

**Worksheet for Richard McGregor's "Kiswa"**  
by Sascha Crasnow  
(to be used with [video linked here](#))



**Key Takeaways:**

1. What is the *kiswa*? How often and when is it replaced?
2. What is the origin of the practice of covering the Ka'ba?
3. What are the common elements of the *kiswa*? What are the variable elements?
4. Where was the *kiswa* produced from the 10<sup>th</sup> century onward? When did it shift and to whom? Why?



5. What other holy areas are adorned with *kiswas*?

### **Contextualizing the Work**

1. Sending a *kiswa* to Mecca was a demonstration of wealth and political power. Can you think of another example of a work of art, from class or your daily life, that functions as a display of wealth and political power, especially as a gift? Compare and contrast that example with the *kiswas*.