

All about Ramadan

What Is Ramadan?

Ramadan is a religious festival celebrated by Muslims which lasts for 29 or 30 days. It is in the ninth month of the lunar calendar. Muslims believe that Ramadan is a time to remember when the Qur'an was revealed by the Prophet Muhammad.

What Do Muslims Do During Ramadan?



They go to the mosque more often.



They read the Qur'an more regularly.



They try to give up bad habits.



They give money to charity.



They fast during daylight hours.
This means they won't eat or drink between sunrise and sunset.

Why Do People Fast During Ramadan?

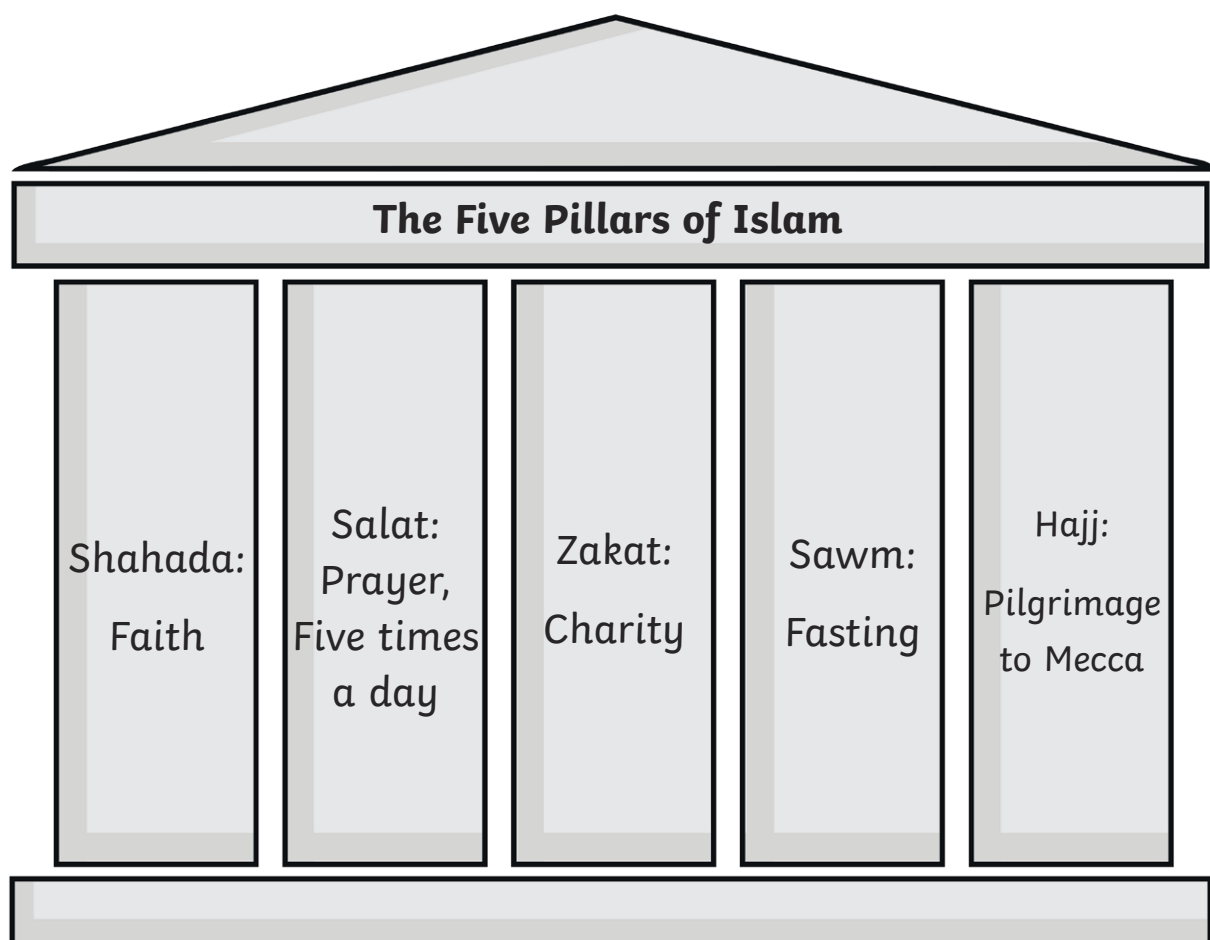
People fast during Ramadan as a way of learning to wait for things and to have empathy and understanding for people who do not have as much as themselves. Fasting is difficult and young, old or unwell people do not have to fast.

What Happens at the End of Ramadan?

At the end of Ramadan, there is a 3-day celebration called Eid al-Fitr. Friends and family gather together to pray and share meals and gifts. Food is also given to the poor.

Key Words

- **Muslims** - a follower of Islam who believes that there is one true God called Allah
- **pilgrimage** - a religious journey
- **Qur'an** - the holy book for Muslim people



These are the five things you must remember to be a good Muslim.

Questions

1. How long does Ramadan last for?

2. Match the names of the five pillars of Islam with their meaning.

Shahada	prayer
Salat	faith
Zakat	fasting
Sawm	charity
Hajj	pilgrimage

3. Name two things that Muslims do during Ramadan.

4. What is a pilgrimage?

5. What is the name of the Muslim holy book?

Do you think fasting would be difficult? Why?
