <b>comprise</b>
The whole <b>comprises</b> parts <b>contains</b> <b>includes</b>	The parts <b>are comprised in</b> the whole <b>contained</b> <b>included</b>

## **Unit 3**

### **Arabia at the time of Muhammad**

1 Situated in the southwestern corner of Asia, near the intersection of three continents- Africa, Asia and Europe, the Arabian peninsula was mostly covered by deserts and steppes. Cities and villages were developed in fertile oases or on caravan routes. Among the most important cities, in the region of Hejaz or Hijaz, were Mecca, a center of trade, and the oasis city of Yathrib (later Medina), an important agricultural settlement.

2 The population of Arabia were either nomads (Bedouins), or sedentary farmers. The former traveled from one place to another seeking water and pasture for their herds of sheep, goats and camels. The latter practiced date and cereal agriculture in the oases, which also served as trade centers for the caravans transporting the spices, ivory, and gold of southern Arabia to the civilizations farther north.

The central structure of Arabian society was the tribe that was organized in terms of kinship. A grouping of several related families comprised a clan and several clans constituted a tribe. Tribes were led by a sheikh (shaykh) who was selected by the heads of the related clans or families. The Arabs placed great importance on tribal ties, loyalty and solidarity, as the source of power for a clan or tribe.

The most dominant form of religion was polytheism. It was based on the belief in deities and other supernatural beings such as djinn. Gods and goddesses served as protectors of individual tribes and were worshipped at local shrines. Mecca possessed a central shrine, the Kaaba, a cube shaped building that housed up to 360 idols of tribal deities, and was the site of a great annual pilgrimage and fair.

Next to polytheism, forms of monotheism also existed in Arabia. Particular contact with monotheism resulted from the caravan trade that brought Zoroastrian, Jewish, and Christian merchants to Mecca, as well as from the travels of Meccan traders far throughout the Middle East. In addition to biblical monotheists there were native Arabs, called hanifs, who accepted monotheism but did not join the Jewish or Christian communities.

The pre-Islamic Arabs were mostly illiterate. The art of reading and writing was limited only to a few individuals in certain commercial centers. Storytelling and poetry were the principal forms of their cultural expression and therefore they were deeply valued. They were both transmitted and preserved orally and poets were highly respected.

**A. Find words in the text that can be explained or replaced by the following:**

- |  |       |   |       |
|--|-------|---|-------|
| 1. <b>crossroads</b> (1 <sup>st</sup> p) | ..... | 19. <b>once a year</b> (4 <sup>th</sup> ) | ..... |
| 2. <b>producing vegetation</b>           | ..... | 20. <b>gods or goddesses</b>              | ..... |
| 3. <b>farming</b>                        | ..... | 21. <b>contained</b>                      | ..... |
| 4. <b>located</b>                        | ..... | 22. <b>controlling; ruling</b>            | ..... |
| 5. <b>a small community of people</b>    | ..... | 23. <b>beside</b> (5 <sup>th</sup> )      | ..... |
| 6. <b>looking for</b> (2 <sup>nd</sup> ) | ..... | 24. <b>along with</b>                     | ..... |
| 7. <b>carrying</b>                       | ..... | 25. <b>was the result of</b>              | ..... |
| 8. <b>first-mentioned</b>                | ..... | 26. <b>become members</b>                 | ..... |
| 9. <b>second-mentioned</b>               | ..... | 27. <b>respected</b> (6 <sup>th</sup> )   | ..... |
| 10. <b>land covered with grass</b>       | ..... | 28. <b>unable to read and write</b>       | ..... |

- |  |       |                             |       |
|--|-------|-----------------------------|-------|
| 11. <b>functioned as</b>                   | ..... | 29. <b>by word of mouth</b> | ..... |
| 12. <b>living in one area</b>              | ..... | 30. <b>before (in time)</b> | ..... |
| 13. <b>with regard to (3<sup>rd</sup>)</b> | ..... |                             |       |
| 14. <b>made up</b>                         | ..... |                             |       |
| 15. <b>bonds; connections</b>              | ..... |                             |       |
| 16. <b>blood relationship</b>              | ..... |                             |       |
| 17. <b>chosen</b>                          | ..... |                             |       |
| 18. <b>valued</b>                          | ..... |                             |       |

**B. Show your understanding of the text by answering the following questions:**

1. What is the most characteristic feature of the Arabian Peninsula?  
.....
2. What was life in Arabia influenced by?  
.....
3. What are the two main ways of life that developed in Arabia?  
.....
4. How was pre-Islamic society in Arabia organized?  
.....
5. What kind of relations connected the members of a tribe?  
.....
6. Where were the most important cities located?  
.....
7. What does “the former” refer to in paragraph 2?  
.....
8. What does “the latter” refer to in paragraph 2?  
.....
9. What was the religion of Bedouins?  
.....
10. What was kept in the Kaaba?  
.....
11. What two monotheistic religions were practiced at that time?  
.....
12. How did the Arabs get in contact with monotheistic religions?  
.....
13. What was the status of poetry in Pre-Islamic Arabia?  
.....

**C. Provide a heading for each paragraph:**

- 1.....
- 2.....
- 3.....
- 4.....

5.....

6.....

**D. Match the following terms to their definitions:**

- |   |               |
|---|---------------|
| 1. Arabic-speaking nomadic peoples of the Middle Eastern deserts.   |               |
| 2. A social unit consisting of clans, linked by blood ties.   | a. Polytheism |
| 3. A division of a tribe tracing descent from a common ancestor.  | b. Nomad      |
| 4. A member of a people who move from place to place to find pasture and food.                              | c. Clan       |
| 5. The belief in more than one god or in many gods.   | d. Steppe     |
| 6. The leader of an Arab tribe.   | e. Tribe      |
| 7. An extensive area covered with grass usually without trees.  | f. Bedouin    |
| 8. Pre-Islamic pious people who accepted monotheism but did not join the Jewish or Christian communities.   | g. Caravan    |
| 9. A fertile or green spot in the midst of a desert.  | h. Hanifs     |
| 10. A group of travelers journeying together across a desert, such as traders or pilgrims and their camels. | i. Sheikh     |
| 11. A piece of land almost surrounded by water.   | j. Peninsula  |
|   | k. Oasis      |

**E. State whether the following sentences are True or False:**

1. Arabian society on the eve of Islam was largely but not exclusively nomadic. ....
2. Arabs could be divided into two general classes: the Bedouins, who lived in the desert, and the dwellers in houses in the cities. ....
3. The leaders of the tribes were selected by the members of the clans. ....
4. The religion in pre-Islamic Arabia was a mix of polytheism, Christianity. ....
5. Idols of gods and goddesses were found in the Kaaba. ....
6. Individual tribes had their own gods and goddesses. ....

7. The majority of Pre-Islamic Arabs could write and read. ....
8. The poets were not held at high esteem by the Arabs. ....
9. The hanifs belonged to Jewish or Christian communities. ....
10. Pre-Islamic Arabs used to recite poems. ....

**F. Use the word in capital at the end of each sentence to form a word that fits into the sentence.**

1. The geography of Arabia encouraged trade and influenced the ..... of nomadic and sedentary lifestyles.
2. Arabian towns were important stations on the trade routes ..... India with Northeast Africa and the Mediterranean.
3. Trade ..... Arabs into contact with people and ideas from around the world.
4. Arabian polytheism was based on ..... of deities and spirits.
5. Mecca was a center of ..... to more than 360 deities.

<b>TO DEVELOP</b>
<b>TO LINK</b>
<b>TO BRING</b>
<b>TO VENERATE</b>
<b>TO WORSHIP</b>

**G. Fill in the missing words**

The Arabs were nomads who because of the hostile environment **m**..... 1 constantly to **f**..... 2 food and water for their animals. They were **o**..... 3 into tribes to **h** ..... 4 one another. Each tribe was **r** ..... 5 by a sheikh who was **c** ..... 6 from one of the leading families. Tribes **c**..... 7 of clans that had various families.

Religion in pre-Islamic Arabia **i**..... 8 polytheism, Christianity, Judaism, and Iranian religions.

The cities of Mecca and Medina were **l**..... 9 in the Hejaz region, in the **p**..... 10 of Arabia.

H. The following is a map of Pre-Islamic Arabia. Answer the questions that follow



1. What bodies of water surround Arabia?
2. What were the physical features of Arabia?
3. What was the geography of Arabia?
4. Why is the Arabian peninsula called a “crossroad” location?
5. Where is the region of Hejaz situated?
6. Where were nomads and townspeople likely to interact?
7. Where were the Sassanid and Byzantine Empires situated?

## Unit 4

### The Life of Muhammad (Meccan Period)

1 Muhammad was born in the Arabian city of Mecca circa 570 CE. He belonged to the powerful tribe of Quraysh that also guarded Mecca's most sacred shrine, the Kaaba, and the clan of Hashim. His father passed away before his birth, leaving him in the care of his paternal grandfather. At the age of six Muhammad also lost his mother and at eight he lost his grandfather. Thereupon he was brought up by the new head of the clan of Hashim, his uncle Abu Ṭalib.

2 As a young man, Muhammad began to work in Mecca's caravan trade. Then at the age of 25, he was employed by a wealthy widow, Khadijah, to oversee the transportation of her merchandise to Syria. Muhammad so impressed her that she offered him marriage (595 CE). She bore him two sons, who died young, and four daughters. The most famous of his surviving daughters was Fatimah, whom he gave in marriage to his cousin Ali, future fourth caliph of Sunni Islam and the first legitimate Imam of Shia Islam.

3 By age 35, Muhammad had become a successful member of the Meccan society and enjoyed great respect for his judgment and trustworthiness. He often would leave the city and retire to the desert for prayer and meditation. It was during one of these periods of retreat, in 610 CE, when he was meditating in the cave of Hira in the Mount of Nur near Mecca, that archangel Gabriel (Jibril) appeared to him and taught him the opening verses of surah 96 of the Quran. The process of the revelations of the Quran began and lasted over a period of twenty-two years (610-632). According to tradition, Muhammad was illiterate; his followers wrote down his words.

4 Muhammad was initially frightened because he thought he was possessed by spirits or jinn but he was reassured by his wife Khadija. He continued to receive revelations but for three years limited himself to speaking about them in private.

The first to accept Muhammad's call to become Muslims were Khadijah, his cousin Ali, his servant Zayd ibn Harithah, who was like a son to the Prophet, and Abu Bakr, a respected member of the Meccan community who was a close friend of the Prophet.

5 When God finally commanded Muhammad to take up public preaching, he initially met no opposition. However, after his preaching began to deny the existence of gods other than Allah and thereby to attack the religious beliefs and practices of the Quraysh tribe, opposition arose from the leading Meccans. These 6 feared that the new religion would destroy the favored position of the Kaaba as the center of the religious cults of various Arab tribes and hence expose to danger the commerce that accompanied the pilgrimage to Mecca.

6 Meanwhile life for Muhammad and the early Muslims was becoming ever more difficult and dangerous as the result of extreme pressure exerted upon them by the Quraysh rulers of the city. About 619, with the deaths of Khadija and Abu Talib, Muhammad lost the protection of his clan.

7 During this extremely difficult time Muhammad had the supreme spiritual experience of his life, the nocturnal ascent into heaven (Miraj). During this experience he was first miraculously transported to Jerusalem and from there ascended to heaven where first he met Abraham, Moses, Jesus, and other earlier prophets and eventually God who commanded the five daily prayers (salat) of Islam.

**A. Find words in the text that can be replaced or explained by the following:**

- |                                |       |                                   |       |
|--------------------------------|-------|-----------------------------------|-------|
| 1. raised (1 <sup>st</sup> p)  | ..... | 17. at first (4 <sup>th</sup> )   | ..... |
| 2. died                        | ..... | 18. full of fear                  | ..... |
| 3. holy                        | ..... | 19. encouraged                    | ..... |
| 4. immediately after that      | ..... | 20. ordered (5 <sup>th</sup> )    | ..... |
| 5. about; around               | ..... | 21. went with                     | ..... |
| 6. related through the father  | ..... | 22. resistance                    | ..... |
| 7. rich (2 <sup>nd</sup> )     | ..... | 23. to put at risk                | ..... |
| 8. was given work              | ..... | 24. therefore                     | ..... |
| 9. rightful                    | ..... | 25. to refuse to accept           | ..... |
| 10. gave birth to              | ..... | 26. were afraid                   | ..... |
| 11. to be in charge of         | ..... | 27. put (6 <sup>th</sup> )        | ..... |
| 12. chapter (3 <sup>rd</sup> ) | ..... | 28. leaders                       | ..... |
| 13. to go off                  | ..... | 29. greatest                      | ..... |
| 14. recorded                   | ..... | 30. in the end (7 <sup>th</sup> ) | ..... |
| 15. continued; went on         | ..... | 31. to go up                      | ..... |
| 16. unable to read or write    | ..... | 32. occurring at night            | ..... |
|                                |       | 33. carried                       | ..... |

**B. Find in the text antonyms for the following:**

- |                      |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. # maternal .....  | 3. # past .....     |
| 2. # in public ..... | 4. # material ..... |

**C. Show your understanding of the text by answering the following Questions:**

1. When and where was Muhammad born?  
.....
2. Who raised Muhammad after his mother death? Who raised him after that?  
.....
3. Who was the Quraysh?  
.....
4. When and where did the first revelation of the Koran begin?  
.....
5. How old was Muhammad at the time of his first marriage?  
.....
6. Who were the first to embrace Islam?  
.....
7. Through whom did God reveal the Quran to Muhammad?  
.....
8. How long did the revelations last?  
.....
9. How long did Abu Talib protect Muhammad?

.....  
10. When did Muhammad start to preach Islam openly?  
.....

.....  
11. Why did the Quraysh rulers oppose Muhammad?  
.....

**D. Match the following terms to their definitions.**

- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| 1. Miraj             | a. A chapter of the Quran.  |
| 2. Jinn              | b. A system of religious veneration and devotion directed toward a particular figure or object.   |
| 3. Archangel Gabriel | c. The one-night ascent of the prophet Muhammad through the seven heavens to the presence of God. |
| 4. Surah             | d. Each of the short numbered divisions of a chapter in the Quran.                                |
| 5. Salat             | e. God's messenger, made of fire, sent to Muhammad with divine revelations.                       |
| 6. Cult              | f. A main division of a book, typically with a number or title.                                   |
| 7. Meditation        | g. Creature made out of fire parallel to human beings, but less virtuous and physical than them.  |
| 8. Chapter           | h. The process of thinking deeply for a period of time for religious or spiritual purposes.       |
| 9. Verse             | i. The ritual prayer of Muslims, performed five times daily in a set form.                        |

**E. Fill in the missing words**

Muhammad was **b**..... 1 in Mecca about 570. His father died before his **b**....., and he was first **b**..... 2 by his mother and then his paternal **g**..... 3, and, after their deaths, his **u**..... 4 Abu Talib. When he was 25, he **m** .....5 Khadijah who ran a caravan **b** ..... 6

When Muhammad was about 40, while he was **m**.....7 in a cave, Gabriel appeared to him and **c**..... 8 him to recite verses that would later be

i.....9 in the Quran. According to Muslim t.....,10  
Muhammad’s wife Khadija was the first to b..... 11 he was a prophet.

One night Muhammad traveled with archangel Gabriel from Mecca to J.....  
12, and thence to h..... 13. It was at this time that Allah  
o.....14 Muslims to pray the five daily prayers. This journey is  
k..... 15 as Miraj.

## Unit 5

### The Hegira

The first ten years of Muhammad's preaching were difficult. At the beginning he  
faced resistance and rejection from the Meccans, although he did manage to  
gather a few followers. As time went the opposition increased rapidly from verbal  
attacks to active persecution. As conditions deteriorated in Mecca, Muhammad  
1 sent some of his followers to Christian Abyssinia, for safety. Then to escape  
persecution, Muhammad and his few followers migrated to Yathrib (then renamed  
Medina) arriving on September 24, 622 CE. This migration is known as the **Hijra**  
(Arabic:migration), English **Hejira** or **Hegira**.

The men who accompanied Muhammad on the Hegira were known as the  
*Muhajirun* “emigrants”. They are praised in the Quran for their early conversion  
to Islam and for the hardships they suffered in Mecca. The Muslims of Medina who  
2 aided Muhammad were called the *Ansar* “helpers” and came to be his devoted  
supporters, constituting three-fourths of the Muslim army at the Battle of Badr  
(624 CE).

Shortly after his arrival at Medina, Muhammad had a house built that  
3 simultaneously served as a prayer place for his followers. This house is considered  
the first mosque. Eighteen months after the migration, a revelation to Muhammad

commanded the Muslims to pray in the direction of the Kaaba (qiblah), rather than to continue facing toward Jerusalem as was Jewish practice.

4 Furthermore, Muhammad drew up agreements, known as the Constitution of Medina, that established the rights and duties of all citizens and the relationship of the Muslim community (*Muhajirun and Ansar*) to other communities (mainly Jews, Christians and pagans). The Constitution of Medina establishes the umma as a community united across tribal boundaries and separate from pagan society.

5 Although successful at Medina, the Muslims felt threatened by the Qurayish at Mecca who actively opposed the public practice of Islam. For this reason the Muslims of Medina began raiding Meccan caravans. This provoked the Meccan tribes into sending an army to face Muhammad's Muslims. When, during one of these raids, they were surprised by a Meccan force at Badr in 624, Muhammad's army won a decisive victory, and many prominent Meccans were killed. The victory at Badr was the turning point in the history of Islam as a political and military as well as an expanding religious movement. It is one of the few battles specifically mentioned by name in the Quran (Surah 3:123).

6 Hegira was so important in Islamic history that the first day of the lunar month in which it occurred marks the beginning of the Islamic calendar. It was introduced seventeen years after the event (639 CE) by Umar I, the second caliph.

**Islamic calendar**

**AH** (*Anno Hegirae*, 'in the year of the Hijrah') The first day of the first year of the Muslim calendar corresponds to July 16, 622, on the Julian calendar.

**A. Show your understanding of the text by answering the following questions:**

1. What did Muhammad and his followers suffer in Mecca?  
.....
2. Why did Muhammad send some of his followers to Abyssinia?  
.....
3. When did the Hegira take place?

- .....
4. Who were called the *muhajirun*?  
.....
5. Who were known as the ansar?  
.....
6. Did the ansar participate in the Battle of Badr?  
.....
7. What did the Constitution of Medina regulate?  
.....
8. Who won at the battle of Badr?  
.....
9. Is the battle of Badr the only battle recorded in the Quran?  
.....
10. Who and when introduced the Islamic calendar?  
.....

**B. Match the words given in Column A with their meanings or synonyms in Column B:**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <b>deteriorated</b> (1 <sup>st</sup> p)    | a. <b>to move from one region to another</b> |
| 2. <b>verbal</b> (1 <sup>st</sup> p)          | b. <b>making up</b>                          |
| 3. <b>increased</b> (1 <sup>st</sup> p)       | c. <b>obligations</b>                        |
| 4. <b>to gather</b> (1 <sup>st</sup> p)       | d. <b>is named; called</b>                   |
| 5. <b>to migrate</b> (1 <sup>st</sup> p)      | e. <b>attacking</b>                          |
| 6. <b>is known as</b> (1 <sup>st</sup> p)     | f. <b>becoming greater in size</b>           |
| 7. <b>accompanied</b> (2 <sup>nd</sup> p)     | g. <b>of the moon</b>                        |
| 8. <b>constituting</b> (2 <sup>nd</sup> p)    | h. <b>helped</b>                             |
| 9. <b>aided</b> (2 <sup>nd</sup> p)           | i. <b>to get together</b>                    |
| 10. <b>simultaneously</b> (3 <sup>rd</sup> p) | j. <b>crucial</b>                            |
| 11. <b>commanded</b> (3 <sup>rd</sup> p)      | k. <b>spoken; oral</b>                       |
| 12. <b>duties</b> (4 <sup>th</sup> p)         | l. <b>became worse</b>                       |
| 13. <b>raiding</b> (5 <sup>th</sup> p)        | m. <b>went with</b>                          |
| 14. <b>decisive</b> (5 <sup>th</sup> p)       | n. <b>ordered</b>                            |
| 15. <b>expanding</b> (5 <sup>th</sup> p)      | o. <b>became greater</b>                     |
| 16. <b>lunar</b> (6 <sup>th</sup> p)          | p. <b>at the same time</b>                   |

### Grammar reminder

#### The causative use of have

We use the causative in English to say that “**we have arranged for someone to do something for us**”. The causative is formed with 'have + object + past participle'

e.g. **He had a mosque built.** (He didn't build it himself)

.....

The verb **to do** is used to **give emphasis** to a verb.

e.g. I **do want** to help you    He **did arrive** late

### C. Match the terms to their definitions:

- |   |           |
|---|-----------|
| 1. Muhammad's emigration from Mecca to Medina in AD 622.                                    | a. mosque |
| 2. The whole community of Muslims bound together by ties of religion.                       | b. tribe  |
| 3. The direction of the Kaaba, to which Muslims turn at prayer.                             | c. caliph |
| 4. The title of the successors of Mohammed as rulers of the Islamic world.                  | d. umma   |
| 5. A group of people related by blood and who have the same language, customs, and beliefs. | e. pagan  |
| 6. A person who follows a polytheistic religion.  | f. qiblah |
| 7. A Muslim place of worship that usually has a minaret.                                    | g. Kaaba  |
| 8. Small shrine located within the Great Mosque in Mecca.                                   | h. Hegira |

### D. Fill in the missing words:

.....1 622 CE, Muhammad made the Hegira or **m**..... 2 to Medina.

There he found **f**..... 3 ready to listen to his religious **m**..... 4

and to regard him as the **p** ..... 5 of their community.

Muhammad's original house in Medina is **c**..... 6 to be the first mosque.  
The year of the Hegira was named the first year of the Islamic **c**.....7  
and marked the **b**..... 8 of the new Islamic era.  
The battle of Badr (624 CE) was an early **v**..... 9 for Muhammad over the  
Quraysh **t**..... 10 of Mecca.

## Unit 6

### The Byzantine Empire at the time of Muhammad

At the time Islam emerged, Heraclius was the Emperor of the Byzantine Empire.  
1 Heraclius' reign (AD 610 to 641) was marked by several military campaigns. One  
of the most important legacies he handed down was changing the official  
language from Latin to Greek in 620, further Hellenizing the Empire.

When Heraclius first came to the throne in 610, the Byzantine Empire was  
threatened on multiple fronts. The Slavs were expanding into the northern  
2 Balkans. They controlled the Danube regions, Thrace, Macedonia, and were  
soon invading Central Greece and the Peloponnesus. Meanwhile, the Sassanid  
king of Persia, Khosrow II began a war of conquest against the Byzantine  
Empire's eastern territories and after a series of successful attacks he detached  
Damascus (Syria) in 613.

Subsequently, with the help of the Jews, the Persians invaded Jerusalem, in 614. The conquest of Jerusalem was accompanied by three days of pillage and destruction. Thousands of its Christian inhabitants were tortured and many churches and monasteries were destroyed. The Church of the Holy Sepulcher was set on fire and the True Cross was carried to Ctesiphon, capital of the Sassanian Empire.

Soon after, Heraclius initiated reforms to rebuild and strengthen the military. In AD 622 he began his campaign to drive the Persians out of Asia Minor and left Constantinople, entrusting the city to Patriarch Sergius and general Bonus as regents of his son Constantine.

In AD 626, when Heraclius was away fighting the Persians, Avars and Slavs supported by a Persian army besieged Constantinople. The siege ended in failure. During the attack Patriarch Sergius maintained the morale of the defenders by proceeding about the walls of the city bearing the icon of the Theotokos to whom the victory was attributed.

Heraclius drove the Persians out of Asia Minor defeating them decisively in AD 627, at the *Battle of Nineveh*, which marked the end of the Byzantine-Persian wars. Khosrow II, the Sasanian king, was overthrown by his son, Sheroe or Kavad II, with whom Heraclius made peace, demanding among others the return of the True Cross and other relics that were lost during the siege of Jerusalem in 614. In 630 Heraclius personally restored the True Cross to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem in a formal celebration.

The only battle between the Muslims and the Byzantine army that occurred during the lifetime of Muhammad was that of *Muta*, in September 629 C.E. The battle had as its primary objective revenge for the murder of a Muslim envoy sent to the Byzantine Empire. The battle ended in the defeat of the Muslims.

Heraclius is the most frequently mentioned Byzantine emperor in the Islamic sources. According to Islamic tradition, Heraclius received a letter from Muhammad inviting him to embrace Islam.

**A. Find words in the text that can be explained or replaced by the following:**

- |  |       |  |       |
|--|-------|--|-------|
| 1. <b>arose</b> (1 <sup>st</sup> p)          | ..... | 16. <b>carrying, holding</b> (5 <sup>th</sup> )    | ..... |
| 2. <b>rule</b>                               | ..... | 17. <b>confidence, enthusiasm &amp; discipline</b> | ..... |
| 3. <b>making Greek in form or character</b>  | ..... | 18. <b>Mother of God</b>                           | ..... |
| 4. <b>formal</b>                             | ..... | 19. <b>removed from power</b> (6 <sup>th</sup> )   | ..... |
| 5. <b>was characterized</b>                  | ..... | 20. <b>beating</b>                                 | ..... |
| 6. <b>borders</b> (2 <sup>nd</sup> )         | ..... | 21. <b>aim</b> (7 <sup>th</sup> )                  | ..... |
| 7. <b>numerous</b>                           | ..... | 22. <b>took place</b>                              | ..... |
| 8. <b>robbery</b> (3 <sup>rd</sup> )         | ..... | 23. <b>messenger</b>                               | ..... |
| 9. <b>afterwards, later</b>                  | ..... | 24. <b># victory</b>                               | ..... |
| 10. <b>tormented</b>                         | ..... | 25. <b>accept; adopt</b> (8 <sup>th</sup> )        | ..... |
| 11. <b>was followed</b>                      | ..... |  |       |
| 12. <b>started, began</b> (4 <sup>th</sup> ) | ..... |  |       |
| 13. <b>handing over</b>                      | ..... |  |       |
| 14. <b>changes</b>                           | ..... |  |       |
| 15. <b>to force to leave</b>                 | ..... |  |       |

**B. Show your understanding of the text by stating whether the following sentences are True or False. If False correct them.**

1. Muhammad and the Emperor Heraclius were contemporaries.  
.....
2. Heraclius reigned for 31 years over an empire threatened by Persians in the east.  
.....
3. The Persians destroyed the Church of the Holy Sepulcher in Ctesiphon.  
.....
4. Heraclius entered Jerusalem in triumph in 630 bringing with him the Holy Cross.  
.....
5. Sheroe made peace with Heraclius, yielding back the True Cross.  
.....
6. Ctesiphon was a city in the Sassanian Empire.  
.....
7. Many battles were given between the Byzantines and the Muslims while Muhammad was alive.  
.....
8. The Muslims won the battle of Muta.  
.....

9. Heraclius is the only Byzantine emperor mentioned in the Islamic sources.  
 .....

**C. Match the terms to their definitions:**

- |  |               |
|--|---------------|
| <p>1. <b>The period of time during which a king, queen, emperor, etc., is ruler of a country.</b></p>  | a. siege      |
| <p>2. <b>A person appointed to administer a country because the monarch is a minor or is absent or incapacitated.</b></p>                      | b. regent     |
| <p>3. <b>A military operation in which enemy forces surround a place, cutting off essential supplies, in order to force its surrender.</b></p> | c. Asia Minor |
| <p>4. <b>Anything that has been transmitted from the past or handed down by tradition.</b></p>   | d. Legacy     |
| <p>5. <b>A peninsula of western Asia between the Black Sea and the Mediterranean Sea.</b></p>  | e. Jew        |
| <p>6. <b>A part of a deceased holy person's body or belongings kept as an object of reverence.</b></p>   | f. sepulcher  |
| <p>7. <b>A person whose religion is Judaism.</b></p>   | g. reign      |
| <p>8. <b>A small room or monument, cut in rock or built of stone, in which a dead person is laid or buried.</b></p>                            | h. relic      |

**D. Use the word in capital at the end of each sentence to form a word that fits into the sentence:**

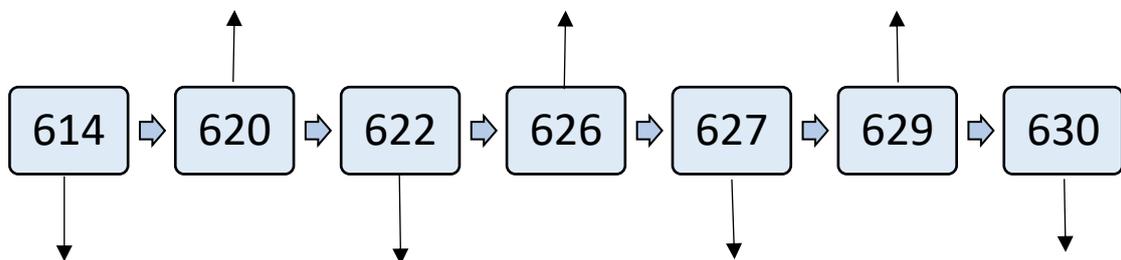
1. The battle of Karbala became a determining event in the ..... of Shia Islam.
2. The process of .....included the change of the official language from Latin to Greek.
3. The Persian ..... of Jerusalem took place in 614 CE.
4. The partial ..... of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre led to its ..... during the reign of Heraclius.

<b>EMERGE</b>
<b>HELLENIZE</b>
<b>CONQUER</b>
<b>DESTROY</b>
<b>RESTORE</b>

5. Damascus ..... by the Persian king Khosrow, preceded that of Jerusalem.

INVADE

E. Fill in the TIME LINE with the major events concerning A. the Byzantine Empire at the time of Muhammad and B. Muhammad's life



## Unit 7

### The Hajj

1

The Hajj is one of the five religious duties expected of every Muslim. It is one of the Five Pillars of Islam, along with the profession of faith in the one God and Mohammed as his prophet, prayer, charitable giving, and fasting during the holy month of Ramadan. Every adult Muslim (male or female), who has the physical and financial means, is required to travel to the holy city Mecca to perform the Hajj at least once in his or her lifetime.

2 The hajj occurs only once a year in the 12th and final month of the Islamic lunar calendar. It involves different rituals that take place in and around Mecca over a period of five to six days.

3 Upon arrival at the boundary of Mecca, at one of the five pilgrim stations (miqat) pilgrims enter the holy state of purity (**ihram**) in which they will remain throughout the hajj. The male pilgrims put on the ihram garments, traditionally consisting of two white seamless sheets that are wrapped around the body and wear sandals. Female pilgrims generally wear a simple white or black dress and cover their heads at all times. This indicates that all, regardless of wealth or class, are equal before God. During this state, sexual activity, shaving, and cutting one's nails are forbidden.

The first day of Hajj, pilgrims perform the following rituals:

4 The **Tawaf** which involves entering the Great Mosque, Masjid al-Haram, and circling the sacred shrine of Kaaba seven times in an anticlockwise direction. Then the pilgrims kiss or touch the Black Stone in the Kaaba, and pray twice towards the Station of Abraham (Maqam Ibrahim) and the Kaaba. This tradition dates back to the time of Abraham (Ibrahim) and his son Ishmael (Isma'il), who walked around the Kaaba seven times after they had rebuilt the structure.

5 The **Sa'e or Sai** which is performed by walking back and forth seven times between the hills of Safa and Marwah which are to the South and North of the Kaaba, respectively. This ritual commemorates Hagar's (Prophet Abraham's wife) search for water for her son, Ishmael, after she was left in the desert by Ibrahim as a test of faith.

6 After performing Tawaf and Sa'e the pilgrims head to Mina, a town near Mecca, where they spend the rest of the day offering prayers. Here, thousands of white air-conditioned tents, separate for men and women, provide temporary accommodation for each year's pilgrims.

7 On the second day of Hajj, after the morning prayer, pilgrims leave Mina to go to the plain of Arafat, a nearby mountain where they stay until after sunset. Arafat is where the Prophet Muhammad gave his Farewell Sermon in 632, the year of his death. There, time is devoted to prayers, repentance for sins, and in seeking the forgiveness of Allah. This is the most important part of Hajj, where Muslims make their promise to dedicate themselves to the principles of Islam.

8 After sunset pilgrims head to a place called Muzdalifah between Mina and Arafat. There, after offering the evening prayer to God they stay overnight under the open sky. While at Muzdalifah, they collect some small pebbles from the ground needed for the “stoning” ritual (rajm).

9 On the third day of Hajj, after offering the prayer, before the sun has risen, they set off for Mina. There the pilgrims can stay up to three days in order to perform the stoning (rajm) of the three pillars representing the devil. The stoning of the pillars re-enacts the story of the Prophet Abraham who was confronted by the devil and was ordered by the archangel Gabriel (Jibril) to reject him by throwing stones.

10 The stoning is followed by the offering of a sacrifice which commemorates the sheep that God provided for Abraham to sacrifice in place of Ishmael. In the past, each pilgrim did this individually, however, today, pilgrims simply purchase a sacrifice voucher which indicates that an animal was sacrificed in their name. The pilgrim then leaves the state of Ihram, by shaving his head (or, if a woman, by clipping her hair). The pilgrims then may return to the Great Mosque to perform the farewell Tawaf which marks the end of their hajj. It is believed that the proper performance of hajj can absolve Muslim pilgrims of any previous sins.

11 **Umrah** is a minor or lesser pilgrimage that is not required of Muslims, performed at any time of the year. Pilgrims have the choice of performing the umrah separately or in combination with the hajj. Many of the basic rituals that comprise the hajj are part of the umrah as well: walking around the Kaaba seven times,

walking between the hills of Safa and Marwa, and cutting the hair or shaving one's head.

**A. Find words in the texts that are explained or can be replaced by the following:**

- |   |       |   |       |
|---|-------|---|-------|
| 1. <b>declaration</b> (1 <sup>st</sup> p)               | ..... | 16. <b>to to move towards</b>             | ..... |
| 2. <b>philanthropic</b>                                 | ..... | (6 <sup>th</sup> )                        | ..... |
| 3. <b>takes place</b> (2 <sup>nd</sup> )                | ..... | 17. <b>non-permanent</b>                  | ..... |
| 4. <b>of the moon</b>                                   | ..... | 18. <b>to devote</b> (7 <sup>th</sup> )   | ..... |
| 5. <b>entails</b>                                       | ..... | 19. <b>rules</b>                          | ..... |
| 6. <b>not allowed</b> (3 <sup>rd</sup> )                | ..... | 20. <b>goodbye</b>                        | ..... |
| 7. <b>irrespective of; despite</b>                      | ..... | 21. <b># sunrise</b> (8 <sup>th</sup> )   | ..... |
| 8. <b>shows</b>   | ..... | 22. <b>to start out, leave</b>            | ..... |
| 9. <b>made up of</b>                                    | ..... | 23. <b>gather</b>                         | ..... |
| 10. <b>riches</b>                                       | ..... | 24. <b>recreates</b> (9 <sup>th</sup> )   | ..... |
| 11. <b>goes back</b> (4 <sup>th</sup> )                 | ..... | 25. <b>refuse to accept</b>               | ..... |
| 12. <b>two times</b>                                    | ..... | 26. <b>challenged</b>                     | ..... |
| 13. <b>shows honor to the memory</b> (5 <sup>th</sup> ) | ..... | 27. <b>to forgive</b> (10 <sup>th</sup> ) | ..... |
| 14. <b>looking for</b>                                  | ..... | 28. <b>to buy</b>                         | ..... |
| 15. <b>to and fro</b>                                   | ..... | 29. <b>foregoing</b>                      | ..... |
|   |       | 30. <b># major</b> (11 <sup>th</sup> )    | ..... |

**B. Show your understanding of the text by answering the following questions:**

1. Why is hajj performed by Muslims  
.....
2. How many times a year does Hajj occur?  
.....
3. What do pilgrims do upon their arrival at the boundary of Mecca?  
.....
4. How are male pilgrims dressed?  
.....
5. What is not allowed during the state of ihram?  
.....
6. How is Tawaf performed?  
.....
7. In which direction do Muslims walk around the Kaaba?  
.....
8. What are the names of the two hills the Sai is performed between?  
.....
9. How many times are Muslims expected to walk between the two hills?  
.....
10. Where do pilgrims stay while performing the hajj?  
.....
11. Whose prophet's life are many of the rituals based on?  
.....

- 12. Why do pilgrims collect pebbles at Muzdalifah?  
.....
- 13. What does the sacrifice commemorate?  
.....
- 14. Is umrah obligatory for Muslims?  
.....
- 15. What are the similarities between hajj and umrah?  
.....

**C. What is the meaning of the underlined part of the following compound words:**

- 1. seamless .....
- 2. rebuild – re-enact .....

**D. Complete the following beginnings of sentences to describe what the essential hajj rituals involve:**

- 1. Entering the .....
- 2. Circling the .....
- 3. Walking .....
- 4. Encamping .....
- 5. Staying at the plain of .....
- 6. Spending the evening at .....
- 7. Collecting .....
- 8. Stoning the .....
- 9. Offering .....
- 10. Farewell .....

**E. Match the terms to their definitions:**

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| 1. Pilgrimage | a. A religious ceremony consisting of a series of actions performed according to a prescribed order.   |
| 2. Repentance | b. Minor pilgrimage to Mecca undertaken by Muslims at any time of the year.  |
| 3. Fasting    | c. The Muslim pilgrimage to Mecca.   |
| 4. Profession | d. Walk around the sacred shrine of the Kaaba.   |
| 5. Ritual     | e. Sacred state into which a Muslim must enter in order to perform the hajj.   |
| 6. Ramadan    | f. Abstaining from food, or certain foods as a religious obligation.   |
| 7. Ihram      | g. A talk on a religious or moral subject.   |
| 8. Tawaf      | h. A journey to a sacred place or shrine.  |
| 9. Hajj       | i. A declaration of belief in a religion.  |
| 10. Sermon    | j. Sincere regret for one's sins or misdeeds.  |
| 11. Umrah     | k. One of the five stations which surround the boundaries of Mecca at which Muslim pilgrims intending to perform the Hajj or Umrah must enter the state of ihram |
| 12. Miqat     | l. The ninth month of the Muslim year, during which strict fasting is observed from sunrise to sunset.   |

**F. The following is a description of the Kaaba. Fill in the missing words:**

- |                |              |             |              |             |              |
|----------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| a. constructed | b. contains  | c. corner   | d. covered   | e. directed |              |
| f. located     | g. Mosque    | h. Paradise | i. sacred    | j. sins     | k. structure |
| l. surrounded  | m. suspended | n. touches  | o. tradition | p. walk     |              |

The Kaaba is a small shrine ..... 1 near the centre of the Great ..... 2 in Mecca and considered by Muslims to be the most ..... 3 spot on Earth. It is a cube-shaped .....4 about 15 metres high and it is ..... 5 of gray stone and marble.

The interior .....6 nothing but the three pillars supporting the roof and a number of ..... 7 silver and gold lamps. During most of the year the Kaaba is .....8 with an enormous cloth of black brocade.

Located in the eastern ..... 9 of the Kaaba is the Black Stone of Mecca, whose now-broken pieces are ..... 10 by a ring of stone and held together by a silver frame. According to ..... 11 , this stone was given to Adam on his expulsion from ..... 12 in order to obtain forgiveness of his ..... 13. Every Muslim who makes the hajj is required to ..... 14 around the Kaaba seven times, during which he kisses and ..... 15 the Black Stone. Muslims pray five times a day and their prayers are ..... 16 towards Mecca and the Kaaba.

### Extend your knowledge

**Hajji**, pl. hajjis, is an honorific title which was originally given to a Muslim who has successfully completed the Hajj to Mecca. The title is placed before a person's name; e.g. example Saif Gani becomes *Hajji Saif Gani*.

**Hajji** was also used in Orthodox Christianity for people who went on pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Sometime it was integrated into some Greek Christian family names; e.g. Hadjidimitriou.

**Hijab** - A head covering worn in public by some Muslim women.

**Chador** - A large piece of cloth that is wrapped around the head and upper body leaving only the face exposed, worn especially by Muslim women.

**Burka** - A long, loose garment covering the whole body from head to feet, worn in public by many Muslim women.

**Niqab** - veil worn by some Muslim women in public, covering all of the face apart from the eyes.

## Unit 8

### The First Four Crusades

1 The Crusades were military expeditions, in the 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, and 13<sup>th</sup> centuries that were called by popes and organized by western European Christians in response to centuries of Muslim wars of expansion. Their objectives were to check the spread of Islam, to retake control of the Holy Land in the eastern Mediterranean, to conquer pagan areas, and to recapture formerly Christian territories.

2 The Crusades were seen by many of their participants as a Holy War and as a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. After taking the vows the Crusaders received both spiritual and material rewards. The spiritual reward was the remission of sins granted by popes for participation in sacred activity. The material rewards included privileges of protection for their property at home. Some of the key moments in the first four Crusades are the following:

3 In November 1095, in Clermont, France, Pope Urban II called upon the knights of France to journey to the Holy Land and liberate Jerusalem, the most sacred city in Christendom, from the domination of Muslims who had ruled it since taking it from the Christian Byzantines in A.D. 638. He was responding to a request from Byzantine Emperor Alexius I, who wished to repel the invading Seljuk Turks from Anatolia.

4 Pope Urbans' call was taken up by thousands of knights and peasants from across the Christian world. In 1097, the Crusaders reached Constantinople and crossed into Asia Minor. In June, accompanied by Byzantine forces they took the walled city of Nicaea from the Seljuk Sultan Kilij Arslan II.

5 In June 1098, after two sieges the Crusaders entered the city of Antioch. After discovering what they believed to be the Holy Lance, they eventually took control of the entire city.

6 In June 1099, the Crusaders reached Jerusalem and in July 14, the city was captured and tens of thousands of its Muslim and Jewish defenders were slaughtered. In the aftermath, a number of Crusader States were established, namely Jerusalem, Tripoli, Antioch and Edessa.

7 In 1144, the Crusader State of Edessa fell to the Muslim ruler of Aleppo and Mosul Zengi. It was the first major territorial loss for the Christians, as it motivated Pope Eugenius III to call the Second Crusade (1145-49) led by Europe's greatest rulers, King Louis VII of France and Emperor Conrad III of Germany. As in the First Crusade, many simple pilgrims responded.

8 The expedition to the Holy Land was a humiliating failure. The ill-disciplined armies were repeatedly attacked by the Seljuk Turks as they crossed Asia Minor. Not only was the attack to Damascus poorly conceived, but it was badly executed. On July 28, 1147, after a four-day siege, a retreat was ordered.

9 During the 12th century the Crusader States steadily lost ground to the Sultan Saladin, who, in June 1187, inflicted a terrible defeat on Crusaders at Hattin, near the western shore of the Sea of Galilee, killing or capturing the vast majority of its soldiers. The conquest led to the fall of nearly all lands held by the Crusaders including Jerusalem.

10 In 1204, warriors of the Fourth Crusade, launched in 1202 to recapture Jerusalem, reached the walls of Constantinople. The city was attacked and sacked for three days, during which many ancient Greco-Roman and medieval Byzantine works of art were either stolen or destroyed. Many of the Christian civilians of the city were slaughtered by their co-religionists, and a new Latin Empire was established.

**A. Find words in the text that can be explained or replaced by the following:**

- |  |       |                                 |       |
|--|-------|---------------------------------|-------|
| 1. relating to war (1 <sup>st</sup> p) | ..... | 17. accepted                    | ..... |
| 2. increasing in size                  | ..... | 18. whole (5 <sup>th</sup> )    | ..... |
| 3. in reaction to                      | ..... | 19. in the end, finally         | ..... |
| 4. aims; purposes                      | ..... | 20. to found (6 <sup>th</sup> ) | ..... |
| 5. previously; earlier                 | ..... |                                 |       |
| 6. areas                               | ..... | 21. killed in a violent way     | ..... |

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 7. forgiveness (2 <sup>nd</sup> ) ..... | 22. as a consequence .....                    |
| 8. non-material .....                   | 23. carried out (8 <sup>th</sup> ) .....      |
| 9. oath .....                           | 24. to withdraw; draw back .....              |
| 10. advantage .....                     | 25. again and again .....                     |
| 11. to free (3 <sup>rd</sup> ) .....    | 26. to beat; conquer (9 <sup>th</sup> ) ..... |
| 12. to drive back or away .....         | 27. # minority .....                          |
| 13. requested; asked .....              | 28. began; started (10 <sup>th</sup> ) .....  |
| 14. from the birth of Christ .....      | 29. of the Middle Ages .....                  |
| 15. countrymen (4 <sup>th</sup> ) ..... | 30. fighters soldiers .....                   |
| 16. followed .....                      | 31. robbed .....                              |

B. Give the meaning of the underlined part in this word  
co-religionist .....

C. Select a heading from the following for each of the paragraphs of the text:

- a. The siege of Edessa .....
- b. The siege of Antioch .....
- c. The conquest of Nicaea .....
- d. The sack of Constantinople .....
- e. The capture of Jerusalem .....
- f. The Crusaders enter Damascus .....
- g. The battle of Hattin .....
- h. The call for the 1<sup>st</sup> Crusade .....

D Show your understanding of the text by answering the following questions:

1. When did the crusades begin?  
.....
2. Who were the crusaders fighting?  
.....
3. What did Pope Urban II asked the knights to do?  
.....
4. Which crusade was the most successful and why?  
.....
5. Who helped crusaders to capture the city of Nicaea?  
.....
6. What provoked the 3<sup>rd</sup> Crusade?  
.....
7. How did the 3<sup>rd</sup> Crusade end?  
.....
8. What was commanded on July 28, 1147?  
.....
9. Where did the crusaders attack in the 4<sup>th</sup> Crusade?  
.....
10. What were the motives of the crusaders?  
.....

**E. Match the terms to their definitions.**

- |   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| 1. A man of high social position trained to fight as a soldier on a horse.        | a. Pagan          |
| 2. The area in the Middle East where the events of the Bible happened.            | b. Crusader       |
| 3. A long, pointed weapon that pierced the side of Jesus as he hung on the cross. | c. Knight         |
| 4. The leader of the Roman Catholic Church.                                       | d. Holy lance     |
| 5. Relating to people who follow a polytheistic religion.                         | e. Pope           |
| 6. A person who believes in the same God as another.                              | f. Co-religionist |
| 7. A warrior who engages in a holy war.   | g. Sultan         |
| 8. A ruler or king of a Muslim country.   | h. Holy land      |

**F. Fill in the missing words**

In 1095, Emperor Alexius r..... 1 Pope Urban II to help him to confront the Seljuk Turks. In November 1095, at the Council of Clermont, France, the pope c..... 2 Western Christians to take up arms to a .....3 the Byzantines and reconquered the Holy Land from Muslim control. Pope Urban's call met with a tremendous r..... 4, both among the k..... 5 as well as the p .....6 . After the First Crusade achieved its goal with the c..... 7 of Jerusalem in 1099, the invading Christians set up several Crusader S.....8.

The years that followed the Second Crusade witnessed the gradual d .....9 of the Crusader States. After the Battle of Hattin in 1187, Jerusalem was r..... 10 by the Muslim f..... 11 of Saladin as well as most of the Crusader l.....12 throughout the Holy Land.