

The Five Pillars of Islam

These are the five pillars (1) of Islam. These hold it up.

- 1 Faith [monotheism (2), Muhammad (3) is the prophet]
- 2 Prayer (4) [five times a day facing Mecca (5)]
- 3 Alms (6) [charity]
- 4 Fast (7) [until sunset each day of the month of Ramadan]
- 5 Pilgrimage (8) [to Mecca at least once in a lifetime]

Notes

- 1) **pillars:** A pillar is generally a support piece, or something used to hold together the weight of a structure. In this context, the “five pillars” refer to the core beliefs of Islam, which serve as the foundational elements of the religion.
- 2) **monotheism:** Monotheism refers to the belief in one god. Judaism and Christianity are also monotheistic. In polytheistic religions there is more than one god, for example, the ancient Greeks believe in multiple gods.
- 3) **Muhammad:** Muhammad is the most important historical figure in Islam. He is regarded as the prophet who received the word of God which was written into the Koran, the sacred book of Islam.
- 4) **prayer:** Observant Muslims pray five times per day in accordance with rituals that vary by national culture. In daily prayer, the forehead touches the ground to signify submission to God.
- 5) **Mecca:** Mecca is a city in Saudi Arabia held sacred to Muslims as the place where Mohammed received messages from God which he wrote down as the Koran.



- 6) **alms**: Charity is a key principle of Islam. This form of giving may come in the form of money, food, or other donations given to the poor or needy.
- 7) **fast**: During the Holy Month of Ramadan, devout Muslims fast--or stop eating--every day until sunset.
- 8) **pilgrimage**: If they are able, Muslims are expected to make pilgrimage to Mecca at least once in their lifetime.

Songwriter-Lance Fialkoff; Guitar & Vocals-Lance Fialkoff; Keyboard, Beat & Vocals-Gary Levitt~Young Love Studio, Brooklyn, NY © 2017. All Rights Reserved. Musical Media for Education (MME)