

ISLAM - PILGRIMAGE

1: THE HAJJ

Hajj is the fifth pillar of Islam. It means '**to set out for a definite purpose**'. Every Muslim tries to go to the holy city of Makkah at least once in a lifetime providing money and health allow. Hajj is an act of worship to renew faith. It is also an act of sacrifice and a time to give up worldly matters completely and to concentrate on Allah

To find out about Makkah:

READ Skills 1 page 72

And then...

ANSWER the Quick Questions on page 73

To discover how and why Muslims go to Makkah:

READ Skills 1 pages 74 - 75 and Six Religions pages 233 - 234

And then...

WRITE a few sentences explaining the importance of Hajj.

Ihram

READ Six Religions page 234 or any Islam Books

And then...

DRAW 2 pictures with labels (pin people will do) to show how a man and a woman dress for Hajj. Under your drawing copy out the words spoken as Ihram is put on.

EVALUATION/DISCUSSION

One of the main aspects of Hajj that show that everyone is equal. One of the reasons that schools have a uniform is to make all pupils seem equal. Do you think having a uniform is a good idea? What are your thoughts on this matter?

MAKE a postcard of the Ka'ba. Write a message on the back from a parent to your teenage child about the Ka'ba and your visit to Makkah.

EVALUATION/DISCUSSION

Consider some of the things that divide people in everyday life so that they do not always feel equal with others. Why do you think non- Muslims are not allowed to visit Makkah and the surrounding area?

2: HOLY PLACES

To find out what pilgrims do at places they visit:

READ Skills 1 pages 76 - 77 and Six Religions pages 234 - 237

And then...

DRAW a map or diagram showing the pilgrimage route. Explain what is significant, or what is done, at the following places:

Makkah Ka'ba Black Stone Safa and Marwa
Zamzam Mount Arafat Muzdalifah Mina Hajji Hajja

And then...

WRITE a few sentences to explain how Hajj:

1. Brings release and inner peace
2. Builds up courage and trust in God
3. Draws all Muslims together whether on Hajj or not
4. Unites Muslims not only with each other but with their prophets of the past

EVALUATION/DISCUSSION

Why it is so special to have been on Hajj. If you were a Hajji or Hajja, Which memories do you think would particularly influence you and stay with you for the rest of your life?