

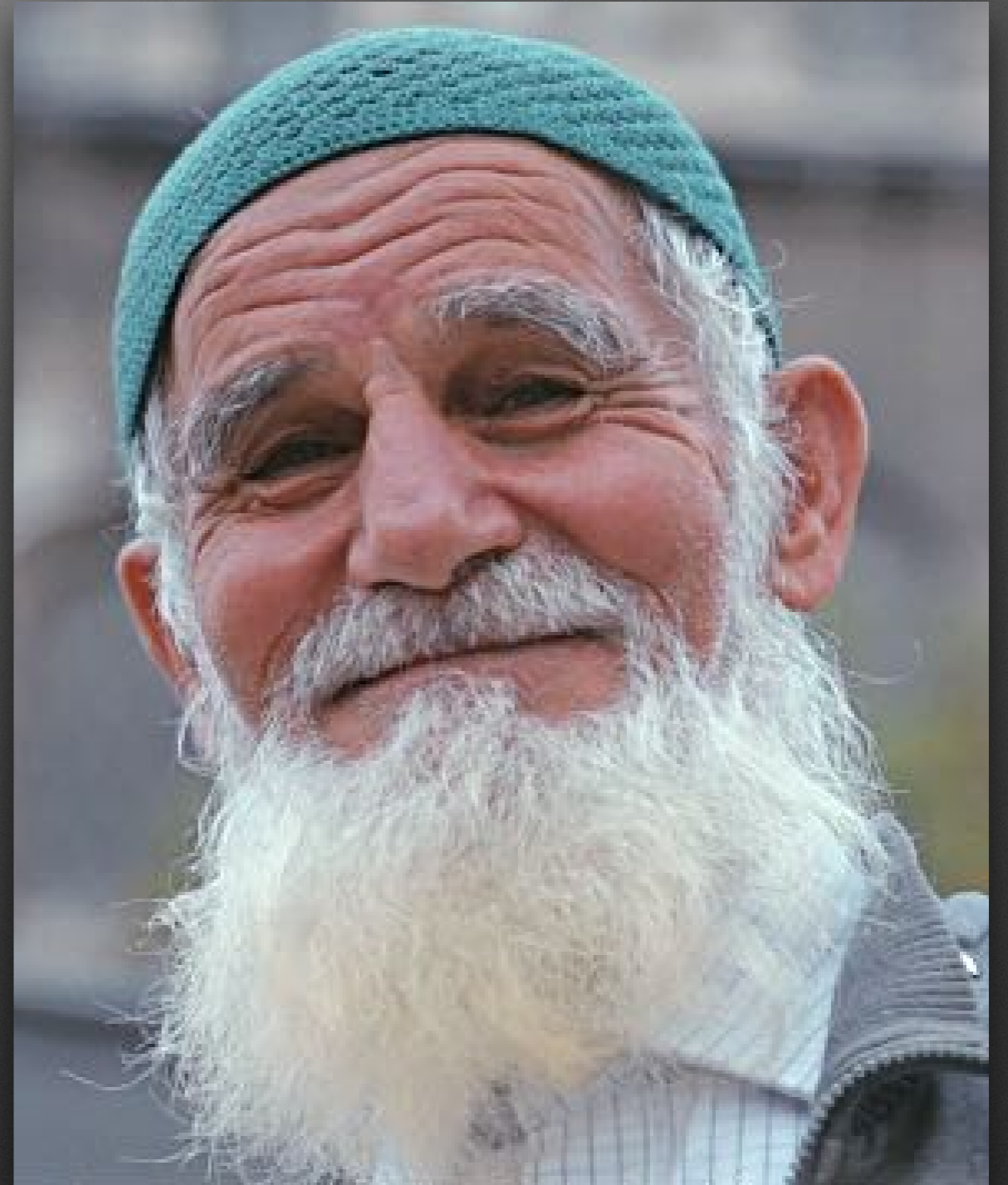


Din or Deen

Keys to Understanding Islam • The System of Islam
Life Together • Douglas Olena • October 14, 2018

مٲ كرىك : 2 ٲمٲ چىملاكنڭ قۇسۇنلارنى كۆرۈش

- A Page from History
- **The Islamic System — *Din***
- *The Muslim Community — Ummah*
- *Jihad*
- *Folk Islam*
- *Directions and Trends*



مٲ كرسك نوسنللسمٲ كرسك سلسلكن

The Islamic System – *Din*
(pronounced “deen”)

God
Muhammed
The Books
The Five Duties or Pillars
Other Beliefs: Prophets,
Human Nature, The Moral Code,
Women, Spirit Beings, Fate,
The Last Day



ISLAM ON DEMAND.COM

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ySbzyqQMkiE>

لغز

“Muslims are impoverished by a concept of God that transforms all relations with Him into rules and regulations.... It is an attempt to appease Him and keep Him at a distance to avoid His anger and revenge.” 56

-Sobhi Malek

Characteristics of God

- He is One
 - Undoubtedly, Islam is monotheistic.
 - Is Allah the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, father of Jesus.
 - At Mars Hill, Paul declares that the unknown God is the Christian/Jewish God. "... What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you." Acts 17:23
 - With respect to the Islamic Din, we will explore the values inherent in their theology of the One God.

Characteristics of God

- 53 He is Above All
 - Allah is creator and separate from the creation.
 - He not only transcends it but is aloof from it.
 - He is an incomprehensible abstraction.
 - He is remote and inaccessible.
- James Freeman Clarke: “Muhammed teaches a God above us; Moses teaches a God above us, and yet with us; Jesus Christ teaches God above us, God with us, and God in us.”

Characteristics of God

- 53 He is the Sovereign Master.
 - People are God's slaves or servants.*
 - People do not have the right to question his will.
 - There is no relationship with him, only obedience to him.
 - God's love is given to a person who sacrifices, but one still can't know if they have pleased him.
- 55 God may be capricious, "While He guides in a straight path, He also sometimes leads people astray."

*Babylonian Cosmology

Characteristics of God

- 55 “Even the most devout Muslim is not sure whether God will accept him on the Last Day or not, whether he will go to paradise or hell.”
- Malek is correct to remind us here in the words of Ishak Ibrahim that a man’s “concept of God exerts a profound influence on the way he acts.”

Characteristics of God

- ISV Psalm 18:26 “to the pure, you show yourself pure, and to the morally corrupt, you appear to be perverse.”
- 56 Tozer “We tend by a secret law of the soul to move toward our mental image of God.”
- 56 Morgan “The service ennobles or degrades according to the character of those worshipped.”

Characteristics of God

- Our theology is an important feature affecting our relationship with God.
- Muslims don't have a relationship with God as a Christian, or even as a Jew does.

فعلی جیمنگ پیپر

Status of Muhammed

- 57 Beliefs about him
 - He was the first creation of life.
 - He was born pure.
 - He is the final prophet of all prophets, the most important one.
 - His religion is perfect: “The Qur’an says that Islam is the perfect religion from God.”
- Much here is tradition, not Qur’an.

Status of Muhammed

- 57-58 Veneration of Muhammed
 - He is revered above any other human being.
 - Given a variety of titles that puts him above others
 - Some Muslims resist this veneration of Muhammed as idolatry.

Status of Muhammed

- 58 Muhammed is thought to be sinless.
 - Though the Qur'an does not suggest this, it is commonly believed.
 - He is thought to be infallible in judgment.
 - He is portrayed in the Qur'an as having made mistakes that Allah corrected, and is thus an example to follow.

Status of Muhammed

- 58 Muhammed intercedes with God for the Muslim.
 - He is the only intermediary between God and humans.
- His intercession can get a Muslim into paradise.
- He is called on in prayer.

(ک) لکھنؤ عظیم

The Book(s)

- The Qur'an
 - Sent by God to the greatest of prophets
 - The final word of revelation to people
 - Even though Muslims treat God as unknowable, the Qur'an suggests that people can know God because the prophets (OT and NT) knew him.
 - It is the central text, but not the only one.
- Bob Berg has suggested that they treat the Qur'an like we treat Jesus.

The Book(s)

- The Hadith
 - Less a revelation than a record of Muhammed's choices in and suggestions about life.
 - This collection of sayings of Muhammed is treated like our Bible.

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ڪم ڪرڻ

The Five Duties, Pillars

1. Confession of faith, the *Shahada*: There is no God except God and Muhammad is his Apostle.
 - Say this and mean it and you have become a Muslim
2. Prayer: 5 times a day, recitation after ritual cleansing
 - 60 “One cannot address God until he is clean.” ritual ablutions, washings
 - Face toward Mecca
 - Pray in Arabic, even it seems, if there is no understanding. It is a ritual.

The Five Duties, Pillars

3. Fasting during Ramadan.

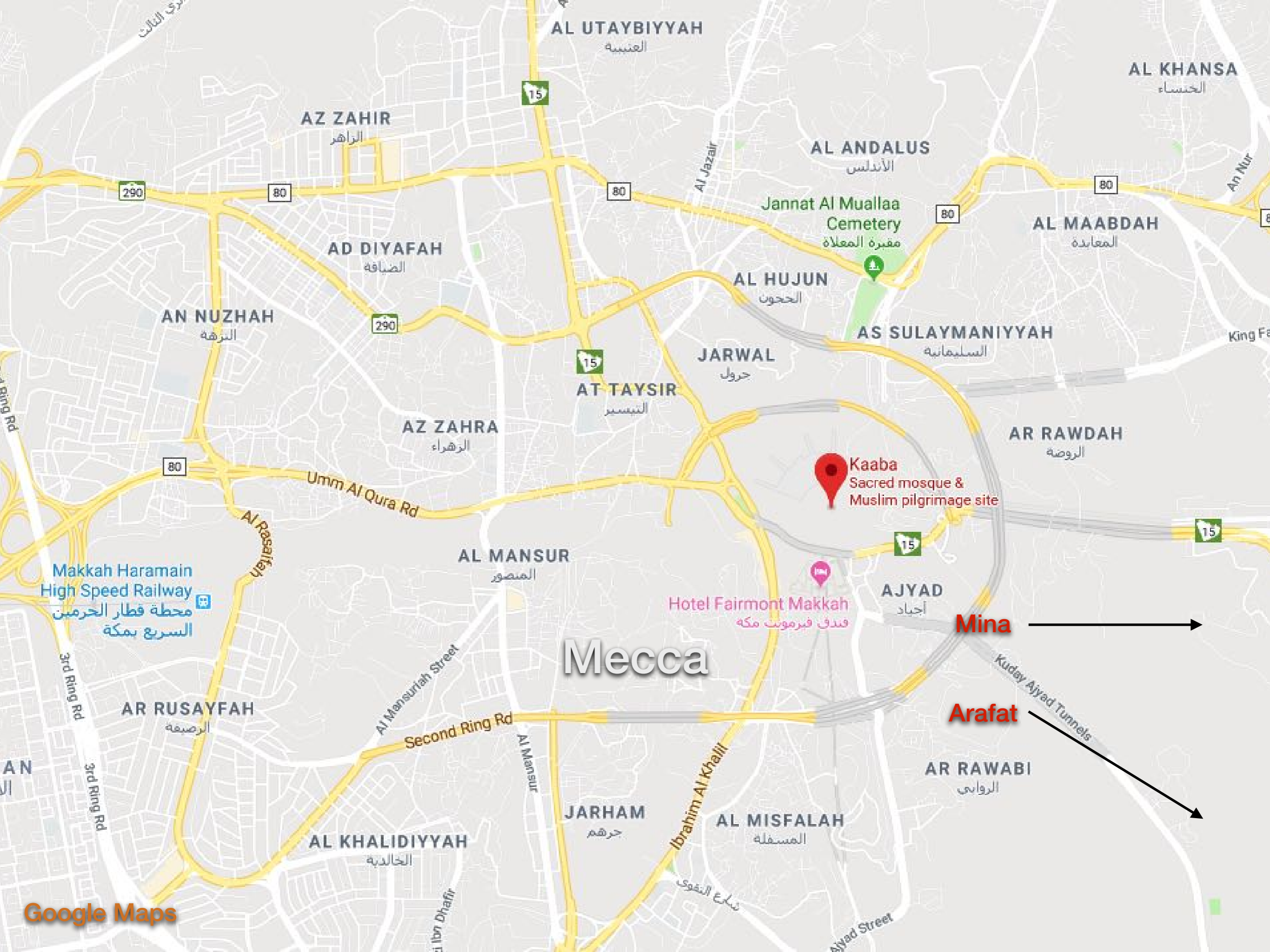
- Dawn to sunset (with exceptions)
- Abstention from eating, drinking, sex, smoking, smelling pleasant odors
- Most claim to fast but not all do. Keeping up appearances!

The Five Duties, Pillars

4. Almsgiving, a work of merit
5. Pilgrimage, the *Hajj*¹
 - At the beginning of the Hajj they confirm their intentions to make the pilgrimage.
 - Circle the Ka'aba in Mecca 7 times

¹ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hajj>





AL UTAYBIYYAH
العنبيه

AL KHANSA
الخنساء

AZ ZAHIR
الزاهر

AL ANDALUS
الاندلس

290

80

80

80

AD DIYAFAH
الضيافة

Jannat Al Muallaa
Cemetery
مقبرة المعلاة

AL MAABDAH
المعابده

AN NUZHAAH
النزهة

290

AL HUJUN
الحجون

AS SULAYMANIYYAH
السليمانية

AT TAYSIR
التيسير

JARWAL
جرول

AZ ZAHRA
الزهراء

AR RAWDAH
الروضة

80

Umm Al Qura Rd

Kaaba
Sacred mosque &
Muslim pilgrimage site

15

AL MANSUR
المنصور

Hotel Fairmont Makkah
فندق فيرمونت مكة

AJYAD
أجياد

Mina

Mecca

Makkah Haramain
High Speed Railway
محطة قطار الحرمين
السرير بمكة

AR RUSAYFAH
الرصيفة

Arafat

Second Ring Rd

AR RAWABI
الروابي

AL KHALIDIYYAH
الخالدية

JARHAM
جرهم

AL MISFALAH
المسفلة

Google Maps

The Hajj (cont.)

- Complete two units of prayer in the nearby Sacred Mosque at the place of Abraham.
- Run or walk 7 times between the hills of Safa and Marwah near the Ka'aba. The path is enclosed in the Sacred Mosque.



Sa'yee towards Safa



Center Aisle for elderly and disabled



Sa'yee return from Safa

The ritual Sa'yee walk commemorates Hagar searching for water for Ishmael in the desert.

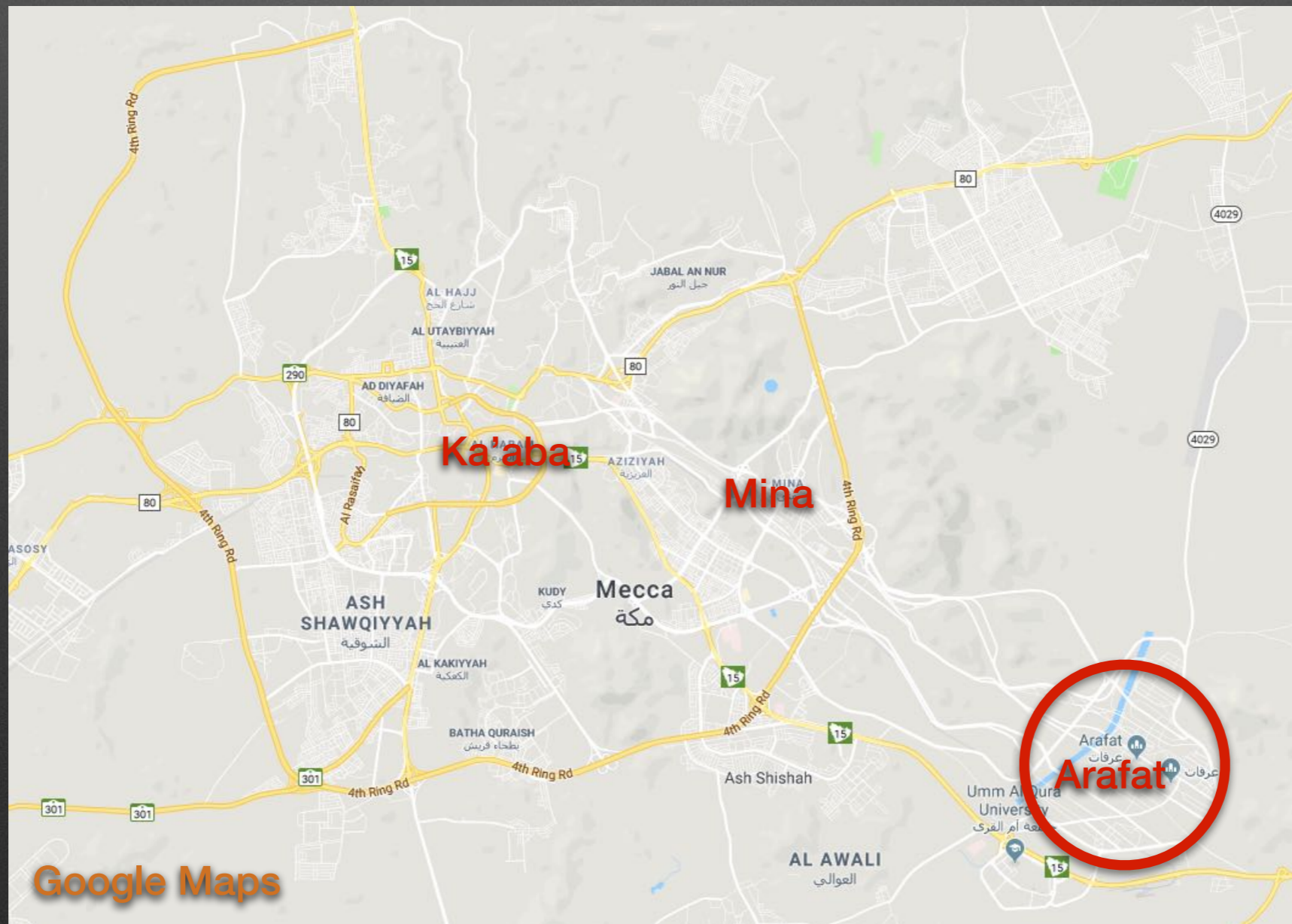
The Hajj (cont.)

- Go to Mina (4 miles, in the city of Mecca) to pray all night.



The Hajj (cont.)

- The next day go to the Valley of Arafat (8 miles) to praise Allah in the heat of the day to suggest the fires of hell.



The Hajj (cont.)

- Return to Mina the next day and throw the stones at the pillars of Jamraat, symbolically stoning the devil.

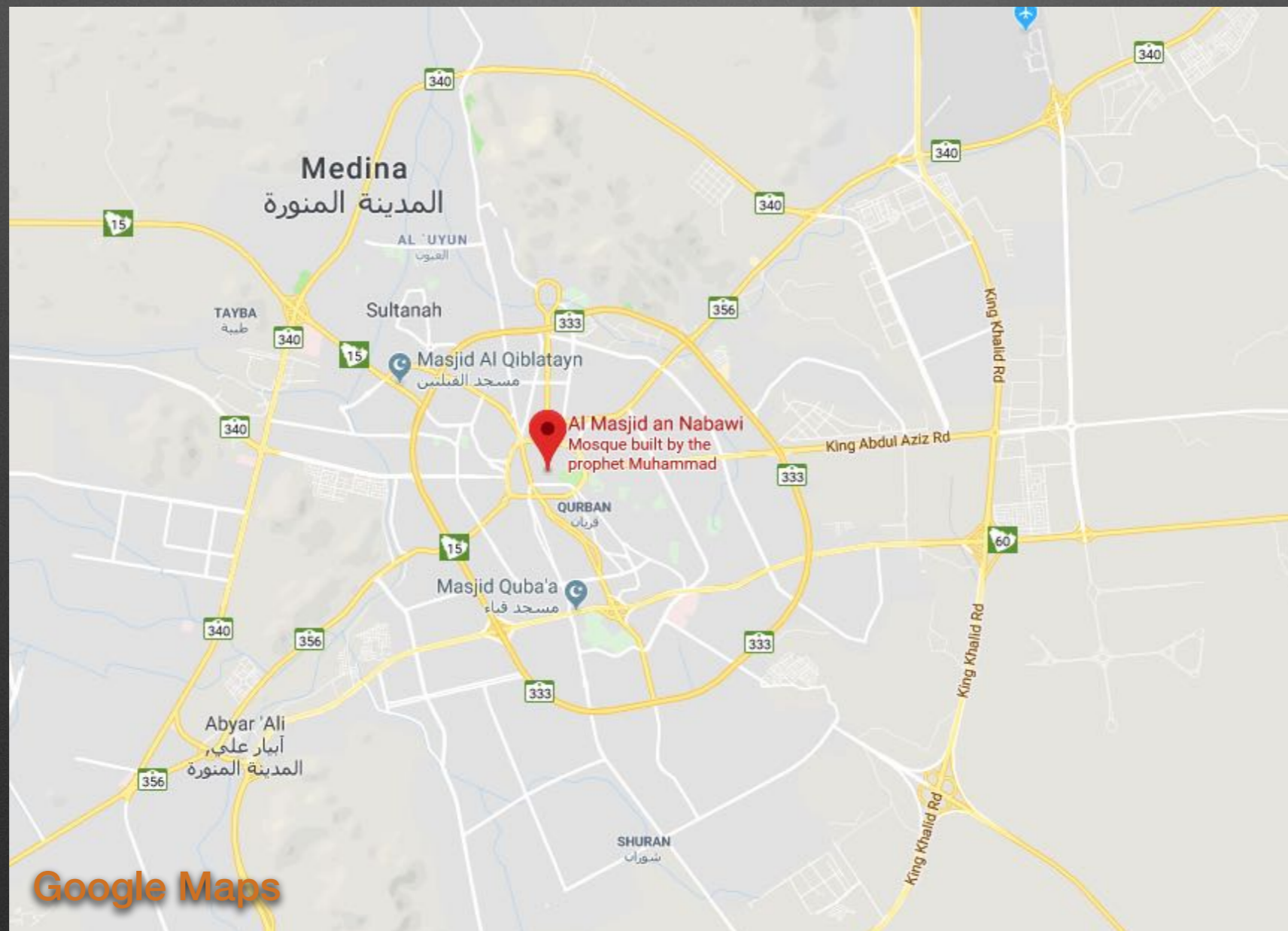


The Hajj

- Sacrifice a sheep or lamb, and distribute it to the poor.
- Men pilgrims shave their heads, women cut the tips of their hair.
- Back to the Mecca to walk around the Ka'aba 7 times.
- Back to Mina to stone the pillars for 3 or 4 days.

The Hajj

- Some, though not obligated, go to the Prophet's Mosque in Medina.



The Hajj

- “At the end of the Hajj, Muslims from all over the world celebrate the holiday known as the **Eid ul Adha** or Festival of the sacrifice.”²

² http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/islam/practices/hajj_1.shtml

کنعانکے ظہور سے پہلے

Prophets

- Islam includes thousands of prophets including ancient secular saints like Aesop.
- The Qur'an names 28, but the major ones are Moses, David, Jesus, and Muhammed.
- A prophet's mission is both spiritual and physical, so
 - Muhammed's spiritual mission was to be God's messenger. His physical mission included polygamy.
 - Cruelty and piety are two sides of the same coin.
 - warring and praying, fighting and fasting

Islam and Human Nature

- There is no difference between spiritual and carnal people in Islam.
- Sin for a Christian is a loss of relationship with God*, but for Islam because there is no relationship between God and people, sin doesn't affect God at all. Sin is breaking the code.
- There is no fallen nature, people are good by nature. So there is no need for sacrifice. Good works are enough to atone for individual sins.
- But nobody knows whether their sins are forgiven until the Last Day.

* whether as a result of original sin or actual sins.

The Moral Code

- There is a strict code of ethics: what is forbidden and what is encouraged.
- Punishments are often brutal and meant as deterrents to crime.
 - However, data and Christian theology don't support the deterrence thesis despite its justification in some societies.
- Islam permits revenge, though Christianity does not.

The Moral Code

- Is Islamic morality superior to Western morality?
 - to Christian morality?
 - drinking, gambling, adultery...
- The sins cited by some Muslims have as much history in Islam as they do in the West, as much currency today as well. (Malek cites a variety of sources.)

Women

- Women are defined by their roles in Islam, a practice not long in its grave in the patriarchal West, with many zombies still calling for its full resurrection.
- In every way, men are above women: religion, politics, the home, marriage, family, work.
- Women are defined by what men permit.
- Sexual attractiveness of women is the fault of women. Men responding to it inappropriately are not faulted.
- “A woman comes in the form of Satan...” Muhammed

Women

- 69 Emily Van Dalan — According to Islam women are “inherently unstable, weak-willed, incompetent, and illogical.”
- Marriage is slavery because a woman is required to be obedient to her husband in everything.
- It is implied that the veil on a woman’s face is to protect men.
- The asymmetry in male female relations is built into Islam.
- Where does this come from?

Spirit Beings

- Angels exist and cannot sin.
- Gabriel is often confused with the Holy Spirit in Islam.
- The *jinn* are something between angels and people.
 - They can do evil, help or harm people, eat, drink, have sex, etc. They can go to hell if they don't believe.

Fate

- 75 Everything is predestined by God.
 - God decrees that some stray from the path and some he guides to the right way.
 - This is like Calvinism's error.
 - Determinism is correct.
 - Freedom is just an illusion.
-
- There is a necessary connection between morality and freedom that neither Calvinism nor Islam admit.

Fate

- 76 “Luck, accident, death, misfortune, and failure are often credited to Allah.” a former Muslim
- The strength and intellect are captured by God in Islam.
- What is different about Christianity, at least a Christianity that admits libertarian freedom, not freedom in name only?

The Last Day

- The Last Day is a day of reckoning or judgment. “The day the debts fall due”
- “Deen al Islam” (the debt of submission) the sense that all of life in Islam is an indebtedness that must be accounted for
- We owe the debt of submission for the gift of life in the creation by the creator.

The Last Day

- Is the judgment day in Christ the same thing?
- Fear of the Last Day is an important motivation for doing good in one's life.
- However, one can never be sure!
- There is paradise or hellfire waiting at God's whim.
- This may account for the risk some take to martyr themselves for Islam. "How can God refuse me if I give all for the advancement of Islam?"

عزمتك عننا فسه لغمق

Din — Islamic Religion

- Thanks to Geoff for a whirlwind tour of Muslim culture.
 - The recommended PBS videos are a rich background into at least one Islamic nation, but give a fair idea how living as a Muslim must be, wrestling the din (debt, system of Islam) into the modern age.
 - The conflicts between history, culture, and religion leave unresolved tensions in people, tensions that are not and can not be resolved, but expose themselves along predictable lines.
 - Christianity in the US produces similar issues for different reasons.

Din — Islamic Religion

- The Bill of Rights forces a certain sort of resolution by requiring both freedom of religion (unspecified sorts) and requires that the federal government avoid specifying any official religion.
 - “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof...”
- Article 6 of the Constitution
 - “...no religious Test shall ever be required as a Qualification to any Office or public Trust under the United States.”

Din — Islamic Religion

- So any religion is permissible though historically Christianity in a variety of forms has been dominant.

Din — Islamic Religion

- But, Islamic governance intimately mixes religion and politics by making the patterns of the Qur'an and Hadith the template of government.
- Sharia law, an implementation of the traditions of ancient Islamic governance from the time of the Caliphates (rulers who followed Muhammed)
- The modern republics have a wide variety of relations to Sharia law, some with Islam being the state religion, with a secular-type legal system, while others have Islamic religion (Sharia law) as their legal system.
- other variants