

A VOCABULARY RESOURCE

Islam: the name of the Muslim faith; means “peace” or “submission”

Muslim: the name of one who practices Islam

Religious terms:

<i>As-salamu Alaykum</i>	“Peace be upon you”
<i>Allah</i>	“The one and only God” -Arabic word for God
<i>Imam</i>	The respected title given to a mosque leader
<i>Qur’an</i>	Holy book with teachings of Islam
<i>Hadith</i>	Literally means “statement,” “talk” or “narrative” - Collection of traditions containing sayings of the prophet Muhammad - Major source of guidance for Muslims apart from the Qur’an
<i>Prophet Muhammad</i>	- The final recognized prophet of Islam born in 570 CE in Mecca, Saudi Arabia - Received first revelation at 40 years old and preached Islam for 23 years under persecution until his death - Believed to have led the perfect Muslim life illustrating Qur’anic teachings
<i>Hajj</i>	- Holy pilgrimage to Mecca - Obligatory once in a lifetime for every adult Muslim, provided one has the physical and financial means
<i>Ramadan</i>	- Ninth month of the Islamic lunar calendar - A time of fasting from food, drink and desires from dawn to sunset
<i>Zakat</i>	- Alms giving - An annual payment of 2.5% of one’s net savings each year to be spent on the poor and those in need
<i>Jihad</i>	The challenge to achieve piety, submission and obedience to Allah
<i>Five Pillars of Islam</i>	1. The Declaration of Faith 2. Five daily prayers 3. Charity 4. Fasting 5. Pilgrimage to Mecca

A Vocabulary Resource. Compiled by Sarah Kretschmann of Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota.