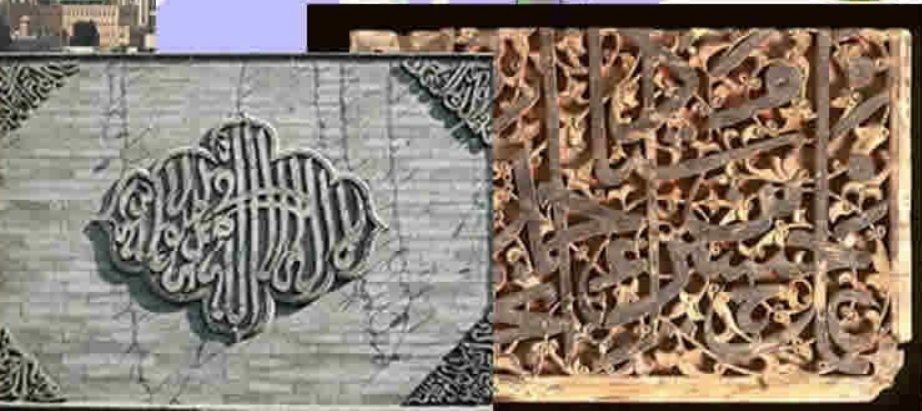


Religion of Islam



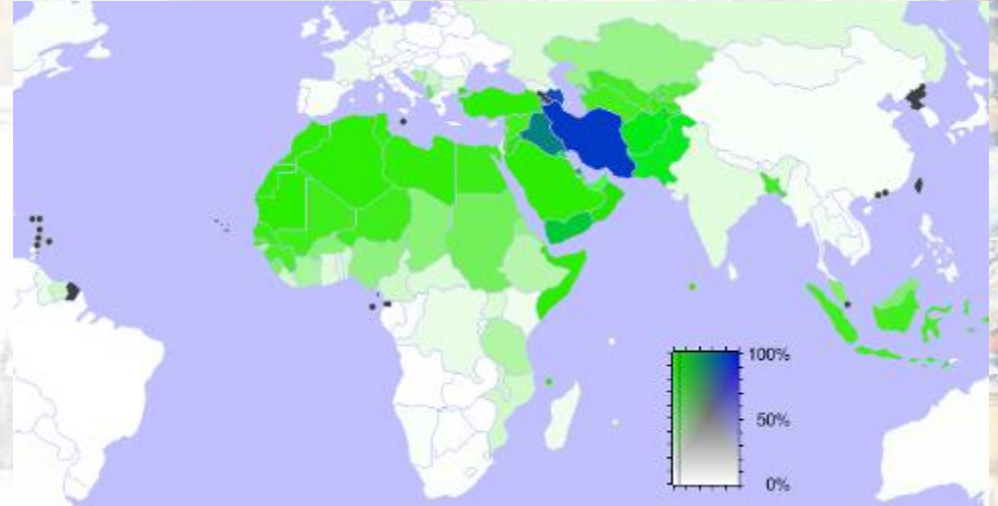
Overview

- World's second largest (yet perhaps the fastest growing) religion

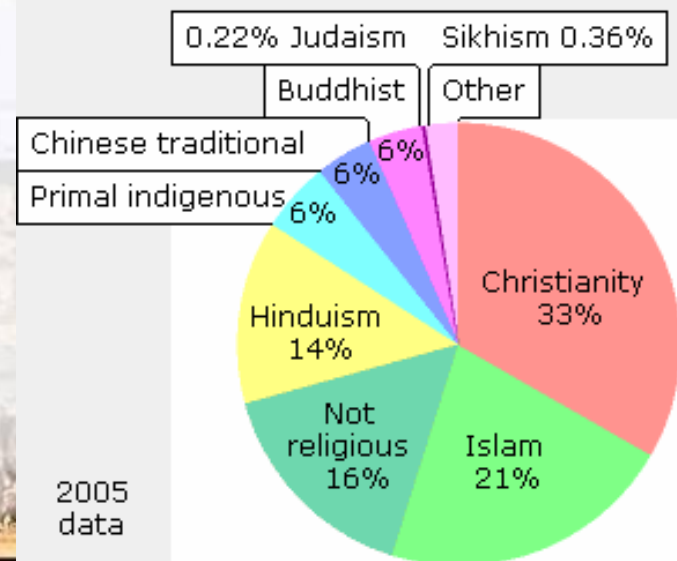
- over 1.4 billion followers

- View a Flash animation about the spread of religions

- <http://www.mapsofwar.com/images/Religion.swf>



Major religious groups
(percentage of world population)



Abraham
(Made a covenant with God and was given the "Promised Land" in what is now Israel)

Isaac
(One of Abraham's sons)

Ishmael
(One of Abraham's sons)

JUDAISM

ISLAM

CHRISTIANITY

Roman Catholicism

Eastern Orthodoxy

Protestantism

Sunni Muslim

Shiite Muslim

These religions together comprise about half the world's religious people.

Overview

- **Islam**

- Arabic for "submission"
- a "way of life" and/or "religion."

- **Muslim**

- "one who surrenders" or "submits" to God.
- practitioner of Islam

Beliefs

- The basis of Muslim belief is found in the *shahādatān* ("two statements"):
 - [أشهد أن لا إله إلا الله و [أشهد أن محمد رسول الله –
 - "There is no god but Allah (God); and Muhammad is His Prophet (Messenger)."

Muslim Creed

(statement of faith)

- *I believe in God; and in His Angels; and in His Scriptures; and in His Messengers; and in The Final Day; and in Fate, that Good and Evil are from God, and Resurrection after death be Truth.*
- *I testify that there is nothing worthy of worship but God; and I testify that Muhammad is His Messenger.*

The Prophet Muhammad

- **Muhammad**

- “Last Messenger of God”; The Prophet
- wealthy merchant
- wife Khadijah
- concern for the poor



The Prophet Muhammad

- **Mecca**

- birthplace of Muhammad (c. 570)
- holiest city and center of Islam
 - Kaaba



The Prophet Muhammad

- **From Merchant to Messenger**

- Gabriel told Muhammad to “recite”
- “recitations” written as the Qur’an (Koran)
- Muhammad was considered a messenger / prophet of Allah to the people of Mecca

The Prophet Muhammad

- **Hegira (Hijrah)**

- Muhammad moved from Mecca to Medina to escape persecution in 622 / 1 AH
- beginning of Muslim calendar

- **Medina**

- second holiest city of Islam
- first mosque
 - Mosque of the Prophet



The Prophet Muhammad

- **Hajj**

- Muhammad returned to Mecca from Medina in AD 630 / 9 AH
- converted Meccans to Islam
- destroyed the idols in the **Kaaba** (Ka'bah)
 - shrine of Abraham; became house for idols
 - Muhammad destroyed the idols and dedicated the Kaaba to Allah → monotheism in Mecca
 - Muslims bow toward the Kaaba during prayer



The Prophet Muhammad

- **Jerusalem**

- Gabriel gave Muhammad a tour of Heaven and Hell
- 3rd holiest city for Muslims
 - Dome of the Rock on the Temple Mount



The Prophet Muhammad

- **Death of Muhammad**
 - became ill with fever and died in 632



Islamic Law

- **Sunnah**

- based on Muhammad's life
- a model for the duties and way of life for Muslims

- **Shariah (شريعة Sharia)**

- Islamic law
- based on the Qur'an and the Sunnah
- mix of religion and gov't



Arabic

- **Arabic**

- language of Islam
- spoken throughout the Middle East
- Semitic language (Noah's son Shem)

- Arabic → العَرَبِيَّة

- Hebrew → עִבְרִית

- Aramaic → אַרְמַיִת

- Punic (Phoenician) → פּוּנִיקִית

First Article of Belief

- **God (Allah)** الإيمان بالله
 - monotheistic
 - *Allah Akbar* الله أكبر (God is Greatest)

الله أكبر

Second Article of Belief

- **Belief in all the Prophets and Messengers** الإيمان بالرسول

- religious leaders; Proclaims God's wishes
- Noah, Abraham, Moses, Jesus, Muhammad



Third Article of Belief

- **Belief in the Holy Books sent by God**

الإيمان بالكتب السماوية

- **The Qur'an (Koran) (قرآن)**

- holy book of Islam
- means "recitation"
- given by Allah to Muhammad through the Angel Gabriel



Fourth Article of Belief

• Belief in the Angels الإيمان بالملائكة

– Gabriel (Jibrail)

- appeared to Muhammad and told him to “read” or “recite” the word of Allah

– Michael (Mikhail)

- appeared to Abraham

– Azrael (Izrail)

- Angel of Death



Fifth Article of Belief

- **Belief in the Day of Judgment and in the Resurrection** الإيمان باليوم الآخر

- "*Day of the Resurrection*" (Qur'an 71.18)
- "*the Hour*" (Qur'an 31.34, 74.47)
- "*Day of the Account*" (Qur'an 72.130)
- "*Day of the Gathering*"
- "*Day of the Reckoning*"
- "*Day of Distress*" (Qur'an 74.9)
- "*Great Announcement*"

Sixth Article of Belief

- **Belief in Destiny (Fate) and in Paradise / Hell** الإيمان بالقدر خيره وشره

- **Destiny (Fate)**

- "if God wills"
- the future is under God's control

- **Heaven (Paradise) and Hell**

- Heaven and Hell are separated into levels depending on how well one followed God while alive or how evil one was

Five Pillars of Islam

- The Five Pillars of Islam is the term given to the fundamental aspects of Islam.

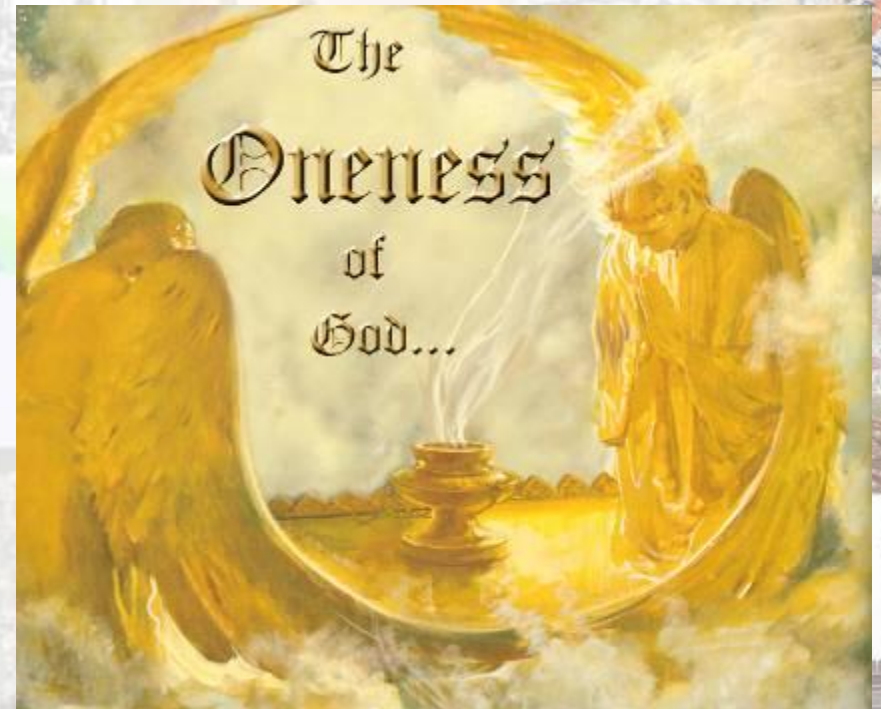
– Five Pillars for the Sunni (85% of Muslims)

1. شهادة ان لا إله إلا الله وأن محمداً رسول الله (الشهادة)
2. إقامة الصلاة (الصلاة)
3. إيتاء الزكاة (الزكاة)
4. صوم رمضان (الصوم)
5. حج البيت لمن استطاع إليه سبيلاً (الحج)

First Pillar

- **Statement of Faith in One God** الشهادة

– The Testimony that there is none worthy of worship except God and that Muhammad is His messenger.



Second Pillar

- **Daily Prayer** الصلاة
 - 5 times a day
 - Toward Mecca (East-Southeast for US)



Third Pillar

- **Alms (Charity) الزكاة**

– The Giving of *Zakaah* (charity) to the poor.

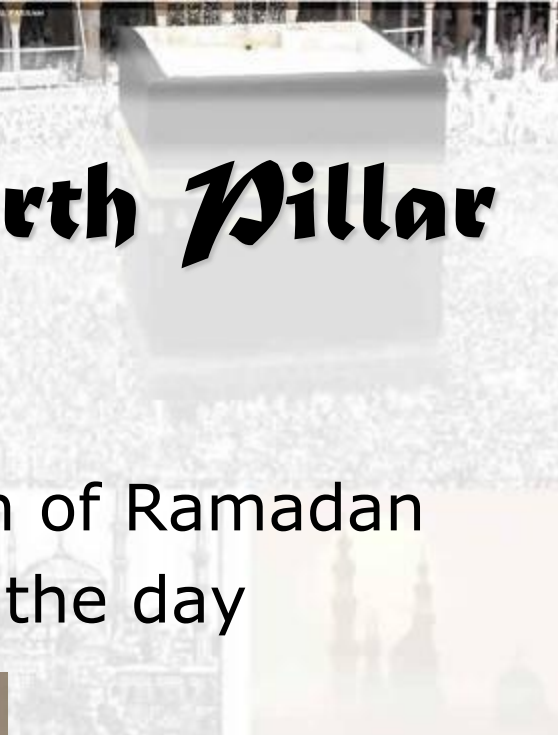


Fourth Pillar

- **Fasting** الصوم

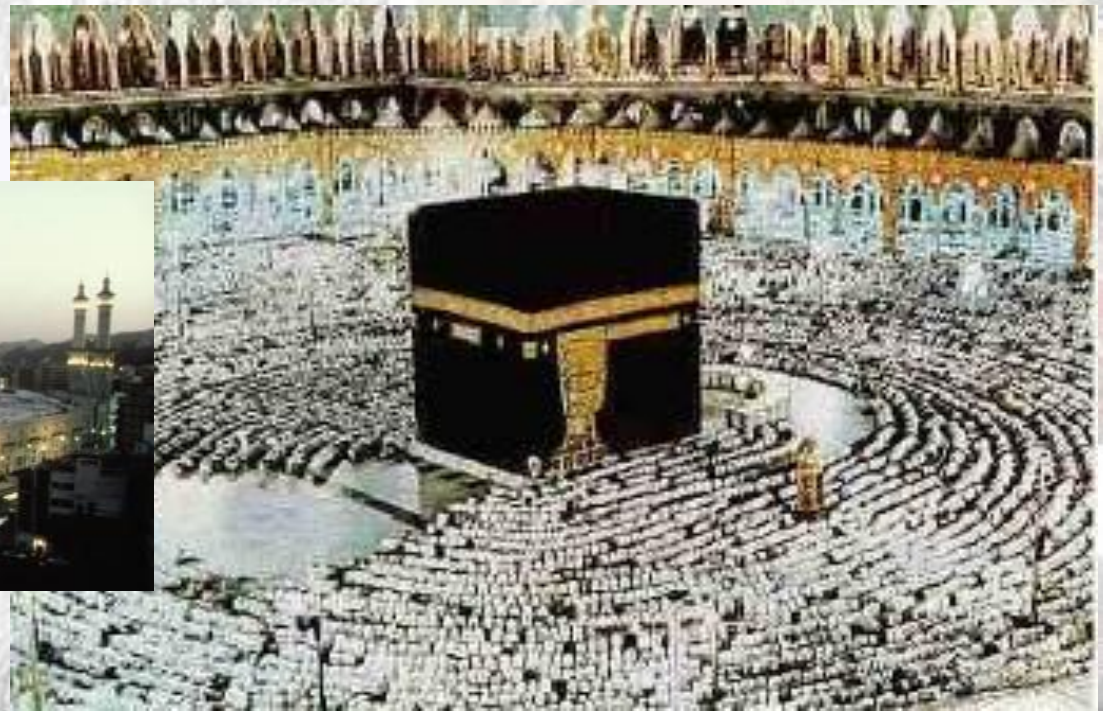
- During the month of Ramadan
- No eating during the day

– feel the sacrifice



Fifth Pillar

- **Hajj (Pilgrimage) to Mecca** الحج
 - Required once in one's lifetime if physically and economically able
 - "Hajj"



Five Pillars of Islam

- **Five Pillars of the Shi'a
(15% of Muslims)**

- The Oneness of God (*tawhīd*).
- The Justice of God (*'adl*).
- Prophethood (*nubuwwah*).
- The Leadership of Mankind (*imamah*).
- The Resurrection (*me'ad*).



Succession

- **Caliph**

- “successor” of Muhammad
- leader of early Muslim states

- **Abu Bakr**

- great friend and son-in-law of Muhammad
- NOT A BLOOD RELATIVE
- his caliphate (reign as caliph) began the “Golden Age of Islam”
- seen as a true successor to Muhammad by Sunnis, but not by Shi’ites

Succession

- **Ali**

- cousin and son-in-law of Muhammad
- BLOOD RELATIVE
- assassinated by the Umayyads
- his followers became Shi'ite (Shia) Muslims, rejecting Abu Bakr as caliph because he was not descended from Muhammad

Muslim Conquests

- **Jihad**

- "struggle"

- usually translated as "Holy War"

- **Fatah** فتح

- spread of Islam through military conquest

Muslim Conquests

- **Umayyads**

- family of caliphs (661-750)
- headquartered in Damascus, Syria
- began the “Muslim Conquests”
- killed Ali and his son
- divided their territory because it became too large to make it easier to govern

Muslim Conquests

- **Abbassids**

- second dynasty of caliphs (750-1258)
- headquartered in Baghdad, Iraq
- continued the “Muslim Conquests”
- overthrown by the Mongols in 1258

- **Baghdad**

- Capital of the Abbassid Dynasty of caliphs; contains some of Islam’s holiest mosques
 - **Mosque** – Muslim place of worship

Muslim Conquests



- Berbers
 - North Africa
- Moors
 - Spain
- Ottomans
 - Turkey
- Safavids
 - Persia (Iran)
- Mughals
 - India

Division of Islam

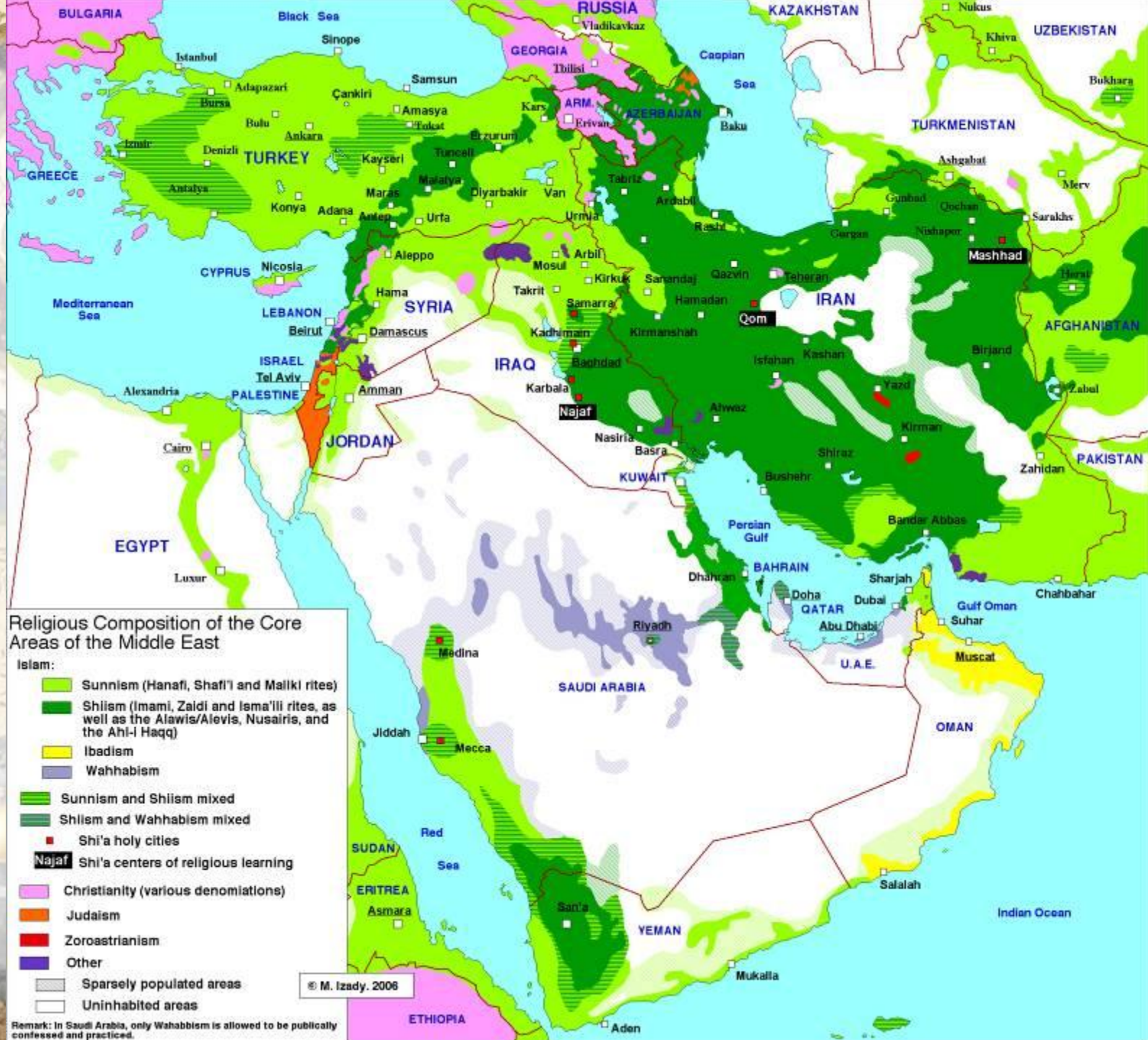
- **Sunni**

- about 85% of Muslims
- accept Abu Bakr (close friend of Muhammad) as the successor of Muhammad
- Today
 - modern-day Iraq was controlled by Sunni Muslims under Saddam Hussein until he was overthrown by the US in 2003
 - Shi'ites, mostly from Iran and Syria, are trying to take over Iraq today

Division of Islam

- **Shi'ite (Shia)**

- about 15% of Muslims
- accept only Ali as the true successor of Muhammad
- Reject Abu Bakr as caliph because he was not a descendent of Muhammad
- Today
 - Modern-day Iran and now parts of Iraq are mostly Shi'ite



Religious Composition of the Core Areas of the Middle East

- Islam:
- Sunnism (Hanafi, Shafi'i and Maliki rites)
 - Shiism (Imami, Zaidi and Isma'ili rites, as well as the Alawis/Alevis, Nusairis, and the Ahi-I Haqq)
 - Ibadism
 - Wahhabism
 - Sunnism and Shiism mixed
 - Shiism and Wahhabism mixed
 - Shi'a holy cities
 - Najaf Shi'a centers of religious learning
 - Christianity (various denominations)
 - Judaism
 - Zoroastrianism
 - Other
 - Sparsely populated areas
 - Uninhabited areas

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Remark: In Saudi Arabia, only Wahabbism is allowed to be publically confessed and practiced.