**Islam**

-Mona’s Notes

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Five Pillars of Islam:

1. Shahadah – Declaration of Faith
2. Salat – Prayer
3. Zakat – Charity
4. Sawm – Fasting
5. Hajj – Pilgrimage to Mecca

* Shahadah (Declaration of Faith)

-Believe in no God, but one God.

-Muhammad (PBUH) is His last messenger: NO other messenger after Muhammad.

* Salat (Prayer)

-Worship 5 times a day – Prayers takes a few minutes, usually.

* Pre-dawn
* Noon (lunch)
* Mid-afternoon
* After-sunset
* Night

-Qibla (facing Mecca)

-Adhan (Call to prayers)

* Zakat (Charity)

-Eligible Muslims pa alms, an annual basis that helps to ‘purify’ their wealth.

-Funds collected are distributed to the poor, orphans, and needy in society.

-In the past, Zakah consisted of 2.5% of one’s accumulated wealth being donated. – This resulted in people trying to hide wealth.

-Now, there is no more number percentage you must distribute.

- (Even a smile is charity)

* Sawm (Fasting)

-Cannot eat from sunrise to sunset.

-Muslims fast during the month of Ramadan.

-Fasting helps Muslims:

* Build will-power
* Feel compassion
* Purify the body
* Strengthen their community relations
* Hajj (Pilgrimage)

-Once in a lifetime.

-Commemorates the trials of Abraham and his family.

-About 2-3 million people perform the Hajj annually.

Jihad:

2 Definitions:

1. Spiritual struggle against vice, passion, and ignorance.
2. Holy war against infidels and infidel countries.