



# ISLAM UNVEILED

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# OVERVIEW OF ISLAM

# MEANING OF "ISLAM"

**ISLAM** = Finding Peace and Salvation through submission to God's Will

**MUSLIM** = One who strives to submit their will to the Will of God

Now new or different from Biblical teachings:

21. Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

[Matthew 7:21]

9. After this manner therefore pray ye:  
Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

10. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

[Bible: Matthew 6 : 9 - 10 and Luke 11:2 ]

50. For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother.

[Matthew 12:50]

# WHO IS ALLAH ?



“**Allah**” is the Arabic name for God, used by Muslims as well as Arab Christians, Jews and other Arab speakers.

*“ . . . and say:*

*We believe in that which has been revealed to us and revealed to you, and our God and your God is One, and to Him do we submit”.*

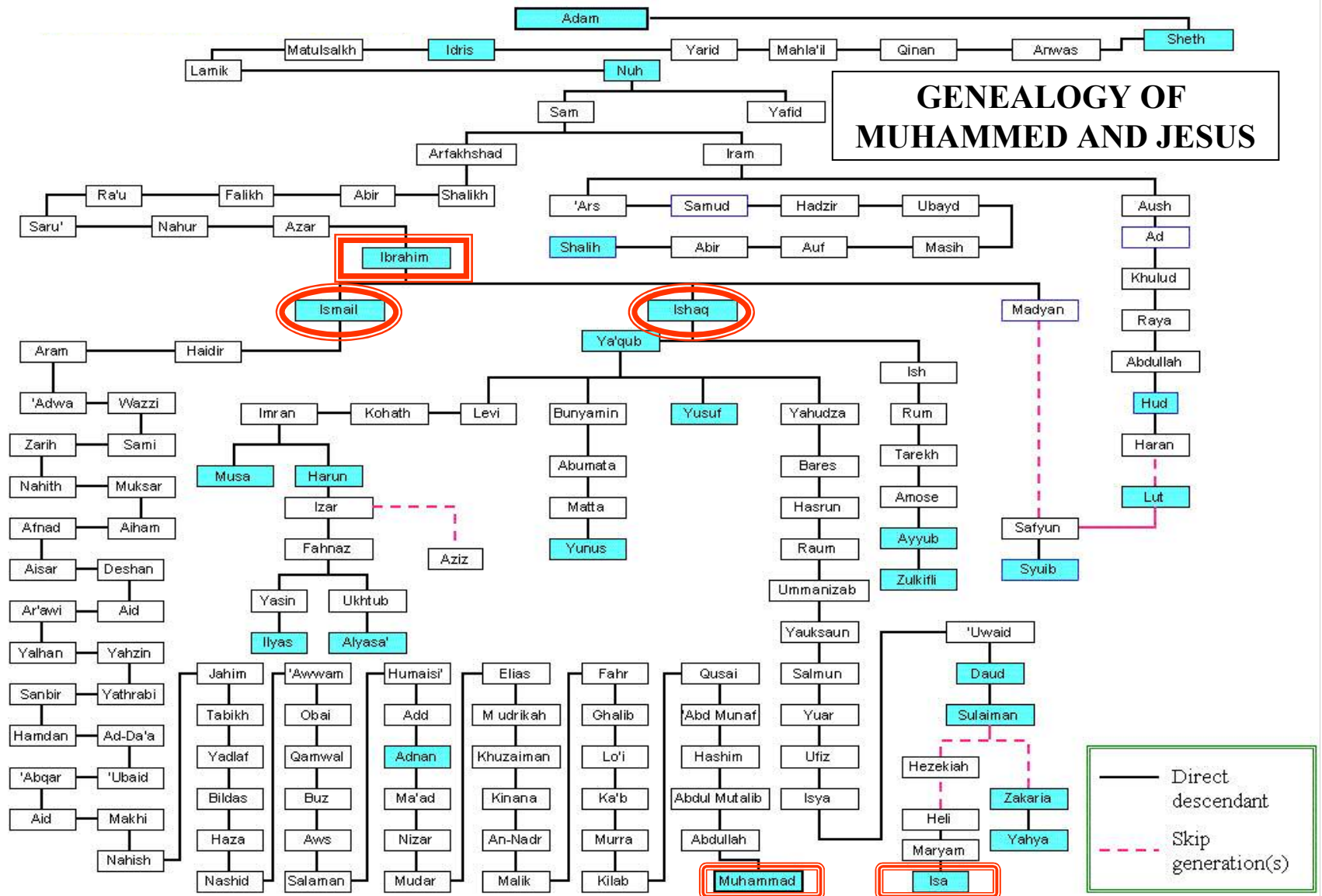
*(Qur'an 29:46)*

*The same God of Abraham, Noah, Moses, Jesus etc.*

- The Creator, Sustainer, Infinite, The Merciful, The Just, The King etc*

# WHO WAS MOHAMMAD?

Descendant of Abraham through Abraham's first son Ishmael



# WHO WAS MOHAMMAD?

- Born into a noble family in Mecca, Saudi Arabia, in 570 C.E.
- Died in 632 CE at the age of 63
- Was a thoughtful youth who worked as a shepherd
- He rejected the immoral customs of his people, who had become steeped in idolatry
- His character earned him the nickname 'AL-AMEEN = The Trustworthy'
- Mohammed was unlettered - could not read nor write.
- Received his first revelation from God at 40 through the Angel Gabriel which continued for 23 years (The Quran)
- Like other prophets, he performed miracles, by God's Permission, but he taught that his greatest miracle is the Quran and called it a "Lasting Miracle".
- In the ranking of the 100 Top Ranked people of all time, by Michael Hart, Muhammed ranked first.



# SOURCES OF ISLAM

- ***Previous Scriptures***  
were sources of Islam but now many teachings are superseded by the Quran (eg the Sabbath, etc).
- ***The Quran / Scriptures***
  - What is the Quran
- ***The Sunnah (lifestyle of the Prophet)***
  - Dependant on the Quran
  - What is the Sunnah?
  - What is the Hadith?
- ***Consensus of Scholars***
  - Dependant on the Quran
  - Dependant on the authentic Hadith also



# CORE BELIEFS OF MUSLIMS

1. Belief in One God
2. Belief in the Angels
3. Belief in God's revealed books
4. Belief in prophets and messengers of God
5. Beliefs in the Day of Judgement
6. Belief in predestination and foreknowledge



# Pillars Of Islam

The 'Five Pillars' of Islam are the foundation of Muslim life:

1. a. Faith or belief in the Oneness of God and  
b. the finality of the prophethood of Muhammad;
2. Establishment of the 5 daily prayers;
3. Compulsory almsgiving to the needy (Muslim and non Muslim) known as Zakat;
4. Fasting the Month of Ramadan;
5. Pilgrimage to Makkah  
for those who are physically and financially able.

(All pillars become a duty for males and females at the age of puberty)



# **SOME RELEVANT TEACHINGS OF ISLAM**

# IMPORTANT PRINCIPLES

- NO COMPULSION IN RELIGION

*“Let there be no compulsion in religion.  
Truth stands out clear from Error.  
Whoever rejects evil and believes in God  
has grasped the most trustworthy hand-hold,  
that never breaks.  
And God hears and knows all things.”*

(The Holy Quran, Chapter 2 (The Heifer) - Verse 256)

- FREEDOM OF RELIGION AND LIFE

*“If it had been God's Plan  
they would not have worshiped other things besides gods:  
and We have not appointed you  
as a guardian over them  
nor are you set over them  
to dispose of their affairs”.*

The Holy Quran Chapter 6, (Al-Anaam) - Verses 107



# THE SAVING OF LIFE

“... We ordained for the Children of Israel that  
if anyone slew a person  
unless it be for murder  
or for spreading mischief in the land  
it would be as if  
they killed the whole of mankind:  
and if anyone saved a life  
it would be as if  
they saved the life of the whole of mankind.  
Then although there came to them Our apostles  
with clear Signs  
yet even after that many of them  
continued to commit excesses in the land...”

[Quran Chapter 5, Verse 32]

## Other relevant teachings

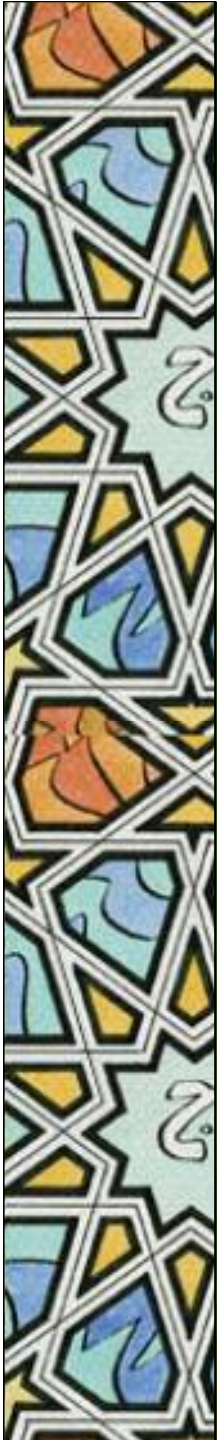
- Necessity dictates exceptions
- Actions are judged by the intentions



# **PROFILE OF AUSTRALIAN MUSLIMS**

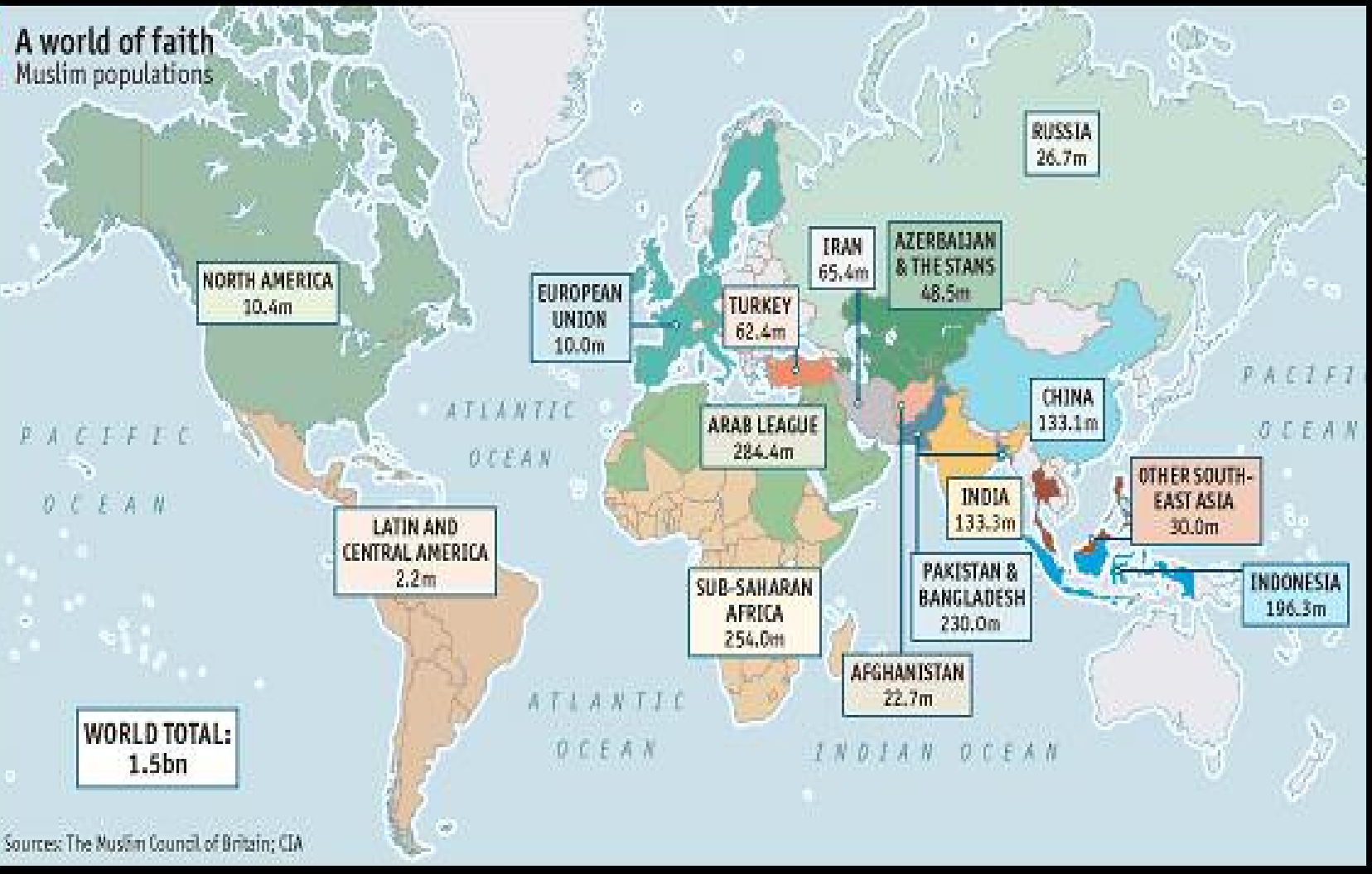
# MUSLIMS IN THE WORLD

- There are about 1.5 Billion Muslims in the world.
- This represents between 19.2% and 22% of the world's population.
- Second largest religion in the world



# MUSLIM WORLD POPULATION

A world of faith  
Muslim populations



# MAJOR BRANCHES OF ISLAM

<i>Branch</i>	<i>Number of Adherents</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
<i>Sunni</i>	<i>1,229,340,000</i>	<i>87.81%</i>
<i>Shiite</i>	<i>156,940,000</i>	<i>11.21%</i>
<i>Ahmadiyya</i>	<i>13,020,000</i>	<i>0.93%</i>
<i>Druze</i>	<i>560,000</i>	<i>0.04%</i>



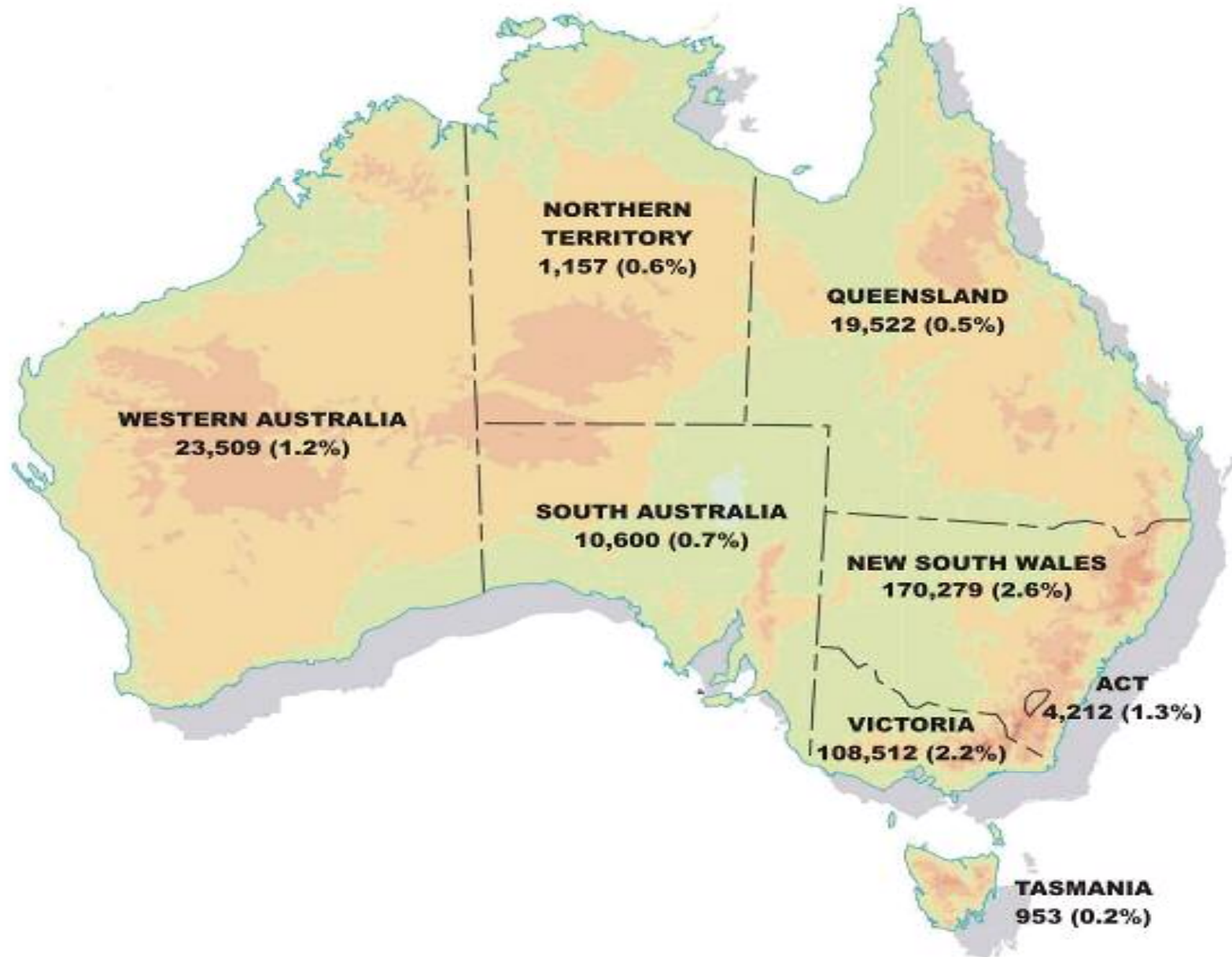
# SUNNIS AND SHIITE



# MUSLIMS IN AUSTRALIA

RELIGION	1996	2001	2006	1996	2001	2006	change 96 to 01	change 01 to 06
Anglican	3,903,324	3,881,162	3,718,252	21.99%	20.68%	18.73%	-0.57%	-4.20%
Baptist	295,178	309,205	316,738	1.66%	1.65%	1.60%	4.75%	2.44%
Brethren	22,063	19,353	24,232	0.12%	0.10%	0.12%	12.28%	25.21%
Catholic	4,798,950	5,001,624	5,126,880	27.03%	26.65%	25.82%	4.22%	2.50%
Churches of Christ	75,023	61,335	54,822	0.42%	0.33%	0.28%	-18.25%	-10.62%
Jehovah's Witnesses	83,414	81,069	80,919	0.47%	0.43%	0.41%	-2.81%	-0.19%
Latter Day Saints	45,112	49,915	53,199	0.25%	0.27%	0.27%	10.65%	6.58%
Lutheran	249,989	250,365	251,107	1.41%	1.33%	1.26%	0.15%	0.30%
Other Protestant	50,216	52,557	56,106	0.28%	0.28%	0.28%	4.66%	6.75%
Pentecostal	174,720	194,592	219,689	0.98%	1.04%	1.11%	11.37%	12.90%
Presbyterian & Reformed	675,534	637,530	596,671	3.81%	3.40%	3.01%	-5.63%	-6.41%
Salvation Army	74,145	71,423	64,200	0.42%	0.38%	0.32%	-3.67%	-10.11%
Seventh-day Adventist	52,655	53,844	55,251	0.30%	0.29%	0.28%	2.26%	2.61%
Uniting Church	1,334,917	1,248,674	1,135,427	7.52%	6.65%	5.72%	-6.46%	-9.07%
Christian nfd(e)	186,109	253,286	313,190	1.05%	1.35%	1.58%	36.10%	23.65%
Other Christian	33,058	32,640	34,093	0.19%	0.17%	0.17%	-1.26%	4.45%
Buddhism	199,812	357,813	418,756	1.13%	1.91%	2.11%	79.07%	17.03%
Hinduism	67,279	95,473	148,119	0.38%	0.51%	0.75%	41.91%	55.14%
<b>Islam</b>	<b>200,885</b>	<b>281,578</b>	<b>340,392</b>	<b>1.13%</b>	<b>1.50%</b>	<b>1.71%</b>	<b>40.17%</b>	<b>20.89%</b>
Judaism	79,805	83,993	88,831	0.45%	0.45%	0.45%	5.25%	5.76%
Other religious affiliation	651,168	1,010,227	827,902	3.67%	5.38%	4.17%	55.14%	-18.05%
No religion	2,948,888	2,905,993	3,706,555	16.61%	15.48%	18.67%	-1.45%	27.55%
affiliation not stated	1,550,585	1,835,598	2,223,957	8.73%	9.78%	11.20%	18.38%	21.16%
<b>Total</b>	<b>17,752,829</b>	<b>18,769,249</b>	<b>19,855,288</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>5.73%</b>	<b>5.79%</b>

# MUSLIMS IN AUSTRALIA



## MUSLIMS BY AGE: 2006 CENSUS DATA

Age	Number	Percentage
0-14 years	101,898	29.9%
15-24 years	63,947	18.8%
25-34 years	63,640	18.7%
35-44 years	50,445	14.8%
45-54 years	32,482	9.5%
55-64 years	17,779	5.2%
65-74 years	7,074	2.1%
75-84 years	2,547	0.7%
85 years and over	580	0.2%

# MUSLIMS IN ETHNIC COMMUNITIES

Country of Birth	No of overseas born	No of the overseas born who are Muslim	% of group who are Muslim
Lebanon	71349	29321	41%
Turkey	29821	23479	79%
Afghanistan	11296	9923	88%
Bosnia - Herzegovina	23848	9892	41%
Pakistan	11875	9238	78%
Indonesia	47158	8087	17%
Iraq	24832	7749	31%
Bangladesh	9077	7596	84%
Iran	18789	6353	34%
Fiji	44264	5772	13%



# MUSLIMS ARE DIVERSE

- Australian Muslims come from over 75 different countries.
- Many speak Multiple languages.
- They have different cultures not one.
- They are NOT one community.
- They are made up of distinct denominations.
- They DO NOT have one leadership.  
They have many different leadership structures.
- They have different interpretations and stances on various issues in Islam.
- Most Muslims in Australia are just beginning to meet each other.



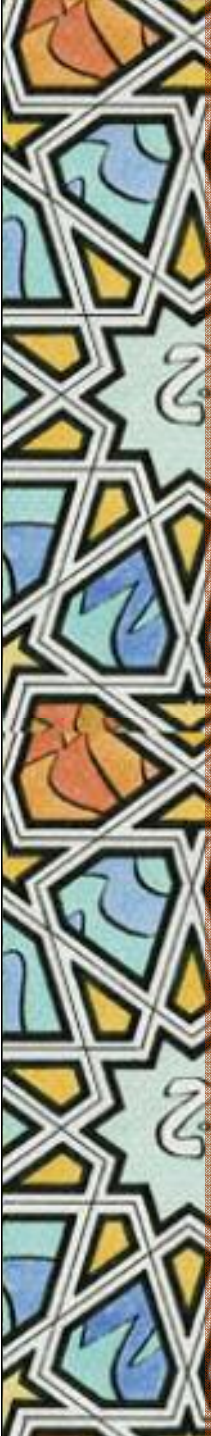
# **COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS AND MYTHS ABOUT ISLAM AND MUSLIMS**



# MISCONCEPTIONS

- **MYTH**  
All Muslims are Arabs
- **MYTH**  
All Muslim women wear a veil
- **MYTH**  
Muslim women are forced to veil by men
- **MYTH**  
Muslims are terrorists
- **MYTH**  
Jihad means Holy War
- **MYTH**  
Muslims do not speak English
- **MYTH**  
Muslims are uneducated
- **MYTH**  
Muslim women are second class citizens





**THINGS THAT SERVICE  
PROVIDERS AND  
EMERGENCY SERVICES  
PROFESSIONALS  
SHOULD KNOW**



# **PRACTICAL OBSERVATIONS**

- **Islamic greeting is “Assalamu Alaykum”  
(means peace be upon you in Arabic)**
- **Like Orthodox Jews some Muslims may not  
shake hands with the opposite gender  
(limited physical contact)**
- **Muslims may lower their gaze  
when speaking with the opposite gender**



# IMPACT OF WORLD EVENTS ON LOCAL MUSLIMS 1

Serious impacts on the Muslim Community:

- ⇒ Identity challenge to choose parts of identity (eg. Aussie, Muslim, Arab, etc)
- ⇒ Increase problems in schools (bullying and vilification etc) - Learning Distraction
- ⇒ Impact on Aspirations. Lessened hopes that there is a future in Australia
- ⇒ Increased vilification generally in Media, street etc.
- ⇒ Increased suspicion, fear and hate. Increase “Us and Them” attitudes.
- ⇒ Increase in unemployment
- ⇒ Decrease in household Income.

# IMPACT OF WORLD EVENTS ON LOCAL MUSLIMS 2

Serious impacts on the Muslim Community (Continued):

- ⇒ Decrease in health and levels of treatment and care (reduced exercise, stress, neglected health issues etc)
- ⇒ Mental health issues. Increased depression, anger and anxieties.
- ⇒ Decrease in personal safety and security. Attacks on persons and property
- ⇒ People may be Fear of travel especially to unfamiliar territory.
- ⇒ Decreased ability to “integrate”.
- ⇒ Decrease in opportunity to meeting people, socialising and making friends
- ⇒ Increased incidence of discrimination and inadequate legal recourse assistance
- ⇒ Lack of recreation programs and opportunities (especially for women and youth).



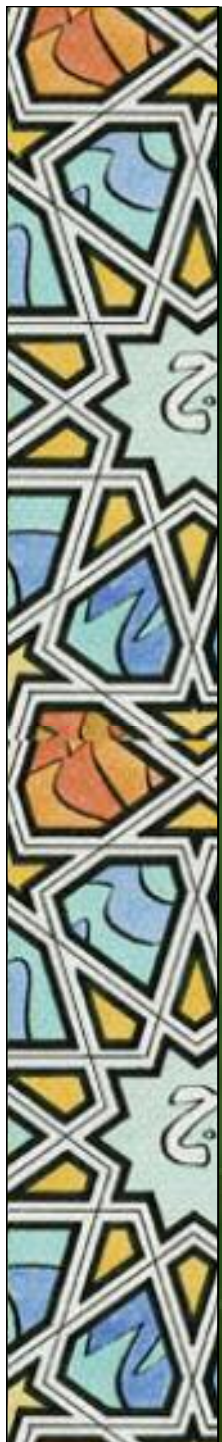
# ISSUES RELATED TO PRAYERS

- 5 daily prayers have times set within time ranges
- In emergencies, Prayers may be combined and shortened.
- Prayers only take a short time (about 5 minutes)
- Need access to a safe space to pray
- May need access to washing facilities for ablution (may involve washing and / or wiping hands and arms to the elbow, face, and feet)
- Friday Holy day for Muslims  
lunch time prayers important, especially for men

# DIETARY ISSUES

- If Muslim are expected to participate in social functions, some Halal food should be provided.
- Halal food (Islamic equivalent of Kosher food)
  - Kosher food is OK
  - Vegetarian and Vegan is OK
  - Dairy is OK
  - Sea food is OK
  - Animal products (except dairy) should be from animals killed in a Kosher or Halal manner
  - No pig meat or by-products
  - No Alcohol
- Meat should be slaughtered in a halal way (purchased from Halal butcher)
- Halal food lists available from companies eg Kraft, Tip Top, Cadbury and others
- Halal food should be cooked and served separately from other food.
- It is a good idea to label the Halal, kosher or Vegetarian food as such so that it may be distinguished from other food

# EXAMPLE OF A SIMPLE SOLUTION FOR SOCIAL INCLUSION





# VIDEO

<http://au.youtube.com/watch?v=PqbQWxHln4U>

Then

**OPEN FORUM**  
**Group discussion**