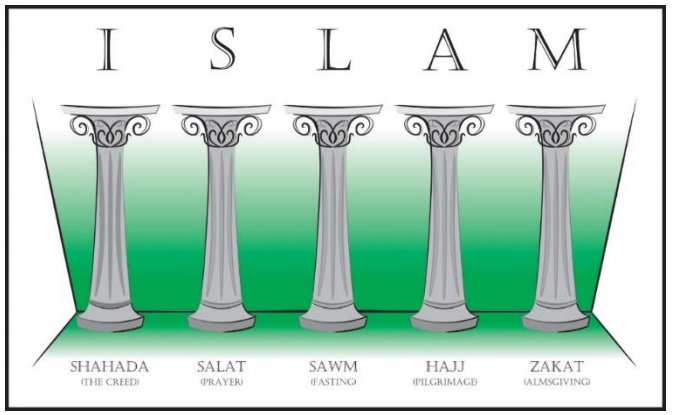
What does it mean to belong to the Islam? - Knowledge Organiser

Key words:
Allah - the Muslim word for God
Islam - the religion that believes in Allah and follows the guidance of the Prophet Muhammad
Ummah - the Muslim community, believed to all be brothers and sisters united by faith
Muslim - a person who believes in Allah and follows the religion of Islam
Prophet – a human messenger of the will of God
Submission - the action of accepting or yielding to a superior force or authority, in this case Allah (God)

There are 5 pillars of Islam.

These are important practices which unite the community and are seen as the foundations of Islam, holding up the faith.

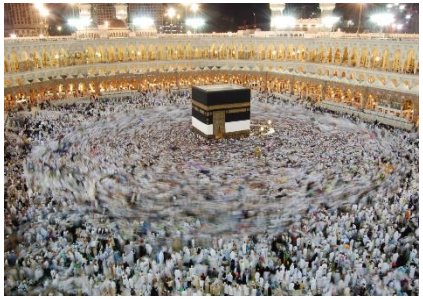
All Sunni Muslims are expected to try and follow them.



1. **Shahadah** - this is a statement about core Muslims beliefs. It translates as “There is no God but Allah and Muhammad was his messenger”

2. **Salah (prayer) -** Muslims pray 5 prayers a day. This reminds them of their faith and to regularly submit to Allah.

3. **Zakat (charity)** - this means charitable giving. Muslims are expected to give a minimum of 2.5% of their earnings to charity. This helps those in need.

4. **Sawm (fasting)**- For one month of the year Muslims are expected to fast. This means no food or water during daylight hours. This is seen as an act of devotion (loyalty), a test of faith because it is hard and a way to understand the suffering of those who are have little to live on.

5. **Hajj (pilgrimage)** - this is a pilgrimage, a journey with religious meaning. Muslims complete this journey as a group. They re-enact key moments from Islam’s history and remember the lives of important prophets. This pilgrimage helps them feel closer as a community and closer to God.