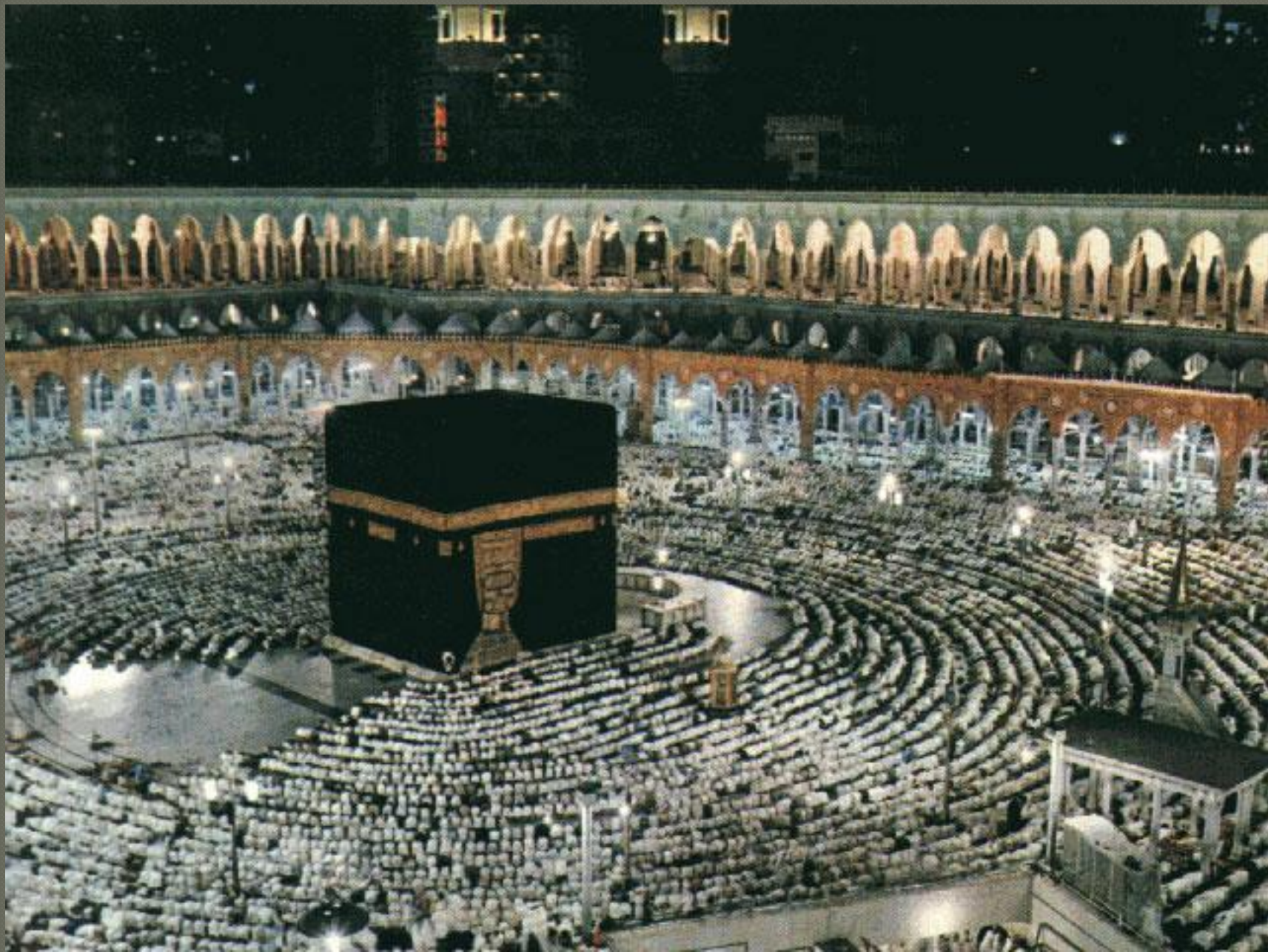


# Three Monotheisms: One God



Muslim Histories & Cultures Project































در پیش بر زمین نهاد چنانکه اسمعیل را بر زمین گفت و ابراهیم را بگریز از اسمعیل فرود آمد  
ابراهیم کار در حلق اسمعیل مایه بنزید اسمعیل گفت یا پدر مگر بد پشت کار و میثالی ابراهیم



کار در کرد ایند دور اسمعیل مایه بنزید گفت یا پدر کار و بخلق من زن بگر بر و سرخ بگفت









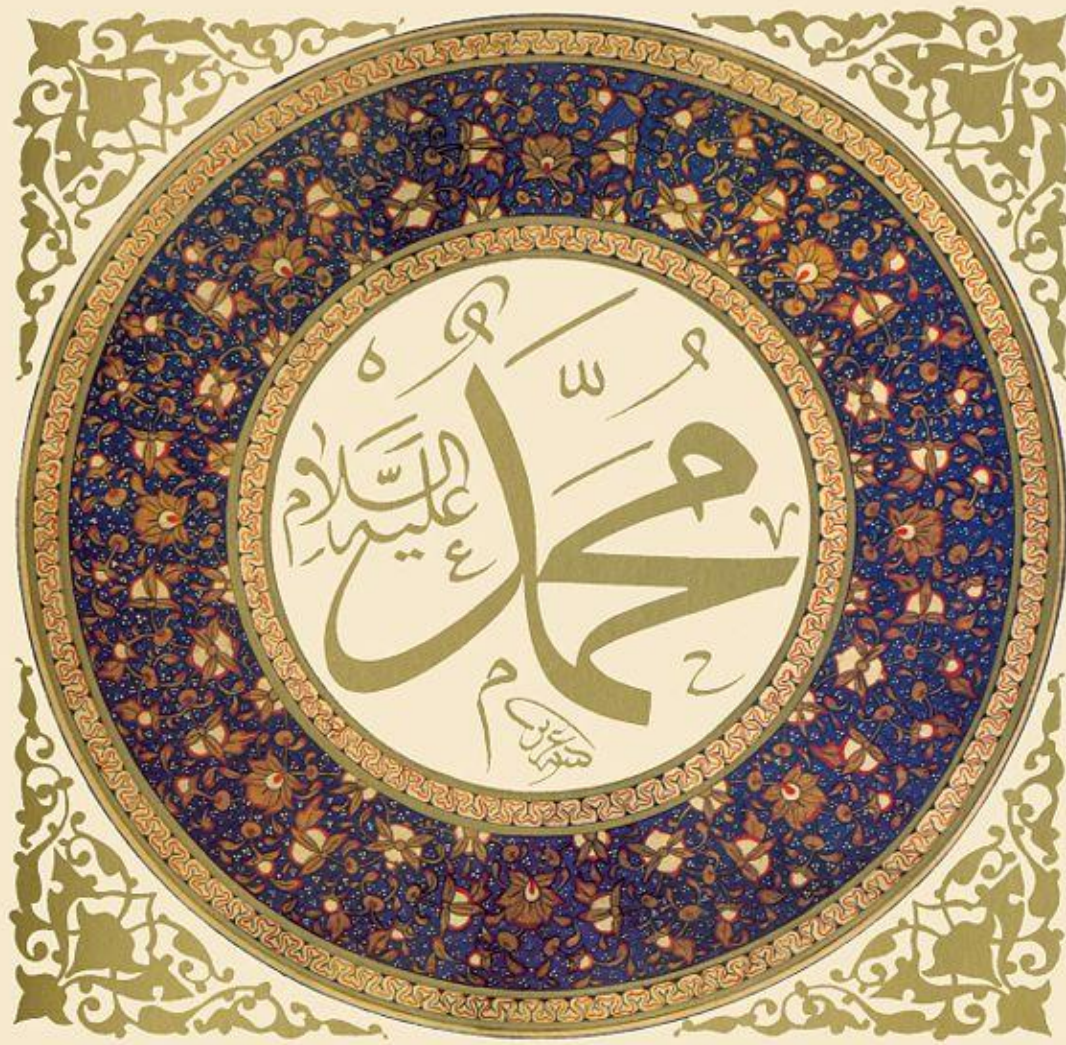




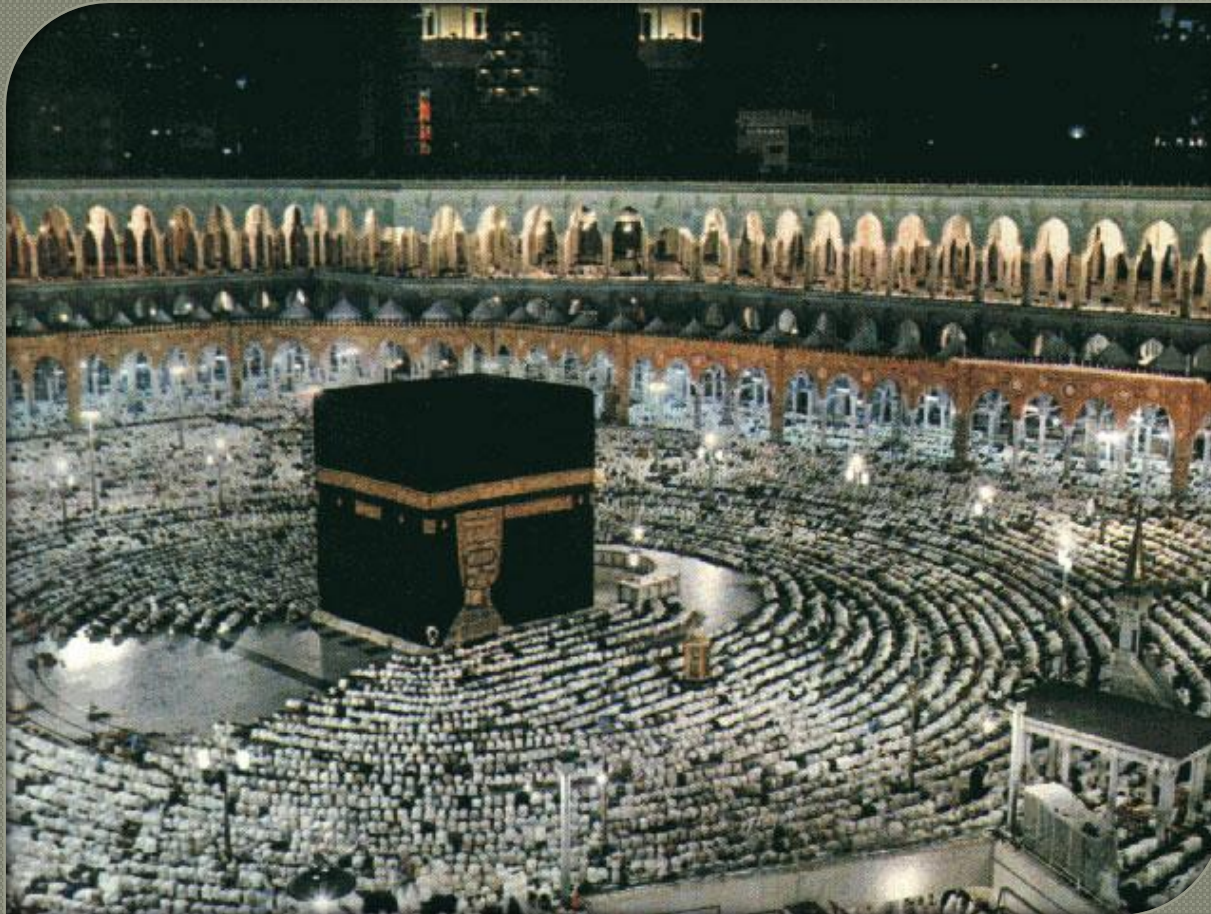












## Answer: Islam

The photograph shows the Ka'aba and the Haram in Mecca. The Ka'aba is the black structure in the middle. The Haram is where the Ka'aba is located. This is the place toward which Muslims face when they pray. Mecca is the place of Islamic pilgrimage. Prayer and pilgrimage are two of the five pillars of Islam.



## Answer: Judaism

This is known as the coming of age ceremony- Bar Mitzvah for boys and Bat Mitzvah for girls. The boy reads from the Torah in Hebrew as his father and grandfather stand by. The cap is worn to pay respects to the Lord, and the prayer shawl signifies the wish to communicate with the Lord.





## Answer: Christianity

An Icon is, for many Christians a kind of window to heaven. Icons are not worshipped, but are venerated, and are a teaching tool.



## **Answer: Christianity (Islam, Judaism)**

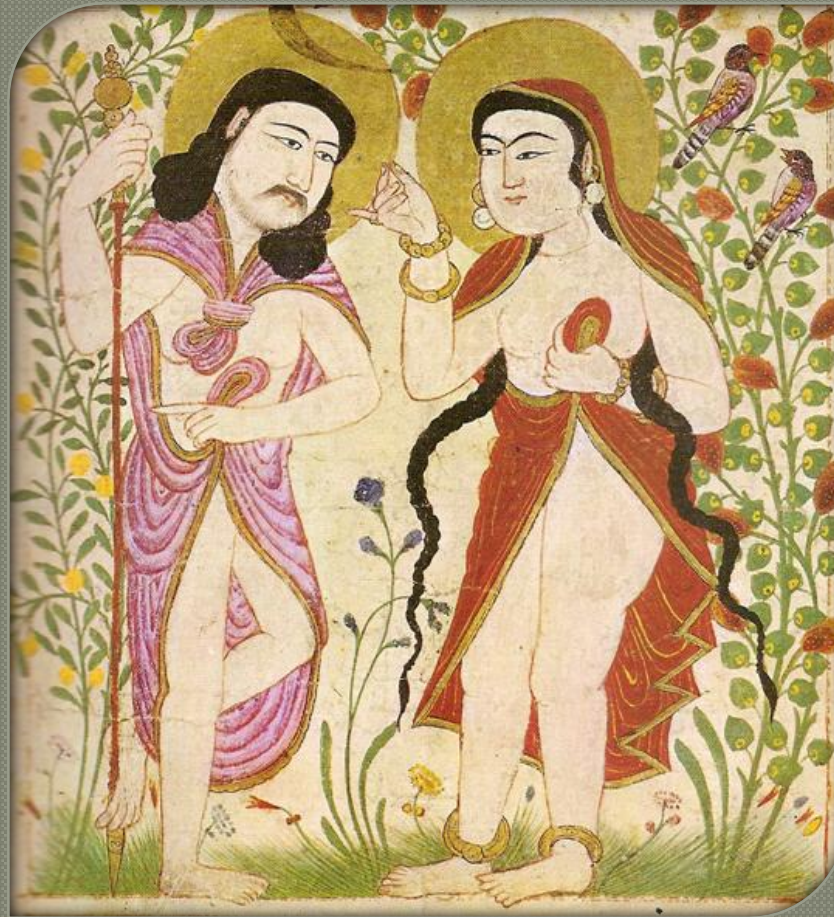
God hovers above Creation in this 15th Century Italian painting by Giovanni di Paolo (Christian). Again, although pictorial representation is contrary to Jewish and Islamic traditions, these would be correct answers too, since a similar version of the creation story is common to all three religions.





## **Answer: Judaism, Christianity, Islam**

Jerusalem, the city we see in this photograph is holy to Judaism (the last judgment will take place here), Christianity (Christ lived part of his life and was crucified, buried, and arose from the dead here), and Islam (the Prophet Mohamed ascended into heaven here). This view shows the Dome of the Rock (the mosque with the gold dome).



## Answer: Islam, Christianity, Judaism

This Islamic painting shows Adam and Eve, who occur in Genesis of the Torah (Judaism), or the first five books of the Old Testament (Christianity). Muslims venerate Adam as a Prophet.





## Answer: Judaism

An ark holds the Torah scrolls. it is placed on the Eastern wall of a synagogue and opens up. The writing in Hebrew at the top means "Crown of the Torah."



## **Answer: Islam**

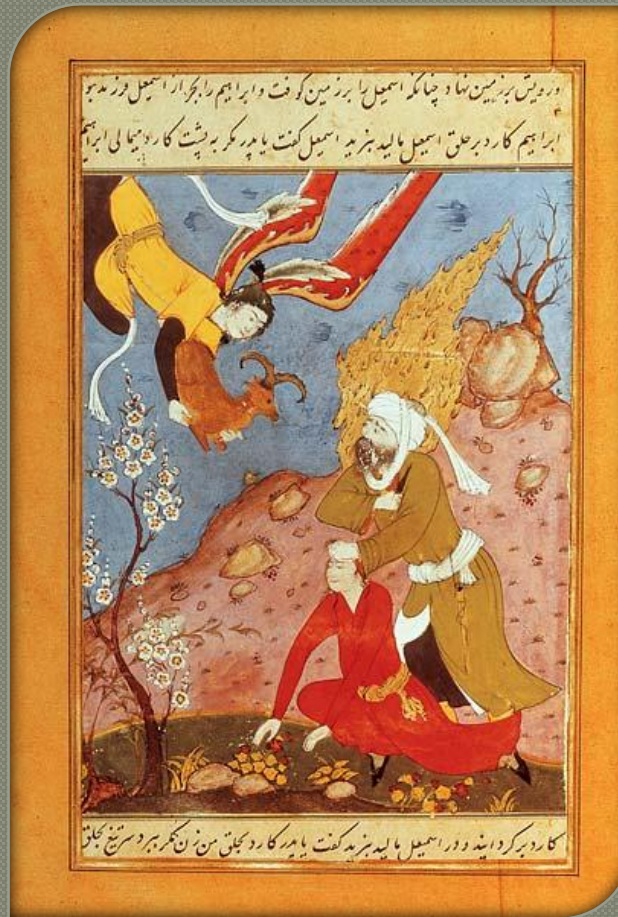
This is a photograph of the Great Mosque found in North Africa (Tunisia). This is the most holy mosque found after the death of the Prophet Mohammad. Muslims remove their shoes before entering to pray on the woven mats.





## Answer: Islam, Judaism

A circumcision -- in this case, Islamic. Circumcision is also practiced in Judaism, when the baby is eight days old. In this case, the baby is 7 months old, though some Muslims circumcise usually from about 7 years old to almost puberty. In this picture, the local doctor in the red tarboosh applies the bandage, the parents stand on either side, and the village chief is the man with his back to the camera. Circumcision among Christians is common in some places, such as the United States, but in such settings Christians usually circumcise as a hygienic rather than a religious practice. The practice is Middle Eastern in origin.



## Answer: Islam, Christianity, Judaism

An Eastern Islamic representation of the sacrifice of Abraham, with the angel substituting a sheep for Abraham's son. In the Bible and the Torah, Abraham was prepared to obey God's will and sacrifice his son Isaac, born of his wife Sarah, so the story is also Jewish and Christian.





## Answer: Judaism

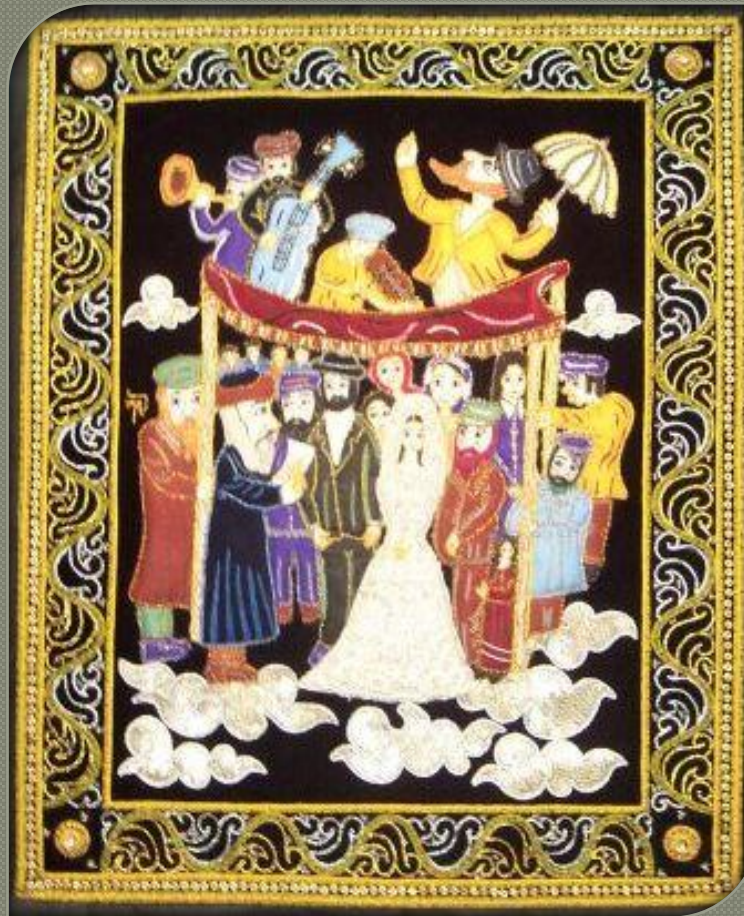
A Torah scroll inside an Ark at the Wailing Wall in Jerusalem (Jewish) : note the skull caps on some of the boys. The Wailing Wall is all that remains of the Temple of Solomon, sacred to the Jews, destroyed by the Romans.



## Answer: Islam, Judaism, Christianity

A piece of silver jewelry worn by Muslim women to hold their dresses up. This kind of pin is called a fibula, and it dates back at least to the Romans, who used them to hold their togas up. Note the symbols of all three religions -- crescent (Muslim), six pointed stars (Jewish), fish (Christian), and bird.





## Answer: Judaism

This is a tapestry depicting a Jewish wedding. Jewish weddings usually take place under the chuppah (canopy), a symbol of the home the new couple will build.\* It is open on all sides just like Abraham & Sarah had theirs open to welcome their loved ones.

\*Aish Ha Torah



## Answer: Christianity, Islam

This photograph shows the interior of Santa Sophia, which was once the holiest church in Christianity, This photograph depicts the Santa Sophia after it was made into mosque, after the Islamic conquest by the Ottomans, with the large round Islamic symbols and writing added to the corners of the dome. Today it is a museum.





## **Answer: Christianity (Judaism, Islam)**

This is a painting of the Last Supper by Tintoretto (Italian artist). Since Jesus was Jewish and the Last Supper is a Jewish holiday, Judaism could also be an answer. Islam would be an acceptable answer too, since Christ was a Prophet to Muslims, although the painting is Christian.



## Answer: Judaism

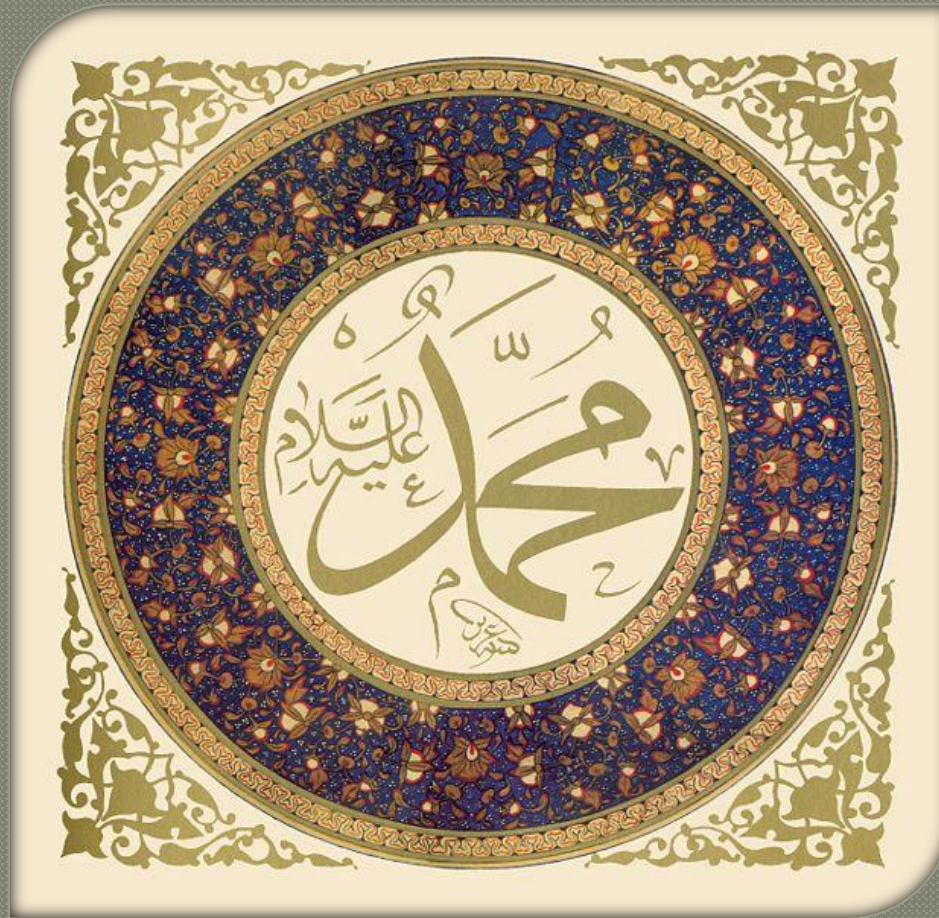
Of all the Jewish holidays, Pesach or Passover, is the most celebrated amongst many Jews..





## **Answer: Christianity**

This is a Christian ceremony, Holy Communion, signifying that the person usually between 7 and 8 has received the Sacrament of the Eucharist, the body and blood of Jesus Christ.



**Answer: Islam**

This is the name *Mohammad* in Arabic calligraphy. Because visual images/icons of Mohammad are prohibited, calligraphy is the closest we can get to “visualizing” Mohammad.



# References

University of Berkeley, California  
Center For Middle Eastern Studies