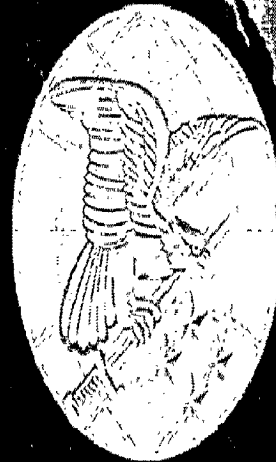


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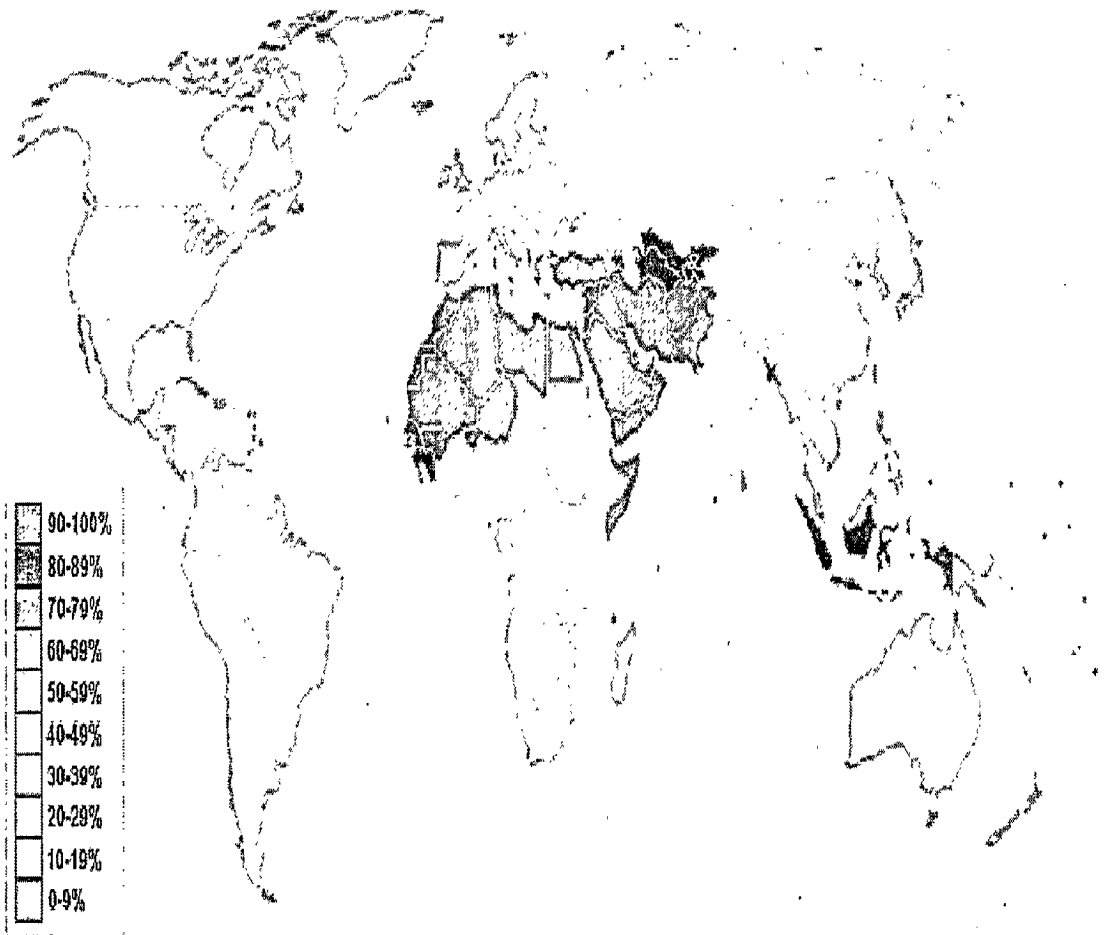
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Origins of Islam



Islam - Definitions and Demographics

- Islam - Submission to *Allah*, which is Arabic for God
- Muslim - One who follows the religion of Islam
- Approx imately 1.1 to 1.8 billion Muslims worldwide



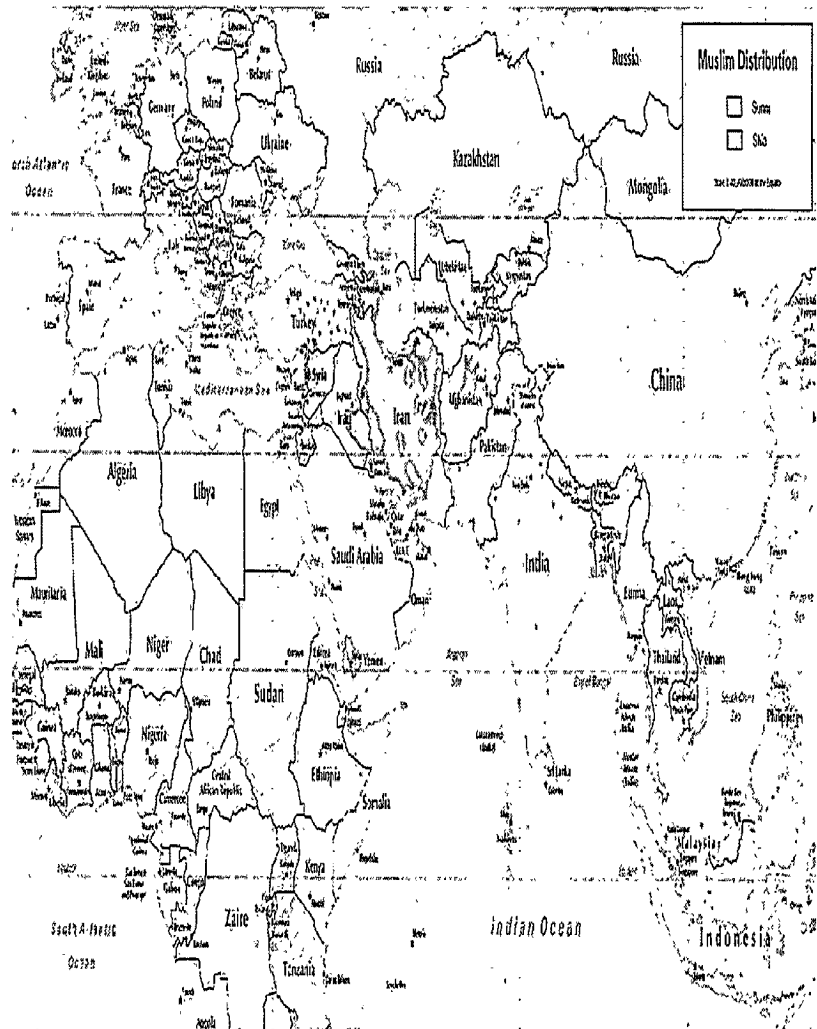
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Islam - Demographics

- Approximately 85-90% of Muslims are Sunnis while 10-15% are Shiites
- Arabs make up 20% of the Muslim population



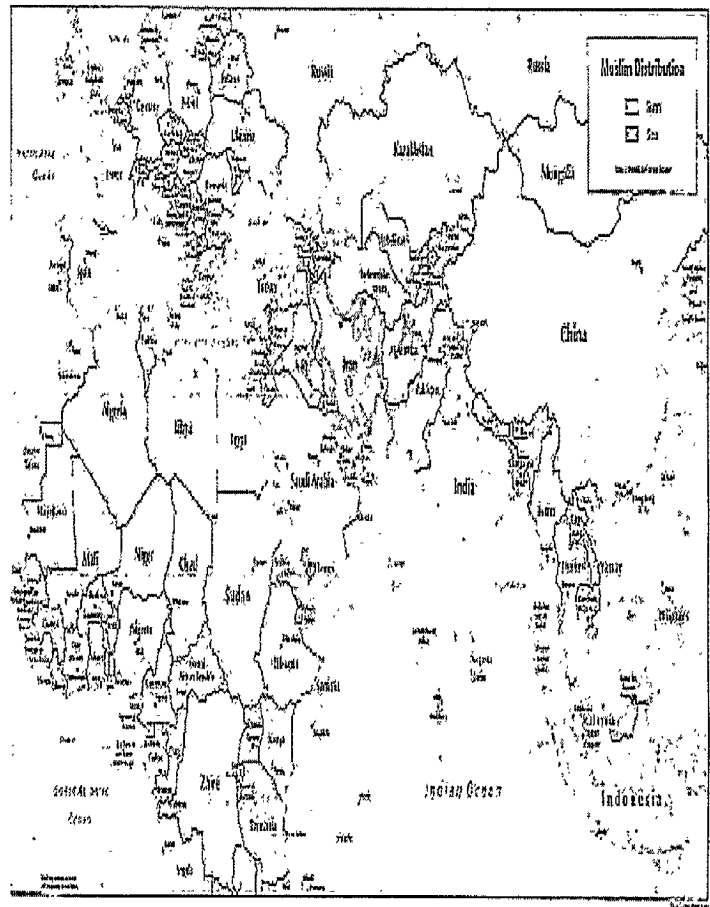
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The Umma

- Majority of Muslims live outside the Middle East
- Largest number of Muslims in Indonesia
- Second largest in South Asia
- Most Muslims are not Arab



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Life of Muhammad

- Pre-Islamic Arabia
 - social inequality
 - polytheistic (idol worshipping) society
- Muhammad's Life
 - Meccan Period
 - Medinan Period
- *Hijra* - Emigration
- *Bay' a* - Loyalty pledge
- *Ansar* - Supporters



Muhammad receiving revelation on Mt. Hira

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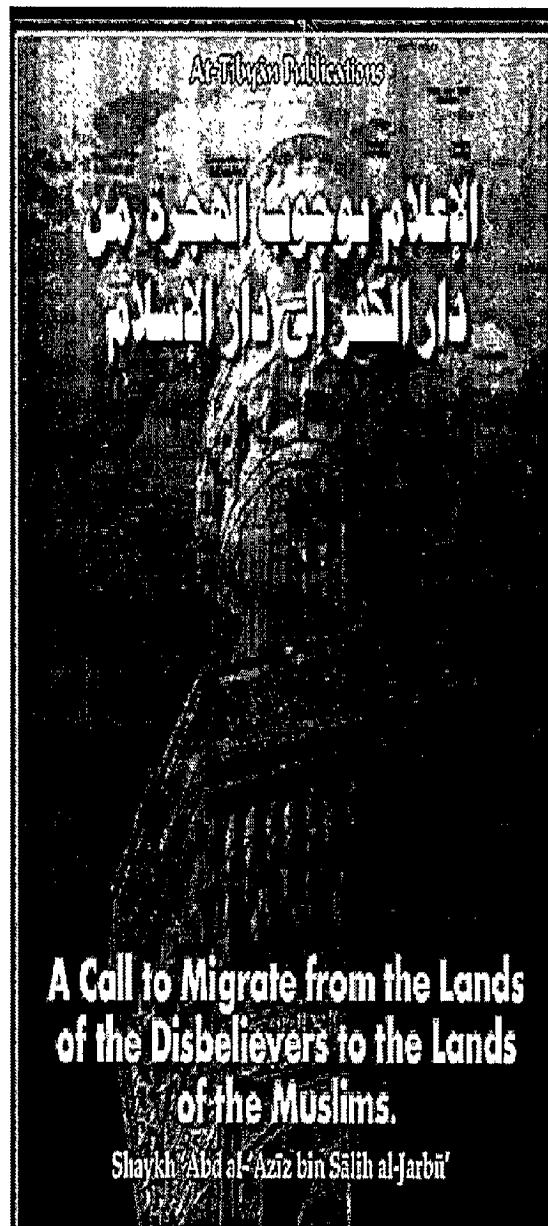
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Relevance?

Osama Bin Laden, Summer 2000:

"So today, Afghanistan is the only country in the world that has the Shari'ah. Therefore, it is compulsory upon Muslims all over the world to help Afghanistan. And to make hijra to this land, because it is from this land that we will dispatch our armies to smash all kuffar all over the world."



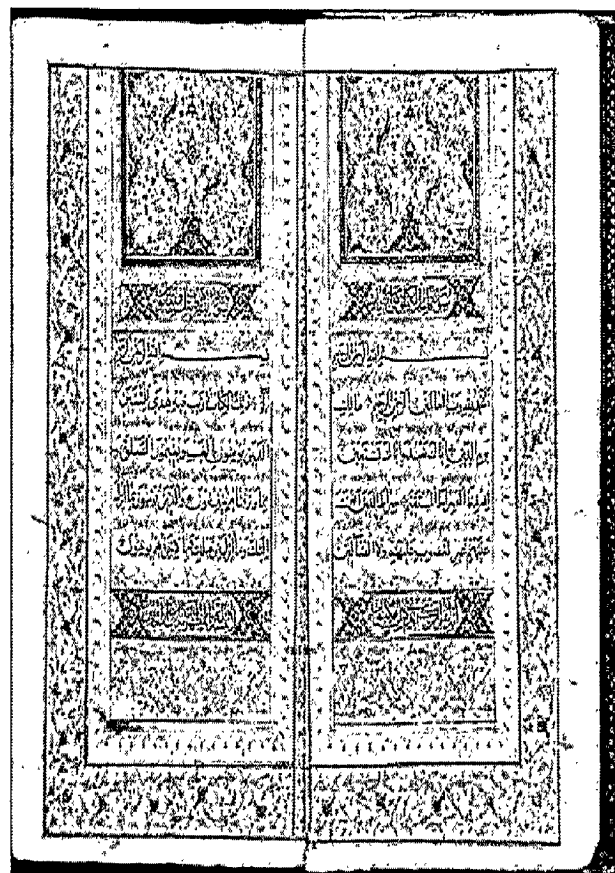
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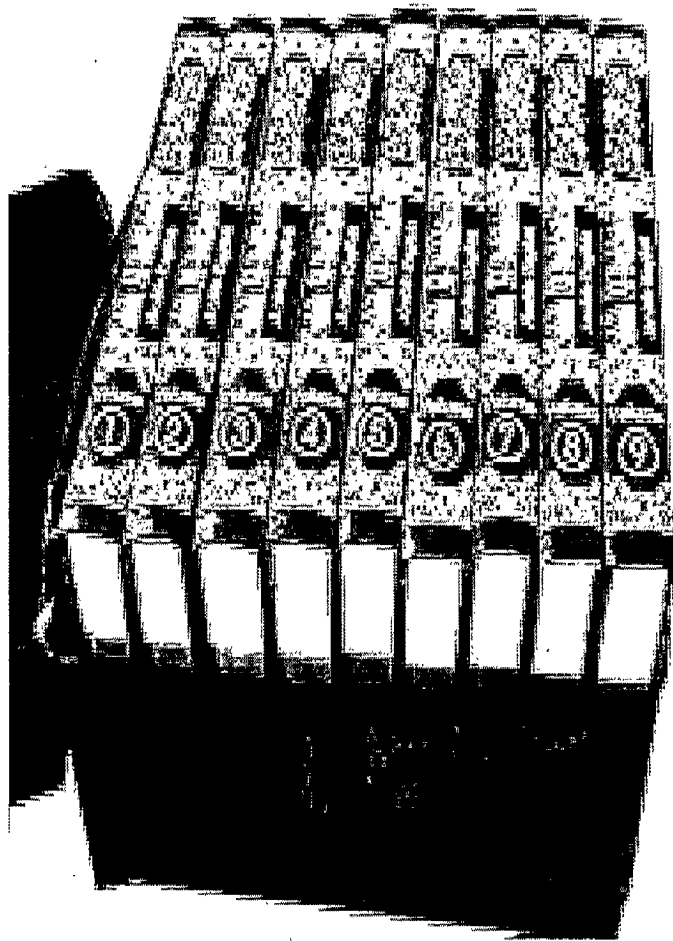
Qur'an

- Muslims believe the Qur'an is "infallible" and literally the "word of God"
- Compilation of 114 chapters
- Major Themes
 - Arabs part of Abrahamic Story
 - Five Pillars: Monotheism, prayer, fasting, pilgrimage, almsgiving
 - Laws: Marriage, inheritance, trade, crime & punishment
 - Jihad



Hadith

- Muhammad's example preserved in stories (*hadith*)
- Collections began in the 9th century
- Hadith are second major source of Islamic law



Sharia = 1400 yrs of Interpretation(Qur'an + Hadith)

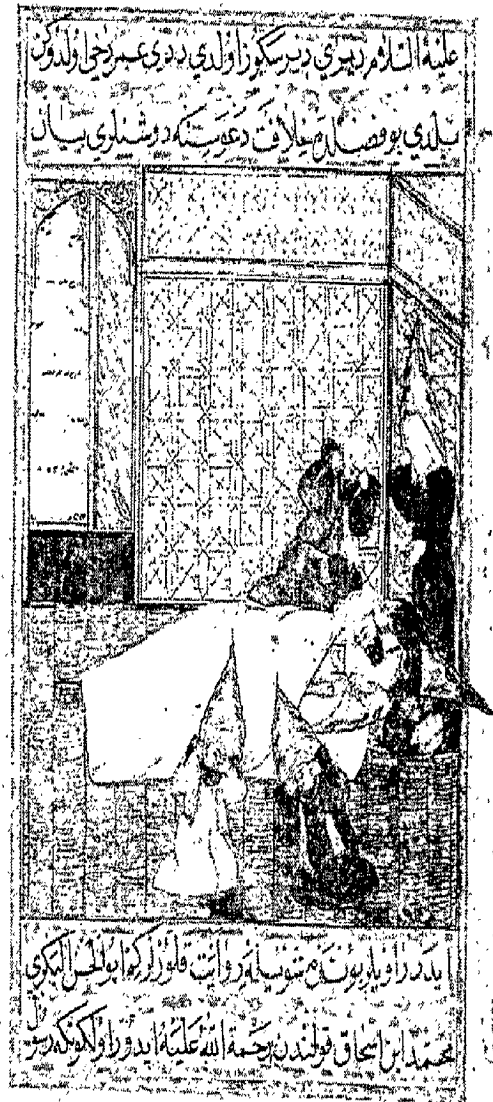
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Crisis of Leadership

- Muhammad's death in 632
- Choosing a successor
- First 4 Caliphs
 - Abu Bakr 632-634
 - Umar Ibn al-Khatab 634-644
 - Uthman Ibn Affan 644-656
 - Ali bin Abi Talib 656-661
- Shi'a protest

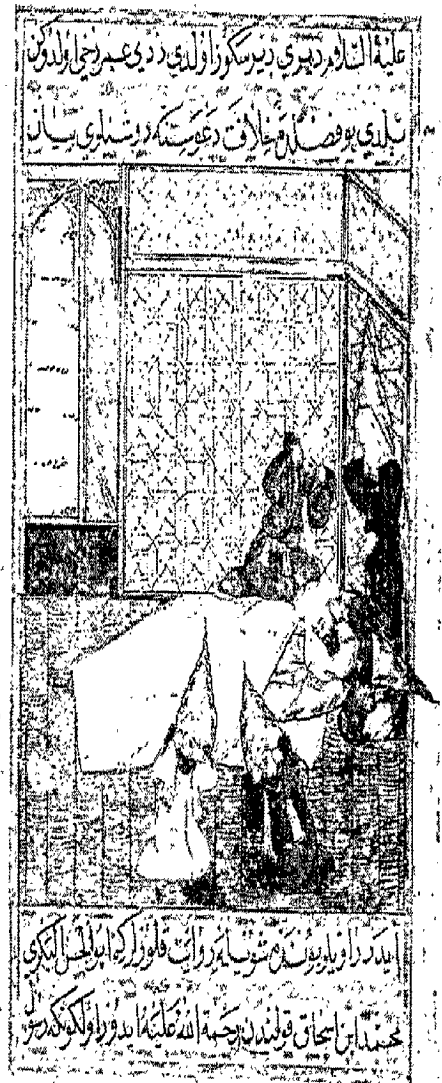


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Schisms in Islam: Sunni - Shi'ite Divide

- Origins is a political dispute over who should lead the Muslim community after the death of the Prophet Muhammad – *Who has the legitimate authority to rule?*
 - should rule go to any Muslim?
 - is the position of caliph “elected” or appointed?
 - should it go only to Prophet’s family and blood descendants?



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Kinds of Religious Authority

- **Caliphate** - Initially combines political and religious authority, but over time religious authority is delegated to Sunni clerics
- **Sunnis** - Religious authority held by people with most knowledge of Qur'an and Sunna
- **Shi'a** - Religious authority held by the ulema, the clerical class that filled the void left following the 12th Imam
- **Sufis** - Religious authority held by a holy saint, the Wali



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Key Take-Aways

- Islam formed in harsh, stateless environment
- No distinction initially between religion and politics
- Early debates about religious and political leadership
- The Islamic empire spreads via military conquest, while Islam spreads gradually
- Sharia = 1400 yrs of Interpretation (Qur'an + Hadith)

