



Hajj Stories



Text by Anita Ganeri 2005
Illustrations by Tracy Fennell
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A note on the illustrations in this book

Throughout this book, patterns have been used to decorate the pages rather than pictures of people or animals. This is because Muslims traditionally believe that human beings and animals can only be created by Allah, not by human artists.

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THE HAJJ PILGRIMAGE

The Hajj is a special journey, or pilgrimage, which all Muslims try to make at least once in their lives. They travel to the holy city of Makkah, in Saudi Arabia, where the Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) was born in 570 CE. Muhammad was the last and greatest of the prophets, or messengers, sent by Allah to teach people about Islam. When they arrive in Makkah, the pilgrims change into simple, white clothes to show that everyone is equal.

Then they visit holy sites in and around Makkah. The Hajj begins at the cube-shaped Ka'bah. The pilgrims walk around the Ka'bah seven times. Then they walk or run between