

# Ramadan

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An Islamic festival

# Ramadan

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- Ramadan is the ninth month in the Islamic calendar.
- The Islamic calendar is based on the moon rather than the sun although it has 12 months like the Western calendar.
- During 2008, Ramadan is 2<sup>nd</sup> September to 1<sup>st</sup> October.



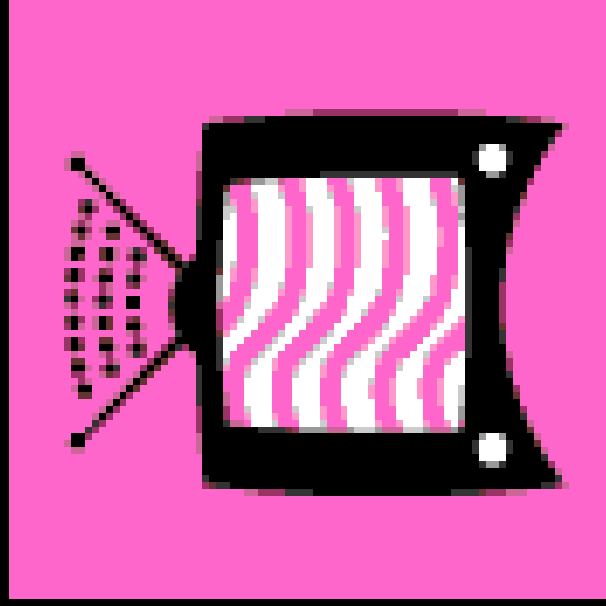
# Ramadan

- During Ramadan Muslims fast between dawn and dusk.
- When you fast you cannot eat or drink anything.
- Fasting is one of the **Five Pillars** or duties of Islam.



# Ramadan

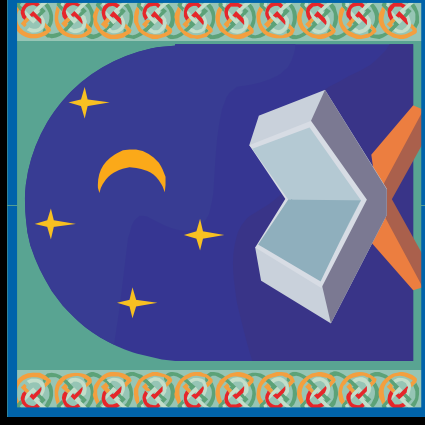
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- In the month of Ramadan families get up early to eat before dawn and then have a meal together after the sun has set.
- You are also not allowed to watch television during Ramadan unless it is a religious programme.

# Ramadan

- It is during the month of Ramadan that the **Qur'an**, the holy book, was revealed to the prophet Mohammed by the Angel Gabriel.
- Mohammed was told to learn the whole book off by heart!



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- It is a very important time for Muslims and Ramadan is celebrated all over the world.



# Ramadan



- By fasting Muslims focus on reading and learning the Qur'an and the needs of the poor.
- It is believed that by fasting the body is given a rest a chance to cleanse itself.



# Question time

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- How long does Ramadan last for ?
- In which month does Ramadan take place?
- During Ramadan when do Muslims have to fast?
- What is the name of the Islamic Holy book?
- What is the importance of fasting for Muslims?