

Glossary

Adhan the call for prayers; muadhhdhin is one who performs adhan

Dirham an Islamic silver currency weighing approximately 3.12 grams

Hafiz one who knows the entire text of the Holy Qur'an by heart; plural "huffaz." In *hadith*, one is called *hafiz* if he memorizes one hundred thousand traditions with their chains of narrators

Hajj Islamic pilgrimage to Mecca during the month of Dhul-Hijjah Hijabah the trusteeship of the Ka'bah

Ihram pilgrimage garb, two white unwoven cotton robes worn by pilgrims

Kafir infidel, apostate, atheist, one who does not believe in the existence of the Creator, one who deliberately covers the truth.

Khandaq moat, ditch

Khums one-fifth of one's savings (usually paid by Shi'a Muslims only) set aside from annual income

Muhaddith one who narrates hadith, traditions of the Holy Prophet

Najis unclean, impure

Nadhr sing. of "nudhur," one's pledge to do something good, an act of charity, to show appreciation for the Almighty's fulfillment of his/her earnest worldly wish

Rifadah the act of feeding the pilgrims during the pilgrimage season

Sahih literally: authentic, correct, accurate; it is generally used to refer to a collection, group of

collections, or book of verified and authenticated *ahadith* (plural of hadith, tradition; see *muhaddith* above) of the Holy Prophet

Sajdah prostration

Saraya plural of sariya, a military expedition in which the Prophet himself did not participate

Shari'ah Islamic legislative system

Siqayah the act- of providing water to the thirsty (especially the pilgrims) free of charge

Tafsir (sing.) exegesis or explanation of Qur'anic verses and chapters; plural: tafasir

Tarikh chronicle, a book of history

Tawaf circling around Ka'bah

Umrah the lesser pilgrimage done outside the month of Hajj

Waqf a piece of property dedicated for the promotion of any particular good cause, a charitable trust, endowment

And surely Allah knows best.

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