



## GUIDE TO READING NOTES 9

Read your assigned section of *History Alive! The Medieval World and Beyond*. Answer the questions for that section. You will take notes for the other sections during the class presentations.

### 9.3 The Qur'an and the Sunnah

1. What is the difference between the Qur'an and the Sunnah?

The Qur'an is Islam's sacred book and is considered to be the words of God. The Sunnah is the example set by Muhammad.

2. How is the Qur'an related to the Christian Bible and the Jewish Torah? (See Section 9.2 for more information.)

Several of the figures in the Torah and the Bible are also found in the Qur'an. The Qur'an states that God "earlier revealed the Torah and the Gospel as a source of guidance."

3. How do Muslims show their reverence for the Qur'an?

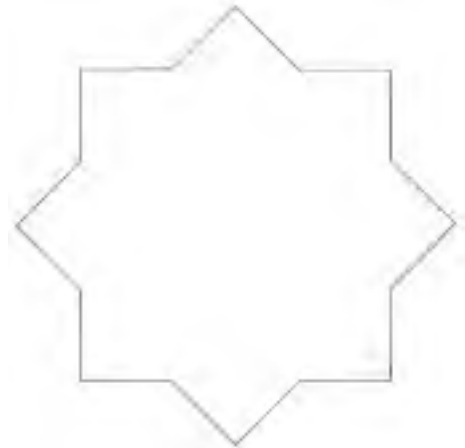
They do not let the book touch the ground or get dirty. Most Muslims memorize all or part of the Qur'an.

4. How are hadith related to the Sunnah?

The Sunnah are Muhammad's actual words and deeds. Hadith are a written record of the Sunnah.

5. In the star, make a sketch to illustrate this section.

Sketches will vary.



### 9.4 The First Pillar: Shahadah (Profession of Faith)

1. What phrase do Muslims repeat as an expression of shahadah?

"There is no god but God, and Muhammad is the messenger of God."

2. According to Muslims, who is Allah?

Allah is the one, all-powerful God who created the universe.

3. How does Allah relate to the God of Christians and Jews? (See Section 9.2 for more information.)

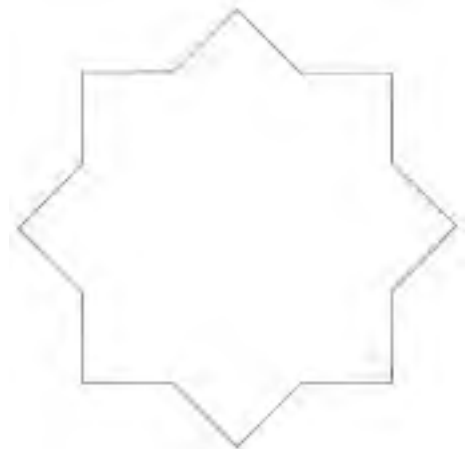
Muslims believe that all three of these religions worship the same God.

4. What do Muslims believe about angels and judgment?

Muslims believe that angels do Allah's work throughout the universe. They believe that everyone will face God's judgment; some will go to paradise, others to hell.

5. In the star, make a sketch to illustrate this section.

Sketches will vary.

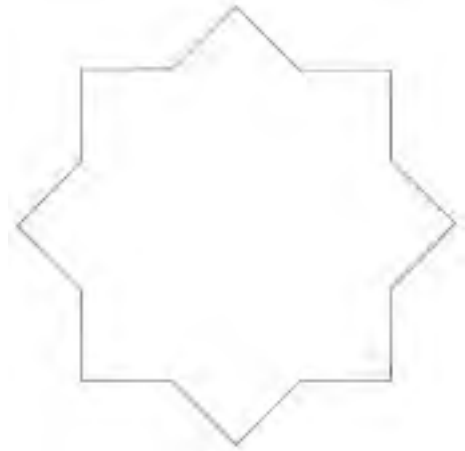




## 9.5 The Second Pillar: Salat (Daily Worship)

- Where and how often do Muslims pray?  
Muslims pray five times a day, wherever they are.
- Toward what city do Muslims pray?  
Muslims pray toward Makkah.
- What are Muslims required to do before they pray?  
They must perform ritual washings of their hands, face, arms, and feet.
- What do beads, rugs, mosques, the qibla, muezzins, and imams have to do with worship?  
Prayer beads are used in reciting God's characteristics, rugs are for kneeling on, mosques are where Muslims gather to worship, the qibla is the direction of Makkah, muezzins call others to prayer, and imams are prayer leaders.

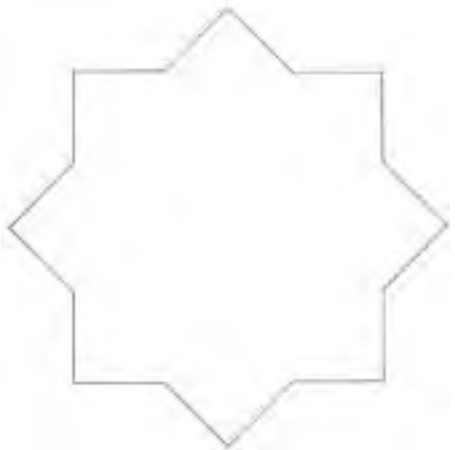
- In the star, make a sketch to illustrate this section.  
Sketches will vary.



## 9.6 The Third Pillar: Zakat (Almsgiving)

- Why is charitable giving important to Muslims?  
Muslims believe that wealth is purified by giving some of it away, that sharing helps control greed, and that giving reminds people of God's gifts.
- How much of their wealth do Muslims give?  
They give about one fortieth of their surplus wealth and possessions.
- What kinds of things does zakat pay for?  
Zakat pays for orphanages, hospitals, soup kitchens, and clothing and shelter for the poor. It pays debts for the poor and helps stranded travelers.
- Are Muslims the only religious group that emphasizes giving? Explain your answer.  
No; Jews and Christians, for example, also believe in giving a portion of their wealth to support others.

- In the star, make a sketch to illustrate this section.  
Sketches will vary.





## 9.7 The Fourth Pillar: Siyam (Fasting)

1. What is siyam? When is it performed?

*Siyam is daily fasting. It is performed from sunrise to sunset during Ramadan, the ninth month of the Islamic lunar calendar.*

2. What rule about food do Muslims observe during Ramadan?

*Muslims do not eat or drink between sunrise and sunset.*

3. How do Muslims break their fast during Ramadan? How is the end of Ramadan celebrated?

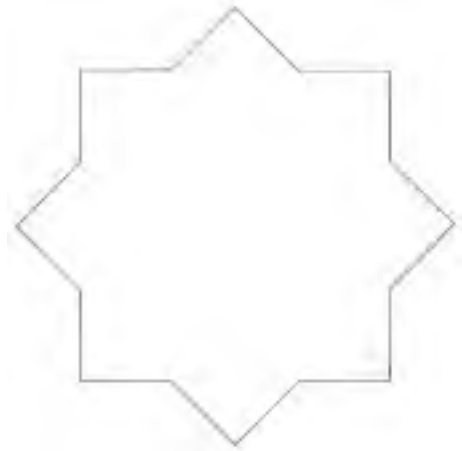
*Muslims break the daily fast at sunset, with dates and other food and drink. The end of Ramadan is celebrated with prayers, special foods, an exchange of gifts, and giving to the poor.*

4. What does Ramadan encourage?

*Ramadan encourages generosity, equality, and charity. Muslims are also encouraged to avoid arguments and bad deeds, to give thanks, and to forgive people.*

5. In the star, make a sketch to illustrate this section.

*Sketches will vary.*



## 9.8 The Fifth Pillar: Hajj (Pilgrimage)

1. What values does the hajj promote?

*The hajj promotes fellowship and equality.*

2. How do Muslims dress for the hajj?

*They wear simple white clothing.*

3. What is the Ka'ba?

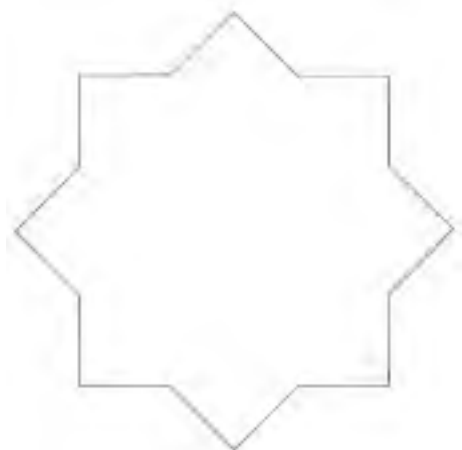
*The Ka'ba is a shrine built by Abraham to honor God.*

4. What other important sites do Muslims visit during the hajj?

*They travel along a passage between two small hills, as Hagar did when she searched for water. They camp in tents at Mina, pray at the plain of Arafat, and some climb Mount Arafat. Before leaving Makkah, they circle the Ka'ba seven more times.*

5. In the star, make a sketch to illustrate this section.

*Sketches will vary.*





## 9.9 Jihad (Struggle)

1. How does jihad relate to Muslims and their personal struggles?

*Jihad gives Muslims a way to respond positively to external and internal challenges.*

2. What is the “lesser jihad”?

*The “lesser jihad” relates to the external struggle against oppression, the outer battle.*

3. What is the “greater jihad”?

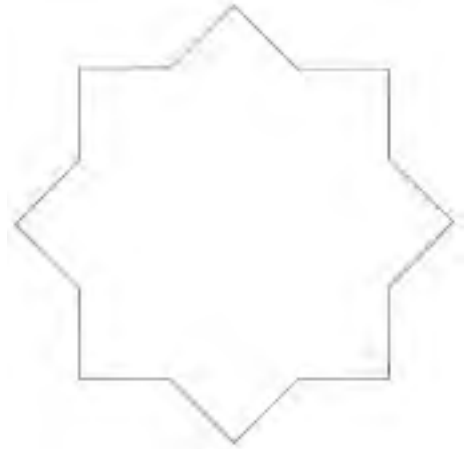
*The “greater jihad” is the fight against evil within oneself.*

4. What standards did the Qur’an and Muhammad set for Muslims’ conduct during war?

*The Qur’an and Muhammad say that Muslims should honor agreements made with enemies and that they should not mutilate the dead, harm innocents, or destroy property, orchards, crops, sacred objects, or houses of worship.*

5. In the star, make a sketch to illustrate this section.

*Sketches will vary.*



## 9.10 Shari’ah: Islamic Law

1. What is shari’ah, and how did it develop?

*Shari’ah is the body of Islamic law based on the Qur’an and the Sunnah. It guides Muslims in their personal behavior. It was developed by caliphs and scholars who used the Qur’an and the Sunnah to solve problems that arose.*

2. What values does shari’ah promote?

*It promotes obedience to the Qur’an and respect for others.*

3. What are three examples of behaviors that shari’ah regulates?

*Muslims may not eat pork, drink alcohol, or gamble. They must dress modestly.*

4. How has shari’ah changed over the years?

*Western codes of law have replaced or supplemented shari’ah in many Muslim countries. Shari’ah continues to develop in response to modern ways of life.*

5. In the star, make a sketch to illustrate this section.

*Sketches will vary.*

