

# The Qiblah



## Learning Objectives

In this lesson, I will:



Define the qiblah

Explain how to find the direction of the qiblah

Demonstrate the angle within which my salah will be valid



## Key Words

Qiblah - الْقِبْلَةُ

Mihrab

45 degrees



## T Thinking Starter

How does the Ka'bah unite (bring together) the Muslims?

## What Is the Qiblah?

The word qiblah means direction. The **qiblah** for Muslims is the direction we face during salah. The qiblah for salah is the **Ka'bah** in Makkah.

You must face the qiblah when you pray. Otherwise, your salah will not be valid.

There are only **two situations** when a person doesn't have to face the qiblah to pray:



If they are *unable to move*, like an ill person in a hospital bed attached to machines.



If they are *in danger*, like someone watching out for an enemy or thief.

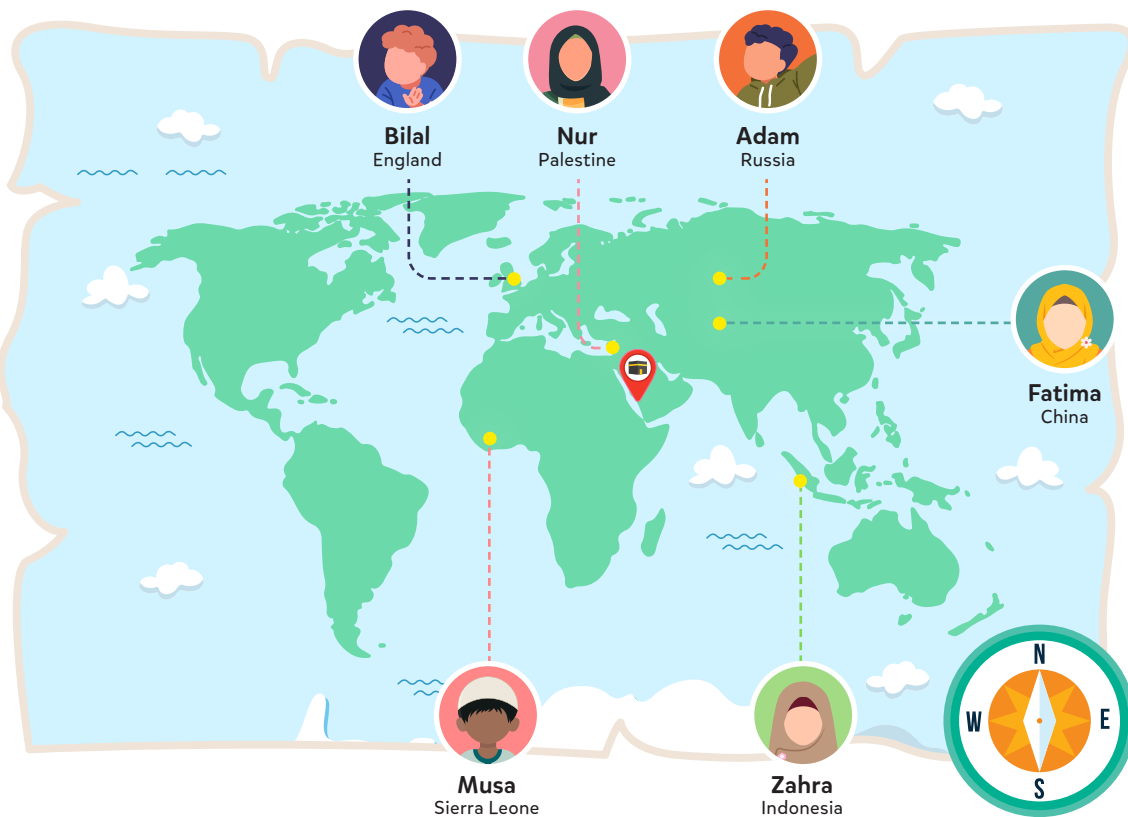
Just as you turn your body to the Ka'bah, you should turn your **heart** towards the Lord of the Ka'bah, Allah سبحانه وتعالى, and focus on Him Alone.





## Task 1

Draw a line from each child's location to the Ka'bah.



### IT'S STORY TIME!

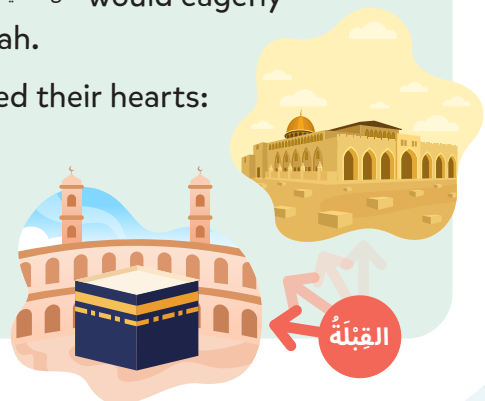
## The Day the Qiblah Changed

In the early days of Islam, Muhammad ﷺ and his Companions رضي الله عنهم faced al-Masjid al-Aqsa in Jerusalem when praying salah. After they migrated to Madinah, they continued praying towards al-Masjid al-Aqsa. This continued for almost 17 months.

The Prophet ﷺ and his Companions deeply missed the Ka'bah and wished to pray facing towards it. The Prophet ﷺ would eagerly look up at the sky, waiting for revelation from Allah.

Soon, Allah سبحانه وتعالى revealed a verse that comforted their hearts:

**"...Surely, We shall turn you to a qiblah that shall please you, so turn your face in the direction of al-Masjid al-Haram."** (Surah al-Baqarah:144)



At this moment, the qiblah changed from Jerusalem to Makkah. The Prophet ﷺ and His Companions رضي الله عنهم prayed their next salah facing the Ka'bah.

While the people of Banu Salamah were praying salah facing al-Masjid al-Aqsa, a Companion رضي الله عنه passed by and called out: "The qiblah has changed to the Ka'bah!"

At once, they turned their faces towards the Ka'bah in the middle of their salah. As a result of this amazing event, the masjid where they were praying became known as Masjid Qiblatayn—the masjid of two qiblahs.



Imagine starting your salah facing al-Aqsa in Jerusalem and finishing your salah facing the Ka'bah in Makkah!

## Which Way Is the Qiblah?

1 Use a compass or a map.

2 Ask a reliable Muslim or use the direction of the **mihrab** in a nearby masjid.

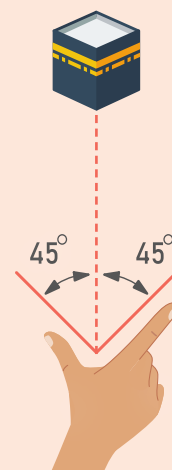
3 Pray in the direction you believe the Ka'bah is more likely to be.



**Mihrab:** a niche/hollow place set into the wall of a masjid that indicates the qiblah.

### What do you do if you pray facing the wrong way?

- ★ Your **salah** is **valid** as long as you are close to the qiblah, **within 45 degrees** to the right or the left.
- ★ If you realise **during salah** that you are facing **more than 45 degrees** away from the qiblah, then stop your salah and start again.
- ★ If you realise this **after salah** and there's still time to pray, then you must repeat the salah facing the qiblah.





## Task 2

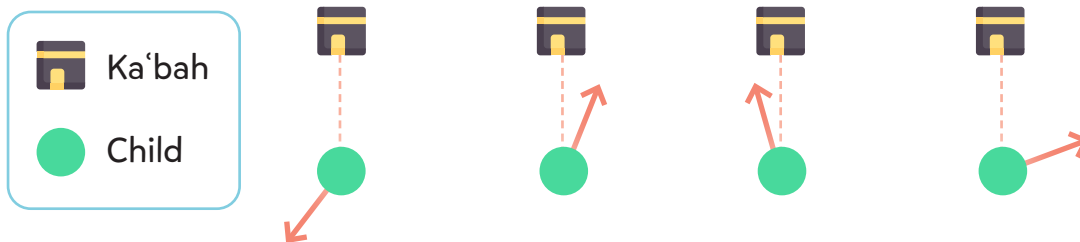
Use the compass and the map from Task 1 to fill in this table:

| Country      | Direction |
|--------------|-----------|
| China        |           |
| England      |           |
| Sierra Leone |           |
| Palestine    |           |



## Task 3

Now, act out the pictures below. Then, circle the image where the children need to start their salah again.



## I Act On What I Learn

I will face the qiblah when I pray salah.



## P Progress Check



- Do we always have to face the qiblah when we pray salah? ☐
- How should you work out the direction of the qiblah? ☐
- What do you do if you pray facing the wrong way? ☐