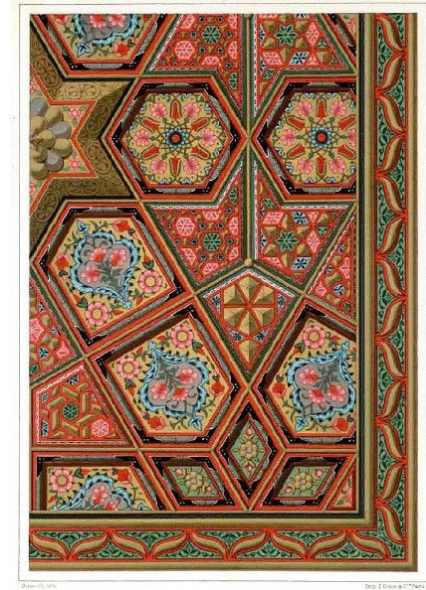
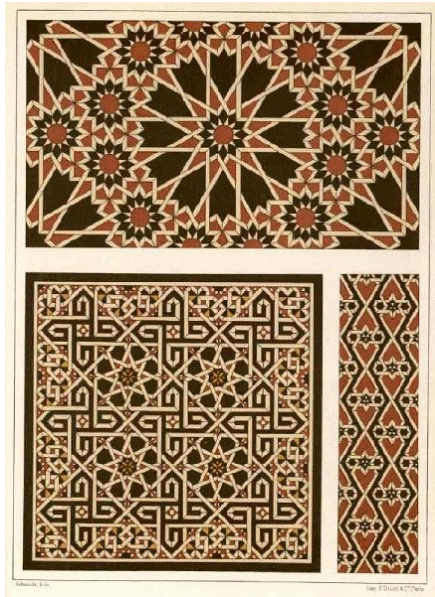

Cultural Expressions: Muslim Culture

Cam, Ryder, Bodhi

Islamic Art



Islamic Art

- Modern concept created by art historians of the 19th century
 - “Islamic” is an umbrella term used to describe all art created in lands under Muslim leadership.
 - Includes art from patrons of all religions - Christians, Jews, Hindus, etc. Secular art was also included under this umbrella.
-

Types of Art

- The arts of the book (calligraphy, manuscript illumination, and bookbinding)
- The arts of the object (metalwork, ceramics, glass, and textiles)
- Architecture

The ornamentation of each type included:

- Arabesques, scrolling patterns, and floral or plant designs
 - Calligraphy
 - Geometric patterns
-



Calligraphy

- Became the most revered art form
- Islam came to value the words of God and the message the prophet spreads rather than the figures themselves
- Therefore the appearance of the words was meant to be beautiful and expressive
- The words of the Qu'ran written in calligraphy cover some buildings and all types of art

Illuminated Manuscripts

- Creative and beautiful depictions and writings
- Grammar, literature, poetry, theology, etc
- Demonstrates the skills of calligraphy, painting, penmanship, binding, and papermaking



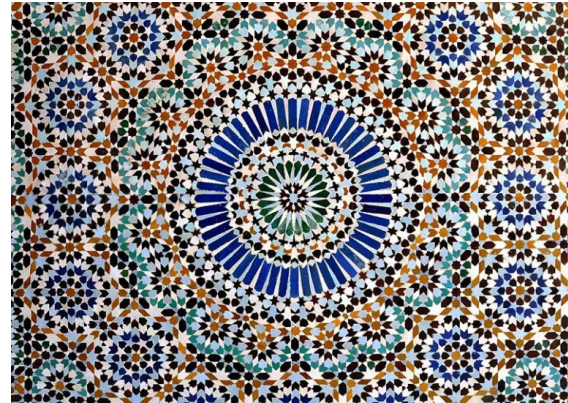
Arabesques

- Byzantine and Sasanian influence
- Scrolling patterns of plant and floral motifs
- Westerners branded them “arabesques”



Geometric Patterns

- Unity within diversity and harmony
- Embody the Islamic principles *tawhid* (the unity of all things) and *mizan* (order and balance)



The question of images

- Incorrectly believed that the Qu'ran prohibits images of living beings
 - It does however condemn the worship of idols and the Prophet's accounts of the *hadith* suggest his distrust of representation
 - Figures were absent in mosques and schools but appear in illuminated manuscripts, textiles, metalwork and ceramics
-

Architecture



Architecture

- the architecture encompasses a wide range of both secular and religious styles



- Islamic architecture finds its highest expression in religious architecture such as mosque and madrasah.

Types of Architecture

Tomb



Mosque



photo : Amir Hesaminejad

Palace



Types of Architecture

- The Mosque, the tomb, palace, fort, madrasah (School) & urban buildings make up their architecture. Their architecture shows an emphasis on religion



- A Mosque is any house or open area of prayer in islam.
- Masjid Jami or “Collective Mosque” is a state controlled Mosque that is the centre of community worship.

Characteristics of Architecture

- drew on Christian architectural features such as domes, columnar arches, and mosaics
- In Iran, a mosque plan consists of four *eyvans*(vaulted halls) opening onto a central court



Best Known example - Taj Mahal

- In 1631, Mumtaz Mahal, the third and favorite wife of the Mughal emperor Shah Jahan, died while giving birth.
- Devastated, the emperor commissioned the Taj Mahal, a massive mausoleum complex on the southern bank of the Yamuna River.



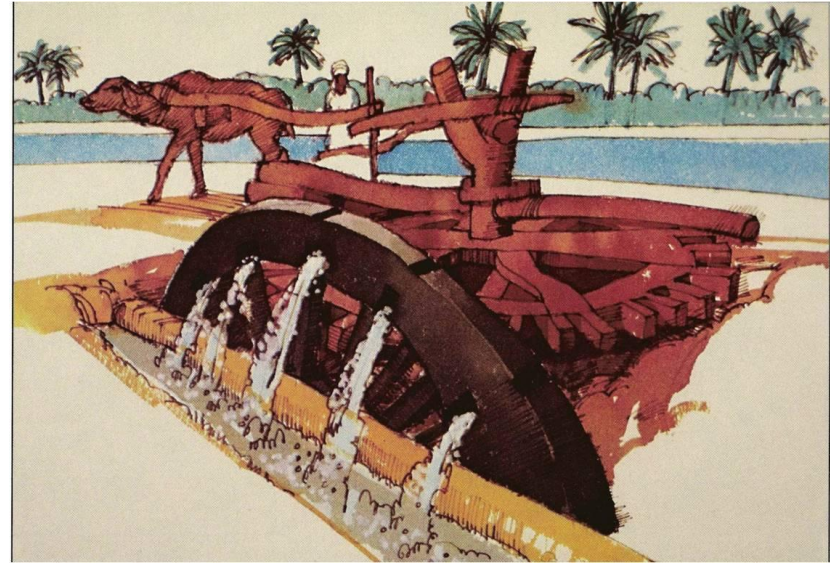
Agricultural Practices

- As early as the 9th century, an innovative agricultural system became central to economics and organization of production
- The great Islamic cities of the Near East, North Africa and Spain were supported by an elaborate agricultural system that included extensive irrigation
- Provided the towns with a variety of food products



Agricultural Practices - Construction & machines

- Irrigation became cheap, affecting lands previously impossible or uneconomic to irrigate
- Irrigation fields yielded as many as 4 harvests a year



Islamic Dietary Guidelines

Foods that are not Halal

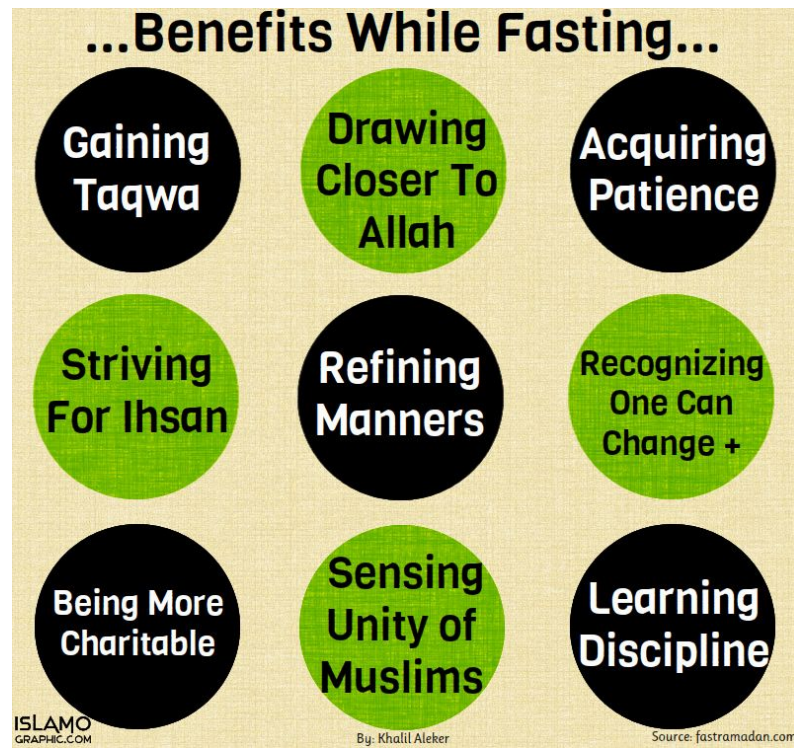
- blood
- the flesh of swine (pork)
- intoxicating drinks
- the meat of an animal that died from strangulation or blunt force
- meat from which wild animals have already eaten

- Halal is arabic for permissible



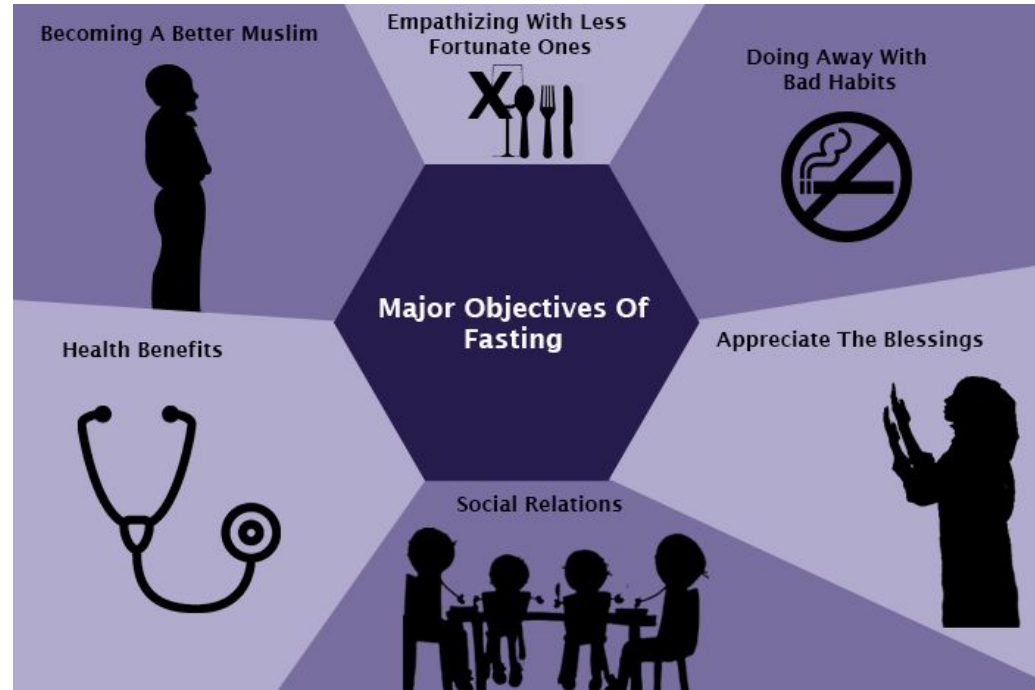
What is Fasting in Ramadan

- abstaining from all foods and beverages, including water, from dawn to sunset.
- Fasting is compulsory for every physically, mentally healthy, and mature Muslim. Sick, old, and pregnant Muslims are excluded from the fast
- Ramadan is the name of the ninth month in the Islamic calendar year.



Fasting in Ramadan

- According to the Qur'an "Fasting is prescribed for you as it was prescribed to those before you, so that you may learn self-restraint"
- Two main Meals a day; Suhur (before dawn), and Iftar (after sunset)



Actions that are still permissible

- It is permissible to shower
- It is permissible to rinse the mouth and nose without exaggeration
- Your fast will be valid even if you taste food with your tongue or use toothpaste or mouthwash as long as nothing is swallowed.



Islam Religion



Overview of Islam

- “Islam” means “entering into peace” and “submission to God”
 - Someone who follows Islam is called a Muslim
 - Muslims follow the teachings of Qur’an, the words of the god Allah as communicated to the holy prophet Muhammad
 - The basic teaching of Islam is to make peace with God and man
-

Basic beliefs & practices

- The Qur'an teaches six major beliefs:
 1. *Tawhid*, the belief in the absolute unity of one God.
 2. Belief in *Malak*, meaning angels.
 3. Belief in the prophets.
 4. Belief in the scriptures/holy books.
 5. Belief in the Final Judgment.
 6. Belief in God's divine decree and predestination.
-

The Five Pillars

- Acts of worship that outline the minimal framework of a Muslim life
 1. Al-Shahada (Declaration of Faith)
 2. Salat (Prayer)
 3. Zakat (Charity)
 4. Sawn (Fasting)
 5. Hajj (Pilgrimage)
-

Salat (Prayer) and Zakat (Charity)

- Prayer becomes a requirement of Muslim faith after puberty.
 - Several requirements for it to be valid:
 - Purification spiritually and physically
 - Body is sufficiently covered
 - Must face Mecca
 - Kneel and bow heads
 - If an individual meets *nisaab* each year, a minimum requirement of assets, they must give a portion of their savings to charity at the end of the year.
-

Mecca and Hajj (Pilgrimage)

- Physically and financially able people of Muslim faith must complete a pilgrimage to Mecca at least once in their lives
 - Takes place from the eighth to twelfth day of the twelfth month on the Islamic calendar, Dhu al-Hijjah
 - Consists of two portions:
 - Circle the Ka'ba seven times
 - Walk seven times between the mountains of Safa and Marwa.
-

Hadith and Sunnah

- Hadith is something the prophet *said* whereas sunnah is something the prophet *did*.
 - Sunnah is considered the highest standard of living and is known *through* hadith.
 - Hadith was passed down through chains of believers and people that knew the prophet Muhammad and eventually written down
 - Because of varied interpretations, some hadith are taken into account in various extremes. For example, modesty is required in the Qur'an but is enforced with varying degrees
-

Jihad

- The word *jihad* means struggling or striving for the sake of Allah.
 - The basic principles of jihad encompass what it means to be a good Muslim and the journey to spread the faith of Islam.
 - Jihad comes in many forms, such as jihad of the heart/soul, jihad by the tongue, jihad by the pen/knowledge, and woefully understood jihad by the sword.
-

Jihad by the Sword

- Jihad by the sword is widely hypervisible and misunderstood as “a holy war against non-believers.”
 - Includes the use of arsenals and engaging in combat but is **only** permissible in two situations:
 - Self-defense
 - Fighting against evil and unjust
 - Misinterpreted Jihad, along with hadith and sunnah, are the cause of extremist groups
-



Marriage

Meher- A mandatory payment from the groom or groom's father in the form of money or possessions that legally become the bride's property.



Nikah- A legal contract between both the bride and groom, proving they are consenting to the marriage



Polygamy

Polygyny- The act of a man having multiple wives is permitted.

Polyandry- The act of women having multiple husbands is not.





The Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said:

“Women may be married for four things: their wealth, their lineage, their beauty and their religious commitment. **Choose the one who is religiously-committed**, may your hands be rubbed with dust (i.e., may your prosper).”

Sahih al-Bukhari 5090; Muslim 1466

INVITE TO ISLAM .ORG

“O young people! Whoever among you can support a wife should marry, for that is more modest for the gaze and safer for your private parts.”

The Prophet Muhammad

Other Traditions

Mehndi- (Henna) is applied to the bride's [And any other women in the bride or groom's families] hands and feet

Barat- The groom riding to the bride's home where the family welcomes him

Valima- The reception (Hosted by the groom's parents) that occurs the night after the wedding but can be right after *Nikah*



Clothing Traditions/Rules

Women - And say to the faithful women to lower their gazes, and to guard their private parts, and not to display their adornment except what is apparent of it, and to extend their headcoverings (khimars) to cover their bosoms (jaysbs), and not to display their adornment except to their husbands, or their fathers, or their husband's fathers, or their sons, or their husband's sons, or their brothers, or their brothers' sons, or their sisters' sons, or their womenfolk, or what their right hands rule (slaves), or the followers from the men who do not feel sexual desire, or the small children to whom the nakedness of women is not apparent, and not to strike their feet (on the ground) so as to make known what they hide of their adornments. And turn in repentance to Allah together, O you the faithful, in order that you are successful 24:31

O Prophet, enjoin your wives and your daughters and the believing in women, to draw a part of their outer coverings around them. It is likelier that they will be recognized and not molested. Allah is Most Forgiving, Most Merciful
33:59



Woman



Niqab



Hijab

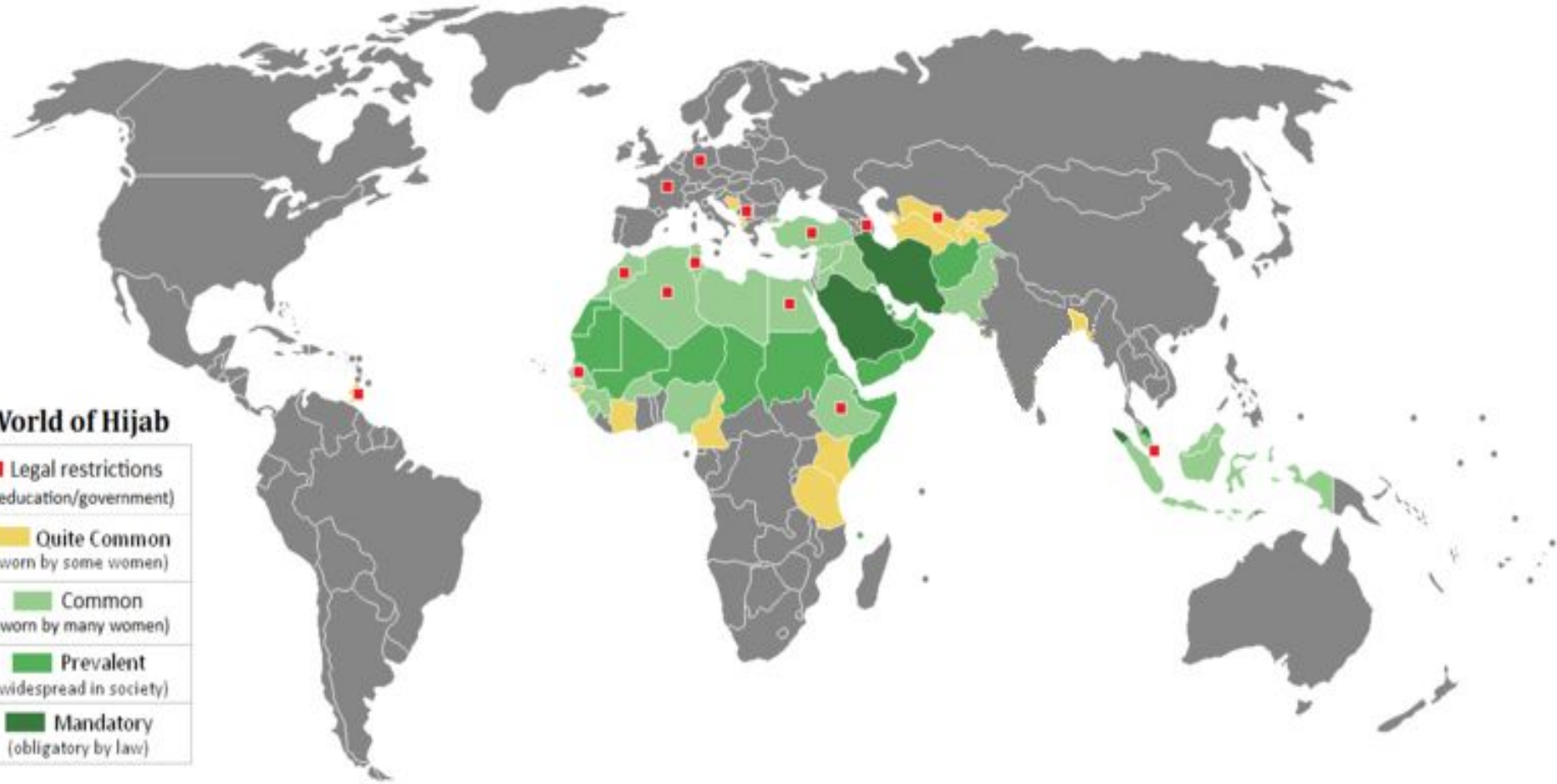
Burqa

Chador



World of Hijab

- Legal restrictions
(education/government)
- Quite Common
(worn by some women)
- Common
(worn by many women)
- Prevalent
(widespread in society)
- Mandatory
(obligatory by law)



[Hijab \(Islamic scarf\) by country](#)

—
Men





Awrah- The area from the naval to the knees



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