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Unit 1

The Five Pillars of Islam

The five pillars of Islam (arkan al-Islam) refer to the five primary religious duties that every Muslim must perform. They are basic to faith and practice in Islam and they are summarized
1 in the Hadith of Gabriel. The Five Pillars are the following: Profession of Faith (**Shahada**), Prayer (**Salat**), Almsgiving (**Zakat**), Fasting (**Sawm**), and Pilgrimage (**Hajj**).

1st Pillar - Profession of Faith (Shahada)

The Islamic profession of faith “There is no God but Allah and Muhammad is His Messenger”, must be recited daily in Arabic, by Muslims. Through this, the believers declare
2 their belief in the oneness of God (tawhid) and in Muhammad as God's prophet. This fundamental belief is followed by the beliefs in (1) the Angels, (2) the Holy Books (Quran, Torah, Psalms, Gospels), (3) the Prophets, (4) the Day of Judgment, and (5) Predestination.

2nd Pillar - Prayer (Salat)

Every Muslim is obliged to pray five times a day while facing toward the shrine of the Kaaba, in Mecca. These five ritual prayers are offered at dawn, at noon, in mid-afternoon, just after
3 sunset, and in the evening. Muslims can pray individually at any location or together in a mosque. The muezzin standing either at side of a small mosque or on the minaret of a large one, calls the believers to the daily five prayers. Congregational prayers in mosques are led by the imam. Each ritual prayer includes a series of set movements and gestures, involving standing, kneeling and prostration, and the recitation of the opening sura (Fatiha) of the

Quran. Men gather in the mosque for the noonday prayer on Friday; women are welcome but not obliged to participate.

3rd Pillar - Almsgiving (Zakat)

4 Almsgiving is a form of annual taxation, usually 2.5 per cent of wealth, and is used to assist the poor and needy. It is an act of worship or thanksgiving to God, of purification, and of service to the community. Traditionally, zakat was paid in different forms, either in kind, such as animals or crops, or in money. Although initially collected and distributed by the government, payment of the zakat, later, was left to the individual.

4th Pillar - Fasting (Sawm)

5 Every year in the month of Ramadan, the ninth month of the Islamic calendar, Muslims are required to abstain from food, drink and sexual relations from dawn to sunset. Immediately after sunset, Muslims break the fast and eat a meal known as iftar. Ramadan is a time for reflection and spiritual discipline, for expressing gratitude to God as well as for remembering the needs of the poor. The month of Ramadan ends with a great celebration, the major Feast of the "Breaking of the Fast" (*Id al-Fitr*).

5th Pillar - Pilgrimage (Hajj)

6 Hajj is a spiritual pilgrimage to the Holy City of Mecca that adult Muslims must perform at least once in their lives, if they can afford it and are physically able. It takes place every year during the twelfth and final month in the Islamic calendar. The basic rites of the *hajj* are: (a) entering the state of ihram, (b) performing the tawaf, (c) performing the sa'e, (d) praying

at Arafat, (e) spending the night at Muzdalifah, and (f) symbolically stoning the devil, in Mina.

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

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1st p</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. to concern 2. obligations 3. main <p>2nd p</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. to say aloud 5. declaration 6. basic <p>3rd p</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. one by one 8. the faithful 9. to come together 10. fixed 11. required 12. including 13. communal; collective | <p>4th p</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 14. once a year 15. to help 16. given out 17. at first <p>5th p</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 18. to choose not to have sth 19. thankfulness 20. to show 21. # material 22. called; named <p>6th p</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 23. to be able to pay for |
|---|---|

B. Answer the following questions to show your understanding of the text:

1. What are the five pillars of Islam?
.....
2. What is the profession of faith?
.....
3. How many times does a Muslim offer Salat in a day?
.....
4. Which direction do Muslims face while offering prayers?
.....
5. What is Zakat used for?
.....
6. Who collected and distributed Zakat initially?
.....
7. When do Muslims observe the fast?
.....
8. When do Muslims eat the iftar?
.....
9. What does the month of Ramadan end with?
.....

10. When is Hajj performed?

.....

11. How many times should Muslims perform hajj in their life?

.....

C. Match the terms to their definitions:

- a. Fatiha b. Five Pillars c. Hajj d. Imam e. Kaaba
 f. Muezzin g. Ramadan h. Shahada i. Sawm j. Zakat
 k. Salat l. Iftar m. Tawhid

1. A man who calls Muslims to prayer from the minaret of a mosque.
2. The person who leads prayers in a mosque.
3. The holy stone building in the center of the Great Mosque, in Mecca.
4. The ninth month of the Muslim year, during which strict fasting is observed from sunrise to sunset.
5. The pilgrimage to Mecca as a religious duty for Muslims.
6. Obligatory payment made annually under Islamic law.
7. The Muslim profession of faith.
8. The five duties expected of every Muslim.
9. The short first sura of the Quran which is an essential element of ritual prayer.
10. The meal eaten by Muslims after sunset during Ramadan.
11. Fasting from dawn until sunset during Ramadan.
12. The Muslim doctrine of the oneness of God.
13. Ritual prayer of Muslims performed five times daily, while facing toward Mecca.

D. Fill in the missing word:

1. The Five Pillars of Islam are five **o**..... regarded as essential to the Muslim faith.
2. When Muslims recite the Shahada they **d** that Allah is the only God and Muhammad is His **m**..... .
3. The profession of faith signifies **e**..... of the believer into the broader community (umma) of Muslims.
4. During the **d**..... hours of the ninth month of the Islamic **c** (Ramadan), all Muslims are required to **a** from food and drink.
5. In accordance with Islamic law, Muslims **d**..... a fixed portion (2.5%) of their **w**..... to the needy.
6. Muslims pray **f**..... the direction of Mecca five times a day.
7. Prayer includes a **r**..... of the opening sura of the Quran.
8. The final pillar **i**..... a hajj, to the Kaaba, in Mecca, that is to be made **a**..... once in one's lifetime.

E. Put the correct form of the word in the blanks.

1. The state of ritual purity and dedication (to reach) by Muslims on hajj to Mecca, is known as ihram.
2. The Tawaf involves (to circle) the sacred shrine of Kaaba seven times in a counter-clockwise direction.
3. The Sa'e (to perform)..... by walking back and forth seven times between the hills of Safa and Marwah.
4. In Arafat, time (to devote) to prayers, repentance for sins, and in (to seek) the forgiveness of Allah.
5. While at Muzdalifah, the pilgrims (to collect) some small pebbles from the ground (to need) later for the "stoning" ceremony.

Unit 2

The Mosque

The mosque is a place of worship for Muslims, equivalent to a church, synagogue or temple of other faiths. The English word mosque comes from the Arabic word *masjid*, which literally means a "place of prostration". There are two types of mosques: large state-controlled mosques used for Friday prayer and major communal assemblies, and smaller, private mosques built and operated by citizens.

Prophet Muhammad's original house in Medina is thought to be the first mosque and probably served as a prototype for early mosque architecture. It was a mud-brick structure with rooms on one side of an enclosed rectangular courtyard. The side of the courtyard facing the Kaaba included a porch covered by palm branches where Muhammad's followers would gather for prayer.

The mosque has undergone many architectural changes over time, but it usually includes a number of distinctive architectural elements: A **prayer-hall**, covered by a roof and supported by many columns or by one or more domes. Carpets cover the floor and no seats of any kind are found in it. The prayer-hall is lighted by many lamps suspended in rows from the ceiling or chandeliers, since light carries a symbolic meaning in Islam.

A **mihrab** - a semicircular niche at the back wall of the mosque that indicates the direction of the Kaaba in Mecca (qibla). It is usually the most richly decorated part of a mosque, often covered with carved stone, ceramic glazed tiles, mosaics, and embellished with inscriptions from the Quran. The imam leads the collective prayer standing in front of the mihrab.

A **minbar** - a pulpit-like structure, often made of carved wood or stone, to the right of the
5 mihrab. It includes a short staircase from the top of which the sermon is delivered at the
Friday noontime congregational prayer.

A **minaret** - a tall slender tower, typically found next to mosques, with one or more balconies
from which the muezzin calls the faithful to prayer (adhan or azan). The Minarets have
6 various forms; round, squared, spiral or octagonal. The upper parts of the minaret are usually
richly decorated with carvings. The number of minarets for every mosque also varies, from
one to as many as six.

A **courtyard** (*sahn*) – an open space usually surrounded by an arcade, and containing a
7 fountain, where believers can perform ritual ablution (wudu), before entering the mosque
for prayer.

Mosque decoration never includes figurative representations, since they are not allowed in
8 Islam. Instead, geometric patterns, floral, and vegetal designs, and calligraphic inscriptions
from the Quran, adorn the interiors and exteriors of mosques.

Historically, mosques have been at the center of education and intellectual life of the Islamic
community, as places for prayer, meditation, instruction in the Quranic sciences and law, and
9 political discussion. The mosques of Mecca, Medina, and Jerusalem hold special status. The
Great Mosque (Masjid al-Haram) in Mecca, which contains the Kaaba, became the center of
the hajj rites and the direction to be faced during prayer. The second holiest site in Islam is
the Prophet's Mosque (Al-Masjid an-Nabawi) in Medina, where Muhammad is buried. The

al-Aqsa Mosque of Jerusalem is the third holiest site, since Muhammad's miraculous Night Journey and ascent into heaven (Miraj) started from there.

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

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------|---------------------------------|-------|
| 1 st p | | 4 th p | |
| 1. gathering | ..... | 15. is oriented towards | ..... |
| 2. managed; controlled | ..... | 16. made more beautiful; | ..... |
| 3. equal in function | ..... | adorned | |
| 4. word for word | ..... | 17. shiny | ..... |
| 5. collective | ..... | 5 th p | |
| 6. # non-state | ..... | 18. is preached | ..... |
| controlled | | 6 th | |
| 2 nd p | | 19. beside | ..... |
| 7. is believed to | ..... | 20. to range (from-to) | ..... |
| 8. model | ..... | 21. shapes | ..... |
| 9. to come together | ..... | 22. #lower | ..... |
| 10. to comprise | ..... | 8 th p | |
| 3 rd p | | 23. as an alternative | ..... |
| 11. hanging | ..... | 9 th p | |
| 12. has gone through | ..... | 24. position | ..... |
| 13. characteristic | ..... | 25. teaching; education | ..... |
| 14. has | ..... |  |  |

B. Give the adjectives that are defined below:

1. **relating to flower**
2. **consisting of human or animal figures**
3. **relating to plants**
4. **relating to or done as a religious rite.**

C. Say whether the following statements are Stated - Non-stated or Implied

1. The first mosques were probably modeled after the place of worship of the Prophet Muhammad.
2. The home of Muhammad is considered the first mosque.
3. Every mosque includes a minbar, a mihrab and a minaret.
4. One or more balconies are always included in a minaret.
5. Seats are absent from the prayer hall of a mosque.
6. The mihrab always marks the direction of Mecca.

7. Every Muslim must perform wudu before entering a mosque to pray.
8. Calligraphy is the dominant element in the decoration of a mosque.
9. No icons are found in a mosque.
10. The Great Mosque (Masjid al-Haram) in Mecca is the holiest site for Islam.
11. Muhammad's tomb is in Medina.
12. Jerusalem is regarded as a holy city in Islam.

D. Match the terms to their definitions

- a. adhan b. arcade c. chandelier d. dome e. miraj
 f. Kaaba g. mihrab h. minaret i. minbar
 j. qibla k. wudu

1. The Muslim call to ritual prayer made by a muezzin from the minaret of a mosque.
2. A slender tower with a balcony from which a muezzin calls Muslims to prayer.
3. The practice of ritual washing before daily prayer in Islam.
4. A hemi-spherical roof of a building or structure, typically with a circular base.
5. A pulpit like structure used by a preacher in a mosque.
6. A niche in the wall of a mosque that indicates the direction of Mecca.....
7. A square stone building in the center of the Great Mosque at Mecca; the most sacred site in Islam.
8. A series of arches supported by columns.
9. A large, decorative hanging light with branches for several light bulbs or candles.
10. The direction of the Kaaba at Mecca, to which Muslims turn at prayer.
11. The one-night ascent of the prophet Muhammad through the seven heavens to the presence of God.

E. Fill in the missing words:

Churches, mosques and synagogues are places for **w**..... 1 for the faithful of the respective religions: **C**..... 2, **I**..... 3 and **J**.....4. The mosque is the **M**..... 5 gathering place for **p**.....6. The home of the Prophet Muhammad is **c**.....7 the first mosque. The most common architectural **f**..... 8 of a mosque are: The mihrab which **i**.....9 the qibla. The minaret which is one of the most **v**.....10 aspects of a mosque and from which the adhan is made by a **m**..... 11, five times daily. Within the courtyard one finds a **f**.....12 at which worshipers can perform the **w**.....13 before **p**..... 14 to show their **r**..... 15 for God. Calligraphy is often used to **d**..... 16 the walls of the mosque with important passages from the Quran.

Unit 3**Calligraphy in Islamic Art**

Calligraphy is the most characteristic and the most highly regarded and developed of the Islamic arts. It is the art of giving form to signs in an expressive, harmonious and skillful manner. Calligraphy in Islamic art is based on the Arabic script and appears on both religious objects such as manuscripts of the Quran, and secular ones such as coins, ceramics, architectural inscriptions, textiles, and metalwork.

Islamic Calligraphy developed around the end of the 7th century CE. in the Middle East, and became the major form of artistic expression in Islamic cultures for two
2 main reasons: (1) Arabic was the language of the Quran, and calligraphy was the primary means for the preservation of the sacred text, and (2) Figurative representation of the Divine was prohibited in Islam.

There are several different styles of script employed in calligraphy. During the first three centuries of Islam, the script most commonly used was called “Kufic”, named after Kufa, an Islamic city founded in Mesopotamia. Kufic developed toward the end of the 7th century CE. It was square, angular and bold in form, and it was used by
3 early Muslims to write manuscripts of the Quran, many of which are extant today. Kufic was further used for inscriptions on stone and coins, as well as for inscriptions on the walls of mosques. An excellent early example of this use is found on the Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem, built in 691 CE. Later, several other varieties of the script developed, including floriated Kufic, knotted/plaited kufic and square kufic. Eventually, kufic went out of general use about the 12th century, although it continued to be used as a decorative element to contrast with the scripts that superseded it.

In the 4th century of the Islamic era (i.e., the 10th century CE), a new script was developed, the so-called “Naskh (i)” script, which was used side by side with Kufic.
4 According to scholars, Naskh emerged as a result of the inflexibility of Kufic. It was a cursive, legible script, with emphasis on the horizontal line and on the proportions between letters. Naskh soon gained popularity and from the 11th century has

remained perhaps the most popular form of script in the Arab world. It came to be used for copying the Quran, Hadiths, Tafsir and collections of poetry.

Calligraphers were the most highly regarded artists in Islamic societies. They were highly skilled and trained for years to master their art. Furthermore, most calligraphers were highly educated and some came from the upper classes of society.

The art of calligraphy was passed down from master to student, often within the same family. In order to become a master calligrapher and begin to create new work, a student had to be trained for years by copying models to perfect his or her skills.

Before the invention of paper, vellum was the highest quality writing material available. The traditional instrument of the Islamic calligrapher was the pen (qalam), made of dried reed and the ingredients used to make calligraphic ink was a secret among calligraphers.

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

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------|----------------------------|-------|
| 1 st p | | 16. replaced | ..... |
| 1. symbol | ..... | 17. in the end | ..... |
| 2. worldly | ..... | 18. to differ from | ..... |
| 3. for example | ..... | 4 th p | |
| 2 nd p | | 19. won | ..... |
| 4. holy | ..... | 20. next to | ..... |
| 5. Common Era | ..... | 21. rigidity | ..... |
| 6. # to permit | ..... | 22. because of | ..... |
| 7. best | ..... | 23. appeared | ..... |
| 8. medium | ..... | 24. easy to read | ..... |
| 9. God | ..... | 25. well-liked | ..... |
| 3 rd p | | 26. that is | ..... |
| 10. to establish | ..... | 5 th p | |
| 11. to use | ..... | 27. respected | ..... |
| 12. # late | ..... | 28. to learn | ..... |
| 13. thick, dark | ..... | thoroughly | ..... |
| 14. surviving | ..... | 29. to hand down | ..... |
| 15. was no longer used | ..... | 30. to improve | ..... |
| | | 31. able to be used | ..... |
| | | 32. # lower | ..... |

B. Answer the following questions to show your understanding of the text.





1. On what objects is Islamic calligraphy found?
.....
2. On what non-religious objects does calligraphy appear?
.....
3. When did the Kufic script first develop?
.....
4. When was the kufic script no longer used?
.....
5. What are some variations of kufic script?
.....
6. Why did Naskhi script become popular?
.....
7. What was scholars view about the kufic script??
.....
8. What was the status of calligraphers in the Islamic society?
.....
9. How long had a student to be trained before becoming a skilled calligrapher?
.....

C. Give the adjectives defined below:

1. **Decorated with floral designs**
2. **Decorated with knots**
3. **Consisting of human or animal figures**
4. **Relating to beautiful handwriting**
5. **Written with the characters joined**
6. **Having the knowledge, ability, or training to perform a certain activity well.**

D. Give the names of the different scripts:

E.

 <p>1.....</p>	 <p>2.....</p>	 <p>3.....</p> <p>4.....</p>	 <p>5.....</p>
---	---	--	---

F. Match the terms to their definitions:

- | | |
|---|-----------------|
| 1. The art of producing artistic, stylized, or beautiful handwriting. | a. Quran |
| 2. A person who practices the art of calligraphy. | b. Calligraphy |
| 3. A person with exceptional skill at a certain thing. | c. Manuscript |
| 4. Words carved or engraved on stone, metal, etc | d. Tafsir |
| 5. Interpretations of the Quran. | e. Calligrapher |
| 6. A tall thin plant that grows near water. | f. Vellum |
| 7. A book or document written by hand. | g. Reed |
| 8. The sacred book of Islam, revealed by God to Muhammad by the archangel Gabriel and written down in Arabic. | h. Master |
| 9. Fine parchment made originally from the skin of a calf. | i. Scholar |
| 10. A specialist in a particular branch of study, especially the humanities. | j. Inscription |

G. Fill in the missing words

Islamic art does not portray **f**..... 1 of people or **a**.....2 .

Therefore, calligraphy became an important **m**..... 3 of decoration.

The artists who **p** 4 calligraphy were highly **r**5

The Kufic script, which **d**..... 6 to the 7th century, is considered one of the oldest **f**.....7 of Arabic calligraphy. According to **s**..... 8,

its name is **d**..... 9 from the town of Kufa. It is a **s**..... 10 and angular script.

The Naskhi script is an easily **r**.....11, **s** 12 script that **r**..... 13 the kufic script.

Unit 4

Abraham

1 Abraham (Arabic: Ibrahim) is the first of the Hebrew patriarchs and a figure revered by the three great monotheistic religions—Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. The story of Abraham is contained in Genesis, the first book of the Hebrew Bible (*the Tanakh*) and the Christian Old Testament.

2 According to the Bible, Abraham is called by God to leave his own country, Ur, and journey to an unknown land, where he will become the founder of a new nation. He obeys the call and proceeds to the land of Canaan. There he receives repeated promises and a covenant from God that his descendants will inherit the land and become a numerous nation. But famine in the land forces him and his people to move on to Egypt. There, with the consent of his childless wife Sarah, her Egyptian servant, Hagar, bears Abraham a son, Ishmael (Arabic: Ismail).

3 Back again in Canaan, God once more appears to Abraham and renews His covenant with him. Later, Sarah miraculously gives him a son, Isaac. The greatest trial of Abraham's life comes when God asks him to sacrifice his son Isaac. Abraham obeys and at the very last minute, God intervenes and spares Isaac's life by providing a ram for sacrifice. Abraham dies at the age of 175 and is buried next to Sarah in the cave of Machpelah (in Hebron, West Bank), which he had purchased at Sarah's death.

4 Abraham (Arabic: Ibrahim) is considered one of the first and most important messengers and prophets of Islam. His name appears in the Quran sixty-nine times, more than any other figure except Moses (137 times). The Quran shows Abraham denouncing polytheism and rebelling

against those who worshiped the idols. It further claims that Abraham was not a Jew, or a Christian, but a pure monotheist (hanif). The Quran systematically refers to Islam as "the Religion of Abraham", and therefore the direct continuation of Abraham's religion. In Islamic tradition Muhammad is viewed as the final prophet, linked thereby with Abraham.

The Quran draws on stories from the Old testament and the Judeo-Christian traditions. But unlike the biblical account, Islamic tradition suggests that Abraham was asked by God to sacrifice Ishmael and not Isaac. The Quran considers both Isaac and Ishmael as prophets and righteous men. Furthermore, Islamic tradition relates other matters about Abraham and his sons. For example, various hadiths record that Muhammad had a miraculous night transportation (Miraj) into heaven with the angel Gabriel where he spoke with Abraham, Moses (Musa) and Jesus (Isa). The Kaaba is believed to have been rebuilt by Abraham and Ishmael. In the Great Mosque in Mecca (*Masjid al Haram*), there is also a spot next to the Kaaba, known as the "Station of Abraham" (*Maqam Ibrahim*), on which Abraham stood to rebuild the Kaaba and which supposedly bears an impression of his footprints.

Many of the rites of Hajj –the fifth Pillar of Islam–are related to the life and example of Prophet Abraham, Hagar and her son Ishmael. The ritual of the "Sa'e", which is performed by walking back and forth seven times between the hills of Safa and Marwah, commemorates the search of Hagar for water for Ishmael. The ritual of the "Stoning of the Devil" recalls Abraham's rejection of Satan's temptation to disobey God's command to sacrifice his son, Ishmael. The "Feast of Sacrifice", (*Eid al-Adha*), which marks the end of hajj, honors the willingness of Abraham to sacrifice his son, as an act of obedience to God's command, and an animal is sacrificed by Muslims around the world as a re-enactment of this event.

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

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------|---------------------------------------|-------|
| 1 st p | | | |
| 1. respected | ..... | 16. thus | ..... |
| 2. to include | ..... | 17. as a result of that | ..... |
| 2 nd p | | 18. to regard as | ..... |
| 3. to travel | ..... | 5 th p | |
| 4. to move forward | ..... | 19. to use as a source | ..... |
| 5. #ancestor | ..... | 20. just | ..... |
| 6. agreement | ..... | 21. apart from | ..... |
| 7. to give birth to | ..... | 22. to report | ..... |
| 8. great in number | ..... | 23. for instance | ..... |
| 3 rd p | | 24. to have | ..... |
| 9. test | ..... | 25. named; called | ..... |
| 10. to buy | ..... | 26. seemingly | ..... |
| 11. to save | ..... | 6 th p | |
| 4 th p | | 27. to serve as a reminder | ..... |
| 12. person; individual | ..... | 28. looking for | ..... |
| 13. to condemn; attack | ..... | 29. brings to mind | ..... |
| 14. to declare; state | ..... | 30. # acceptance | ..... |
| 15. mentions | ..... | 31. order | ..... |
| | | 32. repetition of a past event | ..... |

B. Answer the following questions to show your understanding of the text:

1. In what source is the story of Abraham found?
.....
2. What does Abraham receive from God in Canaan?
.....
3. What makes Abraham leave Canaan?
.....
4. What is Abraham for Islam?
.....
5. Who is sacrificed by Abraham according to the Quran?
.....
6. What sources does the Quran use for the story of Abraham?
.....
7. Who rebuilt the Kaaba according to the Quran?
.....
8. What rites of the hajj are connected with Abraham?
.....
9. What does Eid al-Adha commemorate?
.....

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

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. <u>Mon</u> otheism | 4. <u>Poly</u> theist |
| 2. <u>Re</u> build | 5. <u>Dis</u> obey |
| 3. Child <u>less</u> | |

D. Match the definitions to the terms below:

- | | |
|---|-----------------------|
| 1. A stone associated with Abraham, Ishmael and their rebuilding of the Kaaba. | a. Sacrifice |
| 2. Someone who brings a message from God to the people. | b. Monotheist |
| 3. Any of the three great progenitors of the Israelites: Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. | c. Station of Abraham |
| 4. A believer in one god only. | d. Hanif |
| 5. The first book of the Old Testament. | e. Hadith |
| 6. An agreement which brings about a relationship of commitment between God and his people. | f. Patriarch |
| 7. A severe shortage of food resulting in violent hunger and starvation and death. | g. Famine |
| 8. The offering of animal, or human life or of some object to God or a deity. | h. Covenant |
| 9. A term in the Quran for a true monotheist. | i. Prophet |
| 10. A collection of traditions containing sayings of the prophet Muhammad. | j. Genesis |

E. Choose words from the following to fill in the gaps:

- a. **monotheistic** b. **connected** c. **pilgrimage** d. **sacrifice** e. **ritual**
 f. **faith** g. **ceremony** h. **shrine** i. **seven** j. **three** k. **tested**
 l. **celebrated** m. **commanding** n. **rebuilding** o. **source**

1. Abraham plays an important role as an example of in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.
2. Hajj is the to Mecca; the fifth pillar of Islam.
3. Kaaba is the cube-shaped located in the center of the Great Mosque in Mecca.
4. Sa'e is the of walking from Safa to Marwah and back times, in Hajj.
5. The Islamic feast Eid al-Adha is in memory of the obedience of Abraham to sacrifice Ishmael..
6. Abraham is credited for the Kaaba.
7. God Abraham's faith and obedience by the sacrifice of Ishmael.
8. Judaism, Christianity and Islam are religions.
9. According to Islam, Abraham isclosely with the Prophet Muhammad.
10. The Quran uses as for the story of Abraham the Old Testament.

Unit 5

The Rightly Guided Caliphs

The “Rightly Guided” (Arabic: *Rashidun*) Caliphs, is a term used to refer to the first four caliphs of the Islamic community (umma) that ruled after the death of Muhammad. They are called collectively Rashidun because they have been regarded as model Muslim leaders by Sunni Muslims. All were close companions of Muhammad and belonged to the tribe of Quraysh. In the order of succession, the Rashidun were: Abu Bakr (r. 632–634), Umar (r. 634–644), Uthman (r. 644–656), and Ali (r. 656–661). The period of their 29-year old rule is considered a Golden Age for Sunni Islam but according to Shiite Islam, the first caliph should have been Ali.

The Rashidun Caliphate, began with the “Wars of Apostasy” (Arabic: *Riddah*: 632–633), tribal rebellions in Arabia, and ended with the first Muslim Civil War (656–661). The Rashidun took on all of Muhammad’s duties except the prophetic: as imams, they led the congregation in prayer at the mosque; as khatibs, they delivered the Friday sermons; and they also commanded the army.

The first caliph was **Abu Bakr**, Muhammad’s closest companion and father-in law through his daughter Aisha. He was elected by leaders of the early Muslim community upon Muhammad's death. Muhammad chose Abu Bakr as his companion on the migration to Medina (*Hegira*, 622). There, Abu Bakr was Muhammad’s chief advisor (622–632). He suppressed the tribal political and religious uprisings known as the Riddah (Apostasy), thereby bringing central Arabia under Muslim control. He also campaigned against the

Sassanid Empire and the Byzantine Empire. The first written compilation of the Quran is said to have taken place during his caliphate. Abu Bakr's reign lasted only 2 years, ending with his death, in 634 CE, after an illness.

The second caliph, **Umar**, was appointed by Abu Bakr, shortly before his death. Umar was known for his simple, strict lifestyle and he was respected for his justice and authority. During his rule, Muslims conquered Mesopotamia, Persia, Egypt, Palestine and Syria. Furthermore, 4 Umar established the principles for administering the conquered lands. In 638 CE, Umar instituted the Islamic lunar calendar, which is based on a year of 12 months, each month beginning approximately at the time of the new moon, and dating from the Hegira. He was assassinated by a Persian slave in 644 CE.

The third caliph, **Uthman**, was elected by a committee appointed by his predecessor, Umar. He centralized the administration of the caliphate and appointed many of his relatives as governors of the areas he had conquered. Under his leadership, the text of the Quran was 5 standardized, with alternative versions being destroyed. The result was the text that is accepted to this day throughout the Muslim world. Uthman was murdered at the hands of dissatisfied Egyptians in 656 CE.

The fourth caliph was **Ali**, cousin and son-in-law of Muhammad having married his daughter Fatimah. From 610 to 622 Ali was Muhammad's constant companion and participated in 6 most expeditions during Muhammad's lifetime. He transferred his capital from Medina to Kufa. His caliphate coincided with the First Islamic Civil War also called "*the First Fitna*" which arose as a struggle over who had the legitimate right to become the ruling caliph. It resulted

in the major split in Islam, into the Sunni and Shia branches. Ali was assassinated while praying in a mosque in Kufa, in 660 CE.

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

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 st p | |
| 1. to govern; reign | 13. to establish |
| 2. to considered | 14. to murder |
| 3. good example | 5 th p |
| 4. as a whole | 15. former holder |
| 2 nd p | |
| 5. apart from | 16. displeased |
| 6. to be in charge | 17. different |
| 3 rd p | |
| 7. to choose | 18. forms |
| 8. as a result of | 6 th p |
| that | 19. to take part |
| 9. rebellions | 20. to happen |
| 10. to happen; occur | together |
| 4 th p | |
| 11. defeated | 21. legal |
| 12. determined by | 22. originated |
| the moon | 23. to move |
| | 24. to cause |
| | 25. division |

B. Answer the following questions to show your understanding of the text:

1. What is the title given to the first four successors of Muhammad?
.....
2. How long did the rule of the Rashidun last?
.....
3. Who chose Abu Bakr as the first caliph?
.....
4. What city served as the first capital of the Rashidun caliphate?
.....
5. How did three of the Rashidun caliphs die?
.....
6. Who transferred the capital to Kufa?
.....
7. When did the first Islamic Civil War start?
.....
8. Under whose caliph rule was the Quran standardized?
.....
9. Who established and when the Islamic calendar?
.....

C. Say whether the following sentences are True or False. If False correct them.

1. The term Rashidun refers to the caliphs of the Islamic community that ruled after the death of Muhammad.
2. All the Rightly Guided caliphs belonged to the tribe of Quraysh.
3. Golden age is the period of 20-years during which the four Rightly Guided caliphs ruled.
4. Tribal rebellions in Arabia took place during the first period of the Rashidun reign.
5. The Rashidun acted only as imams.
6. Muslim Civil War followed the Wars of Apostasy.
7. The Islamic calendar was instituted by Uthman.
8. The text of the Quran was standardized during the 2nd caliphate.
9. The transfer of capital from Kufa to Medina was performed during Ali's caliphate.
10. The First Islamic Civil War was the result of the split into Sunni and Shia branches.

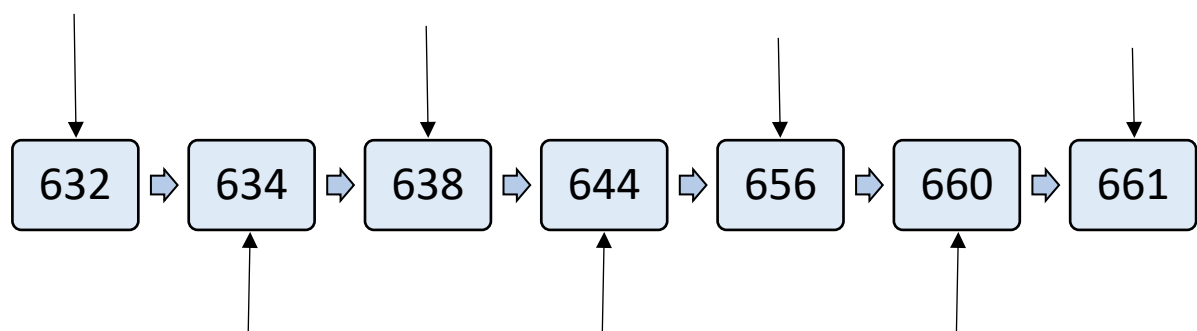
D. Match the definitions to the terms:

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| 1. The first four successors of the Prophet as caliphs. | |
| 2. Series of uprisings during the caliphate of Abu Bakr. | a. Imam |
| 3. The person who leads prayers in a mosque. | b. Hegira |
| 4. Muhammad's migration from Mecca to Medina. | c. Caliph |
| 5. A person who delivers the sermon during the Friday prayer. | d. Sunni |
| 6. A successor of Muhammad as civil and religious leader of Islam. | e. Khatib |
| 7. The branch of Islam that accepts the first four caliphs as rightful successors of Muhammad. | f. Riddah |
| 8. The branch of Islam that regards Ali as the legitimate successor to Mohammed and rejects the first three caliphs. | g. Shia |
| 9. The whole community of Muslims bound together by ties of religion. | h. Umma |
| | i. Rashidun |

E. Fill in the missing words:

The Rashidun Caliphate was the first of the four major caliphates e.....1 after the death of the Islamic Prophet Muhammad. It r..... 2 Islam from Muhammad's death in 632 until Ali's a..... 3 in 661. These four caliphs are collectively known, in Sunni Islam, as the Rashidun or “R.....4. Guided”. This t..... 5 is not used in Shia Islam, as Shia Muslims do not consider the rule of the first three caliphs as l..... 6. All four Rashidun Caliphs were c..... 7 to Muhammad through marriage. Abu Bakr, the oldest c..... 8 of Muhammad, was caliph for only two years before he died. The second caliph, Umar e..... 9 the Islamic calendar. Under the rule of caliph Uthman the text of the Quran was s..... 10.

F. Fill in the Time Line with the major events concerning the Rashidun Caliphate:



Unit 6

The Umayyad Caliphate

The Umayyad Caliphate also spelled, Omayyad, was the second of the four major caliphates established after the death of Muhammad. The caliphate was ruled by the Umayyads, who were a mostly merchant family of the Quraysh tribe that dominated the economic and political life in Mecca. The Umayyad Caliphate succeeded the Rashidun Caliphate and ruled the Islamic Empire from 661-750 CE. The Umayyads expanded the Islamic Empire into one of the largest empires in the history of the world. At its peak, it controlled the Middle East, parts of India, much of North Africa, and Spain. The Umayyads were accused for ruling rather like secular kings than leaders of a religious community.

In the first Muslim civil war (656–661), Muawiyah, then governor of Syria, emerged victorious over Ali, the fourth caliph, and then established himself as the first Umayyad caliph. Muawiyah centralized caliphal authority in Damascus. The basis of his strength became the Syrian army and this enabled him to create a united empire through greater control of the conquered provinces and of Arab tribal rivalries.

A later caliph, Malik (r. 685-705), organized an extensive program of Arabization making Arabic the official state language. Malik also reorganized the financial administration of the empire, with Arabs replacing Persian and Greek officials. A new Arabic-script coinage was struck and replaced the former imitations of Byzantine and Sasanian coins. Communications improved with the introduction of a regular post

service from Damascus to the provincial capitals, and architecture flourished. The Dome of the Rock, the oldest extant Islamic monument, was constructed during his rule, in 691 CE. The rock over which the shrine was built is sacred to both Muslims and Jews. The Prophet Muhammad, founder of Islam, is traditionally believed to have ascended into heaven from this site (miraj).

The sixth caliph Al- Walid (r. 705–715) is best known for the mosques constructed during his reign. The Great Mosque of Damascus, also known as the Umayyad Mosque, a masterpiece of Islamic architecture, was built on the site of a Christian
4 basilica dedicated to Saint John the Baptist. He also had mosques built at Medina and Jerusalem. During his reign, areas in Central Asia, in coastal northern Africa, and in Spain were conquered and brought under the influence of Islam.

The last of the Umayyad caliphs, Marwan II (r. 744–750), completed the reconquest of Syria by 746. However, the Abbasid rebellion broke out in 747, and a combined force of Abbasids, Persians, Iraqis, and Shiites defeated the Umayyad army at the
5 Battle of the Great Zab River, in 750. The subsequent death of Marwan II marked the end of the Umayyad dynasty. However, one member of the Umayyads that survived, Rahman, escaped and established himself as a Muslim ruler in Spain (756), founding the dynasty of the Umayyads in Cordoba.

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

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 st p | |
| 1. founded | 10. to get better |
| 2. to control | 11. developed fully |
| 3. increased in size | 12. surviving |
| 4. highest point | 13. holy |

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 5. to follow after | 14. went up |
| 2 nd p | 4 th p |
| 6. won | 15. to build |
| 7. to make possible | 16. masterwork |
| for | 5 th p |
| 8. # divided | 17. retaking |
| 3 rd p | 18. following |
| 9. to take the place | |
| of | |

B. Give the adjectives that are defined below:

1. **not having any connection with religion:**
2. **controlled by one main system or authority:**
3. **positioned to the land next to the sea:**
4. **of or relating to a Persian dynasty:**

C. Answer the following questions to show your understanding of the text:

1. What Caliphate ruled before the Umayyad Caliphate?
.....
2. How long did the Umayyad Caliphate rule the Islamic Empire?
.....
3. What city was the capital city of the Umayyad Caliphate?
.....
4. What was the official language of the Umayyad caliphate?
.....
5. Who was the first caliph of the Umayyads?
.....
6. Where and when was Marwan II defeated?
.....
7. What famous buildings did Malik construct?
.....
8. When was the Dome of the Rock built?
.....
9. On what site was the Great Mosque of Damascus built?
.....
10. Who won at the Battle of the Great Zab River?
.....

D. The following sentences are True or false. If false correct them.

1. The Umayyad was the third of the four major caliphates established after the death of Muhammad.
2. The Umayyad ruled like leaders of a religious community.
3. Muawiyah defeated Ali in the first Muslim civil war.
4. The Syrian army supported Muawiyah in controlling the conquered provinces.
5. The first coins of the Islamic Empire imitated Byzantine coins
6. Post service ran from Mecca to the provincial capitals.
7. The Dome of the Rock was built by al-Walid.
8. The Great Mosque of Damascus was built near the site of a Christian Basilica.

E. Give the terms defined below:

1. **The ascension of Muhammad to heaven.**
2. **The chief Muslim civil and religious ruler, regarded as the successor of Muhammad.**
3. **A member of the branch of Islam that regards Ali and his descendants as the legitimate successors to Muhammad.**
4. **A building used as a place of Muslim worship.**
5. **An Islamic shrine in Jerusalem built by the Umayyad caliph Malik in the late 7th century CE.**
6. **A person of exceptional holiness, who after death is formally recognized by a Christian Church.**

F. Fill in the following table:

Caliph	Reign	Achievements
Muawiyah		
Malik		
Al-Walid		
Marwan II		

Unit 7

Major Feasts in Islam

In general, Muslims observe two major feasts: Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha. The dates for these two feasts (Eids) are determined by tradition according to the Islamic calendar (Hijri calendar). The dates for Muslim holidays change every year. In Muslim-majority countries, the two Eids are recognized as official holidays and public schools are closed. Two other widely celebrated Muslim feasts are Ashura and Mawlid.

Eid al-Fitr, (Arabic: “Festival of Breaking the Fast”), also known as the Lesser Eid is the first of two canonical festivals of Islam. It marks the end of Ramadan, the Muslim holy month of fasting (sawm). It is celebrated during the first three days of the 10th month of the Islamic lunar calendar. The feast has no connection with any historical event; its significance is purely spiritual. The Muslims thank Allah for having given them the will, the strength and the endurance to observe fast and obey His commandments.

On its first day, Muslims perform a special communal prayer (*salat*) at daybreak which is offered either in a mosque or in an open location. Then, they have a special celebratory meal, the first daytime meal after a month of fasting. The rest of the day is spent in visiting friends and relatives, wearing best or new clothes, and giving gifts and special treats to children. It should be noted that a special charity (*Zakat al-Fitr*)

is required from all Muslims, regardless of age or financial status, prior to attending the morning feast prayer, so that the poor can celebrate the Eid along with the rest of the Muslims.

Eid al-Adha, (Arabic: “Feast of the Sacrifice”), also known as the Greater Eid, is the second of two great Muslim festivals celebrated worldwide each year, and
4 considered the holiest of the two. It marks the end of the Hajj rites, beginning on the 10th day of the last month of the Islamic calendar, and continuing for an additional three days. In Muslim countries Eid al-Adha is a public holiday.

This Eid is celebrated in commemoration of Abraham’s willingness to sacrifice his son, Ishmael, to show his obedience to God’s command. In the process of the sacrifice, a ram was provided by God as a substitute offering. During the festival,
5 families sacrifice an animal (sheep, goat, camel, or cow). Only a portion, usually one-third, of this animal's meat is to be consumed by the family offering the sacrifice. The rest is to be distributed to the poor. For those not on Hajj, the celebration includes visits to mosques and to the graves of relatives. It lasts for three days and includes distribution of gifts and sweets, as well as receiving and visiting close relatives and friends.

Ashura is a Muslim holy day observed on the 10th of the first month of the Muslim calendar. For Sunni Muslims, Ashura is celebrated in commemoration of the day that
6 God parted the Red Sea for the Israelites led by Moses (Musa) to escape slavery (Exodus). Among Shia Muslims, Ashura, is commemorated as the day on which

Husain, Muhammad's grandson by his daughter Fatima and his son-in-law Ali, and most of his followers were killed by Umayyad forces in the Battle of Karbala (680 CE). They celebrate the day with mourning and some believers practice self-flagellation in processions.

Mawlid (or Milad) (Arabic:birth) refers to observance of the birthday of Muhammad, which is commemorated on the 12th of the third month in the Islamic calendar. This date is observed by most Muslim denominations by praising Allah, public processions, readings from the Quran, recitations of poems which relate Muhammad's life and virtues and family gatherings.

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

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|-------|-------------------|-------|
| 1 st p | | 5 th p | |
| 1. to celebrate | ..... | 16. replacement | ..... |
| 2. are controlled | ..... | 17. to order | ..... |
| 3. to accept as valid | ..... | 18. remembrance; | ..... |
| 4. #minority | ..... | honor | ..... |
| 2 nd p | | 19. part | ..... |
| 5. determined by | ..... | 20. to give out | ..... |
| the moon | | 21. to continue | ..... |
| 6. # material | ..... | 22. to eat | ..... |
| 7. stamina | ..... | 6 th p | |
| 8. to keep | ..... | 23. to celebrate | ..... |
| 9. meaning; sense | ..... | 24. deep sorrow; | ..... |
| 3 rd p | | grief | ..... |
| 10. collective | ..... | 7 th p | |
| 11. before | ..... | 25. to narrate | ..... |
| 12. together with | ..... | 26. good quality | ..... |
| 13. irrespective of | ..... |  |  |
| 4 th p | | | |
| 14. to regard as | ..... |  |  |
| 15. extra | ..... |  |  |

B. Answer the following questions

1. What are the major feasts in Islam?

.....

2. When is Eid al-Fitr celebrated?
.....
3. Who has to pay the Zakat al-Fitr?
.....
4. How do Muslims perform the salat during the Eid al-Fitr?
.....
5. What does Eid al-Adha commemorate?
.....
6. Do Muslims consume all the sacrificial animal?
.....
7. How long does the Eid al-Adha last?
.....
8. Does the feast of Ashura marks the same things for all Muslims/
.....
9. Do all Muslims celebrate Mawlid?
.....
10. When is Mawlid observed?
.....

C. Give the terms defined below:

1. **Fasting during the month of Ramadan: the fourth pillar of Islam.**
2. **Ritual prayer performed five times daily: the second pillar of religion.**
3. **The pilgrimage to Mecca that every Muslim is required to make at least once in his life.**
4. **A religious ceremony.**
5. **The lunar calendar used by Muslims and dating from 622 CE (the year of the Hegira).**
6. **A ritual killing of a person or animal with the intention of pleasing God or a deity.**
7. **A Muslim festival, in particular Eid al-Fitr or Eid al-Adha.**
8. **A journey to a sacred place or shrine.**
9. **The ninth month of the Muslim year, lasting 30 days, during which strict fasting is observed from sunrise to sunset.**
10. **Obligatory payment made annually under Islamic law.**
11. **The action of whipping oneself, especially as a form of religious discipline.**
12. **A group or branch of any religion.**

13. A group of individuals moving along in an orderly often ceremonial way.

D. Fill in the blanks with suitable words:

Eid al-Adha is the most important feast for Muslims. It is **c**1 all over the world as a **m**.....2 holiday for a period of three days. It marks the **e**.....3 of the hajj. It includes a communal **p**.....4 held at a **m**..... 5 or in open air. During the feast, families **s**.....6 an animal and then divide it among themselves and the **p**..... 7. It is also a time for **v**..... 8 friends and family and for **e**.....9 gifts.

Eid al-Fitr is the second most important **f**..... 10 celebrated at the end of **R**..... 11, and paralleling **J**.....12 Passover and **C**13 Easter. Muslims **o**..... 14 early morning prayer and then go home to **b**..... 15 their fast with a daytime meal. Muslims are also obliged to offer a special **c**16 to the needy.

For Sunnis, Ashura **m**..... 17 the exodus of Moses from Egypt. For Shia, it is the **a**..... 18 of the death of Muhammad's grandson Hussein in the Battle of Karbala. Shia Muslims perform **m**..... 19 rites.

Most Muslim **d**..... 20 celebrate Mawlid which commemorates the **b**..... 21 of Muhammad,

Unit 8

The Abbasid Dynasty: The Golden Age of Islam

The Abbasid Dynasty was the second of the two great dynasties of the Muslim Empire of the Caliphate. It overthrew the Umayyad caliphate in 750 CE, supporting the non-
1 Arab Muslims (*mawali*) and reigned as the Abbasid caliphate for more than 500 years. The period which began during the reign of the Abbasid caliph Harun al-Rashid (786 to 809), and ended with the collapse of the Abbasid Caliphate with the Mongol invasion in 1258, is often regarded as the Golden Age of Muslim civilization.

In 762, the political and cultural life shifted eastward from Damascus to Baghdad, where the second caliph Al-Mansur (r. 754–775) founded *Madinat al-salam* the “City of Peace”,
2 as the new capital. The city was built within circular walls, and it was more a government complex used mainly to house the caliph’s retinue than a residential city. Furthermore, Baghdad was located along the Tigris River and was economically supported by the rich and well-irrigated plains of Tigris and Euphrates, and the waterways which allowed commerce and contact with distant neighbors, such as the Chinese and Indians in the East, and the Byzantines in the West.

Abbasid success was based not on conquest, but on trade, industry, and agriculture. The enormous wealth and resources of the caliphs enabled them to become great patrons
3 of art and culture, and thus provide the more significant and lasting legacy of the Abbasid period, Islamic civilization. Baghdad reached the zenith of its economic prosperity and intellectual life in the 8th and early 9th centuries under Harun al-Rashid

(r. 786–809), who gained fame because of his patronage of the arts, and the luxury of his court reflected in the story collection “The Thousand and One Nights”.

Al-Mamun, the seventh Abbasid caliph (r. 813–833), founded the House of Wisdom (Bayt al-Hikma) in Baghdad, which included a library, a translation department, a research center and an astronomical observatory. Different types of Muslim, Christian and Jewish specialists were recruited to come and work under the House of Wisdom: translators, scientists, philosophers, and scholars. He also imported manuscripts of particularly important works from Byzantium that did not exist in the Islamic countries. Many of these manuscripts and books of a variety of philosophical and scientific subjects were translated into Arabic from Greek, Persian, Chinese and Indian. Thus, scholars were able to build on the information they translated and make new advances in their fields.

During the early Abbasid caliphate, the scholars of religion ‘ulama’ made the compilation of several canonical collections of Hadith still widely used by Muslims today. The most renowned are the collections of al-Bukhari (d. 870) and Muslim (d. 875) which are regarded as the two most authentic hadith collections in Sunni Islam.

The Abbasids reorganized the administration and created the office of vizier. Originally the vizier was the chief minister or representative of the Abbasid caliphs. He stood between the caliph and subjects, representing the former in all matters touching the latter. This withdrawal of the head of state from direct contact with his people was unknown to the previous Umayyad caliphate, and was certainly an imitation of Persian tradition. The caliph was advised by a council, called the divan or diwan, headed by the

vizier. Gradually the various provincial governors, known as emirs, began to break away from the central control of the caliphate and establish their own independent dynasties.

In 945 CE, the Buyids of Persia captured Baghdad and the fragmentation of the Islamic empire accelerated. This event initiated a century-long period in which much of the
7 empire was ruled by local dynasties. In 1045, the Abbasids were overpowered by the Seljuqs, who took what temporal power had been left to the caliph. The destruction and end of the Abbasid Dynasty came with the capture and sack of Bagdad by Mongol armies, in 1258 CE.

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

- | | | | |
|------------------------------|-------|-----------------------|-------|
| 1st p | | 4 th p | |
| 1. to remove from power | ..... | 19. to comprise; | ..... |
| 2. to consider | ..... | contain | ..... |
| 3. to rule | ..... | 20. especially | ..... |
| 4. breakdown | ..... | 21. to bring in | ..... |
| 5. epoch; era | ..... | 22. to hire; employ | ..... |
| 6. entering a place by force | ..... | 5 th | |
| 2 nd | | 23. famous | ..... |
| 7. to move | ..... | 24. generally; by all | ..... |
| 8. to provide space for | ..... | 25. genuine; | ..... |
| 9. faraway | ..... | reliable | ..... |
| 10. to establish | ..... | 6 th | |
| 11. court | ..... | 26. leaded | ..... |
| 12. situated | ..... | 27. first-mentioned | ..... |
| 13. watered | ..... | 28. last-mentioned | ..... |
| 3 rd p | | 29. to separate | ..... |
| 14. sponsors | ..... | from | |
| 15. long-lived | ..... | 7 th p | |
| 16. hence; therefore | ..... | 30. splitting | ..... |
| 17. highest point | ..... | 31. to get faster | ..... |
| 18. riches | ..... | 32. to start | ..... |
| | | 33. to gain control | ..... |
| | | over | |
| | | 34. worldly; non- | ..... |
| | | spiritual | |

B. Say whether the following sentences are True or False. If False correct them.

1. The Abbasids governed the Arab world for about give hundred years.
2. The Abbasid dynasty was the third major Islamic dynasty.
3. Bagdad was situated on Euphrates River.
4. Al-Mansur moved the empire's capital from Bagdad to Damascus.
5. Samarra replaced Bagdad as capital for a long period of time.
6. The location of Bagdad facilitated the commerce with far away peoples.
7. The period 786-809 was the zenith of Bagdad's economic prosperity.
8. In the House of Wisdom scholars translated books and manuscripts into Arabic and other languages.
9. The Golden Age of Muslim civilization included the reign of Al-Mamun.
10. The luxury in Baghdad is memorialized in *The Thousand and One Nights*.
11. Local dynasties ruled for a century in the Abbasid caliphate.

C. Match the terms to their definitions:

- | | | | | |
|-----------|--------------|------------|-----------|---------------|
| a. divan | b. dynasty | c. emir | d. legacy | e. manuscript |
| f. office | g. patronage | h. scholar | i. ulama | j. vizier |

1. **A body of Muslim scholars recognized as having specialist knowledge of Islamic sacred law and theology.**
2. **A handwritten book, or other document.**
3. **A position of authority, or duty given to a person.**
4. **Governor of provinces appointed by the Abbasid caliphs.**
5. **A high-ranking political advisor or minister in certain caliphates.**
6. **The financial or other support given to a person, organization, cause, or activity.**
7. **A Muslim council of a caliphate.**
8. **A succession of rulers from the same family or line.**

9. **Something handed down from an ancestor or from the past.**
10. **A specialist in a particular branch of study, especially the humanities.**

D. Fill in the missing words:

The Abbasids ruled the third **c**..... 1, succeeding Muhammad.

The second caliph Al-Mansur **f** 2 Baghdad as the new **c**.....3

of the Dynasty. **S**..... 4 on the River Tigris, Bagdad was an an important area for **c**.....5 and **e**..... 6 of ideas with neighboring peoples. The **e**..... 7 of the Abbasid Caliphs' rule is known as the Golden **A**..... 8 of Islam. For **n**.....9 five hundred years Bagdad was the most significant cultural **c**.....10 of Arab and Islamic **c**.....11.

Al-Mamun **e**12 the House of Wisdom, in Bagdad. Specialists of different **f**.....13 of science were **e**.....14 there. One of their **g**..... 15 was to translate Greek works into Arabic, and spread **k** 16 to the Arab world. In this way, the Abbasid Caliphate, greatly contributed to the **a**,,.....17 of many fields. The **s**..... 18 of Bagdad in 1258 is considered to be the **e**.....19 of the Abbasid Caliphate.