among Muslims worldwide. That unity is rather superfluous for the deceased.

- ▶ Another problem with Islamic idol worship involves the slaughter of animals for food. According to Sharia Law, it is "recommended" for the slaughtering of *halal* meat that the animal be turned toward the Kaaba and the Black Stone. (R of T, para. j17.5(1)) Since Jews and Christians are forbidden to eat meat that has been offered to idols per Exodus 34:15 and Acts 15:29, they should also avoid all *halal* meat slaughtered according to Islamic practices.
- ▶ The exaggerated reverence to the Black Stone is not an idle topic in theology because Muslims also claim that they worship the same god as Jews and Christians. But Jews and Christians have never prayed to Mecca, or any other specific direction or *qiblah*. The second of the Ten Commandments embraced by Jews and Christians states, "Do not make for yourselves images of anything in heaven or on earth or in the water under the earth. Do not bow down to any idol or worship it, for I am the Lord your god and I tolerate no rivals." (Deuteronomy 5:8)
- ► The Bible also warns Jews and Christians to have nothing to do with idol worshipers:

All those who make idols are worthless, and the gods they prize so highly are useless. Those who worship these gods are blind and ignorant – and they will be disgraced. (Isaiah 44:9)

Do not try to work together as equals with unbelievers, for it cannot be done. How can right and wrong be partners? How can light and darkness live together? How can God's temple come to terms with pagan idols? For we are the temple of the living God! (2 Corinthians 6:14-16)

▶ Jews and Christians can pray to God in any direction. They can look up to the sky, or bow down to the ground in reverence. Their God is not found in any specific country, city, or building. Their God is not a Black Stone. The next time a Muslim wants to share his or her faith with you, just say, "Sorry, I'm not into Idol Worship."



# For More Information On Islam:

Persecution.org

UnderstandingTheThreat.com

AnsweringMuslims.com

Politicalislam.com

JihadWatch.org

TheReligionOfPeace.com

Islam-Watch.org

ClarionProject.org

CitizenWarrior.com

GlobalMBWatch.com

FrontPageMag.com

InquiryIntoIslam.com

CreepingSharia.Wordpress.com

BareNakedIslam.com

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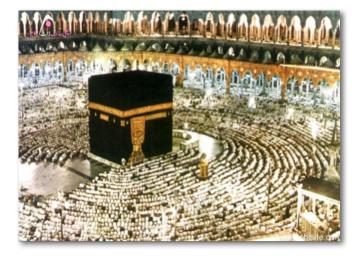
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# Idol Worship





### What is Islam?

Islam is defined by the holy texts of its religion - not by the beliefs, actions or virtues of a Muslim.

# **Idol Worship**

- Members of America's largest group of Idol Worshipers probably don't even realize the pagan origins of their religious practices. Muslims are required to bow down on their knees and recite a mantra in a specific direction five times a day. That direction, as everyone knows, is toward Mecca. If they are in Mecca, they must pray towards an empty square building called the Kaaba. The only thing remarkable about that building is the fragmented Black Stone attached to its eastern corner. This is called Hajar Aswad in Arabic. It is fragmented because over the centuries, the stone has been smashed and stolen numerous times due to infighting for control of Mecca among Muslims themselves. Needless to say, the almost infinite sacred value placed on this piece of rock makes it an idol.
- ▶ When Muslims make a pilgrimage to Mecca, they try to touch or kiss that Black Stone, now embedded in an ominous, silver enclosure.
- ▶ This precedent came from their prophet Muhammad and his second successor Umar, who once spoke to the stone, "I know that you are a stone, you do not cause benefit or harm; and if it were not that I had seen Allah's Messenger



(Muhammad) kiss you, I would never have kissed you." (Sahih Bukhari, Book 26, Number 679)

- ▶ Muslims might argue that no, they are not praying to the Black Stone but rather to their god, Allah. But that argument is destroyed by the insistence that Allah is above, or in heaven. The Quran confirms in Surah 67:16 that Allah is in the heavens. This is also underscored by the hadith about the slave girl, AlJariyah, who was given her freedom by Muhammad because she testified that Allah was in heaven. (Sahih Muslim, Book 4, Number 1094)
- ► So it is not Allah to whom they are praying, but rather something in the Kaaba. Here is the argument from one of their own websites: "The issue of the *giblah* (direction of prayer) is central to the religion of Islam, so every Muslim must be aware of it and especially the scholars of the Muslim 'ummah should have known it. It is an established fact, that the Ka'bah is the *qiblah* of formal prayer as well as the du'a or supplication. To declare the heaven or anywhere else to be the qiblah of du'a is a gross bid'ah (innovation) and a clear breach of the Qur'an, the Sunnah, and the consensus of the 'ummah, because the Muslims have one single qiblah, the Ka'bah." (Source: http:// sunnahonline.com/library/beliefs-and-methodology/ 180-where-is-Allah)
- ▶ Muslims sometimes explain that the Black Stone was handed down from heaven by Gabriel to Abraham who placed it as a corner stone when he built the Kaaba. While the Mosaic book of Genesis contains 15 chapters tracing Abraham's movements and family history, there is no evidence (historical or archeological) that he ever came within 400 miles of Mecca. The mountain of mythology surrounding the Black Stone merely serves to enhance its sacred importance to Muslims.
- ▶ When Muslims pray, they do not lift their eyes to heaven where Allah is, but rather direct their prayers toward the Kaaba and the Black Stone. They are very careful about finding this exact direction. Even though the Quran says the earth is flat in Surah 2:22, Muslims today know that using a flat map for determining the *qiblah* would result in error. Here are the instructions in Sharia Law:

### Who is a Muslim?

A Muslim is one who is obedient to the commands of Allah and examples of Muhammad.

To establish the direction of prayer in cities far from Mecca one may use a world globe and a piece of string, since in North America, Australia, and other regions, using a flat world map would yield the wrong direction because of the curvature of the earth, and the error factor is considerable. One puts the end of the string on the position of Mecca on the globe, and the other on one's own city, and pulls the string taut, observing the bearing of the string and drawing a line in the same direction on a local map, which can be oriented with a compass and used to indicate the proper direction to pray. (Reliance of the Traveller, para f6.6 note.)

► This orientation is so important, it is cut into the design of the carpet. Here is the interior of the Islamic Center of Orange County:



▶ A prayer is invalidated if it is not directed exactly towards the Kaaba in the Shafi'i school of jurisprudence. (R of T, para. f6.7) Also, when a Muslim is buried, he/she is laid on the right side facing the Kaaba and the Black Stone. "It is obligatory that the body be placed facing the direction of prayer (qibla) and this is absolutely necessary. If buried facing the other way or lying on his back, he is disinterred and reburied facing the direction of prayer." (R of T, para g5.4(4)) Muslims will argue that the qibla has nothing to do with idol worship, but rather it is a mark of unity