

## **ISLAMIC PRONUNCIATION GUIDE**

Muslim terms are largely drawn from the Arabic language, and the versions below are based upon that language.

<b>GLOSSARY</b>	<b>PRONUNCIATION</b>	<b>EXPLANATION</b>
Allah	.al-lah	The one true God
Eid Mubarak	Eed-moo-bah-rahk	Festival
Eid-ul-Adha	Eed-uul-ahd-ha	Festival celebrating Abraham's Obedience
Eid-ul-Fitr	Eed-uul-fit-r	Festival celebrating the end of Ramadan
Hadith	Had-eeth	Collection of information of life and sayings of Muhammad
Hajj	Hahj	Pilgrimage to Makkah
Ka'bah	Kah-bah	The 'house of God' in Makkah
Kamiz	Kam-eez	Long loose tunic worn by some Muslims
Mihrah	mi-hrahb	Alcove in the wall indicating the direction of Makkah
Muhammad	Muu-ham-mad	The last prophet of God
Quiblah	Kib-lah	Facing in the direction of Makkah
Qu'ran	Kuu-rahn	The holy book
Ramadan	Ram-a-dahn	Month of fasting
Salah	Sa-lah	Prayer
Surah	Soo-rah	A chapter of the Qur'an
Wudu	Wuu-doo	Washing before prayer
Zakat	Za-kaht	Welfare tax

## **ISLAMIC GLOSSARY**

This Arabic 'logo-type' is composed of the words 'Salla-llahu alaihi wa sallam' - peace and blessings of Allah upon him. They are used by Muslims every time the Prophet Muhammad is mentioned. Similar respect is accorded to the other Prophets. The Qur'an was revealed in Arabic, therefore Arabic is the language of Islam, Islamic worship, theology, ethics and jurisprudence. Islam is inextricably linked with the Arabic language despite the variety of languages spoken by the believers. For British teachers and pupils who have not encountered Islamic terms, this transliteration is a simplified version of that used by contemporary scholars. An apostrophe is used to indicate a pause. The reader will note that the words salah and zakah end in 'h' when they appear alone. When part of a phrase, these words are written with a 't' at the end, eg Salat-ul-Zuhr, Zakat-ul-Fitr, as a guide to pronunciation.

Abd	Servant. As in Abdullah, servant of Allah.
Abu Bakr	The first Khalifah, successor to the leadership of the Muslim community after the death of the Prophet Muhammad.
Adam	Adam (peace be upon him). The first man and first Prophet of Allah.
Adhan	Call to prayer. From the same root, Mu'adhin (one who makes the call to prayer).
Aishah	One of the wives of the Prophet Muhammad, and daughter of Abu Bakr (Radhi-Allahu-anhum – may Allah be pleased with them).
Akhirah	Everlasting life after death – the hereafter
Akhlaq	Conduct, character, attitudes and ethics.
al-Amin	The Trustworthy. The name by which Prophet Muhammad was generally known, even before the revelation of Islam.
al-Aqsa Masjid-ul-	The Farthest Mosque in Jerusalem, located near the Dome of the Rock

Aqsa	
al-Fatihah	The Opener. Surah 1 of the Qur'an. Recited at least 17 times daily during the five times of salah. Also known as 'The Essence' of the Qur'an
al-hamdu-li-Llah	All praise belongs to Allah. Frequently used as an expression of thanks to Allah.
al-Kafi	The title of the books of Hadith compiled by Muhammad ibn-Yaqub Koleini,
a Shi'ah	scholar.
al-Khulafa-ur-Rashidun	The Rightly Guided Khalifahs. The first four successors to the leadership role the Prophet Muhammad. They were Abu Bakr, Umar, Uthman and Ali (Radhi-Allahu-anhum may Allah be pleased with them).
al-Madinah Madinatu'n Nabi	(The City of the Prophet). The name given to Yathrib after the Prophet Muhammad migrated there in 622 CE and founded the first Islamic state.
Ali	Cousin and son-in-law of the Prophet Muhammad ; husband of Fatimah Zahrah; father of Hassan, Hussein, and Zainab; the fourth of 'al-Khulafa ur- Rashidun' according to Sunnis, and the first successor accepted by Shi'ah Islam (Radhi-Allahu-anhum - may Allah be pleased with them).
Allah	The Islamic name for God in the Arabic language. Used in preference to the word God, this Arabic term is singular, has no plural, nor it is associated with masculine, feminine characteristics
Allahu Akbar	Allah is most great.
Angels	Angels Beings created by Allah from light. They have no free will and are completely obedient to Allah.
Ansar	Supporters. The Muslims of al-Madinah, who welcomed, helped and supported the Muslims who migrated from Makkah
Arafat	A plain, a few kilometres from Makkah, where pilgrims gather to worship, forgiveness. This takes place on the ninth day of the Islamic month of Dhul-Hijjah, the day before Id-ul-Adha.
Asr (Salat-ul-Asr)	Mid-afternoon salah which may be performed from late afternoon until a short while before sunset.
As-Salamu-Alaykum	Peace be upon you. An Islamic greeting.
Ayah (sing.)	A unit within a Surah of the Qur'an.
Barakah	Blessings.
Bilal	The first Mu'adhin of Islam (see Adhan), a companion of Prophet Muhammad, formerly an Abyssinian slave (Radhi-Allahu-anhu - may Allah be pleased with him).
Bismillah	In the name of Allah.
Bismillah-ir-Rahman-ir-Rahim	In the name of Allah - All Gracious, All Merciful. The preface to all Surahs of the Qur'an except the ninth one. It is usually said by Muslims before eating or beginning any action.
Dar-ul-Islam	House or abode of Islam. Sometimes used to refer to lands ruled by Islamic Shari'ah.
Da'wah	Call. Inviting people to Islam, whether by literal invitation and preaching, or by the example of good actions.
Dawud	David (peace be upon him). A Prophet of Allah to whom the Zabur (the Book of Psalms) was given.
Dhikr	Remembrance. Remembrance of Allah in one's heart or by reciting His names or sections from the Qur'an.
Dhimmi	A non-Muslim living freely under the protection of an Islamic state.

Dhul-Hijjah	The month of the Hajj, last month of the Islamic year.
Din	Way of life, religion together with its practices.
Din-ul-Fitrah	A description of Islam as the natural way of life.
Du'a	Varying forms of personal prayer and supplication.
Fajr (Salat-ul-Fajr)	Dawn salah which may be performed from dawn until just before sunrise.
Fard	Obligatory duty according to divine law, eg, offering salah five times a day.
Fatihah	See al-Fatihah.
Fatimah (al-Zahrah)	Daughter of the Prophet Muhammad; wife of Ali; mother of Hassan, Hussein and Zainab (Radhi-Allahu-anhum – may Allah be pleased with them).
Fatwa	The legal guidance of a pious, just, knowledgeable Muslim scholar and jurist, based on the Qur'an, Sunnah and Islamic Shari'ah.
Fiqh	Understanding. Islamic jurisprudence
Ghusl	Greater ablution. Formal washing of the whole body prior to worship (see Wudu).
Hadith	Saying; report; account. The sayings of the Prophet Muhammad, as recounted by his household, progeny and companions. These are a major source of Islamic law. Some Hadith are referred to as Hadith Qudsi (sacred Hadith) having been divinely communicated to the Prophet Muhammad.
Hafiz	Someone who knows the whole Qur'an by heart.
Hajar	Hagar. Wife of the Prophet Ibrahim, and mother of the Prophet Isma'il (peace be upon them).
Hajj	Annual pilgrimage to Makkah, which each Muslim must undertake at least once in a lifetime if he or she has the health and wealth. A Muslim male who has completed Hajj is called Hajji, a Muslim female is called Hajjah
Halal	Any action or thing which is permitted or lawful
Haram.	Anything unlawful or not permitted
Haram	Sharif The grand mosque in Makkah, which encompasses the Ka'bah, the hills of Safa and Marwah and the well of Zamzam
Hijab	Veil. Often used to describe the head scarf or modest dress worn by women, who are required to cover everything except face and hands in the sight of anyone other than immediate family.
Hijrah	Departure; exit; emigration. The emigration of the Prophet Muhammad from Makkah to Madinah in 622 CE. The Islamic calendar commences from this event.
Hira	The name of a place near Makkah, where the Prophet Muhammad went for solitude and worship. It was there that he received the first revelation of the Qur'an.
Ibadah	All acts of worship. Any permissible action performed with the intention to obey Allah
Iblis	The Jinn who defied Allah by refusing to bow to Adam (peace be upon him), and later became the tempter of all human beings (see Shaytan)
Ibrahim	Abraham (peace be upon him). A Prophet of Allah to whom the 'scrolls' were given.
Id	Recurring happiness. A religious holiday; a feast for thanking Allah and celebrating a happy occasion
Id Mubarak	Id blessings! Greeting exchanged during Islamic celebrations.
Id-ul-Adha	Celebration of the sacrifice, commemorating the Prophet Ibrahim's willingness to sacrifice his son Isma'il for Allah (peace be upon

	them). Also known as Id-ul-Kabir - the Greater Id - and Qurban Bayram (Turkish) feast of sacrifice
Id-ul-Fitr	Celebration of breaking the fast on the day after Ramadan ends, which is also the first day of Shawal, the tenth Islamic month. Also known as Id-ul-Saghir the Lesser Id - and Sheker Bayram (Turkish) - sugar feast.
Ihram	The state or condition entered into to perform either Hajj or Umrah. During this period, many normally permitted actions are placed out of bounds to Muslims. Also, the name of the two plain white unsewn cloths worn by male pilgrims to indicate the brotherhood, equality and purity of the pilgrim. For women, the dress of Ihram consists of their normal modest clothing.
Ijma	General consensus of scholars, expressed or tacit, on matters of law and practice.
Imam	Leader. A person who leads the communal prayer, or a founder of an Islamic school of jurisprudence. In Shi'ah Islam, Imam is also the title of Ali Radhi-Allahu-anhu - may Allah be pleased with him) and his successors.
Imamah	Office and function of an Imam. Religious authority in Shi'ah Islam; successor to the Prophet Muhammad as leader of the Muslim community.
Iman	Faith.
Injil	Gospel. A book given to Prophet Isa (peace be upon him).
Iqamah	Call to stand up for salah.
Isa	Jesus. A Prophet of Allah, born of the virgin Mary (peace be upon them).
Isha (Salat-ul-Isha)	Evening salah which may be performed from just over an hour after sunset, until midnight.
Islam	Peace attained through willing obedience to Allah's divine guidance.
Isma'il	Ishmael. A Prophet of Allah. Son of the Prophet Ibrahim and Hajar (peace be upon them).
Isnad	Chain of transmission of each Hadith.
Jibril	Gabriel. The angel who delivered Allah's messages to His Prophets.
Jihad	Personal individual struggle against evil in the way of Allah. It can also be collective defence of the Muslim community
Jinn	Being created by Allah from fire.
Jumu'ah (Salat-ul-Jumu'ah)	The weekly communal salah, and attendance at the khutbah performed shortly after midday on Fridays.
Ka'bah	A cube-shaped structure in the centre of the grand mosque in Makkah. The first house built for the worship of the One True God.
Khadijah	First wife of the Prophet Muhammad. Mother of Fatimah Zahrah (Radhi- Allahu-anhum - may Allah be pleased with them).
Khalifah	Successor; inheritor; custodian; vice-regent (see al-Khulafa-ur-Rashidun).
Khilafah	The institution of the Khalifah.
Khums	Contribution (additional to zakah) of one fifth of surplus annual income paid by Shi'ah Muslims. Sunni Muslims only apply Khums to booty.
Khutbah	Speech. Talk delivered on special occasions such as the Jum'uah and Id prayers.
Laylat-ul-Qadr	The Night of Power, when the first revelation of the Qur'an was made to Prophet Muhammad. It is believed to be one of the last ten nights of Ramadan.

Madinah	See al-Madinah.
Maghrib (Salat-ul-Maghrib)	Sunset salah which is performed after sunset until daylight ends.
Mahdi, al-Muntazar	The (rightly) guided one who is awaited and will appear towards the end of time to lead the Ummah and restore justice on Earth. The one who is promised in the Judaic, Christian and Islamic traditions
Makkah	City where the Prophet Muhammad was born, and where the Ka'bah is located.
Maryam	Mary. The virgin mother of the Prophet Isa (peace be upon them).
Masjid	Place of prostration. Mosque.
Mihrab	Niche or alcove in a mosque wall, indicating the Qiblah - the direction of Makkah, towards which all Muslims face to perform salah.
Mina	Mina Place near Makkah, where pilgrims stay on the 10th, 11th and 12th of Dhul-Hijjah and perform some of the activities of the Hajj.
Minbar	Rostrum; platform; dais. The stand from which the Imam delivers the khutbah or speech in the mosque or praying ground.
Miqat	Place appointed, at which pilgrims enter into the state of ihram.
Mi'raj	The ascent through the heavens of the Prophet Muhammad.
Mu'adhin	Caller to prayer (see Adhan). Known in English as 'muezzin'.
Muhammad	Praised. Name of the final Prophet.
Muharram	First month in the Islamic calendar, which is calculated from the time the Prophet Muhammad migrated to Yathrib (Madinah).
Musa	Moses (peace be upon him). A Prophet of Allah to whom the Tawrah(Torah) was given
Mumin	Faithful. A believer, a practising Muslim who wholeheartedly yields to Allah's guiding wisdom and is thus in harmony with His will and at peace with himself and fellow creatures.
Muslim	One who claims to have accepted Islam by professing the Shahadah.
Muzdalifah	Place where pilgrims on Hajj stop for a time during the night of the day they spend at Arafat.
Nabi	Prophet of Allah.
Niyah	Intention. A legally required statement of intent, made prior to all acts of devotion such as salah, Hajj or sawm.
Qadar	Allah's complete and final control over the fulfilment of events or destiny.
Qiblah	Direction which Muslims face when performing salah - towards the Ka'bah
Qur'an	That which is read or recited. The Divine Book revealed to the Prophet Muhammad. Allah's final revelation to humankind.
Rak'ah	A unit of salah, made up of recitation, standing, bowing and two prostrations.
Ramadan	The ninth month of the Islamic calendar, during which fasting is required from just before dawn until sunset, as ordered by Allah in the Qur'an.
Rasul	Messenger of Allah.
Sa'y	Walking and hastening between Safa and Marwah, as part of the Hajj, in remembrance of Hajar's search for water for her son Isma'il (peace be upon them).
Sadaqah	Voluntary payment or good action for charitable purposes.
Safa &	Two hills in Makkah, near the Ka'bah, now included within the grand

Marwah	
	mosque (see Sa'y).
Sahih al-Bukhari	The title of the books of Hadith compiled by Muhammad ibn Isma'il al-Bukhari, a Sunni scholar. The collection is described as Sahih (authentic).
Sahih Muslim	The title of the books of Hadith compiled by Abul Husayn Muslim ibn al-Hajjaj, a Sunni scholar. The collection is described as Sahih (authentic).
Salah	Prescribed communication with, and worship of, Allah, performed under specific conditions, in the manner taught by the Prophet Muhammad, and recited in the Arabic language. The five daily times of salah are fixed by Allah.
Sawm	Fasting from just before dawn until sunset. Abstinence is required from all food and drink (including water) as well as smoking and conjugal relations.
Shahadah	Declaration of faith, which consists of the statement, 'There is no god except Allah, Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah'.
Shari'ah	Islamic law based upon the Qur'an and Sunnah.
Shaytan	Rebellious; proud. The devil (see Iblis).
Shi'ah	Followers. Muslims who believe in the Imamah, successorship of Ali (Radhi-Allahu-anhu - may Allah be pleased with him) after the Prophet Muhammad and 11 of his most pious, knowledgeable descendants.
Shirk	Association. Regarding anything as being equal or partner to Allah. Shirk is forbidden in Islam.
Shura	Consultation of the people in the management of religious and worldly affairs. A duty prescribed in the Qur'an to leaders at all levels, from family to government.
Sirah	Biographical writings about the conduct and example of the Prophet Muhammad.
Subhah	String of beads used to count recitations in worship.
Sunnah	Model practices, customs and traditions of the Prophet Muhammad. This is found in both Hadith and Sirah.
Sunni	Muslims who believe in the successorship of Abu Bakr, Umar, Uthman and Ali (Radhi-Allahu-anhum - may Allah be pleased with them) after the Prophet Muhammad.
Surah	Division of the Qur'an (114 in all).
Takbir	Saying 'Allahu Akbar!' Recited during salah, Id and other celebratory occasions.
Tawaf	Walking seven times around the Ka'bah in worship of Allah. Also, a part of Hajj and Umrah.
Tawhid	Belief in the Oneness of Allah - absolute monotheism as practised in Islam.
Tawrah	The Torah. The book given to the Prophet Musa (Moses) (peace be upon him).
Ulama	Scholars of Islamic law and jurisprudence (sing. Alim).
Umar ibn al-Khattab	Second Khalifah of Islam.
Ummah	Community. World-wide community of Muslims; the nation of Islam.
Umrah	Lesser pilgrimage which can be performed at any time of the year.
Uthman	The third Khalifah of Islam.
Wudu	Ablution before salah.
Yathrib	Town to which the Prophet Muhammad migrated from Makkah (see al-Madinah).

Zabur	The Book of Psalms given to Prophet Dawud (David) (peace be upon him).
Zakah	Purification of wealth by payment of annual welfare due. An obligatory act of worship.
Zakat-ul-Fitr	Welfare payment at the end of Ramadan.
Zamzam	Name of the well adjacent to the Ka'bah in Makkah. The water first sprang in answer to Hajar's search and prayers (see Hajar and Sa'y).
Zuhr (Salat-ul-Zuhr)	Salah which can be performed after midday until afternoon.