

GLOSSARY

Abbasid=Muslim caliphate that followed the Omayyad dynasty

astrology= the study of the sky and the stars

barefoot= without shoes

chemistry= the study of elements and their combinations

iconoclasy= the destruction of icons and images or monuments for religious or political reasons

iconography= the branch of art study that studies the identification, description, interpretation of the content of images

idols= gods under the form of statues that were prayed, usually reminding spiritual or natural elements

merchant= people selling things (clothes, spices, working tools) for a living

mosque= building where Muslims pray Allah

Omayyad= or *Umayyad*, it is a dynasty, the first caliphate which spreads Islam all over Northern Africa and Sicily and Spain

pattern= geometrical drawing

pillar= the so called *five pillars* are the five main rules of Islam, that all Muslims have to follow

prophet= the person encharged directly by God to tell the world his will

pilgrimage= the travel a believer must do once in his/her life, from the place he/she lives to the Mecca

Qu'raish= Muhammed's tribe

ramadam= fasting during a specific month

revelation= the moment during while the message of God was “told” to Muhammad by the angel Gabriel

salah= prayer, needed to be done five times a day towards Mecca

sedentary= settled down, opposite of nomadic

shahadah= declaration of faith, Muslims have to trust and understand the words of it (*There is no other God but Allah and prophet Muhammad is the final messenger*)

spread= not enclosed but for even more and more people to be known

succession= the person that will come after somebody, in order to continue his/her work/role

zakat= charity, alms-giving to poor people

SOME USEFUL SENTENCES

When was Muhammad born?

He was born in.....

Where did he live?

He lived in

How did people live in that specific time in Arabia?

People used to live..... / People lived inway.

Why did he choose Mecca as holy city?

Because Mecca was.....

Why didn't merchants follow his message?

Because they were.....

How many are the pillars of Islamic religion?

They are.....: the first is, the second....., the third.....; then the fourth is about.... and in conclusion the fifth.....

What does *jihad* mean?

This term stands for.....

Why do you think it's important to understand the roots of Islam?

Because I think it would be useful for.....

Do you find any common belief between Islam and Christianity?

I can think of.....

What about the spread of arts and science in Europe?

I can see.....

If you visit....you can notice....

Studying, you discover.....

Thanks to.... now we can use.....