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## The Qiblah

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## Building the Ka`bah

The fourth and fifth questions of Fatwa no. (3056):

**Q: What is the status of Ka`bah for Muslims? Why was it built? Who built it? Is it now in its original shape?**

**A:** The honorable Ka`bah is the Qiblah (direction faced for Prayer) of the Muslims; they face it in every Salah (Prayer) in obedience to Allah's order, as He says, ﴿ Verily, We have seen the turning of your (Muhammad's peace be upon him) face towards the heaven. Surely, We shall turn you to a Qiblah (prayer direction) that shall please you, so turn your face in the direction of Al-Masjid-Al-Harâm (the sanctuary at Makkah). And wheresoever you people are, turn your faces (in prayer) in that direction. ﴾(Surah Al-Baqarah, 2: 144). It is also the place where people perform their rituals in Hajj and `Umrah, as they perform Tawaf (circumambulation) around it in obedience to Allah's saying, ﴿ and circumambulate the Ancient House (the Ka'bah at Makkah) ﴾(Surah Al-Hajj, 22: 29), and following what was legislated by Allah on the tongue of his Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him). It was built by Prophet Ibrahim and his son Isma`il (peace be upon them). Allah mentions this when He says, ﴿ And (remember) when Ibrâhîm (Abraham) and (his son) Ismâ'il (Ishmael) were raising the foundations of the House (the Ka'bah at Makkah), (saying), "Our Lord! Accept (this service) from us. Verily, You are the All-Hearer, the All-Knower." ﴾(Surah Al-Baqarah, 2: 127). Its building was renovated many times later.

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May Allah grant us success! May peace and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad, his family and Companions!

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