Islam

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Introduction To Islam

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wgP_OSOS3lA&feature=youtu.be
Origin of Islam

- Islam originated in Mecca near the Red Sea and teaches that Muhammad (PBUH) was last the messenger of God.
- According to tradition, on Mount Hira, the Archangel Gabriel appeared to Muhammad (PBUH) while he was in a cave and gave revelation to him.
- Gabriel told Muhammad (PBUH) that there is only one God (Allah) and he would be Allah's last messenger.
- Muhammad (PBUH) preached to the people of Mecca of there being only one single god and believed in monotheism.
- This would be challenging since at that time most of the Meccan people were polytheistic.
- Muhammad was given the name "The last prophet" since he was the final prophet in the Abrahamic religion.
Major Islamic Scriptures

• The Quran - the main scripture of Islam, the holy book of Mohammad (PBUH)
• The Hadith - the collection of the sayings of the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH)
• The Zabur - the holy book of Dawud (David)
• Tawrat (Torah) - the holy book of Musa (Moses)
• Injil (Gospel) - the holy book of İsā (Jesus)

All these scriptures are important, but the primary scriptures are the Hadith and the Quran.
Key Beliefs
Traced Back to Original Scriptures

The Qur'an states that Muslims must:

- Have belief in one god (Allah)
- Have belief in the angels
- Have belief in the holy books sent to all the prophets including Torah that was revealed to Moses, the Bible that was revealed to Jesus, and Qur'an that was revealed to Muhammad (PBUH)
- Have belief in all the prophets sent by God including Noah, Abraham, Ishmael, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, Jesus and Muhammad (PBUH). Although Muslims believe in Jesus they don't think of Jesus as the Son of God the way Christians do
- Have belief in the Day of Judgment and life after death
- Have belief in divine decree. This means that God is all-powerful, and nothing can happen without His permission, however, he has given human beings freedom to choose whether to be good or bad.
- In the end, everyone will be questioned about how they lived in this life
Practices of Islam

• The most important Muslim practices/duties are described as the Five Pillars of Islam.

• The Five Pillars of Islam are the five obligations that every Muslim must satisfy in order to live a good and responsible life according to Islam. They are described as Shahadah, Salat, Zakat, Sawm and Hajj.

• Shahadah- profession of faith
• Salat- ritual prayer five times a day
• Zakat- obligatory charitable contributions
• Sawm- fasting from dawn till dusk in Ramadan (ninth month of the lunar Muslim calendar)
• Hajj- pilgrimage to Mecca at least once in your lifetime
Origin of Hajj

- According to Islamic tradition, Abraham was ordered by Allah (God) to leave his wife, Hajara, and his son in the desert of Mecca. Hajara started to look for water but didn’t find any.
- When she got back to her son, she saw the baby scratching the ground with his leg and a water fountain started underneath his foot.
- Abraham then built the Kaaba and then started the act of performing pilgrimage there. Every Muslim is required to go there at least once in their lifetime (if they can.)
Elaboration on Hajj

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=29HpUaJpwvl
How Islam is Spread

- Over a period of a few hundred years, Islam spread from the Arabian Peninsula all the way to modern Spain in the west and northern India in the east.

- Islam was spread to many regions in different ways. Sometimes it was carried in on vast trade network extending from the Silk Road, and other times it was transferred through much military conquest.

- Missionaries also played a big role in the spread of Islam

- Muslim empires conquered other empires such as the Sasanian Empire and converted them to Islam

- Most expansion occurred with the Rashidun (the first 4 caliph) from 632 to 661 CE
Turning Point for Islam

- The Hijra (migration), was when Muhammad (PBUH) left Mecca and established the world's first Islamic state at Yethrib, now Medina, in present-day Saudi Arabia. At the time Muhammad (PBUH) gathered his followers and broke ties with his former tribe to show his devotion to Islam.

- Muhammad's example spread, and due to this growth Islam gradually developed into the strong community of devoted believers with shared beliefs.

- Hijra was so important to Islamic tradition that the Islamic calendar starts from the year in which it occurred (622 CE, or 1 AH.) As such, Al-Hijra is also observed by Muslims as the first day of the Islamic New Year and a time to make resolutions of self-improvement.
After Hijra

• An effect of the migration to Madina was the creation of a treaty with the resident Jews in the area. This led to an understanding between the Jews and Muslims in that area and they co-existed peacefully most of the time.

• As well as this the Muslims in Madina created their own constitution and established that they thought themselves as a unique and diverse group of people.
Major Modern Sects

Sunni - Practiced by nearly 89% of modern Muslims

Shia - 11% of modern Muslims are included in this.

4 branches of Shia: Zaidi's, Ismailis, Ithna, Asharis

Both adhere to similar prayer practices and believe in similar origins.
Shia (Shiite) Muslims

• After The Prophets death in 632 CE believed Ali should be successor to Muhammad and only Ali's descendants should become the leaders for the coming generations

• Not one large sect but many smaller ones who all had similar beliefs regarding the succession for Islam's leader

• They only account for 11% of the Muslim population or around 120 million people
Sunni Muslims

- Recognize the first 4 caliphs as Muhammad's rightful successors
- Open to foreign caliphs if they have the majority approval
- Recognize the 6 books of Hadith
- 940 million identify as Sunni
- Most of the middle east are part of the Sunni
Why the Sunni and Shia Split

- The argument is 1400 years in the making and can be dated back to when the Prophet Muhammed died in 632 AD
- The Prophet died without a set successor for the popular religion
- The Sunni's believe that any person could become the leader if the majority of Muslims agreed on it
- Shias believe that the leader should be someone in Mohammed's bloodline (one of his descendents)
Islamic Holidays

- **Ramadan**: Month of fasting for adults and teens in the 9th month of the Islamic calendar. This fast starts right at sunrise and ends at sunset.

- **Eid Al-Fitr**: celebrated at the end of Ramadan generally with a large get together with extended family.

- **Eid Al-Adha**: 4-day celebration to honor Ibrahim's (Abraham) sacrifice of his son that starts on a new moon.

- **Laylat al-Qadr (The Night of Power)**- In the Quran it is said that on the Night of Power the prophet Mohammad ascended into the heavens and met God (Allah) It is said that this night is one of the last 10 nights of Ramadan (most likely one of the odd one.) and if you do any good deeds on that night it will be as if you did that good deed everyday for 1,000 months.
How People Practice Islam Today

• In modern day people still try to pray five times day and go to the mosque on Fridays since it is considered a holy day.
• While going to the mosque it is acceptable to donate a small amount of money every time you go.
• For modern Muslims helping those not as fortunate as you is very important.
• Family values and rules play a big role on how you live your life as a child and sometimes as an adult.
Modern Islamic Countries

• Mainly practiced throughout the middle east, Africa, and west Asia

• Most prominent in countries nearest to Mecca and in some cases spreading into Indo-Asia

• Some major countries are Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, Iraq, Iran, Syria, Turkey, and Afghanistan
Islam in a Global Scale

- Islam is the second most practiced religion in the world behind Christianity
- Around 1.6 billion people in the world practice Islam
- 24% of the population are Muslim
- This diagram shows that in 2010 most of the Muslim population lived in the Asia-Pacific area while less than 1% of the population lives in the Americas

## MUSLIM WORLD POPULATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>2010 ESTIMATED</th>
<th>2030 PROJECTED</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>World</td>
<td>1,619,314,000</td>
<td>2,180,154,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asia-Pacific</td>
<td>1,005,507,000</td>
<td>1,295,625,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle East/No. Africa</td>
<td>321,869,000</td>
<td>439,453,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-Saharan Africa</td>
<td>242,544,000</td>
<td>385,939,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>44,138,000</td>
<td>58,209,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Americas</td>
<td>5,256,000</td>
<td>10,927,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Population estimates are rounded to thousands. Percentages are calculated from rounded numbers. Figures may not add exactly due to rounding.

Source: Pew Research Center
Clothing

- For Women: The Prophet Muhammed called for women to cover everything except their face and their hands "draw their head-coverings over their chests" (24:30-31)
- For Men: Men must cover up from their belly button to their knees, even though a bare chest is acceptable, it is still frowned upon
- When praying there should be no faces on any of the clothing
- Everyone should be appropriately covered when praying
Excerpt from the Qur'an

• Those who devour the wealth of orphans wrongfully, they do but swallow fire into their bellies, and they will be exposed to burning flame - An-Ni
Excerpts from the Hadith

Narrated Awf ibn Malik:

The Messenger of Allah (PBUH) said: It was asked (by those present): Shouldn't we overthrow them with the help of the sword? He said: No, as long as they establish prayer among you. If you then find anything detestable in them, you should hate their administration, but do not withdraw yourselves from their obedience.

“Only an honorable man treats women with honor and integrity, and only a vile and dishonorable man humiliates and degrades women.”

~Prophet Muhammad (saww)
• https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hajj
• http://kennedy.byu.edu/islam-and-western-culture-navigating-terra-incognita/