

## **Glossary and Resources for Study of Islam**

### **Updated 3-16-18**

#### **Five Pillars of Islam**

Shahada (Faith)  
Salah (Prayer)  
Sawn (Fasting)  
Zakat (Charity)  
Hajj (Pilgrimage to Mecca)

#### **Prayer times**

Fajr (dawn)  
Dhuhr (morning)  
Asr (afternoon)  
Maghrib (evening)  
Isha (night)

#### **Prayer and Observance**

Allah – God  
Bismillah -- “In the Name of Allah” (Bi Ism Allah)  
Companion – A follower of Muhammed during his lifetime  
Dua – Personal supplication  
Dhikr - Personal devotional acts, often recitation of portions of the Quran  
Eid - Best translated as “festival” but refers more specifically to the two major holidays  
Halal – “Mutar,” according to Muslim law  
Haram – Unclean, forbidden  
Hafiz - Someone who has memorized the entire Quran in Arabic  
Iblis/Shaitan - Satan  
Iftar – The end-of-day meal during Ramadan, breaking the day’s fast  
Ism -- “Name” in Arabic (“Shem” Hebrew)  
Jinn - Spiritual being  
Jummah – Literally translates to “Day of Gathering; refers to Friday and/or Friday prayers  
Khutbah - The teaching or sermon at Jummah services  
Masjid – Mosque or Muslim prayer space  
Mosque – The English equivalent of “Masjid.” In the United States, the physical space is not necessarily a stand-alone building. It can be a room.  
Nabi - Prophet  
Ramadan – The month of fasting and prayer. This year May 16 to June 14  
Rasul - Messenger  
Salah – Formal prayer, worship  
Sunnah – The way of Mohammed

Wudu – Ritual ablutions (washing) before prayer

### **Expressions and Interjections**

Alhamdulillah - “All praise and thanks be to God”

Inshallah - “If Allah wills it”

Mashallah - “God has willed” or “It has been willed by God.” Usually recited after something positive happens

Allahu Akbar - God is Great. Also recited after something positive happens, though generally reserved for more spontaneous, serendipitous, or “miraculous” events

Ya (Ya Allah) – Interjection, “O, God”

### **Pilgrimage**

Dhu al-Hijjah – the Islamic month of pilgrimage

Hajji/hajja – Someone who has made a the pilgrimage (m/f)

Kaaba – The black cube in Mecca; considered to have been built by Abraham

Mecca – The holiest city of Islam, the end-point of pilgrimage

Mount Marwah - A mountain where Hagar ran from to seek help for her son after Abraham left them in the desert

Mount Safa - A mountain where Hagar ran from to seek help for her son after Abraham left them in the desert (She ran between Safa and Marwah)

Ramee - Stoning the Devil in Mina

Sa’yee - Traveling seven times between Mount Safa and Mount Marwah

Tawaf - Circumambulating around the Kaaba

Umrah – Pilgrimage at a time other than the Hajj; known as “minor pilgrimage”

### **Qu’ranic Study**

Ayah – A verse of the Qur’an

Hadith – Reports of the life and teachings of Muhammed

Qu’ran – The holy scripture of Islam

Surah – A chapter of the Qur’an

Tafsir - The science of interpreting the Quran

Tajwid - The formal chanting of the Quran

### **Clergy**

Imam - Linguistically means “leader,” but refers to those who lead a congregation or community.

Sheik - Linguistically means “elderly person,” and can be used interchangeably with Imam, though typically not used for young Imams.

## Muslim Prayer Service Transliteration and Translation

Make the intention of praying then raise hands to ears and say:

**Allaahu Akbar:** Allah is the greatest!

**Subhaanaka Allaahumma wabi hamdika wa tabaarakasmuka wa ta'aala jadduka wa laa ilaaha ghayruka.**

Glory be to You, O Allah, and all praises are due unto You, and blessed is Your name and high is Your majesty and none is worthy of worship but You.

**A'oodhu billaahi minash-Shaytaanir-rajeem**

I seek Allah's protection from Satan the accursed.

**Bismillaahir-Rahmaanir-Raheem**

In the name of Allah, the Most Compassionate and the Most Merciful.

**Alhamdul lillaahi rabbil 'aalameen; Ar-rahmaanir-raheem; Maaliki yawmiddeen; Iyyaaka na'budu wa iyyaaka nasta'een; Ihdinas-siraatal mustaqeem; Siraataladheena an'ama 'alayhim; ghayril maghdubi 'alayhim; waladdaal-leen. Ameen**

Praise is only for Allah, Lord of the Universe; The most Compassionate, the Most Merciful; The Master of the Day of Judgement; You alone we worship and to You alone we pray for help; Show us the straight path, the path of those whom You have blessed, who have not deserved Your wrath, nor gone astray.

**Qul huwallaahu 'ahad, Allaahus-Samad. Lam yalid walam yoolad. Walam yakullahu kufuwan ahad.**

Say: He is Allah, the Only One. Allah helps and does not need help. He did not produce a child, and He was not born of anyone. There is no one equal to Him.

**Subhaana Rabbi-yal Azeem:** "Glory to my Lord the Exalted".

**Sami'a Allaahu liman hamidah:** "Allah listens to him who praises Him":

**Rabbanaa lakal hamdu:** Oh our Lord, all praise is to You.

**Subhaana Rabbiyal A'ala:** "Oh Allah, glory be to You, the Most High."

**Athahiyyaatu lillaahi was-salawaatu wattayyibatu. Assalamu 'alaika ayyuhan-nabiyu warahmatullaahi wabarka'tuhu. Assalamu 'alaina wa'ala 'ibaadillaahis saa'liheen. Ash'had'u alla ilaha illallahu wa ash'hadu anna Muhammadan abd'uhu ea rasooluh.**

All compliments, all physical prayer and all worship are for Allah. Peace be upon you, O' Prophet, and Allah's mercy and blessings be on you. Peace be on us and on all righteous slaves of Allah. I bear witness that no one is worthy of worship except Allah and I bear witness that Muhammad is His slave and Messenger.

**Allaahumma salle 'alaa Muhammadin wa'ala' aale Muhammadin kama sallaiyta 'alaa Ibraheema wa 'aAlaa Aale Ibraheema. Innaka Hameedum Majeed. Allaahumma baarik 'alaa Muhammadin wa 'alaa aale Muhammadin kama baarakta 'ala Ibraheema wa 'alaa Aale Ibraheema. Innaka Hameedum Majeed.**

Oh Allah, send grace and honour on Muhammad and on the family and true followers of Muhammad just as you sent Grace and Honour on Ibrahim and on the family and true followers of Ibrahim. Surely, you are praiseworthy, the Great. Oh Allah, send your blessings on Muhammad and the true followers of Muhammad, just as you sent blessings on Ibrahim and his true followers. Surely, you are Most Praiseworthy, the Exalted.

**Assalamu 'alai'kum warah'matullaah:** Peace and mercy of Allah be on you.