



# Muslim Planet

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[The Muslim Voice](#) Project offers a platform of technology services for the Muslim Community of North America. It provides the needed infrastructure to transform the community towards [unified positions](#) and [integrated action plans](#). It seeks Muslim representation at local, state, and federal levels. So, please [help](#).

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## Welcome Message

The sadness of Karbala is here in Muharram. The month also brought the freedom for Afghans.

We wish that you and the community are well, and you will enjoy this issue of the News Journal. Please share it with your family and friends, and forward it to your own email list.

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[The Muslim Voice](#)

## Editorial

Imam Hussain's martyrdom at Karbala provides evidence of the moral victory of right over wrong, of virtue over vice, of principle over compromise, of the oppressed over the oppressor, of the denied over the denier; the ultimate victory of blood over sword. A lesson teaching humankind through the inscription of blood on the scrolls of human history, how he conveyed to the world, through his struggle, the meaning of life; that living is truly of value which offers itself for a cause greater than its self; that to die with honor is better than living in subjugation to injustice.

For those conscious of their moral obligations, consistently striving against injustice and oppression; EVERY DAY IS 'ASHURA AND EVERY PLACE IS KARBALA.

And that has true now, as it did in the past. For Afghan people it was Karbala all over the country, and it was Ashura for them every day. There was a fresh inscription of blood on the scrolls of human history. A brand new freshly achieved victory of right over wrong, of virtue over vice, of principle over compromise, of the oppressed over the oppressor. It is the ultimate victory of blood over sword. The Afghans once again showed that living is truly of value which offers itself for a cause greater than its self; that to die with honor is better than living in subjugation to injustice.

The armies of evil accepted defeat and escaped the challenge. The evil that is USA and Europe blamed their humiliation on the very people whom they had sculptured with their own hand, while pretending to be helping Afghans by destroying their country, and promoting corruption and injustice of astronomical proportions.

This was a clash of the civilized and the uncivilized. It was a context between the righteous and the evil forces.

But the evil will not see the wisdom. USA and Europe will continue to oppress the Afghan people, and they will continue their aggression against the Afghan people. To start with, they will refute the truth that is written all over the wall. They will sanction and boycott. They will close their eyes to the ignominious defeat that they received, and they will try to deceive through their wicked propaganda, first their own people, and next the civilized world beyond their evil empires.

And it is written all over the wall that they will fail and suffer defeat again. Karbala repeats; Ashura repeats; The defeat of the evil repeats, and the righteous will be triumphant repeatedly.

Magnificent congratulations to the Afghan people, and thanks for truly upholding the tradition of Imam Hussain.

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We might look a little deeper as to how it all happened, and happened at lightning speed?

The key to this question is the lies and corruption that US Government and its NATO allies (meaning European countries) together conspired to champion and promulgate throughout their puppets in Afghanistan Government. The entire policy and its execution over 20 years was founded on lies and corruption.

The lies were necessary for two reasons. First to pacify and mislead their own citizens, so that they can win the next election. In this, they were all firmly together. They all needed to win the next election, and

there were five of them during this period of occupation and dehumanization of Afghans. Every time there were elections there was a greater need for lies, till there was nothing left in their narrative except lies. By the way this also demonstrates how their democracy works, and how people like Trump get their following. Lies, lies, and more lies is the foundation of politics democracy in USA and Europe.

The second reason for these lies is to tell a narrative to the entire World that was entirely in opposition to the facts, and the reality on the ground. For example, when USA and NATO were visibly losing the war, they maintained the lies that the Taliban are in their last throes.

Now that USA and NATO are conclusively defeated, it has become as clear as daylight that their narrative was a castle built on quicksand. It took no time for the castle of lies to sink.

Underneath all this process was the Corruption, which is the foundational enabler of lies.

In their own countries USA and NATO countries used corruption and fraud for the people to swallow the lies. This happens through corruption that provide billions of dollars to keep repeating and upholding the lies. Lies are everywhere, on the TV, in the news media, in campaign rallies, and in final voting. Corruption provides the funds that make these lies possible. People of these countries are kept in dark about the facts, and they are indoctrinated into believing the Government.

Corruption is needed for the other countries to go along the false narrative. These countries have their own intelligence agencies; they know the facts, and they know that US and European countries are giving a narrative that goes against the facts. Yet the governments of these countries buy into the lies coming from USA and Europe. How and why does it happen? Ever heard about the foreign aid? That is the foundation of the policies of USA and NATO countries. They will withhold the foreign aid if a country will not buy in!

Not only USA and Europe are corrupt, they make other governments corrupt in order that their own evil schemes will succeed. They provide the foreign aid not to the countries but to their leaders. For that purpose, it is necessary that these leaders be of low integrity and very greedy. Hence their entire foreign policy is to support leaders who would easily do their biddings. Al Sisi of Egypt is a prime example, whom USA and Europe propped up, and simultaneously they conspired to eliminate Mohamed Morsi, the legitimate leader of Egypt.

The second prime example was Ashraf Ghani, the so called legitimately elected president of Afghanistan. He was hand picked to serve his masters, namely USA and Europe. Legitimacy is an artificial thing that is another ploy to uphold their lies and corruption. Only a week before Ashraf Ghani was legitimately elected president of Afghanistan. Today he is the one who is responsible for the fall of Afghanistan (in the words of Biden he fled and had no “will” to serve Afghanistan). Biden can take legitimacy away if you are not a loyal servant, and Biden can bestow legitimacy if you become a loyal servant.

Taliban leaders will not become loyal servants to the evil USA and Europe. After all Iran has done without such corrupt legitimacy, and has prospered in the process. And the guiding light is the Sunnah of the Prophet. We include a map displaying his family tree. These were exemplary people, not the least of them is the last entry at the bottom right hand. He is the one who set an example for all of us, to not succumb to evil empires.



## News in Brief

Please click the hyperlinks to read more details:

1. Taliban liberate Afghan people from USA/NATO/Europe occupation forces.  
[The Taliban victory is a major humiliation for the US](#)
2. Taliban leaders inside the Afghan Presidential Palace.  
[The defeat of USA/NATO is completed as they evacuate in panic, and the puppet regime flees.](#)
3. U.S. intervention created the corruption in Afghanistan that made the Taliban takeover so easy in the end ...  
[Sanction Pakistan? Try Blaming America for Afghanistan](#) (TRT World)  
[Dispatches from Afghanistan: The Bombshell Interview](#) (Hollie McKay)
4. ... but will the Taliban do any better than they did last time?  
[Defining Change: Who Are the Taliban that Conquered Afghanistan?](#) (Middle East Soccer)  
[Taliban, Striking Dovish Tone, Pledge Peace and Women's Rights Under Islam](#) (Reuters)
5. The Israeli apartheid regime's colonial justice system continues to side with settlers as they reject another Palestinian petition that was done "in response to the illegal Avyatar outpost":  
[Israeli Court Rejects Palestinians' Claim to Beita Land](#) (Palestine Chronicle)
6. In the occupied West Bank, four Palestinians were shot dead after Israeli soldiers raided the Jenin refugee camp:  
[West Bank: Israeli Forces Kill Four Palestinians During Jenin Camp Raid](#) (Middle East Eye)
7. The 11-day assault on Gaza may be over, but "unexploded bombs" are still killing those who survived the initial Israeli bombardment, humanitarian organizations and engineering teams say:  
[The War is Not Over': The Gaza Strip's Unexploded Bombs](#) (Middle East Eye)
8. The following study questions the efficacy of US and European sanctions on Syria concluding that "the current model of sanctions is suboptimal, with a high likelihood that sanction targets can use evasive strategies to avoid any actual harm":  
[A Comprehensive Review of The Effectiveness of US and EU Sanctions on Syria](#) (MEI @75)
9. To only win back the support of US Jews Israel must behaves in a manner "that is consistent with their moral frame of reference" meaning that "it would have to end its military occupation, dismantle its apartheid regime and reverse its racist laws":  
[The Quiet Rebellion of US Jews Turning Against Israel is Good For Palestinians](#) (Middle East Monitor)
10. Similar to the tactics they employed during Vietnam, U.S officials continuously lied "to justify the U.S's endless occupation of the country" as well as to "concoct a pleasing fairy tale about why the prior twenty years were not an utter waste":  
[The U.S. Government Lied for Two Decades About Afghanistan](#) (Glenn Greenwald)

## Articles for Muslim Community

### Afghan people's victory over occupation forces

Source: [Muslim Network TV](#)

and Freedom Express of India

A great coverage is provided in their News issues of [August 16](#) and [August 17](#). Please watch these two videos by clicking on the links above. They provide a thorough understanding of how Kabul was captured without any fighting, and how Taliban leaders are doing the diplomacy.

Another perspective on the new government in Afghanistan comes from India. A journalist from Freedom Express has shown this aspect by interviewing Professor V. K. Tripathi and a former member of Indian Parliament, Mohammad Adeb; as well as a journalist from Afghanistan, Ali Hakim Yar.

Please watch this perspective by clicking [here](#). Below, we also include a note on this situation by Professor Tripathi.

#### Imperialism and Fundamentalism in Afghanistan

V.K. Tripathi

The end of imperialist control on any country is a step forward. In Afghanistan it has come at the hands of Taliban whose five years rule in 1996 to 2001 is known for repression of women. As a consequence, many lovers of freedom are skeptical about the regime change. The communalists are using this as an opportunity to run a campaign of humiliation and abuse against secular activists and Muslim masses by projecting images of Taliban on them (i.e., Indian Muslims). This is a dangerous development that may jeopardize the struggle being carried by Indian farmers and other sections to free the state from corporate and sectarian influence.

Every colonized nation would know that the sectarian, racist and fundamentalist forces flourish when they gain patronage of imperialist regimes and business/corporate elite. Sectarianism/fundamentalism is a tool, dominance and exploitation are the goals. Fundamentalists of Afghanistan rose under the patronage of USA during the cold war period to counter the Soviet backed communist influence. The instability began in October 1979 when Prime Minister Taraki was overthrown by Amin with US support. Two months later Amin was overthrown by Karmal with USSR support. Karmal invited Soviet forces to counter opposing forces. USA built Mujahideen resistance against Soviet occupation. Osama bin Laden was its ally. Ten years of conflict brought innumerable casualties and heavy devastation.

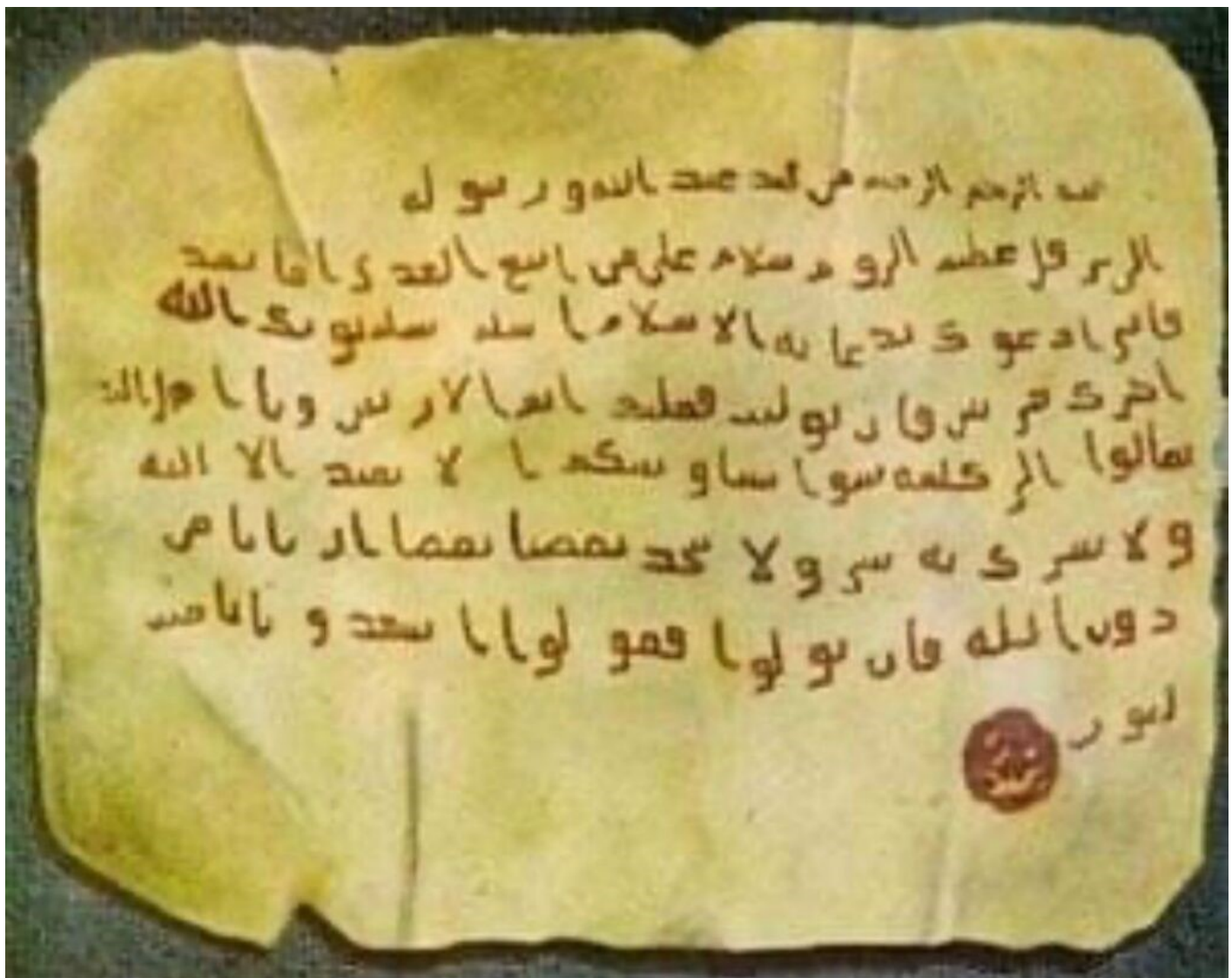
In 1989 Soviet forces withdrew but conflicts between warlords continued. In 1996 Taliban took control of power in Afghanistan. It was a hard-line Islamist regime that put restrictions on women education and employment. After USSR break up in 1991 and the onset of globalization, capitalist powers projected Islamic terror as prime enemy, when with the withdrawal of super power support, the Islamic fundamentalists and militants had lost much of their power. In October 2001, on the pretext of linking Osama bin Laden to 9/11 attacks in USA and Afghanistan giving shelter to Osama, USA carried a massive invasion of Afghanistan. It finished not only the Taliban but also the infrastructure, educational institutions and economy and took a

heavy toll. It installed puppet regimes. In last few years, people regrouped in the name of Taliban and stood against foreign domination without any big power support. They must have learnt hard lessons in last 20 years of occupation. One hopes they would display their genuine respect for freedom of every man and woman of their motherland. If they don't, Afghan masses would have to carry a new struggle for democracy.

(Interview on Afghanistan: Md. Adeb, VKT, Hakim Yar)

## Prophet's Letter to Heraclius

By Dr. Safi Kaskas



The Prophet's letter to Heraclius, the Byzantine emperor of the Eastern Roman Empire. Hercules, at the time, was in his court at Constantinople celebrating his victory over the Persians.

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم، من محمد عبدالله ورسوله إلى هرقل عظيم الروم، سلام على من اتبع الهدى • أما بعد: فإني أدعوك بدعاية الإسلام، أسلم تسلم، يؤتك الله أجرك مرتين، فإن توليت فإن عليك إثم الاريسيين، (يا أهل الكتاب تعالوا إلى كلمة سواء بيننا وبينكم ألا نعبد إلا الله ولا نشرك به شيئاً ولا يتخذ بعضنا بعضاً أرباباً من دون الله فإن تولوا فقولوا اشهدوا بأنا مسلمون

“In the name of Allah the Merciful to all, the Mercy Giver (This letter is) from Muhammad the servant of Allah and His Apostle to Heraclius the ruler of Byzantium. Peace be upon him, who follows the right path. Furthermore, I invite you to submit to God (Islam), and if you submit you will be safe (in the hereafter), and Allah will double your reward, but if you reject this invitation, you will be responsible for the burden of the followers of Arius (Ariusians). (And I recite to you Allah's Statement):

“ People of the Book, “Come to a common word between us that we will not worship any but God, and we will not ascribe partners to Him, nor will we take each other as lords in addition to God.” If they turn away, say, “Bear witness that we have submitted to God.” (03:64) End of message.

The term Ariusians or followers of Arius is a term that wasn't understood by the early commentators on the Prophet's traditions so they explained it as peasants. However, because I studied the early followers of Jesus up to Nicea for years, I was able to connect the dots and understand that the Prophet (pbuh) meant the followers of Arius who apparently were still there but thriving underground.

It behooves Muslim scholars to go back to this historical document and study it again, especially that we still have the original. I did see it where it is on display in King Hussein Mosque in Amman.

## Muslim population in USA 2021

Source: World Atlas

Muslims are more empowered in UK. That is because they have won elections and can influence UK policies. The Muslim Community in USA needs to learn this method for their empowerment. Elections is a game of numbers. For that reason, we provide statistics about the distribution of Muslims in USA.

Following are the states in USA with most dense Muslim populations. Data are compiled in terms of the number of Muslims per 100K of the total population.

1. [Illinois](#) (2,800 per 100k)
2. [Virginia](#) (2,663 per 100k)
3. [New York](#) (2,028 per 100k)
4. [New Jersey](#) (1,827 per 100k)
5. [Texas](#) (1,678 per 100k)
6. [Michigan](#) (1,218 per 100k)
7. [Florida](#) (877 per 100k)



8. [Delaware](#) (793 per 100k)
9. [California](#) (732 per 100k)
10. [Pennsylvania](#) (634 per 100k)

To win elections, we need to focus on areas where there is greatest density of Muslims.

Also, the data for all other states are given below, again in terms of the number of Muslims per 100K of the total population. Please click the link for each state to find more details about 2021 statistics.

Please note that you can compute the total Muslim population in each state by using the following formula:

**Total Muslim Population in a state =**

$$[(\text{Muslim Population per 100K}) \times (\text{Total Population of the State})] / (100\text{K})$$

State	Muslims per 100K	2021 Pop.
<a href="#">Illinois</a>	2,800	12,569,321
<a href="#">Virginia</a>	2,663	8,603,985
<a href="#">New York</a>	2,028	19,299,981
<a href="#">New Jersey</a>	1,827	8,874,520
<a href="#">Texas</a>	1,678	29,730,311
<a href="#">Michigan</a>	1,218	9,992,427
<a href="#">Florida</a>	877	21,944,577
<a href="#">Delaware</a>	793	990,334
<a href="#">California</a>	732	39,613,493
<a href="#">Pennsylvania</a>	634	12,804,123
<a href="#">Maryland</a>	632	6,065,436
<a href="#">Georgia</a>	543	10,830,007
<a href="#">Connecticut</a>	375	3,552,821
<a href="#">Nebraska</a>	337	1,951,996
<a href="#">Colorado</a>	333	5,893,634
<a href="#">Massachusetts</a>	332	6,912,239
<a href="#">Minnesota</a>	317	5,706,398
<a href="#">Ohio</a>	290	11,714,618
<a href="#">Washington</a>	284	7,796,941
<a href="#">North Carolina</a>	273	10,701,022

<b>State</b>	<b>Muslims per 100K</b>	<b>2021 Pop.</b>
<a href="#">Kansas</a>	271	2,917,224
<a href="#">Wisconsin</a>	259	5,852,490
<a href="#">Kentucky</a>	256	4,480,713
<a href="#">Tennessee</a>	242	6,944,260
<a href="#">Indiana</a>	225	6,805,663
<a href="#">Louisiana</a>	216	4,627,002
<a href="#">Alabama</a>	215	4,934,193
<a href="#">Iowa</a>	214	3,167,974
<a href="#">New Mexico</a>	200	2,105,005
<a href="#">Oklahoma</a>	197	3,990,443
<a href="#">Missouri</a>	195	6,169,038
<a href="#">Utah</a>	181	3,310,774
<a href="#">Mississippi</a>	169	2,966,407
<a href="#">South Dakota</a>	164	896,581
<a href="#">Rhode Island</a>	137	1,061,509
<a href="#">Arizona</a>	134	7,520,103
<a href="#">Alaska</a>	130	724,357
<a href="#">Arkansas</a>	128	3,033,946
<a href="#">Wyoming</a>	127	581,075
<a href="#">South Carolina</a>	125	5,277,830
<a href="#">New Hampshire</a>	123	1,372,203
<a href="#">Idaho</a>	110	1,860,123
<a href="#">Oregon</a>	104	4,289,439
<a href="#">West Virginia</a>	103	1,767,859
<a href="#">Maine</a>	100	1,354,522
<a href="#">North Dakota</a>	95	770,026
<a href="#">Nevada</a>	63	3,185,786
<a href="#">Vermont</a>	48	623,251
<a href="#">Hawaii</a>	45	1,406,430
<a href="#">Montana</a>	34	1,085,004

## What is the Truth About American Muslims?

Source: *Jointly produced by the Religious Freedom Education Project of the First Amendment Center and the Interfaith Alliance Islamic Understanding.*

Following 8 facts are recognized about Muslims in USA, in the light of the propaganda against Muslims.

### 1. When did Muslims come to America?

The history of American Muslims goes back more than 400 years. Although some evidence suggests that there were Muslims on Columbus' ships, the first clearly documented arrival of Muslims in America occurred in the 17th century with the arrival of slaves from Africa. Scholars estimate that anywhere from a quarter to a third of the enslaved Africans brought to the United States were Muslims. Large numbers of Moriscos (former Muslims of Spain and Portugal) also came to the Spanish colonies, including many areas of what is today the United States. Although enslaved people were denied freedom of religion, many did practice their faith in secret and pass it on to their children. There are several autobiographies of Muslim slaves that survive from this period, including some by individuals who were involved in the Abolitionist movement and were Union soldiers during the Civil War.

The next significant wave of Muslim immigrants began in the mid-19th century. During the late 19th century until the 1920s, large numbers of Arabs, mostly from Lebanon and Greater Syria, arrived in the United States. Although the majority of these immigrants (almost 90%) were Arab Christians, there were sizable clusters of Muslims, most of whom settled in the Midwest. Mohammed Alexander Russell Webb, an early American convert to Islam, established a mosque and mission in New York City in 1893. The first mosque structure built in the United States for the purpose of serving a Muslim community was in Ross, North Dakota (1929) and the oldest surviving mosque is in Cedar Rapids, Iowa (1934).

African-Americans began to rediscover their African Islamic roots after the Great Migration of Blacks from the South to the Northern cities after World Wars I and II. The re-emergence of African-American Islam has been a consistent phenomenon during the twentieth century until the present. Today, African-American Muslims constitute roughly a third of the American Muslim population.

After passage of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965, greater numbers of Muslims began migrating to America along with many other immigrants with diverse backgrounds. The change in immigration laws allowed highly-skilled professionals to enter the U.S. Many Muslims who came during this time period were from the Middle East and South Asia (India, Pakistan and Bangladesh).

## 2. Who are American Muslims today?

America is home to one of the most diverse Muslim populations in the world, including people of almost every ethnicity, country and school of thought. Although they are widely viewed as recent immigrants, the demographics tell a different story. Approximately one third of the community is African-American, one third is of South Asian descent, one quarter is of Arab descent, and the rest are from all over the world, including a growing Latino Muslim population. While exact numbers are difficult to establish, there are between 3-6 million American Muslims. About one half of this population was born in the U.S., a percentage that continues to grow as immigration slows and younger individuals start having families.

Like others, most Muslims who choose to migrate to America arrive seeking economic opportunity and democratic freedom. The best studies available characterize American Muslims today as largely middle-class and an integral part of American society. [1]

American Muslims are present in all walks of life, as doctors and taxi drivers; lawyers and newspaper vendors; accountants, homemakers, academics, media personalities, athletes and entertainers.

Although American Muslims make up approximately one percent of the U.S. population, most Americans can name several famous American Muslims. Names like Muhammad Ali, Malcolm X, Mos Def, Fareed Zakaria, Shaquille O'Neal, Lupe Fiasco, Dr. Oz and Rima Fasih are part of our popular consciousness. Important business figures like Farooq Kathwari (CEO of Ethan Allen), Malik M. Hasan (a pioneer in the field of HMOs), and Safi Qureshey (a leader in PC component manufacturing) are all American Muslims.

Many American Muslims are also civically engaged, working with their neighbors to better their communities. Well-known American Muslim leaders include Rep. Keith Ellison (DFL-Minn.), the first American Muslim to be elected to the U.S. Congress; Rep. André Carson (D-Ind.); Mohammed Hameeduddin (Mayor, Teaneck, N.J.); and Amer Ahmad (Comptroller, Chicago).

The nation has honored many American Muslims for their service and sacrifice, including, for example, Salman Hamdani, a first responder on 9/11, and Kareem Rashad Sultan Khan, recipient of the Bronze Star and Purple Heart who died while serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

## 3. What is the role of mosques in American Muslim life?

Mosques dot the American landscape and, for observant Muslims, are central to devotional life. A major study of American Muslims in 2008 found that involvement with the mosque and increased religiosity increases civic engagement and support for American democratic values. According to the study, "mosques help Muslims integrate into U.S. society, and in

fact have a very productive role in bridging the differences between Muslims and non-Muslims in the United States. This is a finding in social science that is consistent with decades of research on other religious groups such as Jews, Protestants and Catholics where church attendance and religiosity has been proven to result in higher civic engagement and support for core values of the American political system. Likewise, mosques are institutions that should be encouraged to function as centers of social and political integration in America.” [2]

#### 4. How do American Muslims participate in American public life?

American Muslims take part in all aspects of American civic life. They are members of the Boy and Girls Scouts, Elks Lodges, Rotary Clubs, Kiwanis Clubs, and Veterans of Foreign Wars as well as members of school boards and volunteers in community centers.

American Muslims have created institutions of their own in the United States, just like other religious communities. There are many long-established groups, such as the Islamic Society of North America (ISNA), an umbrella organization of some 300 mosques and Islamic centers based in Indiana, and newer organizations like the Council for the Advancement of Muslim Professionals.

Many Islamic centers and institutions create programs serving both American Muslim communities and the wider public.

The University Muslim Medical Association, for example, is a free health care clinic in Los Angeles founded in 1992 by American Muslim college students at UCLA and Charles Drew University to serve a diverse inner-city community. The Inner City Muslim Action Network (IMAN) is a community-based non-profit formed in 1995 by American Muslim students, community residents and leaders to address inner city poverty and abandonment in the greater Chicago area. IMAN delivers a wide range of services, including a health clinic providing free health care and support services to the uninsured population on Chicago’s Southwest Side.

Many other American Muslim institutions are actively engaged in charitable giving, educational programs, interfaith outreach, health care, civic engagement, politics and the media. In short, American Muslims and the organizations they create are part of the fabric of American public life.

#### 5. Is Islam a political movement?

No. Islam is a religious tradition, and adherents to Islam are called Muslim. Of course, American Muslims, like Americans from other religious groups, participate in American political life. American Muslim voting patterns generally mirror the broader American

population. American Muslims are Republicans, Democrats, Libertarians, liberals and conservatives. There is no one political platform or agenda for those who practice the religion of Islam in the United States.

#### 6. Have American Muslim leaders spoken out against extremist violence?

Yes. Many American Muslim leaders and organizations have repeatedly denounced extremist violence in the strongest possible terms.

Of the many statements and actions taken by American Muslims to condemn and counter terrorism, the fatwa (religious ruling) from the Fiqh Council of North America (an Islamic juristic body) captures the views of the vast majority of American Muslims:

“Islam strictly condemns religious extremism and the use of violence against innocent lives. There is no justification in Islam for extremism or terrorism.”

The Fiqh Council of North America’s statement affirms the following Islamic principles:

”[1] All acts of terrorism, including those targeting the life and property of civilians, whether perpetrated by suicidal or any other form of attacks, are haram (forbidden) in Islam.

[2] It is haram (forbidden) for a Muslim to cooperate with any individual or group that is involved in any act of terrorism or prohibited violence.

[3] It is the civic and religious duty of Muslims to undertake full measures to protect the lives of all civilians, and ensure the security and well-being of fellow citizens.”

A comprehensive collection of condemnations of terrorism and extremism by American Muslims, including theological arguments, may be found on The American Muslim, a publication that has been providing information about the American Muslim community since 1998. [www.theamericanmuslim.org](http://www.theamericanmuslim.org)

#### 7. Are American Muslims concerned about extremist violence in the United States?

Yes. Most American Muslims, like most other Americans, are deeply concerned about the problem of extremist violence committed in the name of Islam. According to the most reliable data we have, the overwhelming majority of American Muslims is well integrated into American society and reports criminal activity. Over the past decade, 40% of domestic terrorism plots have been uncovered or deterred with assistance from American Muslims. [3]

#### 8. Do American Muslim leaders support freedom of expression and religious liberty?

Yes. Many American Muslim leaders, educational institutions and advocacy groups have repeatedly spoken out for freedom of expression and are actively involved in promoting religious liberty for all people both in the United States and abroad.

A recent statement signed by some 200 American and Canadian Muslim leaders unconditionally condemned “any intimidation or threats of violence directed against any individual or group exercising the rights of freedom of religion and speech; even when that speech may be perceived as hurtful or reprehensible.”

The statement directly addresses recent controversies in the United States:

“We are concerned and saddened by the recent wave of vitriolic anti-Muslim and anti-Islamic sentiment that is being expressed across our nation. We are even more concerned and saddened by threats that have been made against individual writers, cartoonists, and others by a minority of Muslims. We see these as a greater offense against Islam than any cartoon, Qur’an burning, or other speech could ever be deemed.” [4]

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## References

- [1] The Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life has undertaken two major studies of American Muslims in 2007 and 2011. See the following for a summary of these studies: <http://www.people-press.org/2011/08/30/muslim-americans-no-signs-of-growth-in-alienation-or-support-for-extremism/>
- [2] The full study may be found at [www.muslimamericansurvey.org](http://www.muslimamericansurvey.org)
- [3] For a series of studies on extremist violence and the role of the American Muslim community in addressing the problem, see the publications of the Triangle Center on Terrorism and Homeland Security (<http://sanford.duke.edu/centers/tcths/>). The Gallup study of American Muslims may be found at <http://www.gallup.com/strategicconsulting/153611/REPORT-Muslim-Americans-Faith-Freedom-Future.aspx>
- [4] The full text of “A Defense of Free Speech by Canadian and American Muslims” may be found at [www.theamericanmuslim.org](http://www.theamericanmuslim.org)



## **The Great Muslim Nation**

We are the only organization of its kind in North America

eMail : [iCommunity@mail.MuslimPlanet.org](mailto:iCommunity@mail.MuslimPlanet.org)

Website : <http://MuslimPlanet.org/>

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