



GLOBAL MEDIA STYLE GUIDE ON ISLAM

MEDIA **STYLE** **GUIDE**

Global Media Style Guide on Islam (MSG-I)

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INTRODUCTION



GLOBAL MEDIA STYLE GUIDE ON ISLAM

The Global Media Style Guide on Islam (MSG-I)

Defining the World's Words on Islam & Muslims

The Global Media Style Guide on Islam (MSG-I) aims to be the definitive resource for the world's global media to use in their portrayal of Islam and Muslims to ensure greater accuracy, authenticity and accountability about a faith and its adherents which constitute one fourth of humanity. It builds on the work done by two of the world's largest newswire services in their style guides, Reuters and Associated Press (AP) which both respectively reach over two billion people around the world daily.

The Global Media Style Guide on Islam (MSG-I) is an initiative under the Media Style Guide (MSG), which aims to define the main words that people use all over the world.



Media Style Guide (MSG)

Defining the World's Words

The Media Style Guide (MSG) aims to define the most important words that people use all over the world. This is to ensure greater accuracy, authenticity and accountability in the media in the short-term, public policy and governance in the medium term and education and academia in the long term.

MSG aims to be the definitive source about the current and future usage and meanings of words, as words are powerful. Words featured in the media in the short term inform and shape public policy in the medium term which inform and shape education and academia in the long-term, defining societies and civilisations. As the 21st century has increasingly become the era of not only cultural but military wars, nearly every aspect of life is being re-defined from gender, ethnicity, sexuality, religion, and even the use of pronouns.

It is key that a definitive resource exists which allows for rational, fact-based definitions which are not used to create a narrative for political agendas. A famous African proverb quoted from J. Nozipo Maraire states, "Until the lion learns to write, every story will glorify the hunter." If one does not shape their own narrative, they create a vacuum allowing others to create a narrative about them, and every narrative starts with a choice of powerful words with specific meanings.

MSG is then a resource to allow the people of the world to define themselves accurately, authentically and with accountability, and create their own narrative.

MSG-I: Editorial

In June 2014, Daesh, the extremist apocalyptic Irhabi group in Iraq and Syria, started to refer to itself as the “Islamic State”, following its wholly-rhetorical proclamation of a caliphate, a traditional form of Islamic governance. When some editorial newsrooms around the world made the decision to also refer to the group as the “Islamic State”, it helped mark a significantly negative phase in helping to popularise Islamophobia globally based on the horrific stories that ensued. Less than two years later, in March 2016, then-U.S. President Candidate Donald Trump stated in a media interview that “I think Islam hates”. When pressed if he thought the hatred was “in Islam itself”, he replied that it was for the media to figure out. In both instances, associating Islam with hatred, violence and terrorism was the consequence, now scaled globally. Therefore, it is clear that that the current use of media terminology about Islam and Muslims has, and continues to, contribute to fermenting greater Islamophobia globally.

This terminology, when taken as a collective, is not only alien to definitions used by Muslims themselves but highly erroneous, and at times, deeply offensive. The definitions which media organisations have for terminology about Islam and Muslims have often been made within their own newsrooms by their editorial teams, where the requisite expertise on Islam is either weak, not present, specifically ignored or as a result of lacking the resources, relationships or networks to ensure that it is.

To ensure the perfect storm, not only do media organisations focused on Muslims and Islam lack a sufficient degree of sustained and productive engagement with those managing editorial newsrooms, but at the very outset, lack specialists who only understand how global newsrooms operate as well as those have who under a nuanced understanding of Islam as it relates to the global media. As a result, the terminology about Islam, as its global narrative, is written by those who lack a deep and accurate understanding of it, but moreover, do not sufficiently represent its authentic voice. In the field of media, communications and journalism, where voices are meant to be amplified so that they can be heard far and wide, in the case of Islam, it is therefore being mollified, with the consequences being that the world is currently witnessing a global rise in Islamophobia with resultant impacts on law and policy negatively impacting Muslims. As a result, the need for articulating relevant, representative, accurate and authentic terminology on Islam for the world’s global media is imperative.

That gave rise to this study which aims to create a style guide about Islam for the global media. To determine current media terminology about Islam, style guides from two of the world’s largest news organisations, Reuters and Associated Press (AP), were studied with a view to identify words specifically relating to Islam and Muslims. The prime reason to choose specifically global news agencies was that they are organisations that gather news reports and sell them to other subscribing news organisations, such as newspapers, magazines, radio and television broadcasters. This means the largest news agencies historically have been and, despite technological disruptions to the industry, are still, generally regarded as the most authoritative, relevant, clear, fastest, and most globally-reaching news organisations in the world by their peers in the industry, with Reuters and AP being the two largest English-origin news agencies in the world, both claiming to reach a billion people daily.

The best example of how that authority is perceived by other news organisations are the style guides produced by Reuters and AP. Reuters’ Handbook of Journalism was available publicly online (http://handbook.reuters.com/index.php?title=The_Reuters_Style_Guide) at the time of the study whilst AP’s Stylebook is available through purchasing the book or via subscription online (<https://store.apstylebook.com/apstylebookonline.html>). The style guides are recognised as commonly accepted journalistic standards for the use of terms, spelling, grammar and punctuation, as well as providing guidelines on how to keep writing style easy to read, concise and free of bias. As a result, most U.S. newspapers, magazine, and public relations and communications firms use the AP style guide as their there standard whereas Reuters has a more European and global footprint.

One of the key strengths of the style guides of news organisations like Reuters and AP is that they focus on neutrality and being non-offensive as a matter of journalistic integrity. Having verified the authority and relevance of using these two style guides, it was important to determine what were the most important terms relating to Islam and Muslims that should have been identified for further study, not only for their inclusion but also their omission. The main criteria here was to identify words which

specifically related and relevant to Islam and Muslims. In contrast, terms which were about the Islamic world geographically, but did not specifically relate to the religion of Islam and or its adherents, such as 'Afghan' or the 'Arabian Gulf', would not be included.

One of the key methodologies to determine what would be the most accurate terminology to use for Islam and Muslims in the media were firstly what the vast majority of adherents would normally use. This would allow Muslims globally to represent themselves in their own voices, using their own rich tradition and its legacy with their own major languages. Special attention was also paid to Arabic, in particular, which has been the lingua franca of the religion, with both the prayers and the Quran originally and still recited in the Semitic language today. References to the works of specialist academics of Islam, key media figures as well as international organisations, such as the Organisation for Islamic Cooperation (OIC), were also consulted.

This new style guide about Islam and Muslims has 92 terms, with 63 terms from Reuters, 50 terms from AP, with 39 terms shared between the two organisations and 19 new terms specifically added. In reference to the 39 terms shared, this also means a consolidated, synergistic approach is recommended whereby the two organisations can gain 34 entries from each other. The letters with the largest number of entries are 'S' with 14, followed by 'I' with 10, and 'A' and 'M' with 9, whilst the only letters to not feature any entries are 'L' and 'V'.

The terms were also classified into five categories of those that are related to Islam as 1) a religion; 2) geographical locations and places; 3) Muslim dress; 4) politics and geopolitics and 5) militants, violence and terrorism.

The major key observation from the study was that out of the 73 terms from Reuters and AP, almost as many terms relate to Islam as a religion as they do to militants, violence and terrorism, standing at 29 terms against 26 terms. This ratio can immediately be contrasted with the suggested new 19 terms to add to the style guide, where 13 relate to Islam as a religion, and a mere four relate to militants/ violence / terrorism and two to Islam as politics. Therefore, this vindicates the necessity for a new style guide: to delink the relationship between Islam and militancy, violence and terrorism, and have it be more represented accurately as a world religion with its 1.8 billion adherents.

The key recommendations from the study are:

- **Globalise and limit use of Islamic and Muslim** - any reference to the terms Islamic or Muslim have to be globally-relevant, representative and authentic to the religion, people and societies of Islam and Muslims. For example, Islamic faith, art and finance are accurate terms but Islamic, Muslim or Islamist extremist, radical terrorist no longer are not.
- **Specifically describe subjects, but rarely use Islamic** - when confronted about any topic in which Islam and militancy, violence or terrorism may be a central or even peripheral theme, journalists using the new style guide are generally urged to be more specific in the descriptions of subjects, according to their ethnic, political, national status and where relevant what ideological strand they genuinely adhere to, if relevant. i.e. Islamic State should always be referred to as Daesh.
- **Jihadi is entirely replaced by Irhabi, Khawarij or Mutatarif** – The erroneous and offensive term jihadi is a new term which has begun to be used increasingly in the 21st century, but there are plethora of Arabic-origin terms which relate to identifying extremists, rebels, and terrorists which are accurate and rooted the Islamic faith and tradition which can be utilised now instead of it i.e. a Mutatarif, the Arabic word for extremist, is someone who has an extremist ideology interpretation when compared to the mainstream global beliefs of Islam and Muslims, who supports the use of violence but has not committed it; the Khawarij, Arabic for rebellious outsiders, are those who threaten and utilise violence for their political aims, specifically declaring other Muslims as apostates; and Irhabi, the Arabic word for terrorist, is the term for those who use violence and terror to influence their political-led agendas.

- **Mainstreaming key Islamic terms used by Muslims** – The majority of new terms which have been advocated for inclusion in the new style guide are about Islam as a religion, where even terms such as Salat, the Arabic term for the prayer Muslims perform five times a day, are included. In August, 2018, Imran Khan, Prime Minister of Pakistan, said in his inaugural address that his vision for the country was where citizens would no longer accept zakat but rather send it abroad to countries who would need it. The term 'zakat' refers to mandatory charity paid upon unused wealth, the third pillar of Islam, and hence the central political use of such terms make them worthy of inclusion.
- **Placing the Sunnah at the Forefront, before the Sharia** – The Sharia, Islamic religious law, has been used erroneously in the world's media, with a de facto reference to specific capital punishments, though in Islamic banking and finance, its application in terms of Sharia-compliance and Sharia-based banking services has been positive enough to build a global USD \$2 trillion industry. However, a more useful term for conveying what Islam is on a daily basis to most Muslims around the world is the Sunnah, the approved ways, practices and behavior of Prophet Muhammad. In much the same way, that the Zen way of Buddhism and Tao of China entered global popular culture to represent a certain traditional way, the Sunnah is a word which should also be more in the mainstream, as practicing Muslims make far more daily reference to it in their everyday lives than they do the Sharia, as representing them.

This new style guide is, therefore, is immediately applicable for adoption and inclusion by news organisations like Reuters and AP in their own style guides, as well as for media organisations that focus on Islam and Muslims. It also can represent a critical step in a much longer engagement process between Muslims, to articulate their own voices, and the global media. This process should aim to correct the current global misconceptions about Islam in the media whilst also suggesting new terms for inclusion, monitoring those changes for their adoption, and then expanding the scope of what future terms should be included, and in which of the world's global languages, available for global dissemination to the world's media.

MSG-I: Overview

The Global Media Style Guide on Islam (MSG-I) contains 94 terms relating to Islam and Muslims. It is based on 74 terms taken from two of the world's biggest media organizations - Reuters and Associated Press. 20 new terms have also been included in this first edition.

- **Legend:**

'Word' Column – Includes the spelling of the term as per Reuters and or AP, and when a new term is introduced as 'New'.

'Reuters & Associated Press' Column – Includes the definition of the term as described by Reuters or AP, either from their own entry or extracted from a directed entry.

'New Style Guide' – Includes the new latest recommended definition of the term.

- **Classification of Terms:**

The terms have been classified into five categories: 1) Islam as a religion; 2) geographical locations and places; 3) Muslim dress; 4) politics and geopolitics; and 5), militants, violence and terrorism.

A) Reuters & AP Terms (Total: 74)

1. Religious Terms

Allah, Allahu Akbar, Eid al-Adha, Eid al-Fitr, fundamentalist, God, Hajj, Imam, Islam, Islamic, Kaaba, Koran, Muhammad, Mullah, Muslim, pious, Prophet Muhammad, proselytise, Quran, Ramadan, religious references, religious terms, religious titles, Satan, sect, Sharia, Sheikh, Shia, Sunni (Total: 29)

2. Geographic Location & Places

Al-Aqsa, Al-Quds, holy places, Makkah, Madinah, Mecca, Palestine, Temple Mount / Al-Haram Sharif (Total: 8)

3. Muslim Dress

abaya, burqa, chador, hijab, Muslim dress, niqab, skullcap (Total: 7)

4. Politics & Geopolitics

extremist, Islamist, Muslim Brotherhood, OIC (Total: 4)

5. Militants/ Violence / Terrorism

Abu Sayyaf, Al-Qaeda, Al-Shabab, bin Laden, Boko Haram, Hamas, Haqqani Network, Hezbollah, Hizbollah, Intifada, Islamic State, Jemaah Islamiyah, Jihad, Jihadi, militant, mujahideen, 9/11, Osama bin Laden, radical, radicalization, Salafist, Sept 11, Taliban, terrorism, Wahhabi, war on terror (Total: 26)

B) New Terms (Total: 20)

1. Religious Terms

Adhan, Caliph, dua, fatwa, hadith, Makkah, Madinah, Prophet Muhammad, Qibla, Salah, Sawm, Shahadah, Sufi, Sunnah, Ummah, Zakat (Total: 16)

2. Politics & Geopolitics

Ikhwan, Islamophobia (Total: 2)

3. Militants/ Violence/ Terrorism

Daesh, Irhabi (Total: 2)

- Classifications in Table Format:

Section	Classification Type	Number of Entries
Reuters & AP Terms	1. Religious Terms	29
Reuters & AP Terms	2. Geographic Location & Places	8
Reuters & AP Terms	3. Muslim dress	7
Reuters & AP Terms	4. Politics & Geopolitics	4
Reuters & AP Terms	5. Militants / Violence/ Terrorism	26
(Reuters Terms)		(64)
(AP Terms)		(50)
New Terms	1. Religious Terms	16
New Terms	2. Politics & Geopolitics	2
New Terms	3. Militants / Violence/ Terrorism	2
(New Terms)		(20)
Total		94

MSG-I: Promotion Strategy

The greatest success for the Global Media Style Guide on Islam (MSG-I) is in its adoption, use and scale. Here is a guide on how to promote the use of MSG-I, firstly what to always do when conducting outreach to media, policymakers and academics about the topic of Islam and Muslims; what to do proactively in a general use; and what to do in specific instances, reacting to negative or positive use.

1. IMPERATIVES:

* Start by thanking them for their consideration and their courtesy in choosing to represent Islam and Muslims accurately and authentically.

* Share with them that the definitions used in the MSG-I are enhancements of the global media style guides for Reuters and Associated Press (AP).

* Close by thank them once again and ask them to contact MSG-I if they have any further questions or suggestions.

2. GENERAL USE - PROACTIVE OUTREACH

* Write to the media, policymakers and academics who are writing about Islam and Muslims to advise they use MSG-I in their work to ensure Islam and Muslims are portrayed accurately and authentically.

3. SPECIFIC INSTANCE - REACTION TO NEGATIVE USE

* Someone uses a term which is not regarded as representative of Islam or Muslims such as 'Islamist terrorist' or 'jihadi'.

* Share with them the link to MSG-I's term on 'jihadi', explaining why this term should not be used and what term should be used.

4. SPECIFIC INSTANCE - REACTION TO POSITIVE USE

* Someone uses a term which is regarded as representative of Islam or Muslims in a positive way, maybe using the term 'Sunnah' or praising Islam the faith of a fourth of humanity.

* Share with them the link to MSG-I, either as a whole or a relevant term, suggesting they share it with others like them who want to accurately and authentically represent Islam.

**THE GLOBAL MEDIA STYLE GUIDE ON ISLAM (MSG-I):
Style Guide**

TERMS	PAGES
A	
abaya, Abu Sayyaf, Al-Aqsa / Al-Aqsa Mosque, Allah, al Qaeda / al-Qaida, Al-Quds, Al-Shabab, Allahu Akbar, Adhan (new)	11-12
B	
bin Laden / bin Laden, Osama, Boko Haram, burka, burqa / burqa	12-13
C	
Caliph (new), chador	13-14
D	
Daesh (new), dua (new)	14
E	
Eid Al-Adha / Eid al-Adha, Eid Al-Fitr / Eid al-Fitr, Extremist, Extremism (new)	14
F	
fatwa (new), fundamentalist	15
G	
God	15
H	
hadith (new), Hajj, Hamas, Haqqani Network, Hezbollah, Hijab / hijab, Hizbollah, holy places (Islamic)	15-17
I	
Id al-Adha, Id al-Fitr, Imam / imam, Ikhwan (new), Intifada / intifada, Irhabi (new), Islam, Islamic, Islamic State (IS) / Islamic State group, Islamist, Islamophobia (new)	17-22
J	
Jemaah Islamiyah, Jihad / jihad, jihadi, jihadist / jihad	22-23
K	
Kaaba, Koran	23
M	
Makkah (new), Madinah (new), Mecca / mecca, Militant, Muhammad, Mohammad / Muhammad, mujahideen, mujahedeen / mujahedeen, Mullah / mullah, Muslim, Muslim Brotherhood, Muslim dress	23-26
N	
9/11, Niqab / niqab	26
O	
OIC, Osama bin Laden	26
P	
Palestine, pious, Prophet Muhammad (new), proselytize	27
Q	
Qibla (new), Quran, Koran	28
R	
radical, radicalization, Ramadan, religious references, religious terms, religious titles	28-32
S	
Salah (new), Salafist, Satan, Sawm (new), Sect, Sept. 11 / Sept 11, Shahadah (new), Sharia, Sheikh / sheikh, Shia, Shiite, Sufi, Sufism (new), skullcap, Sunnah (new), Sunni	32-38
T	
Talib or Taliban, Temple Mount or Haram Sharif / Temple Mount, terrorism or terrorist	38-40
U	
Ummah (new)	40
W	
Wahhabi, Wahhabism, war on terror	40
Z	
Zakat (new)	41

Word	REUTERS & ASSOCIATED PRESS	NEW STYLE GUIDE ON ISLAM
A		
abaya	<p>Reuters: The abaya, is a loose, full-length, long-sleeved gown, traditionally worn in Gulf Arab countries. [Muslim dress]</p> <p>AP: Robe-like outer garment worn by Muslim women.</p>	<p>abaya - Arabic word for a robe-like or gown-like outer garment traditionally worn in Gulf Arab countries.</p>
Abu Sayyaf	<p>AP: Muslim separatist group based in the southern islands of the Philippines. The name is Arabic for father of the bearer of the sword.</p>	<p>Abu Sayyaf – An Irhabi group based in the southern islands of the Philippines seeking a separate state for the Moro Muslim Filipino community. The name is Arabic for father of the bearer of the sword.</p>
Al-Aqsa / Al-Aqsa Mosque	<p>Reuters: Al-Aqsa is the mosque built in the 8th century atop the Haram al-Sharif, or Noble Sanctuary, in the Old City of Jerusalem. Arabs also use Al-Aqsa to refer to the whole area, which houses the Dome of the Rock shrine, also. To Jews the area is known as the Temple Mount, the site of the ancient Jewish temples.</p> <p>AP: The mosque completed in the eighth century atop the Haram al-Sharif, or Noble Sanctuary, in the Old City of Jerusalem; Arabs also use Al-Aqsa to refer to the whole area, which houses the Dome of the Rock shrine, too. To Jews the area is known as the Temple Mount, the site of the ancient Jewish temples.</p>	<p>Al-Aqsa Mosque – It is a mosque which is considered Islam’s third most holy site after Makkah and Madinah and was completed in the 8th century atop the Haram al-Sharif or Noble Sanctuary in the Old City of Jerusalem. To Jews, the area is known as the Temple Mount, the site of the ancient Jewish temples.</p>
Allah	<p>Reuters: The Arabic name for God in Islam.</p> <p>AP: The Arabic word for God. The word God should be used, unless the Arabic name is used in a quote written or spoken in English.</p>	<p>Allah – The Arabic name for God in Islam. The word God should be used in international media, unless the Arabic name is used in a quote written or spoken in English.</p>
al Qaeda / al-Qaida	<p>Reuters: Use al Qaeda, no hyphen. Created by Osama bin Laden in the late 1980s, al Qaeda ("The Base") is a militant movement that supports violent attacks on the West, Israel and governments in Muslim countries allied with the West that it believes prevent the creation of a "pure" Islamic world.</p> <p>Al Qaeda is used by different people to mean different things. When authorities speak about an "al Qaeda plot," we should try to pin down whether they mean it was ordered and directed by "core al Qaeda" or generally inspired by the anti-Western</p>	<p>Al-Qaeda – Founded by the late Saudi-born terrorist Osama bin Laden in the 1980s, al-Qaeda ("The Base") is an Irhabi group and movement, which supports terrorist attacks on the West, Israel and governments in Western-allied Muslim-majority countries in pursuit of political aims based on its extremist ideology. The group carried out the attacks in the United States on September 11, 2001. Bin Laden was killed by U.S. forces in Pakistan in May 2011. Al-Qaeda's current leader is the Egyptian-born Ayman al-Zawahiri. Al-Qaeda is used by different people to mean</p>

	<p>ideology of bin Laden. (Note: Reuters style is al Qaeda, AP style is al Qaida)</p> <p>AP: Muslim militant group founded by Osama bin Laden that carried out the attacks in the United States on Sept. 11, 2001. Bin Laden was killed by U.S. forces in Pakistan in May 2011. Al-Qaida's current leader is Ayman al-Zawahiri.</p> <p>Affiliated groups include:</p> <p>al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula, operating in Yemen and Saudi Arabia.</p> <p>Nusra Front, operating in Syria.</p> <p>al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb, operating in the Sahel region, a region along the Sahara Desert stretching across North Africa.</p> <p>Khorasan group, an al-Qaida cell that the United States says operated in Syria to plot attacks on the U.S.</p>	<p>different things. When authorities speak about an "al Qaeda plot," it should be determined whether they mean it was ordered and directed by the "core al Qaeda" or generally inspired by the anti-Western ideology of Bin Laden. Use al-Qaeda, hyphenate, with capital A at start of sentence.</p> <p>Affiliated groups include:</p> <p>al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, operating in Yemen and Saudi Arabia.</p> <p>Nusra Front, operating in Syria.</p> <p>al-Qaeda in the Maghreb, operating in the Sahel region, a region along the Sahara Desert stretching across North Africa. Do not use the term 'Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb.'</p> <p>Khorasan group, an al-Qaeda cell that the United States says operated in Syria to plot attacks on the U.S.</p>
Al-Quds	AP: The Arabic name for Jerusalem; it means the holy.	Al-Quds – The Arabic name for Jerusalem; it means 'The Holy'.
Al-Shabab	AP: The preferred spelling for the Somali militant group.	Al-Shabab - The preferred spelling for the Somali-origin Irhabi group.
Allahu Akbar	<p>Reuters: "God is Greatest" (not, as often written, "God is Great," a common Muslim rallying cry. Also chanted when Muslims perform their five daily prayers.</p> <p>AP: The Arabic phrase for God is great.</p>	Allahu Akbar – The Arabic phrase for "God is All-Great". It is the first words of the public Islamic call to prayer (adhan), the five daily performed by Muslims, and also a common Muslim rallying cry.
Adhan (new)		Adhan – The Arabic phrase for the Islamic call to prayer, which is usually heard publicly in most Muslim-majority countries five times a day. It begins with the Arabic phrase for "God is All-Great" which is Allahu Akbar.
B		
bin Laden, Osama	<p>Reuters: Osama bin Laden. Use bin Laden on second reference. Founded al-Qaeda militant group; killed by U.S. forces in Pakistan in 2011.</p> <p>AP: Use bin Laden on all second and later references except at the start of a sentence. It is the family preference for the last name, which is an exception to the general rule on Arabic names. He founded al-Qaida and was killed by U.S. forces in Pakistan in May 2011.</p>	See Osama bin Laden.

Boko Haram	Reuters: A militant Islamist group in northern Nigeria. AP: Muslim militant group in northeast Nigeria.	Boko Haram is an Irhabi group based in northeast Nigeria. The name is derived from Hausa and Arabic to mean 'Western secular education is forbidden.'
burka, burqa	Reuters: The burqa is an enveloping circular cloak traditionally worn in parts of Afghanistan and some other regions of south and central Asia that covers the entire head and body, sometimes with a mesh over the face to ease vision. Note - Reuters uses the spelling burqa, not burka. [Muslim dress] AP: The all-covering dress worn by some Muslim women.	burqa – The enveloping circular cloak traditionally worn by some Muslim women in parts of Afghanistan and some other regions of south and central Asia that covers the entire head and body sometimes with a mesh over the face to ease vision.
C		
Caliph (new)		Caliph / caliph – The English version of the Arabic phrase, khalifa, which means vice-regent. It was the title referred to the successor of Prophet Muhammad, Abu Bakr, as the political ruler of all Muslims and therefore in charge of the caliphate, the traditional form of Islamic governance. The title of caliph was held by Sunni rulers till the last Turkish Ottoman caliph in 1924. In 2014, the Irhabi group, Daesh, proclaimed a new caliphate, which was met with great opposition and derision by Muslims globally, and has become a moot point since the group's subsequent territorial collapse. It can be capitalised before a name when used as the formal title for a historic Muslim leader or ruler who legitimately held the title.
chador	Reuters: The chador is a loose full-length cloth traditionally worn in Iran and among Shi'ite Muslims in some other countries, that covers the head and body but not the face. AP: A cloak worn by some Muslim women, mainly in Iran, which covers the hair, neck and shoulders but not the face. See also other garments such burqa, hijab and niqab.	chador – The chador is a loose full-length cloak traditionally worn in Iran and among Shia Muslim women, as well as in some other countries. It covers the head, neck and body but not the face. Use lowercase. See also other garments such as hijab, niqab and burqa.
D		
Daesh (new)		Daesh – An Irhabi organisation that broke with the al-Qaeda network and took control of large parts of Iraq and Syria, where in June 2014, it declared a caliphate, a traditional form of Islamic governance. By December 2017, US-led coalition

		<p>forces and the Iraqi government had recaptured all territory under its control in Iraq. Daesh was largely made up of Irhabis from Iraq and Syria but had drawn Irhabis from across the world. The term Daesh is an Arabic acronym from "ad-Dawlah al-Islamiyah fi'l-Iraq wa-sh-Sham", which translates as the 'Islamic State in Iraq and Syria' (ISIS), or 'Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant' (ISIL), whilst the group in June 2014, began to refer to itself as "ad-Dawlah al-Islamiyah" or Islamic State (IS).</p> <p>The term 'Islamic State', IS, ISIS or ISIL, should not be used at all to describe the group, but rather Daesh at all times, in the same way that Al-Qaeda is not translated into its Arabic equivalent as 'The Base'.</p>
dua (new)		<p>dua – The Arabic term for a supplication (also in plural form) made by Muslims to God, often by raising their hands. This is different to Salah, which is usually referred to as the ritual five daily prayers performed by Muslims, which is the second of the five pillars of Islam. Muslims may make dua at the end of their Salah. Context is important, as it may be necessary to distinguish how Muslims pray in a specific instance, either through the ritual prayer, through supplication or potentially both. See also Salah.</p>
E		
Eid Al-Adha	<p>Reuters: A Muslim holiday marking the climax of the annual pilgrimage (haj) on the 10th day of the 12th month of the Muslim calendar.</p> <p>AP: Meaning "Feast of Sacrifice," this most important Islamic holiday marks the willingness of the Prophet Ibrahim (Abraham to Christians and Jews) to sacrifice his son. During the holiday, which in most places lasts four days, Muslims slaughter sheep or cattle, distribute part of the meat to the poor and eat the rest. The holiday begins on the 10th day of the Islamic lunar month of Dhul-Hijjah, during the annual hajj pilgrimage to Mecca.</p>	<p>Eid Al-Adha – Eid Al-Adha is a Muslim holiday which marks the climax of the annual Hajj pilgrimage to Makkah. It occurs on the 10th day of the Islamic lunar month of Dhu al-Hijjah, the 12th and final month of the Islamic calendar of the year. It commemorates the willingness of the Prophet Ibrahim (Abraham to Christians and Jews) to symbolically sacrifice his son. During the holiday, which in most places lasts four days, Muslims slaughter sheep or cattle, distribute part of the meat to the poor and eat the rest.</p>
Eid Al-Fitr	<p>Reuters: A Muslim holiday marking the end of the fasting month of Ramadan, the ninth month of the Muslim calendar.</p>	<p>Eid Al-Fitr – Eid Al-Fitr is a Muslim holiday that marks the end of Ramadan, Islam's holy month of fasting, which is the ninth month of the Islamic calendar year. It starts</p>

	AP: A three-day holiday marking the end of Ramadan, Islam's holy month of fasting.	on 1 Shawwal, the tenth Islamic lunar month, and lasts three days. Fasting (Sawm) in Ramadan is the fourth of the five pillars of Islam.
extremist, extremism	Reuters: A person who goes to extremes particularly in terms of political actions, practices or doctrines. Try to avoid as extremist is probably even more vague in meaning than other debatable or emotive words like radical or terrorist. Try to be more specific about what the person does or believes - "gunman", "bomber", "hijacker", "protester" etc.	extremist, extremism – Extremism is the possession of extreme views on politics or religion, which are anathema to mainstream views. Avoid use with Islamic, Muslim or Islamist, but more specifically and accurately describe according to social or geographic affiliation, and potentially how views are outside the mainstream and global understanding of the religion. The Arabic modern term for extremist is 'Mutatarif' and extremism is 'Tataruf'.
F		
fatwa (new)		fatwa – The Arabic term for a non-binding legal edict issued by a qualified Islamic jurisconsult (mufti) regarding the particulars of a certain issue in Islamic law based on circumstances surrounding the question, such as time, place, people, and other details. Unlike the ruling of a judge (qadi), it is normally not legally binding. It is also provided to individuals based on their unique circumstances and not as a global edict. Use lowercase.
fundamentalist	Reuters: Usually a person or group who believes in the literal truth of a sacred religious text such as the Bible or the Koran. Now more commonly used to describe extreme political and religious views, but the term is vague and emotive so try to avoid and use more specific descriptions of the person or groups beliefs or practices. Originally refers to Protestants who stress the fundamentals of their faith and reject liberal interpretations. Often used for conservatives, especially for Muslims, but so overused that it is best avoided. Alternatives are traditionalist, orthodox, conservative, etc.	fundamentalist – Historically, it was used to refer to those who stressed the fundamentals of their religion, and rejected liberal interpretations, but more commonly was then used to describe extreme political and religious views. The term is vague, emotive and now so overused that is best avoided in favour of more specific descriptions of the person or groups beliefs or practices. Alternatives could include traditionalist, orthodox, conservative, etc.
G		
God	Reuters: Capitalise God when referring to the God of any monotheistic religion. Lowercase any pronoun references. Lowercase gods and goddesses for polytheistic religions. See religious titles.	God - Capitalise God in references to the God of any monotheistic religions. Capitalise all noun references to God i.e. Allah. Uppercase personal pronoun as masculine: He, Him, You, Thee, Thou.

	<p>AP: Capitalize God in references to the deity of all monotheistic religions. Capitalize all noun references to the deity: God, Holy Ghost, Holy Spirit, Allah, etc. Lowercase personal pronouns: he, him, thee, thou.</p> <p>Lowercase gods and goddesses in references to the deities of polytheistic religions.</p> <p>Lowercase god, gods and goddesses in references to false gods: He made money his god. See religious references.</p>	<p>Also capitalise all verbs, adverbs and adjectives that are attributable to God/Allah.</p> <p>Lowercase gods and goddesses for polytheistic religions, with a strong preference to use the term deities.</p> <p>Lowercase g, gods and goddesses in references to false gods: He made money his god.</p>
H		
hadith (new)		<p>hadith – The Arabic term for ‘saying’ which refers to the transmitted approved statements about the ways, practices and observations of Prophet Muhammad by his contemporaries. There are numerous ahadith (plural of hadith), and the practice of verifying them is an Islamic legal science of its own that has been carried out since Islam’s foundation. Use lowercase.</p>
Hajj	<p>AP: The pilgrimage to Mecca required once in a lifetime of every Muslim who can afford it and is physically able to make it. Some Muslims make the journey more than once. The hajj occurs once a year during the Islamic lunar month of Dhul-Hijjah, the 12th and final month of the Islamic calendar year. The person making the hajj is a hajji.</p>	<p>Hajj – The Arabic word for the fifth of the five pillars of Islam, which is the major pilgrimage to Makkah required once in a lifetime of every Muslim who can afford it and is physically able to do so. Some Muslims make the journey more than once. Hajj occurs once a year during the Islamic lunar month of Dhu al-Hijjah, the 12th and final month of the Islamic calendar year, and specifically during the 8th to 12th of the month. The person making the Hajj is a Hajji. Muslims can make the lesser pilgrimage, known as Umrah, to Makkah outside of the Hajj months. Capitalise Hajj in all references. See also the other pillars of Islam with Shahadah, Salah, Zakat and Sawm.</p>
Hamas	<p>Reuters: A Palestinian Islamic political party based in Gaza. The word is an acronym for the Arabic words for Islamic Resistance Movement. Hamas has a military wing called Izz ad-Din al-Qassam Brigades. Hamas is designated as a terrorist organization by the European Union, Canada, Israel, Egypt, Japan, and the United States.</p>	<p>Hamas – A Palestinian political party based in Gaza, which in Arabic means zeal and is an acronym for the Arabic words for the Islamic Resistance Movement. Its armed wing is called Izz ad-Din al-Qassam Brigades. In 2006, Hamas won the elections for the legislature of the Palestinian National Authority and has been involved in governmental affairs for</p>

	<p>AP: A Palestinian Islamic political party, which has an armed wing of the same name. The word is an acronym for the Arabic words for Islamic Resistance Movement.</p>	<p>the Palestinians officially since then. Hamas has been designated a terrorist organization by the European Union, Canada, Israel, Egypt, Japan, and the United States but specifically is not seen so by Russia, China, Turkey and Switzerland.</p>
Haqqani Network	<p>AP: Militant Islamic group based in Pakistan that seeks to establish Islamic law in Afghanistan.</p>	<p>Haqqani Network – A militant Afghan group based in Pakistan that is using asymmetric warfare to fight against US-led NATO forces and the government of Afghanistan. In the 1980s, the Haqqani network was one of the most favoured CIA-funded anti-Soviet mujahideen groups. In 2012, the US designated the Haqqani network as a terrorist organization and in 2015, Pakistan officially banned the group.</p>
Hezbollah	<p>Reuters: Hezbollah (the Party of God) is a Shi'ite Islamist political and military group with a formidable guerilla army. It is backed by Syria and Iran and wields considerable power in Lebanon.</p> <p>AP: The Lebanese Shiite Muslim political party, which has an armed wing of the same name. The word means party of God in Arabic.</p>	<p>Hezbollah – A Lebanese political party, which has an armed wing with the same name, which means 'Party of God' in Arabic. Its leadership are Shia Muslims, with the group backed by Syria and Iran, and also wield considerable power in Lebanon.</p>
hijab	<p>Reuters: The headscarf worn globally by Muslim women. The h is pronounced so it takes the article a: She wore a hijab.</p> <p>AP: The headscarf worn by some Muslim women. The h is pronounced, so it takes the article a: She wore a hijab. See also other garments such as niqab, burqa, chador.</p>	<p>hijab – The headscarf worn by some Muslim women and girls globally. The h is pronounced, so it takes the article a: She wore a hijab. Always use lowercase. See also other garments such as niqab, burqa and chador.</p>
Hizbollah	<p>Reuters: Do not use. See Hezbollah.</p>	<p>Do not use. See Hezbollah.</p>
holy places (Islamic)	<p>Reuters: The holy places of Islam are Mecca, Medina and Jerusalem, in that order. In Mecca the great mosque containing the Kaaba is venerated especially in the annual haj, or pilgrimage. In Medina it is the Prophet Mohammad's mosque where the founder of the Islamic religion is buried. Nonbelievers are not allowed to enter Mecca or Medina. In Jerusalem it is al-Haram al-Sharif, which Jews call the Temple Mount.</p>	<p>Holy places (Islamic) – The holy places of Islam are Makkah, Madinah and Jerusalem, in that order. In Makkah, the Sacred Mosque, al-Masjid al-Haram in Arabic, contains the Kaaba, the black cubic building which is the direction (qibla) Muslims pray to five days a day. In Madinah, it is the Prophet Muhammad's Mosque, al-Masjid al-Nabawi in Arabic, where the founder of Islam is buried. Non-Muslims are not allowed to enter Makkah or Madinah. In Jerusalem, it is the Al-Aqsa Mosque in al-Haram Sharif, where Prophet Muhammad is believed by Muslims to have ascended to Heaven. Jews</p>

		call al-Haram Sharif the Temple Mount.
I		
Id al-Adha, Id al-Fitr	Reuters: See Eid al-Adha, Eid al-Fitr.	See Eid al-Adha, Eid al-Fitr.
Imam	Reuters: Lowercase when describing the official who leads devotions in a mosque. Uppercase when part of an official title. AP: Lowercase when describing the leader of a prayer in a Muslim mosque. Capitalize before a name when used as the formal title for a Muslim leader or ruler. See religious titles.	Imam – The leader of a prayer in a mosque, which is to be used in lowercase. It can be capitalised before a name when used as the formal title for a Muslim leader or ruler.
Ikhwan (new)		Ikhwan – A socio-political membership group called “Al-Ikhwan Al-Muslimeen” or the Muslim Brotherhood, founded in Egypt in 1928 by the activist Hasan al-Banna. It became a political movement whose ideas have spread globally, including through the founding of Hamas in Gaza and also through ideologues like Sayyid Qutb who have influenced Irhabi groups like al-Qaeda. Though banned for decades in Egypt, the Ikhwan was legalised in 2011 and won the 2012 Presidential Election, but their candidate was overthrown by the military one year later. Use the Arabic term “Ikhwan”, translated as the Brotherhood to refer to the term as is commonly used.
Intifada	Reuters: Arabic for “uprising.” It is used to describe two Palestinian uprisings against Israeli occupation. The first began in December 1987 and ran roughly until September 1993 when leaders signed an interim accord under which Israel handed over parts of the West Bank and Gaza Strip to Palestinian self-rule. A second Intifada began in September 2000. Capitalize. AP: An Arabic term for the Palestinian uprising against Israel.	Intifada – The Arabic term for ‘uprising’, which has been used to describe the two Palestinian uprisings against Israeli occupation. The first began in December 1987 and ran roughly until September 1993 when leaders signed an interim accord under which Israel handed over parts of the West Bank and Gaza Strip to Palestinian self-rule. A second Intifada began in September 2000. Capitalise.
Irhabi (new)		Irhabi – The Arabic term for those who draw from extremist ideologies originating from Middle East, North Africa and South Asia to undertake acts of armed violence and terrorism towards furthering political and social aims. It is derived from the modern Arabic term of terrorism, Irhab, and terrorist, Irhabi. The plural would be

		<p>Irhabis. The term should be used in lieu of jihadi and jihadist, which are erroneous and misleading terms. Irhabi as a term should be capitalised. The term Islamic, Muslim or Islam is not to be used in the same context as the term. Entities such as al-Qaeda and Daesh are Irhabi groups.</p>
<p>Islam</p>	<p>AP: Followers are called Muslims. Their holy book is the Quran, which according to Islamic belief was revealed by Allah (God) to the Prophet Muhammad in the seventh century in Mecca and Medina. The place of worship is a mosque. The weekly holy day is Friday.</p> <p>It is the religion of more than 1 billion people in the world, making it the world's second-largest faith, after Christianity. Although Arabic is the language of the Quran and Muslim prayers, not all Arabs are Muslims and not all Muslims are Arabs. Most of the world's Muslims live in a wide belt that stretches halfway around the world: across West Africa and North Africa, through the Arab countries of the Middle East and on to Turkey, Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan and other Asian countries, parts of the former Soviet Union and western China, to Indonesia and the southern Philippines.</p> <p>There are two major divisions in Islam:</p> <p>–Sunni - The biggest single sect in Islam, comprising about 85 percent of all Muslims. Nations with Sunni majorities include Egypt, Saudi Arabia and most other Arab nations, as well as non-Arab Turkey and Afghanistan. Most Palestinian Muslims and most West African Muslims are Sunnis.</p> <p>The Saudis sometimes are referred to as Wahhabi Muslims. This is a subgroup within the Sunni branch of Islam.</p> <p>–Shiite - The second-largest sect. Iran, Iraq, Bahrain and Azerbaijan all have Shiite majorities. Lebanon and Yemen have large Shiite communities relative to their population.</p> <p>(The schism between Sunni and Shiite stems from the early days of Islam and arguments over Muhammad's successors as caliph, the spiritual and temporal leader of Muslims during that period. The Shiites wanted the caliphate to descend through Ali, Muhammad's son-in-law. Ali</p>	<p>Islam – It is a major world religion of 1.8 billion Muslims globally, making it the world's second-largest faith after Christianity. Muslims' holy book is the Quran, which according to Islamic belief, was revealed by Allah (God) to the Prophet Muhammad in the seventh century in Makkah and Madinah. The place of worship is a mosque. The weekly holy day is Friday.</p> <p>Islam is considered an Abrahamic faith alongside Judaism and Christianity, and Islamic belief regards Abraham, Moses and Jesus as Prophets like Prophet Muhammad.</p> <p>Although Arabic is the language of the Quran and Muslim prayers, not all Arabs are Muslims and not all Muslims are Arabs. Most of the world's Muslims live in a wide belt that stretches halfway around the world: across West Africa and North Africa, through the Arab countries of the Middle East and on to Turkey, Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan and other Asian countries, parts of the former Soviet Union and western China, to Indonesia and the southern Philippines. Significant Muslim-minority populations exist in Europe and North America.</p> <p>There are two major traditional denominations in Islam, see Sunni and Shia.</p> <p>The adjective is Islamic. Islamic should not be paired with the term fundamentalist, extremist, terrorist, militant or radical.</p>

	<p>eventually became the fourth caliph, but he was murdered; Ali's son Hussein was massacred with his fighters at Karbala, in what is now Iraq. Shiites considered the later caliphs to be usurpers. The Sunnis no longer have a caliph.)</p> <p>Titles for the clergy vary from sect to sect and from country to country, but these are the most common:</p> <p>Grand Mufti – The highest authority in Quranic law and interpretation, a title used mostly by Sunnis.</p> <p>Sheikh – Used by most clergymen in the same manner that the Rev. is used as a Christian clerical title, especially common among Sunnis. (Not all sheikhs are clergymen. Sheikh can also be a secular title of respect or nobility.)</p> <p>Ayatollah – Used by Shiites, especially in Iran, to denote senior clergymen, such as Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.</p> <p>Hojatoleslam – A rank below ayatollah.</p> <p>Mullah – Lower-level clergy.</p> <p>Imam – Used by some sects as a title for the prayer leader at a mosque. Among the Shiites, it usually has a more exalted connotation.</p> <p>The adjective is Islamic. Islamist is an advocate of political Islam, the philosophy that the Quran should rule all aspects of life – religious, political and personal. Islamic fundamentalist should not be used as a synonym for Islamic militant or radical.</p>	
Islamic	<p>Reuters: An adjective used to describe the culture, art, architecture, music or finance associated with the religion of Islam. Adherents of the religion are usually described by the adjective Muslim though. An Islamic state is a country ruled by Islamic law (sharia). A Muslim country is one whose population is predominantly Muslim.</p>	<p>Islamic – An adjective derived from the major world religion of 1.8 billion Muslims. Therefore, association of the term should be accurate and aligned with the mainstream global views. Islamic can be used to describe the culture, art, architecture, music or finance associated with the religion of Islam, which are used by Muslims globally themselves as accurate representation. Adherents of the religion are usually described by the adjective Muslim. Avoid use in current political use i.e. an Islamic state, to more accurately describe the state as a republic, constitutional or absolute monarch or a Muslim-majority state.</p> <p>Islamic should not be paired with terms such as fundamentalist,</p>

		extremist, terrorist, militant or radical, in favour of more specific descriptions.
Islamic State (IS) / Islamic State group	<p>Reuters: Reuters uses Islamic State on first reference and IS on second reference, and avoids ISIS and ISIL. Islamic State refers to the Islamic militant organization that broke with the al Qaeda network in 2013 and took control of large parts of Iraq and Syria, where in 2014 it declared a caliphate, a traditional form of Islamic rule. It is largely made up of Sunni militants from Iraq and Syria but has drawn jihadi fighters from across the Muslim world and Europe.</p> <p>The group was originally known as Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS), or Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) and is sometimes also referred to by its Arabic acronym Da'ish or Daesh from "ad-Dawlah al-Islamiyah fi'l-Iraq wa-sh-Sham", but on June 29, 2014 the group proclaimed itself a worldwide caliphate and renamed itself "ad-Dawlah al-Islamiyah" or Islamic State (IS).</p> <p>AP: Islamic militant organization that broke with the al-Qaida network and took control of large parts of Iraq and Syria, where it declared a caliphate, a traditional form of Islamic rule. It is largely made up of Sunni militants from Iraq and Syria but has drawn jihadi fighters from across the Muslim world and Europe. The group is abbreviated as IS.</p>	<p>See Daesh</p> <p>Daesh – An Irhabi organization that broke with the al-Qaeda network and took control of large parts of Iraq and Syria, where in June 2014, it declared a caliphate, a traditional form of Islamic governance. By December 2017, US-led coalition forces and the Iraqi government had recaptured all territory under its control in Iraq. Daesh was largely made up of Irhabis from Iraq and Syria but had drawn Irhabis from across the world. The term Daesh is an Arabic acronym from "ad-Dawlah al-Islamiyah fi'l-Iraq wa-sh-Sham", which translates as the 'Islamic State in Iraq and Syria' (ISIS), or 'Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant' (ISIL), whilst the group in June 2014, began to refer to itself as "ad-Dawlah al-Islamiyah" or Islamic State (IS).</p> <p>The term 'Islamic State', IS, ISIS or ISIL, should not be used at all to describe the group, but rather Daesh at all times, in the same way that Al-Qaeda is not translated into its Arabic equivalent as 'The Base'.</p>
Islamist	<p>Reuters: A person or organisation advocating a political ideology based on Islam. Islamist is not a pejorative term. Few Islamists advocate violence to achieve their goals. Describe those who do as militant Islamists, or Islamic fighters.</p> <p>Where possible, be specific and use the name of militant affiliations: al Qaeda-linked, Hezbollah, Taliban, etc. Those who view the Koran as a political model encompass a wide range of Muslims, from mainstream politicians to militants known as jihadis.</p> <p>AP: An advocate or supporter of a political movement that favors reordering government and society in accordance with laws prescribed by Islam. Do not use as a synonym</p>	<p>Islamist – A vague term used to describe a person or organisation advocating a politicised interpretation of Islam, also referred to as Islamism. Avoid use of the term entirely in favour of more accurate and specific descriptions, which are in line with mainstream global views of Muslims. Not to be confused with the term Islamicist, which has been used to refer to a specialist in Islamic studies.</p>

	for Islamic fighters, militants, extremists or radicals, who may or may not be Islamists. Where possible, be specific and use the name of militant affiliations: al-Qaida-linked, Hezbollah, Taliban, etc. Those who view the Quran as a political model encompass a wide range of Muslims, from mainstream politicians to militants known as jihadis.	
Islamophobia (new)		Islamophobia – The fear, hatred of or prejudice against Islam and Muslims generally.
J		
Jemaah Islamiyah	AP: Southeast Asian Islamic radical group. The words are Arabic for Islamic congregation, or Islamic group.	Jemaah Islamiyah – A Southeast Asian Irhabi group, which perpetrated the 2002 Bali bombings, designated by the UN as a terrorist group.
Jihad	Reuters: An Islamic holy war or struggle. It can also refer to individual's moral struggle. Use with extreme care. AP: Arabic noun used to refer to the Islamic concept of the struggle to do good. In particular situations, that can include holy war, the meaning extremist Muslims commonly use. Use jihadi and jihadis. Do not use jihadist.	Jihad – An Arabic noun used to refer to the Islamic concept for effort and exertion to do good, both one's individual moral struggle (mujahida) and state-sanctioned defense of territory (jihad). The armed guerilla army in the anti-Soviet war in Afghanistan were referred to globally as mujahideen, those who perform jihad. To designate a jihad as a legitimate state-sanctioned defence of territory the term has to be supported at a state level by other Muslim-majority nations and entities, such as by the OIC. Do not use jihadi, jihadis or jihadist in any context, as these are offensive to mainstream Muslims globally, despite their increasing erroneous use, and are actually embraced and used by Irhabis to give a perception of legitimacy to their actions.
jihadi, jihadist	Reuters: Jihadists are Islamists who employ extreme violence to further their stated aims usually including establishing a government based on Islamic principles, for example, al Qaeda. They embrace the global ideology of violent jihad, even if they remain only local actors, like Islamic State in its current guise. "Jihadi" and "jihadist" are not "terms of abuse" but expressions that have specific meaning and are widely used in specialist academic literature and	Jihad – An Arabic noun used to refer to the Islamic concept for effort and exertion to do good, both one's individual moral struggle (mujahida) and state-sanctioned armed defence of territory (jihad). The Afghan insurgency in the anti-Soviet war in Afghanistan were referred to globally and celebrated as mujahideen, those who perform jihad. To designate a jihad as a legitimate state-sanctioned defence of territory the term has to be supported at a state level by

	<p>counterinsurgency circles. A number of Islamist groups, of course, actively embrace the term themselves.</p> <p>By contrast "Islamists" are adherents of political Islam, i.e., they believe Islam should guide social, political and personal action but do not necessarily advocate violence. The leaders of some Muslim countries are now Islamists.</p> <p>Even where Islamists support the use of violence to secure their goals, we should always use the terms "jihadi" and "jihadist" with caution and in context. We would not ordinarily refer to Hamas or Hezbollah as jihadist organisations, even though they sometimes use violence to pursue their goals, because they have a narrower focus. Should their political foes refer to them as jihadists, that is a different matter. But we should be clear that this is someone else's opinion. If in doubt, always check with the relevant bureau, the appropriate editing desk or the regional editor.</p> <p>AP: Arabic noun used to refer to the Islamic concept of the struggle to do good. In particular situations, that can include holy war, the meaning extremist Muslims commonly use. Use jihadi and jihadis. Do not use jihadist.</p>	<p>other Muslim-majority nations and entities, such as by the OIC. Do not use jihadi, jihadis or jihadist in any context, as these are offensive to Muslims globally, despite their increasing erroneous use, and are actually embraced and used by Irhabis to give a perception of legitimacy to their actions.</p>
K		
Kaaba	Reuters: Islam's most sacred shrine at the centre of the great mosque in Mecca. It is a mass of stone 38 feet high, 40 long and 30 wide (11 x 12 x 9 metres).	Kaaba – Islam's most sacred shrine at the centre of the Sacred Mosque, al-Masjid al-Haram in Arabic, in Makkah. It is a cubic structure, adorned with gold-embroidered black fabric, and referred to by Muslims as the 'House of God.' It marks the direction (qibla) that Muslims pray towards five times a day and is central to the Hajj pilgrimage.
Koran	Reuters: Use Koran for the Muslim holy book. (AP uses Quran). Use alternate spellings only if preferred by a specific organization as part of a name or title. AP: Use Quran in all references except when preferred by an organization or in a specific title or name. See Quran.	See Quran. Quran – Islam's holy book as taught by Prophet Muhammad. The preferred spelling is Quran, with the spelling Koran only to be used if preferred by a specific organisation or in a specific tile or name.
M		
Makkah (new)		Makkah – Islam's top holy city, both a sanctuary for Muslims and a

		<p>forbidden city for non-Muslims. Alternative spelling, always capitalised, when used in Saudi Arabia is spelled Makkah, so lessen the use of Mecca. Do not use in a colloquial sense since it is offensive i.e. "tourist mecca."</p>
Madinah (new)		<p>Madinah – Islam’s second major Holy City where the Prophet’s Mosque, Al-Masjid Al-Nabawi, is located, where Prophet Muhammad is buried and the first capital of Islam. It has also been spelt as Medina, but Madinah is the current official spelling.</p>
Mecca / mecca	<p>Reuters: One of Islam’s holy places. Do not use in a colloquial sense since it is disparaging, e.g., "tourist mecca." AP: Lowercase in the metaphorical sense; capitalize the city in Saudi Arabia.</p>	<p>See Makkah Makkah – Islam’s top holy city, both a sanctuary for Muslims and a forbidden city for non-Muslims. Alternative spelling, always capitalised, when used in Saudi Arabia is spelled Makkah, so lessen the use of Mecca. Do not use in a colloquial sense since it is offensive i.e. "tourist mecca."</p>
Militant	<p>Reuters: Usually a person who takes military action or uses armed force in support of a cause or policy or party, as opposed to just peaceful protest. The term is overused though so try to be more specific in describing the actions of the parties.</p>	<p>Militant - Usually a person who takes military action or uses armed force in support of a cause or policy or party, as opposed to just peaceful protest. The term is overused though so try to be more specific in describing the actions of the parties.</p>
Muhammad, Mohammad / Muhammad	<p>Reuters: The chief prophet of Islam. Spelling varies widely in English. Reuters uses Mohammad, AP uses Muhammad. Use other spellings for persons of this name only if preferred by the person in question (the boxer is Muhammad Ali) or if the title of an organization is involved. Spelling of Muslim names tends to vary depending on whether the transliteration is from some dialect of Arabic or from Farsi (Iran), or Turkish etc. Hence Egypt tends to use Mohamed; Saudi Arabia, Palestine, Syria and Lebanon tends to use Muhammad; Morocco uses Muhammed; Iran uses Mohammad. AP: The chief prophet and central figure of the Islamic religion, the Prophet Muhammad. Use other spellings only if preferred by a specific person for his own name or in a title or the name of an organization.</p>	<p>Muhammad - For the founder of Islam, see Prophet Muhammad. Spelling of the name varies widely in English. Mainstream global spelling which is seen as most accurate is Muhammad. Use other spellings for persons of this name only if preferred by the person in question (the boxer is Muhammad Ali) or if the title of an organisation is involved. Spelling of Muslim names tends to vary depending on whether the transliteration is from some dialect of Arabic or from Farsi (Iran), or Turkish etc. Hence Egypt tends to use Mohamed; Saudi Arabia, Palestine, Syria and Lebanon tend to use Muhammad; Morocco uses Muhammed; Iran uses Mohammad.</p>

<p>mujahideen, mujahedeen / mujahedeen</p>	<p>Reuters: A term for Islamic militant groups, meaning "holy warriors". Lowercase when using the Arabic for holy warriors; uppercase if it is part of the name of a group. Spelling in English varies. Reuters uses mujahideen. AP uses mujahedeen, but if a recognized group is referenced use the spelling of the official name. The Iranian opposition group is Mujahedeen-e-Khalq, while Jaysh al-Mujahedeen is a coalition of Islamist rebel groups which formed in order to fight the Islamic State group. See also Islamic State.</p> <p>AP: Lowercase when using the Arabic for holy warriors; uppercase if it is part of the name of a group. The Iranian opposition group is Mujahedeen-e-Khalq. The singular for holy warrior is mujahed.</p>	<p>Mujahideen – An Arabic term for those engaged in jihad, the legitimate, state-sanctioned armed defence of territory, where Muslim populations are located. The Afghan insurgency in the anti-Soviet war in Afghanistan were referred to globally, and celebrated, as mujahideen. It is used in lowercase when using the Arabic term; capitalised if it is part of the legitimate name of a group. Though spelling varies, the most accurate spelling is mujahideen, but if a recognised group is referenced use the spelling of the official name. The singular for the term is mujahid. Use sparingly, and in particular when for example, a number of Muslim-majority countries, and the OIC, have recognised those as being legitimately engaged in jihad, or there has been global popular recognition of the group as such, like in the mujahideen in Afghanistan during the anti-Soviet war.</p>
<p>Mullah / mullah</p>	<p>Reuters: A Muslim scholar, teacher or leader.</p> <p>AP: An Islamic leader or teacher, often a general title of respect for a learned man.</p>	<p>Mullah – A Muslim scholar, leader or teacher, often a general title of respect for a learned man in Southeast Asia, whereas in Arab countries, sheikh may be used instead.</p>
<p>Muslim</p>	<p>Reuters: An adjective or noun that usually describes adherents of Islam. The adjective Islamic is usually used to describe the culture, architecture, music, or finance of the religion Islam.</p>	<p>Muslim – A noun or adjective that describes an adherent of the major world religion of Islam, who number over 1.8 billion. Muslims believe in the monotheistic Abrahamic God, referred to as Allah, and in the holy book, the Quran, taught by Prophet Muhammad. The adjective Islamic is usually used to describe the culture, architecture, music, or finance of Islam.</p>
<p>Muslim Brotherhood</p>	<p>Reuters: The Muslim Brotherhood is an Islamic religious, political and social movement, founded in Egypt in 1928 by Hassan al-Banna which has spread to other Muslim countries.</p> <p>AP: Pan-Arab Islamist political movement.</p>	<p>See Ikhwan</p> <p>Ikhwan – A socio-political membership-based group called “Al-Ikhwan Al-Muslimeen” or the Muslim Brotherhood, founded in Egypt in 1928 by the activist Hasan al-Banna. It became a political movement whose ideas have spread globally, including through the founding of Hamas in Gaza and also through ideologues like Sayyid Qutb who have influenced Irhabi groups like al-Qaeda. Though banned for decades in Egypt, the</p>

		Ikhwan was legalised in 2011 and won the 2012 Presidential Election, but their candidate was overthrown by the military one year later. Use the Arabic term “Ikhwan”, translated as the Brotherhood to refer to the term as is commonly used.
Muslim dress	Reuters: Islamic head coverings worn by women are all referred to as hijab, a term that encompasses garments ranging from headscarves that simply cover the hair to cloaks that cover the entire head, face and body. Styles vary between geographic regions. Among the better known are: The burqa, an enveloping circular cloak traditionally worn in parts of Afghanistan and some other regions of south and central Asia that covers the entire head and body, sometimes with a mesh over the face to ease vision. Note - Reuters uses the spelling burqa, not burka. The chador, a loose full-length cloth traditionally worn in Iran and among Shi'ite Muslims in some other countries, that covers the head and body but not the face. The niqab, a cover for the head, face and shoulders which sometimes has a slit for the eyes. It can also refer to a veil that hangs across the face from the bridge of the nose in conjunction with a headscarf. It is traditional in Gulf Arab countries, usually worn with the abaya, a loose, full-length, long-sleeved gown.	Muslim dress - Islamic head coverings worn commonly by women are all referred to as hijab, a term that encompasses garments ranging from headscarves that simply cover the hair to cloaks that cover the entire head, face and body. Styles vary between geographic regions. See individual entries on specific garments such as hijab, niqab, burqa and chador.
N		
9/11	AP: For the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, 9/11 is acceptable in all references. (Note comma to set off the year when the phrase refers to a month, date and year.)	9/11 - For the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, 9/11 is acceptable in all references. (Note comma to set off the year when the phrase refers to a month, date and year.)
niqab	Reuters: The niqab, a cover for the head, face and shoulders which sometimes has a slit for the eyes. It can also refer to a veil that hangs across the face from the bridge of the nose in conjunction with a headscarf. It is traditional in Gulf Arab countries, usually worn with the abaya, a loose, full-length, long-sleeved gown. See also other garments such as niqab, burqa, chador. AP: The veil worn by the most conservative Muslim women, in which, at most, only the eyes show. See also other garments such as niqab, burqa, chador.	niqab – The veil worn by some Muslim women globally, which also can be a cover for the head, face and shoulders and sometimes has a slit for the eyes. It can also refer to a veil that hangs across the face from the bridge of the nose in conjunction with a headscarf. It is traditional in Gulf Arab countries, usually worn with the abaya, a loose, full-length, long-sleeved gown. See also other garments such as niqab, burqa and chador.

O		
OIC	Reuters: Organisation of the Islamic Conference, the principal world organisation of Muslim states, with 57 members. It is funded mainly by Saudi Arabia and based in Jeddah. Among OIC institutions is the Islamic Development Bank, which provides soft loans for development projects in Islamic countries. See www.oic-oci.org	OIC: The Organisation of Islamic Cooperation – The principal organisation of Muslim-majority states. With 57 members, it is the second largely inter-governmental organisation after the United Nations. Founded in 1969 under its former name, the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the OIC is funded mainly by Saudi Arabia and is headquartered in Jeddah. Among OIC institutions is the Islamic Development Bank, which provides soft loans for development projects in Islamic countries.
Osama bin Laden	Reuters: Use bin Laden at second reference. He was stripped of Saudi citizenship, so refer to him as Saudi-born.	Osama bin Laden - The late founder of the al-Qaeda Irhabi group, who was killed by U.S. forces in Pakistan in May 2011. He was stripped of his Saudi Arabian citizenship, so only refer to Saudi-born if relevant. Use bin Laden on all second and later references except at the start of a sentence. It is the family preference for the last name, which is an exception to the general rule on Arabic names.
P		
Palestine	AP: Use Palestine and Palestinians in the context of Palestine's activities in international bodies to which it has been admitted and the actions of the Palestinian Authority: the Palestinian flag, Palestinian prime minister. Do not use Palestine or state of Palestine in other situations, since it is not a fully independent, unified state. For territory, refer specifically to the West Bank or Gaza, or the Palestinian territories in reference to both.	Palestine, Palestinians – Noun and adjective relating to the Palestinian Arabic-speaking people and region in the Levant, which has been at the centre of a global political dispute since the founding of the State of Israel in 1948, subsequent occupation of Palestinian territories in 1967 and subsequent Israeli settlement building. Use Palestine and Palestinians in the context of Palestine's activities in international bodies to which it has been admitted and the actions of the Palestinian Authority: the Palestinian flag, Palestinian prime minister, the United Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA). The term 'State of Palestine' can be used in the context when used officially by the United Nations as deemed by its Secretariat in 2012. The 137 UN member countries that have recognised the State of Palestine can legitimately use the term in their state media. The use of Palestine or state of Palestine in other situations can also be

		avoided in order to further demonstrate that it is not a fully independent, unified state. For territory, refer specifically to the West Bank or Gaza, or the Palestinian territories in reference to both. Use the adjective Palestinian when contrasted with Israeli
pious	Avoid describing someone as, for example, a pious Muslim or Christian. Use “practising.”	pious - Avoid describing someone as, for example, a pious Muslim or Christian. Use “practising.”
Prophet Muhammad (new)		Prophet Muhammad - The founder, chief prophet and central figure of the major world religion, Islam, who is referred to by his title as Prophet Muhammad. According to Islamic belief, he was a Prophet and a Messenger sent by Allah (God) in the sixth century AD to present and confirm monotheism as conveyed by Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses and Jesus. The Quran, Islam’s holy book, was first revealed to him by Allah whilst he was in Makkah at the age of 40, and revelation continued until his death in Madinah in 632 AD. Muslims globally revere Prophet Muhammad immensely and often utter a salutation of ‘May the Peace and Blessings of Allah be upon him’ whenever his name is spoken or written.
proselytise	Reuters: To seek converts to a faith. Some Christian denominations say it has a negative connotation, implying the use of aggressive or unethical methods such as threats or rewards, and prefer “evangelize” as a more neutral term.	proselytise – To seek converts to a faith. Some Christian denominations say it has a negative connotation, implying the use of aggressive or unethical methods such as threats or rewards, and prefer “evangelise” as a more neutral term. In Islam, the Arabic term ‘dawah’ means invitation, and therefore the term ‘conveying’ would be more accurate than either proselytising or evangelising.
Q		
Qibla (new)		Qibla – The Arabic term for the direction of prayer for Muslims five times a day, which is towards the Kaaba in Makkah.
Quran, Koran	Reuters: Use Koran for the Muslim holy book. (AP uses Quran). Use alternate spellings only if preferred by a specific organization as part of a name or title.	Quran – Islam’s holy book as taught by Prophet Muhammad. The preferred spelling is Quran, with the spelling Koran only to be used if preferred by a specific organisation or in a specific tile or name.

	AP: The preferred spelling for the Muslim holy book. Use the spelling Koran only if preferred by a specific organization or in a specific title or name.	
R		
radical	<p>Reuters: A radical on political or social terms is usually a person or group seeking to overturn the present order. Although radical often is applied to individuals who hold strong socialist or communist views, it also is applied at times to individuals who believe an existing form of government must be replaced by a more authoritarian or militaristic one. Given the term is vague and emotive, try to use more specific descriptions of the person or groups beliefs or practices.</p> <p>AP: In general, avoid this description in favor of a more precise definition of an individual's political views.</p> <p>When used, it suggests that an individual believes change must be made by tearing up the roots or foundation of the present order.</p> <p>Although radical often is applied to individuals who hold strong socialist or communist views, it also is applied at times to individuals who believe an existing form of government must be replaced by a more authoritarian or militaristic one.</p>	radical – In general, avoid the use of the term, which is vague, emotive and can be misleading, in favour of a more precise and accurate description of the subject's political or social views. Potential alternatives are extreme or ultra-, dependent on use.
radicalisation	<p>Reuters: In general, radicalisation (or radicalisation) is a process by which an individual or group comes to adopt increasingly extreme political, social, or religious ideals and aspirations that reject or undermine the status quo often involving violence.</p> <p>But various governments and agencies, including the US National Counterterrorism Center and the UK Home Office and MI5, have their own definitions of radicalization, so Reuters need to avoid using politicized jargon and try to describe the beliefs or practices of individuals or groups as specifically as possible.</p>	radicalisation – In general, avoid the use of the term, which is vague, emotive and can be misleading, in favour of describing the process of change of the subject's political, social or religious views from more mainstream perspectives to those which are extremes, or majority perceptions versus those in a minority. Though the US National Counterterrorism Center and the UK Home Office and MI5, have their own definitions of radicalisation, the word in itself is problematic. In the 1990s, its abbreviation 'rad' was actually used in a positive sense to refer to being hip, stylish and fashionable, and therefore its use could potentially induce a perception of legitimacy. Therefore, alternative terms relating to extremism are to be used.
Ramadan	Reuters: The Muslim holy month, when devout Muslims fast daily from	Ramadan – Islam's holy month of fasting, marking the ninth month of

	<p>dawn to sunset, ending with the Islamic holiday of Eid al-Fitr.</p> <p>AP: The Muslim holy month, marked by daily fasting from dawn to sunset, ending with the Islamic holiday of Eid al-Fitr. Avoid using holiday on second reference.</p>	<p>the Islamic calendar year. Muslims fast daily for the lunar month from dawn till sunset, not taking any food or water as a preparation for attaining virtuous moral conduct. Its end is marked by the Eid al-Fitr holiday, commonly a public holiday in most Muslim-majority countries, which lasts three days.</p>
<p>religious references</p>	<p>Reuters: Religion: Names of divinities are capitalised but unspecific plurals are lower case, e.g. Allah, the Almighty, God, but the gods, the lords of the universe.</p> <p>AP: The basic guidelines: DEITIES: Capitalize the proper names of monotheistic deities: God, Allah Lowercase pronouns referring to the deity: he, him, his, thee, thou, who, whose, thy, etc. Lowercase gods in referring to the deities of polytheistic religions. Lowercase such words as god-awful, goddamn, godlike, godliness, godsend. HOLY DAYS: Capitalize the names of holy days. See holidays and holy days and separate entries for major Christian, Jewish and Muslim feasts. OTHER WORDS: Lowercase heaven, hell, devil, angel, cherub, an apostle, a priest, etc. Capitalize Hades and Satan. For additional details, entries for frequently used religious terms, the entries for major denominations, religious movements and religious titles.</p>	<p>religious references – The basic guidelines for religious references:</p> <p>Deity/ deities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Capitalise the proper names of the Monotheistic Deity: God, Allah, The Almighty - Uppercase pronouns referring to the Deity: He, Him, His, Thee, Thou, Who, Whose, Thy, etc. - Lowercase gods in referring to the deities of polytheistic religions: the gods, the lords of the universe. - Avoid the use of words which use the term God in a negative context such as god-awful, goddamn, godlike, godliness and godsend. <p>Holy Days:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Capitalise the names of holiday days. <p>Other words:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lowercase heaven, hell, devil, angel, cherub, a priest, etc. Capitalise Satan and Hades.
<p>religious terms</p>	<p>Reuters:</p> <p>fundamentalist: Originally refers to Protestants who stress the fundamentals of their faith and reject liberal interpretations. Often used for conservatives, especially for Muslims, but so overused that it is best avoided. Alternatives are traditionalist, orthodox, conservative, etc.</p> <p>Haj: Capitalise. A Muslim pilgrimage to Mecca</p> <p>headscarf: General term for Muslim women’s head covering, either the hijab (covering just the hair) or the niqab (covering the face but leaving the eyes open).</p> <p>proselytise: To seek converts to a faith. Some Christian denominations</p>	<p>See fundamentalist, Hajj, hijab, proselytise, sect, Sunni, Shia</p>

	<p>say it has a negative connotation, implying the use of aggressive or unethical methods such as threats or rewards, and prefer “evangelize” as a more neutral term.</p> <p>sect: A religious group that has broken off from a larger one. Use carefully as it has negative connotations. The neutral term is new religious movement.</p> <p>skullcap: Preferred generic term for small religious headpiece known as the Jewish kippa, Catholic zucchetto or Muslim kufi. Avoid yarmulke, which is a Yiddish term used mostly in the United States.</p> <p>Sunni, Shi’ite: Muslims are split into two main groups, Sunni and Shi’ite. Sunnis are estimated about 80 per cent of all Muslims and include most Arabs. Sunnis and Shi’ites draw spiritual inspiration from the same source, the Prophet Mohammad, but Shi’ite theologians have much greater freedom of interpretation. As well as adhering to the revelations of the Muslim holy book, the Koran, Sunnis follow the Prophet Mohammad’s rule of life (the Sunna) and traditions based on his sayings. Shi’ites hold that the succession to the Prophet should remain in his own family. Since the direct line was broken not long after the death of Mohammad, Shi’ites believe there is a Hidden Imam (spiritual leader) who will reappear one day. In Iran, where Shi’ites are predominant, the revolutionary leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini was considered the Imam’s deputy on earth. His successor as Supreme Leader holds the same authority</p> <p>Rivalry between Sunnis and Shi’ites extends back to the years following the death of the Prophet Mohammad, when Islam first split over the question of who was the rightful successor. Some hardline Sunnis regard Shi’ites as heretics and Shi’ite minority communities in some parts of the Middle East complain of discrimination.</p>	
religious titles	Reuters: Names of divinities are capitalised but unspecific plurals are lower case, e.g. Allah, the Almighty, God, but the gods, the lords of the universe.	religious titles – Capitalise religious titles when they immediately precede a personal name, otherwise use lowercase. Capitalise names of denominations and religious movements, e.g., Baptist, Buddhist, Christian,

	<p>Capitalise religious titles when they immediately precede a personal name, otherwise use lowercase.</p> <p>Capitalise names of denominations and religious movements, e.g., Baptist, Buddhist, Christian, Church of England, Islamic, Jew, Jewish, Muslim, Orthodox. But nondenominational references are lowercase, e.g., adult baptism, orthodox beliefs, built a temple.</p> <p>AP: The first reference to a clergyman or clergywoman normally should include a capitalized title before the individual's name.</p> <p>In many cases, the Rev. is the designation that applies before a name on first reference. Use the Rev. Dr. only if the individual has an earned doctoral degree (doctor of divinity degrees frequently are honorary) and reference to the degree is relevant.</p>	<p>Church of England, Islamic, Jew, Jewish, Muslim, Orthodox. But nondenominational references are lowercase, e.g., adult baptism, orthodox beliefs, built a temple.</p>
S		
Salah (new)		<p>Salah – The Arabic term for the Islamic prayer of worship. It is regarded as the second of the five pillars of Islam, where adult Muslims should pray five times a day. This is different to dua, the Arabic word for supplication made by Muslims to God, often by raising their hands, and which often happens at the end of the Salah. Context is important, as it may be necessary to distinguish how Muslims pray in a specific instance, either through the ritual prayer, through supplication or potentially both. See also the other pillars of Islam - Shadahah, Zakat, Sawm and Hajj. Also see dua.</p>
Salafist	<p>Reuters: A strict Sunni Muslim who attempts to live by the example of Islam's Prophet Mohammed and his earliest followers. Salafists include peaceful, politically inactive Muslims who focus on living according to religious precepts, political activists who seek the implementation of Sharia law, and militants who advocate violence to establish states they might regard as representing true Islam. Modern Salafist thought originates from the teachings of a 18th century preacher whose doctrine, also widely known as Wahhabism, effectively</p>	<p>Salafist – The term should be avoided as vague and often erroneous in favour of more precise and accurate descriptions about the subject. It often refers to an adherent of a reformist movement within Sunni Islam which emerged in 19th century Egypt, and also was later also influenced by another reformist movement which originated in the 18th century in the Najd region of modern Saudi Arabia, referred to erroneously as Wahhabism. It advocated a reformist re-examination, and where necessary, removal or</p>

	became the official Muslim school of Saudi Arabia.	changes of practices within Sunni Islam as based on their perspective of trying to imitate the traditions of the Salaf, the first three generations of Islam. Avoid the use of the term in favour of more specific and precise descriptions of the subject. The term can be deemed as offensive to Muslims as it attributes negative acts to the Salaf. However, when absolutely required, an Arabic term to describe the school would be the Mutasalifiyya, the Arabic for those who seek to imitate the Salaf in contemporary society, whilst an individual would be Mutasalafi, but these terms should be limited in use.
Satan	AP: Lowercase devil and satanic.	Satan – Capitalise when referring to the Devil, but lowercase for non-specific use such as devil and satanic.
Sawm (new)		Sawm – The Arabic term for fasting, which is the fourth of the five pillars of Islam, where Muslims globally fast during the lunar month of Ramadan from dawn to sunset. It is recommended to state that Muslims are fasting, as the practice is known globally. Muslims also can offer voluntary fasts throughout the rest of the year. See also the other pillars of Islam - Shahadah, Salah, Zakat and Hajj.
sect	Reuters: A religious group that has broken off from a larger one. Use carefully as it has negative connotations. The neutral term is new religious movement.	sect - A religious group that has broken off from a larger one. Use carefully as it has negative connotations. The neutral term is denomination, branch, faction or if applicable, movement. Use is lowercase.
Sept. 11 / Sept 11	Reuters: The date can stand alone without reference to the Twin Towers or the year 2001, as can the alternative reference 9/11. AP: The term for describing the attacks in the United States on Sept. 11, 2001. Use 2001 if needed for clarity. Also acceptable is 9/11. See 9/11.	Sept. 11 - The term for describing the attacks in the United States on Sept. 11, 2001. Use 2001 if needed for clarity. Also acceptable is 9/11. See 9/11.
Shahadah (new)		Shahadah – The first of the five pillars of Islam, which is the testimonial of faith stating ‘There is no god but Allah and Prophet Muhammad is His Messenger.’ Stating these two sentences with

		belief is enough to become a Muslim. The word is not widely known, and therefore stating the term Shahadah as the Islamic testimonial of faith would be recommended. See also the other pillars of Islam - Salah, Zakat, Sawm and Hajj.
Sharia	Reuters: Islamic religious law (note lowercase 's').	Sharia – The Arabic term for Islamic law, which though religious in its inherent nature like Jewish Halakha law or Christian Canon law, is still a centuries-old complex system of law which can be contrasted with civil Roman law and common law. Hence, its use should be in relation to those laws, and not as has historically happened, be a shorthand for certain capital punishments mentioned in the Quran for which specific and limited circumstances are required. Moreover, it is not a standard set of rules, as widely perceived, but rather an unwritten text that is interpreted by qualified Islamic legal scholars in specific instances, drawing on the Quran and other reliable legal sources as applicable. Use of the term should be limited to where it would be accurately representative of Muslims i.e. in Islamic finance, banking and economics, Sharia-compliance and Sharia-based finance are common terms used. It means in Arabic 'the way to the source or spring'. Most common spelling is Sharia, not Shariah. The term can also be contrasted with the word Sunnah, which refers to the Way of Prophet Muhammad in terms of approved words, actions and behaviour.
Sheikh	Reuters: Not sheik or shaikh. A courtesy title in Saudi Arabia but avoid in this context. The real sheikhs there are religious figures and sheikh should be used at first reference. Elsewhere in the Gulf, it applies to members of ruling families as well as religious figures and should be used at first reference. AP: A title for a religious or tribal leader. Also used as a term of respect. For second references, follow local practices regarding whether sheikh should be repeated, and which name or names should be	Sheikh – A title for a religious or tribal leader, which is used as term of respect in Saudi Arabia, but this context is to be avoided. The real sheikhs are religious figures, and sheikh should be used at first reference. For second references, follow local practices regarding whether sheikh should be repeated, and which name or names should be used after the term e.g. Sheikh Muhammad. Elsewhere in the Arabian Gulf, it applies to members of ruling families as well as religious figures and should be used as first reference. Not sheik or shaikh.

	used after the term: Sheikh Mohammad.	
Shia, Shiite	<p>Reuters: Use Shi'ite unless in a direct quote.</p> <p>Sunni, Shi'ite: Muslims are split into two main groups, Sunni and Shi'ite. Sunnis are estimated about 80 per cent of all Muslims and include most Arabs. Sunnis and Shi'ites draw spiritual inspiration from the same source, the Prophet Mohammad, but Shi'ite theologians have much greater freedom of interpretation. As well as adhering to the revelations of the Muslim holy book, the Koran, Sunnis follow the Prophet Mohammad's rule of life (the Sunna) and traditions based on his sayings. Shi'ites hold that the succession to the Prophet should remain in his own family. Since the direct line was broken not long after the death of Mohammad, Shi'ites believe there is a Hidden Imam (spiritual leader) who will reappear one day. In Iran, where Shi'ites are predominant, the revolutionary leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini was considered the Imam's deputy on earth. His successor as Supreme Leader holds the same authority</p> <p>Rivalry between Sunnis and Shi'ites extends back to the years following the death of the Prophet Mohammad, when Islam first split over the question of who was the rightful successor. Some hardline Sunnis regard Shi'ites as heretics and Shi'ite minority communities in some parts of the Middle East complain of discrimination.</p> <p>AP: There are two major divisions in Islam:</p> <p>–Sunni - The biggest single sect in Islam, comprising about 85 percent of all Muslims. Nations with Sunni majorities include Egypt, Saudi Arabia and most other Arab nations, as well as non-Arab Turkey and Afghanistan. Most Palestinian Muslims and most West African Muslims are Sunnis.</p> <p>The Saudis sometimes are referred to as Wahhabi Muslims. This is a subgroup within the Sunni branch of Islam.</p> <p>–Shiite - The second-largest sect. Iran, Iraq, Bahrain and Azerbaijan all have</p>	<p>Shia – The second largest denomination in Islam after Sunni Islam. Iran, Iraq, Bahrain and Azerbaijan all have Shia majorities. Lebanon and Yemen have large Shia communities relative to their population. Shia in Arabic means Faction, as in those who support the Faction of Ali, the Prophet Muhammad's son-in-law and cousin. Do not use Shiite. In the first instance, use Shia Muslims. In second instance, as a whole, they description should be given the definite article i.e. the Shia. An individual should be identified with the term as a noun or adjective with Muslim attached i.e. He or she is a Shia Muslim.</p> <p>(The schism between Sunni and Shia Muslims stems from the early days of Islam and arguments over Prophet Muhammad's successors as caliph, the spiritual and political leader of Muslims during that period. The Shia wanted the caliphate to descend through Ali, Prophet Muhammad's son-in-law, and his descendants. Ali eventually became the fourth caliph, but he was assassinated; Ali's son Hussein was massacred with his fighters at Karbala, in what is now Iraq. The Shia considered the later caliphs to be usurpers. The Sunnis no longer have a caliph. The Shia also believe there is a Hidden Imam (spiritual leader) who will reappear one day. In Iran, where they are predominant, the revolutionary leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini was considered the Imam's deputy on earth. His successor as Supreme Leader holds the same authority.</p> <p>Titles for the Shia clergy vary depending on country, but these are the most common:</p> <p>Ayatollah – Used by the Shia, especially in Iran, to denote senior clergymen, such as Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.</p> <p>Hojatoleslam – A rank below ayatollah used by the Shia.</p> <p>Mullah – Lower-level clergy.</p>

	<p>Shiite majorities. Lebanon and Yemen have large Shiite communities relative to their population.</p> <p>(The schism between Sunni and Shiite stems from the early days of Islam and arguments over Muhammad's successors as caliph, the spiritual and temporal leader of Muslims during that period. The Shiites wanted the caliphate to descend through Ali, Muhammad's son-in-law. Ali eventually became the fourth caliph, but he was murdered; Ali's son Hussein was massacred with his fighters at Karbala, in what is now Iraq. Shiites considered the later caliphs to be usurpers. The Sunnis no longer have a caliph.)</p> <p>Titles for the clergy vary from sect to sect and from country to country, but these are the most common:</p> <p>Ayatollah – Used by Shiites, especially in Iran, to denote senior clergymen, such as Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.</p> <p>Hojatoleslam – A rank below ayatollah.</p> <p>Mullah – Lower-level clergy.</p> <p>Imam – Used by some sects as a title for the prayer leader at a mosque. Among the Shiites, it usually has a more exalted connotation.</p>	<p>Imam – Used by some sects as a title for the prayer leader at a mosque. Among the Shia, it usually has a more exalted connotation.</p>
<p>Sufi, Sufism (new)</p>		<p>Sufism – The mystical school within Islam, which focuses on the spirit while the Sharia, Islamic law, focuses on the law. This is similar to the contrast between the letter of the law and the spirit of the law. In 1900, the vast majority of Muslims understood Islam as mediated to them, directly or indirectly, by Sufi sheikhs and traditional Islamic scholars who accepted Sufism as the inner, spiritual dimension at the heart of Islam. Subsequent reformist movements within Sunni Islam often contended that Sufi practices are not inherently Islamic and are reprehensible innovations in the tradition. The Arabic term for Sufism is Tasawwuf, but the term Sufism can be used as it is widely known and used in English.</p>
<p>skullcap</p>	<p>Reuters: Preferred generic term for small religious headpiece known as the Jewish kippa, Catholic zucchetto or Muslim kufi. Avoid yarmulke, which is a Yiddish term used mostly in the United States.</p>	<p>skullcap - Preferred generic term for small religious headpiece known as the Jewish kippa, Catholic zucchetto or Muslim kufi. Avoid yarmulke, which is a Yiddish term used mostly in the United States.</p>

Sunnah (new)		Sunnah – The Arabic word for those who adhere to the Way (Sunnah) of Prophet Muhammad in actions, behaviour and ethics. The vast majority of Muslims are Sunnis who therefore state they follow the Sunnah. The source of the Sunnah is the Quran and the ahadith, approved transmitted saying about Prophet Muhammad.
Sunni	<p>Reuters: Muslims are split into two main groups, Sunni and Shi'ite. Sunnis are estimated about 80 per cent of all Muslims and include most Arabs. Sunnis and Shi'ites draw spiritual inspiration from the same source, the Prophet Mohammad, but Shi'ite theologians have much greater freedom of interpretation. As well as adhering to the revelations of the Muslim holy book, the Koran, Sunnis follow the Prophet Mohammad's rule of life (the Sunna) and traditions based on his sayings. Shi'ites hold that the succession to the Prophet should remain in his own family. Since the direct line was broken not long after the death of Mohammad, Shi'ites believe there is a Hidden Imam (spiritual leader) who will reappear one day. In Iran, where Shi'ites are predominant, the revolutionary leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini was considered the Imam's deputy on earth. His successor as Supreme Leader holds the same authority</p> <p>Rivalry between Sunnis and Shi'ites extends back to the years following the death of the Prophet Mohammad, when Islam first split over the question of who was the rightful successor. Some hardline Sunnis regard Shi'ites as heretics and Shi'ite minority communities in some parts of the Middle East complain of discrimination.</p> <p>AP: Followers are called Muslims. Their holy book is the Quran, which according to Islamic belief was revealed by Allah (God) to the Prophet Muhammad in the seventh century in Mecca and Medina. The place of worship is a mosque. The weekly holy day is Friday.</p> <p>It is the religion of more than 1 billion people in the world, making it the world's second-largest faith, after Christianity. Although Arabic is the language of the Quran and Muslim</p>	<p>Sunni: Sunni Muslims comprise about 85 percent of all Muslims. Nations with Sunni majorities include Egypt, Saudi Arabia and most other Arab nations, as well as non-Arab nations such as Turkey, Pakistan and Afghanistan. Sunni in Arabic means those who adhere to the Way (Sunnah) of Prophet Muhammad. In the first instance, use Sunni Muslims. In the second instance, as a whole, the description should be given without the definite article i.e. Sunni. An individual should be identified with the term as a noun or adjective with Muslim attached i.e. He or she is a Sunni Muslim.</p> <p>Titles for Sunni clergy vary depending on which country, but these are the most common:</p> <p>Grand Mufti – The highest authority in Islamic law and interpretation, a title used mostly by Sunnis. The position is usually appointed by the state, with the necessary qualifications and experience to be able to issue legal edicts.</p> <p>Sheikh – Used by most clergymen in the same manner that the Rev. is used as a Christian clerical title, especially common among Sunnis. (Not all sheikhs are clergymen. Sheikh can also be a secular title of respect or nobility.)</p> <p>Mullah – Lower-level clergy.</p> <p>Imam – Used by some sects as a title for the prayer leader at a mosque.</p>

prayers, not all Arabs are Muslims and not all Muslims are Arabs. Most of the world's Muslims live in a wide belt that stretches halfway around the world: across West Africa and North Africa, through the Arab countries of the Middle East and on to Turkey, Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan and other Asian countries, parts of the former Soviet Union and western China, to Indonesia and the southern Philippines.

There are two major divisions in Islam:

–Sunni - The biggest single sect in Islam, comprising about 85 percent of all Muslims. Nations with Sunni majorities include Egypt, Saudi Arabia and most other Arab nations, as well as non-Arab Turkey and Afghanistan. Most Palestinian Muslims and most West African Muslims are Sunnis.

The Saudis sometimes are referred to as Wahhabi Muslims. This is a subgroup within the Sunni branch of Islam.

–Shiite - The second-largest sect. Iran, Iraq, Bahrain and Azerbaijan all have Shiite majorities. Lebanon and Yemen have large Shiite communities relative to their population.

(The schism between Sunni and Shiite stems from the early days of Islam and arguments over Muhammad's successors as caliph, the spiritual and temporal leader of Muslims during that period. The Shiites wanted the caliphate to descend through Ali, Muhammad's son-in-law. Ali eventually became the fourth caliph, but he was murdered; Ali's son Hussein was massacred with his fighters at Karbala, in what is now Iraq. Shiites considered the later caliphs to be usurpers. The Sunnis no longer have a caliph.)

Titles for the clergy vary from sect to sect and from country to country, but these are the most common:

Grand Mufti – The highest authority in Quranic law and interpretation, a title used mostly by Sunnis.

Sheikh – Used by most clergymen in the same manner that the Rev. is used as a Christian clerical title, especially common among Sunnis. (Not all sheikhs are clergymen. Sheikh can also be a secular title of respect or nobility.)

	<p>Ayatollah – Used by Shiites, especially in Iran, to denote senior clergymen, such as Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.</p> <p>Hojatoleslam – A rank below ayatollah.</p> <p>Mullah – Lower-level clergy.</p> <p>Imam – Used by some sects as a title for the prayer leader at a mosque. Among the Shiites, it usually has a more exalted connotation.</p> <p>The adjective is Islamic. Islamist is an advocate of political Islam, the philosophy that the Quran should rule all aspects of life – religious, political and personal. Islamic fundamentalist should not be used as a synonym for Islamic militant or radical.</p>	
T		
Taliban	<p>Reuters: Radical Sunni Muslim movement that ruled most of Afghanistan from 1996 to 2001. From the Arabic for “student” (Talib). The plural is Taliban which usually takes a plural verb.</p> <p>AP: Extremist Islamic movement that ruled Afghanistan until ousted by U.S.-led coalition after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks. The Taliban continue to operate as an insurgent force with adherents in Afghanistan and Pakistan. The name derives from the Arabic word for religious students. The word Taliban normally takes a plural verb.</p>	<p>Taliban – A political movement, largely ethnically Pashtun, which emerged from the aftermath of the anti-Soviet war in Afghanistan, which ruled most of Afghanistan from 1996 to 2001, with its statehood legally recognised by Saudi Arabia, Pakistan and the UAE. Following their decision to harbour the Irhabi al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden following the Sept. 11, 2011 attacks, the Taliban were ousted by the U.S.-led coalition. Adherents and members of the Taliban have continued to operate in armed attacks in Afghanistan and Pakistan. The name derives from the Pashto word for religious students. The word Taliban normally takes a plural verb.</p>
Temple Mount or al-Haram al-Sharif	<p>Reuters: A 14 hectare (24 acre) of the Old City of Jerusalem sacred to both Jews and Muslims. The site of the Jewish temple destroyed by the Romans in AD 70. Muslims later made the Mount al-Haram al-Sharif (Noble Sanctuary), the third most holy site after Mecca and Medina. It contains two mosques, al-Aqsa and the gold-colored Dome of the Rock.</p> <p>AP: The walled, elevated area in Jerusalem's Old City that was the site of the ancient Jewish temples. It now houses the centuries-old Dome of the Rock shrine and Al-Aqsa Mosque and is known to Muslims as the Haram al-Sharif, or Noble Sanctuary. Muslims believe the Prophet Muhammad made</p>	<p>Temple Mount or Haram Sharif – A 14 hectare (24 acre) walled elevated area in Jerusalem's Old City that is sacred to both Jews and Muslims. The site of the Jewish temple destroyed by the Romans in 70 AD. Muslims refer to the area as al-Haram al-Sharif, the Noble Sanctuary, and believe it is where the Prophet Muhammad made his night journey to heaven from. It contains the Al-Aqsa Mosque, Islam's third most holy site after Makkah and Madinah, and the gold-coloured Dome of the Rock.</p>

	his night journey to heaven from the site.	
terrorism or terrorist	<p>Reuters: Reuters may refer without attribution to terrorism and counterterrorism in general, but do not refer to specific events as terrorism. Nor does Reuters use the word terrorist without attribution to qualify specific individuals, groups or events. “Terrorism” and “terrorist” must be retained when quoting someone in direct speech. When quoting someone in indirect speech, care must be taken with sentence structure to ensure it is entirely clear that they are the source’s words and not a label.</p> <p>“Terrorism” and “terrorist” should not be used as single words in quotation marks (e.g., “terrorist”) or preceded by so-called (e.g., a so-called terrorist attack), since that can be taken to imply a value judgement. Use a fuller quote if necessary.</p> <p>“Terror,” or “terror attack” or “terror cell,” should also be avoided to describe specific events or groups, except in direct quotes.</p> <p>Report the subjects of news stories objectively, describing their actions, identity and background. Aim for a dispassionate use of language so that individuals, organisations and governments can make their own judgment on the basis of facts. Seek to use more specific terms, such as “bomber” or “bombing,” “hijacker” or “hijacking,” “attacker” or “attacks,” “gunman” or “gunmen,” etc.</p>	<p>terrorism – A media organisation may refer without attribution to terrorism and counterterrorism in general, but do not refer to specific events as terrorism. It is also not recommended to use the word terrorist without attribution to qualify specific individuals, groups or events.</p> <p>“Terrorism” and “terrorist” must be retained when quoting someone in direct speech. When quoting someone in indirect speech, care must be taken with sentence structure to ensure it is entirely clear that they are the source’s words and not a label.</p> <p>“Terrorism” and “terrorist” should not be used as single words in quotation marks (e.g., “terrorist”) or preceded by so-called (e.g., a so-called terrorist attack), since that can be taken to imply a value judgement. Use a fuller quote if necessary.</p> <p>“Terror,” or “terror attack” or “terror cell,” should also be avoided to describe specific events or groups, except in direct quotes.</p> <p>Report the subjects of news stories objectively, describing their actions, identity and background. Aim for a dispassionate use of language so that individuals, organisations and governments can make their own judgment on the basis of facts. Seek to use more specific terms, such as “bomber” or “bombing,” “hijacker” or “hijacking,” “attacker” or “attacks,” “gunman” or “gunmen,” etc.</p> <p>Special note must be made for armed attacks relating to Islam and the Islamic world, in which the terms jihadi, Islamic or Islamist must never be used with the term terrorist in any context. However, the Arabic term for Irhabi can potentially be used to describe those who are of nominal Muslim faith or claiming Islam as their cause, though the term Muslim, Islam or Islamic should not be referred to if the term Irhabi has been used.</p>

U		
Ummah (new)		Ummah – The Arabic term normally used to refer to the worldwide community of 1.8 billion Muslims.
W		
Wahhabi, Wahhabism	Reuters: Referring to the official school of Islam in Saudi Arabia	Wahhabi, Wahhabism – The term has been used to refer to the reformist school against the prevalent practices of Sunni Islam, which originated in the 18th century in the Najd region of modern Saudi Arabia by the scholar Muhammad bin Abd al-Wahhab. The doctrine was at the time given political support by Muhammad bin Saud, the ancestor of the current House of Saud which rules Saudi Arabia. Descendants of Abd al-Wahhab in Saudi Arabia have historically been the recognised clergy of Saudi Arabia, referred to as Al-Asheikh. In more recent years, the House of Saud has emphasized that the doctrine does not exist, and they adhere to the Hanbali school of jurisprudence within Sunni Islam, and recent efforts have been made to have official wider inclusion of views across the spectrum of Sunni Islam. The term should be avoided as not only is it potentially offensive (Al-Wahhab is one of the names of God in Islam) but it has been overused, and should be replaced by a more precise specific description of the subject being referred to. If reference has to be made, referring to the school of 'Sheikh Al-Najd' would be accurate as it refers to the propagation efforts of Abd al-Wahhab, who is known as the Sheikh, or religious scholar, of the Najd region. The official school of Islam in Saudi Arabia should be described as Sunni Islam, though historic references can be made to the school of the Sheikh Al-Najd if appropriate, and a historic dominance of an interpretation of the Hanbali school of jurisprudence.
war on terror	Reuters: Do not use this phrase unless in a quote. It is poor English and part of the propaganda battle around militant violence.	war on terror - Do not use this phrase unless in a quote. It is poor English and part of the propaganda battle around militant violence
Z		

Zakat (new)		Zakat – The Arabic term for the third of the five pillars of Islam, which is the mandatory distribution of excess wealth as alms to the poor. It typically consists of distributing 2.5% (one-fortieth) of one's excess wealth every year, as well as mandatory charity before the Eid Al-Fitr holiday marking the end of the fasting month of Ramadan, the fourth pillar of Islam. See also the other pillars of Islam - Shahadah, Salah, Sawm and Hajj.
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