

National Geographic's "Inside Mecca"
Video note taker and reflective questions

Write your answers on a separate sheet of paper. Your answers are due at the end of the period.

1. Describe what the Kaaba (Arabic for "cube") represents and explain why it is so important to Muslims.
2. List the countries where each of the three *pilgrims* featured in the documentary are from. On what continent is each of these countries located? Explain what these various locations might tell you about the Muslim faith.
3. According to Islamic tradition, what role did Abraham play in the development of the Hajj?
4. Describe the "state of ihram". Why are the vestments – or special clothing - so important during this period of the Hajj?
5. Describe what Muslims do on the Plain of Arafat during the Hajj. Explain why this site is considered *sacred* to Muslims.
6. Describe what the *ritual* stoning of the pillars in Mina represents to Muslims.
7. Explain why it is important to a Muslim go on the Hajj - the pilgrimage to Mecca – at least once.

Your answer to the following question **should be at least ½ a page in length**. Make sure you clearly state your opinion and support it with examples from the video.

8. In your opinion, did the Hajj meet the expectations of the three *pilgrims* featured in the documentary? Did their experiences make them more devout Muslims or did it weaken their faith in Islam? Explain and provide at least two examples from the video.

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