The Hajj
Overview

- What is Hajj?
- Hajj in Islamic sacred writings
- Rituals of Hajj
- Islamic ethics expressed through Hajj
- Islamic beliefs associated with Hajj
- Impact of Hajj on adherent
- Impact of Hajj on community
What is Hajj?

Syllabus:
H1 – explains aspects of religion or belief system
What is Hajj?

- Hajj refers to the annual pilgrimage that Muslims embark on, to Mecca in Saudi Arabia, with the intention of visiting holy places and performing certain religious rites in accordance with the way prescribed by Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him).

- Hajj is one of the five pillars of Islam

- Hajj must be performed once in a lifetime for those who are financially and healthy enough to do so.
Hajj in Islamic Sacred Writings

Syllabus:
H1 – explains aspects of religion or belief system
Hajj in Islamic Sacred Writings

• *Hajj* in the *Qur’an*:
  
  – Behold, the first House (of Prayer) established for humankind is the one at Bakkah (Makkah), a blessed place and a (centre of) guidance for all peoples. (*Qur’an*, 3:96)
Hajj in Islamic Sacred Writings

• **Hajj in the Qur’an:**
  
  In it, there are clear signs (demonstrating that it is a blessed sanctuary, chosen by God as the centre of guidance), and the Station of Abraham. Whoever enters it is in security (against attack and fear). **Pilgrimage to the House is a duty owed to God by all who can afford a way to it.** And whoever refuses (the obligation of the Pilgrimage), or is ungrateful to God (by not fulfilling this command), God is absolutely independent of all creation. *(Qur’an, 3:97)*
Hajj in Islamic Sacred Writings

- **Hajj in the Hadith** (sayings of Prophet Muhammad):
  - Whoever performs Hajj to this house (the Ka’bah) and does not commit any obscenity and wrongdoing, he or she will come out as the day he or she was born – pure and free from sins.
Rituals of Hajj

Syllabus:
H4 – describes and analyses how aspects of religious traditions are expressed by their adherents
H8 - applies appropriate terminology and concepts related to religion and belief systems
Rituals of Hajj

• There are three types of Hajj:
  1. **Qiran**: Pilgrim performs umrah and hajj together, and ihram is not taken off until Eid al-Adha.
  2. **Tamattu**: Pilgrim performs umrah and hajj separately but both at the time of hajj. After completing umrah, the pilgrim can remove ihram until the day of tarwiya (8th of Dhul-Hijjah – first day of hajj).
  3. **Ifrad**: Pilgrim performs only hajj during the days of hajj. Not compulsory for pilgrim to sacrifice an animal.

• As **Hajj Tamattu** is the most popular, it will be outlined in detail.
Rituals of Hajj – Performing Umrah

- For Hajj Tamattu, pilgrims usually arrive one or two weeks before the actual start date of hajj, and perform their umrah.

- Umrah consists of getting into a state of ihram, making tawaf (circumambulation) around the Ka’bah, and doing sa’y (walking seven times between Mount Safa and Mount Marwa).

- After the completion of this, the pilgrims can get out of the state of ihram by shaving/cutting their hair (males), having a shower, and wearing normal clothes.
Rituals of Hajj – Performing Umrah

- The state of *ihram*:
• This is the end of the sample.
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