



Homeland Security



Fusion Center Privacy and Civil Liberties Training Program

Cultural Tactics for Intelligence ProfessionalsDHS
Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties





SITE



DHS-01-425-003738

On a scale from 1 to 10, 1 being least and 10 being most, how much do you know about Islam, Arab-Americans and Arab culture?



OVERVIEW

- Radicalization 101The Threat, The Threat 2.0Violent Radicalization ProcessCountering Violent Extremism“al-Qaida inspired terrorism”, not IslamThe Narrative & Countering the NarrativeEngage popular culture perceptions and misperceptions.Provide a thorough background of communities targeted for recruitment by AQ.



The Threat

1. “Bomb throwers” Overseas terrorists who target US and US interests worldwide
9/11 UBL, Zawahiri, 9/11 hijackers
Material Support Hawalas, Financiers, bulk cash smuggling



The Threat 2.0

VIOLENT RADICALIZATION The process through which an individual changes from a non-violent belief system to a belief system that includes the willingness to actively advocate, facilitate, or use violence as a method to effect societal or political change Not all radicals are terrorists!



We face a wide range of violent extremist threats ...

➤ Eco-terrorists Neo-Nazi and Racist-based Groups Other Extremist Groups



This brief focuses on the threat of

Al-Qa'ida and Allied Groups (AQAG)



Terror threat at “most heightened state” since 9/11 – Feb 9, 2011



- AQ today: Bigger, more geographically widespread, more influential than 2001



True or False, all Arabs are Muslim, and all Muslims are Arab?



Global Muslim Population



Violent Radicalization/ Extremism



Violent Radicalization/ Extremism



Violent Radicalization/ Extremism

- Violent Extremist Narrative - distorts religion.
No profile - No definition
Insular communities may be prone to violent radicalization (South Asians in UK, Somalis in US)



Violent Extremist Narratives: An Example

The radical narrative shapes how violent extremists view the world around them

➤ Muslim governments have apostatized as a result of U.S. influence. The U.S. has brought ruin and disgrace to Islam. Muslims are the target of U.S. aggression.

U.S. is at war with Islam

“Muslims must counter this threat through violence”





In the past few years, there have been at least 22 disruptions, attempts, or attacks potentially involving “extremists” or “terrorists”...



...all of which had some connection to the United States.



According to the New American Foundation, 21% of foiled homegrown plots have come from tips/cooperation from the Muslim Community. This includes...





Homeland Security

Office of Intelligence and Analysis

Prevalence of Clusters Among Homegrown Violent Extremists

Jihadi Cool Cluster

U.S.-based violent extremists who are attracted to the excitement and perceived glory of fighting for a cause that is the strict doctrine or ideas of Salafi ideology.

Somali Nationalist Cluster

Young Somali immigrants and refugees with a strong sentiment to Somalia who primarily join extremist groups to fight in their country's civil war rather than against U.S. Personal property, globally.

Predisposed to Violence Cluster

Violent individuals who consciously or unconsciously use extremist ideology to channel and justify violent behavior.

Lost or Damaged Cluster

Individuals who felt a strong need to belong to a social group or context, but had trouble finding a group or context to fit into, and those who were obliged to have suffered from one or more diagnosable psychiatric disorders.

Foreign Policy Driven Cluster

Individuals whose personalized outrage over U.S. or Western foreign policy leads to violent extremist ideology as a way to understand and oppose the policies they dislike.

Total HVE Sample

Out of 62 total HVEs in the sample
42 individuals, or 67.7%, belong to
one or more clusters.

DHS-01-425-003753



Violent Extremist Narrative

- US is at war with IslamEvidenceUS military in Afghanistan/ Pakistan, IraqIncreased tension among Muslim-Americans post-9/11 about position in American societyIncreased surveillance/ harassment, investigation, arrest, and prosecution of Muslims



Inspire Magazine



"I actually consider al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula . . . [to be] probably the most significant risk to the U.S. homeland...They've been quite successful at being innovators." - NCTC Director Michael Leiter, before Congress, Feb. 9, 2011



Narrative

- Denmark Cartoon Crisis
Banning face veil
Objection to mosques



Narrative



Narrative

- “International Burn a Koran Day” September 11, 2010 “Koran on Trial” Day March 20, 2011



Violent Extremist Use of the Internet

The YouTube logo, featuring the word "You" in black and "Tube" in white inside a red rounded rectangle.

Video Sharing



Social Networking



USG Response

EMPOWERING LOCAL PARTNERS TO PREVENT VIOLENT EXTREMISM IN THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 2011



DHS Response



- US Government shiftEmphasis on building safe, secure, resilient, and crime-resistant communitiesViolent crime local

- Community policingMeaningful partnershipsCollaborative problem-solvingInstitutional changesPartner rather than problem

www.dhs.gov/hsac



Counter-Narrative

- The Duke StudyAnti-radicalizing actions:Denunciations of violenceSelf-policingCommunity BuildingPolitical ActivismIdentity Politics



Counter-Narrative

www.mpac.org/publications



Muslim communities have stepped forward to help law enforcement foil almost 4 out of every 10 Al Qaeda-related terror plots threatening America since 9/11/01. Muslim communities have helped law enforcement prevent the last 7 out of 10 Al Qaeda related plots.



Fiqh Council of North America

In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful The Fiqh Council of North America (FCNA) wishes to reaffirm Islam's condemnation of terrorism and religious extremism by issuing the following fatwa, or formal religious ruling: We have consistently condemned terrorism and extremism in all forms and under all circumstances, and we reiterate this unequivocal position. Islam strictly condemns religious extremism and the use of violence against innocent lives. There is no justification in Islam for extremism or terrorism. Targeting civilians' life and property through suicide bombings or any other method of attack is haram and those who commit these barbaric acts are criminals, not "martyrs". "Whoever kills a person unjustly, it is as though he has killed all mankind"

- Holy Qur'an, 5:32

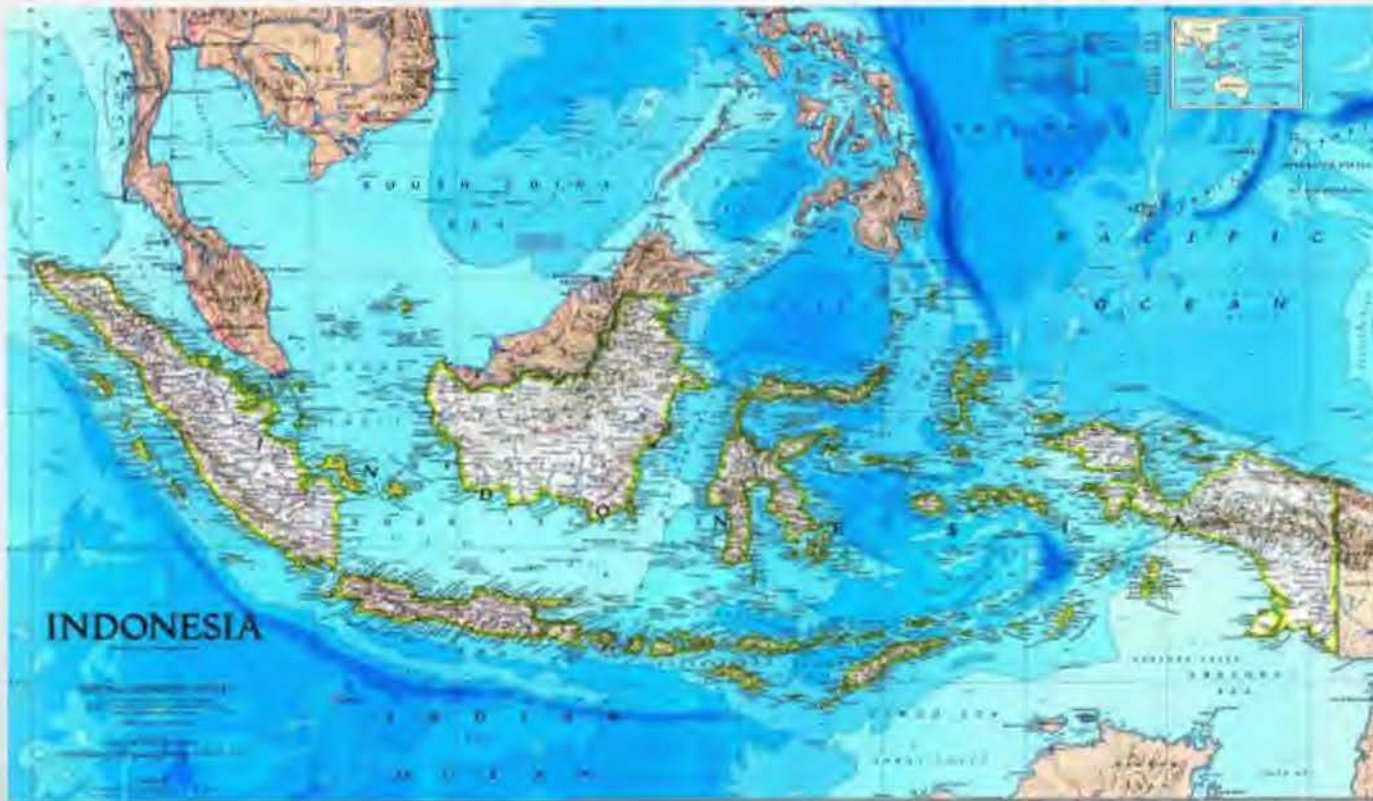


Counternarrative – Uprisings in the Arab World

- Al Qaeda: unsuccessful The democratic uprisings make AQ look like “ineffectual bystanders to history while offering young Muslims an appealing alternative to terrorism.” New York Times, Feb 2011 Democracy vs. Islamism



What is the most populous Muslim country?



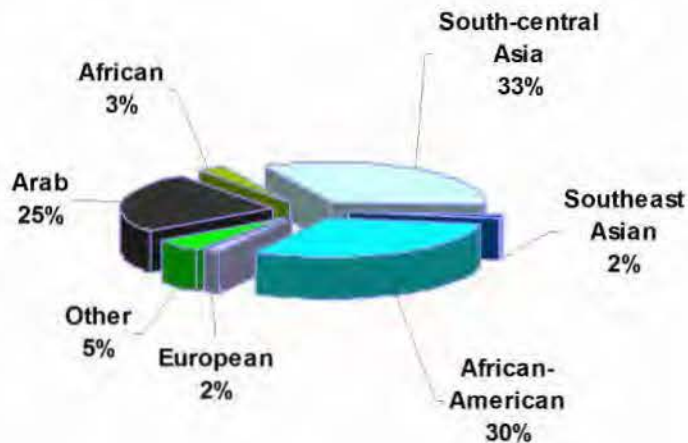
Muslims in America

- Approximately 6 millionNot monolith: from 68 different countries40% college degrees (29% national average)Muslim women earn near husbands (more than national average)74% have a job (60% national average)Well integrated - American dream

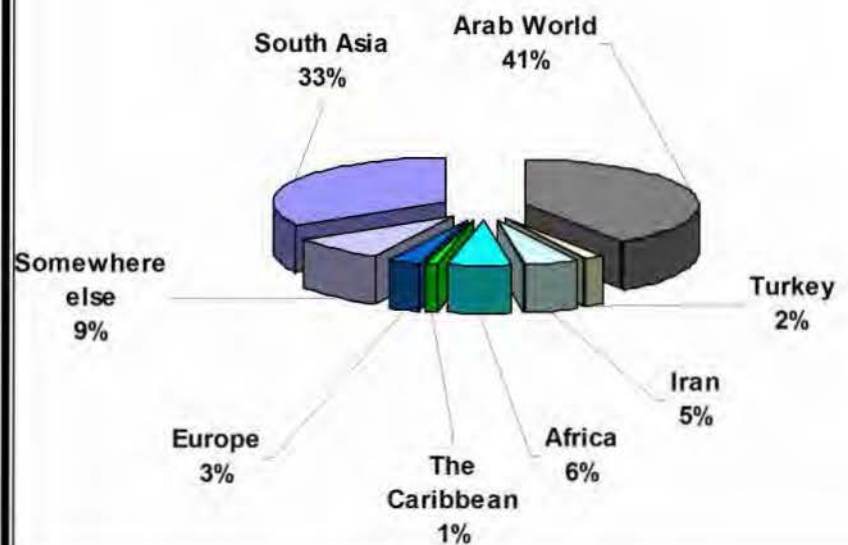


Diverse Demographics

American Muslims by Ethnicity



Origin of American-born Muslims Ancestry



From the Combating Terrorism Center at West Point



Young and Increasingly American

Origin and time in US	%
Foreign born Less than 10 years	3
Foreign born 10-19 years	21
Foreign born 20 years or longer	46
US born	28

Age	Muslim population	Total US population
18-29	39.8%	14.1%
30-49	49.5%	31.1%
50-64	6.4%	27.7%
65+	1.0%	27.2%



Islam

Islam is NOT the THREAT
Conversion to Islam is not Radicalization
VIOLENT RADICALIZATION:
Process of adopting an extremist belief system, including the willingness to use, support, or facilitate violence, as a method to effect societal change
Threat is from those who “exploit Islam and use terrorism for ideological ends”



Basic Facts – Glossary of Muslim Terms

- Salaam A'laikum Wa'alaikum Salaam Fatwa - legal statement or decree
Allah - Arabic word for God Halal - permissible under Islamic Law
Hijab - head covering and clothing worn by Muslim women in public
Imam - Muslim prayer leader Qur'an - Islam's holy book
Madrasa - school



Six Articles of Faith – The Islamic Creed

- 1) Belief in one God
Belief in the angels
Belief in Divine Scripture - Torah, Bible, and Qur'an
Belief in the Messengers of God - Abraham, Moses, David, Jesus, Muhammad
Belief in the Day of Judgment
Belief in destiny



Basic Facts – The Five Pillars of Islam

- 1) Shahada– Testament of Faith
Salaat – Prayer
Zakat – Charity
Sawm – Fasting
Hajj – Pilgrimage



The Five Pillars of Islam

1) Shehada: Declaration of Faith

“There is no God but God,
Muhammad is his messenger”

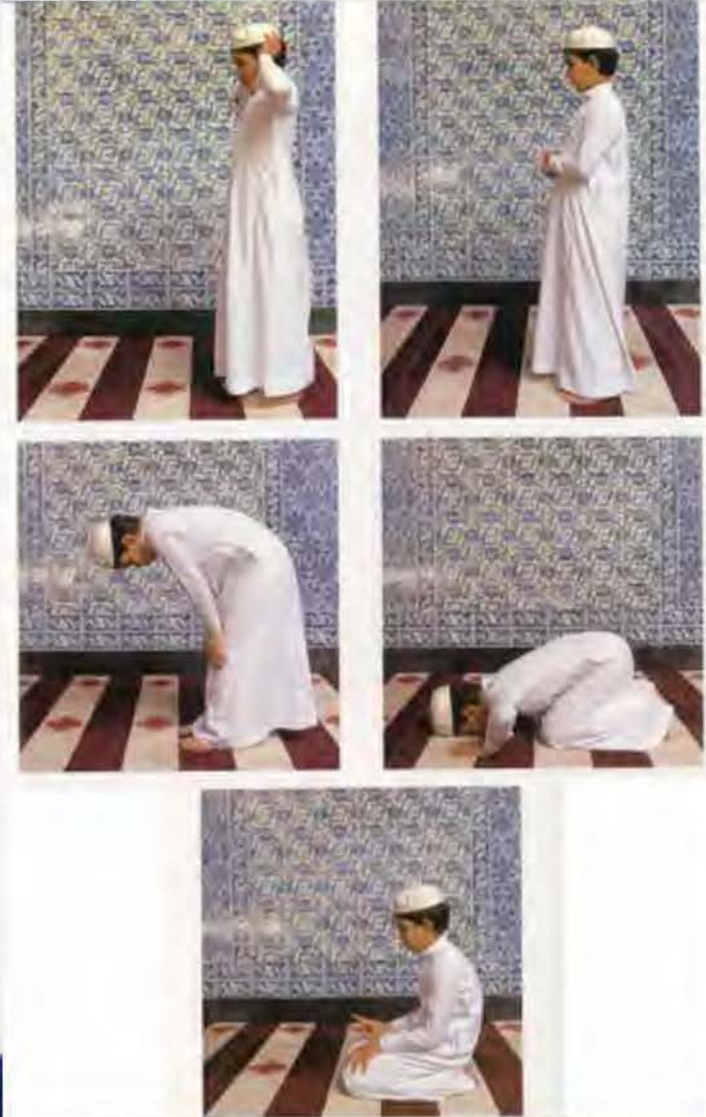
لا إله إلا الله محمد رسول الله



The Five Pillars of Islam

2) Salaat: Prayer

- Offered five times each day
Fajr – dawn to sunrise
Zuhr – at noon
Asr – afternoon to sunset
Maghrib – sunset to dark
Isha – night prayers
Must do ablution before prayers



The Five Pillars of Islam

3) Zakat: Charity



The Five Pillars of Islam

4) Sawm: Fasting during Ramadan
Suhoor – pre-dawn meal
Sawm – fast from dawn to dusk
Iftar – fast-breaking meal



BASIC FACTS

- SAWM- EID AL-FITR



The Five Pillars of Islam

5) Hajj – Pilgrimage to Mecca



BASIC FACTS

- *HAJJ- EID AL-ADHA*
the Sacrifice



“Feast of



Basic Facts – Sources of Islam

- Qur`an – divine scripture
Hadith – sayings and practices of Prophet Muhammad
Sunnah – ways and manners of Prophet Muhammad
Ijma/Shura – consensus, as interpreted by religious leaders.



Basic Facts – Arabic Names

Multiple variations of one name(m-h-m-d)Mohammad is common out of respect for the prophet. It can be a first, middle, or last name. Most popular name in the world, period. As with Christianity, many people will name Mary beth, Mary lou, Mary jane. Mohamad, Mohammed, Muhamed, Muhammed, Mahamet, Mouhamed, Mehmet, Muhamed, Mahamed – variations - Ahmed, Hamad. Transliteration: Best is ask someone how to spell their name in English. Qadafi, leader of Libya can be spelled 32 ways.



Basic Facts – Arabic Names

- Basic Arabic names consist of 2 to 4 parts and can have as many as 6 parts. An individual may select among these names when asked to fill in one form in the United States. On another occasion when asked to fill in another form, he or she may pick another selection of his/her names. Given name, generational or lineage name(s), sometimes tribal, and/or descriptive names.
Example: Salman Bin Kareem al-Libbi. This same person could also be known as Abu Mustafa – Literally Father of Mustafa. - As that can be their nickname – and they may or may not have a child named Mustafa. In addition, the person may use an informal version of his or her name. The same way we have common nicknames in US culture, and everyone understands that Bob is actually Robert; Arabic nicknames often come as father of or mother of the eldest child or a descriptive name like “graceful”. Particularly after 9/11, some people with Arab or Muslim names choose to “westernize” their names but may not make the change on official documents. Examples: Usama = Sam Sowsan = Susan Ibrahim = Abraham Salwa = Sally



Somali cultural guide

- Clan: bond,
divisiveConservativeSufi
sm,
SalafismBirthdayKhat
Desert-inspired
dressRefugee



Interaction – Somali Americans

Feedback from American Somali Community: Do
not ask about clan U.S. law enforcement New
immigrant population US Foreign Policy
towards Somalia Gap between elders and
youth Gang violence Remittances



Misconceptions About Islam and Muslims

- Mosques Sharia Jihad Suicide bombing Islam, Judaism, and Christianity Women in Islam



Misconceptions -Mosques



Misconceptions - Shariah

- Crime, politics, economics, hygiene, diet, prayer, fasting, ethics

The Quran, the Sunnah, the Fiqh (ijma) God's law, with different interpretations

No official document

May be considered in civil cases, like divorce or wills

Supremacy clause: Constitution is always "supreme law of the land."



The debate has poles



PHOTO: Ellen Davidson



Misconceptions – Jihad?!?



Misconceptions – Concepts of Jihad

Jihad – “struggle, striving” in the name of God
NOT a “Holy War”
Greater Jihad – Spiritual struggle to be a better person.
Lesser/Defensive Jihad – Extreme defensive military reaction.



Misconceptions – Concepts of Jihad

- 2:190 – “Fight in the way of God against those who fight against you

but begin not hostilities. Lo! God loveth not aggressors.”

- 2:193 – “And fight them until persecution is no more, and religion is for God but if they cease, let there be no hostility except to those who practice oppression.”
- 2:192 – “But if they cease, God is Oft-forgiving, Most Merciful.”

—*Holy Qur`an*



Misconceptions – Concepts of Jihad

- Contradictory teachings resolved by consensus of religious leaders (Shurah council) Islam teaches to fight only against those who first attack Muslims “Modern day terrorism is contrary to the purview of the real spirit of Islamic Jihad”



Misconceptions – Suicide Bombing

“Whosoever killed a human being - unless it be in punishment for murder or for spreading corruption on earth - it shall be as if he had killed all mankind; whereas, if anyone saves a life, it shall be as though he had saved the lives of all mankind” —

Holy Qur`an 5:32



Misconceptions – Judaism, Christianity, and Islam

“Ahl al Kittab”

“People of the Book”



Misconceptions – Women in Islam



Profiling

“If I see someone who comes in that’s got a diaper on his head and a fan belt wrapped around the diaper on his head, that guy needs to be pulled over”

—Former Senate

Candidate



Profiling

The formulation of Reasonable Suspicion
predicated solely on the individual's ethnicity
or race
Korematsu v. United States
(1944)
Whren v. United States (1996)



SPOT THE TERRORIST?



SPOT THE TERRORIST?



SPOT THE TERRORIST?



Sikhs

- Not Muslims, not Hindus
Balbir Singh Sodh



The Sikh Khalsa



Sikhism



- Major world religion, 20 million followers
- 2 million in the US
- Monotheistic – one God, no idol worship
- Guru Nanak: 1st of 10 Gurus
- 11th guru: Holy book, Guru Granth Sahib



I'M SORRY, SIR—
YOU'LL HAVE TO GET OFF.
YOUR RESEMBLANCE TO
THE OKLAHOMA CITY
BOMBER IS MAKING
THE OTHER PASSENGERS
NERVOUS.



ANTELWABS

Questions?

Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties

