

# Tools that give the interrogator the psychological advantage:

An Ancient Mayan Legend of the Spinning Pyramid











# "All that is required for evil to triumph is for a few good men to do nothing."

**Edmund Burke** 

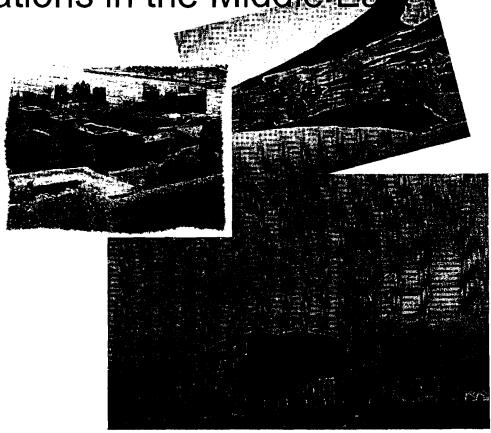




What are some of the cultural considerations in the Middle East



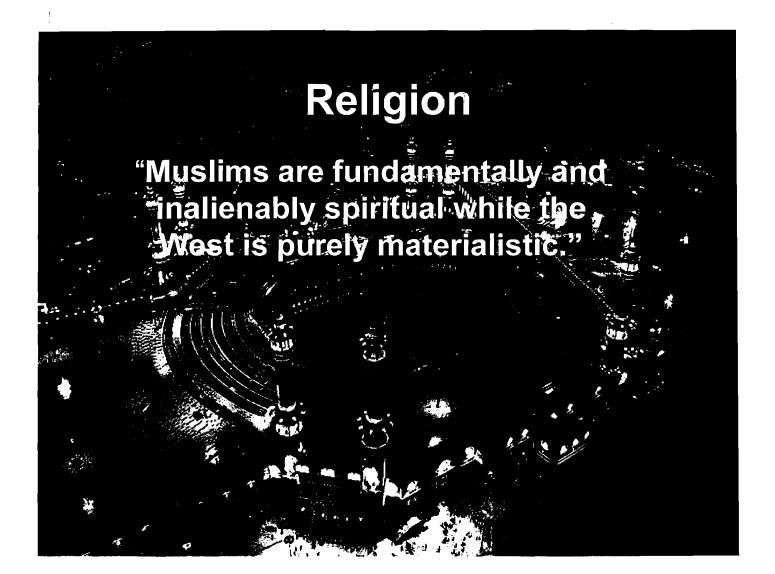


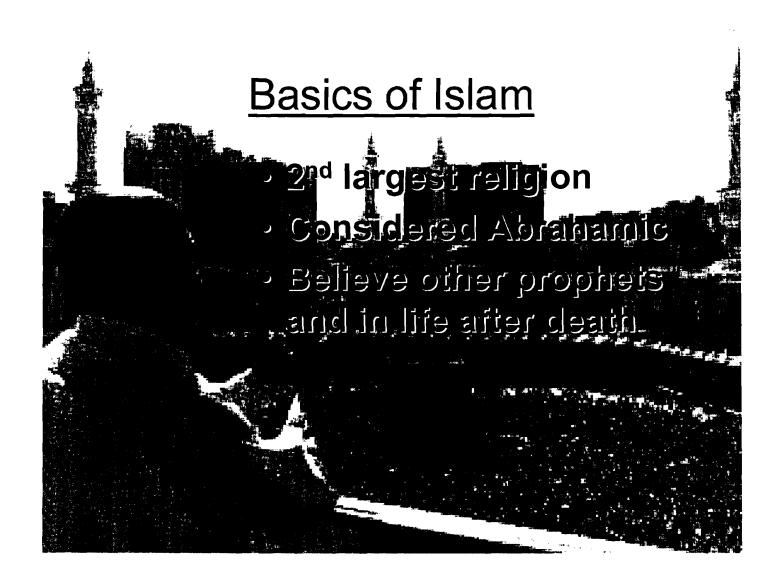


# Things to use/consider for successful interviews/interrogations with individuals from the M.E.

Ceremonial part
of a Muslim
circumcision
ritual in the
village of
Lazhnitsa in the
Rhodope
mountains,
some 300km
(186 miles)
south of the
Bulgarian capital
Sofia, October
26, 2008.
REUTERS







#### The Kaaba



# Islam Basics (Quran)

- Holy book of Islam
- (in addition to the Hadith or oral traditions of the prophet.)
- 114 chapters (Surat),
   6,000 verses (Ayat)





- Muslims believe written by Allah in Heaven (Perfect Arabic)
- Suras not chronological

#### Notes on Quran/Hadith

- Muslims may <u>not</u> be knowledgeable of contents
- Rely on Ulema (Sheikh, Imam, etc)
- Believe Quran is eternal, uncreated, uncorrupted, perfect Arabic, should not be translated
- "Hafez" One who commits entire Quran to memory



#### "JIHAD"

 Sometimes referred to as the 6<sup>th</sup> Pillar of Islam

 Greater Jihad: To realize Allah's will, lead a virtuous life, to fulfill the universal mission of Islam, and to spread the Islamic

Community

 <u>Lesser Jihad</u>: Strugg Islam, Holy War

\*The Teaching Company, 2003

#### Shari'ah – Islamic Law

- Arabic: "the way to water."
- Governs <u>all</u> aspects of life, from how to dress to inheritance.
- Viewed as the only embodiment of true justice.
- Huge variance in practice and interpretation in Muslim societies today.

#### Shari'ah

#### Apostasy:

- [a] "Then whosoever will, let him believe, and whosoever will, let him disbelieve" and "There is no compulsion in religion" on the one hand, and
- [b] the punishment of apostasy in Islam is death.
- Justification: belief and punishments are 2 separate issues.

#### **Godfathers of Jihad**

#### Sayed Qutb

Hanged for beliefs in 1966

Thus becoming martyr for caus

Hassan Al Banna Founder of Muslim Brotherhood Murdered in 1948 at age 43



Abdullah Azzam Killed in car bomb explosion in 1989







Sayyid Maududi
Most read Muslim in modern history.
Sentenced to death in 1953 in Pakistan
Sentence commuted.
He died in 1979 in Buffalo, NY

### Important Dates in Islam

- 570 Birth of Mohammad
- 610 Mohammad receives first revelation
- 622 Hijra; Mohammad and early Muslim cmmty immigrate to Medina
- 624 Battle of Badr
- 627 Battle of Trench
- 632 Death of Mohammad
- 632-661 Reign of 4 Rightly Guided Prophets
- 8<sup>th</sup> /9<sup>th</sup> Cent's Major Sunni law schools founded

#### Shari'ah - Sunni

- Sources of authority:
  - 1. Qur'an
  - 2. Sunnah (Mohammad's living example of God's will, mostly written in books of Hadith.
  - 2. Ijtihad (Reasoning and judgment to determine shari'ah, where Qur'an and Hadith are silent).
  - 3. Ijma'ah (Consensus of Muslim scholars or of the entire Ummah)

Shari'ah: The Way to God, pub Islamic Foundation (1981)

## Islam Basics (Muhammad)

- Age 40/Vision of the Archangel Gabriel
- 610-622: Time period marked by resistance and persecution



 Muhammad's ministry set over 2 periods (Mecca [610-622] and Medina [622-632])

#### Naskh

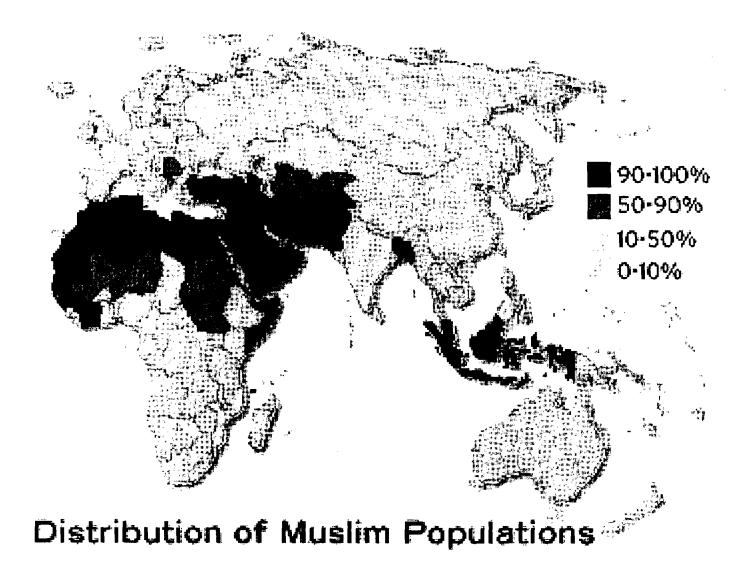
- Abrogation: Later verses cancel out or 'update' earlier verses
- Sura 2:106 a later verse "substitutes something better"
- Sura 5:33 Last verse written, "For those who do not submit to Allah their punishment is.. execution or crucifixion, or cutting off of hands and feet.."

# Details of Domestic Islamic Attacks (Since 9/11)

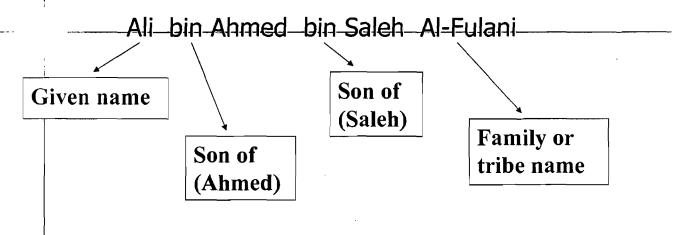
- February 12, 2007: Sulejman Talovic (Bosnian) opened fire in a Salt Lake City shopping mall
- (5) Fatalities



b6 b7≎



# **Arab Naming Convention**



Bin = ibn = ould (N. Africa).

# **Statistics**

- 12% of world's Muslims are Arabs
- U.S. has 20<sup>th</sup> largest Muslim population
- Egypt is the most populous Arab Muslim nation
- Islamic holy sites: Ka'ba (Mecca), Medina, Jerusalem

#### Islamic Terms

- Dar al Harb v Dar al Islam: Islamic fundamentalists see the world divided into these 2 spheres
- Dar al Harb (House of War): Should be the target of jihad; prevents a true Islamic state; Includes all infidel areas that must be conquered; Includes all areas (countries) not ruled by the Sharia.

<sup>\*</sup> Middle East Terrorism: A Primer, W. Zaideman

# Geography 101 (and other interesting facts..)

- 60 % of the earth's oil reserves in or near Arabian Peninsula
- 200 million Arabs worldwide
- Arab world includes Muslims, Christians, and Jews
- Arab disunity often based on: Tribal/Ethnic concerns, Israel, Rivalry, Sunni/Shia, Oil
- Jordan, Syria, and Egypt still relatively poor

\*Tradoc, 2006

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# **Arabic Alphabet**

- -28 characters
- -Reads right to left
- -Some characters do not connect
- -Considered special language
- -Purely phonetic
- -3/4 letter derivative

į	Letter Name	Isolated Form	Final	Medial Form	Initial Form
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# **Arabic Alphabet**

(Special Language)

### Languages (In the region)

- Pakistan Urdu
- Afghanistan Pashtu, Dari, numerous others
- Iran Farsi, Dari
- Turkey Turkish
- India Hindi, Punjabi
- Arab Nations Arabic, French
- Africa Arabic, Swahili, numerous others

# **Arab dress**



Galibiyya



<u>Kufi</u>



<u>Hijab</u>



<u>Hijab</u>



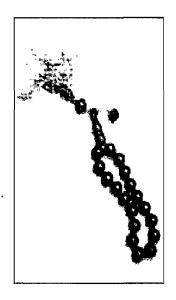
Salwar Kameez



<u>Kufi</u>

# Dikhr Beads (Worry beads)





## Sects (Mathabs) of Sunni Islam

- <u>Hanbali</u>: Founder Imam Ahmad ibn Hanbal; Considered least tolerant school of thought regarding social and personal rules. Practiced in Saudi Arabia. 15% of Muslims.
- <u>Malaki</u>: Founder Malik ibn Anas; jurist from Medina/based on practices of the people of Medina; predominant in N. and W. Africa as well as Egypt; 2<sup>nd</sup> largest sect (25%)
- Shafii: Founder Muhammad al-Shafii; Considered most tolerant; Predominant in E. Africa, Indon, and SE Asia. Followed by 15% of Muslims.
- <u>Hanafi</u>: Founder Imam Abu Hanifa; major school of Iraqi Arabs; considered tolerant school and largest following; predominant in ME, India, Pak/Afgh. 45% of Muslims.

# Islamic Schools of Thought

Mos Tolera	t int				Least Tolerant
Shafii	Hanafi	Maliki	Hanbali	Salafi	Salafi Jihadi

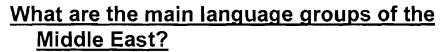
## **Origins**

#### **Countries**

-22 Arab nations

#### Is Iran an Arab country?

- Iran descended from the Persian empire and has a different language (Farsi)
- -Iran is an Islamic country



- -Arabic, Hebrew, Persian (Farsi), Turkish
- -Arabs are the largest in terms of population and land holdings



#### Origins (cont)

<u>Arabs</u> - Individuals born in or who trace their ancestry to Arabic speaking places in southwestern Asia, northern Africa, and Middle East.

Population in U.S. - Estimates of 3 million Arab-Americans

Do Arabs have a shared language?

-The Arabic language is one of the great unifying and distinguishing characteristics of Arab people



#### Islam

- 1.3 Billion Muslims in the world
- Majority in Indonesia



22 Arab nations in the Middle East

# Islam (Derivation)

• S-L-M: Submit

 Muslim: One who submits

· K-T-B: Write

• J-H-D?



#### Islam 101

- No separation between church and state
- Hard for Westerners to understand
- Transforms country's culture into 7<sup>th</sup> century Arabian ways





# Islam Basics (Hadith)

- · Other Islamic "Bible";
- Collection of early Muslim traditions which record the words and deeds of Muhammad
- Captured by wives, family, friends and Muslim leaders
- With Quran, establishes the basis for Islamic law





## Islam Basics (Hadith)

- Not vague, tells reader exactly what to do, how to do it, and in what order
- What Mohammad said, did, and approved of
- · Shia have four collections
- Provides extensive information about Muhammad

#### Sunni v. Shia

- 85% Sunni; Identified with the importance of the Sunna (Hadith)
- Based on believed caliphate descendents of Mohammad

-<u>Sunni</u> - Abu Bakr, Umer, Uthman, Ali

-Shia - Ali ibn Abi Talib

 Shia believe only a descendent of Mohammed has the right to rule (Follow Ali: last Caliphate to be elected)



#### Sunni/Shia cont..

- Shia may pray only 3 times a day/include praise for Ali in prayers
- Believe in more of a "priesthood" (ie Ayatullah) regarding leadership



- Differ on leadership, doctrine, practice and scriptural issues
- · Shia dominated country: Iran

#### Sunni v. Shia

- Shia rely on <u>opinions of their</u> <u>Imams</u>, who are descendents of Mohammad
- Sunni rely more on the <u>traditions</u> (Hadith)
- Shia are further divided by the recognition of the Twelvers, Seveners (Ismailis).

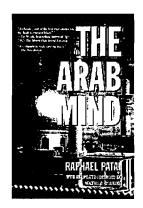
#### Wahabi Sect

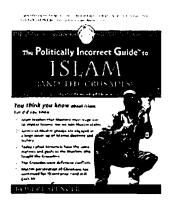
- Founder Muhammad ibn Abd al-Wahab (1703-1792)
- Called for strict adherence to Tawheed (Monotheism)
- Opposed to Shia and Sufi
- Considered by some to be Salafi
- Believe in literal sense of Qur'an and ljtihad (deduction apart from 4 schools)

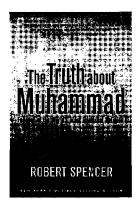




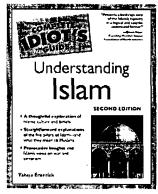
# **Recommended Reading**





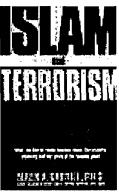






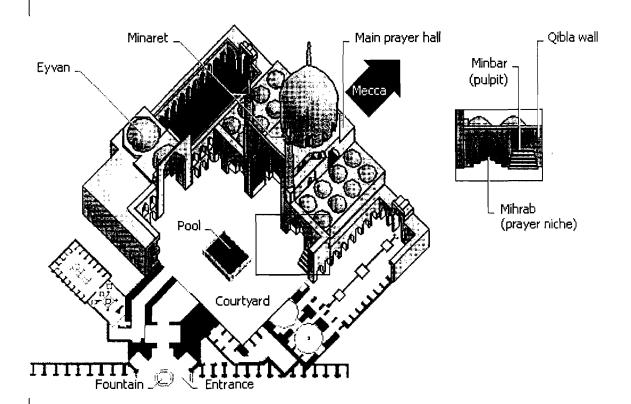






# Keys to Proactive Approach

- Know culture
- Know (some of the) language
- Street information
- Intentional/Respectful liaison
- Aggressive/Innovative investigation



# Mosque Layout

# Islam Basics (Muhammad)

- Prophet Muhammad born in Mecca
- Quraysh tribe/Custodian of Kabba ("Cube")





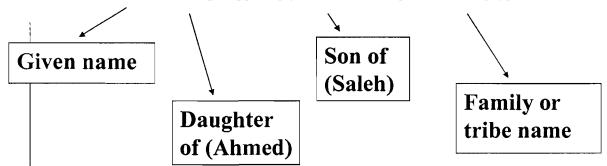
 Held positions as religious, political and military leader of a community state. Wahabism (Arabic: Al-Wahhābīyya الوهابية) or Wahabism is a name sometimes applied to the conservative 18th century reformist call of Sunni Islam attributed to Muhammad ibn Abd-al-Wahhab, an Islamic scholar from what is today known as Saudi Arabia, who became known for advocating a return to the practices of the first three generations of Islamic history. Wahhabism formed the creed upon which the kingdom of Saudi Arabia was founded [1] and is the dominant form of Islam found in Saudi Arabia, and Qatar,[2] as well as some pockets of Somalia, Algeria and Mauritania. [citation needed] It is now often referred to as a "sect" [2] or "branch" [3] of Islam, though its supporters reject such a designation.

#### U.S. Muslim Population Centers

- Most Muslims live in CA, NY, IL, NJ, IA, MI, VA, TX, OH, MD
- 1,200 mosques in the U.S.
- 9,000+ Muslims on active duty in the U.S. armed services

# **Arab Naming Convention**

Maha bint Ahmed bin Saleh Al-Fulani



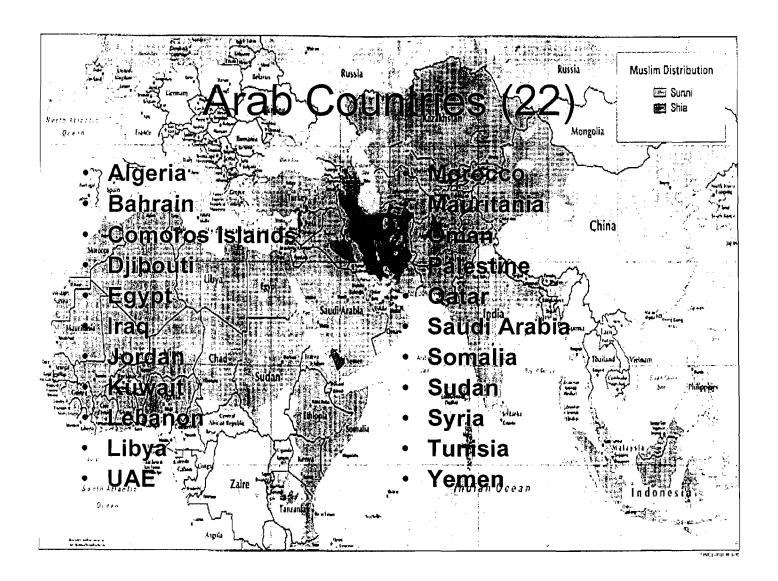
Or... Maha Ahmed Saleh Al-Fulani

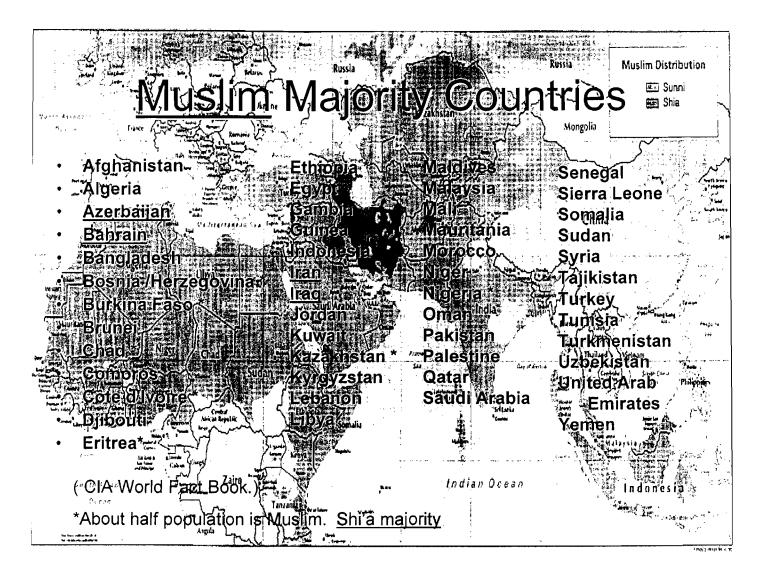
Bint = girl

## Outline for Arab/Islamic Training

■ Day One Understand the Culture Comprehend the Threat – Intro to Militant Interrogation.

 Day Two Cross Cultural Interviewing (Focus on the Militant Believer)





## Language

- Arabic is the primary factor that determines membership in the national aggregate.
- It is the characteristic of the Arabic mind to be swayed more by words than ideas and more by ideas than facts.
- Spoken words to Arabs are as music.

## Stylistic Elaborateness

- ex: colloquial Arabic for thank you:
  - Allāh yukaththin khayraka meaning: May allah increase your well-being.
  - Speedy recovery = ma alāk illā 'l 'afīye in sha allāh which means: May there be upon you nothing but health, if allah wills.

#### When two Americans meet:

- One may say, "Good morning." The other replies, "Good morning."
- This would offend an Arabian by such an ignorant reply.
  - The first Arabian would phrase his good morning wishes as follows:
  - "Nehārkum sa'īd" which means "May your day be prosperous. To which the other will reply, "Nehārkum sa'īd wemubārak. Meaning: "May your day be prosperous and blessed."

#### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION **DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET**

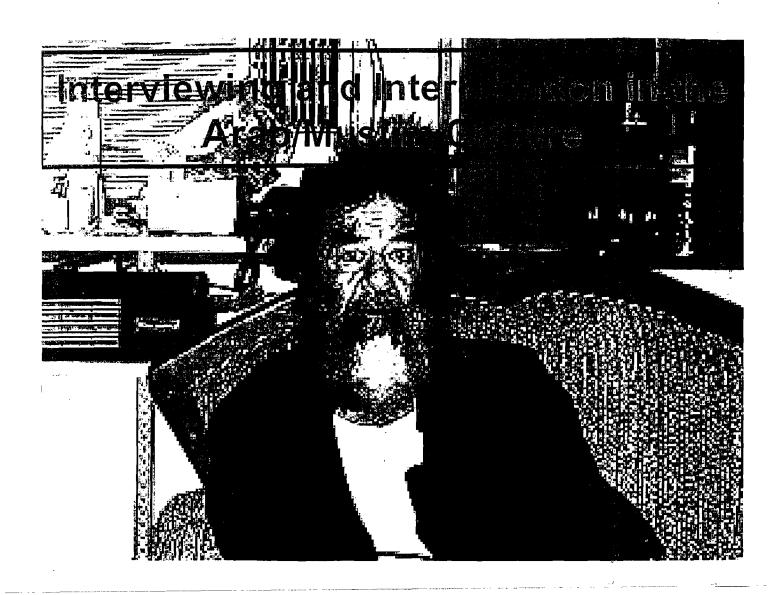
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Page 3 ~ b2, b7E

Page 4 ~ b2, b7E Page 5 ~ b2, b7E

Page 6 ~ b2, b7E



# "Measuring Up"

- The true measure of a man is how he spends his time when he doesn't <u>have</u> to do anything. David O. McKay 1873-1970
- You can use most any measure when speaking of success — houses, cars, jewelry — but the measure of real success is one you can't spend; it is the way your child describes you when talking to a friend. Martin Buxbaum 1912-1991.