

Chapter – 77

Islamic World

According to 2015AD data, the total population of about 220 countries in the world is more than 6.4 billion. Among them is Muslim population, the second largest, with a total population of about 1.8 billion. Thus every fourth person living on this earth belongs to the religion of Islam. --- (See Table - A for statistics of Muslim-populated countries).

There are currently about 58 countries in which the Muslim population is more than 50%. Hence they can be called Muslim countries, although some of these countries do not have the official religion of Islam. However, there are 47 countries in which the Muslim population is 70% to 100%. Therefore, these countries will be called Islamic countries. Indonesia, Pakistan and Bangladesh are the 3 countries that are at the top of the list of the Muslim population. Nigeria, Turkey, Egypt and Iran also have a large Muslim population. Afghanistan, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Libya, Mauritania, Oman, Qatar, Bahrain and the Maldives are countries where the population is less but 100% Muslims live here.

Geographically, the most populous Muslim countries are the two continents, i.e. Asia and Africa. It is estimated that Muslims make up 30% of the population in Asia. While in Africa this proportion rises to 59%. This abundance of African Muslims is seen in the northern part of the continent. --- For more details, please see the maps given ahead.

Islam is spreading rapidly over time. It is estimated that in the last 50 years, the growth rate of Muslims has been near 235%. According to a recent study, the expansion rate of Christianity is about 1.5 percent annually, while the expansion of Islam in the world is estimated to be around 6.4 percent annually. At present, the effects of propagating the religion of Islam are extraordinarily high in European countries and Australia. According to a survey, the rate is 142% and 257% respectively.

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See Ahead:

- 1. Table-A showing world's Muslim Population,*
- 2. A brief description on salient features of important Muslim States*
- 3. Geographical maps showing Muslim countries.*

Table - A
Countries and Muslim Population

S. No.	Countries	Total Population (Mil)	Muslim Population (Mil)	Muslim Percentage (%)	Ratio of world Muslim (%)
1	Afghanistan	34.940	34.836	99.6	1.8
2	Albania	3.057	1.797	58.8	0.1
3	Algeria	41.657	41.240	99.0	2.7
4	Andorra	0.085	0.002	2.6	< 0.1
5	Australia	25.000	0.650	2.6	< 0.1
6	Austria	8.900	0.712	8.0	< 0.1
7	Azerbaijan	10.046	9.735	96.9	0.5
8	Bahrain	1.442	1.063	73.7	< 0.1
9	Bangladesh	170.000	153.700	90.4	9.2
10	Belgium	11.570	0.879	7.6	< 0.1
11	Benin	11.340	3.141	27.7	0.14
12	Bosnia Herze.	3.849	1.955	50.7	0.1
13	Brunei	0.450	0.355	78.8	< 0.1
14	Bulgaria	7.057	0.861	13.4	< 0.1
15	Burkina Faso	19.742	12.141	61.5	0.6
16	Burma	55.622	2.391	4.3	0.1
17	Burundi	11.844	1.184	10.0	< 0.1
18	Cameroon	25.640	7.692	30.0	0.4
19	Canada	35.881	1.148	3.2	0.1
20	Central Africa	5.745	0.861	15.0	< 0.1
21	Chad	15.833	9.183	58.0	0.4
22	China	1390.000	50.000	3.0	2.8
23	Comoros	0.821	0.807	98.3	< 0.1
24	Congo	85.281	12.792	10.0	0.1
25	Coast Ivory	26.260	11.265	42.9	0.5
26	Cyprus	1.100	0.275	25.3	< 0.1
27	Denmark	5.809	0.313	5.4	< 0.1
28	Djibouti	0.884	0.857	97.0	0.1
29	Egypt	95.000	90.000	94.7	4.9
30	Equatorial Guinea	0.797	0.079	10.0	< 0.1
31	Eritrea	6.000	3.100	51.6	0.1
32	Ethiopia	105.000	35.600	33.9	1.8
33	Fiji	0.926	0.058	6.3	< 0.1

Table - A

Countries and Muslim Population

S. No.	Countries	Total Population (Mil)	Muslim Population (Mil)	Muslim Percentage (%)	Ratio of world Muslim (%)
34	France	67.000	5.720	8.8	0.3
35	Gabon	2.119	0.211	10.0	< 0.1
36	Gambia	2.092	2.002	95.7	0.1
37	Georgia	4.926	0.527	10.7	< 0.1
38	Germany	83.000	5.000	6.0	0.2
39	Ghana	28.102	5.058	17.6	0.2
40	Gibraltar	0.029	0.001	4.0	< 0.1
41	Greece	10.761	0.613	5.7	< 0.1
42	Guinea	11.855	10.563	89.1	0.5
43	Guinea Bissau	1.833	0.826	45.1	< 0.1
44	Guyana	0.740	0.055	7.3	< 0.1
45	Hong Kong	7.213	0.295	4.1	< 0.1
46	India	1370.000	195.000	14.2	10.9
47	Indonesia	263.000	229.000	87.2	12.7
48	Iran	83.000	82.500	99.4	4.6
49	Iraq	40.194	38.465	95.7	1.9
50	Israel	8.424	1.516	18.0	0.1
51	Italy	62.246	2.987	4.8	0.1
52	Jordan	10.458	10.165	97.2	0.4
53	Kazakhstan	18.744	13.158	70.2	0.5
54	Kenya	48.397	5.500	11.2	0.2
55	Kosovo	1.907	1.823	95.6	0.1
56	Kuwait	2.916	2.175	74.6	0.2
57	Kyrgyzstan	5.849	4.679	80.0	0.3
58	Lebanon	6.100	3.519	57.7	0.2
59	Liberia	4.809	0.961	20.0	< 0.1
60	Libya	6.754	6.551	97.0	0.4
61	Madagascar	25.683	2.568	10.0	< 0.1
62	Malawi	19.842	3.968	20.0	0.1
63	Malaysia	31.809	16.318	61.3	1.1
64	Maldives	0.374	0.374	100	< 0.1
65	Mali	18.429	17.508	95.0	0.8
66	Mauritania	3.840	3.840	100	0.2

Table - A

Countries and Muslim Population

S. No.	Countries	Total Population (Mil)	Muslim Population (Mil)	Muslim Percentage (%)	Ratio of world Muslim (%)
67	Mauritius	1.364	0.236	17.3	< 0.1
68	Mayotte	0.256	0.253	97.0	< 0.1
69	Montenegro	0.614	0.122	19.1	< 0.1
70	Morocco	38.314	37.930	99.0	2.0
71	Mozambique	27.233	3.830	17.9	0.3
72	Nepal	29.218	1.292	4.2	0.1
73	Netherland	17.254	0.880	5.1	0.1
74	Niger	21.466	21.101	98.3	1.0
75	Nigeria	200.000	103.000	51.6	5.3
76	North Macedonia	2.118	0.705	33.3	< 0.1
77	Norway	5.328	0.175	3.2	< 0.1
78	Oman	4.633	2.427	85.9	0.2
79	Pakistan	210.000	202.650	96.5	11.1
80	Palestine	4.780	4.298	97.5	0.3
81	Philippines	106.463	10.700	11.0	0.6
82	Qatar	2.450	1.566	77.5	0.1
83	Russia	146.500	25.000	17.0	1.0
84	Rwanda	12.001	0.576	4.8	< 0.1
85	Saudi Arabia	33.413	31.878	97.1	1.6
86	Senegal	15.726	15.112	96.1	0.8
87	Serbia	7.001	0.221	3.1	< 0.1
88	Sierra Leone	7.719	6.067	78.6	0.3
89	Singapore	5.612	0.842	14.7	< 0.1
90	Somalia	11.000	10.978	99.8	0.6
91	South Sudan	12.323	2.464	20	< 0.1
92	Spain	46.659	1.180	2.6	0.1
93	Sri Lanka	21.700	2.105	9.7	0.1
94	Sudan	40.825	39.585	97.0	1.9
95	Suriname	0.600	0.083	13.9	< 0.1
96	Swaziland	1.159	0.129	10.0	< 0.1
97	Sweden	10.182	0.800	8.1	< 0.1
98	Switzerland	1.159	0.129	10.0	< 0.1
99	Syria	18.000	16.700	93.0	1.0

Table - A

Countries and Muslim Population

S. No.	Countries	Total Population (Mil)	Muslim Population (Mil)	Muslim Percentage (%)	Ratio of world Muslim (%)
100	Tajikistan	8.931	7.621	96.7	0.4
101	Tanzania	54.199	19.426	35.2	0.8
102	Thailand	70.000	3.000	4.3	0.2
103	Togo	7.352	1.593	20.0	0.1
104	Trinidad	1.356	0.078	5.8	< 0.1
105	Tunisia	11.446	11.190	99.8	0.6
106	Turkey	80.810	80.700	99.8	4.6
107	Turkmenistan	5.851	4.830	93.3	0.3
108	Uganda	38.823	5.435	14.0	0.3
109	Ukraine	42.263	1.000	2.5	< 0.1
110	U. Arab Emirate	9.541	4.615	76.0	0.2
111	United Kingdom	66.040	4.130	6.3	0.2
112	United States	327.827	3.450	1.1	0.2
113	Uzbekistan	32.653	26.550	96.5	1.7
114	Western Sahara	0.603	0.599	99.4	< 0.1
115	Yemen	28.036	27.784	99.1	1.5

Note:

1. The data highlighted with red colour represent either those countries which are officially Islamic States or those countries whose Muslim population exceeds to 50%, hence they may be called as Muslim Countries.
2. The data highlighted with blue colour are not Islamic States yet the Muslim population in these countries are reasonably high.
3. This data showing Muslim population of various countries is mainly based on 2015AD study of Pew Research Centre, Washington D.C. USA.

❖ Some important Islamic countries in different regions of the world are as follows:

- (1) *Middle East*: Indonesia, Malaysia
- (2) *Subcontinent*: Pakistan
- (3) *Middle East*: Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Iran, Iraq, Turkey
- (4) *North Africa*: Egypt and Libya

The salient features of these countries are being described hereunder, because of their significant status in the world.

❖ **Indonesia:**

In the southeast of Asia and northwest of Australia, there is a Muslim and democratic state called Indonesia. It is a country of approximately 18,000 islands, of which 6,000 islands have no population. Prior to 1921AD, this region was called as East India. In 1945AD, when the country was liberated from the occupation of the Netherlanders, the country was officially renamed as Indonesia. Its total area is 1,919,440 square kilometers. According to the latest census, its population is now 263 million. Thus, the country is ranked fourth in terms of population. Indonesia is very important in the Eastern countries, especially in the Islamic world, because of its big area, thick population, great economic resources, and strategic location. The major islands of Indonesia are Java, Sumatra, Borneo and Salvia. Politically, Java has a central position. The largest city of the country is Jakarta, which is also capital of the state. Ahmad Sukarno is considered as a national leader. The official announcement of the independence of this country was done by him. Until some 400 years ago, the region was predominantly consisting Hindu and Buddhist, and Islam had no influence at all. But in this area, some Arab businessmen from Gujrat, India, arrived who practiced trade as well as preached Islam. People here were so impressed by their organized preaching that today, about

95% of the population is Muslim. Now Indonesia has become one of the leading Muslim countries. This country is rich in natural resources. In minerals, tin, copper and gold deposits are dominant. Whereas reasonable oil and gas reserves are also present here. Agriculture is also abundant in the country. Rice, tea, coffee, condiments and rubber are dominantly available. The country's trade is mainly from Japan, the United States, Singapore, Malaysia and Australia.

❖ **Malaysia:**

The countryside of the southeastern Asia is geographically comprised of two major regions that separates the South China Sea. In the west, Peninsular Malaysia exist. Thailand is on its north whereas Singapore is on the south. The eastern part covers the major regions of Labuan, Sabah and Sarawak. Both parts are covered with low and high mountains, mostly covered by dense forests. However, the coastal parts of the ocean is plain. The total area of Malaysia covers 329,758 sq. km. The population of this country is about 31 million people. There are two major nations exist here, i.e. the Malay and the Chinese. However, this country is inhabited by Tamils and some Sikhs also who migrated from India. The country achieved independence from British rule in 1957AD. While Sabah and Sarawak were formed in 1963AD, and during the same period Singapore became a separate state as well. Although Kuala Lumpur is the largest city of Malaysia and for a long period it remained as capital of the country, but recently, in 1999AD, the capital of the country has been shifted to Putra Jaya which is completely a new city. The Malaysian nation contain political prominence in the country, while all Chinese are related to trade. Since the religion of the Malay people is Islam, therefore the religion of Islam has an effective place. That is why the country's official religion is also called Islam. Malaysia is

such a federation where both democracy as well as a British-style monarchy exist. The Sultans of different provinces elect a king for 5 years. The Malaysia is moving fast towards prosperity. Tin rubber and palm oil are the country's major exports. Due to the new economic policy, the economy of the country is getting stronger and stronger.

❖ Pakistan:

Pakistan is a country of South Asia which is also integrated with the Middle East and Central Asia. It borders India, Afghanistan, Iran and China. At its south end the Arabian Sea exists, having its coastline of 1,046 km. The total area of the country is 803,940 square kilometers. Its northern part consists of mountains. K2 is the highest mountain, which is the second highest in the world. The eastern part of the country is plain, whereas in the south-east, the desert area of Cholistan or Thar is also widely spread. There are big rivers in which the river Indus ascends from the mountains in the north and descends in the south to the sea. Thus this river irrigates to a very large part of the country. The total population of the country is more than 20 million. In 1947AD, the Subcontinent not only got Independence from Britain but also politically separated based on two national ideology and a new Islamic state, named Pakistan, was created. The founder of Pakistan is Muhammad Ali Jinnah. This country initially consisted two regions, called West Pakistan and East Pakistan. But in 1971AD, East Pakistan separated with Pakistan forming a new state of Bangladesh. Now only its western region is called Pakistan. After Indonesia, it is the second largest Muslim country in the world. It is a federation of 4 independent provinces, i.e., Punjab, Sindh, Baluchistan and Pakhtunkhwa. Islamabad is the capital city of the country. However, the city of Karachi is also important in many respects. The country's political history has never

been more praiseworthy. Here democratic and military governments have come and gone. Due to this unstable situation, the country did not grow economically. However, the country is rich in natural resources, and throughout the world people here are also considered talented and hard workers.

❖ Saudi Arabia:

Saudi Arabia is the largest country in the Arabian Peninsula. To the north are Jordan and Iraq. Its eastern borders join Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, and Oman. In the south Yemen exist. Whereas the Red Sea is located in its west. The western part of the region contains mountains which are also lush and green. Whereas in all the east, semi desert or desert areas are found. The total area of the country is 1,960,582 square kilometers. The current population is slightly more than 33.4 million. In 1750AD, Mohammed bin Saud, along with a religious leader, Mohammed Abdul Wahab, established a new identity in the country, which later became a strong group. Finally, from this family, Abdul Aziz Ibn Saud announced his kingdom in 1902AD. They made Riyadh the ultimate capital of the country. According to the constitution of 1992AD, the Quran is the country's rules of law. Now the Islamic laws in its maximum spirit are implemented here. Since this state has the honor of having the two holy cities of Makkah and Madinah, therefore today the King of the state prefers to be called himself as Khadim al-Heramain Sharifain, instead of Jalalah-tul-Mulk. The country consists of 13 small and large provinces. The population here is 100% Muslim. Saudi Arabia's economy is mainly based on oil production. Here, the oil reserves are more than 260 billion barrels, which is 24% of the total denomination of the world. As such this country is considered among the richest states of the world.

❖ **Iran:**

It is one of the countries of Middle East, located in the southwestern part of Asia. It borders to Armenia, Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan, Pakistan, Turkey and Iraq. Until 1935AD, this country was also called Persia. This country is mostly comprised of high mountains with clear plateau and plain areas. The total area of the country is 1,648,195 square kilometers. According to the latest data, its population is about 83 million. Tehran is the Capital city. The country is administratively divided into 30 provinces. Western modernization entered in Iran in the nineteenth century. Through the various rulers, it continued in the twentieth century. In 1953AD, the Emperor, Shah Muhammad Raza Pahlavi, in his reign, emphasized the economic development of the country as well as Western-style development. But in 1979AD, Islamic revolution took place under the leadership of Ayatollah Khomeini. Now Iran is called the Islamic Republic of Iran. The current elected President of Iran (2006AD), Mohammad Ahmadi Najd, is the Supreme Leader of the country, but the country is officially in the hands of the religious leader Ali Khomeini and his caretaker Council, who also has the right to veto in the country's affairs. Iran is the second largest OPEC country, who has 10 percent reservoirs of the world oil deposits. After Russia, this country ranks second in the Gas reserves as well. Hence, Iran is also considered among the rich countries of the world.

❖ **United Arab Emirates:**

UAE is a Middle East country made up of seven Emirates. These Emirates are Abu Dhabi, Ajman, Dubai, Fujairah, Ras al-Khaimah, Sharjah and Umm al-Quwain. Until 1971AD, these states were considered to be the Trucial States under the British and Arab Treaty Agreement. The total area of these states is 75,150 sq. Km.

The total population is close to 9.6 million. Islam is the country's official religion. About 96% of the population is Muslim. The supreme council consists as the head of each Emirate. It chooses the council, the president, the vice president, the prime minister and other ministers. However, the seat of the president is specific to the An-Nahiyah family of Abu Dhabi and the prime minister's office is reserved to the al-Maktum family of Dubai. This is the largest country in Persian Gulf, where there are huge reservoirs of oil and gas. Due to the oil wealth, the desert has been transformed into a modern state after 1973AD. Here, the high-rise buildings and magnificent highways are continuously being constructed. The State is now being considered as advanced as Singapore and Hong Kong.

❖ Iraq:

The major part of this country is desert. But here due to the two main rivers, Dajlah (*Tigris*) and Furat (*Euphrates*), its middle portion is very fertile and lush green. Civilization is also of great importance in this area and is called Cradle of Civilization. The historical city Baghdad is still the capital city. It is located on the edge of the River Dajlah. The historical cities of Karbala, Najaf and Basra are situated on the western bank of the Furat. The total area of the country is 437,072 square kilometers. The total population is about 40 million. In the modern Iraq, there is a mixture of Arab, Muslim and Kurdish civilization that is influenced by Iranian and Ottoman civilization. Although the country was given Independence by Britain in 1932AD, its representative Hashmi Government remained here until 1958AD. Then, for ten years, different governments came to dominate until the Arab Socialist Ba'ath Party came into power under the leadership of Saddam Hussein, in 1968AD. Eventually, the United States recently seized power from this group. Now a new political period has begun in the

country but it has not yet attain its clear form. Iraq's economy is mainly based on its oil production. Iraq and Kuwait were the worst affected states by the recent wars, and still facing heavy crisis due to the interference of the USA and facing instability.

❖ **Turkey:**

Turkey is a unique country which is Bi-continental. 97% of the country is in the continent of Asia and the remaining 3% is located in the continent of Europe. It borders to eight countries: Greece, Bulgaria, Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Iran, Iraq and Syria. Istanbul is the largest city of the country, but the Capital City is Ankara. The total area of Turkey is 780,580 square kilometers. While the total population is about 80 million. In addition to Turkish spoken people, here Kurdish, Arab, Armenian and other languages people are also inhabited. The Ottoman Empire existed in Turkey from the thirteenth century until 1923AD. While Mustafa Kamal, the founder of the modern Republic of Turkey, started his struggle for the country's independence since early 1919AD. Mustafa Kamal is called Ataturk (*father of the Turks*). There is a parliamentary system in the country in which the President is considered the head of the country, while the Prime Minister has executive powers. Turkey's economy is a complex mix of traditional agriculture as well as modern industrial and commercial activities. Agriculture is so stable that the country is self-sufficient in all major commodities. Oil and Gas are also produced here, but right now they have to make some imports as well.

❖ **Egypt:**

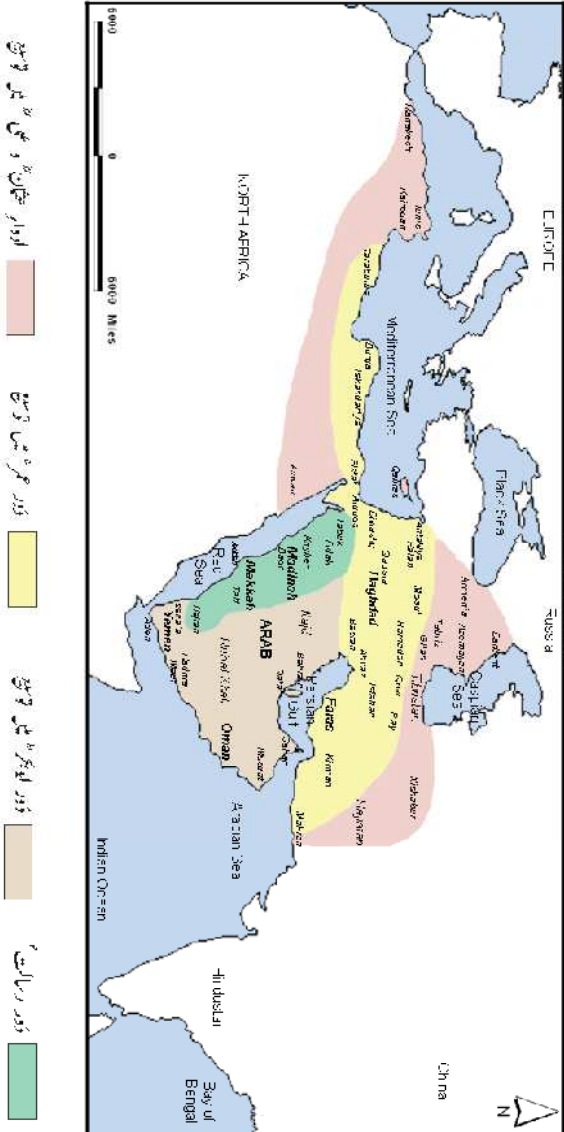
Egypt is a densely populated area of North Africa. The total area of this country is 1,001,450 square kilometers. The current population is about 95 million. Most of them are inhabited on both sides of the river Nile and the river Suez. The famous city of Cairo is the Capital City of the

country. Egypt has long been known for its civilization and culture. Even today, this country has a prominent place for its civilization and culture in the Arab world. In the seventh century AD, Arabs came to this place and enlightened Islam. Then the Muslim Arab Caliphates continued to make this country their political center for six centuries. Because of this, the Arabic language and religion of Islam strengthened its roots here. Al-Azhar University is an Islamic learning institution established here in 970AD. The importance of this country changed after the completion of the construction of the Suez canal in 1869AD. As a result, in 1882AD the British occupied this country. Finally, in 1852AD, Jamal Abdul Nasser liberated the country from British rule. This country is now called as the Arabian Republic of Egypt. The presidential system is established here. The country is administratively divided into 26 governorates. Egypt is the first Arab country to sign a peace treaty with Israel. The economy of the country is basically dependent on agriculture, export of oil and tourism. However, much of Egypt's workforce has now become widespread in various countries of the world, particularly Saudi Arabia, Gulf and European countries.

❖ Libya:

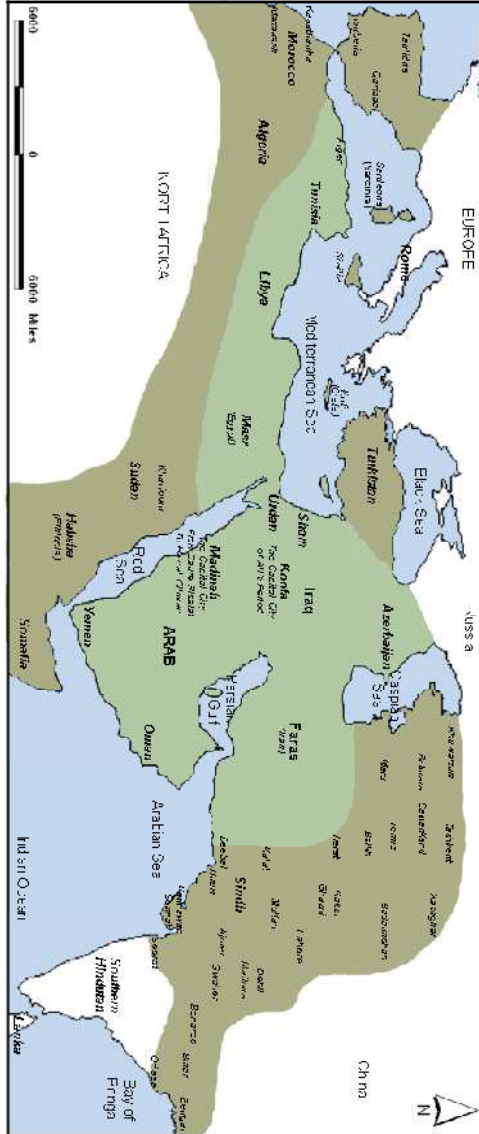
Libya is that country of North Africa whose to the north is the Mediterranean Sea, Egypt is in the east, Sudan, Chad and Niger in the South, whereas Algeria and Tunis are in the west. The total area of this country is 1,759,540 square kilometers. The current population of Libya is about 6.7 million. Tripoli is the Capital City. At one time, Tripoli and Cyrenaica used to be occupied by the Romans. But in the seventh century AD, Muslim Arabs conquered it. In 1911AD, the area gone under the control of Italy. And after World War II, this country was liberated. Colonel Muammar Qaddafi ruled the country for more than forty-six years, since 1969AD.

آبشار رسالت ﷺ
 Map-1
 دور رسالت اور خلافت راشدہ کے ادوار میں مسلم دنیا
 (610ء تا 624ء)



نظائر رسالت ﷺ
 Map-2 خلافت امیہ و عباسیہ اور متوقف مسلمانوں کے اوزار - مسلم علاقوں میں وسعت

(661ء تا 1350ء)



اوزار خلافت و مسلمانیت (661ء تا 1350ء)

انبار اسلام (750ء تا 861ء)

Map - 3
 انحصار رسالت ﷺ
 منبجوده مسلم دنيا 2007ء

