



# Introduction to Islam

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# Topics Covered

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1. Three Spiritual Motivations
2. Six Pillars of Faith
3. Five Pillars of Worship

# Part I:

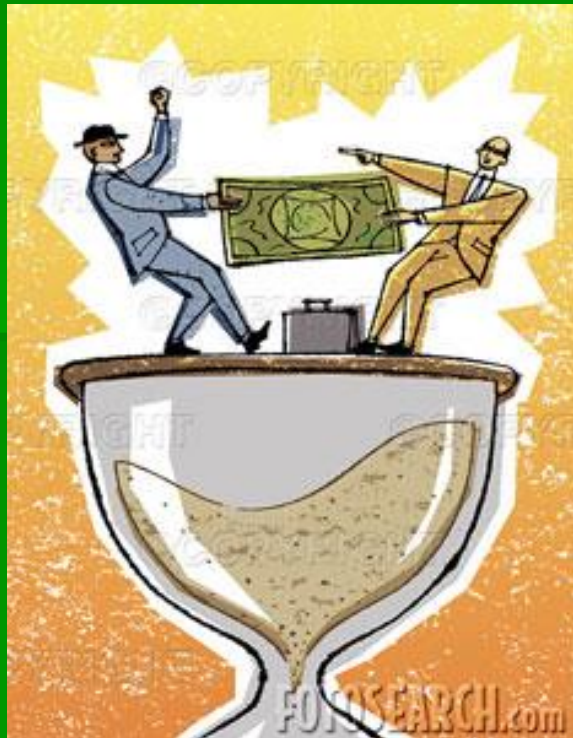
## Spiritual Motivations in Islam

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- Why do we need spiritual Motivations?
- To fight evil temptations
- To fight evil inclinations

# Some of the Evil Temptations

- The characteristics of the Evil Soul, such as excessive selfishness and greed





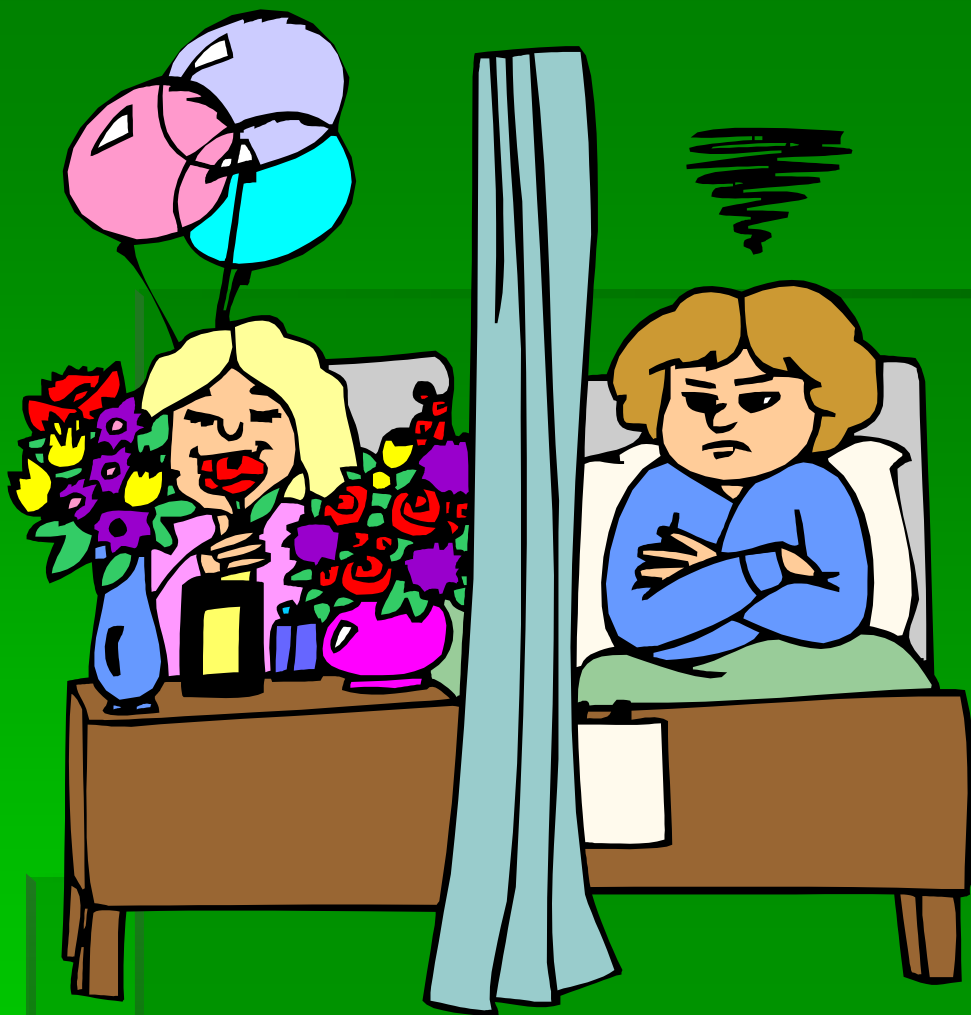
**Ego and Arrogance**



**Hatred and Grudges**

# Anger and Revenge





**Envy and Jealousy**



**Cowardness**



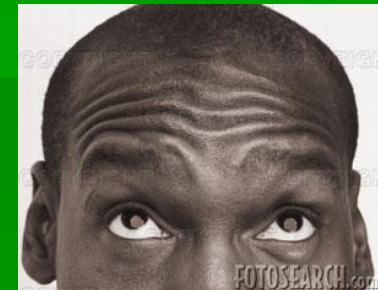
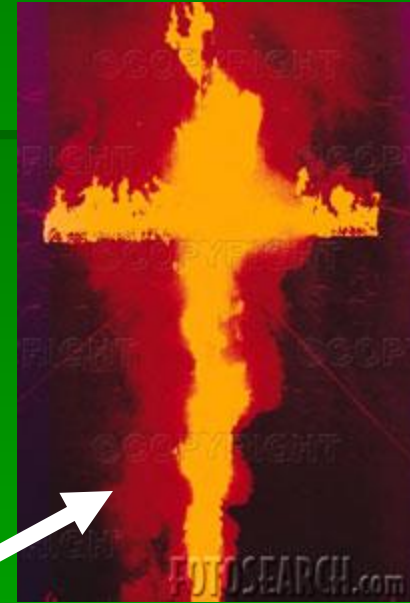
**Stinginess and  
excessive Love  
of Money**



**Laziness**

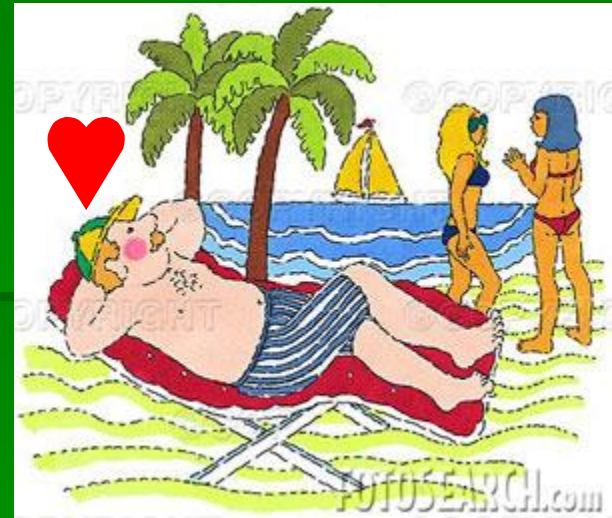


# Evil Desire of Racism





Excessive  
Self Admiring



sexual desires  
outside of  
Marriage

# Three Spiritual Motivations

1. Love of God and Strong Desire to Please him
2. Strong desire to Earn Paradise
3. Fear of God's Punishment and Strong Desire to Protect Oneself Against

## Analogy:

What Motivates an Individual to Go To Work?

1. Love of His job
2. Desire to Earn the Salary
3. Fear of Being Fired, or Fear of Poverty

# To Fight Evil Inclinations

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Do and support what is right even if

- It causes pain
- It requires sacrifice
- You hate it
- Against your materialistic benefits

Stop yourself from doing what is wrong and condemn it even if

- It causes pleasure
- You love it
- Brings materialistic benefits to you

# Motivate you to Sacrifice for the Sake of God

- Sacrifice precious time, money and effort for the sake of God
- Do not expect any worldly gains, such as recognition, fame or materialistic gains
- Look only to be rewarded by God in the day of judgment
- Invest precious time, money and effort with God for the eternal retirement

# Part II:

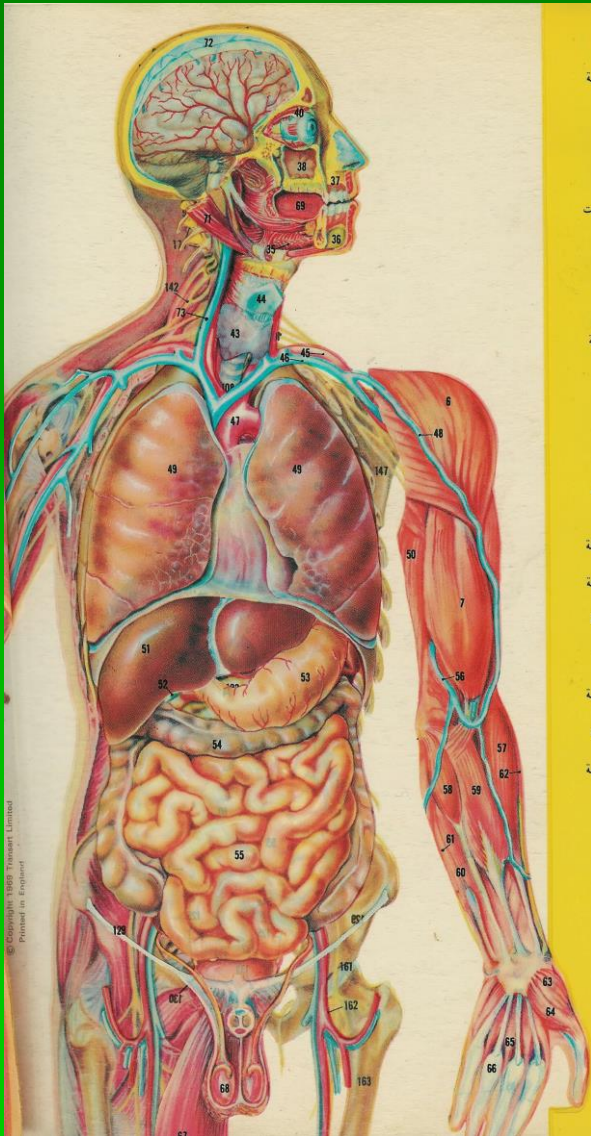
## Six Pillars of Faith

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### 1. To believe in God:

- One God, the one Worshiped by Abraham, Moses, Jacob, Noah, Josef, Jesus ...etc
- Perfect God, i.e. does not need to rest, does not make mistakes, all knowing, in full control, and has all the attributes of beauty and greatness.  
**FLAWLESS.**
- Did not beget nor was he begotten
- The Big Boss
- Not being able to see him ≠ does not exist, signs of his existence are every where

# Signs of God Existence



# 2. To Believe in the Angels of God

- The Almighty Powerful King should have servants to carry on his orders and commands
- Created from Light
- Do not have a free will to obey or disobey
- No reward or punishment to them
- Satan was not an angel, he was from the Jinn created from fire
- They are neither male or female and they do not look like that





# 3. To Believe in the Messengers of God

They are teachers sent by God to teach the guidance of God and answer the questions:

1. What is good, what is evil, what is right, what is wrong, what is moral and what is immoral?
2. What is the purpose of our creation?
3. Is there a God? Who is God?
4. What is God expecting from us?
5. What should we expect from God?
6. Is there a life after death? Where do we go?

# Purpose of Life

- All creation of God worship him without a choice. They can not choose not to worship him with the exception of human and Jinn kinds
- God created us and gave us free will to worship him with our choice. Worship even though we have the choice not to worship, obey even though we have the choice not to obey, sacrifice for his sake even though we have the choice not to, fight our evil desires and inclinations, even though we have the choice not to fight them, actually it is easier not to, but no pain, no gain
- This is why we were inspired with both good will and evil desires, so we have a free will
- Angels are inspired only with good will, so they do not have a free will and they always choose good. Consequently, they do not get rewards or punishments
- Satan kind is inspired only with evil desires, so they do not have a free will and they always choose evil. Satan has lost the free will after failing the test of submission by refusing to bow down to Adam

# Meaning of the Word Muslim

- “Muslim” means “submissive”, which means submissive to the guidance of God, not submissive to evil desires and evil inclinations
- This life is a test of submission. Those who pass the test are those who are submissive to the guidance of God, sacrifice time, money and effort for his sake, and fight their evil desires and inclinations
- By doing so, they have fulfilled the purpose of their creation and worshiped God by free will
- God created us because he wanted to be worshiped by a creation that has a free will



# Chain of the Prophets

Adam  
Idris  
Noah  
Lot  
Hud  
Abraham  
Jacob  
Joseph  
Moses  
David  
Solomon  
Isra  
John  
Jesus  
Mohamed

All Prophets came with same message and taught the same guidance

Muslims believe in all the Prophets without making any discrimination among them. They are all equally loved and respected

Prophets are sent as mercy to human kind to take them out of darkness and to bring them to light

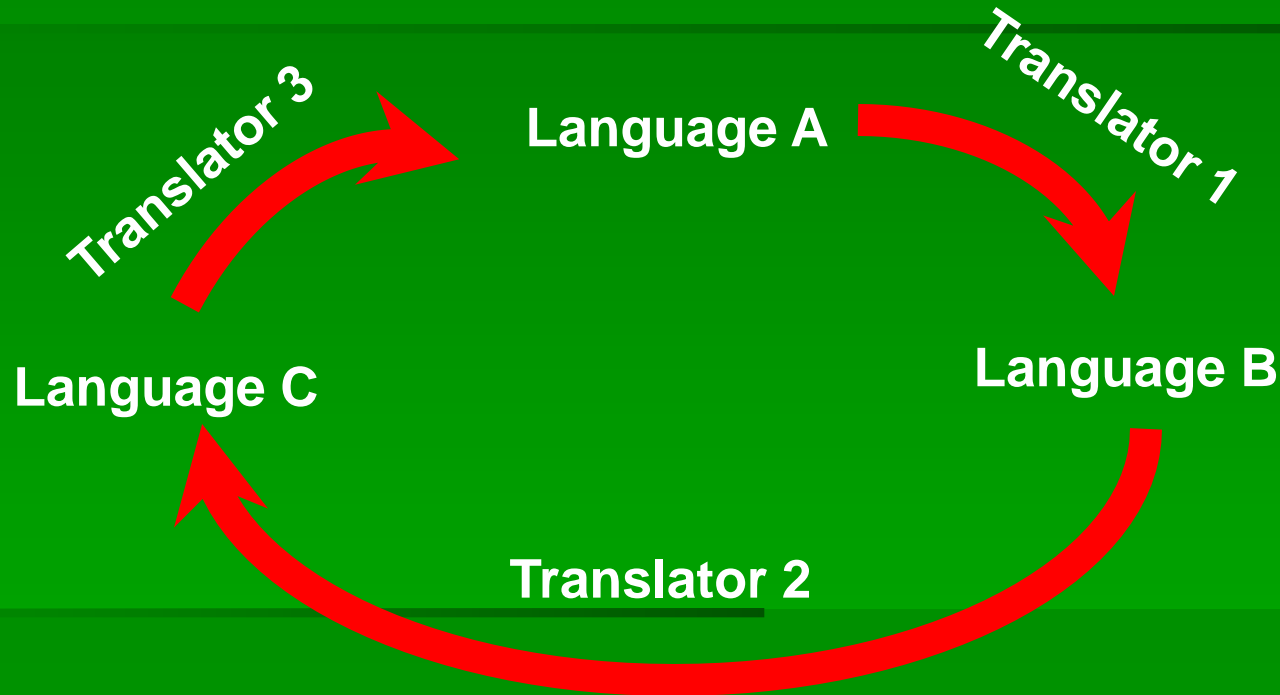
# 4. To Believe in the Scriptures (Books) of God

- Teachers (Prophets) were teaching from a text book called “Holly Scripture”
- Prophets leave scripture to guide people and inspire them after their death
- Scriptures are the word of God
- Muslims believe in all original scriptures including; Bible, Torah (Old Testament), The books of Moses, David and Abraham

# Islam and Christianity

- Islam is the only non Christian based religion in the whole world that requires believers to believe in Jesus and the Bible
- Believing in Jesus and the Bible is among the pillars of faith. Thus, (s)he is not a Muslim if (s)he does not believe in either Jesus or the Bible
- Muslims do not believe the Bible is 100% accurate because of translation issues and existence of different versions of the bible, e.g. Catholic Bible is seven more books than King James Version, however, Muslims believe in the portion of the Bible confirmed by the Holly Quran

# Dictionary Game



- Because each translation is an interpretation, you start the game with one sentence in language A and end up with a totally different sentence

# 5. To Believe in the Day of Judgment



- People will be resurrected and judged for their deeds by God
- If there is no day of judgment, then Hitler is having the same fate like Abraham, both are equally peacefully sleeping in their graves
- Criminals got away with their crimes
- People with Good will are losers because they have sacrificed for nothing
- Why should I sacrifice precious things if I am not expecting any reward back



## 6. To Submit Yourself in Full Acceptance of God's Decisions

- Many decisions are made by God, such as sex, color, race, birth place, choice of parents, family, ...etc
- Must trust and respect God's choices for you
- Can not question or look down to God's decisions
- Can not look down to a person because of his color or race, it is the choice of God. Islam is COLOR BLIND religion

# Trust God's Decisions Even if you Can't Understand them or Look Harmful to You

- God's ways are above our ways, his thoughts are way above ours and his wisdom is way above ours
- Why did I get this cancer?
- Why did I lose my family in a car accident?
- It is okay to feel sad, but never think that God has been mean to you
- I am sad, but I still love you and respect your will and wisdom, and I will continue to worship you

# Part III:

## Five Pillars of Worship

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- Worship is the practice of faith
- Faith without practice is not accepted
- It is hypocrisy to believe in a certain way and to act in an opposite manner
- God in the Koran never talks about those who believe, but always those who believe and act accordingly

# **1. To declare that there is no Deity but God and Mohamed is his Messenger**

- It is a quick way to renew the faith and remove the forgetness of God
- As we engage in materialistic life, we forget God
- Islam requires the frequent remembrance and consciousness of God
- Remembrance of God keeps the spiritual motivations up

# 2. Pray Five Times a Day



- 1) Dawn Prayer before Sunrise
- 2) Noon prayer
- 3) Afternoon prayer

- 4) Sunset Prayer
- 5) Night Prayer

# Why do we pray

1. Phone call to God to thank him for all the blessings that he is providing to us, i.e. perform the worship of gratitude
2. Maintain God's remembrances
3. Keep up the spiritual motivations
4. Prevent sins

# 3. Fasting Ramadan

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- Spiritual exercise to train the spiritual muscle of self control
- Submission to God, we are in control of our evil desires, not they are in control of us
- Test of submission, do what God order even if it causes pain to us
- What if I sneak to the kitchen and eat?
- Remember those who have 24 hours a day seven days a week Ramadan
- IF I can fast from lawful things, can't I fast from unlawful things

# 4. Alms Giving. Pay the Obligatory Charity

- 2.5% of wealth in excess to your needs must go to the poor and needy, not to the hungry administrators
- 20% of mines and oil
- 10% if crops irrigated by natural rain, or 5% irrigated by artificial ways. Must be paid on the day of harvest
- Watch for Charitable organization overhead
- Can't go to the funds of the Islamic Centers
- Can be used to free slaves, if any



# 5. Pilgrimage to Makkah at Least Once in Life Time



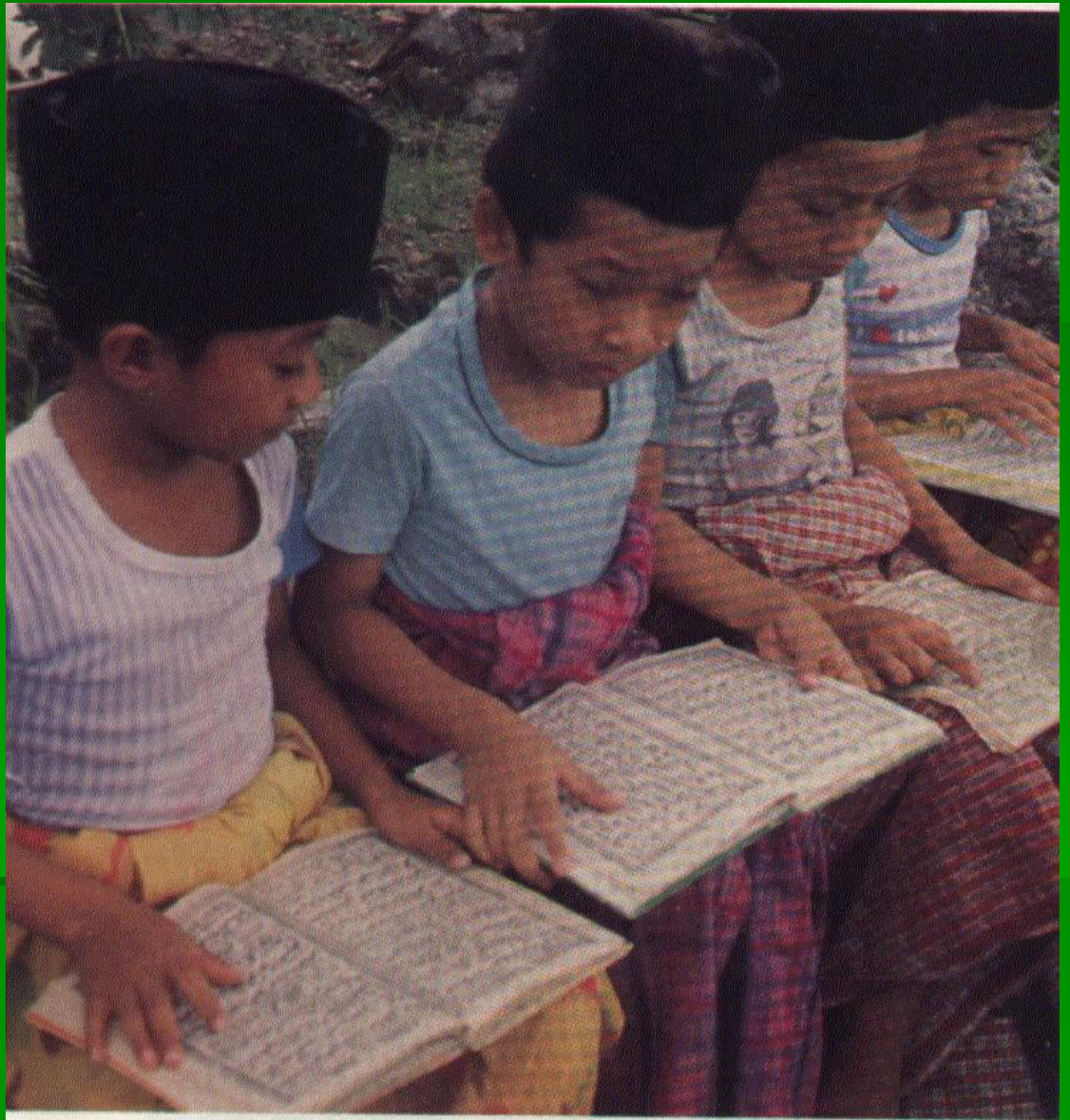
- Only to those who can afford it and healthy enough to make the journey
- Annual conference to all Muslims
- People travel for pleasure and business. This trip is travel for the sake of God

# Divine Law of Islam

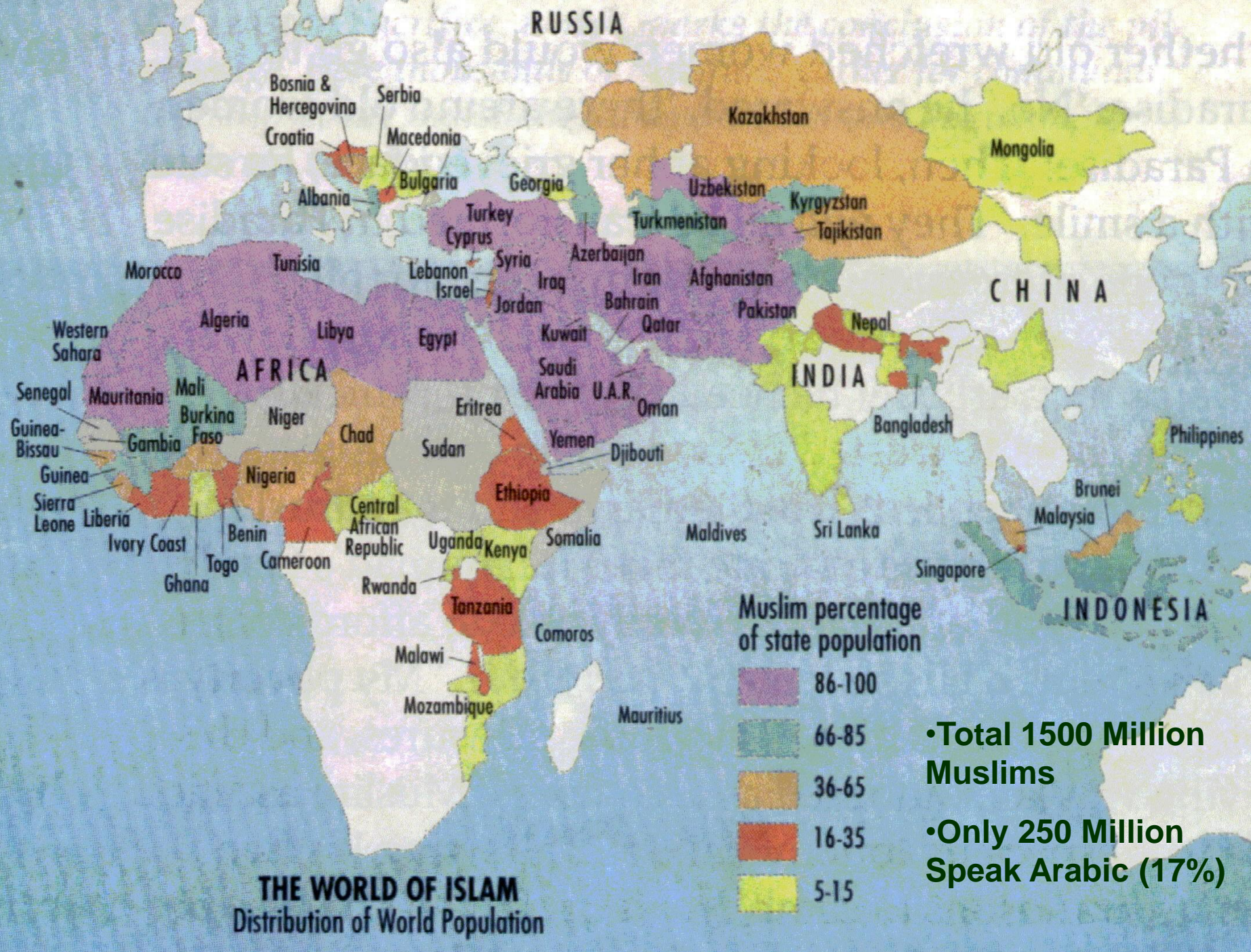
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- Humans must have a law to govern their life
- No civilized society can live without laws and constitution
- The law is either divine or man made. Those who refuse divine laws, the only alternative is man made law
- Muslims chose the divine law and divine constitution, which is Koran

# Numerical Facts About Muslims



*Most Muslims—approximately 75 percent—live in south and southeast Asia, not the Middle East. Here Malaysian children study the Qur'an.*



# Questions

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