

## GLOSSARY

*Abbasid*=Muslim caliphate that followed the Omayyad dynasty

*astrology*= the study of the sky and the stars

*barefoot*= without shoes

*chemistry*= the study of elements and their combinations

*iconoclasy*= the destruction of icons and images or monuments for religious or political reasons

*iconography*= the branch of art study that studies the identification, description, interpretation of the content of images

*idols*= gods under the form of statues that were prayed, usually reminding spiritual or natural elements

*merchant*= people selling things (clothes, spices, working tools) for a living

*mosque*= building where Muslims pray Allah

*Omayyad*= or *Umayyad*, it is a dynasty, the first caliphate which spreads Islam all over Northern Africa and Sicily and Spain

*pattern*= geometrical drawing

*pillar*= the so called *five pillars* are the five main rules of Islam, that all Muslims have to follow

*prophet*= the person encharged directly by God to tell the world his will

*pilgrimage*= the travel a believer must do once in his/her life, from the place he/she lives to the Mecca

*Qu'raish*= Muhammed's tribe

*ramadam*= fasting during a specific month

*revelation*= the moment during while the message of God was “told” to Muhammad by the angel Gabriel

*salah*= prayer, needed to be done five times a day towards Mecca

*sedentary*= settled down, opposite of nomadic

*shahadah*= declaration of faith, Muslims have to trust and understand the words of it (*There is no other God but Allah and prophet Muhammad is the final messenger*)

*spread*= not enclosed but for even more and more people to be known

*succession*= the person that will come after somebody, in order to continue his/her work/role

*zakat*= charity, alms-giving to poor people

## **SOME USEFUL SENTENCES**

When was Muhammad born?

He was born in.....

Where did he live?

He lived in .....

How did people live in that specific time in Arabia?

People used to live..... / People lived in .....way.

Why did he choose Mecca as holy city?

Because Mecca was.....

Why didn't merchants follow his message?

Because they were.....

How many are the pillars of Islamic religion?

They are.....: the first is ....., the second....., the third.....; then the fourth is about.... and in conclusion the fifth.....

What does *jihad* mean?

This term stands for.....

Why do you think it's important to understand the roots of Islam?

Because I think it would be useful for.....

Do you find any common belief between Islam and Christianity?

I can think of.....

What about the spread of arts and science in Europe?

I can see.....

If you visit....you can notice....

Studying ....., you discover.....

Thanks to.... now we can use.....