HSTAFM 162
History of the Islamic Near East, 600–1800 CE

Professor Daniel Sheffield
Class 1.1
January 5, 2016
History

Every student ought first to read books on morals, then arithmetic, accounting, agriculture, measurement, geometry, astronomy, physiognomy, home economics, the rules of government, medicine, logic, the natural, mathematical, and theological sciences, and then—finally—history.

—Abu’l-Faḍl ‘Allāmī, from The Custom of Akbar (1590 CE)
Şanaʿa Qurʿān, lower text dates to < 671 CE.
Gold Coin Depicting Mughal Emperor Jahāṅgīr with wine cup, 1611 CE
Middle East
Procession of the ‘Abbasids at the end of Ramaḍān, painted ca. 1237 CE.
Jean-Léon Gérôme (1824-1904): Napoleon and His General Staff in Egypt (1863).
While we are accustomed to using the solar Gregorian calendar (CE=Common Era), since the early Islamic period, the lunar Hijra calendar (=AH) has been used throughout the Islamic world.

1 AH = 622 CE, the year Muḥammad emigrated from Mecca to Medina.

Consists of 12 months of 29-30 days, 354 days / year.

Today is the 25th of the month Rabīʻ al-Awwal, 1437 AH.
Required Textbooks

Islamic Societies to the Nineteenth Century: A Global History
Ira M. Lapidus

The Formation of Islam: Religion and Society in the Near East, 600–1800
Jonathan Berkey
Blog Portfolio

Over the course of the semester, each student is required to create a blog through Canvas ePortfolios. The entries in the blog will be developed over the course of the semester. Over the course of the semester, students will post five blog items of at least 400 words discussing topics of their choosing from five of the following six categories: City, Object, Event, Building, Person, Work of literature. Video blogs and podcasts are also acceptable in consultation with the Teaching Assistant. Each blog entry should focus on creating a historical narrative relating to the chosen topic rather than being comprehensive (this is not Wikipedia). Students should include images and hyperlinks to sources wherever appropriate.
Evaluation

- 5%: Map Quiz (January 26)
- 10%: Participation in Class Discussion
- 15%: Midterm Examination (February 9)
- 20%: Islam in World History Blog Portfolio (5 entries, must be complete by March 11)
- 20%: Two Short Essays (4 pages each, due February 2 and March 1 at 12:00 NOON)
- 30%: Final Examination (March 28)
Myth 1:
Muslims Live in the Middle East
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Estimated 2009 Muslim Population</th>
<th>Percentage of Population that is Muslim</th>
<th>Percentage of World Muslim Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>202,867,000</td>
<td>88.2%</td>
<td>12.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>174,082,000</td>
<td>96.3%</td>
<td>11.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>160,945,000</td>
<td>13.4%</td>
<td>10.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>145,312,000</td>
<td>89.6%</td>
<td>9.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>78,513,000</td>
<td>94.6%</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>78,056,000</td>
<td>50.4%</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iran</td>
<td>73,777,000</td>
<td>99.4%</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkey*</td>
<td>73,619,000</td>
<td>~98%</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Algeria</td>
<td>34,199,000</td>
<td>98.0%</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morocco*</td>
<td>31,993,000</td>
<td>~99%</td>
<td>~2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Data for Turkey and Morocco come primarily from general population surveys, which are less reliable than censuses or large-scale demographic and health surveys for estimating minority-majority ratios (see Methodology). As a result, the percentage of the population that is Muslim in these two countries is rounded to the nearest integer.
World Distribution of Muslim Population

This 'weighted' map of the world shows each country's relative size based on its Muslim population. Figures are rounded to the nearest million.
Myth 2: Muslims Speak Arabic
Myth 3:
Islam is a religion of <xxx>
"Islam is a religion of"

- peace
- hate
- violence
- war
- peace meme
- peace debate
- peace essay
- action
- conquest
- love essay