

Islam

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Islam is a monotheistic and Abrahamic religion articulated by the Qur'an, an Islamic holy book considered by its adherents (приверженцы) to be the verbatim word of God (Allāh). Muslims are required to travel to Mecca at least once in their lifetime.

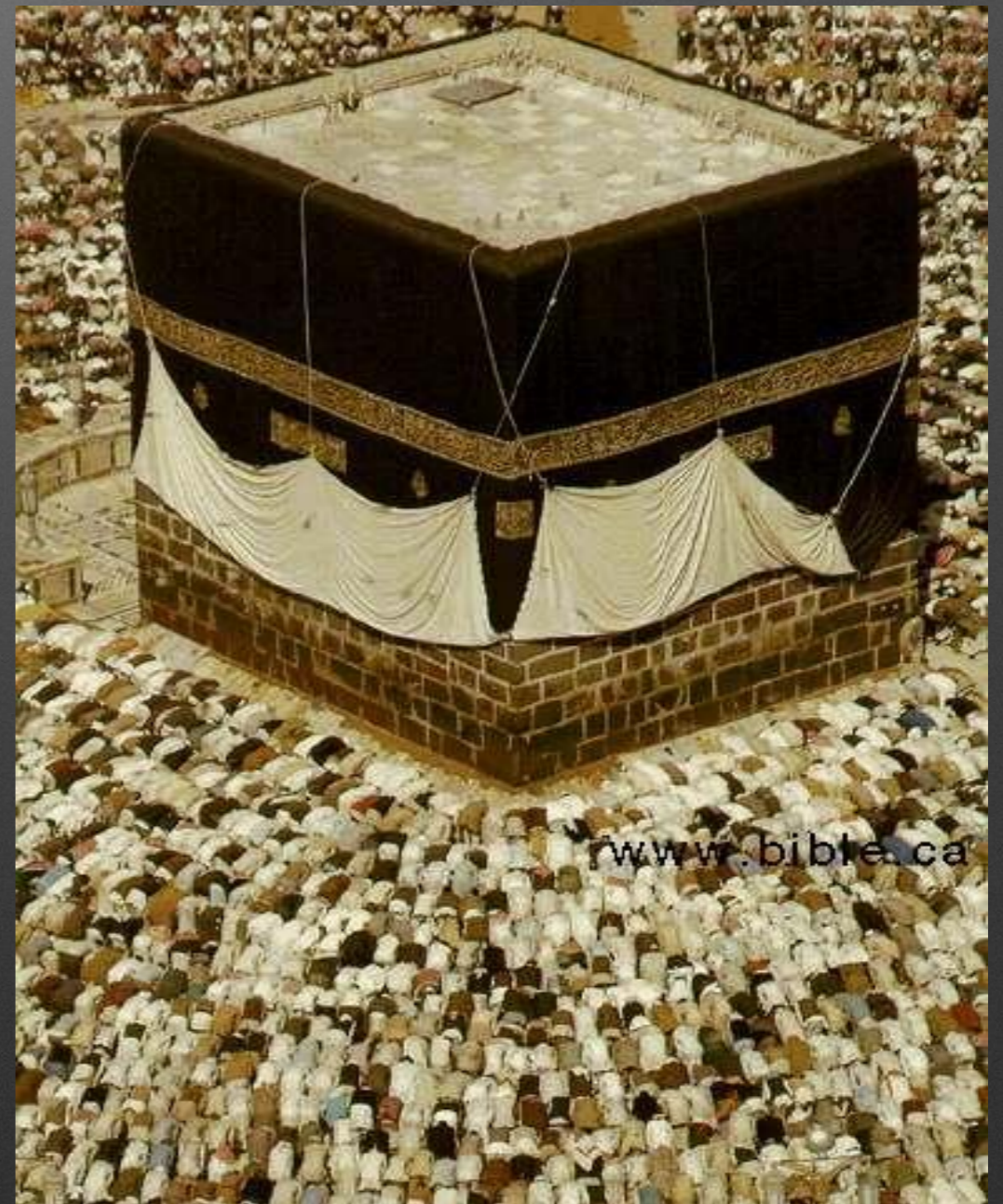




Muslims believe that God is one and incomparable and that the purpose of existence is to worship God.

Muslims also believe that Islam is the complete and universal version of a primordial faith(исконная вера) that was revealed many times before through prophets (пророки) including Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses, and Jesus.

Belief in angels is fundamental to the faith of Islam. Muslims believe that angels are made of light. They are described as "messengers with wings."

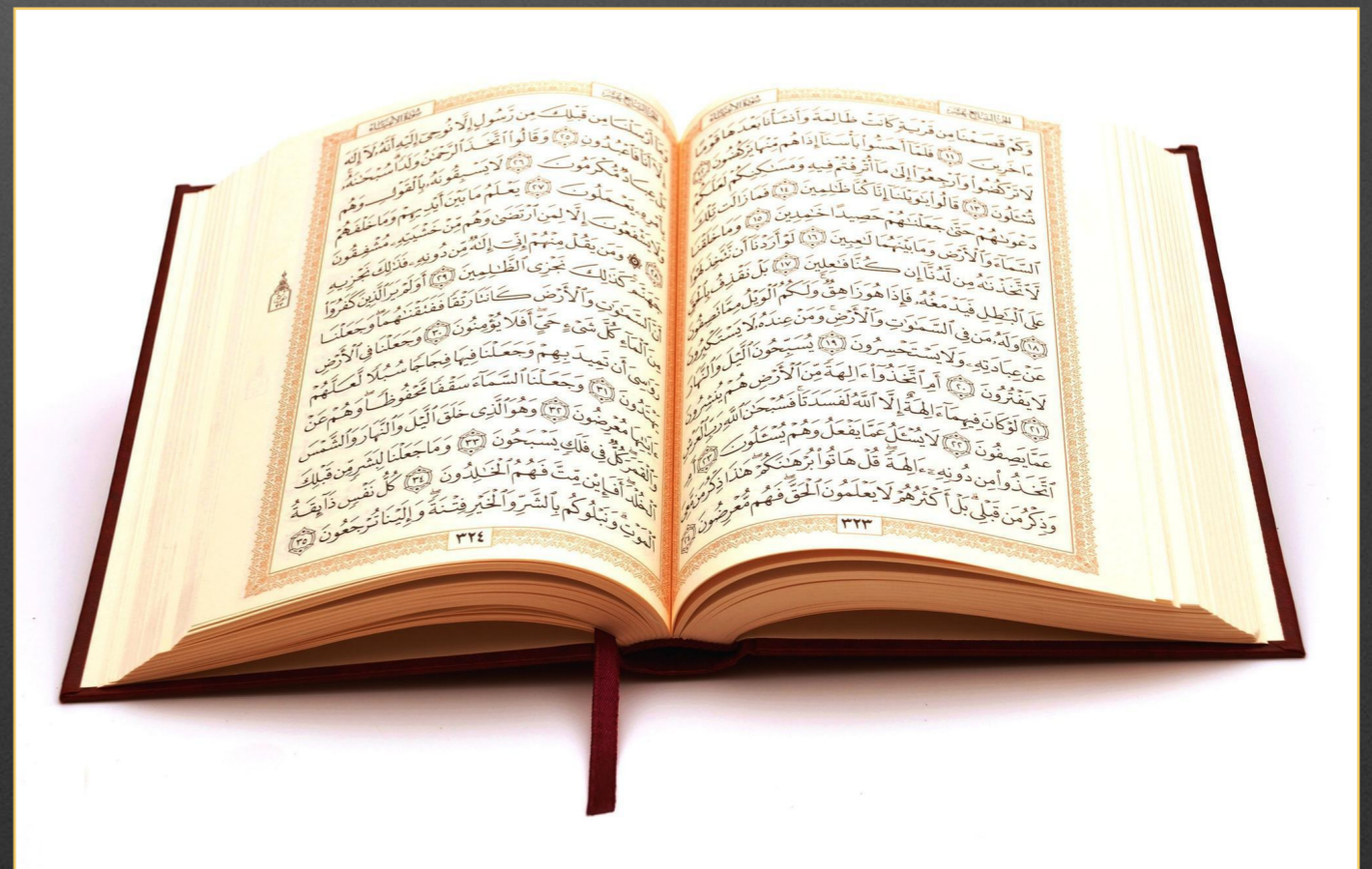




# The Islamic Holy Book

The Islamic holy book is the records which most Muslims believe were dictated by God to various prophets.

The Qur'an is divided into 114 suras, or chapters, which combined, contain 6,236 verses. The chronologically earlier suras, revealed at Mecca, are primarily concerned with ethical and spiritual topics. The later Medinan suras mostly discuss social and moral issues relevant to the Muslim community.





# Prayers

Ritual prayers, called Ṣalāh or Ṣalāt (Arabic: صلاة), must be performed five times a day. Salat is intended to focus the mind on God, and is seen as a personal communication with him that expresses gratitude and worship. Salat is compulsory but flexibility in the specifics is allowed depending on circumstances. The prayers are recited in Arabic language, and consist of verses from the Qur'an. The prayers are done with the chest in direction of the kaaba though in the early days of Islam, they were done in direction of Jerusalem. Women pray separately.

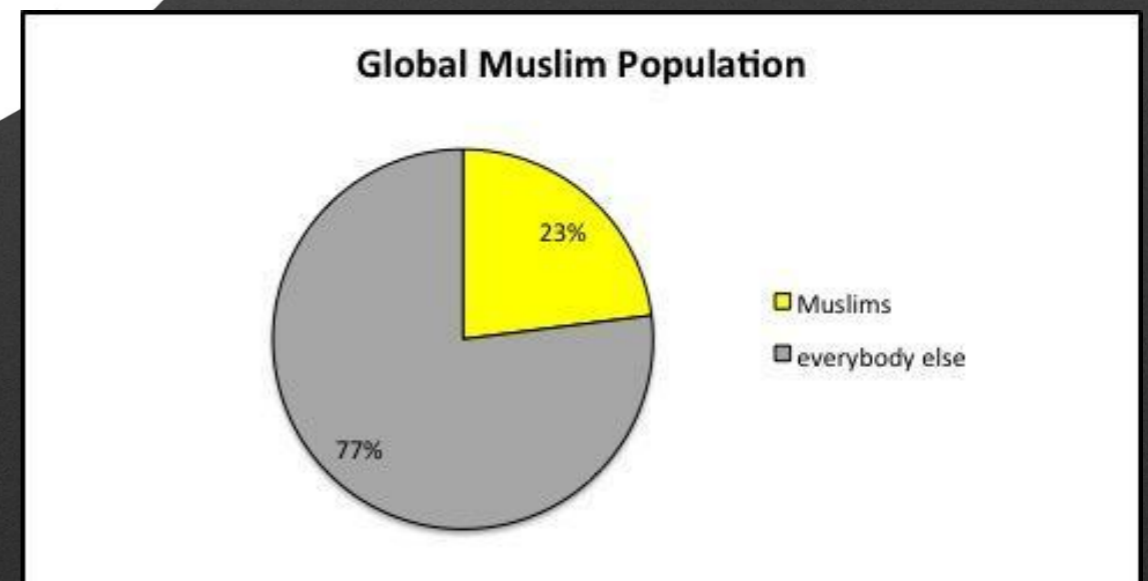
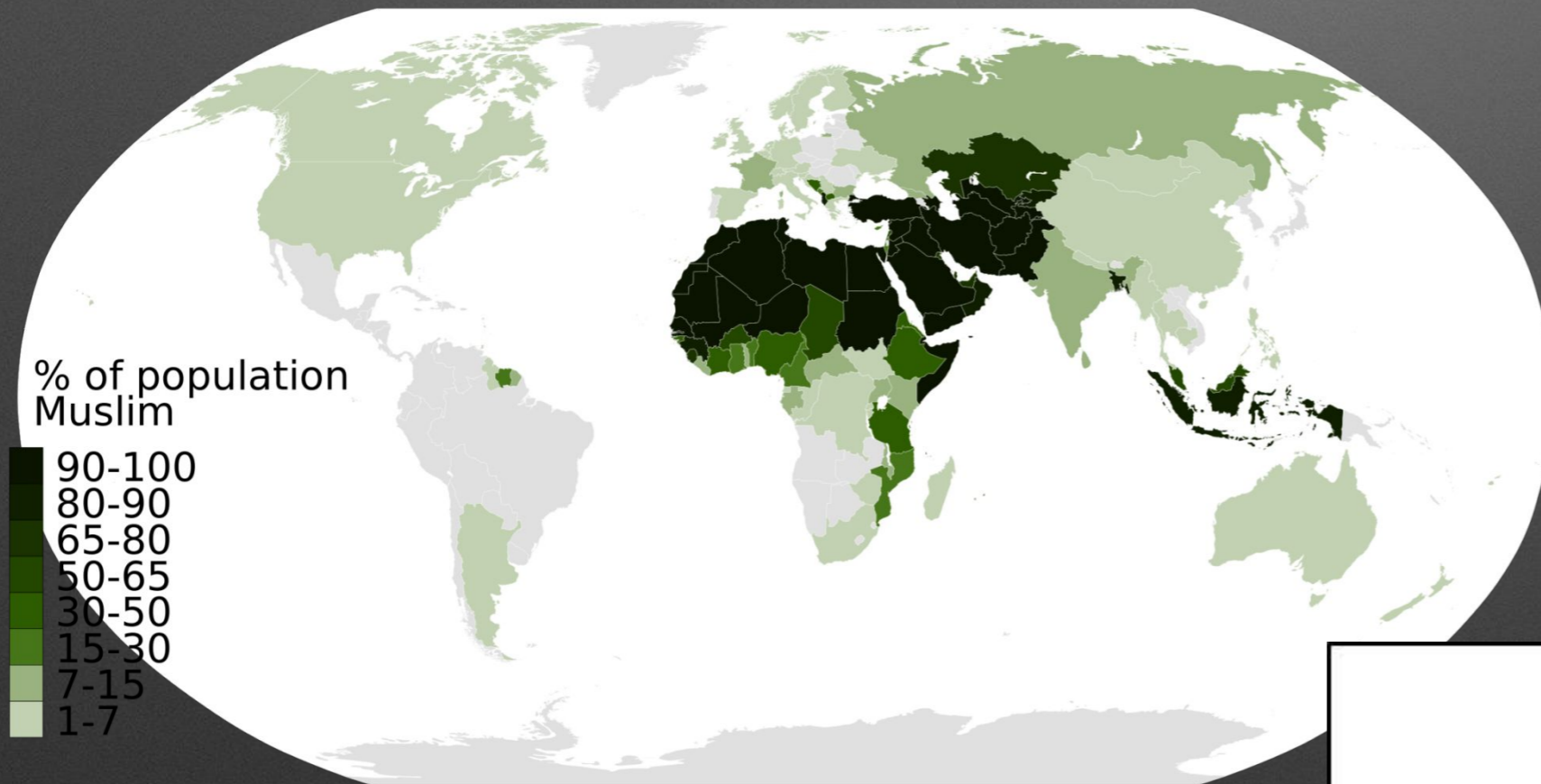




# Demographic

A comprehensive 2009 demographic study of 232 countries and territories reported that 23% of the global population, or 1.57 billion people, are Muslims.

The majority of Muslims live in Asia and Africa.





# *Family life*

The basic unit of Islamic society is the family, and Islam defines the obligations and legal rights of family members.

The father is seen as financially responsible for his family, and is obliged to cater (обеспечивать) for their well-being.





The division of inheritance is specified in the Qur'an, which states that most of it is to pass to the immediate family, while a portion is set aside for the payment of debts and the making of bequests. With some exceptions, the woman's share of inheritance is generally half of that of a man with the same rights of succession. Marriage in Islam is a civil contract which consists of an offer and acceptance between two qualified parties in the presence of two witnesses. The groom is required to pay a bridal gift (mahr) to the bride, as stipulated in the contract.





# The Mosque

**Saint Petersburg Mosque** opened in 1913 was the largest mosque in Europe. Its minarets are 49 meters high and the dome is 39 meters high. The foundation stone was laid in 1910 to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the reign of Abdul Ahat Khan in Bukhara. The walls are faced with grey granite and the dome and both minarets are covered with mosaic ceramics of sky-light-blue colour. Skilled craftsmen from Central Asia took part working on the mosque.





The facades are decorated with sayings from Koran using the characteristic Arabian calligraphy. Internal columns are made from green marble.





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