












5.4: Beliefs in Action in the World

How are religious and spiritual thoughts expressed in arts and architecture and in charity and generosity?

Key Vocabulary		Definition
Architecture		The complex or carefully designed structure of something. The art or practice of designing and constructing buildings.
Attributes		A quality or feature regarded as a characteristic or inherent part of someone or something.
Charity		Giving to those in need.
Christian		A follower of the religion of Christianity.
Community		Sharing or having certain attitudes and interests in common. Living in or attending the same places.
Compassion		Caring for others without expectation of return.
Golden Rule		The principle of treating others as one wants to be treated.
Mecca		The holiest of Muslim cities. Where Muslims face during prayer.
Mosque		Place of worship for Muslims.
Muslim		A follower of the religion of Islam.
Parable		A religious story with a moral behind it.

Al Haram Mosque - Mecca, Saudi Arabia



Mosques are important in Britain because:

- ❖ Nearly 3 million people in Britain identify as Muslim.
- ❖ Muslims like to build their own buildings to worship Allah
- ❖ Prophet Muhammed built mosques wherever he went - so Muslims follows his example.
- ❖ Praying together is easier than on your own.
- ❖ It is a place for the whole community to share.

Churches express the religious ideas of Christians.

- ❖ Some churches and cathedrals are built in the shape of a cross.
- ❖ Many older churches have gargoyles carved into the stone - believed to keep away evil.
- ❖ Churches often have a bell tower. The bell is rung to announce time for worship.
- ❖ Stained glass windows and wall hangings often appear in Christian churches depicting the life of Jesus.

Stain glass window depicting aspects of Jesus' life in Canterbury Cathedral.



The Christian Aid project 'swords into ploughshares' turned military weapons into something peaceful to support peace.









Throne of Weapons



Tree of Life



Knife Angel

Place of worship		A place where people gather together for prayer or other religious activity.
5 Pillars		5 practices which help Muslims uphold and express their faith.
Quran		The Islamic Holy Book.
Sacred		Something special because it is set aside for God.
Ummah		The Arabic word for community.
Zakat		2.5% of wages donated to just causes.

What is Christian Aid?

- ❖ A charity which works with poor communities all over the world.
- ❖ Christian Aid puts the teaching of Jesus into action.

Case Study: Ghana

- ❖ Ghana is a poor country and there aren't enough schools for everybody.
- ❖ SEND is an organisation in Ghana that receives help from Christian Aid.
- ❖ SEND helped people to ask their government to set up a school. It took time and hard work, but the government did pay for a school to be built.

Case Study: Guatemala

- ❖ There was a war in Guatemala for many years. Many areas are poor with lots of crime and young people got involved in gangs.
- ❖ Christian Aid helped set up carnivals and art classes to help young people join in with peaceful and fun activities.
- ❖ There is less violence now.

In Islamic art and architecture there are no images of Allah and for many Muslims no image of humans.

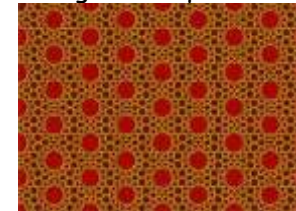
Calligraphy

This is a form of artistic writing, which allowed early Islamic artists to communicate text in a decorative form. The Quran is written using calligraphy.



Geometric patterns

Repeating, interlaced or overlapping shapes used to decorate everything from clothing to mosques.



Vegetal patterns

Semi-natural patterns used in early Islamic art to decorate building, pottery and manuscripts. The patterns consist of foliage and flowers in a linear pattern.



Why do Muslims give to charity?

- ❖ It is such an important part of Islam, it is the third of the Five Pillars and is called Zakat.
- ❖ It is considered a duty and every adult Muslim who can afford it must donate a portion of their wealth to charity each year.

'Be steadfast in prayer and regular in charity. And whatever good you send out before you, you shall find it with Allah: for Allah sees all that you do.' (Qur'an 2:110)

- ❖ Giving to charity becomes even more important during the month of Ramadan.
- ❖ Muslims remember those less fortunate than themselves during Ramadan through their actions. Charity events encourage people to give more than money during Ramadan. E.g. meals, clothes, good deeds.
- ❖ There are many charities, such as Islamic Relief, Muslim Hands and Muslim Aid, which are guided by Islamic belief and the teachings of the Qu'ran.