

Hajj is one of the five pillars of Islam and one of the greatest acts of worship that Allah has prescribed for Muslims. Hajj is not just a physical journey to the sacred House of Allah in Mecca, but also a spiritual journey aimed at purifying the soul and drawing the believer closer to Allah. Allah says in the Holy Quran: "And proclaim to the people the Hajj; they will come to you on foot and on every lean camel; they will come from every distant pass" (Al-Hajj: 27). This verse highlights the universality of the call to Hajj and the significance of this obligation in uniting Muslims in one place to worship Allah.

### تَعْرِيفُ الْحَجِّ - The Meaning of Hajj

In the language, Hajj means to intend or aim at a particular place. In Islamic law, it refers to the intention to visit the sacred House of Allah for specific rituals at a particular time. Hajj is obligatory once in a lifetime for every adult, sane, and capable Muslim. As the Prophet ﷺ said: "Hajj is once, and whoever performs it more, it is a voluntary act" (Muslim).

### حُكْمُ الْحَجِّ - The Ruling on Hajj

Hajj is obligatory for every adult, sane, and capable Muslim. It is one of the pillars of Islam. Allah says: "And [due] to Allah from the people is a pilgrimage to the House – for whoever is able to find thereto a way" (Aal-Imran: 97). This means that Hajj is mandatory for those who meet the required conditions, which will be discussed later. It can only be exempted due to physical or financial incapacity.

## شُرُوطُ وَجُوبِ الْحَجِّ - Conditions for Hajj Obligation

The conditions of Hajj being obligatory

1. Islam: Hajj is not obligatory or valid for non-Muslims.
2. Sanity: Hajj is not obligatory for someone who is insane or mentally impaired, as the mind is a condition for accountability.
3. Puberty: Hajj is not obligatory for children, but if a child performs Hajj, it is valid. However, it does not replace the obligatory Hajj after they reach adulthood.
4. Freedom: Hajj is not obligatory for slaves until they are freed since they do not have full control over their time.
5. Ability: This includes both physical and financial ability. Those who cannot physically travel to Mecca or afford the expenses are not obligated to perform Hajj. Ability also includes having a safe means of travel.

## أَرْكَانُ الْحَجِّ - Pillars of Hajj

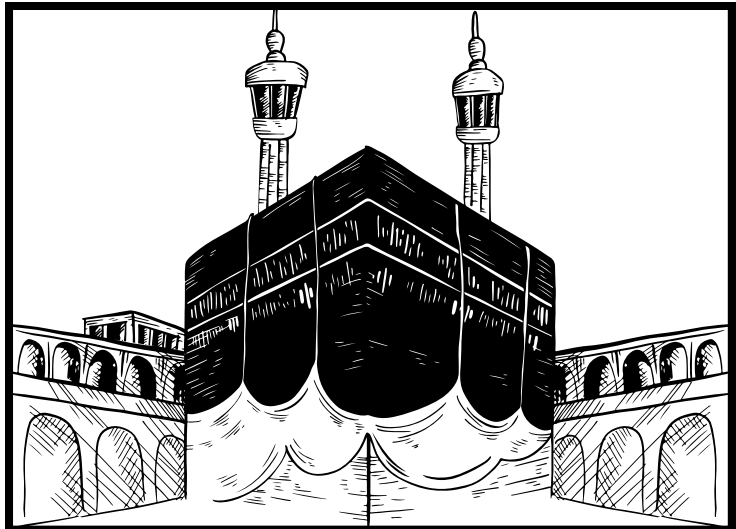
The pillars of Hajj are the essential acts that cannot be omitted, and they are:

1. Ihram: This is the intention to enter into the state of Hajj rituals, and it is done from the designated Miqat (specific locations). The pilgrim must wear unsewn garments, while women must cover the entire body except faces and hands.
2. Standing at Arafah: This is the most important pillar of Hajj, as the Prophet ﷺ said: "Hajj is Arafah" (Tirmidhi). The pilgrim must stand in Arafah for even part of the night on the ninth day of Dhul-Hijjah. Missing this means missing the Hajj.
3. Tawaf al-Ifadah: This is the circumambulation 7 times around Kaaba after standing at Arafah, and it occurs after the pilgrim arrives from Muzdalifah.
4. Sa'i between Safa and Marwah: This is the act of walking between the two hills, Safa and Marwah, seven times. Allah says: "Indeed, Safa and Marwah are among the symbols of Allah" (Al-Baqarah: 158).

## وَاجِبَاتُ الْحَجِّ - Obligatory Acts of Hajj

There are certain acts that are obligatory for Hajj, but if they are missed, an animal sacrifice (Fidya) must be made. These obligations include:

1. Entering Ihram from the Miqat: The pilgrim must assume Ihram from the designated Miqat for their region. If they bypass the Miqat without entering Ihram, they must offer a Fidya.
2. Overnight stay at Muzdalifah: The pilgrim must spend the night in Muzdalifah after leaving Arafah until at least midnight.
3. Stoning the Jamarat: The pilgrim must throw pebbles at the pillars of Mina on the three days of Tashreeq (11th, 12th, and 13th of Dhul-Hijjah), beginning with the Jamrat al-Aqaba on the day of Eid.
4. Shaving or cutting hair: After stoning the Jamarat, men must shave or cut their hair, while women cut a small portion of their hair (about the length of a fingertip).
5. Overnight stay in Mina: The pilgrim must spend the nights of Tashreeq (11th, 12th, and 13th of Dhul-Hijjah) in Mina.
6. Farewell Tawaf (Tawaf al-Wada): The pilgrim must perform a final circumambulation of the Kaaba before leaving Mecca, marking the completion of Hajj.



# سُنَنُ وَأَدَابُ الْحَجِّ - Sunnan and Etiquettes of Hajj

## Sunnahs and Etiquettes of Hajj

Hajj also includes many recommended practices (Sunnahs) and etiquettes that the pilgrim is encouraged to observe, such as:

1. Talbiyah: One of the Sunnahs of Hajj is the Talbiyah, reciting: "Labbayka Allahumma labbayk, labbayka la sharika laka labbayk, inna al-hamda wa an-ni'mata laka wa al-mulk, la sharika laka." This begins with Ihram and continues until the stoning of the Jamrat al-Aqaba.
2. Takbir and Tahleel: It is recommended to frequently recite praises such as "Allahu Akbar" and "La ilaha illa Allah" during Hajj.
3. Tawaf al-Qudum: It is recommended for the pilgrim to begin their arrival in Mecca with this circumambulation of the Kaaba.
4. Prayer in the Sacred Mosque (Masjid al-Haram): It is recommended to pray as much as possible in the Sacred Mosque, especially the obligatory prayers.
5. Charity and kindness: Hajj is an opportunity to give to charity and show kindness to the needy.
6. Patience and good conduct: Patience and self-control are important during Hajj.
7. Drinking from the water of Zamzam.

## فَوَائِدُ الْحَجِّ - Benefits of Hajj

### Benefits of Hajj

Hajj offers numerous religious, spiritual, and social benefits:

1. Drawing closer to Allah: Hajj enhances piety and faith, as the pilgrim engages in various acts of worship.
2. Forgiveness and repentance: Hajj is an opportunity for the Muslim to repent and seek forgiveness, as the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: "Whoever performs Hajj and does not engage in sexual relations, nor commit sin, will return as sinless as a newborn child" (Bukhari).
3. Islamic unity: Muslims from all over the world gather for Hajj, fostering unity and brotherhood.
4. Humility and equality: During Hajj, all Muslims wear the same clothing and stand equal before Allah, reminding them of the equality of all humans in the sight of their Creator.

### Conclusion

Hajj is a pillar of Islam and one of the greatest acts of worship, where the body and soul meet in obedience to Allah. Every Muslim who has the ability should strive to perform Hajj and learn its rulings to fulfill it correctly. Hajj is not merely a journey to Mecca; it is an opportunity for spiritual purification, drawing closer to Allah, and achieving repentance and forgiveness.

# QUIZ

## True or False

1. Hajj is fifth pillars of Islam.
2. Non-Muslims are permitted to perform Hajj if they meet other requirements.
3. Spending the night in Muzdalifah after leaving Arafah is obligatory in Hajj.
4. The Prophet ﷺ stated that whoever performs Hajj without committing sin will return as sinless as a newborn child.
5. Shaving or cutting hair is optional for completing the rituals of Hajj.
6. Hajj can only be performed during the month of Dhul-Hijjah.
7. Standing at Arafah is recommended but not mandatory for Hajj.
8. Financial ability includes the pilgrim's ability to cover expenses for themselves and their dependents during Hajj.
9. Women are not required to enter Ihram from the Miqat.
10. Pilgrims are allowed to hunt animals for food during Hajj.

## Fill-in-the-Blank

1. The standing at \_\_\_\_\_ is the most important pillar of Hajj.
2. The Sa'i is performed between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Hajj is obligatory for every Muslim who is adult, sane, and \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The \_\_\_\_\_ farewell Tawaf performed before leaving Mecca is called \_\_\_\_\_.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ is the sacred water that pilgrims drink during Hajj.
6. Ihram garments for men must be \_\_\_\_\_, while women cover the \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Stoning the Jamarat symbolizes rejecting \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Spending the night in \_\_\_\_\_ is an obligatory part of Hajj.
9. \_\_\_\_\_ is the Arabic term for the journey to the sacred House of Allah.
10. Tawaf is performed \_\_\_\_\_ times around the Kaaba.

# QUIZ

## Answer the Questions

- 1- What is the meaning of Hajj in the Arabic language?
- 2- What is the most important pillar of Hajj?
- 3- How many times is Hajj obligatory in a Muslim's lifetime?
- 4- What must a pilgrim recite continuously during Ihram?
- 5- What are the conditions of obligation of Hajj?
- 6- What is the reward for performing Hajj correctly, as stated by the Prophet ﷺ?
- 7- Name some of the Sunnan acts performed during Hajj.
- 8- What are the pillars of Hajj?
- 9- What are the obligations of Hajj?



# QUIZ

## Multiple Choice Questions

Which of the following is NOT a condition for Hajj to be obligatory?

- A) Freedom
- B) Wealth
- C) Marital status

How many circumambulations are performed during Tawaf?

- A) 5
- B) 7
- C) 10

Ihram must be assumed from:

- A) Anywhere
- B) The Miqat
- C) Arafah

The verse commanding Hajj is found in:

- A) Surah Al-Baqarah
- B) Surah Aal-Imran
- C) Surah An-Nisa

The Talbiyah includes the phrase:

- A) "Labbayka Allahumma labbayk"
- B) "Subhanallah wa bihamdihi"
- C) "Allahu Akbar wa Lillah il-hamd"

Which of the following is NOT a pillar of Hajj?

- A) Standing at Arafah
- B) Sa'i between Safa and Marwah
- C) Stoning the Jamarat

What is the primary purpose of Ihram?

- A) To purify oneself
- B) To symbolize unity and equality
- C) Both A and B

The Farewell Tawaf is also called:

- A) Tawaf al-Qudum
- B) Tawaf al-Wada
- C) Tawaf al-Ifadah

Which of the following Sunnahs is highly recommended during Hajj?

- A) Reciting the Quran in Mina
- B) Drinking Zamzam water
- C) Both A and B

What is the main significance of stoning the Jamarat?

- A) Celebrating Eid
- B) Rejecting Shaytan (Satan)
- C) Completing Sa'i