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Global - Mr.Badgley

Homework #37"There is no god but Allah and Mohammed is his Prophet..."

1. Allah is the belief in the concept of one God in Arabic.  
Kaaba is a cube like building at the centre of Islam's most sacred mosque, Al-Masjid al-Haram, located in Mecca, Saudi Arabia.  
Kadijah was a wealthy businesswoman who was about 40 when Muhammad, 25 at that time, married her.  
Muhammad was Allah's prophet. He is key to laying and spreading the groundwork of Islam.  
A Hanif is someone who by Arabian definition were true monotheists who were not Jews, Christians, or worshipers of idols.  
The Hijirah was the migration of Muhammad and his followers to the town of Yathrib, which was 200 miles north of Mecca. This was in response to some of Muhammad's followers being attacked.  
The Koran is the holy book of the Muslims that contains the revelations of Muhammad.  
A Mosque is a Muslim place of worship.

2.The Five Pillars of Islam:

1)Faith - To become a Muslim, a person must attest to a statement of faith that says "There is no God but Allah, and Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah." This simple statement is repeated in Islamic rituals and in daily life.  
2)Prayer- A Muslim would face toward Mecca to pray five times a day. This may be done at a mosque or wherever they find themselves to be.  
3)Alms - Muslims have a responsibility to support the less fortunate. Muslims can give money to the poor through a special religious tax.  
4)Fasting - During the Islamic holy month of Ramadan, Muslims fast during the time period between dawn and sunset. At the end of a day, only a simple meal is eaten to remind Muslims that their spiritual needs are greater than their physical needs.  
5)Pilgrimage - Muslims who are physically and financially capable perform the haji (pilgrimage to Mecca) at least once. During the pilgrimage, Muslims are to wear identical garments to symbolize that they stand as equals before their god.

3.Islam was able to spread with incredible speed because the religious leaders of Islam were able to conquer large territories while making their religion seem desirable. Muhammad's pilgrimage to Yathrib attracted may devoted followers and his victory against Mecca's leaders unified the Islamic community. The Muslim armies were well disciplined and expertly commanded even after Muhammad's death. The success of the Muslim army was also due to the Byzantine and Sassanid empires being engaged in a long and grueling war. The army drew inspiration from their victories because they say them as sign's of Allah's support. The persecuted people in the conquered lands often welcomed the invaders and their cause and chose to accept Islam. In addition, the Muslims did not have to pay a poll tax.

4. The Umayyads were a family that came to power after the elective system of choosing a caliph died. The Abbasids were a political group that was the most powerful of the rebel groups that overthrew the Umayyads in 750 AD. The dispute between the two groups was caused by the Sufi group's disapproval of the luxurious life of the Umayyads. The Sufi believed in the life of poverty and devotion to the spiritual path. The result of this was the consolidation of the Abbasids' power. The Muslim empire developed into a strong bureaucracy.