

Cross-cultural Experiences as a Pakistani-American Muslim

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Agenda

Topics Covered

The Country of Pakistan

The Religion of Islam

My Cross Cultural Experiences

Culture vs Religion

Pakistan

- Pakistan, officially the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, is located in South Asia
- Established on August 14, 1947, following the partition of British India
- Urdu is the national language and the lingua franca of Pakistan
- Islamabad is the capital of Pakistan
- Karachi is the largest city and financial center
- Population exceeds over 241.5 million people
- Home to ancient civilizations like the Indus Valley and Gandhara civilizations
- History marked by periods of military rule and democratic governance



<https://www.worldatlas.com/maps/pakistan>

Punjabi Culture

- Punjabi being the first language for the majority of people in the region
- Traditional Punjabi attire includes vibrant colors and intricate embroidery like phulkari
- The cuisine of Punjab is renowned for its rich flavors, generous use of ghee, and a variety of dishes like tandoori chicken, sarson da saag, and makki di roti
- Festivals in Punjab vary based on religious beliefs, with Punjabi Muslims observing Islamic festivals and Punjabi Sikhs and Hindus celebrating Lohri, Basant, and Vaisakhi as seasonal festivals
- Punjabi culture places a strong emphasis on family values, traditions, and hospitality towards guests



<https://indiagateflours.com/blog/punjabi-recipes>

Punjabi Attire



<https://www.fabricoz.com/blogs/fabricoz/what-is-salwar-kameez>



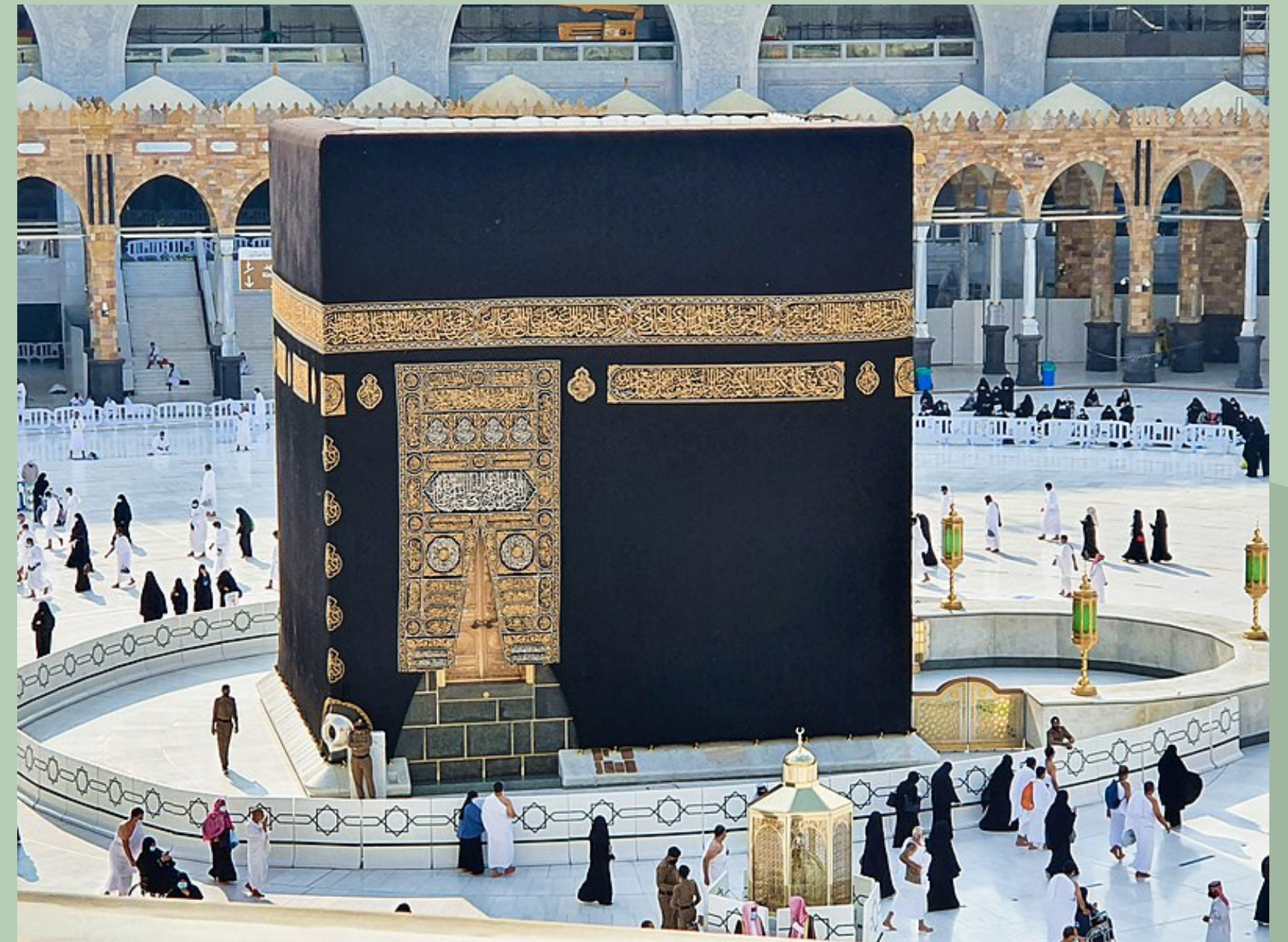
<https://www.therisingpanjab.com/socio-cultural/article/punjabi-traditional-jewelry>



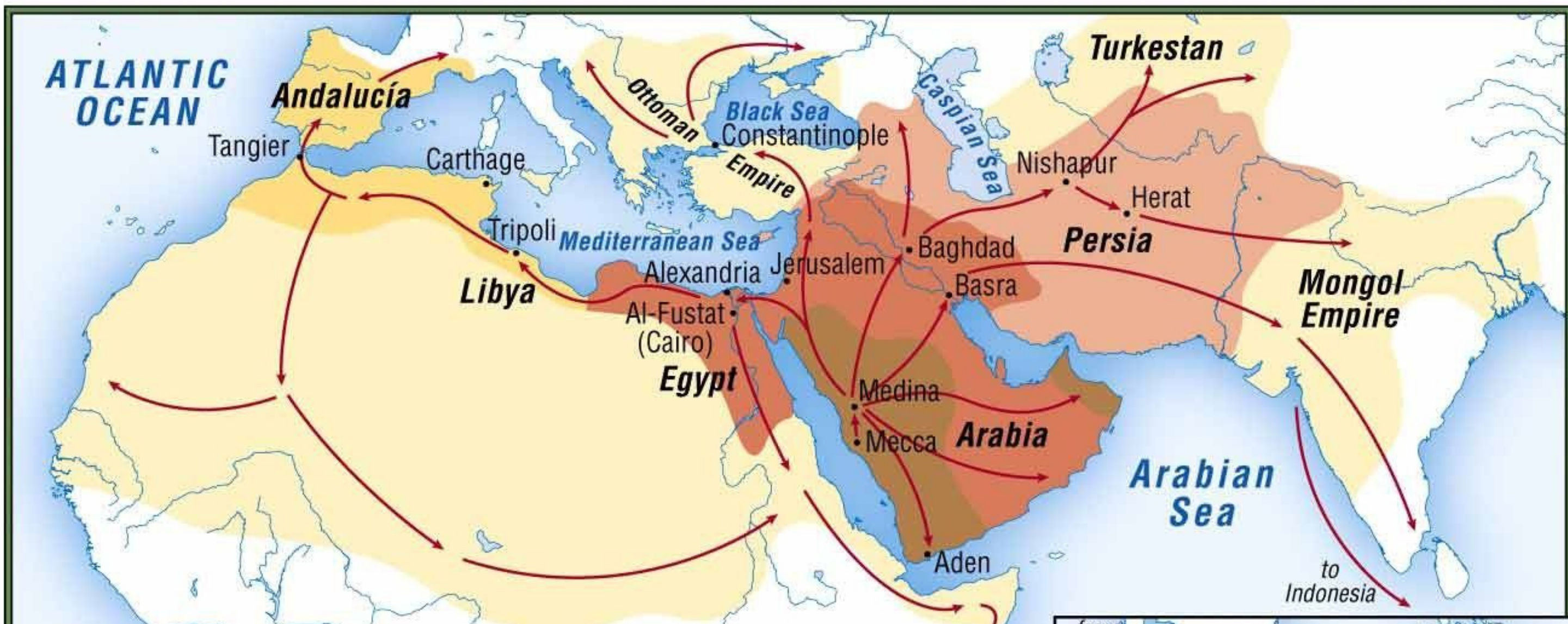
<https://starvingartiststeam.blogspot.com/2010/05/bole-chudiyen.html>

Islam

Muslims are followers of the Religion of Islam. There is a belief in one God, Allah, and that Muhammad was his prophet. Islam is monotheistic and shares principles with Christianity and Judaism. The Quran is the divine revelation in Islam, believed to be delivered by the Angel Gabriel to Muhammad (saw). There are five Pillars of Islam: Shahadah (faith), Salat (prayer), Zakat (charity), Sawm (fasting), and Hajj (pilgrimage to Mecca).



<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kaaba>



The Spread of Islam, 630–1700

- Growth under Muhammad
- 632–644
- 645–661
- 662–750
- 751–1700



Spread of Islam in Southeast Asia

- 13th/14th centuries
- 15th century
- 16th century

Modest Attire



Religion vs Culture

- The strong influence of Islam on Pakistani culture, with at least 95% of the population being Muslim, shaping various aspects of life such as food customs and religious practice
- The coexistence of pre-Islamic customs with Islamic practices in Pakistan, showcasing a blend of historical values and traditions within the Muslim-majority population
- The significance of festivals like Eid-ul-Fitr, Eid-ul-Azha, Ramazan, Christmas, Easter, Holi, and Diwali in Pakistan, which are mostly religious in origin and reflect the diverse cultural landscape influenced by various religions

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Thank you!