

# Year 7 Knowledge Organiser: Should religious buildings be sold to feed the starving?

## What happens in a Mosque?

A mosque is generally a **very symbolic place for a Muslim**. The primary purpose of the mosque **is to serve as a place where Muslims can come together for prayer**.

## What happens in a Mosque apart from worship?

In Britain many Muslim school children go to the mosque after school to learn more about the **Quran and/or to learn Arabic** because these things are not always taught in schools. The school held in the mosque is called the madrasah. During the holy month of Ramadan, **imams (the person who leads prayers in a Mosque) schedule daily prayer and social gatherings for Muslim families**. Muslims turn to their local mosques for events such as **weddings and funerals**. A mosque brings the **community together** as it acts as many things, a social centre, a community centre and an educational centre etc as it has many events which welcome both old and new members of the mosque.

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## Know It:

1. Explain one reason why a Church and a Mosque are important to believers
2. Explain how much money Muslims and Christians should give to charity
3. Explain 2 activities that happen in a Church and a Mosque that are not part of worship.
4. Muslim Aid helps people by...
5. Christian Aid helps people by ...

## Think It:

**'It is important to give money to charity'**. Do you agree? Explain your opinion, Christian and Muslim views.

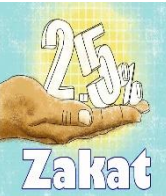
## Why is prayer important?

Muslims are required to pray **5 times a day** in the direction of Mecca, the Prophet Muhammad's (pbuh) birthplace. Praying 5 times a day keeps Muslim's modest as they spend a lot of the time kneeling, **reminding them of the importance of Allah**.



## Should Muslims give to charity?

Zakat is the third pillar of Islam and is a **compulsory giving of 2.5% of your wealth to charity**. It is seen as an **act of worship**. Muslims believe there are many benefits of giving money to charity and **not just it benefitting the poor, such as obeying Allah and freeing yourself from the love of money**.



## Muslim Aid

Muslims Aid was established in 1985 and works to **help the poor overcome the suffering from natural disasters and a lack of life's basic requirements**. Muslim Aid work with all people in need regardless of their race, religion, gender, nationality or political opinion. **We respond to emergencies such as floods, tsunamis as one of our major priorities** but we also work on programmes to get rid of poverty, for example: **education, clean water, healthcare and skills training**.



## Grasp It:

Create a leaflet explaining the importance of giving to charity to Christians and Muslim. Explain the work of Muslim Aid and Christian Aid in the leaflet

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## Is a Church important to worshippers?

The main function of a local church or chapel is a place for people to go to worship. This includes people attending church services, or visiting the church for private prayer. There are also many other religious functions which take place in a Church, such as rites of passage ceremonies. Rites of passages include, e.g. Baptism, marriage and funeral services. Many Bible study groups for both children and adults, such as Sunday school, can also take place in local churches and chapels.



## What happens in a Church apart from worship?

Christians believe that it is part of their duty to act in a moral way and this involves helping others around them. The Church can play a vital role in Christians helping others as they provide: food banks (a place where people in poverty can go and collect food) and help for the homeless.

There are also many non-religious functions that can take place in a church building, eg:

- crèche facilities
- youth groups
- community meeting places (eg keep fit classes)
- adult education classes
- charity events
- coffee mornings and birthday parties



Jesus taught the importance of helping others who are less fortunate and this is why the Church has these extra functions.

## Should Christians give to charity?

Jesus taught his followers to show unconditional love to all people. He demonstrated this through his own compassion for the poor, sick and lonely. Christians should give approximately 10% of their wealth to the poor.

### Christian Aid

Christian aid believe that everyone is equal in the eyes of God. They have been working for over 70 years with people of all faiths (religions) or no faith to stand up for our poorest neighbours to ensure dignity and justice for all. Christian Aid's work includes helping people to:

- Have access to healthcare and education
- Ensure they are not discriminated against
- Be able to overcome disasters such as drought, hurricanes and climate change
- Make the most of opportunities, for example being able to sell their products for a fair price

