

# Muslim Population in Asia: 1950 – 2020

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**Abstract**—The purpose of this manuscript is to present a reliable estimate of the Muslim population and its percentage in each country in Asia from 1950 till 2020. This data is summarized to be a reference for other studies and discussions related to the Muslim population. The presented data show that the percentage of World Muslim population with respect to the total World population has increased steadily from 17% in 1950 to 26% by 2020. While the total Asian population increased from 1.4 billion in 1950 to 4.7 billion by 2020, the percentage of Muslims in Asia increased from 23% in 1950 to 31% by 2020, which amounts to more than one percentage point per decade.

## I. INTRODUCTION AND METHODOLOGY

Islam has started in Asia which explains why more than two-thirds of World Muslim population resides in this continent. The aim of this paper is to track the change of the Muslim population in Asia since 1950. Accordingly, the results of this paper reveal that while the total Asian population increased from 744 million in 1870, to 1.4 billion in 1950, to 4.7 billion by 2020. The percentage of Muslims in Asia increased from 18% in 1870, to 23% in 1950, to 31% by 2020, which amounts to more than one percentage point per decade.

Our results are summarized in tables and a superscript number is put by a country name representing the source of the percentages. A “(year)” sign is put next to this number to indicate that the source bases its estimate on official census data and the year the census was conducted. Percentage values are based on the latest available census and reliable estimates. Official censuses were considered in this study to be the most reliable; although official censuses are usually challenged by minorities, whether Muslims or not, claiming that their number is underestimated for various reasons. However, these claims tend to be based on emotions and wishful thinking and not on scientific facts. In addition, residents who are not citizens are not counted in many religious and ethnic censuses. While typically non-citizens do not influence the political life in a country, they do help in establishing and maintaining various religious facilities and activities. Thus, it makes sense to include them in an estimate that inquires about adherents of a certain religion in a country.

However, not all censuses inquire on religious adherence, nor are held regularly. Thus, our second source of estimates is Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) that include data on religion. When no census or Survey is available, we resort to other estimates from reliable sources.

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The total population estimate for each country and the corresponding annual population growth rate (APGR) since 1950 are based on [UNP]. An estimate for the Muslims demographics in the decennial estimates based on these growth rates.

We divided Asia into eight regions; the data for each is included in a separate section, and are sorted in terms of the percentage of Muslims in descending order. These regions are the Arabian Peninsula (Section 2), East Near East (Section 3), West Near East (Section 4), Central Asia (Section 5), the Malay Archipelago (Section 6), the Indian Subcontinent (Section 7), the Far East (Section 8) and Indochina (Section 9). The country of Russia was not included in Asia as most of its population lives in the European side of the country, although most of its territory is in Asia. Section 10 presents a summary of the data for the whole continent.

## II. MUSLIMS IN THE ARABIAN PENINSULA

Islam has started in this region, so it comes as no surprise that this region has the highest concentration of Muslims. This region consists of seven countries: Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen. The total population of this region increased from 3 million in 1870, to 8 million in 1950, to 85 million by 2020. The related percentage of Muslims in this region decreased from 99% in 1870 to 98% in 1950 to 94% by 2020. The corresponding individual data for each country in this region is discussed below and summarized in Table 2.

**2.1. Bahrain:** Based on census data, the Muslim population increased from 105,401 or 96.12% in 1950, to 135,720 or 94.82% in 1959, to 173,594 or 95.28% in 1965, to 206,708 or 95.66% in 1971, to 298,140 or 84.99% in 1981, to 415,427 or 81.77 in 1991, to 528,393 or 81.22% in 2001.

**2.2. Kuwait:** Based on census data, the Muslim population increased from 194,894 or 94.39% in 1957, to 439,687 or 94.08% in 1965, to 944,781 or 94.97% in 1975, to 1,242,708 or 91.51% in 1980.

**2.3. Oman:** According to the 1993 census, Muslims make up 87.7% of the total population.

**2.4. Qatar:** According to the 2004 census, the total population was 744,029, out of which 576,931 or 77.54% were Muslims.

**2.5. Saudi Arabia:** By 2009, Muslims made up more than 95% of the total population.

**2.6. United Arab Emirates:** Based on census data, the Muslim population increased in number but decreased in percentage from 172,052 or 96.05% in 1968, to 494,325 or 88.61% in 1975, then to 76% in 2005.

**2.7. Yemen:** By 2009, Muslims made up more than 99.98%

of the total population.

### III. MUSLIMS IN THE EAST NEAR EAST

This region consists of six countries: Abkhazia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Iran, and South Ossetia. The total population of this region increased from 7 million in 1870, to 25 million in 1950, to 101 million by 2020. The related percentage of Muslims in this region increased from 73% in 1870, to 76% in 1950, to 93% by 2020. The corresponding individual data for each country in this region is discussed below and summarized in Table 3.

**3.1. Abkhazia:** Based on the 1926 census data, the Muslim population was 20,374 or 10.14% of the total population. According to surveys held in 1997 and 2003, Muslims' percentage with respect to the total population decreased from 17% to 16%, respectively.

**3.2. Armenia:** According to census data, the Muslim population changed from 92,856 or 10.55% in 1926, to 152,408 or 11.89% in 1939, to 135,303 or 7.67% in 1959, to 189,676 or 7.61% in 1970, to 214,644 or 7.07% in 1979, to 144,523 or 4.37% in 1989 to 6,159 or 0.19% in 2001.

**3.3. Azerbaijan:** According to census data, the Muslim

population increased from 1,677,440 or 72.47% in 1926, to 2,134,591 or 66.60% in 1939, to 2,659,021 or 71.91% in 1959, to 4,015,406 or 78.47% in 1970, to 4,976,784 or 82.58% in 1979, to 6,137,664 or 87.42% in 1989, to 7,629,300 or 95.93% in 1999. In addition, an official DHS was conducted in 2006. It covered the population aged 15 to 49. The participants were 8,444 females out of which 8,379 or 99.23% were Muslim and 2,245 males out of which 2,232 or 99.42% were Muslim. Thus, this survey indicated that 99.33% of the population is Muslim.

**3.4. Georgia:** According to census data, the Muslim population increased from 199,400 or 8.38% in 1926, to 292,409 or 8.26% in 1939, to 253,422 or 6.27% in 1959, to 331,856 or 7.08% in 1970, to 379,225 or 7.60% in 1979, to 449,921 or 8.33 in 1989 to 433,784 or 9.92% in 2002. The latest census, however, did not include the population of Abkhazia and South Ossetia.

**3.5. Iran:** Based on census data, the Muslim population increased from 18,654,127 or 98.41% in 1956, to 24,771,922 or 98.76% in 1966, to 33,396,908 or 99.07% in 1976, to 59,788,791 or 99.56% in 1996, to 70,093,956 or 99.43% in 2006.

**3.6. South Ossetia:** According to the 1926 census, the

TABLE 2. ESTIMATE OF THE MUSLIM POPULATION IN THE ARABIAN PENINSULA FROM 1950 TO 2020.

		1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2020
Bahrain	Population	115,613	156,112	219,567	346,997	492,952	650,012	807,131	1,002,228
	Muslims %	96.12	94.82	95.66	84.99	81.77	81.22	81.22	81.22
	Muslims	111,127	148,025	210,038	294,913	403,087	527,940	655,552	814,010
	APGR %		3.049	3.470	4.683	3.573	2.804	2.189	
	Reference	[UN56](1950)	[UN63](1959)	[UN71](1971)	[UN83](1981)	[UN](1991)	[UN](2001)		
Kuwait	Population	152,250	277,979	744,260	1,374,924	2,143,005	2,228,364	3,050,744	4,176,624
	Muslims %	94.39	94.08	94.97	91.51	91.51	91.51	91.51	91.51
	Muslims	143,709	261,523	706,824	1,258,193	1,961,064	2,039,176	2,791,736	3,822,029
	APGR %		6.205	10.350	6.330	4.538	0.391	3.191	
	Reference	[UN63](1957)	[UN71](1965)	[UN83](1975)	[UN88](1980)				
Oman	Population	456,419	565,276	746,636	1,187,441	1,842,998	2,402,184	2,905,114	3,513,339
	Muslims %	87.70	87.70	87.70	87.70	87.70	87.70	87.70	87.70
	Muslims	400,279	495,747	654,800	1,041,386	1,616,309	2,106,715	2,547,785	3,081,199
	APGR %		2.162	2.822	4.749	4.494	2.685	1.919	
	Reference					[PEW](1993)			
Qatar	Population	25,000	45,000	111,330	229,442	467,428	616,817	1,508,322	3,688,347
	Muslims %	77.54	77.54	77.54	77.54	77.54	77.54	77.54	77.54
	Muslims	19,385	34,893	86,325	177,909	362,444	478,280	1,169,553	2,859,944
	APGR %		6.054	9.481	7.499	7.375	2.812	9.354	
	Reference						[UN](2004)		
Saudi Arabia	Population	3,201,369	4,074,732	5,744,737	9,604,374	16,258,864	20,807,966	26,245,969	33,105,153
	Muslims %	95.00	95.00	95.00	95.00	95.00	95.00	95.00	95.00
	Muslims	3,041,301	3,870,995	5,457,500	9,124,155	15,445,921	19,767,568	24,933,671	31,449,895
	APGR %		2.442	3.494	5.274	5.405	2.498	2.349	
	Reference							[DOS]	
United Arab Emirates	Population	69,589	90,234	224,650	1,015,200	1,867,083	3,238,054	4,707,307	6,843,227
	Muslims %	96.05	96.05	96.05	88.61	88.61	76.00	76.00	76.00
	Muslims	66,840	86,670	215,776	899,569	1,654,422	2,460,921	3,577,553	5,200,853
	APGR %		2.632	9.550	16.280	6.282	5.660	3.812	
	Reference			[UN71](1968)	[UN83](1975)		[DOS](2005)		
Yemen	Population	4,316,000	5,222,010	6,390,724	8,381,347	12,313,576	18,181,733	24,255,928	32,359,404
	Muslims %	99.98	99.98	99.98	99.98	99.98	99.98	99.98	99.98
	Muslims	4,315,137	5,220,966	6,389,446	8,379,671	12,311,113	18,178,097	24,251,077	32,352,932
	APGR %		1.924	2.040	2.749	3.922	3.974	2.924	
	Reference							[DOS]	
Total	Population	8,336,240	10,431,343	14,181,904	22,139,725	35,385,906	48,125,130	63,480,515	84,688,323
	Muslims %	97.14	97.00	96.75	95.65	95.39	94.67	94.40	93.97
	Muslims	8,097,778	10,118,819	13,720,709	21,175,796	33,754,360	45,558,696	59,926,926	79,580,861
	APGR %		2.267	3.119	4.555	4.801	3.123	2.808	

Muslim population was 20,133 or 23.04% of the total population. By 2008, this percentage increased to 35%.

#### IV. MUSLIMS IN THE WEST NEAR EAST

This region consists of eight countries: Cyprus, North Cyprus, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine/Israel, Syria, and Turkey. The total population of this region increased from 12 million in 1870, to 35 million in 1950 to 187 million by 2020. The related percentage of Muslims in this region decreased from 94% in 1870 and remained around 91% since 1950. The corresponding individual data for each country in this region is discussed below and summarized in Table 4.

**4.1. Cyprus:** According to censuses data, the total population increased in Larnaka, Lemassol, Paphos, and half of Nicosia districts from 106,594 in 1881, to 122,012 in 1891, to 136,062 in 1901, to 155,078 in 1911, to 178,463 in 1921, to 198,823 in 1931, to 254,484 in 1946, to 326,170 in 1960, to 358,985 in 1973, to 602,025 in 1992, to 689,565 in 2001. The corresponding Muslim population changed from 27,006 or 25.34% in 1881, to 28,342 or 23.23% in 1891, to 30,281 or 22.26% in 1901, to 32,811 or 21.16% in 1911, to 36,181 or 20.27% in 1921, to 37,948 or 19.09% in 1931, to 46,921 or 18.44% in 1946, to 61,056 or 18.72% in 1960, then decreased to 4,182 or 0.61% in 2001. The decrease is due to the ethnic cleansing against Muslims from 1963 to

1974, which caused the Turkish military intervention in 1974, and the subsequent unilateral declaration of independence of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (North Cyprus) in 1983.

**4.2. North Cyprus:** According to censuses data, the total population increased in Kyrenia, Famagusta, and half of Nicosia districts from 79,579 in 1881, to 87,275 in 1891, to 100,961 in 1901, to 119,031 in 1911, to 132,253 in 1921, to 149,136 in 1931, to 195,631 in 1946, to 247,397 in 1960, to 272,793 in 1973, then decreased to 146,740 in 1978, then increased to 200,587 in 1996, to 265,100 in 2006. The corresponding Muslim population increased from or 18,452 or 23.19% in 1881, to 19,584 or 22.44% in 1891, to 21,028 or 20.83% in 1901, to 23,617 or 19.84% in 1911, to 25,158 or 19.02% in 1921, to 26,291 or 17.63% in 1931, to 33,627 or 17.19% in 1946, to 43,886 or 17.74% in 1960. After independence censuses indicate that more than 99% of the population is Muslim.

**4.3. Iraq:** Based on census data, the Muslim population increased from 4,508,779 or 93.62% in 1947, to 6,057,493 or 95.54% in 1957, to 7,711,712 or 95.83% in 1965.

**4.4. Jordan:** Based on census data, the Muslim population increased from 1,596,745 or 93.58% in 1961, to 2,036,407 or 95.47% in 1979. Based on DHS, this percentage increased to 96.99% in 1997, then to 98.43% in 2002.

**4.5. Lebanon:** By 2007, Muslims made up 56% of the

TABLE 3. ESTIMATE OF THE MUSLIM POPULATION IN THE EAST NEAR EAST FROM 1950 TO 2020.

		1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2020
Abkhazia	Population	355,291	404,738	486,959	486,082	525,061	261,259	199,483	152,314
	Muslims %	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	16.00	16.00
	Muslims	60,399	68,805	82,783	82,634	89,260	44,414	31,917	24,370
	APGR %		1.312	1.867	-0.018	0.774	-6.742	-2.662	
	Reference						[AB]	[AB]	
Armenia	Population	1,353,506	1,867,396	2,518,408	3,096,298	3,544,695	3,075,811	3,090,379	3,105,016
	Muslims %	11.89	7.67	7.61	7.07	4.37	0.19	0.19	0.19
	Muslims	160,932	143,229	191,651	218,908	154,903	5,844	5,872	5,900
	APGR %		3.271	3.036	2.087	1.362	-1.409	0.047	
	Reference	[SU](1939e)	[SU](1959e)	[SU](1970e)	[SU](1979e)	[SU](1989e)	[UNE](2001e)		
Azerbaijan	Population	2,895,997	3,894,494	5,172,002	6,160,502	7,211,692	8,121,411	8,933,928	9,827,734
	Muslims %	66.60	71.91	78.47	82.58	87.42	95.93	99.33	99.33
	Muslims	1,928,734	2,800,531	4,058,470	5,087,343	6,304,461	7,790,870	8,874,071	9,761,888
	APGR %		3.007	2.878	1.764	1.588	1.195	0.958	
	Reference	[SU](1939e)	[SU](1959e)	[SU](1970e)	[SU](1979e)	[SU](1989e)	[UNE](1999e)	[AZ](2006s)	
Georgia	Population	3,527,004	4,159,500	4,707,491	5,073,000	5,459,999	4,744,750	4,219,191	3,751,846
	Muslims %	9.35	6.27	7.08	7.60	8.33	9.92	9.92	9.92
	Muslims	329,775	260,801	333,290	385,548	454,818	470,679	418,544	372,183
	APGR %		1.663	1.245	0.751	0.738	-1.394	-1.167	
	Reference	[SU](1939e)	[SU](1959e)	[SU](1970e)	[SU](1979e)	[SU](1989e)	[GE](2002)		
Iran	Population	16,912,989	21,703,682	28,804,866	39,329,530	56,733,180	66,902,877	75,077,547	84,251,056
	Muslims %	98.41	98.41	98.76	99.07	99.56	99.56	99.43	99.43
	Muslims	16,644,072	21,358,593	28,447,686	38,963,765	56,483,554	66,608,504	74,649,605	83,770,825
	APGR %		2.525	2.871	3.163	3.732	1.662	1.159	
	Reference		[UN63](1956)	[UN71](1966)	[UN83](1976)		[UN](1996)	[IR](2006)	
Ossetia, South	Population	101,356	96,807	99,421	97,988	99,000	70,000	62,480	55,768
	Muslims %	35.00	35.00	35.00	35.00	35.00	35.00	35.00	35.00
	Muslims	35,475	33,882	34,797	34,296	34,650	24,500	21,868	19,519
	APGR %		-0.458	0.267	-0.145	0.103	-3.407	-1.130	
	Reference							[OS]	
Total	Population	25,146,143	32,126,617	41,789,147	54,243,400	73,573,627	83,176,108	91,583,008	101,143,735
	Muslims %	76.19	76.78	79.32	82.54	86.34	90.10	91.72	92.89
	Muslims	19,159,387	24,665,842	33,148,677	44,772,494	63,521,647	74,944,811	84,001,876	93,954,686
	APGR %		2.480	2.664	2.643	3.095	1.234	0.968	

total population.

**4.6. Palestine/Israel:** The representation of Muslims decreased from 85% or 300,000 in 1850, to 82.43% or 657,000 by 1914, to 73.34% or 759,712 by 1931, to 63.18% or 875,000 by 1937, to 59.87% or 1,122,000 by 1947. After the state of Israel was declared, the statistics for Israel included those living in 1948 occupied lands and Israeli citizens who live in colonies in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The Palestinian statistics on the other hand, covers Palestinians who live in Gaza Strip and the West Bank and excludes those who live in Jerusalem. The statistics also exclude Israeli citizens who live in this region as they are covered under Israel.

Based on official statistics data, the total Israeli population increased from 1,370,100 in 1950, to 2,150,400 in 1960, to 3,022,100 in 1970, to 3,321,700 in 1980, 4,821,700 in 1990, to 6,363,300 in 2000, to 7,374,000 in

2008. The corresponding Muslim population increased from 116,100 or 8.47% in 1950, to 166,300 or 7.73% in 1960, to 328,600 or 10.87% in 1970, to 438,300 or 12.71% in 1980, to 677,700 or 14.06% in 1990, to 970,000 or 15.23% in 2000, to 1,240,000 or 16.82% in 2008.

Regarding Palestinians, the 1967 census indicated that the Strip had a total population of 356,269 out of which 352,532 or 98.95% were Muslims. More recent census data indicate that the total population increased to 1,022,207 in 1997 and 1,416,543 in 2007. The 1997 census indicated that both Gaza Strip and the West Bank had a total population of 2,597,616, out of which 2,556,859 or 98.43% were Muslims. In [UN], it is noted that in the 1997 census, “total population does not include Palestinian population living in those parts of Jerusalem governorate which were annexed by Israel in 1967, amounting to 210,209 persons. Likewise, the results do not include the estimates of not enumerated population

TABLE 4. ESTIMATE OF THE MUSLIM POPULATION IN THE WEST NEAR EAST FROM 1950 TO 2020.

		1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2020
Cyprus	Population	271,798	326,170	358,985	508,600	579,400	693,600	820,000	969,435
	Muslims %	18.44	18.72	18.36	0.61	0.61	0.61	0.61	0.61
	Muslims	50,120	61,059	65,910	3,102	3,534	4,231	5,002	5,914
	APGR %		1.840	0.963	3.545	1.312	1.815	1.688	
	Reference	[CY](1946)	[CY](1960)	[CY](1973)			[UN](2001)		
Cyprus, North	Population	210,313	247,397	272,793	151,926	180,739	224,257	296,382	391,704
	Muslims %	17.19	17.74	17.74	99.00	99.00	99.00	99.00	99.00
	Muslims	36,153	43,888	48,393	150,407	178,932	222,014	293,418	387,787
	APGR %		1.637	0.982	-5.69	1.752	2.181	2.828	
	Reference	[CY](1946)	[CY](1960)	[CY](1973)			[DOS01]	[DOS]	
Iraq	Population	5,719,191	7,496,988	10,209,822	14,023,797	18,079,414	24,652,342	31,466,698	40,164,666
	Muslims %	93.62	95.54	95.83	95.83	95.83	95.83	95.83	95.83
	Muslims	5,354,307	7,162,622	9,784,072	13,439,005	17,325,502	23,624,339	30,154,537	38,489,799
	APGR %		2.744	3.137	3.225	2.573	3.150	2.471	
	Reference	[UN56](1947)	[UN63](1957)	[UN71](1965)					
Jordan	Population	472,489	896,097	1,622,793	2,225,250	3,254,004	4,853,360	6,472,392	8,631,517
	Muslims %	93.58	93.58	93.58	95.47	96.99	98.43	98.43	98.43
	Muslims	442,155	838,568	1,518,610	2,124,446	3,156,058	4,777,162	6,370,775	8,496,002
	APGR %		6.610	6.118	3.208	3.873	4.079	2.921	
	Reference		[UN63](1961)		[UN88](1979)	[JO97](1997s)	[JO](2002s)		
Lebanon	Population	1,442,826	1,888,485	2,442,746	2,784,713	2,974,323	3,772,283	4,254,583	4,798,547
	Muslims %	56.00	56.00	56.00	56.00	56.00	56.00	56.00	56.00
	Muslims	807,983	1,057,552	1,367,938	1,559,439	1,665,621	2,112,478	2,382,566	2,687,186
	APGR %		2.728	2.607	1.319	0.661	2.405	1.210	
	Reference							[DOS]	
Palestine-Israel	Population	2,262,771	3,214,925	3,993,438	5,240,078	6,668,168	9,233,632	11,694,425	14,896,276
	Muslims %	48.65	38.97	35.04	37.00	41.32	43.61	47.71	50.77
	Muslims	1,100,800	1,252,759	1,399,127	1,939,069	2,755,269	4,026,622	5,579,617	7,563,405
	APGR %		3.575	2.192	2.754	2.439	3.309	2.391	
	Reference	[IL](1950)	[IL](1960)	[IL](1970) [UN71](1967)	[IL](1980)	[IL](1990)	[IL](2000) [UN](1997)	[IL](2008) [PS](2007)	
Syria	Population	3,536,100	4,620,766	6,371,000	8,971,343	12,720,920	16,510,861	22,505,091	30,675,512
	Muslims %	90.00	90.00	90.00	90.00	90.00	90.00	87.00	87.00
	Muslims	3,182,490	4,158,689	5,733,900	8,074,209	11,448,828	14,859,775	19,579,429	26,687,696
	APGR %		2.711	3.264	3.482	3.554	2.642	3.146	
	Reference						[DOS01]	[DOS]	
Turkey	Population	21,484,000	28,233,000	36,207,440	46,161,316	56,086,184	66,459,578	75,705,147	86,236,920
	Muslims %	98.44	98.92	99.17	99.17	99.17	99.17	99.17	99.17
	Muslims	21,148,850	27,928,084	35,906,918	45,778,177	55,620,669	65,907,964	75,076,794	85,521,153
	APGR %		2.769	2.519	2.459	1.967	1.712	1.311	
	Reference	[UN56](1945)	[UN63](1955)	[UN71](1965)					
Total	Population	35,399,488	46,923,828	61,479,017	80,067,023	100,543,152	126,399,913	153,214,718	186,764,576
	Muslims %	90.74	90.58	90.80	91.26	91.66	91.40	91.01	90.94
	Muslims	32,122,856	42,503,221	55,824,869	73,067,854	92,154,413	115,534,586	139,442,139	169,838,942
	APGR %		2.858	2.739	2.677	2.303	2.315	1.943	

based on the findings of the post enumeration study, i.e. 83,805 persons.” The 2007 census indicated that the total population reached 3,761,646; out of which 1,416,543 or 37.66% live in Gaza Strip, while 2,350,583 or 62.49% live in West Bank, including East Jerusalem. For religious affiliation in the West Bank; 2,187,495 or 98.11% of the 2,229,595 who stated their religion were Muslim. According to [DOS], there are 1,500 to 2,500 Christians living in the Strip. Thus, Muslims make up at least 99.82% of the total population of the Strip recorded in the 2007 census. All in all, according to the 2007 census results, Muslims make up 98.75% of the total population.

All in all, the percentage of Muslims in Historical Palestine continued to decrease to 48.65% or 1,100,800 in 1950, to 38.97% or 1,252,759 in 1960, to 35.04% or 1,399,127 in 1970. However, Muslim percentage started increase constantly since the Israeli occupation of the rest of Palestine. Accordingly, the percentage of Muslims increased to 37% or 1,939,069 in 1980, to 41.32% or 2,755,269 in 1990, to 43.61% or 4,026,622 in 2000, to 47.71% or 5,579,617 in 2010, and Muslims are expected to be more

than the half of the population by 2020.

**4.7. Syria:** Estimate for the Muslim population decreased from 90% in 2001, to 87% in 2009.

**4.8. Turkey:** Based on census data, the Muslim population increased from 18,497,801 or 98.44% in 1945, to 23,804,048 or 98.92% in 1955, to 31,129,973 or 99.17% in 1965.

## V. MUSLIMS IN CENTRAL ASIA

This region consists of seven countries: Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. The total population of this region increased from 12 million in 1870, to 26 million in 1950 to 112 million by 2020. The related percentage of Muslims in this region increased from 89% in 1870, to 75% in 1950 to 91% by 2020. The corresponding individual data for each country in this region is discussed below and summarized in Table 5.

**5.1. Afghanistan:** According to the 1979 census, the Muslim population was 13,020,810 or 99.77% of the total

TABLE 5. ESTIMATE OF THE MUSLIM POPULATION IN CENTRAL ASIA FROM 1950 TO 2020.

		1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2020
Afghanistan	Population	8,151,455	9,616,353	11,839,729	13,945,792	12,580,412	20,535,806	29,117,489	41,285,361
	Muslims %	99.77	99.77	99.77	99.77	99.77	99.77	99.77	99.77
	Muslims	8,132,707	9,594,235	11,812,498	13,913,717	12,551,477	20,488,574	29,050,519	41,190,405
	APGR %		1.666	2.102	1.651	-1.025	5.022	3.553	
	Reference				[UN83](1979)				
Kazakhstan	Population	6,702,996	9,995,997	13,109,992	14,918,991	16,530,000	14,956,751	15,753,460	16,592,608
	Muslims %	43.13	37.34	38.87	42.92	47.23	61.55	70.85	70.85
	Muslims	2,891,002	3,732,505	5,095,854	6,403,231	7,807,119	9,205,880	11,161,326	11,755,863
	APGR %		4.077	2.749	1.301	1.031	-0.995	0.520	
	Reference	[SU](1939e)	[SU](1959e)	[SU](1970e)	[SU](1979e)	[SU](1989e)	[KZ](1999e)	[KZ](2009e)	
Kyrgyzstan	Population	1,740,000	2,172,500	2,964,499	3,627,499	4,394,502	4,954,863	5,550,239	6,217,155
	Muslims %	67.86	59.28	61.97	66.56	72.13	85.10	90.97	90.97
	Muslims	1,180,764	1,287,858	1,837,100	2,414,463	3,169,754	4,216,588	5,049,052	5,655,746
	APGR %		2.245	3.157	2.039	1.937	1.207	1.141	
	Reference	[SU](1939e)	[SU](1959e)	[SU](1970e)	[SU](1979e)	[SU](1989e)	[KG](1999e)	[KG](2009e)	
Mongolia	Population	761,298	958,873	1,255,642	1,663,026	2,216,080	2,389,197	2,701,117	3,053,760
	Muslims %	4.34	4.69	5.29	5.48	6.06	4.35	4.35	4.35
	Muslims	33,040	44,971	66,423	91,134	134,294	103,930	117,499	132,839
	APGR %		2.334	2.733	2.850	2.913	0.755	1.235	
	Reference	[MN](1956e)	[MN](1963e)	[MN](1969e)	[MN](1979e)	[MN](1989e)	[MN](2000e)		
Tajikistan	Population	1,531,502	2,082,499	2,941,501	3,952,691	5,303,152	6,172,891	7,074,845	8,108,588
	Muslims %	88.51	81.72	83.95	86.11	89.74	98.63	98.63	98.63
	Muslims	1,355,532	1,701,818	2,469,390	3,403,662	4,759,049	6,088,322	6,977,920	7,997,501
	APGR %		3.121	3.514	2.999	2.983	1.530	1.373	
	Reference	[TJ](1939e)	[TJ](1959e)	[TJ](1970e)	[TJ](1979e)	[TJ](1989e)	[TJ](2000e)		
Turkmenistan	Population	1,211,000	1,593,501	2,188,499	2,861,000	3,668,000	4,501,727	5,176,502	5,952,421
	Muslims %	76.81	78.44	81.45	83.97	88.58	93.09	93.09	93.09
	Muslims	930,169	1,249,942	1,782,532	2,402,382	3,249,114	4,190,658	4,818,806	5,541,108
	APGR %		2.783	3.224	2.716	2.516	2.069	1.406	
	Reference	[SU](1939e)	[SU](1959e)	[SU](1970e)	[SU](1979e)	[SU](1989e)	[TM](2000s)		
Uzbekistan	Population	6,313,997	8,558,503	11,972,994	15,951,899	20,515,248	24,775,610	27,794,296	31,180,782
	Muslims %	84.20	81.17	82.85	85.57	88.54	96.30	96.30	96.30
	Muslims	5,316,385	6,946,937	9,919,626	13,650,040	18,164,201	23,858,912	26,765,907	30,027,093
	APGR %		3.088	3.414	2.911	2.548	1.905	1.156	
	Reference	[SU](1939e)	[SU](1959e)	[SU](1970e)	[SU](1979e)	[SU](1989e)	[UZ](2002s)		
Total	Population	26,412,248	34,978,226	46,272,856	56,920,898	65,207,394	78,286,845	93,167,948	112,390,674
	Muslims %	75.12	70.21	71.28	74.28	76.43	87.06	90.10	91.02
	Muslims	19,839,600	24,558,267	32,983,423	42,278,629	49,835,008	68,152,865	83,941,029	102,300,554
	APGR %		2.849	2.838	2.093	1.368	1.845	1.755	

population.

**5.2. Kazakhstan:** The corresponding censuses include ethnic demography, from which we can deduce religion. Accordingly, based on census data, the Muslim population decreased from 3,392,800 or 81.80% in 1897, to 3,899,211 or 62.93% in 1926, to 2,416,576 or 47.14% in 1937, to 2,652,998 or 43.13% in 1939, to 3,476,761 or 37.34% in 1959, then continued increasing since then to 4,993,669 or 38.87% in 1970, to 6,303,189 or 42.92% in 1979, to 7,776,037 or 47.23% in 1989, to 9,221,000 or 61.55% in 1999, to 11,339,300 or 70.85% in 2009.

**5.3. Kyrgyzstan:** According to census data, the Muslim population increased from 799,585 or 80.52% in 1926, to 989,480 or 67.86% in 1939, to 1,224,699 or 59.28% in 1959, to 1,817,549 or 61.97% in 1970, to 2,344,936 or 66.56% in 1979, to 3,071,141 or 72.13% in 1989, to 4,104,300 or 85.10% in 1999, to 4,878,650 or 90.97% in 2009.

**5.4. Mongolia:** Based on census data, the Muslim population increased from 36,729 or 4.34% in 1956, to 47,735 or 4.69% in 1963, to 62,812 or 5.29% in 1969, to 84,305 or 5.48% in 1979, to 120,506 or 6.06% in 1989, then decreased to 102,983 or 4.35% in 2000.

**2.4.5. Tajikistan:** According to census data, the Muslim population increased from 818,014 or 98.89% in 1926, to 1,313,800 or 88.51% in 1939, to 1,618,500 or 81.72% in 1959, to 2,434,300 or 83.95% in 1970, to 3,277,700 or 86.11% in 1979, to 4,570,000 or 89.74 in 1989, to 6,043,640 or

98.63% in 2000.

**5.6. Turkmenistan:** According to census data, the Muslim population changed from 861,845 or 86.11% in 1926, to 961,531 or 76.81% in 1939, to 1,189,519 or 78.44% in 1959, to 1,758,391 or 81.45% in 1970, to 2,321,530 or 83.97% in 1979, to 3,120,341 or 88.58% in 1989. According to DHS, this percentage increased to 93.1% by 2000.

**5.7. Uzbekistan:** According to census data, the Muslim population changed from 4,761,730 or 90.31% in 1926, to 5,280,159 or 84.20% in 1939, to 6,579,292 or 81.17% in 1959, to 9,908,759 or 82.85% in 1970, to 13,168,057 or 85.57% in 1979, to 17,540,104 or 88.54% in 1989. According to DHS, this percentage increased to 94.52% in 1996, then to 96.30% in 2002.

## VI. MUSLIMS IN THE MALAY ARCHIPELAGO

This region consists of seven countries: Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, and Timor-Leste (East Timor). The total population of this region increased from 39 million in 1870, to 107 million in 1950 to 426 million by 2020. The related percentage of Muslims in this region decreased from 70% in 1870, to 67% in 1950 to 61% by 2020. The corresponding individual data for each country in this region is discussed below and summarized in Table 6.

**6.1. Brunei:** Based on census data, the Muslim

TABLE 6. ESTIMATE OF THE MUSLIM POPULATION IN THE MALAY ARCHIPELAGO FROM 1950 TO 2020.

		1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2020
Brunei	Population	48,001	81,800	129,698	193,028	256,998	333,471	407,045	496,852
	Muslims %	67.06	60.23	62.16	63.41	67.17	67.17	67.17	67.17
	Muslims	32,189	49,268	80,620	122,399	172,626	223,992	273,412	333,735
	APGR%		5.475	4.717	4.056	2.904	2.639	2.014	
	Reference	[UN56](1947)	[UN63](1960)	[UN73](1971)	[UN83](1981)	[UN](1991)			
Indonesia	Population	77,151,870	93,058,069	116,920,969	146,582,025	177,385,145	205,280,270	232,516,771	263,367,000
	Muslims %	87.51	87.51	87.51	87.51	88.22	88.22	88.22	88.22
	Muslims	67,515,601	81,435,116	102,317,540	128,273,930	156,489,175	181,098,254	205,126,295	232,342,367
	APGR%		1.892	2.309	2.287	1.926	1.471	1.254	
	Reference			[UN73](1971)			[UN](2000)		
Malaysia	Population	6,109,907	8,140,405	10,852,505	13,763,441	18,103,341	23,273,615	27,913,990	33,479,579
	Muslims %	50.04	50.04	50.04	52.93	58.62	60.36	60.36	60.36
	Muslims	3,057,397	4,073,459	5,430,594	7,284,989	10,612,178	14,047,954	16,848,884	20,208,274
	APGR%		2.911	2.917	2.405	2.779	2.544	1.835	
	Reference			[UN73](1970)	[UN](1980)	[UN](1991)	[UN](2000)		
Philippines	Population	19,996,220	27,057,135	36,567,344	48,111,854	62,427,480	77,689,369	93,616,853	112,809,710
	Muslims %	4.12	4.86	4.32	4.57	4.57	5.06	5.06	5.06
	Muslims	823,844	1,314,977	1,579,709	2,198,712	2,852,936	3,931,082	4,737,013	5,708,171
	APGR%		3.070	3.058	2.782	2.639	2.211	1.882	
	Reference	[UN56](1948)	[UN63](1960)	[UN79](1970)		[UN](1990)	[UN](2000)		
Singapore	Population	1,022,098	1,634,000	2,074,601	2,414,502	3,016,380	4,018,337	4,836,691	5,821,707
	Muslims %	16.34	16.34	16.34	16.34	15.36	14.90	14.90	14.90
	Muslims	167,011	266,996	338,990	394,530	463,316	598,732	720,667	867,434
	APGR%		4.804	2.416	1.529	2.251	2.910	1.871	
	Reference				[UN83](1980)	[UN](1990)	[UN](2000)		
Timor-Leste (East Timor)	Population	433,398	500,500	604,494	581,380	740,192	815,310	1,171,163	1,682,333
	Muslims %	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.32
	Muslims	1,387	1,602	1,934	1,860	2,369	2,609	3,748	5,383
	APGR%		1.450	1.906	-0.389	2.444	0.971	3.688	
	Reference						[TL](2004)		
Total	Population	106,559,590	132,552,387	169,703,300	214,845,246	266,060,609	316,797,985	367,350,900	426,464,397
	Muslims %	67.17	65.73	64.67	64.36	64.12	63.10	61.99	60.84
	Muslims	71,571,931	87,129,741	109,754,462	138,277,060	170,593,839	199,904,240	227,712,086	259,468,008
	APGR%		2.207	2.502	2.387	2.161	1.761	1.492	



population increased from 27,266 or 67.06% in 1947, to 50,516 or 60.23% in 1960, to 84,700 or 62.16 in 1971, to 122,269 or 63.41% in 1981, to 174,977 or 67.17% in 1991.

**6.2. Indonesia:** Based on census data, the Muslim population increased from 103,579,496 or 87.51% in 1971 to 177,528,772 or 88.22% in 2000.

**6.3. Malaysia:** Based on census data, the Muslim population increased from 5,164,205 or 50.04% in 1970, to 6,918,307 or 52.93% in 1980, to 10,257,341 or 58.62% in 1991, to 14,049,379 or 60.36% in 2000.

**6.4. Papua New Guinea:** Estimate for the Muslim population increased from few hundred or 0.02% in 1981, to 2,000 or 0.03% in 2009.

**6.5. Philippines:** Based on census data, the Muslim population increased from 277,547 or 3.64% in 1903, to 443,037 or 4.24% in 1918, to 676,813 or 4.23% in 1939, to 791,817 or 4.12% in 1948, to 1,317,475 or 4.86% in 1960, to 1,584,963 or 4.32% in 1970, to 2,769,643 or 4.57% in 1990, to 3,862,409 or 5.06% in 2000.

**6.6. Singapore:** Based on census data, the total population 15 years and over increased from 1,981,962 in 1980, to 2,253,900 in 1990, to 2,494,630 in 2000. The corresponding Muslim population increased in number but decreased in percentage with respect to the total population from 323,867 or 16.34% in 1980, to 346,200 or 15.36% in 1990, to 371,660 or 14.90% in 2000. Previous censuses included ethnical information from which we can deduce religion, with the assumption that all Malays and 22% of the Indians are Muslim, which is confirmed by recent censuses.

Accordingly, the Muslim population changed from 6,599 out of 10,683 (61.77%) in 1824, to 8,065 out of 16,634 (48.49%) in 1830, to 13,190 out of 29,984 (43.99%) in 1936, to 18435 out of 52891 (34.86%) in 1849, to 28,433 out of 94,816 (29.99%) in 1871, to 35,698 out of 137,722 (25.92%) in 1881, to 39,516 out of 181,602 (21.76%) in 1891, to 39,776 out of 226,842 (17.53%) in 1901, to 47,974 out of 303,321 (15.82%) in 1911, to 60,776 out of 418,358 (14.53%) in 1921, to 76,305 out of 557,745 (13.68%) in 1931, to 55,611 out of 490,155 (11.35%) in 1936, to 129,787 out of 938,144 (13.83%) in 1947, to 225,839 out of 1,445,929 (15.62%) in 1957, to 343,639 out of 2,074,507 (16.56%) in 1970.

**6.7. Timor-Leste (East Timor):** According to the 2004 census, the total population was 924,642 out of which 2,970 or 0.32% were Muslims.

## VII. MUSLIMS IN THE INDIAN SUBCONTINENT

This region consists of seven countries: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. The total population of this region increased from 240 million in 1870, to 473 million in 1950 to 1,897 million by 2020. The related percentage of Muslims in this region decreased from 17% in 1870, to 23% in 1950 to 31% by 2020. The corresponding individual data for each country in this region is discussed below and summarized in Table 2.6.

TABLE 7. ESTIMATE OF THE MUSLIM POPULATION IN THE INDIAN SUBCONTINENT FROM 1950 TO 2020.

		1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2020
Bangladesh	Population	43,594,580	54,138,214	69,178,394	90,397,175	115,632,151	140,766,909	164,425,491	192,060,352
	Muslims %	85.40	85.40	85.40	86.65	88.31	89.58	89.58	89.58
	Muslims	37,229,771	46,234,035	59,078,348	78,329,152	102,114,753	126,098,997	147,292,355	172,047,663
	APGR %		2.190	2.482	2.711	2.493	1.986	1.566	
	Reference			[UN83](1974)	[UN83](1981)	[UN88](1991)	[BD](2001)		
Bhutan	Population	168,377	223,989	297,679	422,594	548,774	561,175	708,484	894,462
	Muslims %	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
	Muslims	8,419	11,199	14,884	21,130	27,439	28,059	35,424	44,723
	APGR %		2.895	2.885	3.566	2.647	0.224	2.358	
	Reference						[BT]		
India	Population	371,856,500	448,313,910	552,963,992	692,637,303	862,161,572	1,042,589,892	1,214,464,312	1,414,672,803
	Muslims %	9.93	10.70	11.36	11.36	12.16	13.43	13.43	13.43
	Muslims	36,925,350	47,969,588	62,816,709	78,683,598	104,838,847	140,019,822	163,102,557	189,990,557
	APGR %		1.887	2.120	2.278	2.214	1.918	1.538	
	Reference	[UN56](1951)	[UN63](1961)		[UN88](1981)	[UN](1991)	[UN](2001)		
Maldives	Population	81,999	98,501	121,400	158,098	215,524	272,248	313,920	361,971
	Muslims %	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
	Muslims	81,999	98,501	121,400	158,098	215,524	272,248	313,920	361,971
	APGR %		1.851	2.112	2.676	3.147	2.364	1.434	
	Reference				[UN88](1977)		[CIA]		
Nepal	Population	8,126,126	9,691,444	11,893,041	15,057,512	19,104,650	24,431,756	29,852,682	36,476,405
	Muslims %	3.04	3.04	3.04	2.66	3.53	4.20	4.20	4.20
	Muslims	247,034	294,620	361,548	400,530	674,394	1,026,134	1,253,813	1,532,009
	APGR %		1.777	2.068	2.387	2.409	2.490	2.024	
	Reference			[UN73](1971)	[UN83](1981)	[UN](1991)	[UN](2001)		
Pakistan	Population	41,177,263	48,777,520	61,750,078	82,609,206	115,775,984	148,132,365	184,753,300	230,427,576
	Muslims %	85.88	88.09	96.67	96.67	96.50	96.50	96.50	96.50
	Muslims	35,363,033	42,968,117	59,693,800	79,858,319	111,723,825	142,947,732	178,286,935	222,362,611
	APGR %		1.708	2.386	2.953	3.433	2.495	2.234	
	Reference	[UN56](1951)	[UN63](1961)		[UN88](1981)		[PK](1998)		
Sri Lanka	Population	8,240,623	10,017,869	12,520,121	15,059,710	17,290,330	18,767,087	20,409,946	22,196,620
	Muslims %	6.56	6.84	7.11	7.56	8.45	8.45	8.45	8.45
	Muslims	540,585	685,222	890,181	1,138,514	1,461,033	1,585,819	1,724,640	1,875,614
	APGR %		1.972	2.255	1.864	1.391	0.823	0.843	
	Reference	[UN56](1946)	[UN71](1963)	[UN79](1971)	[UN81](1981)		[UN](2001)		

Total	Population	473,245,468	571,261,447	708,724,705	896,341,598	1,130,728,985	1,375,521,432	1,614,928,135	1,897,090,189
	Muslims %	23.33	24.20	25.82	26.62	28.39	29.95	30.47	31.01
	Muslims	110,396,192	138,261,283	182,976,871	238,589,341	321,055,814	411,978,811	492,009,644	588,215,149
	APGR %		1.900	2.180	2.376	2.350	1.979	1.618	

**7.1. Bangladesh:** Based on census data, the Muslim population of the Bengal province of British India changed from 19,553,831 (31.20%) in 1871, to 21,704,724 (31.21%) in 1881, to 23,658,347 (31.70%) in 1891, to 25,495,416 (32.48%) in 1901, to 24,207,028 (52.28%) in 1911, to 25,486,124 (53.55%) in 1921. This province was divided to construct current Bangladesh and the rest of the province is part of current India. After independence censuses show that the Muslim population increased from 61,038,929 or 85.40% in 1974, to 75,486,980 or 86.65% in 1981, to 98,426,074 or 88.31% in 1991, to 116,922,143 or 89.58% in 2001.

**7.2. Bhutan:** By 2007, Muslims constituted up to 5% of the total population.

**7.3. India:** Based on census data, the Muslim population in current India excluding the Punjab and Bengal provinces, increased from 11,388,498 (7.57%) in 1871, to 16,587,555 (10.50%) in 1881, to 18,275,850 (10.36%) in 1891, to 19,271,609 (11.05%) in 1901, to 24,271,500 (10.80%) in 1911, to 24,711,511 (11.63%) in 1921. After independence censuses show that the Muslim population increased from 35,400,117 or 9.93% in 1951, to 46,939,592 or 10.70% in 1961, to 75,571,514 or 11.36% in 1981, to 101,596,057 or 12.16% in 1991, to 138,188,240 or 13.43% in 2001.

**7.4. Maldives:** Census data show that the entire population is Muslim.

**7.5. Nepal:** Based on census data, the Muslim population increased from 351,186 or 3.04% in 1971, to 399,197 or 2.66% in 1981, to 653,218 or 3.53% in 1991, to 954,023 or

4.20% in 2001.

**7.6. Pakistan:** Based on census data, the Muslim population in the Punjab province, which was divided after independence between Pakistan and India, increased from 9,837,685 (42.94%) in 1871, to 11,662,434 (51.35%) in 1881. Muslims in the Punjab and Sindh provinces were 15,130,096 (54.03%) in 1891. Muslims in most of current Pakistan and the Punjab province increased from 17,352,979 (56.15%) in 1901, to 17,747,540 (58.52%) in 1911, to 18,037,006 in 1921. After independence censuses show that the Muslim population increased from 64,958,221 or 85.88% in 1951, to 82,556,634 or 88.09% in 1961, to 81,450,057 or 96.67% in 1981, to 126,009,286 or 96.50% in 1998.

**7.7. Sri Lanka:** Based on census data, the Muslim population increased from 248,065 or 6.94% in 1901, to 436,556 or 6.56% in 1946, to 724,043 or 6.84% in 1963, to 901,785 or 7.11% in 1971, to 1,121,717 or 7.56% in 1981, to 1,425,698 or 8.45% in 2001.

#### VIII. MUSLIMS IN THE FAR EAST

This region consists of five countries: China, Japan, North and South Korea, and Taiwan. The total population of this region increased from 409 million in 1870, to 666 million in 1950 to 1,682 million by 2020. The related percentage of Muslims in this region has remained around 9% since 1870. The corresponding individual data for each country in this

		1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2020
Cambodia	Population	4,345,800	5,433,306	6,937,996	6,747,832	9,690,107	12,759,811	15,053,112	17,758,584
	Muslims %	15.00	15.00	15.00	5.00	2.15	2.15	1.92	1.92
	Muslims	651,870	814,996	1,040,699	337,392	208,337	274,336	289,020	340,965
	APGR%		2.259	2.475	-0.278	3.685	2.790	1.667	
	Reference			[KET]	[KET]		[KH](1998)	[KH](2008)	
Laos	Population	1,666,255	2,124,054	2,692,444	3,237,523	4,206,591	5,403,262	6,436,093	7,666,349
	Muslims %	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02
	Muslims	333	425	538	648	841	1,081	1,287	1,533
	APGR%		2.457	2.400	1.861	2.653	2.535	1.765	
	Reference					[UN](1995)		[LA](2005)	
Myanmar (Burma)	Population	17,157,509	21,074,817	26,402,632	33,561,169	40,844,487	46,609,819	50,495,672	54,705,488
	Muslims %	7.97	7.97	7.97	7.97	7.97	7.97	7.97	7.97
	Muslims	1,367,453	1,679,663	2,104,290	2,674,825	3,255,306	3,714,803	4,024,505	4,360,027
	APGR%		2.078	2.279	2.428	1.983	1.329	0.804	
	Reference	[UN56](1953)							
Thailand	Population	20,607,324	27,642,069	37,186,309	47,263,814	56,672,975	62,346,822	68,139,238	74,469,806
	Muslims %	3.84	3.91	3.85	3.83	4.56	4.56	4.56	4.56
	Muslims	791,321	1,080,805	1,431,673	1,810,204	2,584,288	2,843,015	3,107,149	3,395,823
	APGR%		2.980	3.010	2.427	1.832	0.959	0.892	
	Reference	[UN56](1947)	[UN63](1960)	[UN79](1970)	[UN83](1980)		[UN](2000)		
Vietnam	Population	27,366,684	33,648,385	42,898,338	53,317,063	66,247,474	78,663,267	89,028,741	100,760,076
	Muslims %	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.05	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08
	Muslims	82,100	100,945	128,695	26,659	52,998	62,931	71,223	80,608
	APGR%		2.088	2.458	2.198	2.195	1.733	1.246	
	Reference			[KET]	[KET]		[VN](1999)		
Total	Population	71,143,572	89,922,631	116,117,719	144,127,401	177,661,634	205,782,981	229,152,856	255,360,303
	Muslims %	4.07	4.09	4.05	3.36	3.43	3.35	3.27	3.20
	Muslims	2,893,078	3,676,834	4,705,896	4,849,727	6,101,770	6,896,165	7,493,184	8,178,957
	APGR%		2.370	2.590	2.184	2.114	1.480	1.081	

Table 2.8. Estimate of the Muslim population in Indochina from 1950 to 2020.



region is discussed below and summarized in Table 8.

**8.1. China:** The 1936 census indicated a total population of 452,460,000; out of which 47,437,000 or 10.48% were Muslim. Later censuses under the communist regime which took over in 1948, presented a much less count of Muslims. Accordingly, official estimate was less than ten million or 1.74% in the 1953 census, and about twenty million or 1.61% in the 2000 census. The reason for this underestimate is due to the fact that only ethnicities with majority Muslims were considered Muslim, while most Chinese Muslims are from ethnicities the majority of which are not Muslim. Thus, using ethnic census data alone severely underestimates the number of Muslims in China.

**8.2. Japan:** Estimates for the Muslim population increased from 25,000 or 0.02% in 1981, to 100,000 or 0.08% in 2009.

**8.3. North Korea:** The Muslim population increased from none in 1971 and before, to 2,000 or 0.01% by 2005.

**8.4. South Korea:** Estimates for the Muslim population increased from few hundred or less than 0.01% in 1950, to few thousands or around 0.02% in 1971, to 235,000 or 0.50% in 2009.

**8.5. Taiwan:** Estimates for the Muslim population increased from almost none before 1949, to 20,000 or 0.27% in 1949, to 40,000 or 0.27% in 1971, to 105,000 or 0.47% in 2000, to 210,000 or 0.91% in 2009.

to 71 million in 1950 to 255 million by 2020. The related percentage of Muslims in this region increased from 2% in 1870, to 4% in 1950, then decreased to 3% since 1980. The corresponding individual data for each country in this region is discussed below and summarized in Table 2.8.

**9.1. Cambodia:** The massacres of the Khmer Rouge regime (1975-1979) decreased the Muslim population from over one million or 15% of the total population to a one third of that. Recent census data indicate that the Muslim population increased in number but decreased in percentage from 245,398 or 2.15% in 1998, to 257,197 or 1.92% in 2008.

**9.2. Laos:** Based on census data, the Muslim population decreased from 1,133 or 0.02% in 1995, to 1,006 or 0.02% in 2005.

**9.3. Myanmar (Burma):** Based on census data, the Muslim population changed from 99,846 or 3.63% in 1871, to 168,881 or 4.52% in 1881, to 253,031 or 3.08% in 1891, to 339,446 or 3.24% in 1901, to 420,777 or 3.47% in 1911, to 500,592 or 3.80% in 1921, to 234,512 or 7.97% in 1953.

**9.4. Thailand:** Based on census data, the Muslim population increased from 670,404 or 3.84% in 1947, to 1,025,569 or 3.91% in 1960, to 1,325,587 or 3.85% in 1970, to 1,714,689 or 3.83% in 1980, to 2,777,542 or 4.56% in 2000.

**9.5. Vietnam:** In 1981, the Muslim population was estimated to be 25,000 or 0.05% of the total population. The 1999 census included for the first time a question about religious affiliation, which indicated that the total population was 76,323,173, out of which 63,147 or 0.08% were Muslims.

## IX. MUSLIMS IN INDOCHINA

This region consists of five countries: Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar (Burma), Thailand, and Vietnam. The total population of this region increased from 22 million in 1870,

TABLE 9. ESTIMATE OF THE MUSLIM POPULATION IN INDOCHINA FROM 1950 TO 2020.

		1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2020
Cambodia	Population	4,345,800	5,433,306	6,937,996	6,747,832	9,690,107	12,759,811	15,053,112	17,758,584
	Muslims %	15.00	15.00	15.00	5.00	2.15	2.15	1.92	1.92
	Muslims	651,870	814,996	1,040,699	337,392	208,337	274,336	289,020	340,965
	APGR%		2.259	2.475	-0.278	3.685	2.790	1.667	
	Reference			[KET]	[KET]		[KH](1998)	[KH](2008)	
Laos	Population	1,666,255	2,124,054	2,692,444	3,237,523	4,206,591	5,403,262	6,436,093	7,666,349
	Muslims %	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02
	Muslims	333	425	538	648	841	1,081	1,287	1,533
	APGR%		2.457	2.400	1.861	2.653	2.535	1.765	
	Reference					[UN](1995)		[LA](2005)	
Myanmar (Burma)	Population	17,157,509	21,074,817	26,402,632	33,561,169	40,844,487	46,609,819	50,495,672	54,705,488
	Muslims %	7.97	7.97	7.97	7.97	7.97	7.97	7.97	7.97
	Muslims	1,367,453	1,679,663	2,104,290	2,674,825	3,255,306	3,714,803	4,024,505	4,360,027
	APGR%		2.078	2.279	2.428	1.983	1.329	0.804	
	Reference	[UN56](1953)							
Thailand	Population	20,607,324	27,642,069	37,186,309	47,263,814	56,672,975	62,346,822	68,139,238	74,469,806
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	Muslims	791,321	1,080,805	1,431,673	1,810,204	2,584,288	2,843,015	3,107,149	3,395,823
	APGR%		2.980	3.010	2.427	1.832	0.959	0.892	
	Reference	[UN56](1947)	[UN63](1960)	[UN79](1970)	[UN83](1980)		[UN](2000)		
Vietnam	Population	27,366,684	33,648,385	42,898,338	53,317,063	66,247,474	78,663,267	89,028,741	100,760,076
	Muslims %	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.05	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08
	Muslims	82,100	100,945	128,695	26,659	52,998	62,931	71,223	80,608
	APGR%		2.088	2.458	2.198	2.195	1.733	1.246	
	Reference			[KET]	[KET]		[VN](1999)		
Total	Population	71,143,572	89,922,631	116,117,719	144,127,401	177,661,634	205,782,981	229,152,856	255,360,303
	Muslims %	4.07	4.09	4.05	3.36	3.43	3.35	3.27	3.20
	Muslims	2,893,078	3,676,834	4,705,896	4,849,727	6,101,770	6,896,165	7,493,184	8,178,957
	APGR%		2.370	2.590	2.184	2.114	1.480	1.081	
	Reference								

TABLE 10. ESTIMATE OF THE MUSLIM POPULATION IN ASIA FROM 1950 TO 2020.

	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2020	
Asia	Population	1,412,651,521	1,707,418,774	2,143,319,321	2,644,427,068	3,204,038,591	3,726,446,557	4,197,154,822	4,746,309,359
	Muslims %	22.76	23.37	24.22	25.20	26.77	28.36	29.49	30.65
	Muslims	321,458,277	398,999,053	519,134,735	666,470,391	857,715,249	1,056,932,424	1,237,795,730	1,454,647,845
	CAPGR %		1.913	2.300	2.123	1.938	1.522	1.197	
	MAPGR %		2.184	2.667	2.530	2.555	2.111	1.592	
	Mus. Ratio%	74.25	73.99	73.77	73.14	73.19	72.81	71.81	70.96
World	Population	2,537,241,236	3,034,626,491	3,700,897,698	4,456,005,072	5,311,251,139	6,137,637,624	6,932,088,715	7,881,482,130
	Muslims %	17.06	17.77	19.02	20.45	22.07	23.65	24.86	26.01
	Muslims	432,961,301	539,240,373	703,760,495	911,165,259	1,171,946,661	1,451,537,157	1,723,607,136	2,050,085,347
	WAPGR %		1.806	2.005	1.874	1.771	1.457	1.225	
	MAPGR %		2.219	2.699	2.617	2.549	2.163	1.733	

X. SUMMARY

A summary of the Muslim population change in Asia from 1950 to 2020 is presented in Table 10. Accordingly, while the total Asian population increased from 744 million in 1870, to 1.4 billion in 1950 to 4.7 billion by 2020, the percentage of Muslims in Asia increased from 18% in 1870, to 23% in 1950, to 31% by 2020, which amounts to more than one percentage point per decade. In addition, most Muslims live in Asia, but this fraction of Muslims decreased from 74% in 1950 to 71% by 2020. A color coded map of Asia illustrating the presence of Muslims in each country is presented in Figure 10. The value of pure white color is 255, while pure black is 0. Given a percentage of Muslims p, the color was chosen as  $255 - 2.55p$ . Thus, the darker the region is, the higher the percentage of Muslims in the corresponding country.

Since the 1960s, the continent annual population growth (APGR) has been decreasing constantly, from 2.3% to 1.2% in the 2010s. The corresponding APGR for the Muslim population in this continent also has been decreasing since the 1960s, from 2.7% to 1.6% in the 2010s. However, since the 1970s, the Muslim's growth is about 15% to 30% higher than the continent's growth. This explains why the representation of Muslims with respect to the total population is increasing at over one percentage point each decade.

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Figure 10. A color coded map of Asia illustrating the presence of Muslims in the continent as of 2010.

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