

Did you know?

1

Whenever one Muslim person greets another Muslim, they say “**As-salamu alaykum**”. This is an Arabic phrase that means “Peace be upon you”.

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Did you know?

2

Although Muslims are often associated with the Arab world, more than 85% of Muslims are **non-Arab**. From the eastern provinces of China to the western coast of Africa in Senegal, to the European country of Albania, Muslims live among virtually all ethnic groups, nationalities, and countries. The largest populations of Muslims are in Indonesia and India.

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Did you know?

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Lupe Fiasco, Mos Def, T-Pain, Busta Rhymes, Akon, Cat Stevens, Yuna and Zayn Malik identify as Muslim. Can you think of some other **Muslim musicians?**

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Did you know?

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The word “**coffee**” has roots in many different languages. Initially known in Yemen as “qahwah”, it later became the Turkish “kahveh”, then the Dutch “koffie” and finally “coffee” in English. Coffee was primarily consumed in the Islamic world and was directly related to religious practices. Several sources mention that coffee originated in Ethiopia.

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Did you know?

5

Ibn Battuta was a famous explorer from the Arab world. He left home at the age of 21 to perform the Hajj in Mecca and didn't return for 30 years! He wrote about his travels, which took him all over the world: from the Middle East to South Asia, all the way to China - and this was all done before cars and planes!

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Did you know?

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Nazem Kadri is a Canadian professional ice hockey player. Currently, he plays centre for the Toronto Maple Leafs of the National Hockey League. He is the third Muslim to ever play in the NHL.

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Did you know?

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The **first mosque** in Canada was built in Edmonton, Alberta in 1938 and is now seen as a historical building. The Al-Rashid mosque currently serves a Muslim community of 60,000.

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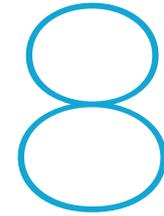


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Did you know?



The first Muslims in Canada were immigrants, but not from a traditional Muslim country. **Agnes and James Love** were of Scottish origin and in 1854, their son, James Jr., was the first Muslim born in Ontario. The first Canadian Census (1871) recorded the presence of 13 Muslims.

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Did you know?

9

Timbuktu is not a make-believe place. It is a city located in the West African country of Mali and is home to one of the world's oldest universities, which was established in the 13th century!

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Did you know?

10

“Float like a butterfly, sting like a bee,” are the famous words of the world famous heavyweight boxing champion and Olympic champion - **Muhammad Ali**. He was born Cassius Clay and converted to Islam in 1965.

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Did you know?

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Malala Yousafzai won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2014 at the age of 17. She is now the youngest Nobel Prize laureate, and has been named one of Time Magazine's "100 Most Influential People in the World" - for three years in a row (2013, 2014 and 2015).

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Did you know?

12

The concept of gardens in cities came from Muslim architects and designers who had made it central to city design. The **Alhambra**, a palace in Granada, Spain, is a great example of how architectural beauty and water irrigation systems were brought into cities.

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Did you know?

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During World War II, the **Paris Mosque** played an important part in the French Resistance against the Nazis in France. The mosque's founder, Si Kaddour Benghabrit, helped many Jews escape the Holocaust by hiding them in the underground caverns of the mosque and by providing them with fake certificates of Muslim identity. This has been characterized as the "forgotten resistance".

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Did you know?

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Muslims fast for 30 days every year in the month of Ramadan. It is one of the five pillars of Islam. Muslims don't eat or drink from sunrise to sunset to experience what it feels like to be poor and hungry, and to focus on self-control in order to be a better person. Once the month is over, Muslims celebrate **Eid-al-Fitr** with family and friends.

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Did you know?

15

There are over **1 billion Muslims** in the world! This means that at least one out of every six people in the world is a Muslim person. Although Muslims speak many different languages, the language of the Qur'an is Arabic and the daily prayers are offered in Arabic.

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Did you know?

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Ibtihaj Muhammad was the first Muslim American Olympian to compete in an event wearing a hijab. She won a bronze medal in fencing in the 2016 Rio de Janeiro Olympics.

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Did you know?

17

The **Aga Khan Museum** in Toronto is a great architectural addition to the Toronto art scene. It holds stunning Islamic artifacts from around the world. The Aga Khan, leader of 15 million Ismaili Muslims worldwide, became an honorary Canadian citizen in 2009. The Aga Khan is involved in humanitarian and development projects in Asia and Africa.

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Did you know?

18

One of the most interesting and influential explorers of all time was a Muslim from China whose name was **Zheng He**. Zheng He became one of China's greatest admirals, explorers, and diplomats. Back in 1433, he commanded thousands of ships and is credited with being the first to sail from China to Africa and then on to Europe.

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Did you know?

19

You may enjoy the poems of the famous Muslim poet and scholar **Rumi**. Rumi was from Iran and born over 800 years ago. Rumi is the most read poet in North America. One of his famous quotes is, “Yesterday I was clever, so I wanted to change the world. Today I am wise, so I am changing myself.”

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Did you know?

20

Ibn al-Haytham (Alhazen) formulated the scientific method and has been referred to as “the world's first true scientist” and is often regarded as the first theoretical physicist. Additionally, he developed celestial mechanics, which lead to the eventual work of many European scientists, including Copernicus, Galileo, Kepler, and Newton.

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Did you know?

21

Ibn Khaldun is an important Muslim thinker and philosopher. Recognized as one of the greatest historians and the founder of sociological sciences in the 14th and 15th centuries, Khaldun created one of the earliest non-religious philosophies. He also paved the way for modern-day presidents and prime ministers by creating a framework for evaluating “effective rulers”.

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Did you know?

22

Many things we use today came from Islamic civilizations or Muslim **inventors**. A few examples include citric acid, arabesque architecture, the vertical-axle windmill, teaching hospitals, marching bands, guitars, lutes, water pipes (hookah or shisha), early attempts at gliding, algebra, pinhole cameras, the laws of refraction, and so much more!

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Did you know?

23

Al-Zahrawi was a Muslim from Spain who wrote a medical encyclopedia which included a section titled "On Surgery". In his writings he illustrated over two hundred different surgical tools. Many of the surgical instruments used today are exactly the same design as those illustrated by al-Zahrawi in the 10th century.

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Did you know?

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Muslim women have had the **right to vote** since the beginning of Islam in the 7th century. Female politicians have been heads of state and well represented in government and political positions in many Muslim-majority countries.

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Did you know?

25

Zaha Hadid (born in Iraq) won UK's most prestigious architectural prize in 2010 and 2011. She designed several projects, including an opera house in China, a cultural center in Azerbaijan, and the London Aquatics Centre for the 2012 Olympics.

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Did you know?

26

In 872 in Cairo, Egypt, the **Ahmad ibn Tulun Hospital** was created and equipped with an elaborate building and a range of functions. Like other Islamic hospitals that soon followed, Tulun Hospital was open to both men and women of all ages, religion, and economic status. Tulun is also the earliest hospital to give care to the mentally ill.

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Did you know?

27

Fatima al-Fihri, in the year 859 C.E., was a wealthy Muslim woman who donated her money to found the world's oldest library and university in Fez, Morocco. Al-Qarawiyyin University is still in use today and houses 4000 manuscripts and a 9th century Qur'an.

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Did you know?

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The **House of Wisdom in Baghdad**, was a major intellectual learning centre from the 9th to 13th century. Scholars and thinkers from every religion would gather to study and translate into Arabic, books from vast disciplines of philosophy, math, science and literature. By the mid 9th century the House of Wisdom had the largest selection of books in the world

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Did you know?

29

Remembrance Day is around the corner. India sent 1.3 million soldiers to fight for the British Empire and part of the Allied Forces during WWI. Out of 1.3 million Indian soldiers, 400,000 were Muslims. At least 89,000 Muslim soldiers died fighting for the British Army and are a part of the honoured dead that we remember on November 11th.

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Did you know?

30

Besa is a Muslim Albanian cultural concept, which means “faith”, “hospitable”, or “word of honour”. During World War II, Albanians saved over 2000 Jews from Nazi persecution.

The Albanians encouraged the Jews to dress like them and live among them to avoid detection during World War II.

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Did you know?

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Noor-un-Nisa Inayat Khan (born in Moscow, Russia) was a British heroine of World War II renowned for her service in the Special Operations Executive. She was captured and sent to Dachau concentration camp, where she was executed with 3 other agents.

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