

Worksheet for Simon O'Meara's "Ka'ba"
by Sascha Crasnow
(to be used with [video linked here](#))



Key Takeaways:

1. What are the two key definitions of *Ka'ba*? What does the word *Ka'ba* likely mean?

2. What are the two structures that comprise the *Ka'ba*? In your answer, define the following terms:
Shadharwan

Kiswa

Hatim

Hijr

3. Describe the doors to the *Ka'ba*.

4. What is in the interior of the *Ka'ba*?

5. What is the *bab al-tawba*? What is the function of the *Ka'ba*'s sloped roof? And what is the *mizab al-rahma*?

6. What is *al-rukni* and what is its significance within pilgrimage rituals?

Contextualizing the Work

1. The *Ka'ba*'s architecture blends together religious and practical functions (consider its use in religious ritual as well as in relationship to weather conditions). Select another Islamic building that serves a religious function. How does this structure address both the religious and the practical? And how have these issues impacted its preservation over time?