

# EVANGELISM TO MUSLIMS

*Understanding how to engage the fastest growing world religion*

**Potomac Baptist Church**

July 2015

Part I: A Brief History of Islam

# EVANGELISM TO MUSLIMS

Part 1: **A Brief History of Islam**

Part 2: **Christian Theology vs. Islamic Theology**

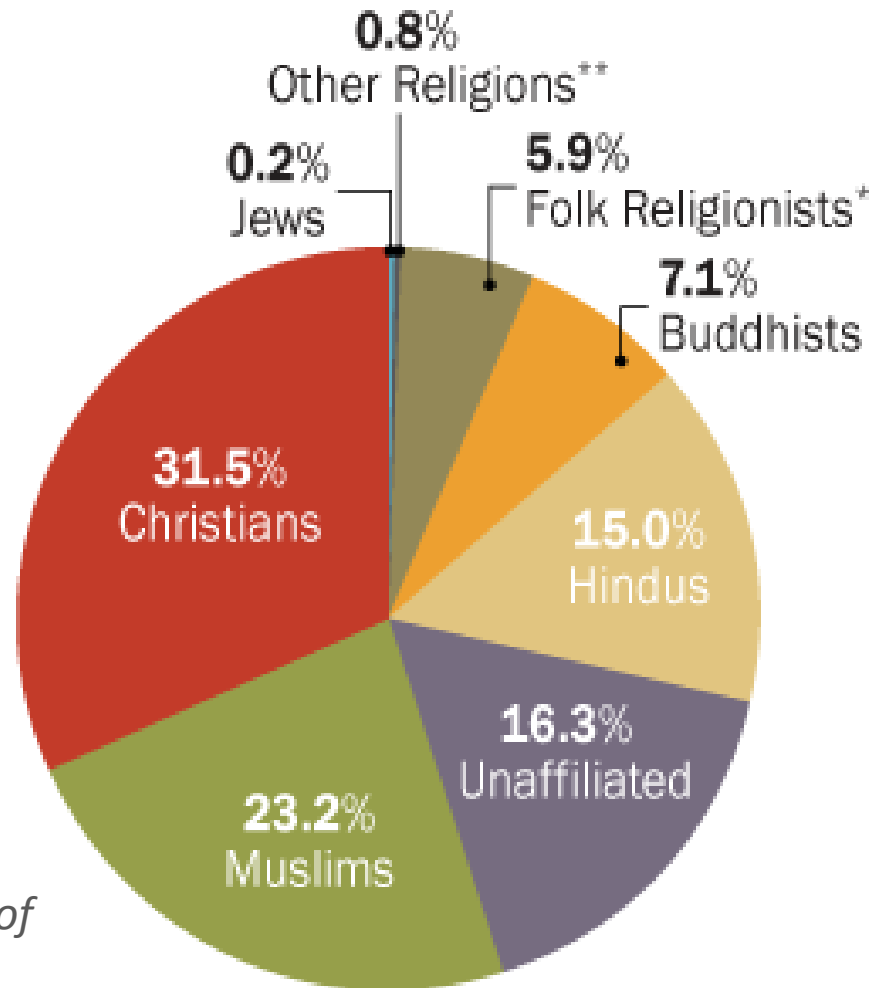
Part 3: **Practical Evangelism to Muslims**

Part 4: **Evangelism Q&A**

# WORLD RELIGIONS IN 2010

## Size of Major Religious Groups, 2010

*Percentage of the global population*

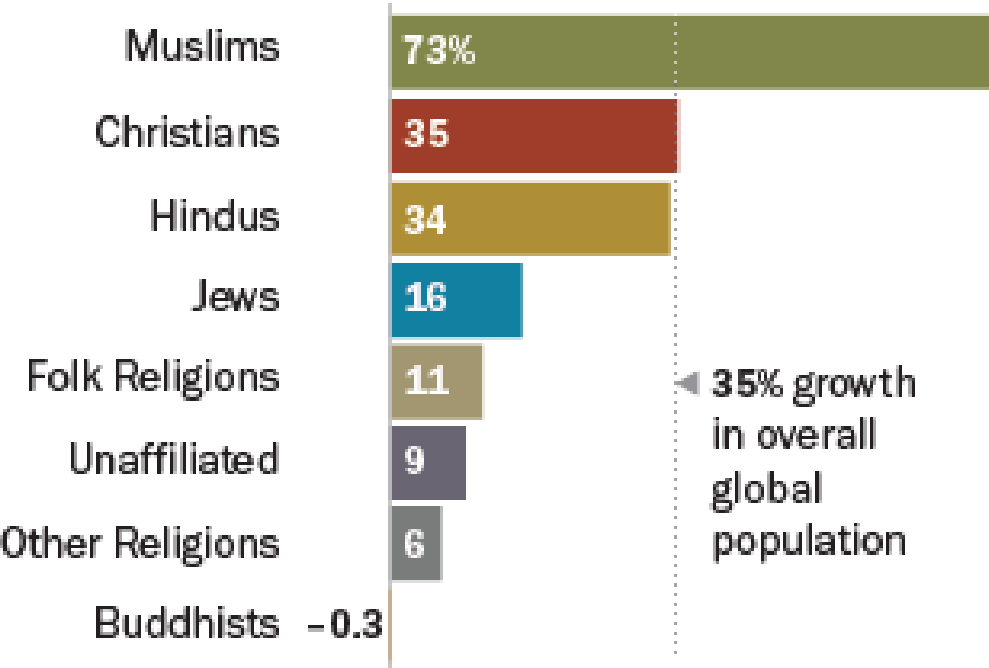


Source: Pew Research Center, *The Future of World Religions: Population Growth Projections, 2010-2050*, April 2, 2015

# ISLAM IS THE FASTEST GROWING RELIGION

Muslims are the only major religious group projected to increase faster than the world's population as a whole.

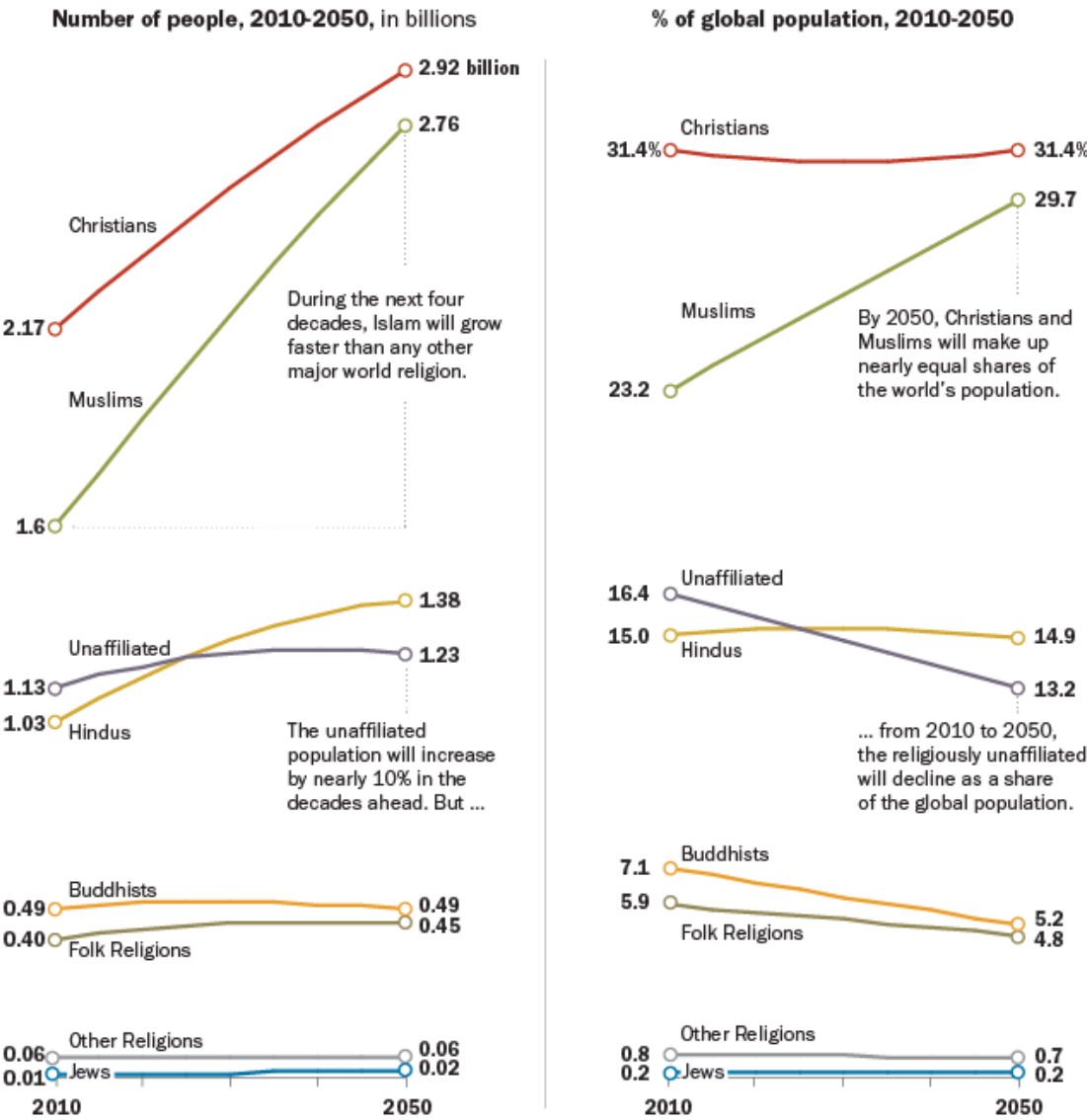
## Estimated change in population size, 2010-2050



Source: The Future of World Religions: Population Growth Projections, 2010-2050

## Projected Change in Global Population

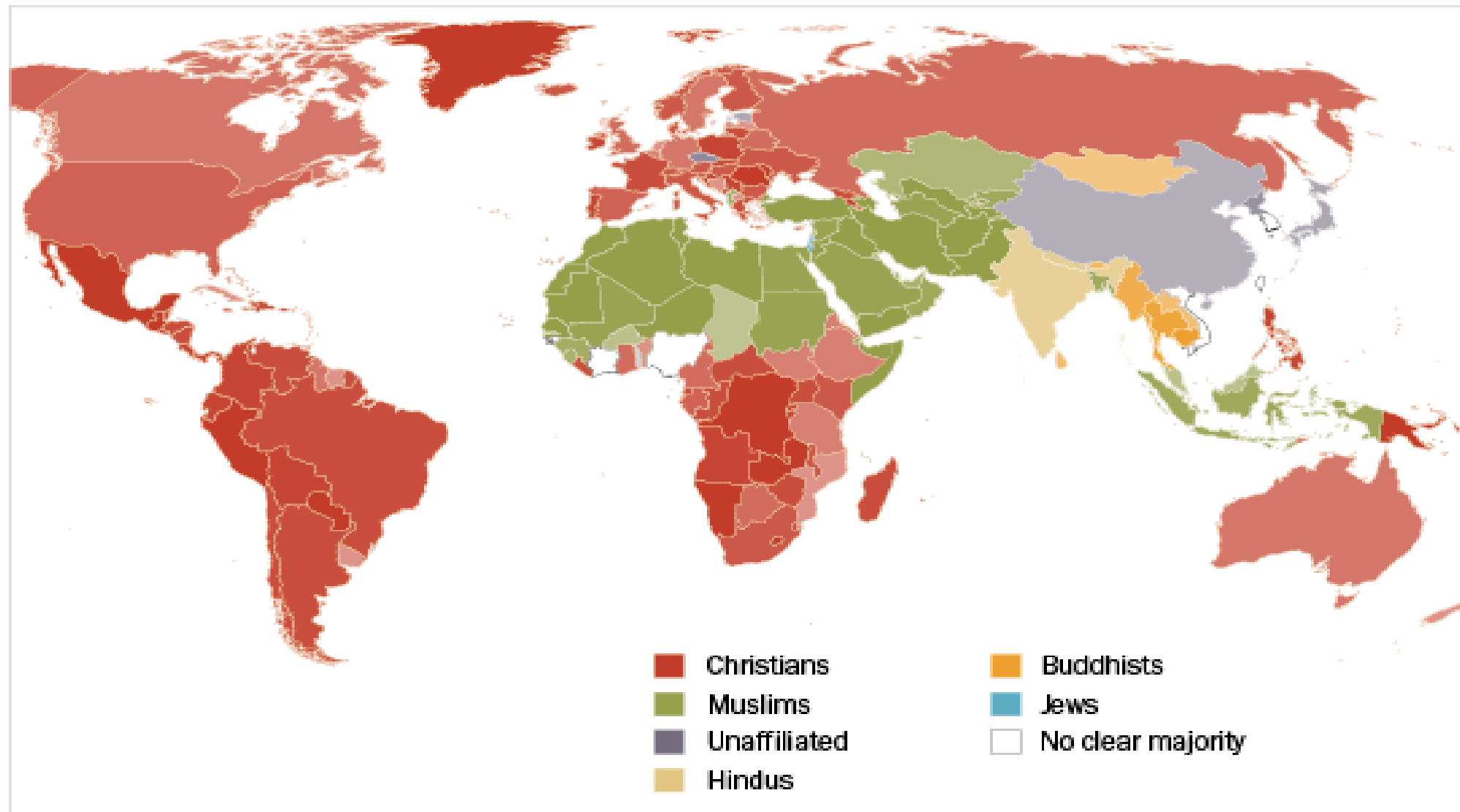
With the exception of Buddhists, all of the major religious groups are expected to increase in number by 2050. But some will not keep pace with global population growth, and, as a result, are expected to make up a smaller percentage of the world's population in 2050 than they did in 2010.



Source: The Future of World Religions: Population Growth Projections, 2010-2050

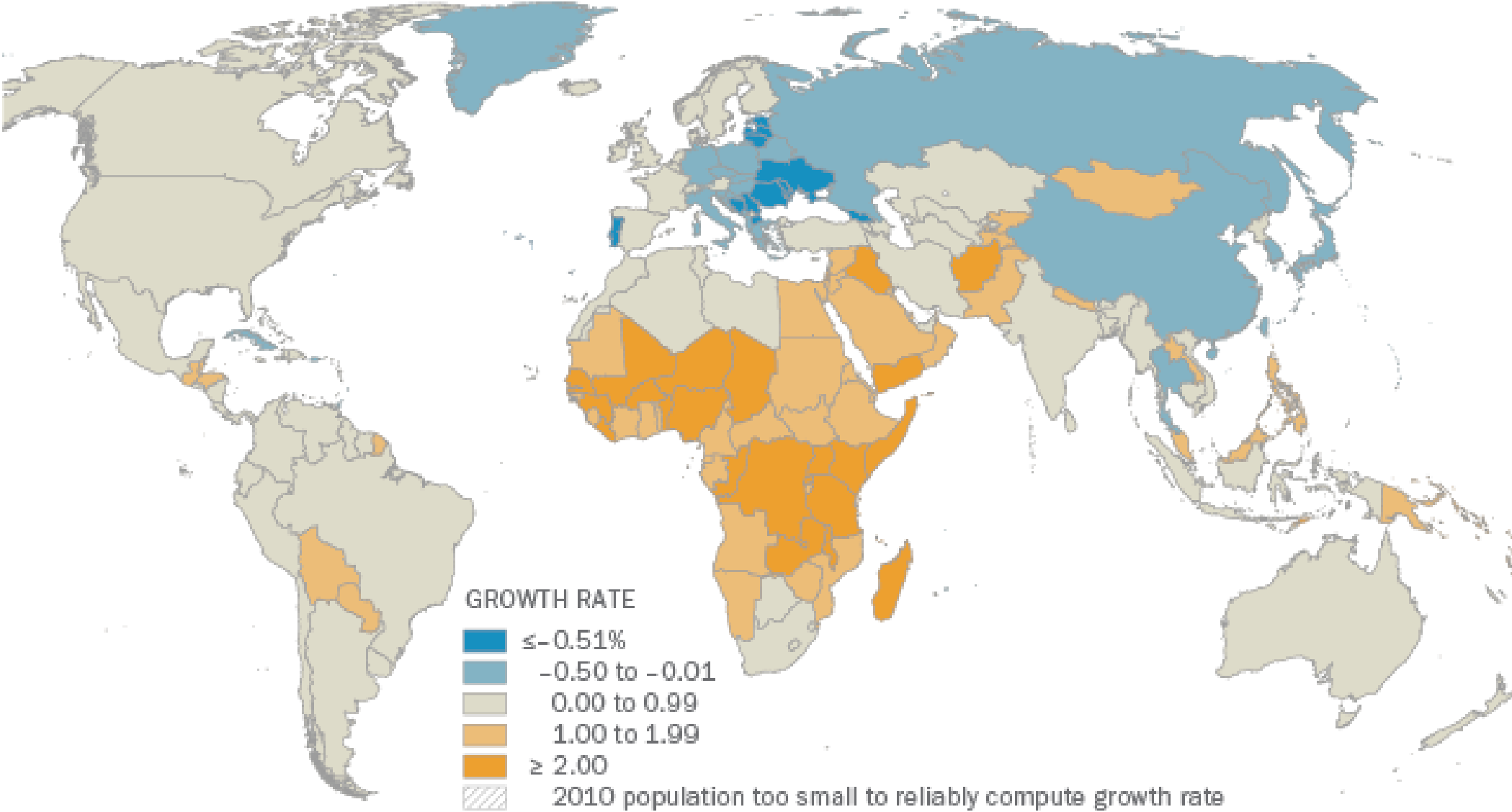
## Majority Religion, by Country

Countries are colored according to the majority religion. Darker shading represents a greater prevalence of the majority religion.



Nine countries have no clear religious majority: Guinea Bissau, Ivory Coast, Macau, Nigeria, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, Togo and Vietnam. There are no countries in which adherents of folk religions make up a clear majority. There are also no countries in which followers of other religions (such as Bahai's, Jains, Sikhs, Shintoists, Taoists, followers of Tenrikyo, Wiccans or Zoroastrians) make up a clear majority.

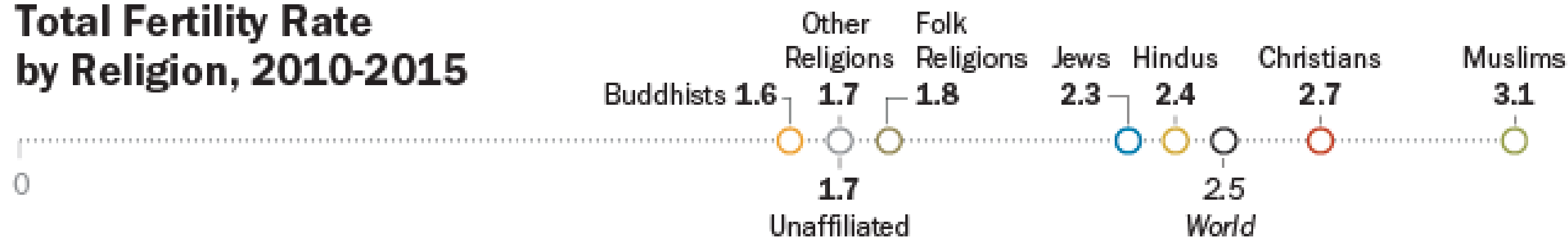
# Projected Annual Growth Rate of Country Populations, 2010-2050



Source: The Future of World Religions: Population Growth Projections, 2010-2050

## MUSLIM FERTILITY RATES EXCEED ANY OTHER RELIGION

### Total Fertility Rate by Religion, 2010-2015



Source: The Future of World Religions: Population Growth Projections, 2010-2050

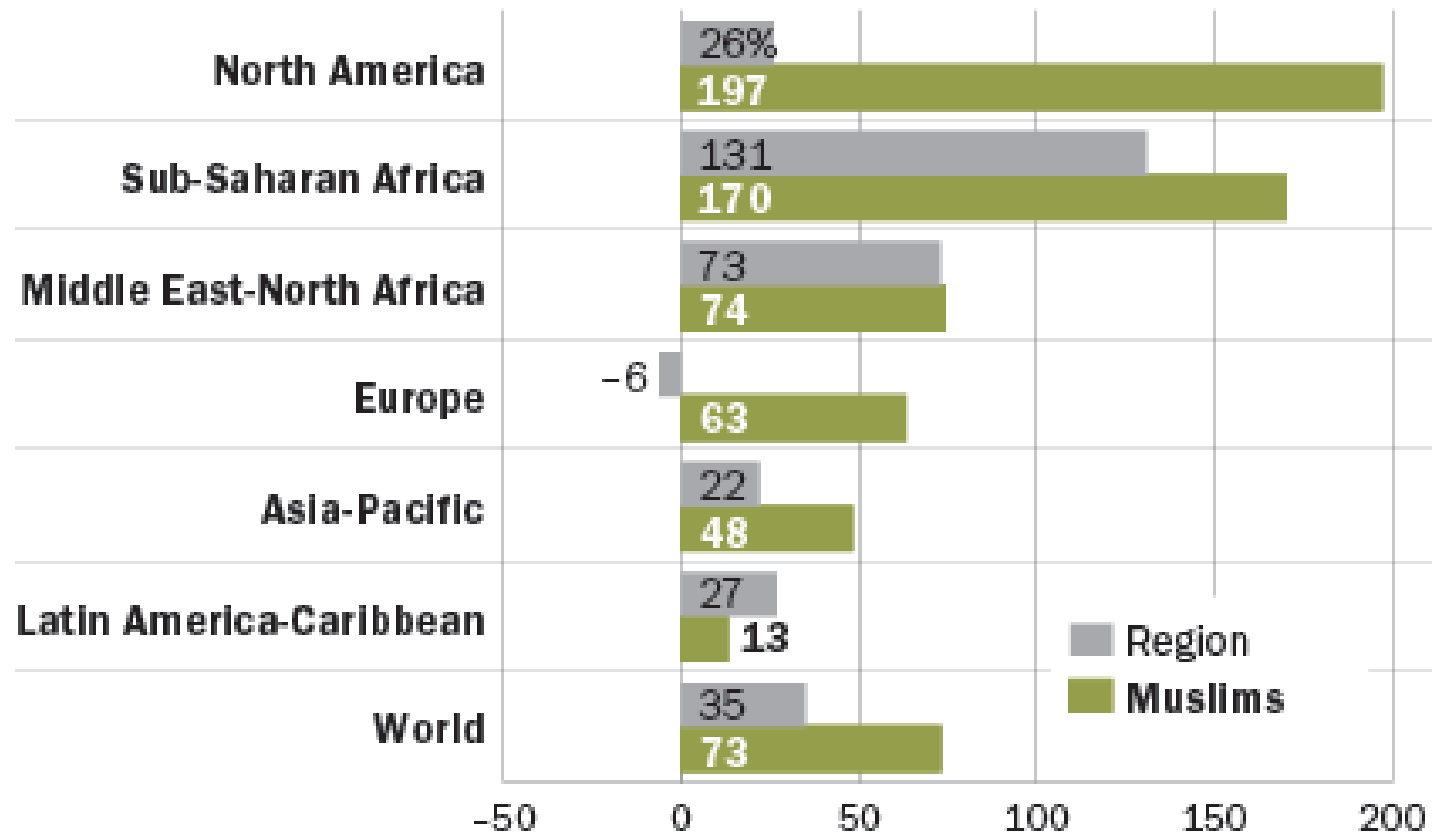
PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Source: Pew Research Center, *The Future of World Religions: Population Growth Projections, 2010-2050*, April 2, 2015

# MUSLIM FERTILITY RATES EXCEED ANY OTHER RELIGION

## Muslim Population Growth Compared With Overall Growth in Each Region, 2010 to 2050

*% increase in population size*



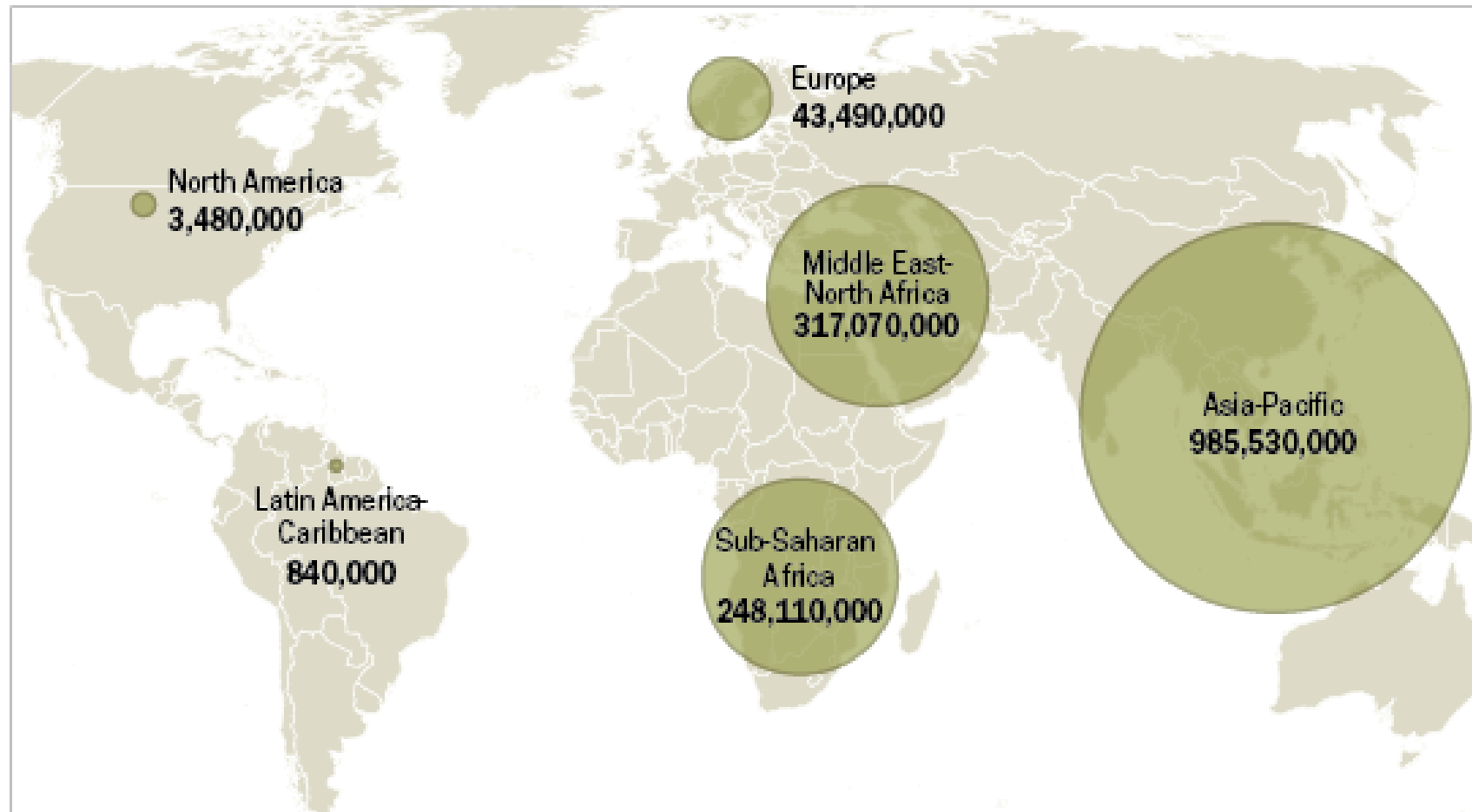
Source: The Future of World Religions: Population Growth Projections, 2010-2050

PEW RESEARCH CENTER



## Regional Distribution of Muslims

*Population by region as of 2010*



*Percentage of world Muslim population in each region as of 2010*



Population estimates are rounded to the ten thousands. Percentages are calculated from unrounded numbers. Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.  
Pew Research Center's Forum on Religion & Public Life • Global Religious Landscape, December 2012

# **A BRIEF HISTORY OF ISLAM**

# Mohammed, Abū al-Qāsim



**Born:** 570 A.D.

**Died:** 632 A.D.

**Birthplace:** Mecca, Saudi Arabia

**Education:** Illiterate (disputed)

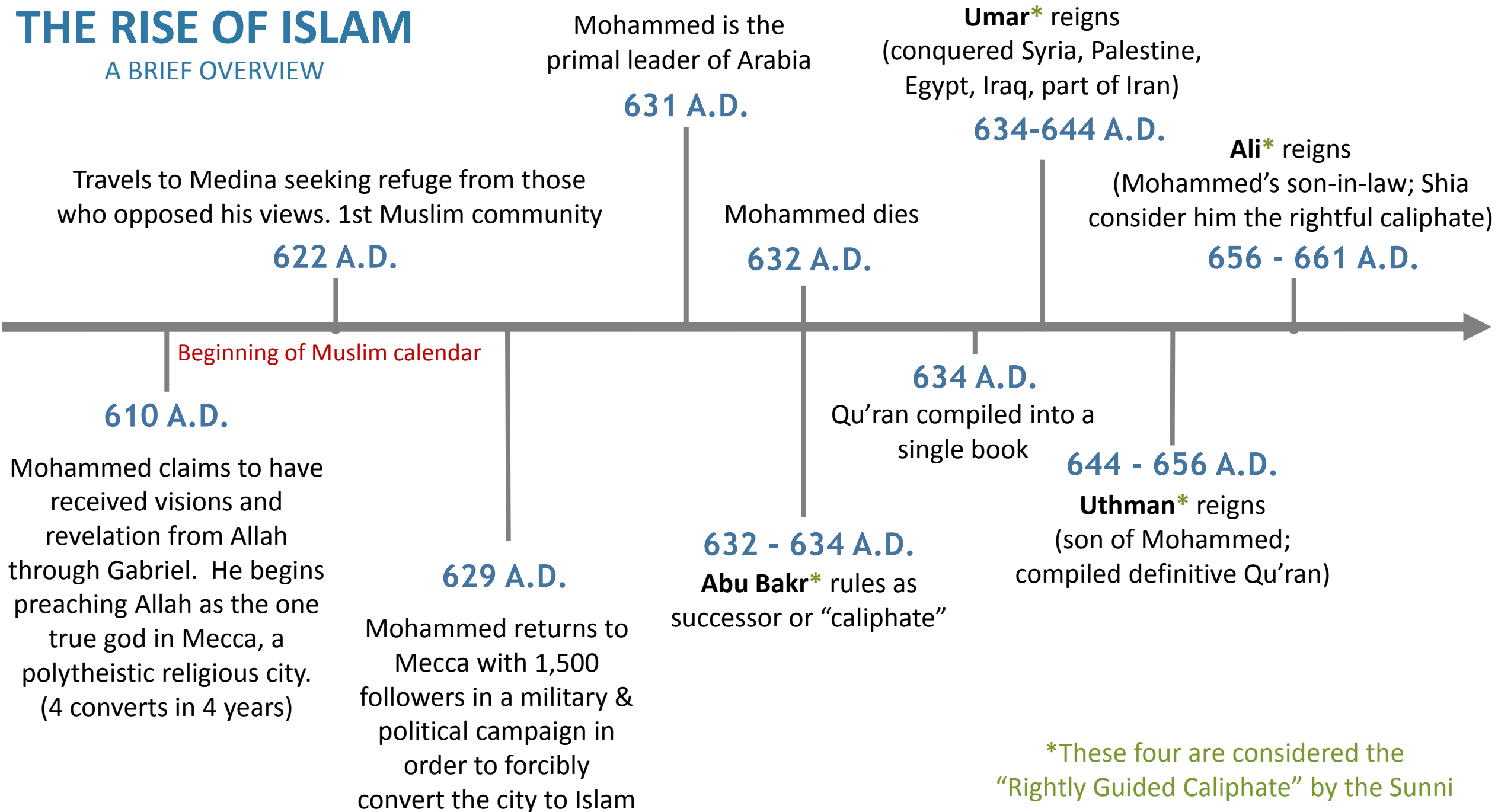
**Islam Title:** Prophet

**Minor figure in Islam** (4x in Koran)

- Merchant trader
- Married a rich widow from whom he gained much of his wealth, but also had other wives
- Children with 1<sup>st</sup> wife: 2 sons (died in childbirth), 4 daughters (only 1 survived—Phatima)
- Strong interests in religion with exposure to Judaism and various unorthodox Christian sects

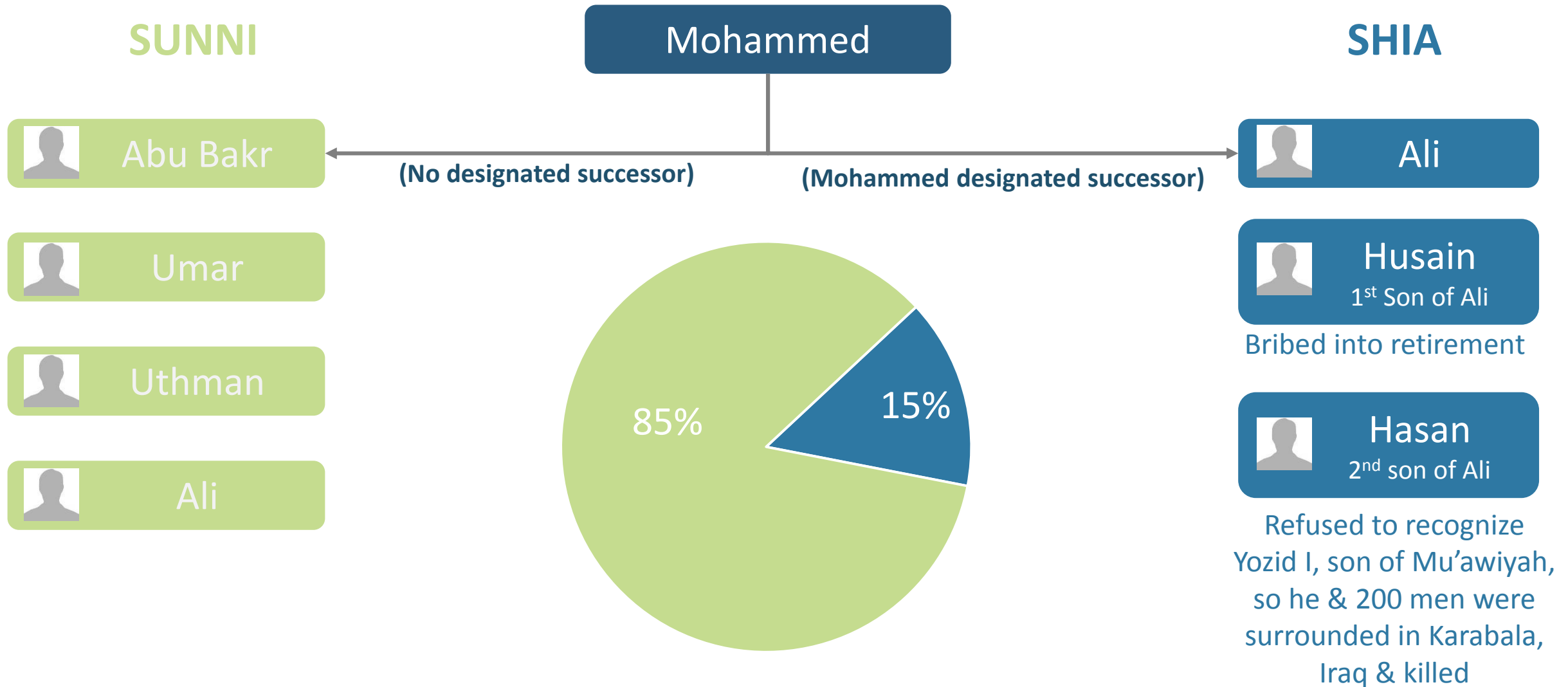
# THE RISE OF ISLAM

## A BRIEF OVERVIEW



# THE SUNNI & SHIA DIVIDE

*After Ali dies in 661 A.D. there is a dispute over the rightful successor or “caliphate” to Mohammed*

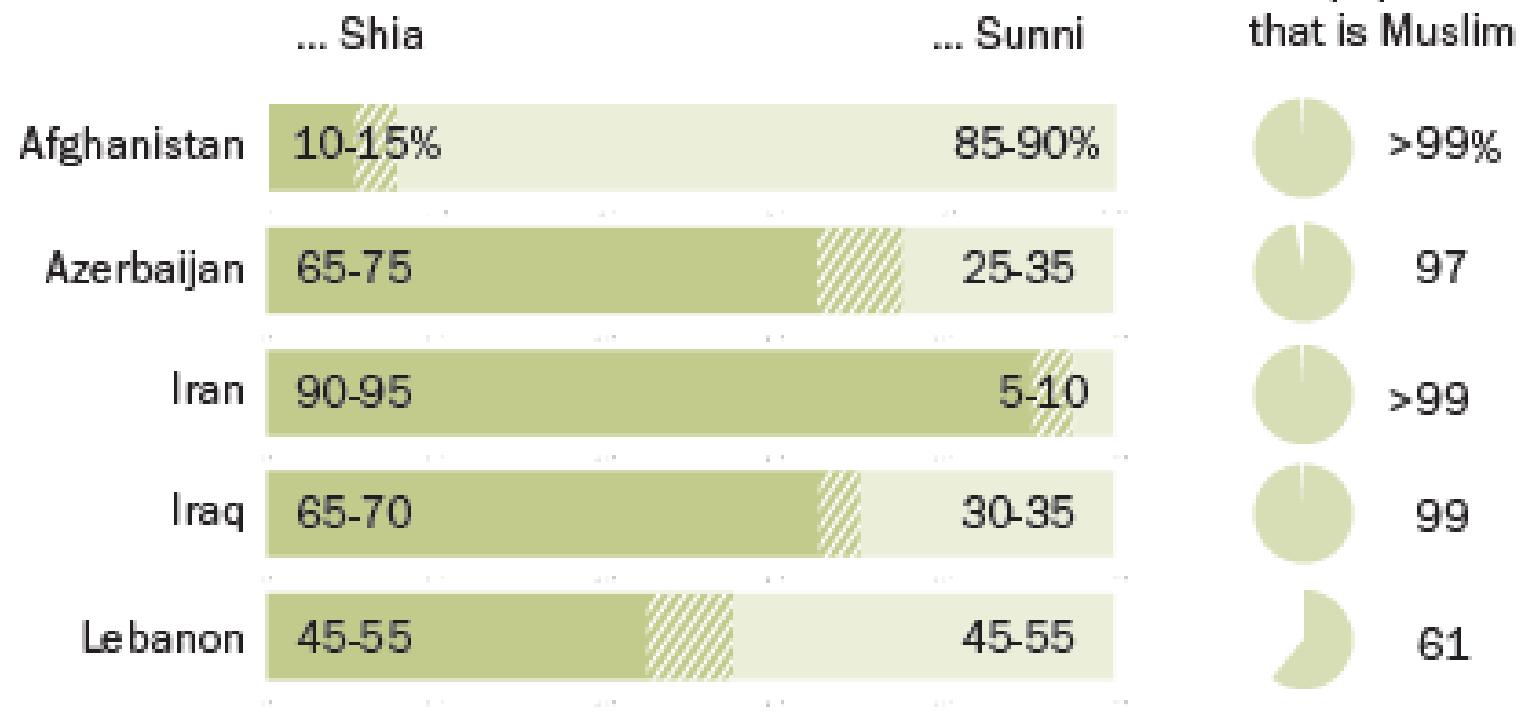


# Shia and Sunni Muslims Living Side by Side

Countries surveyed:



% of the Muslim population that is ...

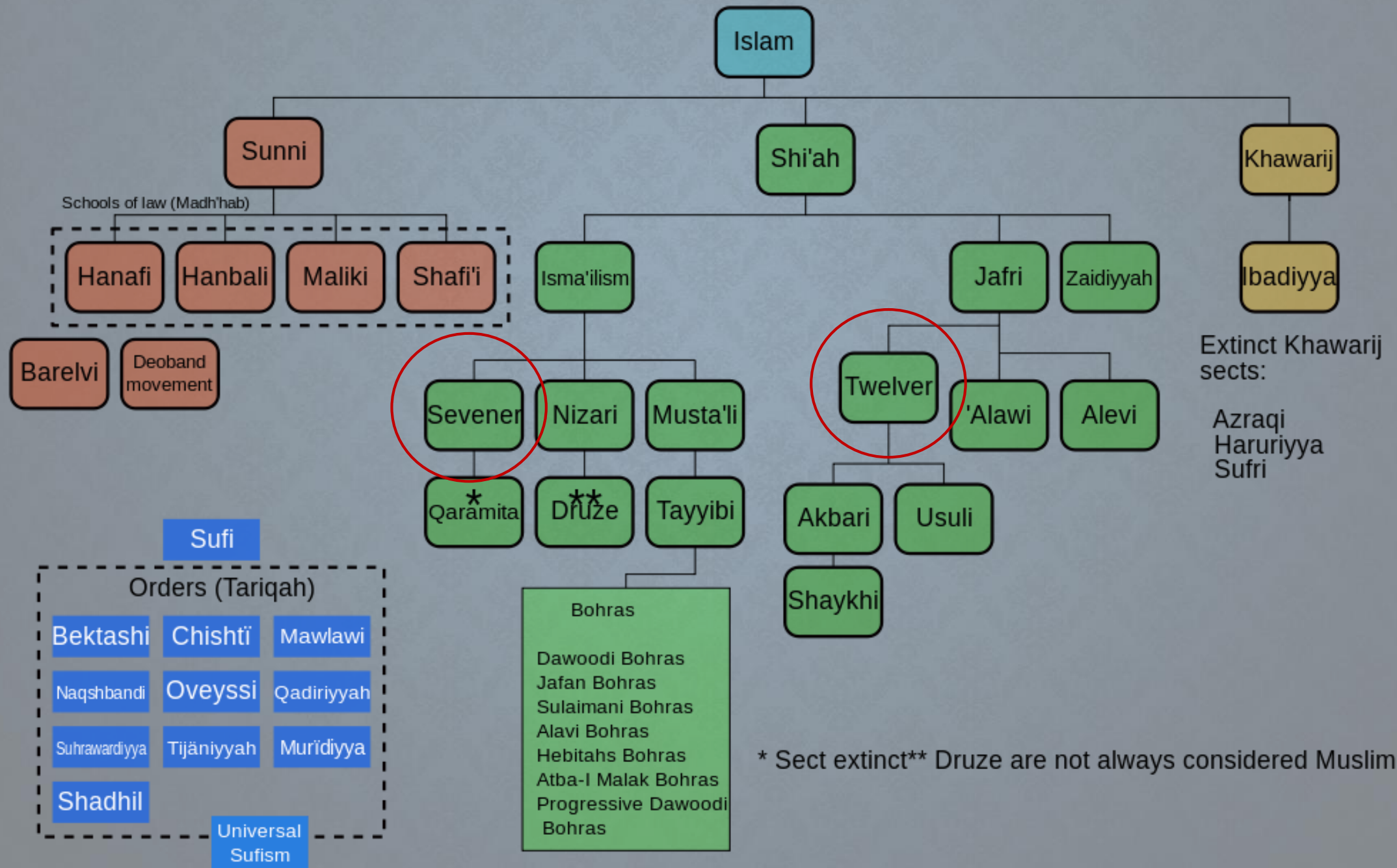


Source: Data on the share of each country's Muslim population that is Shia and Sunni from the Pew Research Center's October 2009 report "Mapping the Global Muslim Population." Data on the share of each country's total population that is Muslim from the Pew Research Center's December 2012 report "The Global Religious Landscape."

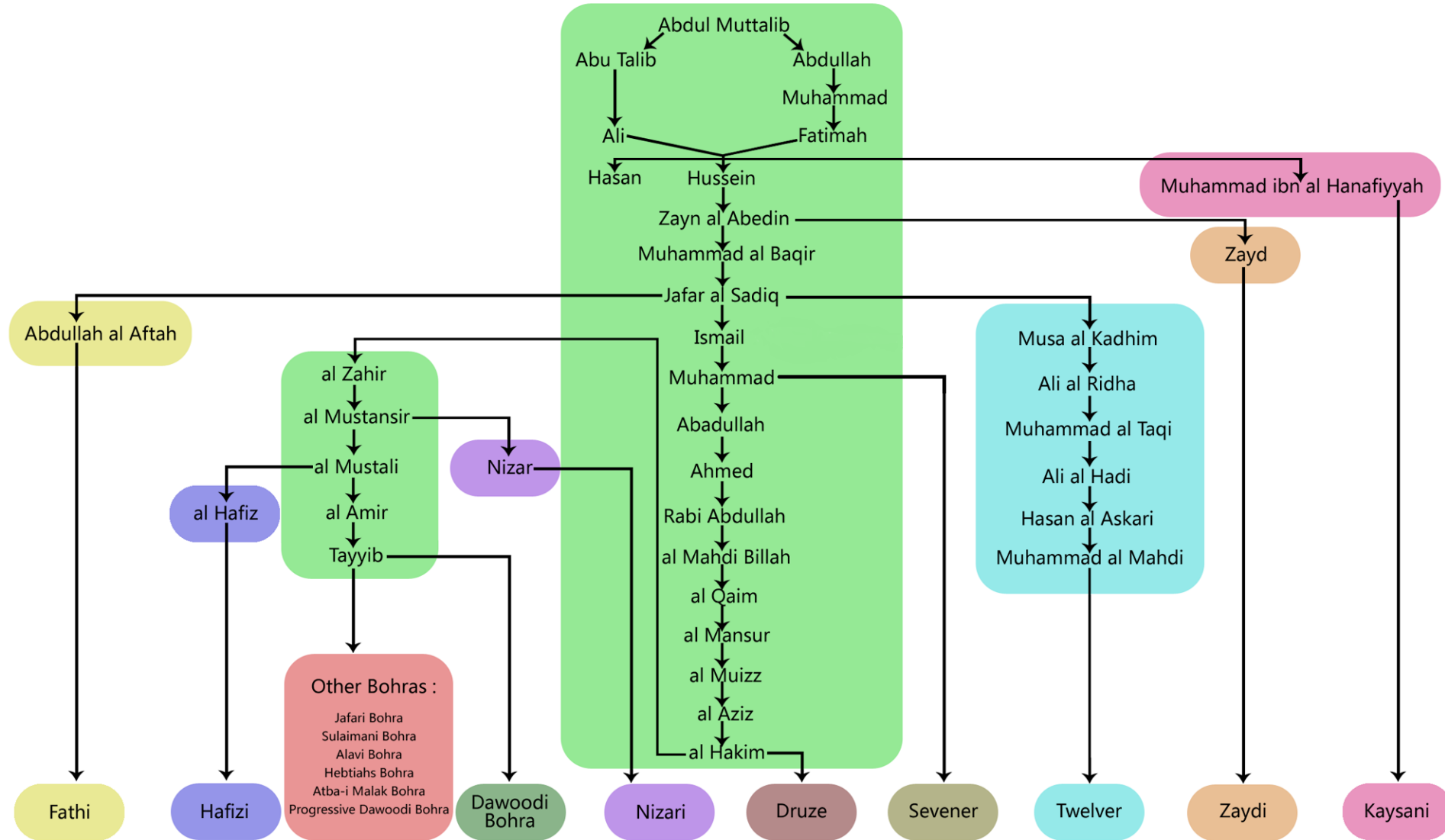
PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Source: Pew Research Center, *The Future of World Religions: Population Growth Projections, 2010-2050*, April 2, 2015





# SHIA MUSLIM BRANCHES





# PRIMARY SHIA MUSLIM BRANCHES

- SEVENERS

- Believe the 7<sup>th</sup> Caliphate went into hiding at the age of 5, but he will return
- Locations of Sevens: India, Pakistan, E. Africa

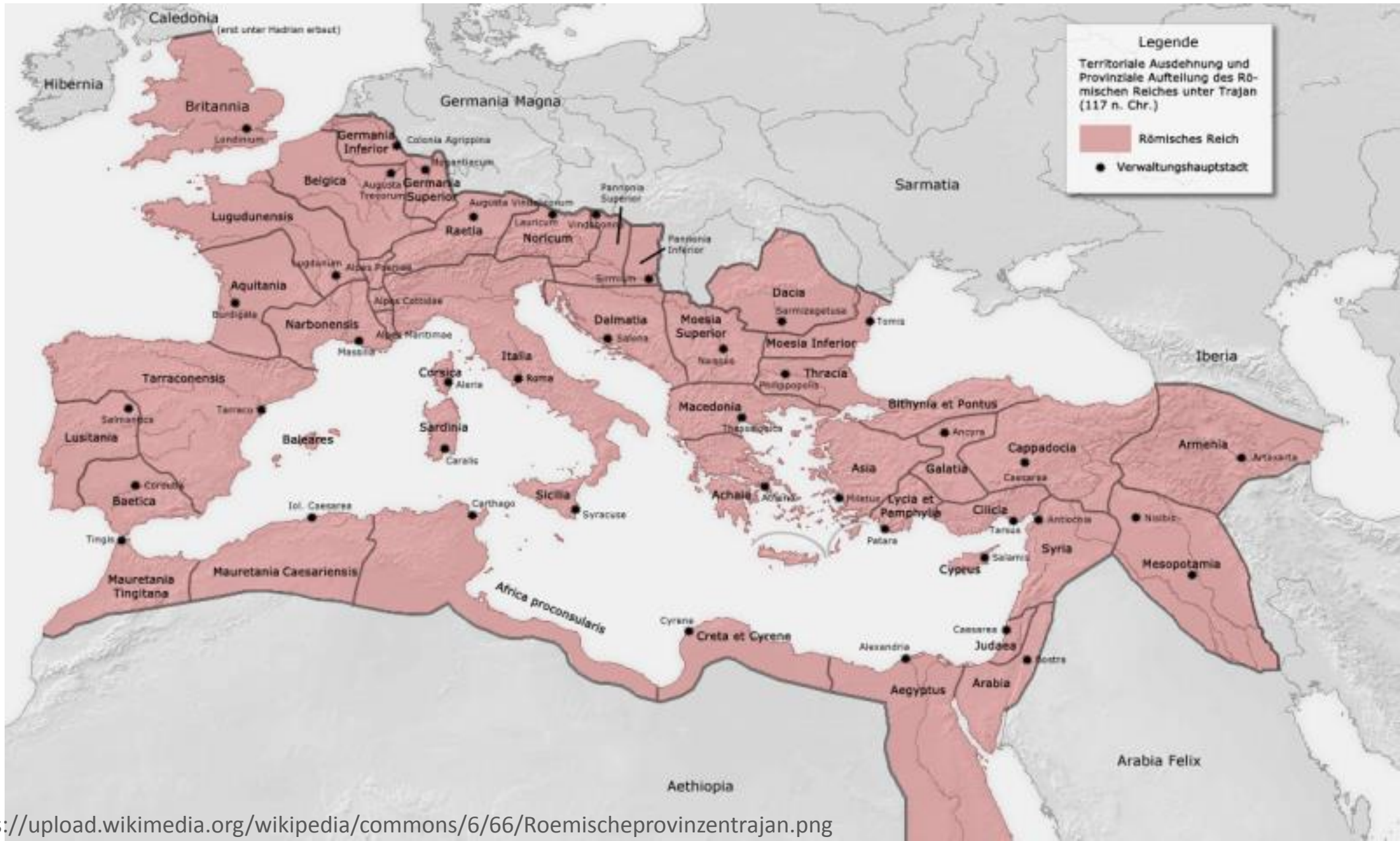
- TWELVERS

- Believe the 12<sup>th</sup> caliphate disappeared and will one day come back
- Location of Twelvers: Majority in Iran (4/5<sup>th</sup>)

# ADDITIONAL SUNNI INFORMATION

- Generally broad-minded and lenient
- Since WWII Saudi Arabia gained incredible wealth from oil & has ruled in a more pragmatic way
- Wahhabi / Wahhabiya Movement
  - Opposed all innovations
  - Adhere to a strict, Islamic tradition
  - Qu'ran & Hadith only
  - Osama Bin Laden included in this group
- The Mahdi is the final Caliphate who will redeem Islam

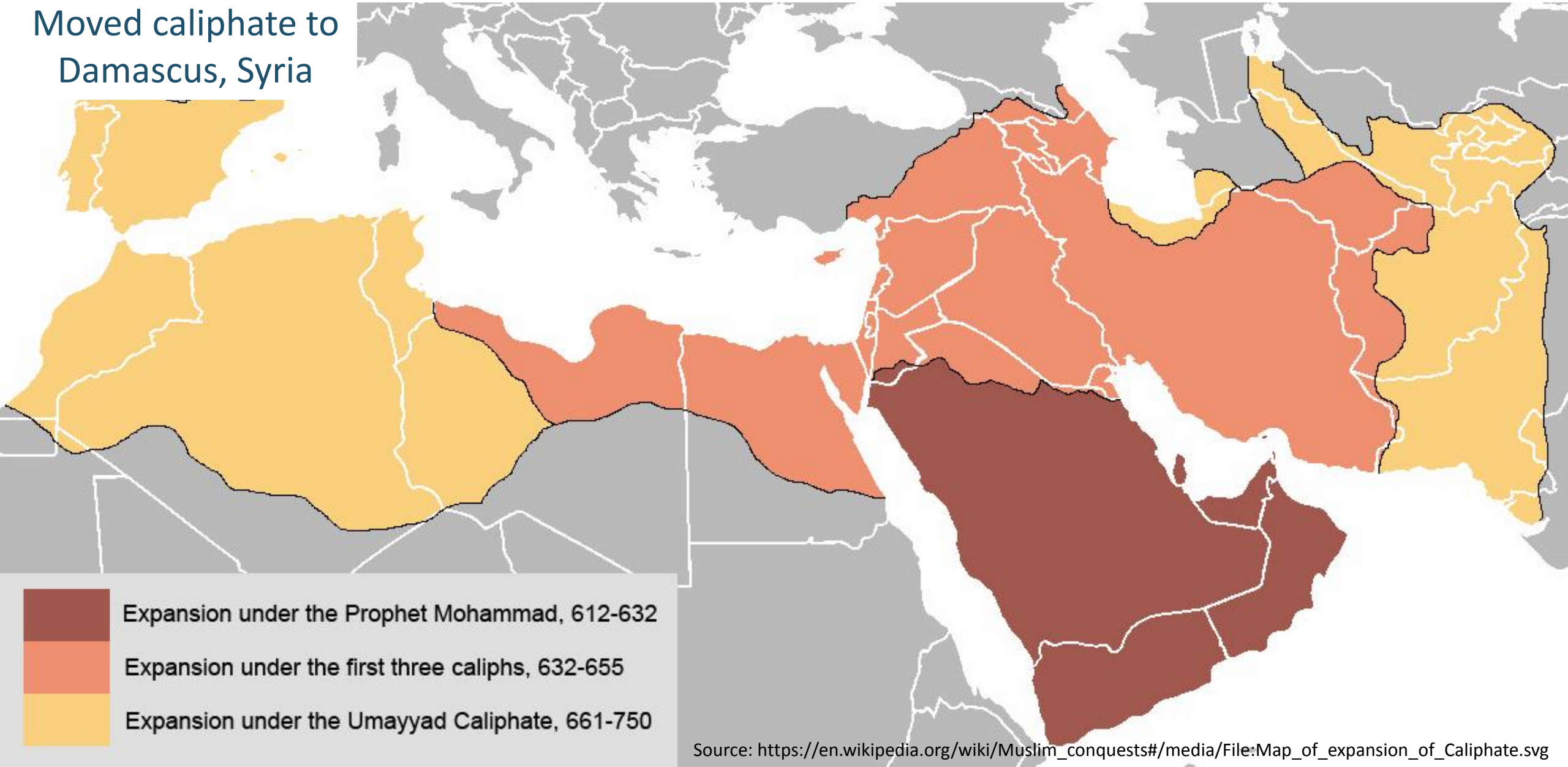
# ROMAN EMPIRE PRIOR TO ISLAM EXPANSION



# ISLAM EXPANSION

UMAYYAD DYNASTY (661 – 750 A.D.)

Moved caliphate to  
Damascus, Syria

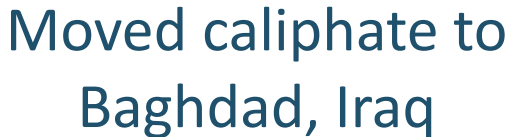


Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Muslim\\_conquests#/media/File:Map\\_of\\_expansion\\_of\\_Caliphate.svg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Muslim_conquests#/media/File:Map_of_expansion_of_Caliphate.svg)



## ABBASID DYNASTY (750 - 1258 A.D.)

## ABBASID DYNASTY (750 - 1258 A.D.)



# OTTOMAN EMPIRE

(1300 - 1922 A.D.)



Source: Maps of Net, <http://mapsof.net/map/the-ottoman-empire-1299-1699>



# IMPORTANT MUSLIM SITES



# SHRINE OF ALI

## MAZAR-I-SHARIF, AFGHANISTAN

Holy site for Sunni Muslims; the sect which believes Ali was the rightful successor of Mohummad



Image source: Sgt. Kimberly Lamb (U.S. Armed Forces)

Inset image: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Imam\\_Ali\\_Mosque#/media/File:InsidelmamAliMosqueNajafIraq.JPG](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Imam_Ali_Mosque#/media/File:InsidelmamAliMosqueNajafIraq.JPG)



# DOME OF THE ROCK

## JERUSALEM, ISRAEL

### Significance to Islam

- 3<sup>rd</sup> holiest site for Muslims
- In 632 A.D. Mohammed was supposedly awoken by Gabriel (archangel) and taken on a winged beast to Jerusalem and from this location was taken up into heaven from the “Foundation Stone.”

### Significance to Judaism

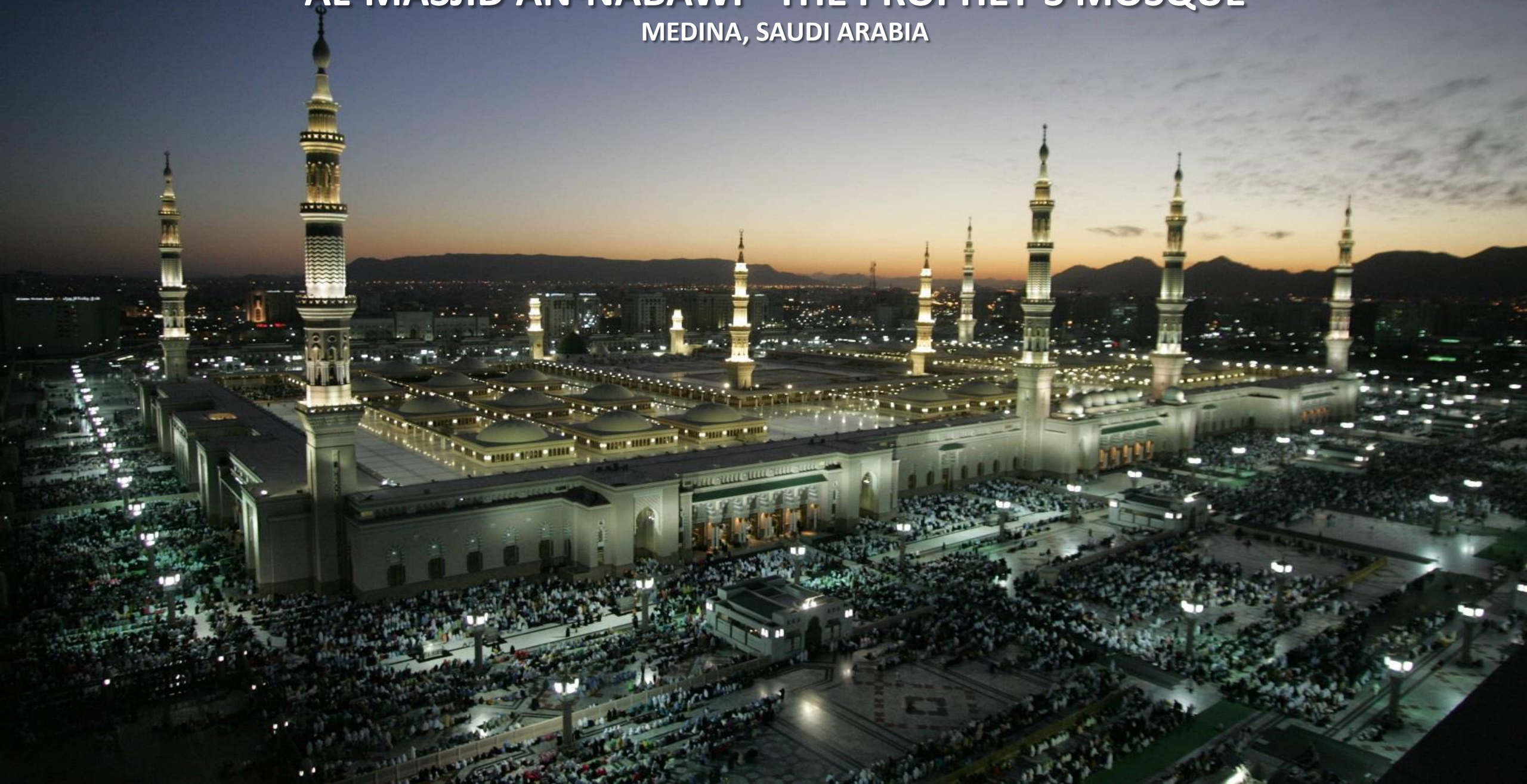
- Location of the Temple
- The rock (Foundation Stone) which was to be used by Abraham to sacrifice Isaac





# AL-MASJID AN-NABAWĪ “THE PROPHET’S MOSQUE”

MEDINA, SAUDI ARABIA





# AL-MASJID AN-NABAWĪ “THE PROPHET’S MOSQUE”

MEDINA, SAUDI ARABIA

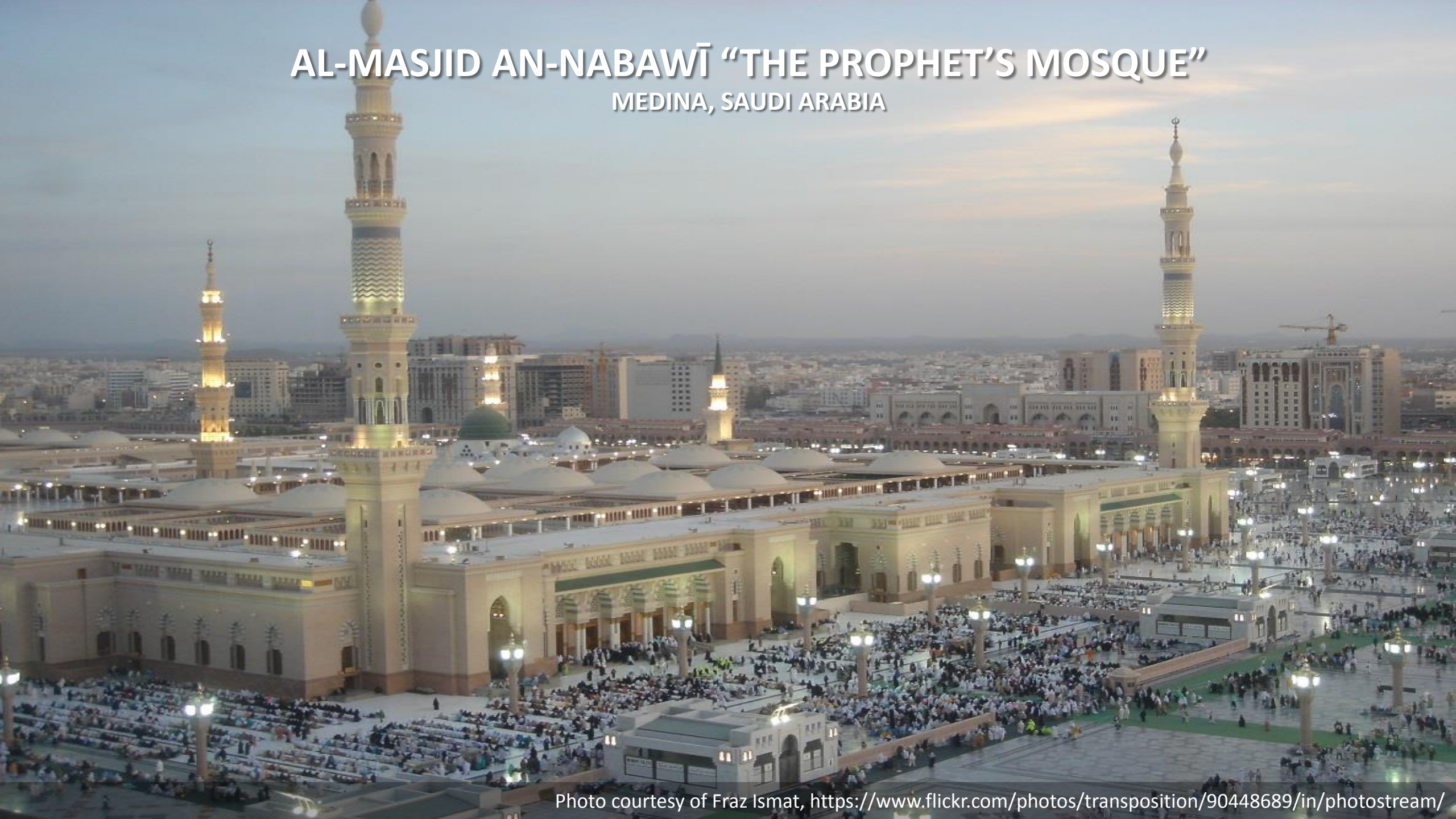


Photo courtesy of Fraz Ismat, <https://www.flickr.com/photos/transposition/90448689/in/photostream/>



# MASJID AL-HARAM “SACRED MOSQUE”

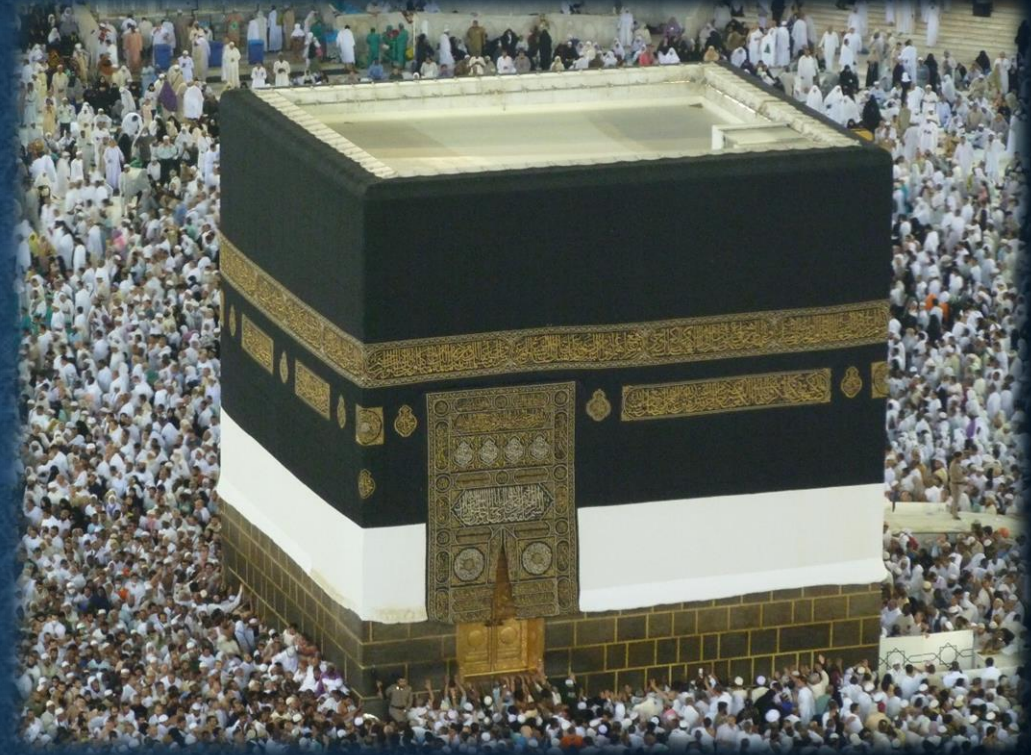
MECCA, SAUDI ARABIA

The holiest site for all Muslims



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Masjid\\_al-Haram.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Masjid_al-Haram.jpg)

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Mosqu%C3%A9\\_Masjid\\_el\\_Haram\\_%C3%A0\\_la\\_Mecque.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Mosqu%C3%A9_Masjid_el_Haram_%C3%A0_la_Mecque.jpg)



## KA'ABA

- Muslims face this during *salat* (prayer)
- All Muslims must perform the *hajj* pilgrimage to this location at least once in their lifetime

# RELIGIOUS WRITINGS

- **Qu'ran**

- Allah's *revelation* directly to Mohammed, not written by Mohammed
- Mohammed is said to have begun receiving it from Gabriel starting in 609 A.D.

- **Hadith**

- Collection of writings about the life of Mohammed which are used today in determining how Muslims should live out their lives on a daily basis

- **The Scrolls:** 10 scriptures given to Abraham, but now lost

- **Torah:** The revelation to Moses

- **Psalms:** The revelation to David

- **The Gospels:** The revelation to the Prophet Jesus

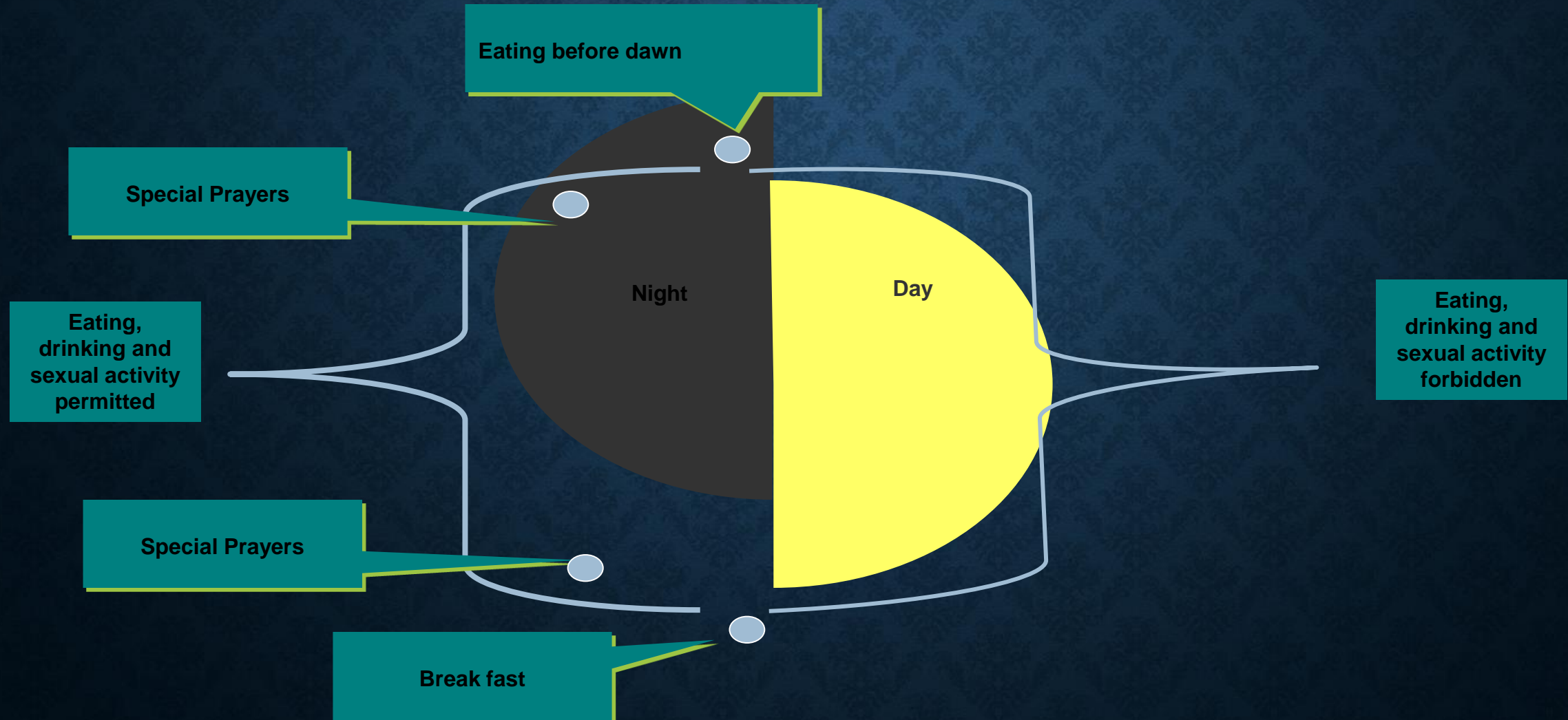


# THE FIVE PILLARS OF ISLAM

- **Shahada (Witness)**
  - “There is no god, but Allah and Mohammed is his prophet”
- **Salat (Prayer)**
  - Pray 5x a day facing Mecca
- **Swam (Fasting)**
  - Fasting from all *sensual* gratifications during Ramadan
  - Abstain from all food or drink during sunrise to sundown
  - Eid El Eftar
    - End of Ramadan
  - Eid El Adha
    - Festival of Sacrifice – Honors Abraham’s act of Sacrifice of Ishmael
- **Zakat (Alms giving)**
- **Hajj (Pilgrimage to Mecca)**
  - Travel at least once during your life to Mecca during the month of *Dhu al-Hijjah*
  - Accomplished either themselves or by proxy

# RAMADAN – 9<sup>TH</sup> MONTH OF THE HIJRA CALENDAR (LUNAR)

CORRESPONDS TO THE MONTH THAT MOHAMAD RECEIVED THE QURAN  
COMMANDED TO ALL MUSLIMS WITH SOME EXCEPTIONS



# PEOPLE WHO ARE EXEMPTED FROM FASTING

- Minors
- Elderly
- Sick
- Travelers
- Pregnant or Nursing
- Menstruating
- Mentally Impaired

**“... but whoever is sick or upon a journey, then (he shall fast) a (like) number of other days; Allah desires ease for you, and He does not desire for you difficulty, and (He desires) that you should complete the number and that you should exalt the greatness of Allah for His having guided you and that you may give thanks.” -Quran- 2:185**

\* Should donate a meal to the needy

\* \* Should fast an equivalent number of days afterwards