

AL-MASJID AL-HARAAM

An Information Guide



وزارة الحج والعمرة
MINISTRY OF HAJJ AND UMRAH



Strategic partner

أوقاف
الهيئة العامة للأوقاف
GENERAL AUTHORITY FOR AWQAF



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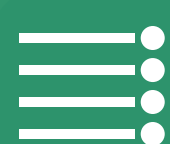
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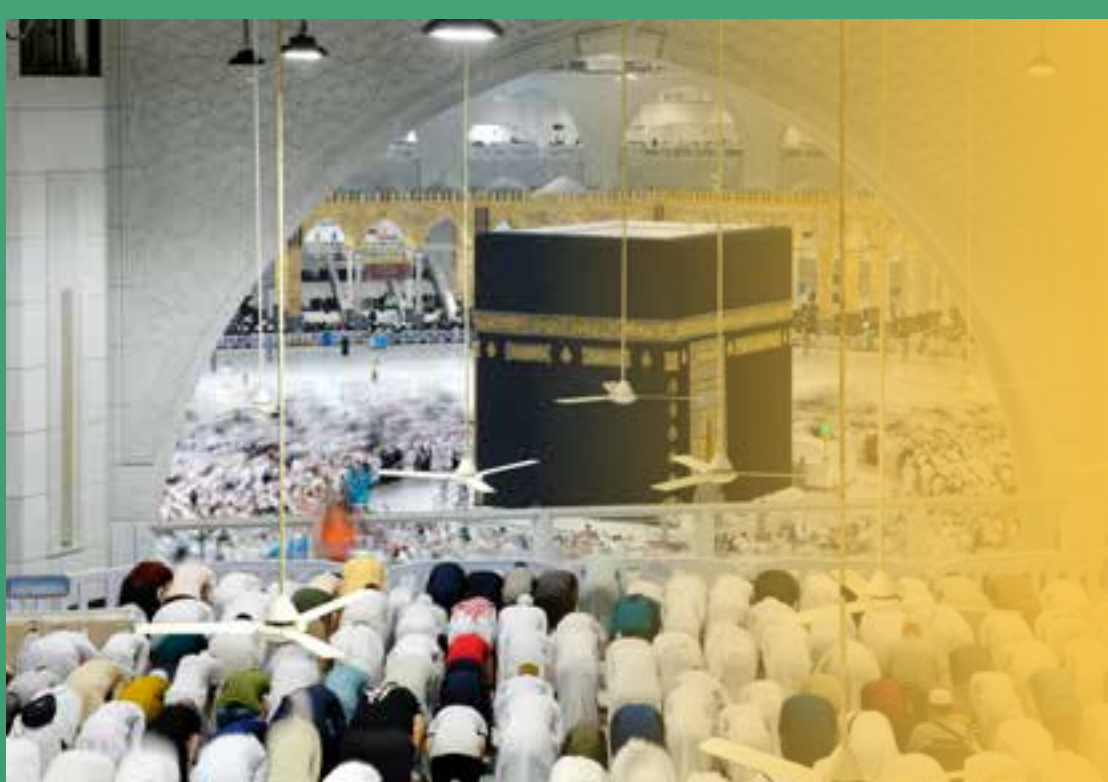
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▶ **The Status and Virtues of Makkah**



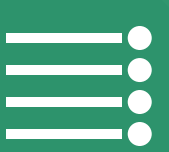
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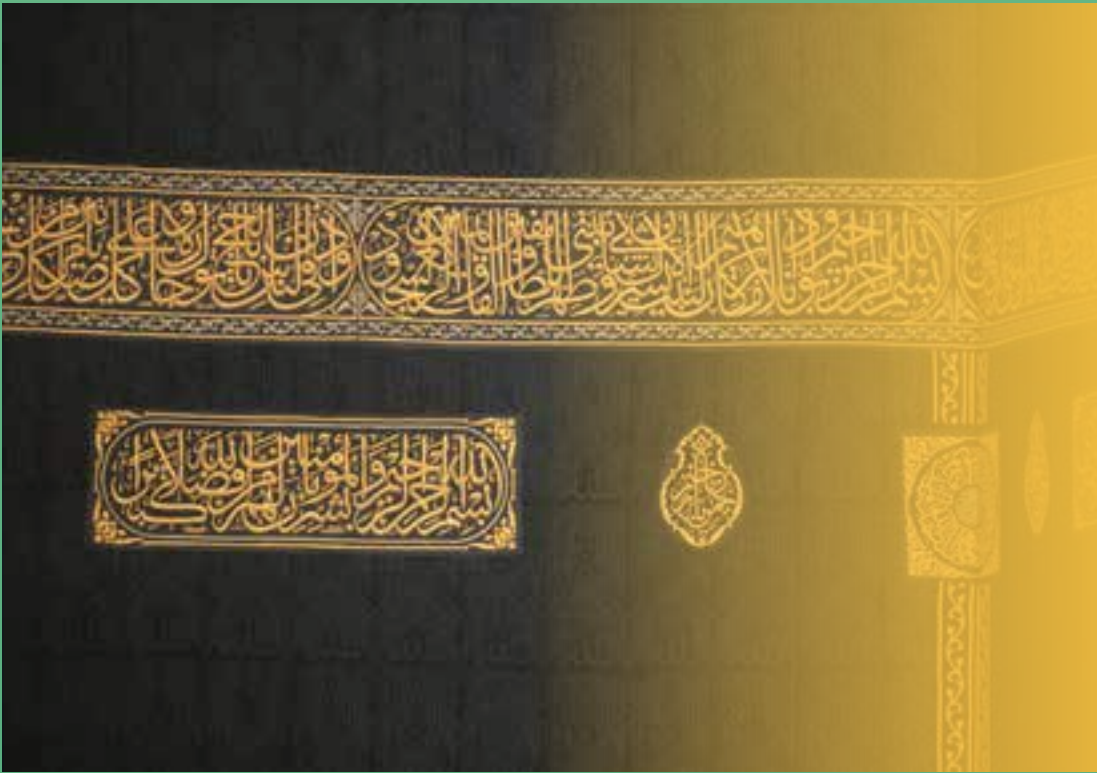


▶ **Al-Haram Boundaries**





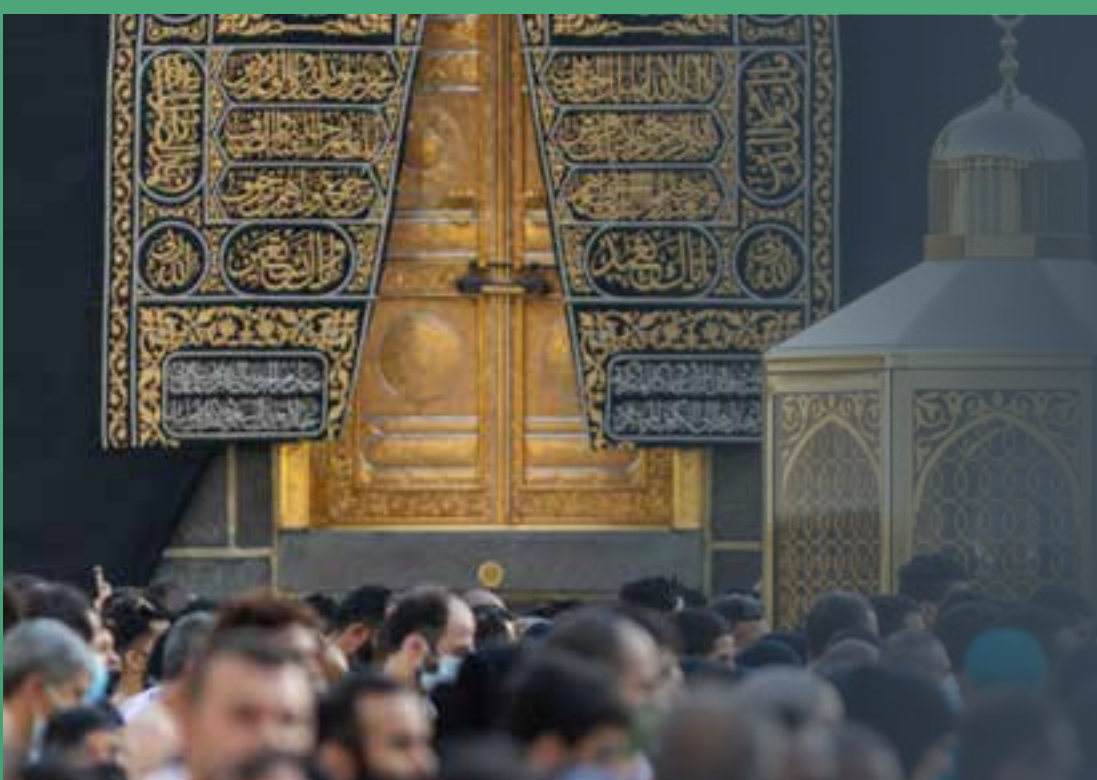
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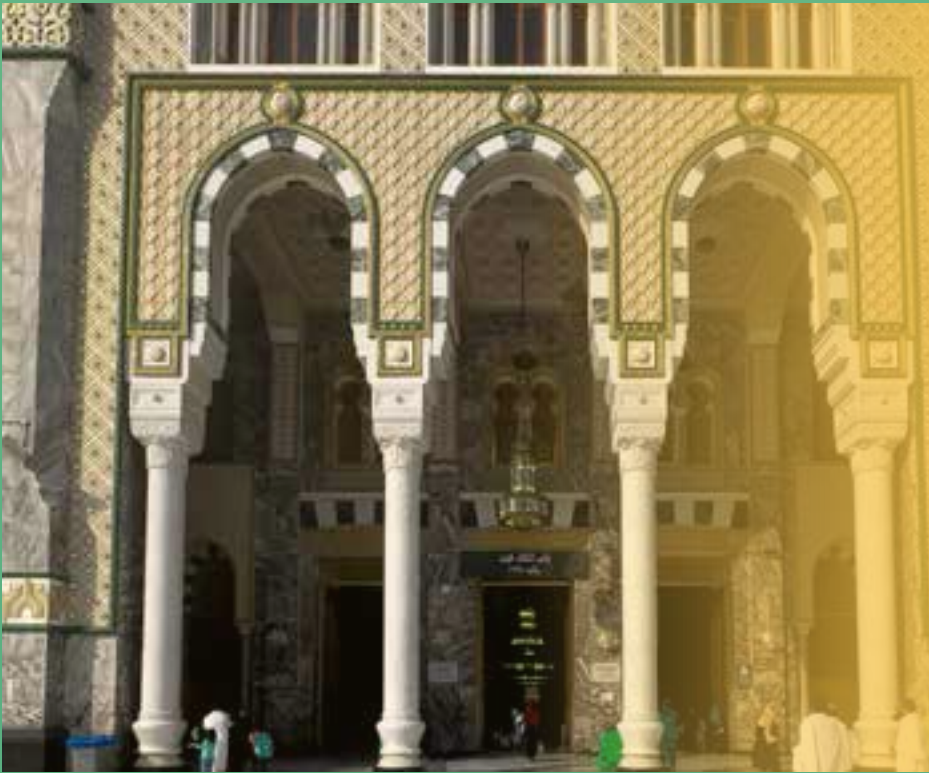
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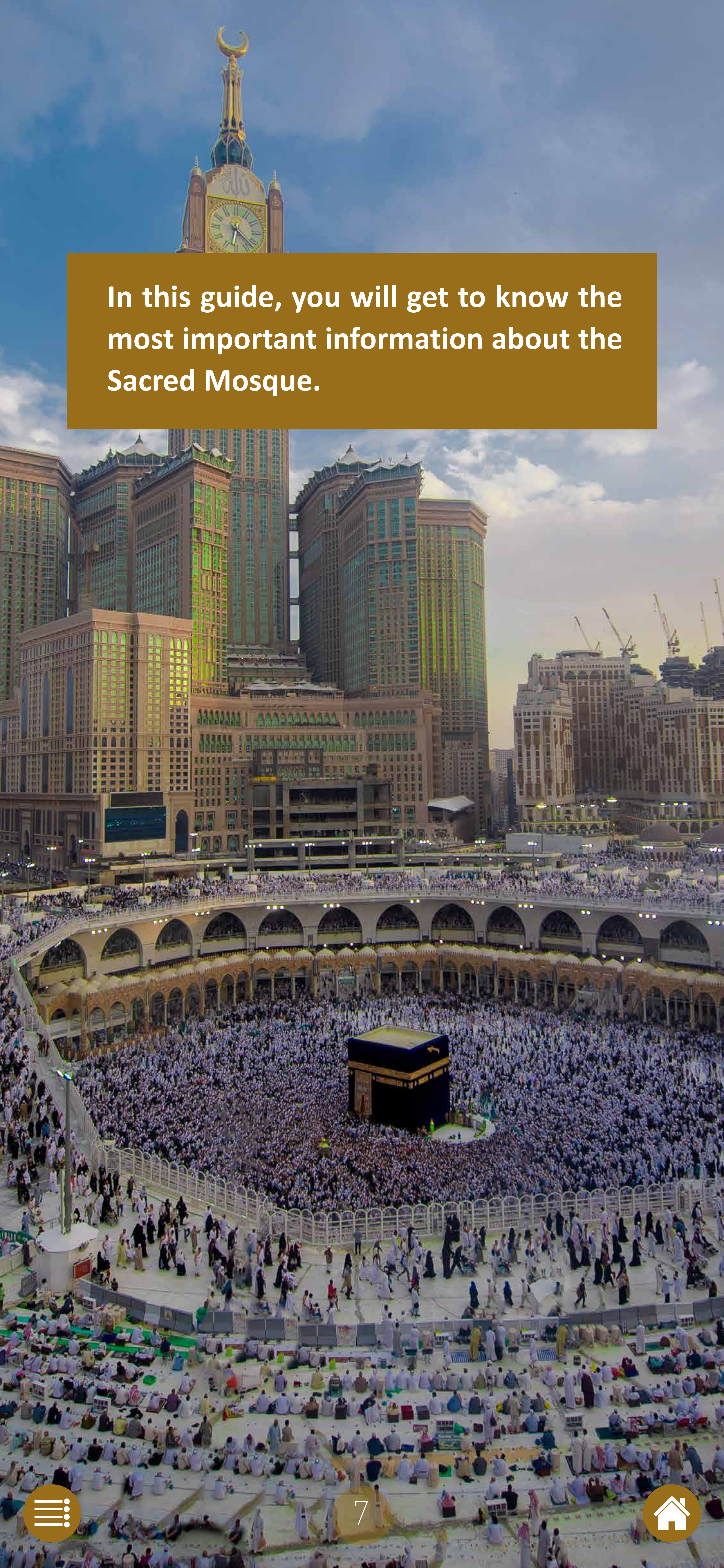


▶ Services for People with Disabilities




▶ Inaya Care Centres

Important numbers



In this guide, you will get to know the most important information about the Sacred Mosque.





The Status and Virtues of Makkah

Makkah is the best of all lands and the dearest of all Allah's lands to Him and to His Messenger, peace be upon him. Allah has chosen it for the Hajj rituals to be performed in it and considers the journey to it for this purpose an act of worship by which degrees are raised and sins are erased.

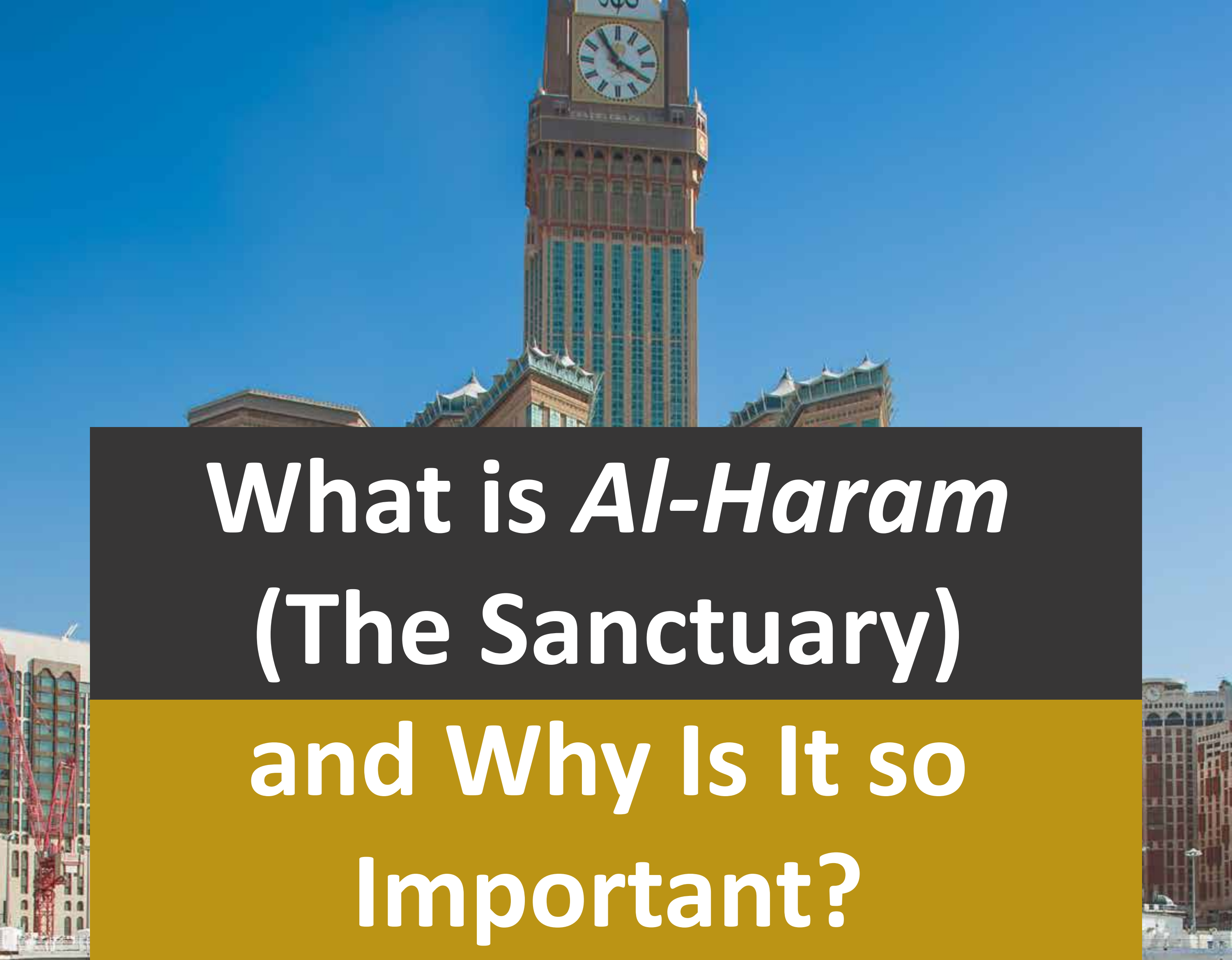
The Prophet, peace be upon him, said, addressing Makkah, **“I swear by Allah that you are the best land of Allah and the dearest of all His lands to Him.”**



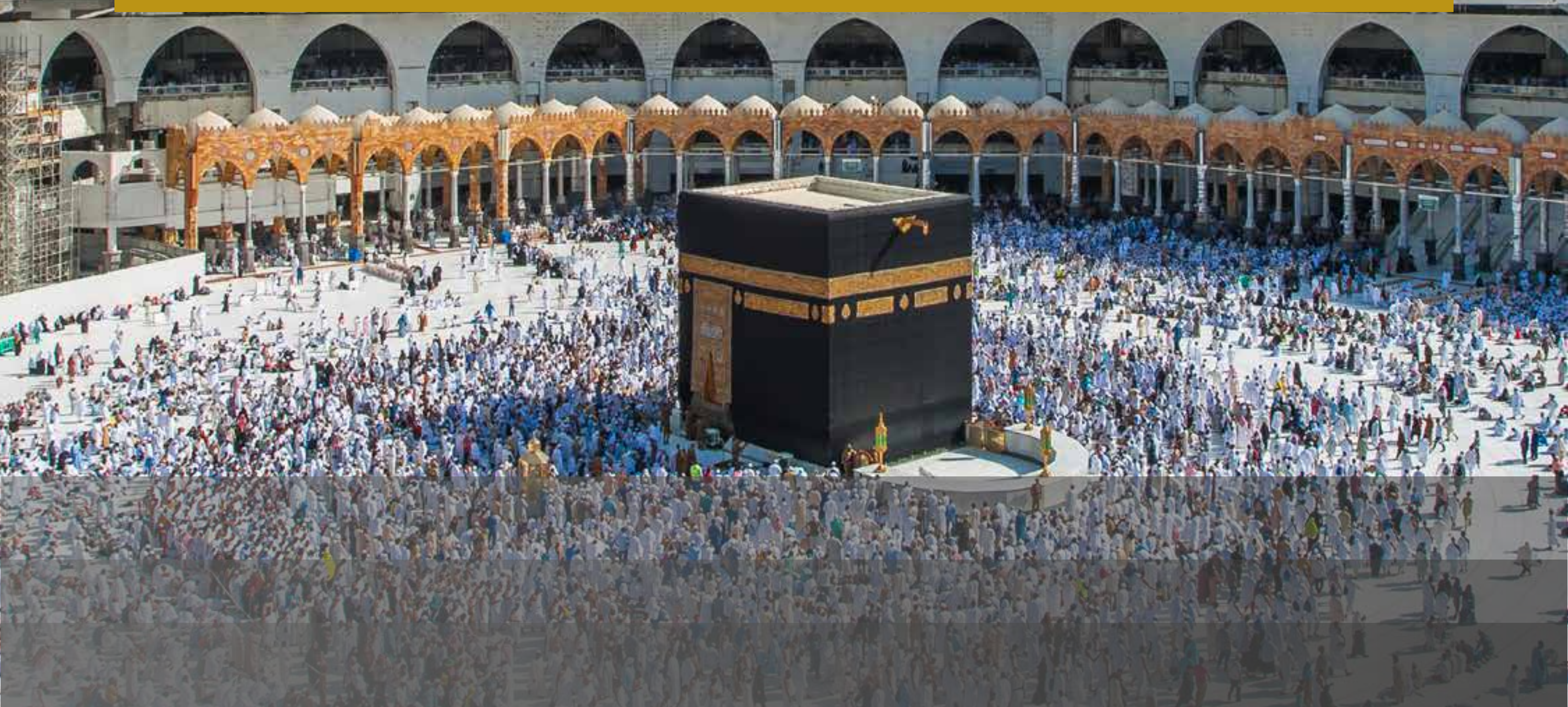
It is the first house of worship ever built on earth for people to worship Allah and declare His unity: **“The first house of worship ever set up for mankind was indeed the one in Bakkah—a blessed place and source of guidance for all people.” (3:96)**

In this guide, you are going to learn everything you need to visit the Ka’bah and achieve all the goals for which you have undertaken the journey to stay by it.





What is *Al-Haram* (The Sanctuary) and Why Is It so Important?



It is the place where it is forbidden to do certain things that are not forbidden elsewhere. Avoiding such things in this place testifies to one's veneration of Allah who has declared such things forbidden in it:

“All this is ordained by Allah; therefore, venerate His commandments. Those who venerate Allah's commandments and honour His sacred rites will fare better in the sight of their Lord.” (22:30)



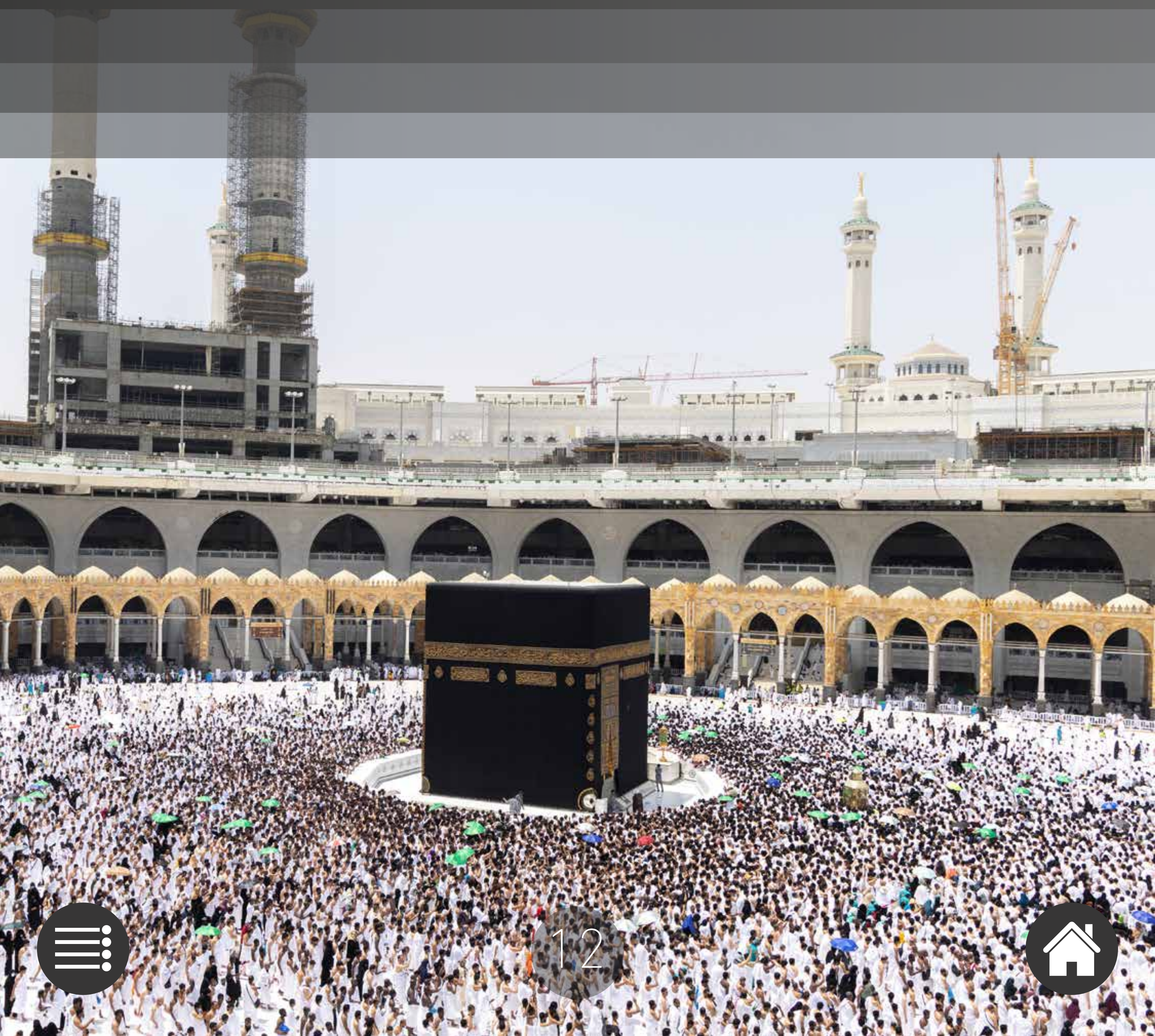
Allah has chosen and exalted this land and made it a sanctuary, in which He has forbidden what He has made permissible in other places and conferred on it manifold virtues and benefits that are not found elsewhere.



Its sanctity and lofty status are deeply rooted in the history of the entire universe.

Indeed, Allah chose this land and made it sacred on the day He created this universe and it will continue to be as such until the end of time.

The Prophet, peace be upon him, said, **“Allah made this town a sanctuary on the day He created the heavens and the earth, and it will remain a sanctuary—as Allah has ordained—until the Day of Resurrection.”**





What Does *Al-Haram* Mean to Me?

You are now in a place on which Allah conferred a lofty status, honour and virtue before He created humans, and commanded Abraham, peace be upon him, to raise the foundations of the Ka'bah and build its walls upon them to be the prayer direction (*qiblah*) and provide guidance to all mankind:

“The first house of worship ever set up for mankind was indeed the one in Bakkah—a blessed place and source of guidance for all mankind.” (3:96)

You are in a place where the reward for one good deed is multiplied many times over, and the sin incurred for one bad deed is not like that committed anywhere else.



Allah commanded his noblest servants, Abraham and Ishmael, peace be upon them, and after them His Messenger, Muhammad, peace be upon him, to purify it, maintain it and take good care of it.





Al-Haram Boundaries

The Sanctuary (*Al-Haram*) has well-known boundaries which Allah taught Abraham, peace be upon him. Knowledge of these boundaries had been passed down from one generation to another and was ultimately approved and clarified by the Messenger of Allah, peace be upon him.

They can be seen today on the roads leading to Makkah.

**Their distances from the Ka'bah
differ from one place to another:**

**From Al-Madinah Al-Nabawiyah
(At-Tan'eem) Road:**

6.5 km

From Jeddah Expressway:

22 km

From the new Al-Laith Road:

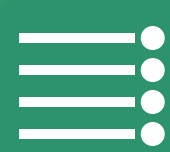
17 km

From At-Taif (As-Sail) Road:

12.850 km

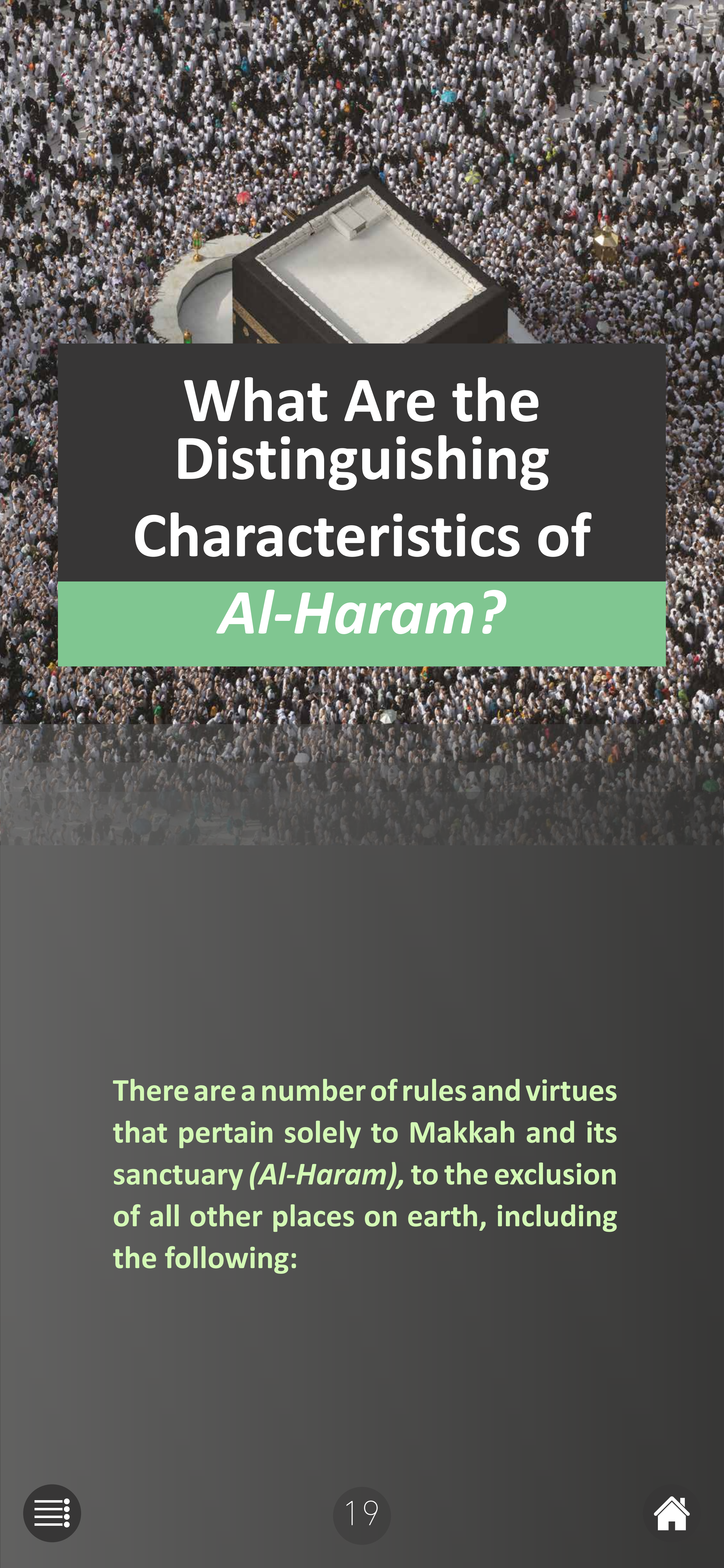
From Taif (Al Hada) Road:

15.5 km



Al-Haram area holds a very special position in Islam because there are rulings related to it for those who enter it. We are going to learn about some of these rulings in this guide.





What Are the Distinguishing Characteristics of *Al-Haram*?

There are a number of rules and virtues that pertain solely to Makkah and its sanctuary (*Al-Haram*), to the exclusion of all other places on earth, including the following:

1

The reward for one single prayer in Makkah sanctuary (*Al-Haram*)—including all mosques and houses in Makkah that are within it—is equivalent to one hundred thousand prayers anywhere else.

2

Non-Muslims are not allowed to enter it.

3

It is forbidden to engage in any form of hunting animals and birds in it.

4

It is forbidden to cut down its trees or grass.

5

Any person who enters it is safe with regard to his life and property and thus must not be killed or wronged in any way. The Almighty says, **“Whoever enters it is safe.” (3:97)**



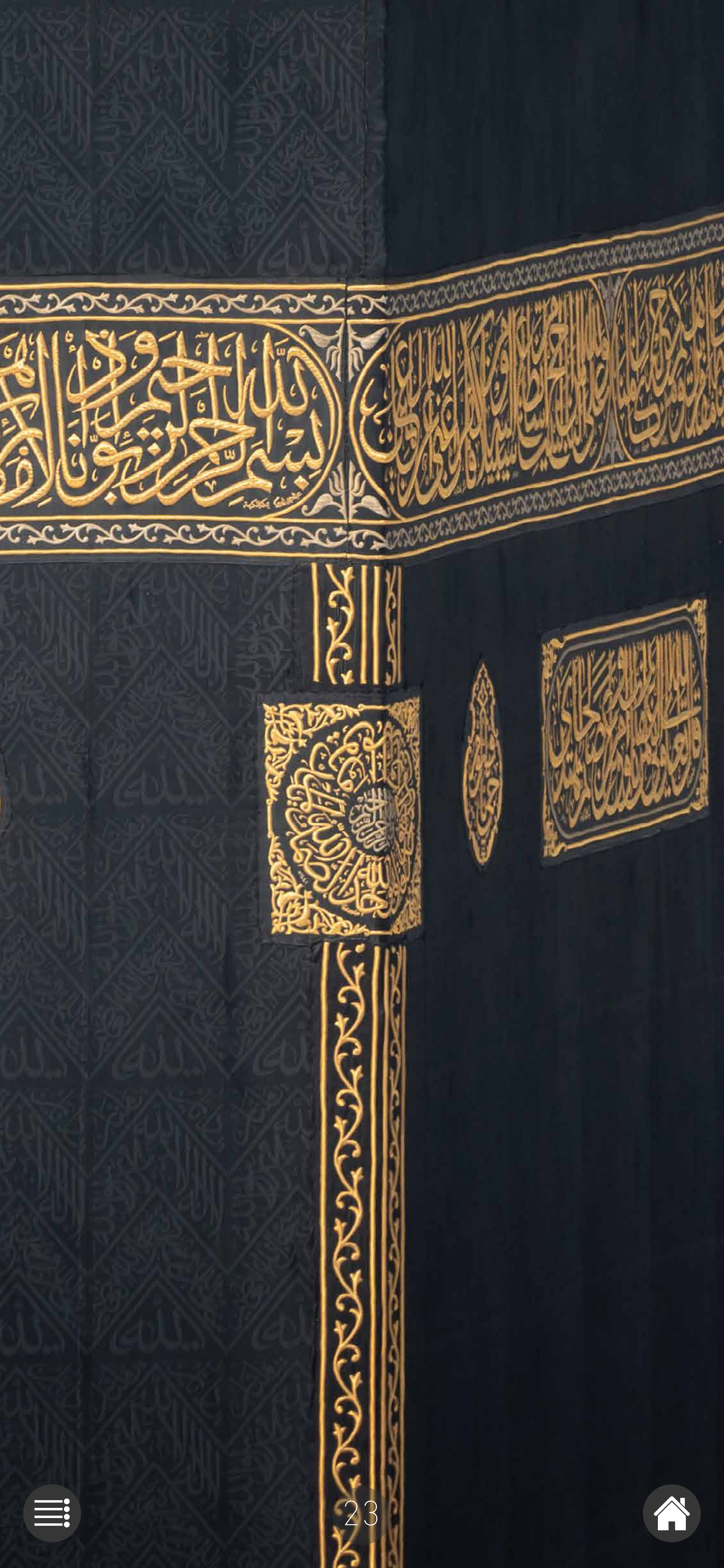
During the pilgrimage season, entry to Makkah is efficiently organized and anyone without a hajj permit is not allowed to enter it so that pilgrims may be served in the best possible manner.





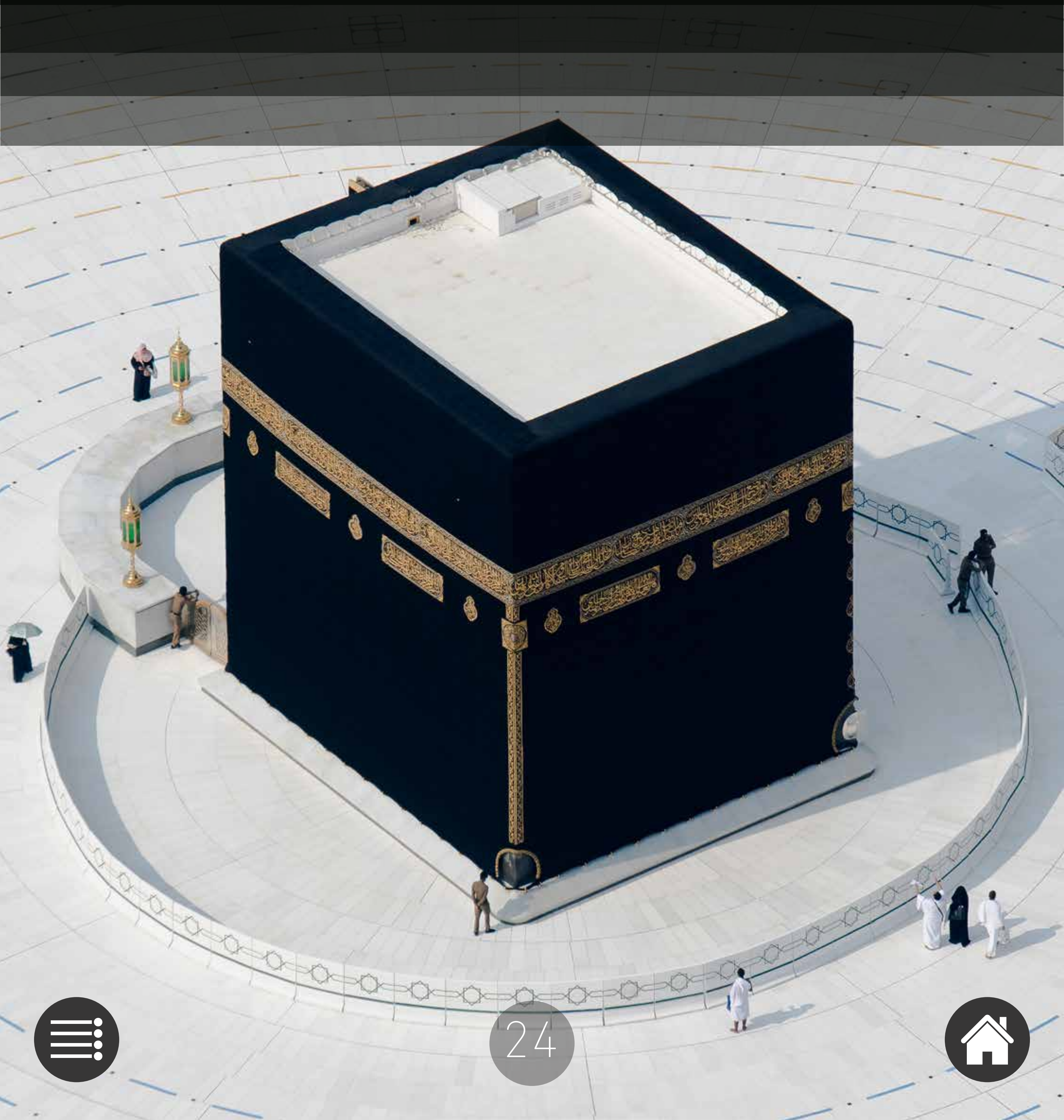
The Ka'bah

The Ka'bah is the direction which Muslims face in their prayers (*qiblah*) and to which their hearts incline. It is only around it that they walk (perform *tawaf*) as an act of worship to Allah Almighty.



The Ka'bah has four corners that are named after the directions they are facing:

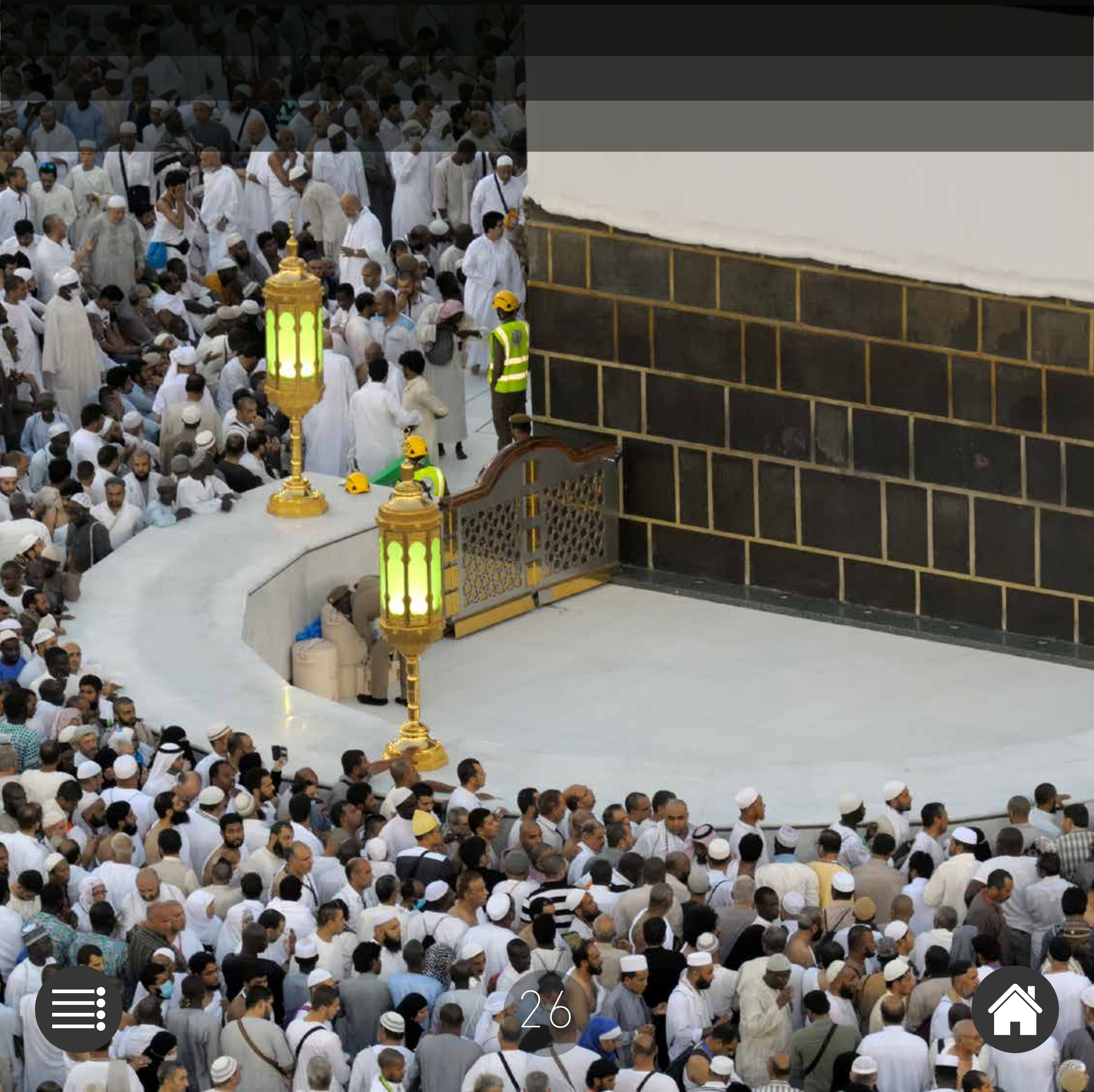
- The Yemeni Corner in the south
- The Black Stone in the east
- The Syrian Corner in the west
- The Iraqi Corner in the north





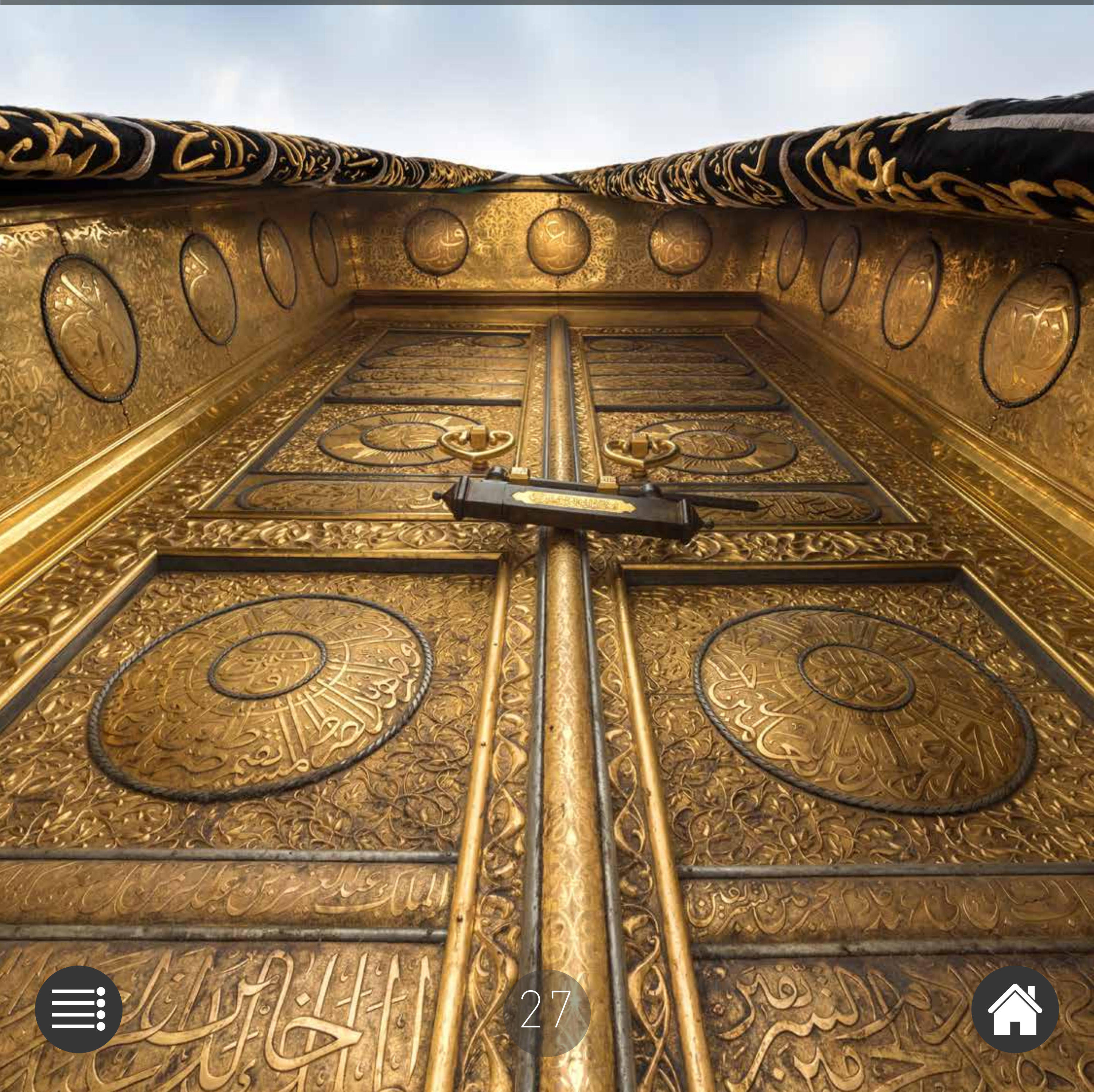
Al-Hateem (Hijr Ismaa'eel)

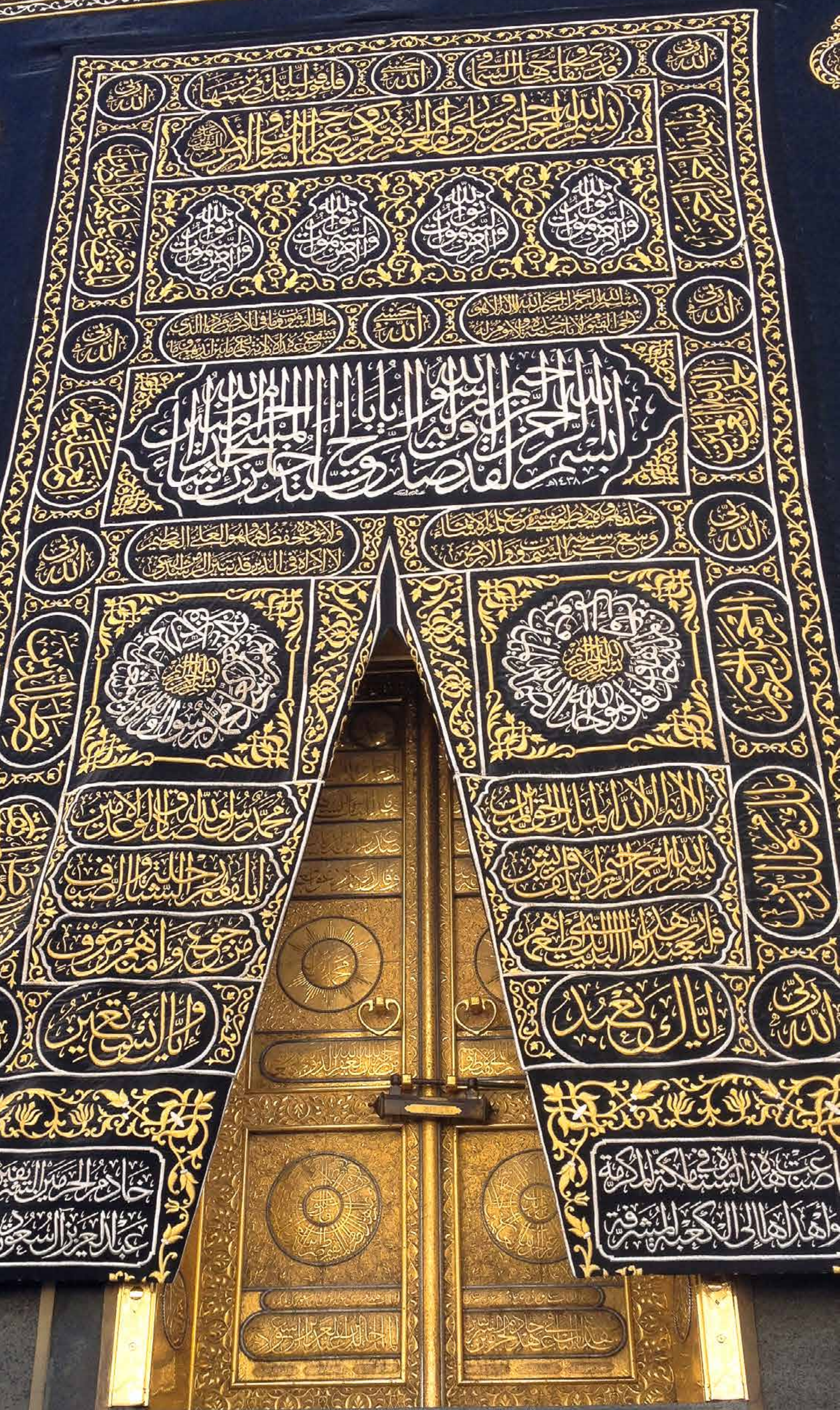
This is a semi-circular open space next to the Ka'bah, part of which used to be part of the Ka'bah.



The Door of the Ka'bah

- It is located on the eastern side of it.
- Its length is 318 cm and its width is 171 cm.
- It is made today of pure gold and weighs 280 kilograms.

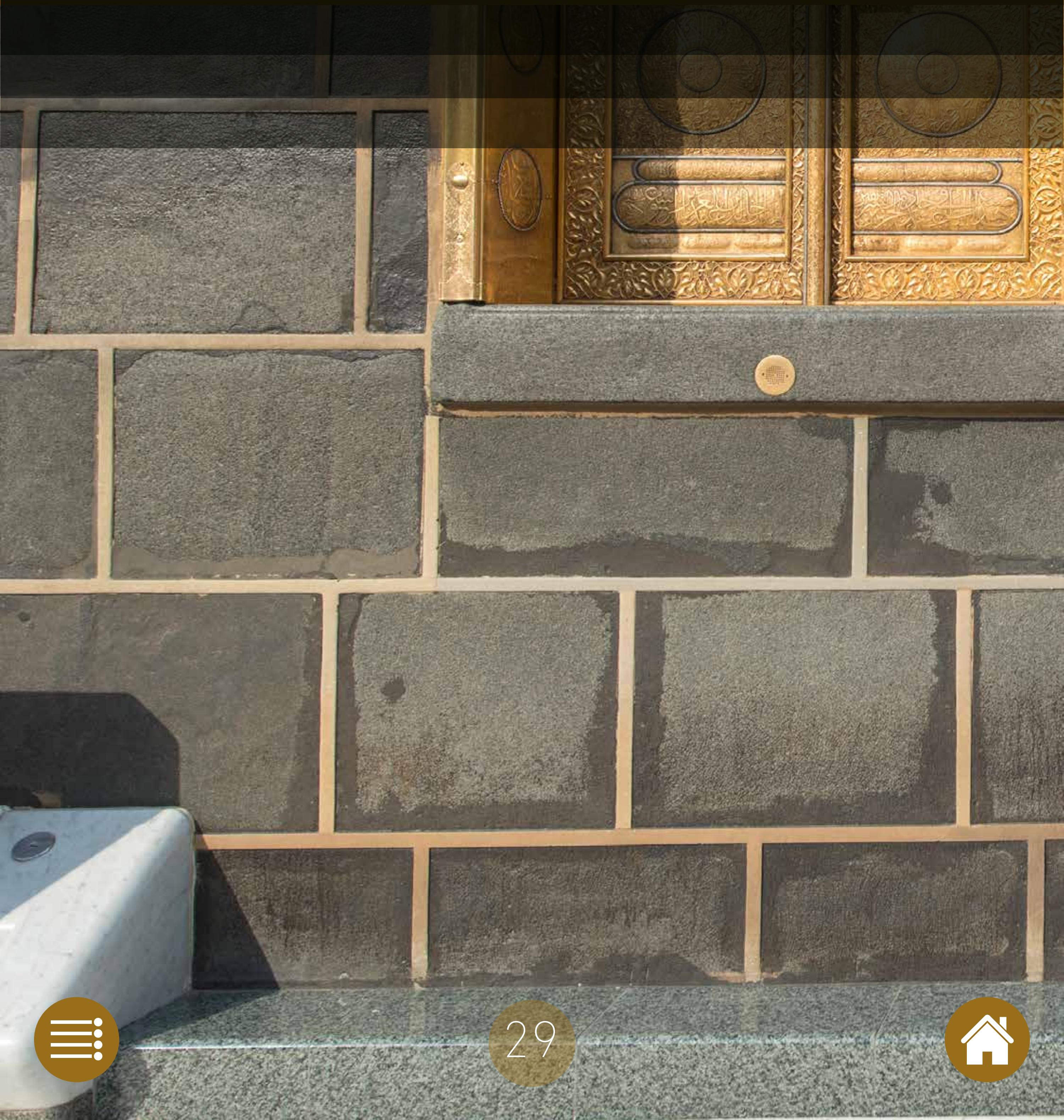




Al-Multazam

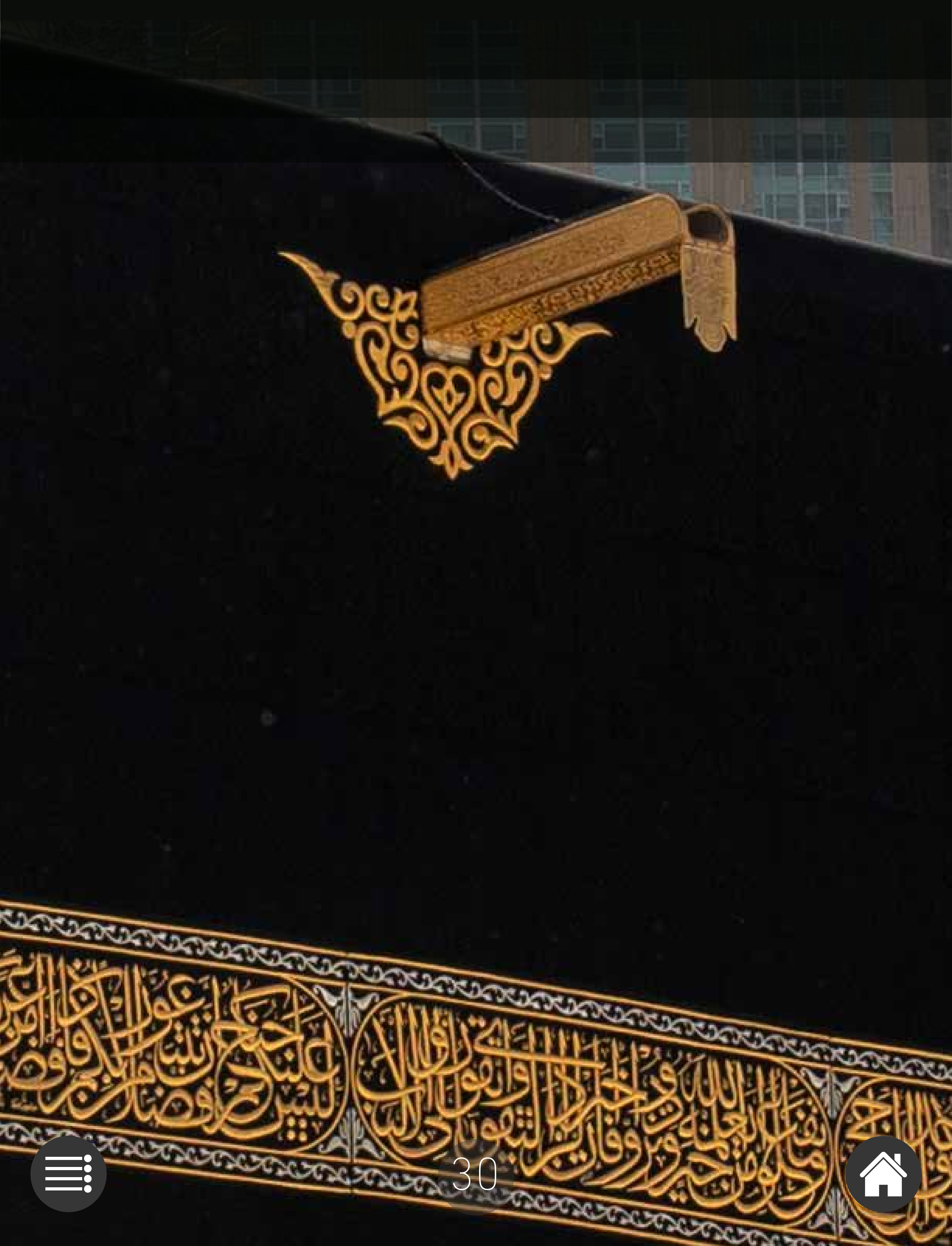
This is the eastern wall or part of it between the Black Stone and the door of the Ka'bah.

Iltizaam refers to the act of placing one's chest, face, arms and palms on this wall and supplicating Allah Almighty for whatever one wishes. Doing so may be difficult or rather impossible during the hajj season and in overcrowded conditions.



Al-Meezaab (The Roof Drain)

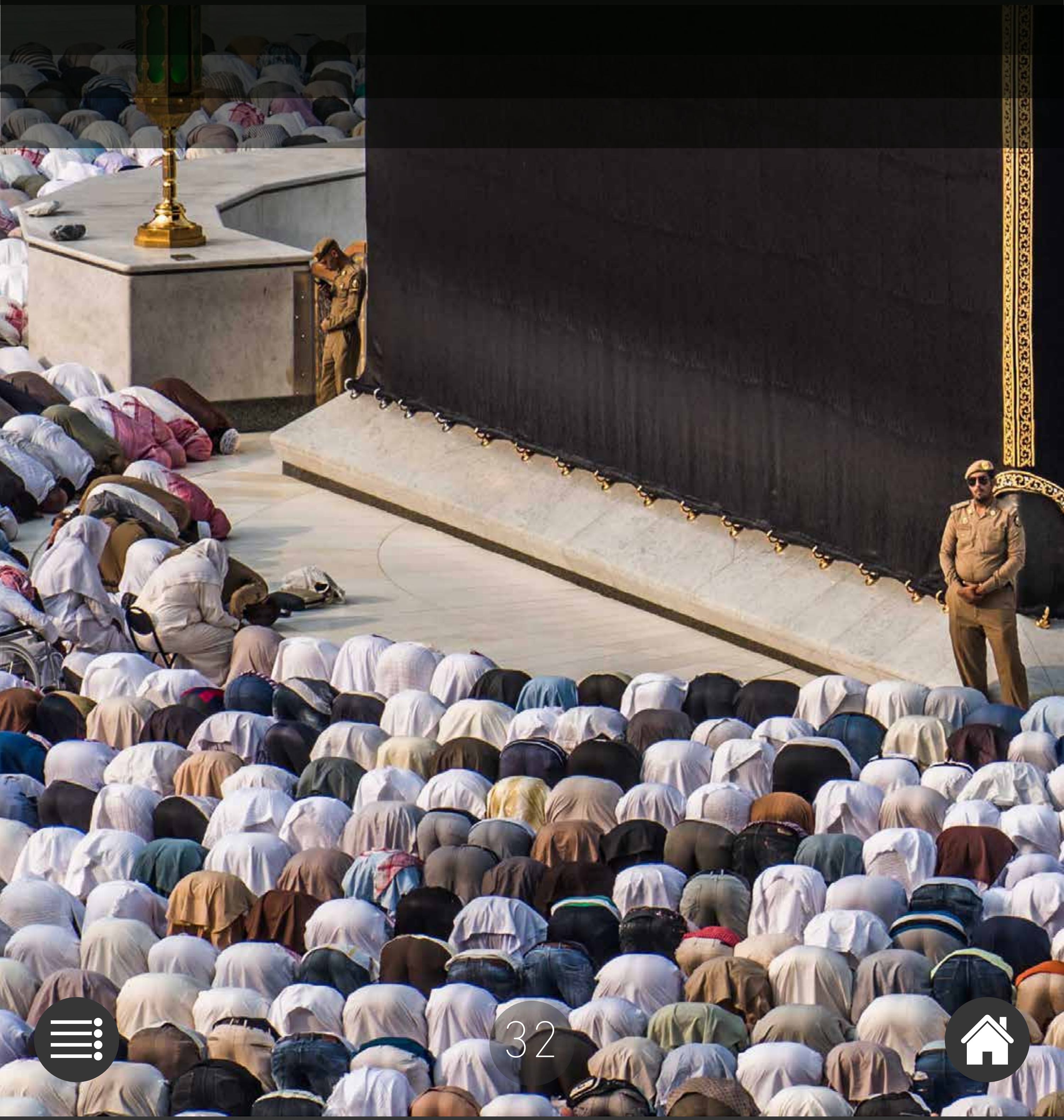
This is the part that is attached to the roof of the Ka'bah to channel water from the roof, which then falls onto Hija Is-maa'eel.





Ash-Shaadharwaan (The Riser)

This is a structure that supports the Ka'bah and surrounds it from three sides. It was initially erected to strengthen the Ka'bah and protect it from torrential rain. It has been preserved over the years and is covered today with white marble.





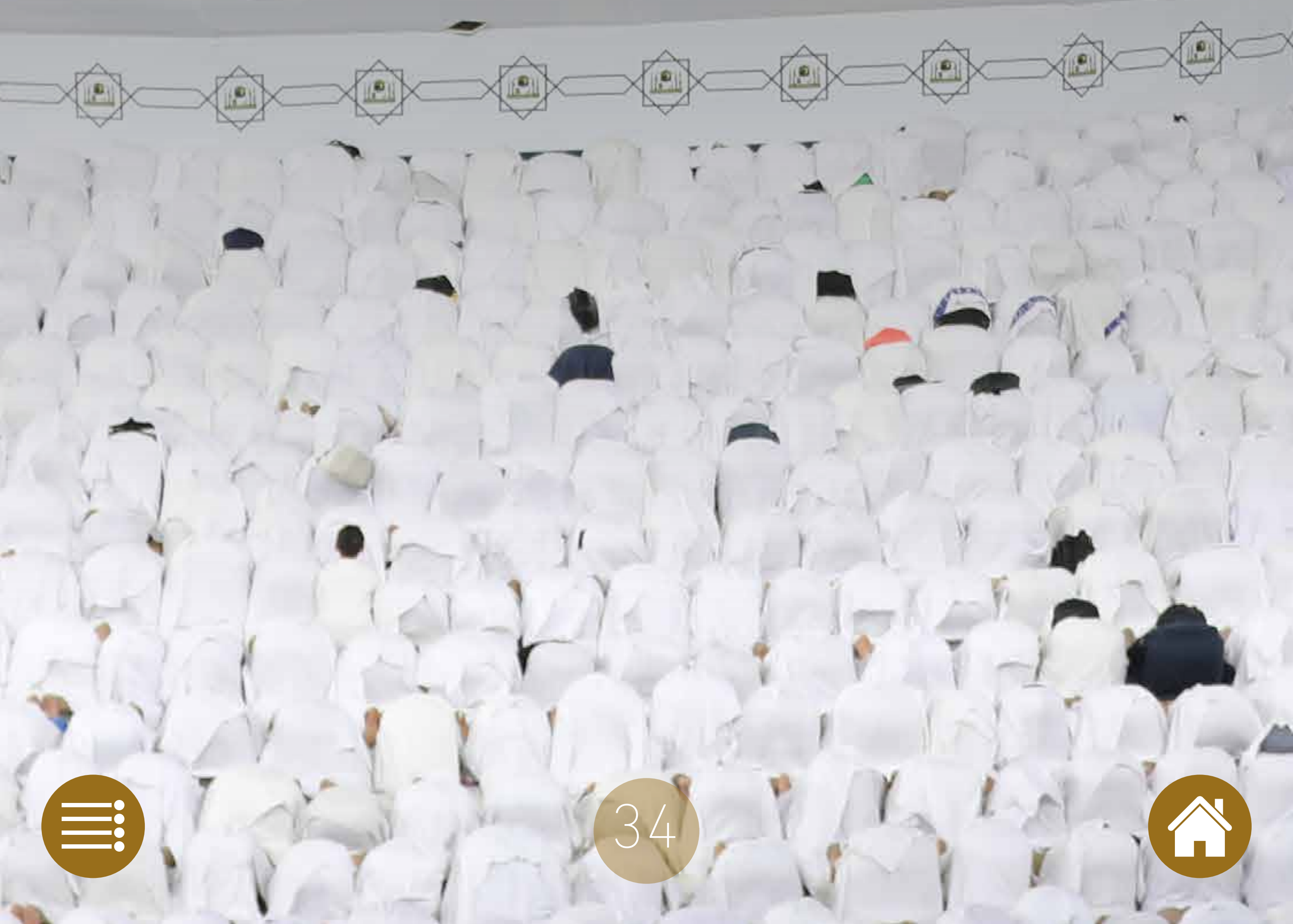
The Black Stone

- The Black Stone is one of the stones of Paradise, as the Prophet, peace be upon him, once mentioned.
- It is the start and finish points of each circumambulation (*tawaaf*) that pilgrims perform around the Ka'bah.
- The Prophet, peace be upon him, deposited it in its proper place following a dispute that broke out between people as to who should have the honour of raising it to its place after part of the building of the Ka'bah was damaged by heavy rain.



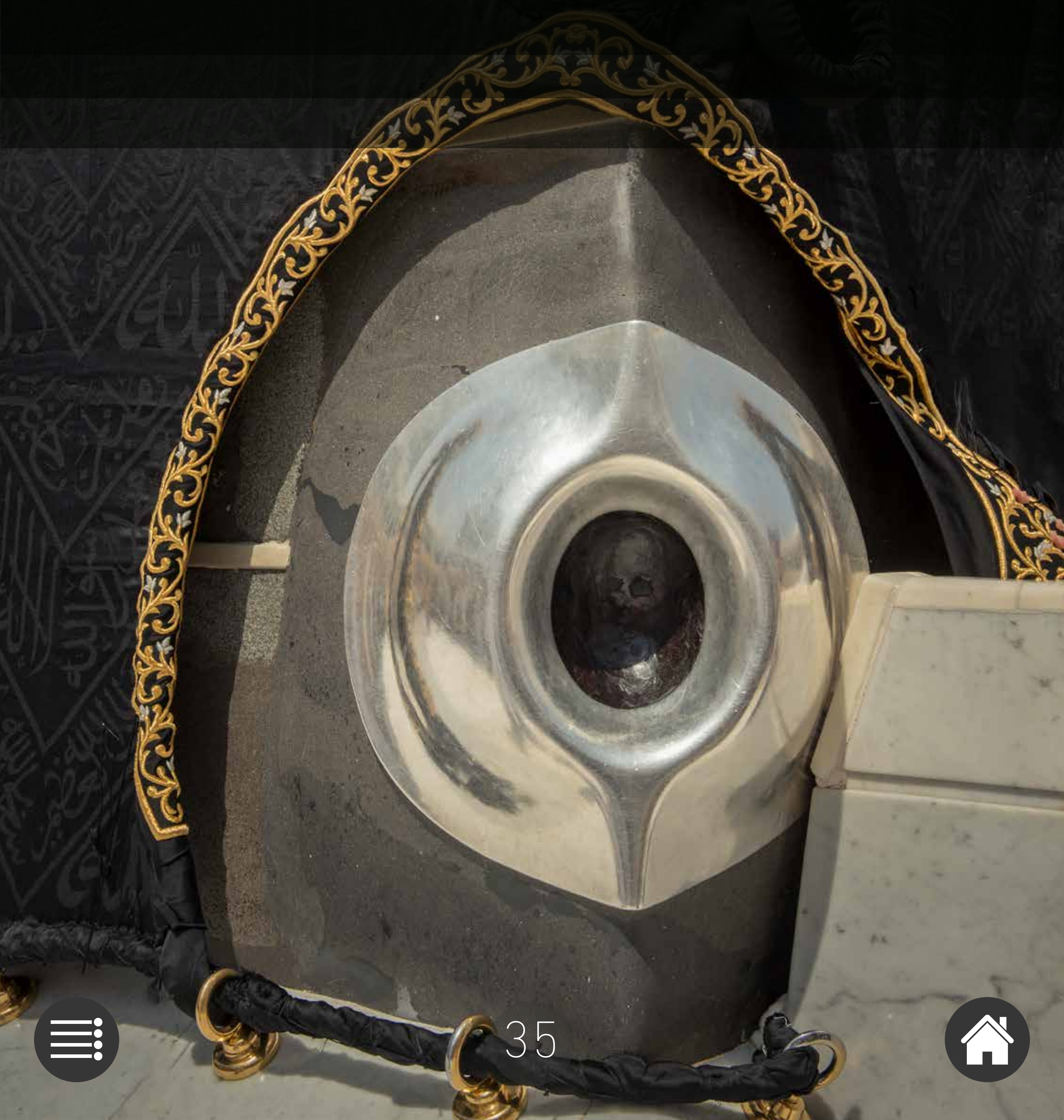
The Location of the Black Stone

- It is located in the southeastern corner of the Ka'bah.
- It rises 1.5 m from the ground.



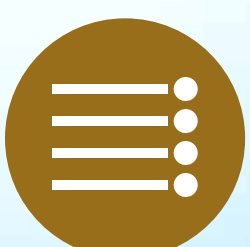
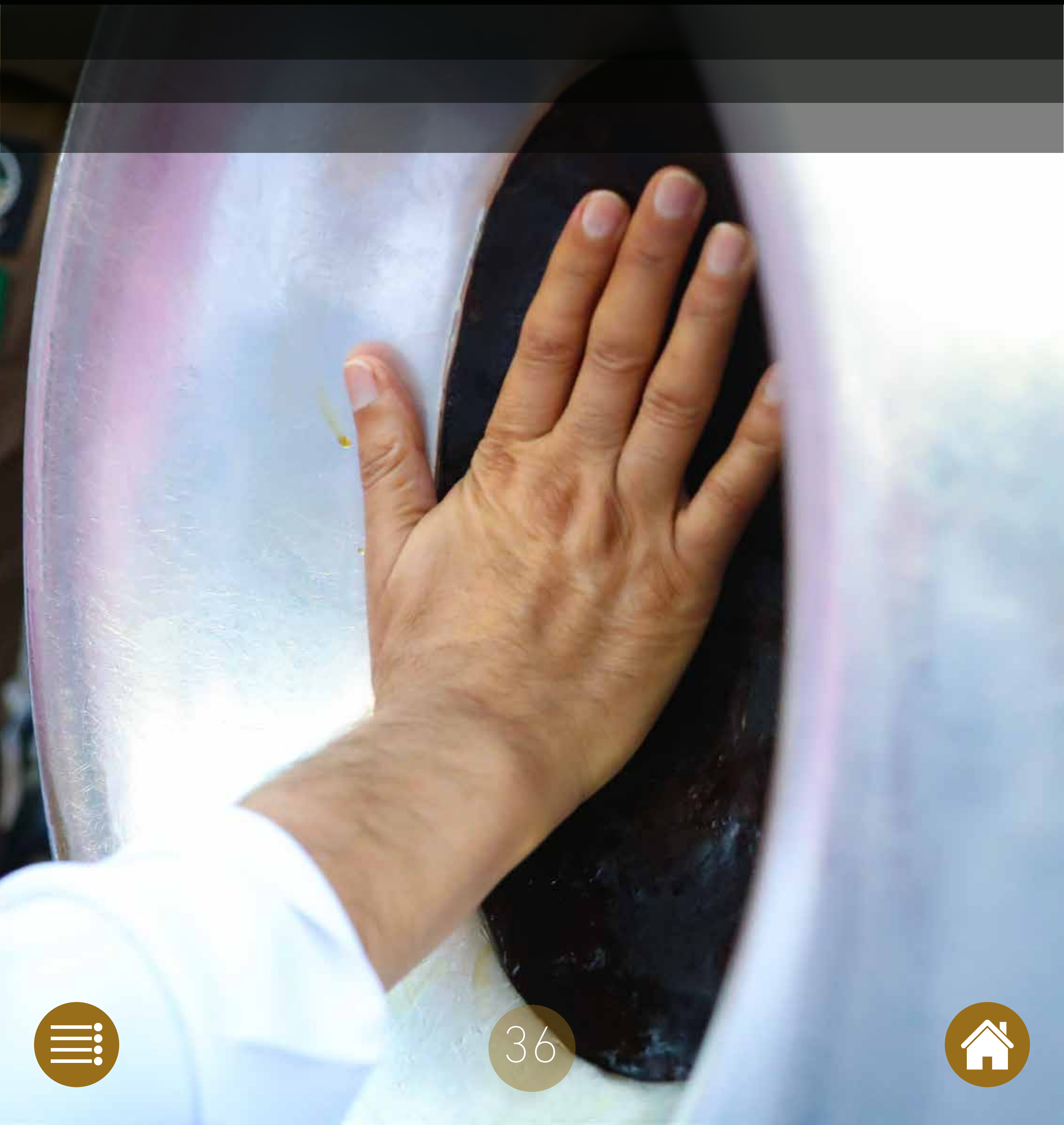
The Silver Frame:

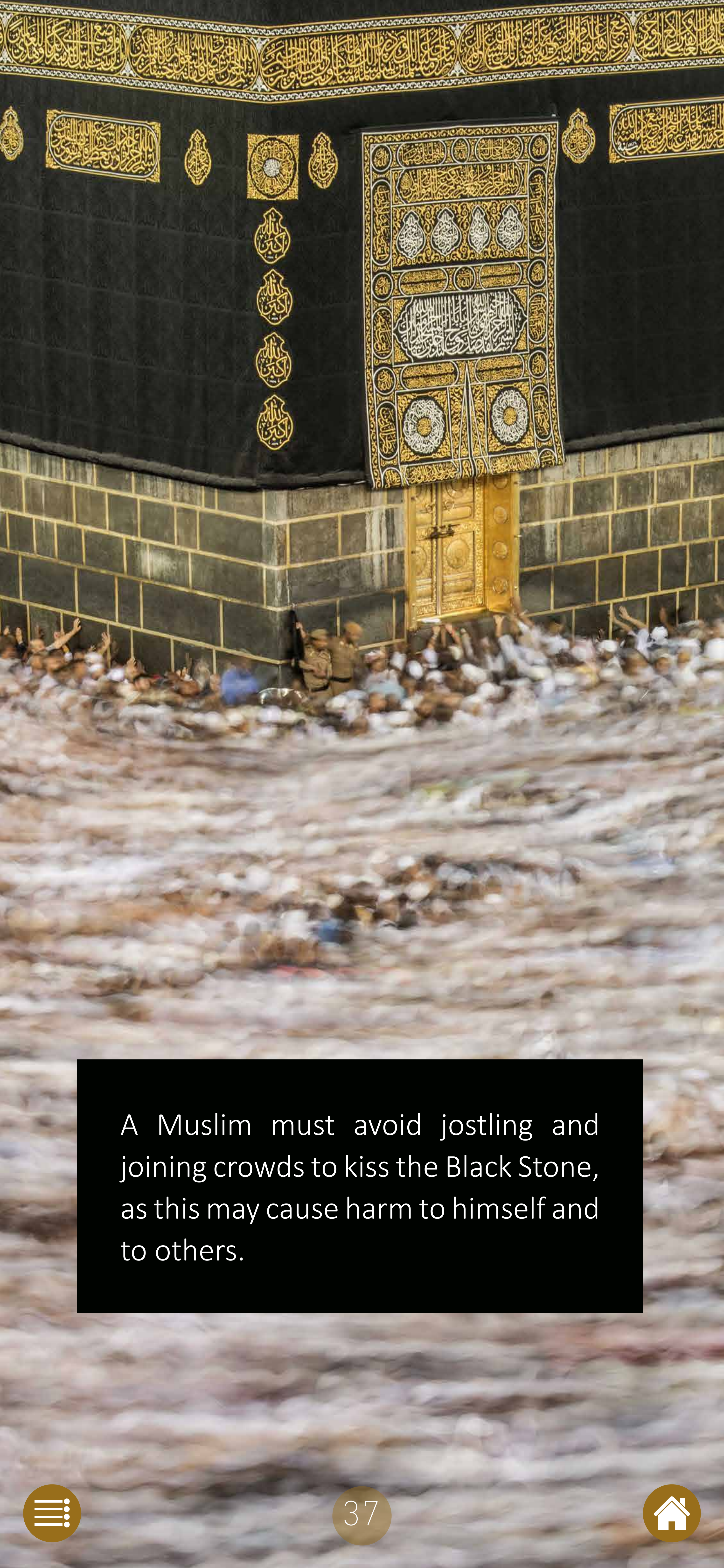
- The Black Stone is encased in a silver frame that serves to protect it.
- The first to join the parts of Black Stone with silver was 'Abdullaah ibn Az-Zubayr, may Allah be pleased with him.



Touching and Kissing the Black Stone

- A pilgrim should touch and kiss the Black Stone at each circuit, as this was the very practice of the Prophet, peace be upon him, as far as it is possible in the off-seasons when there is no overcrowding.
- A pilgrim should recite the takbeer (say, 'Allaahu akbar') when touching it or waving at it from afar in case of overcrowding.





A Muslim must avoid jostling and joining crowds to kiss the Black Stone, as this may cause harm to himself and to others.

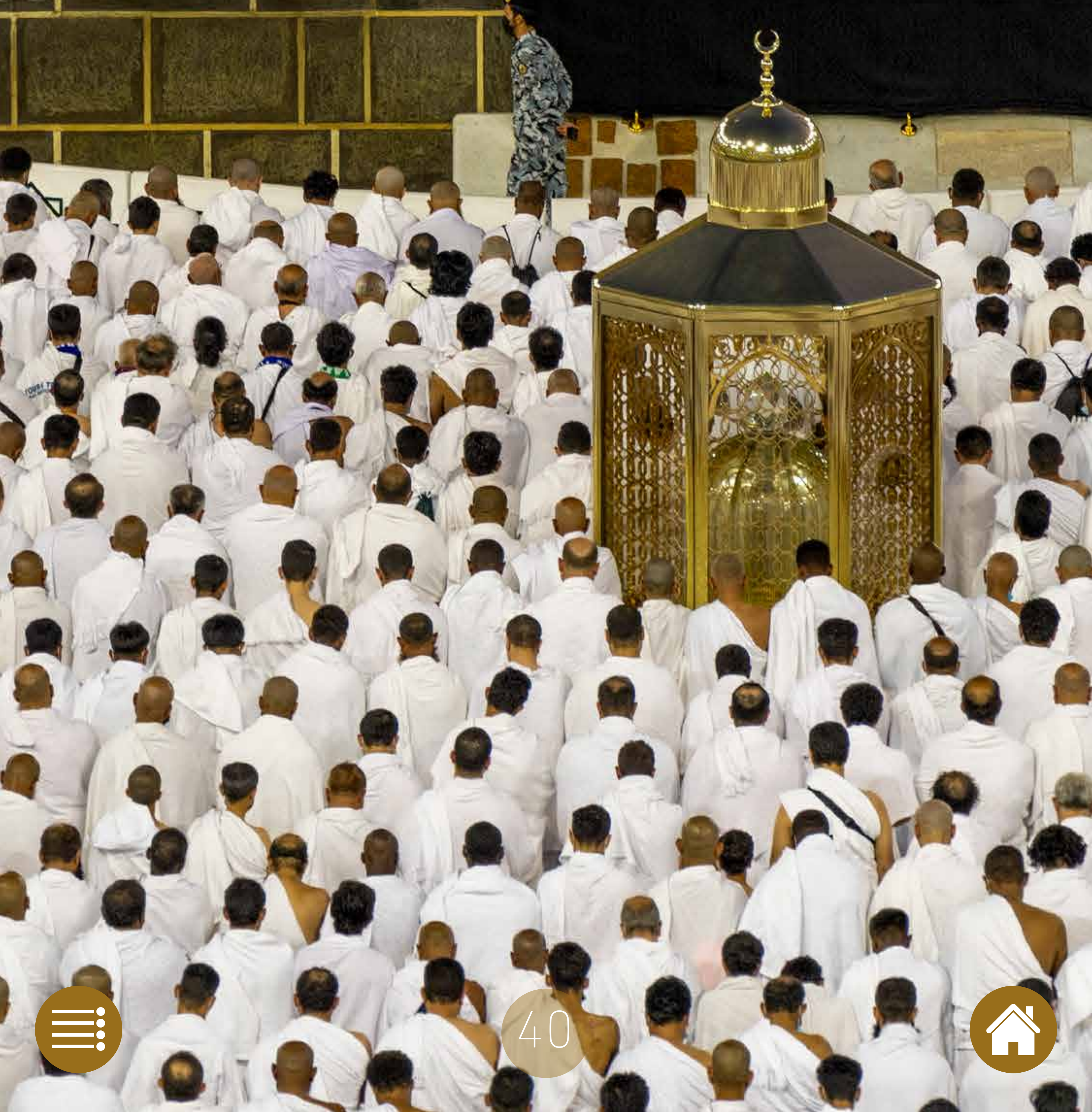
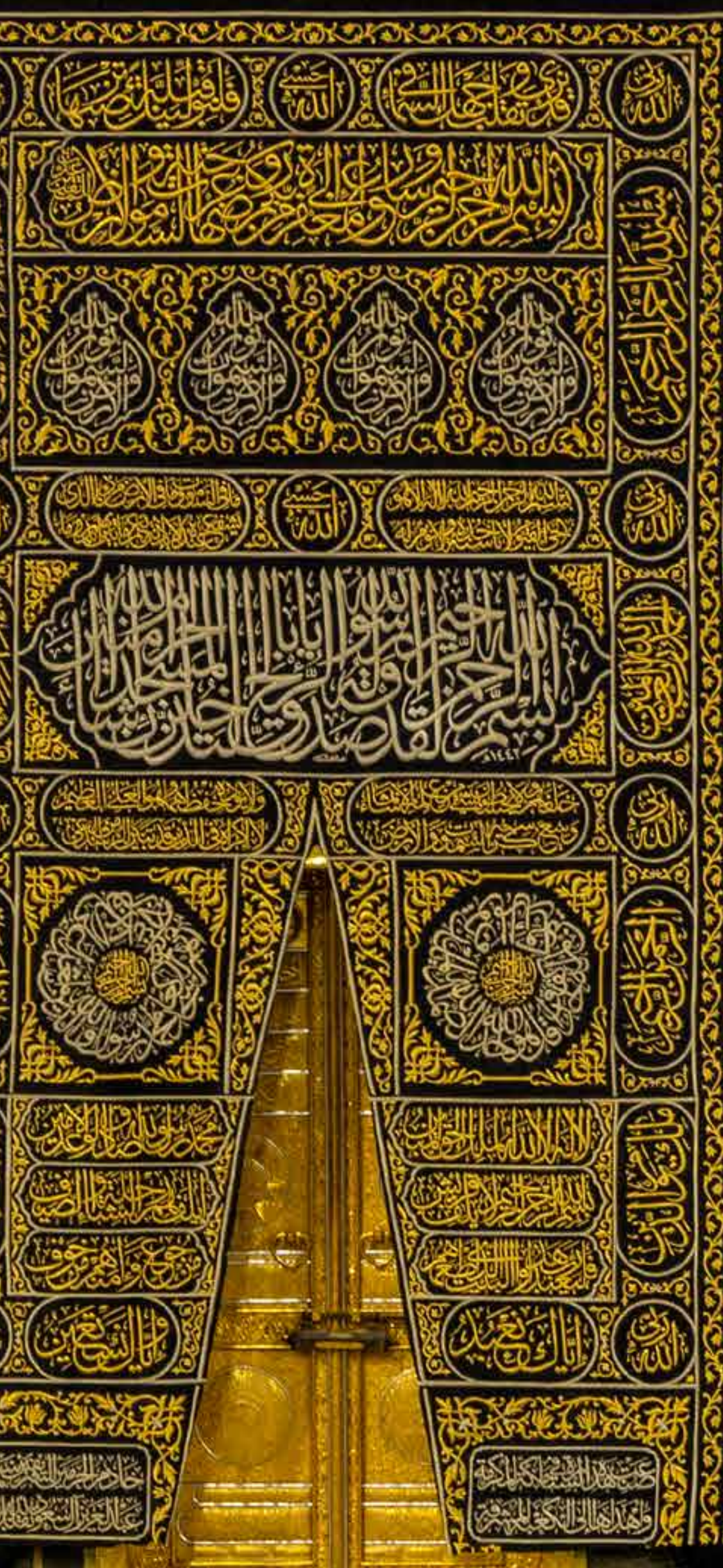


Maqaam Ibraaheem (Abraham's Station)

Maqaam Ibraaheem is the stone on which Abraham, peace be upon him, stood when he was building the Ka'bah.

It is one of the clear signs in *Al-Haram*, as the Almighty says, **“In it are clear signs [testifying to its exalted status], including the place where Abraham stood” (3:97).**





Its Location

In front of the door of the Ka'bah

10-11 m east of the Ka'bah

Its Shape

It is square-shaped with two oval pits in the middle bearing the footprints of Prophet Ibrahim (Ibraaheem), peace be upon him.

Its Colour

The shades of black, yellow and white.

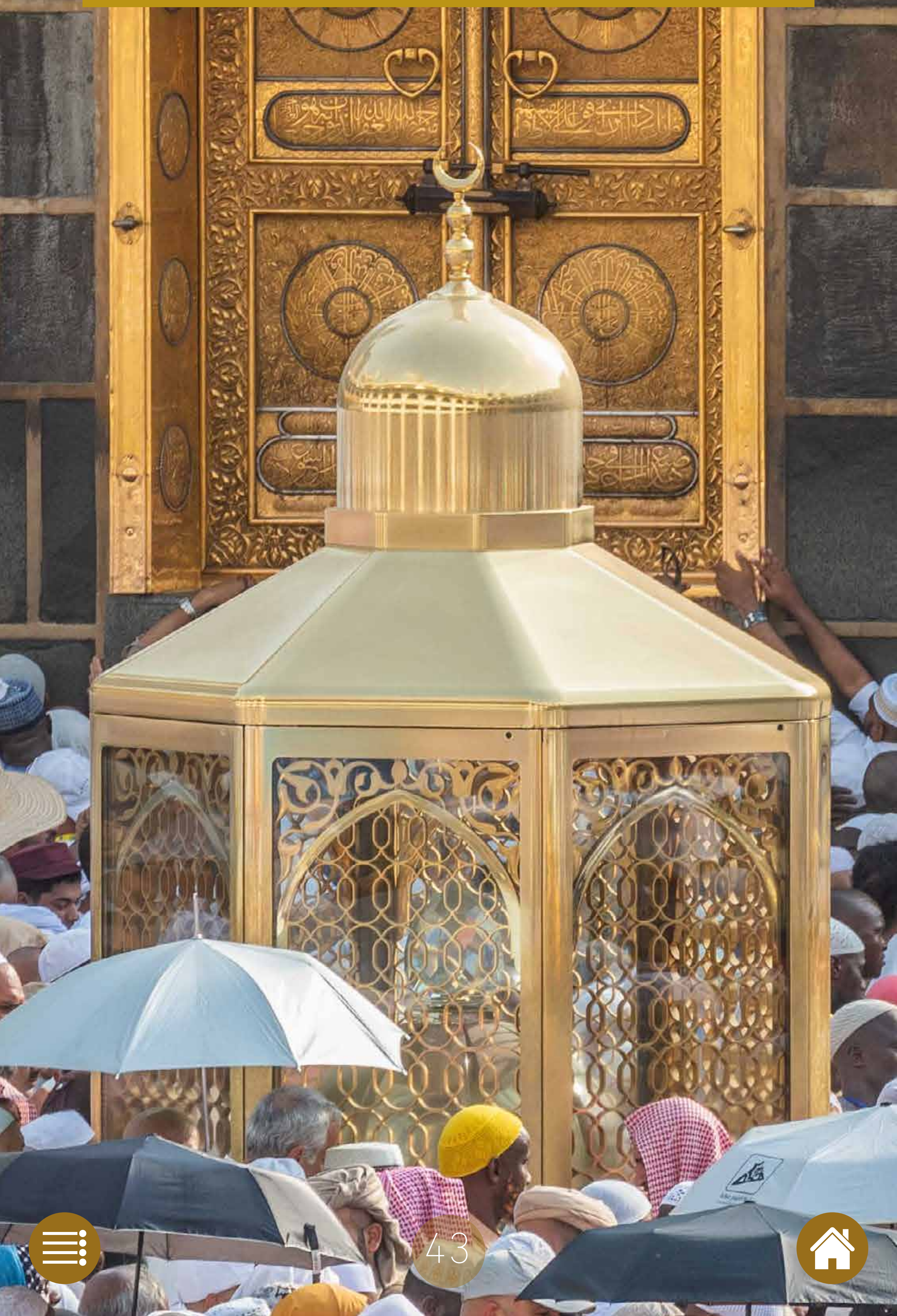
Its Size

Its width, length and height are 50 cm.

- The stone is housed today in a glass enclosure.
- It is also silver-coated from all sides.



Anyone who has performed *tawaf* around the Ka'bah is recommended, as far as he can, to perform a two-*rak'ah* prayer between *Maqam Ibraaheem* and the Ka'bah in a place that is suitable for prayer even if it is far away. As the Almighty says, **“Make the place where Abraham stood a place of worship.” (2:125)**



However, strictly follow the instructions of security officers and try not to harm or harass others when performing this prayer. You can pray anywhere behind Maqaam Ibraaheem, far away from crowds, or anywhere in the Grand Mosque.





Safa and Marwa

These are two small mountains which Hagar, the mother of Ishmael, peace be upon him, climbed in her search of food or water.

Safa

- This is a small mountain from which walking back and forth between these two mountains (*Sa'ee*) begins.
- The mountain rocks are still visible on the ground floor of the *Mas'aa* (the path extending between Safa and Marwa)



Marwa

This is a small mountain at which walking back and forth between these two mountains (*Sa'ee*) ends.



Walking back and forth between Safa and Marwa (*Sa'ee*) them is one of the rites of the major and minor pilgrimage (*hajj* and *'umrah*).

The Almighty says, “Safa and Marwa are among the apparent symbols of Allah’s religion [that have been prescribed for the performance of the pilgrimage].” (2:158)



A long, marble-clad water fountain with multiple faucets and blue water bottles. The fountain is set against a wall of light-colored marble. Several blue water bottles are placed on the fountain's surface, some with their caps removed. The fountain has a decorative base with intricate golden-colored lattice work. The floor is made of light-colored tiles.

The Well of Zamzam

- It is located east of the Ka'bah, 21 meters away from it.
- The circumference of the well is 3.60 m

Other Names of Zamzam

- Suqyaa Ismaa'eel (Allah's Gift of Water to Ishmael), Saafiyah (Pure), Mubaarakah (Blessed) Saalimah (Flawless) and Taahirah (Pure)



- Caliphs and kings throughout the ages have taken great care of the well of Zamzam.
- This interest has continued to the Saudi era.

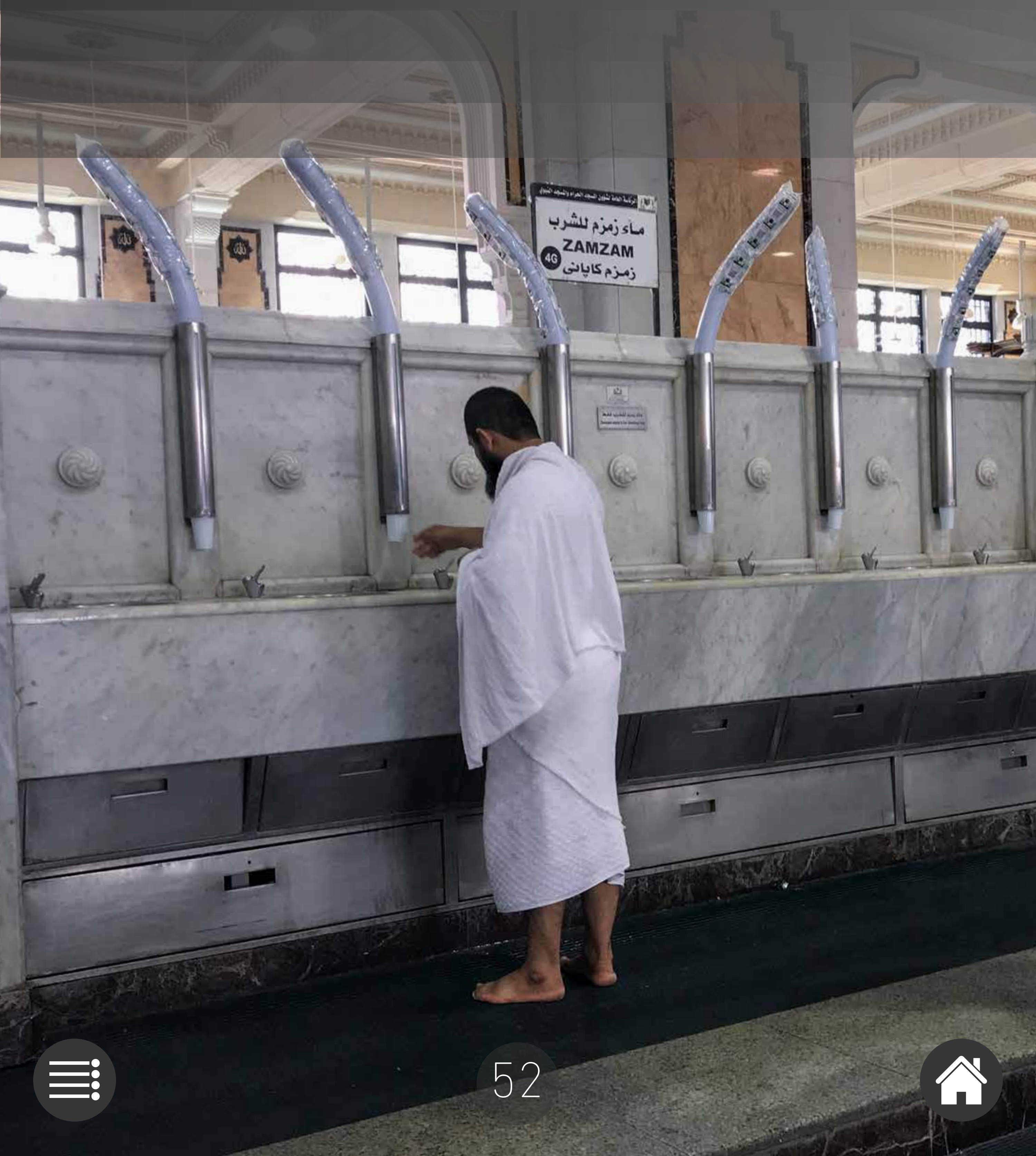
This began with the reign of King Abdul-Azeez, may Allah have mercy on him:

- In 1345 AH (1926 CE), he gave orders to install drinking fountains to provide Zamzam water for free (Sabeel).
- In the following year, he ordered the construction of the second Sabeel drinking fountains, as well the restoration of the well and the placement of a cover over it.



And has continued until the reign of King Salman, may Allah protect him:

- In 1439 AH (2018 CE), he gave orders to complete the Zamzam Well restoration project.
- He also ordered the construction of five-service bridges to Zamzam well from the eastern side.



Zamzam Watering Department

It monitors the operations connected with the Well of Zamzam so that water is offered to pilgrims performing *hajj* and *umrah* according to the highest quality standards.



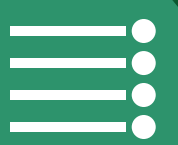


Zamzam Laboratory

- This service supervises the stages of sterilization of Zamzam water.
- It monitors the process of filling water tankers that transport Zamzam water to the Prophet's Mosque.



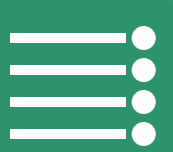
Some of the Services That Are Provided in the Grand Mosque





The Friday Sermon Translation Service

The translation of the Friday sermons is available in several languages through the Manarat Al-Haramain platform, which provides a live broadcast of the translation of the sermons from the Grand Mosque.



Languages Available

1- Urdu

2- French

3- Malay

4- Persian

5- English



[Click to access the platform](#)



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Answering Worshippers' Queries

Distributed throughout the Grand Mosque, these telephone booths have been set up to provide answers to the queries of pilgrims and worshipers in seven international languages.





Wheelchair Service

There are large numbers of electric and manual wheelchairs available in the Grand Mosque. To learn more about them and how to obtain one, download the educational Umrah Guide by

[clicking here](#)

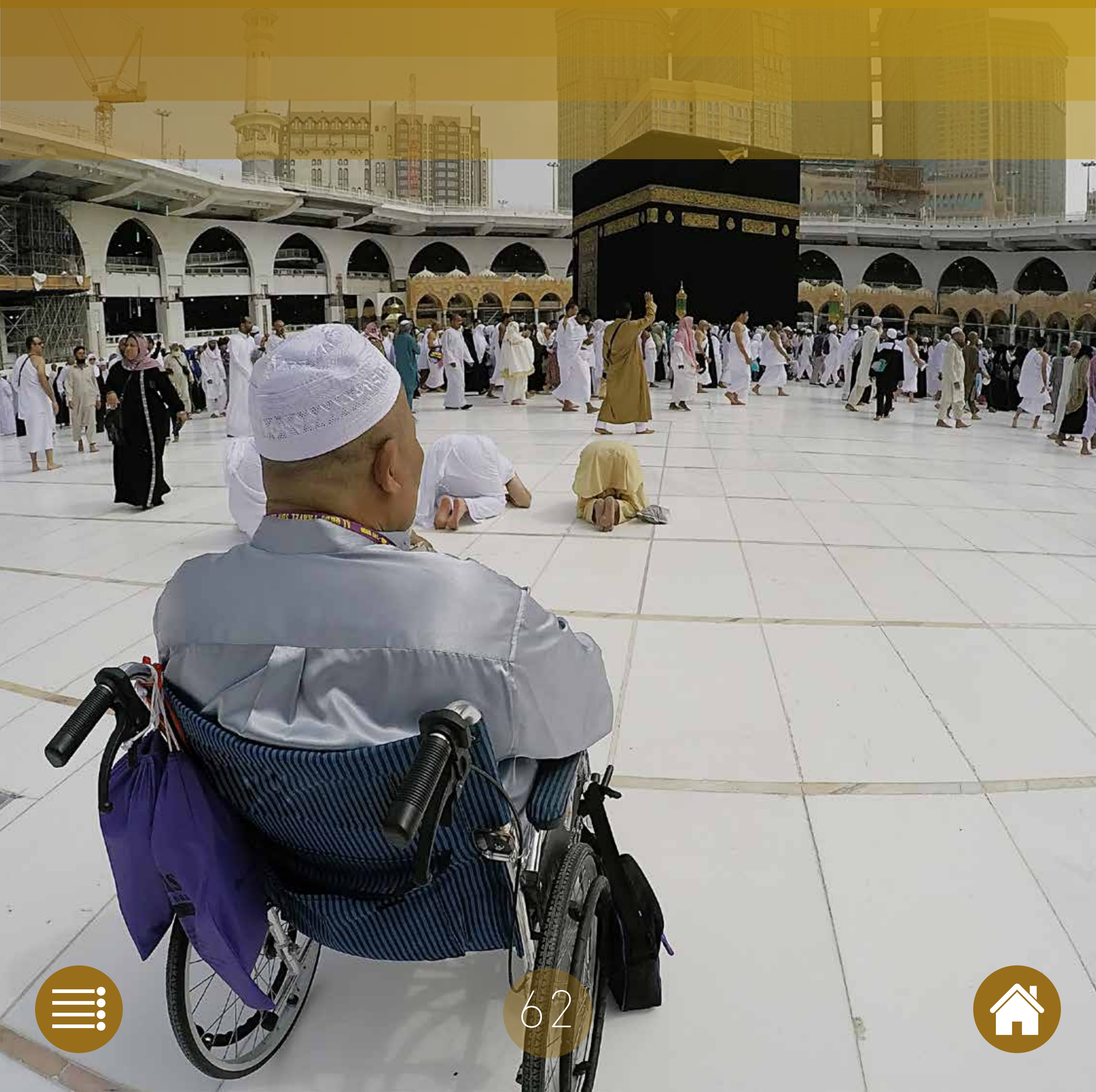




Services for People with Disabilities

- The translation of the Friday sermon is available in sign language for people with hearing impairments. This service is provided in the prayer hall at the King Fahd Expansion, Gate No. 64.
- Sign language CDs and prayer rugs are distributed to people with hearing and visual disabilities.

- Spaces have been allocated for people with disabilities at King Fahd Expansion, accommodating more than 25 people, in addition to Ar-Rak'atayn Prayer Hall in the circumambulation area (*Mata-af*) (where they can perform the two *rak'ah*-prayer after performing *tawaf*), Ajyad Prayer Hall on the first floor, and the prayer hall for people with special needs located at the King Fahd Expansion on the ground floor in front of Gate No. 67. There are also women's prayer halls next to Gate 88 and Gate No. 74 on the ground floor.



- Electronic Braille Qur'an devices have been provided for the blind and visually impaired.



- A special path has been reserved in the Grand Mosque for individuals with visual impairments.





Inaya Care Centres

These centres provide comprehensive services and detailed information in multiple languages that Hajj and Umrah pilgrims need.

The Most Important Services Provided

- Hajj and Umrah services in general
- Complaints and Reports Services
- Guidance Services
- Enquiry Services
- Smart Card Services



Languages Spoken by Staff Members at Inaya Care Centres

10 languages

(Chinese, Urdu, English, Turkish, Uzbek, Indonesian, Malay, Hausa, Arabic and Persian)

Contact number:

9 2 0 0 0 2 8 1 4

**Locations of Inayah
Care Centres and how
to reach them**



(Click here)



Important numbers

911

For emergencies and
security services

937

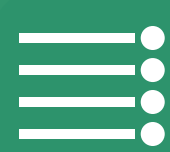
Medical consultations and
inquiries

920002814

The call center of the Ministry of Hajj
and Umrah to answer inquiries from
pilgrims

1966

For inquiries about the Sacred
Mosque and the Prophet's Mosque



You can obtain the rest of guides by visiting the website of the Ministry of Hajj and Umrah (by clicking here).

In these guides, you will find all the instructions and directions which facilitate you to perform the Hajj rituals with ease and confidence.



Strategic partner



Partners in success



**May Allah accept
your deeds
and efforts**

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