A PRESENTATION ON MUSLIMS, ISLAM, AND ISLAMOPHOBIA

LET'S START WITH SOME DEFINITIONS

- A *Muslim* is a person who practices Islam
- *Islam* refers to the religion a Muslim follows. It is a monotheistic faith (belief in one God) just like Christianity and Judaism.
- *Islamophobia* describes the irrational fear and/or hatred of Muslims & Islam.

WHAT DO MUSLIMS BELIEVE IN?

Muslims follow 5 basic beliefs according to the Islamic religion

- Believing in one God (Allah)
- Daily prayer
- Charity
- Ramadan
- Hajj

ARE THERE DIFFERENT KINDS OF MUSLIMS?

There are 2 major sects in Islam

- Sunni Muslims (85% of all Muslims)

- Shia Muslims (15% of all Muslims)

They share the same basic Islamic principles, but believe in different Prophets and holidays

Muslims are a diverse group of people. They speak different languages, come from different ethnicities, and parts of the world

WHAT DO MUSLIMS WEAR?

What a Muslim wears depends on the specific culture and tradition of the country they are from.

There is no specific ‘Muslim’ clothing, with the exception of Muslim women.

Many Muslim women wear head scarves for modesty and to conserve themselves from other men, just like nuns.

WHERE DO MUSLIMS LIVE?

There are about 1.8 billion Muslims across the world

About 3.3 million live in the United States

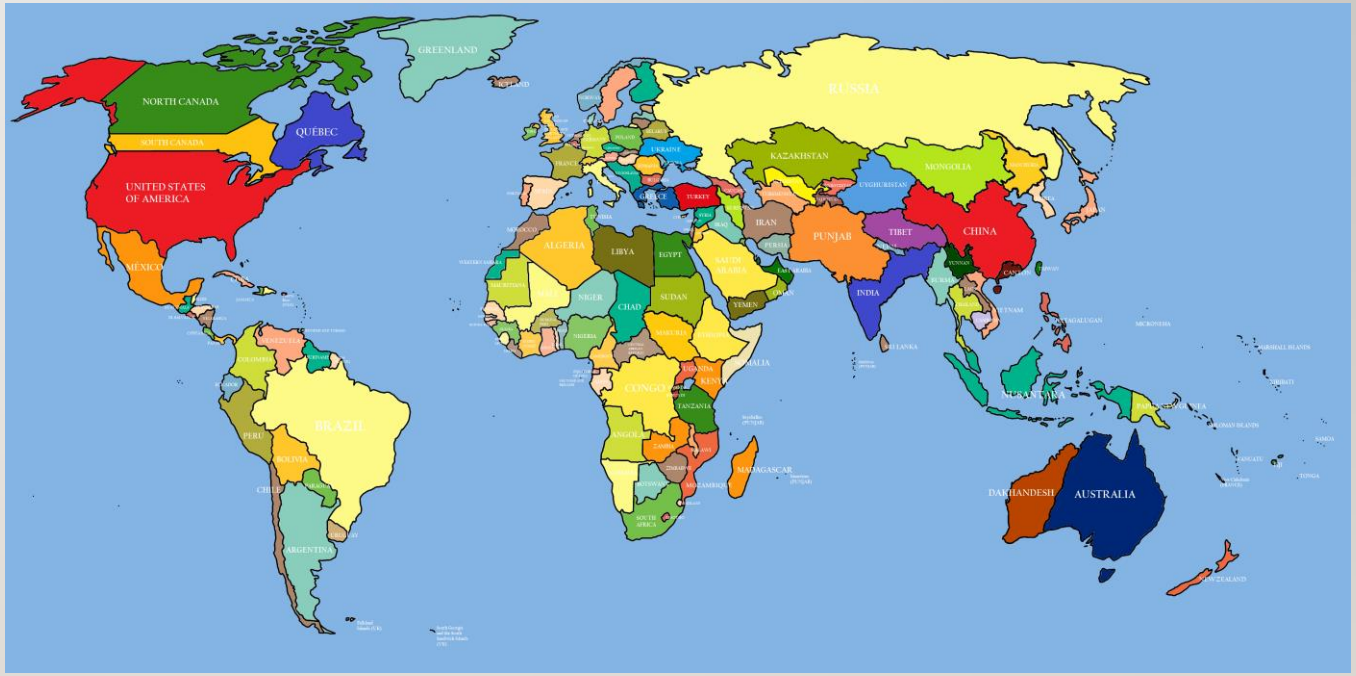
Can you guess which country has the biggest population of Muslims?

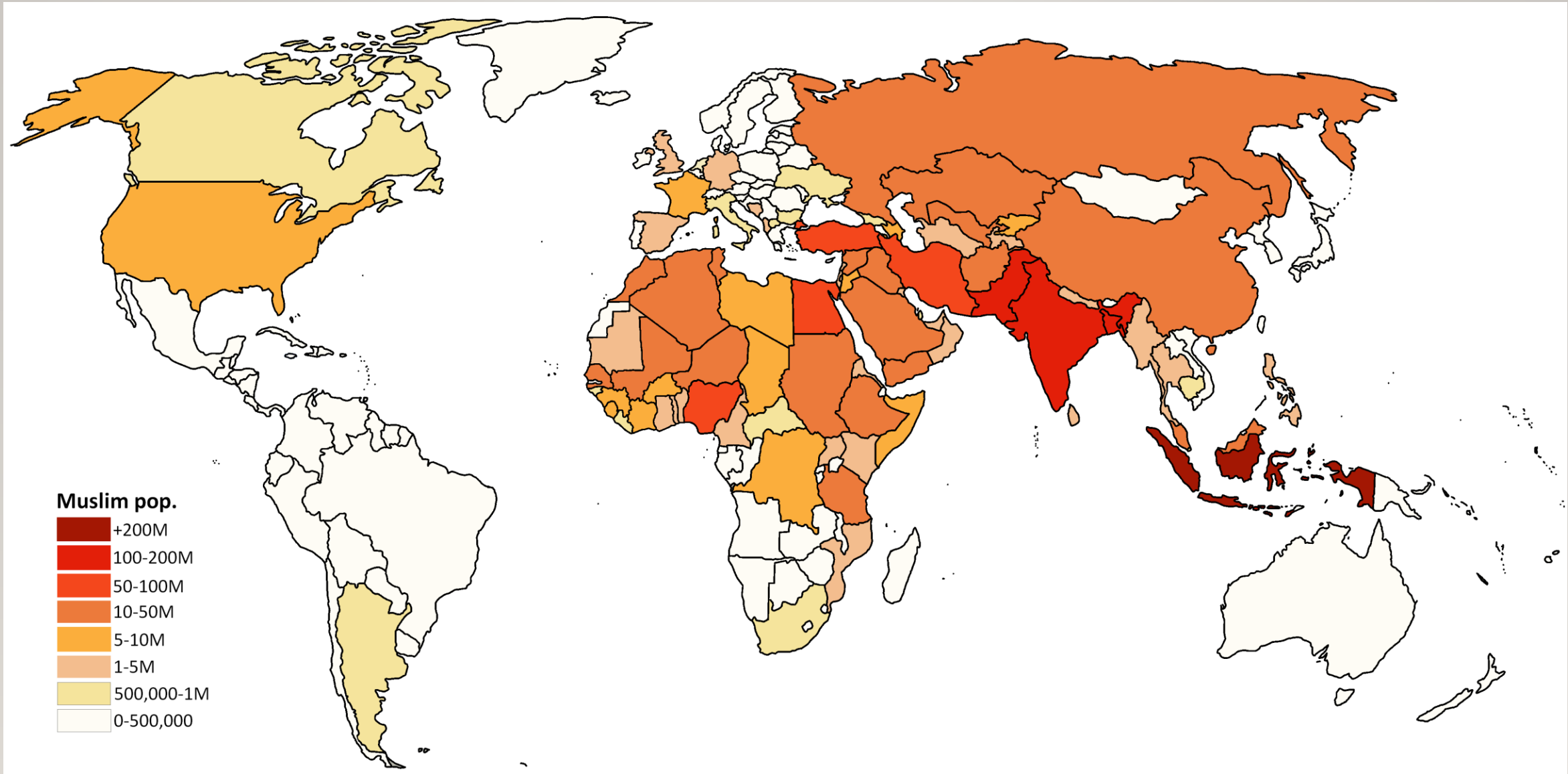
A. Saudi Arabia (Middle East)

B. Jordan (Middle East)

C. Indonesia (South Asia)

D. Egypt (North Africa)




Muslim pop.
+200M
100-200M
50-100M
10-50M
5-10M
1-5M
500,000-1M
0-500,000

WHY DOES ISLAMOPHOBIA EXIST?

Anti-Muslim discrimination and Islamophobia increased after Islamic terrorist groups attacked the World Trade center both in 1993 and again in 2001.

After these attacks, people began to associate all Muslims as ‘terrorists’, which is an untrue stereotype.

Some scholars argue that Islamophobia exists because of cultural differences and intolerance.

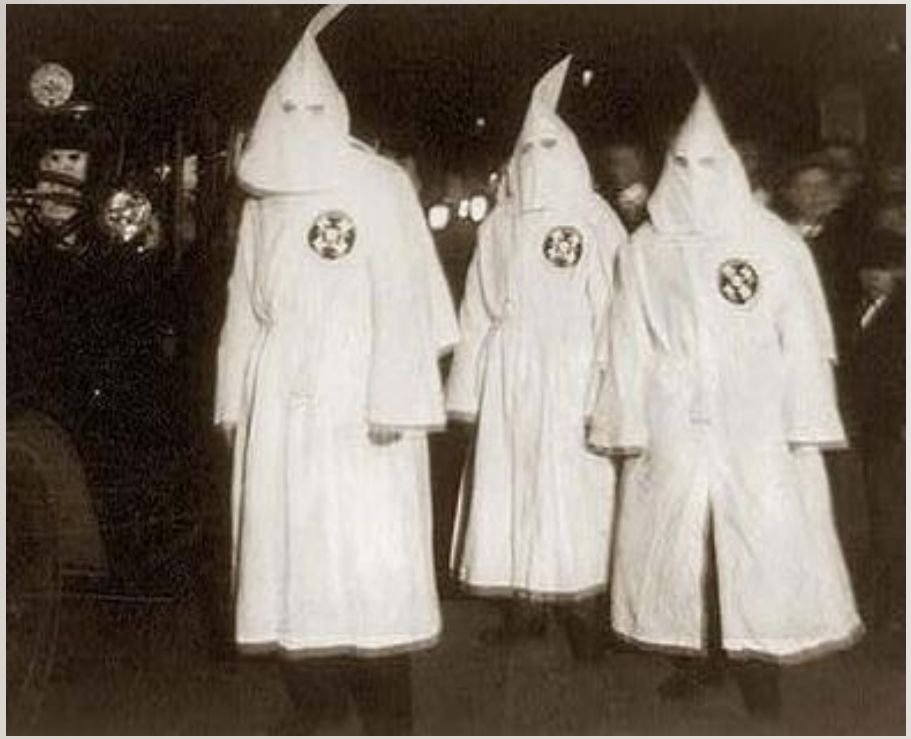
THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MUSLIMS AND TERRORISTS

A Muslim is a person who follows Islam

A terrorist is someone who uses violence against innocent people

Islam does not promote violence, and Muslims do not believe in violence or terrorism

Unfortunately, terrorist groups such as ISIS and Al-Qaeda falsely interpret Islam and kill innocent people in the name of religion. They claim to be Muslims, but in fact they are not.



When you think of ‘Christians’ , do you think of the KKK?

When you think of Muslims, should you think of ISIS, Al-Qaeda, or the term terrorist?