

FOLK ISLAM

Common or Popular Religion

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Horizons International

Most people know Islam
as
beliefs and practices

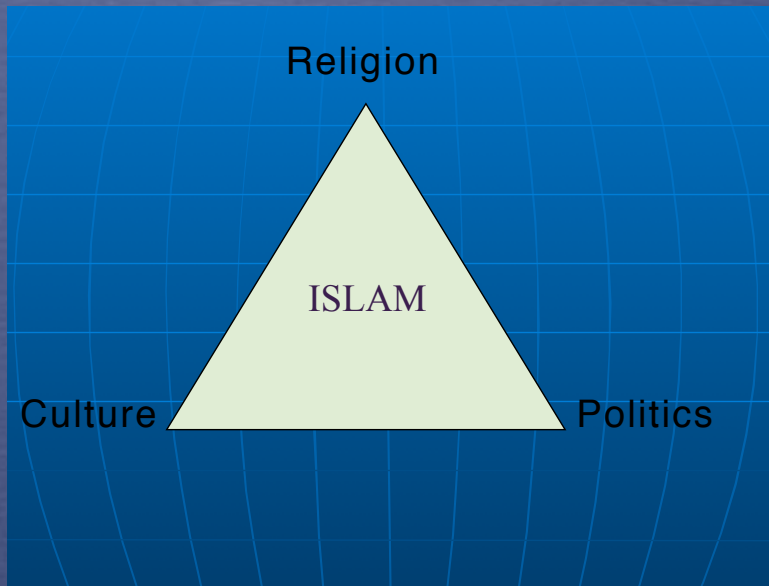
Islam is more than a religion

It is:

Religion - Culture - Politics

Islam is more than a religion. It is a system of:

- ◆ **Politics**
- ◆ **Religion**
- ◆ **Culture**



Muslims as individuals vary as to which of these have more influence on their lives.

FOLK RELIGION

CULTURAL

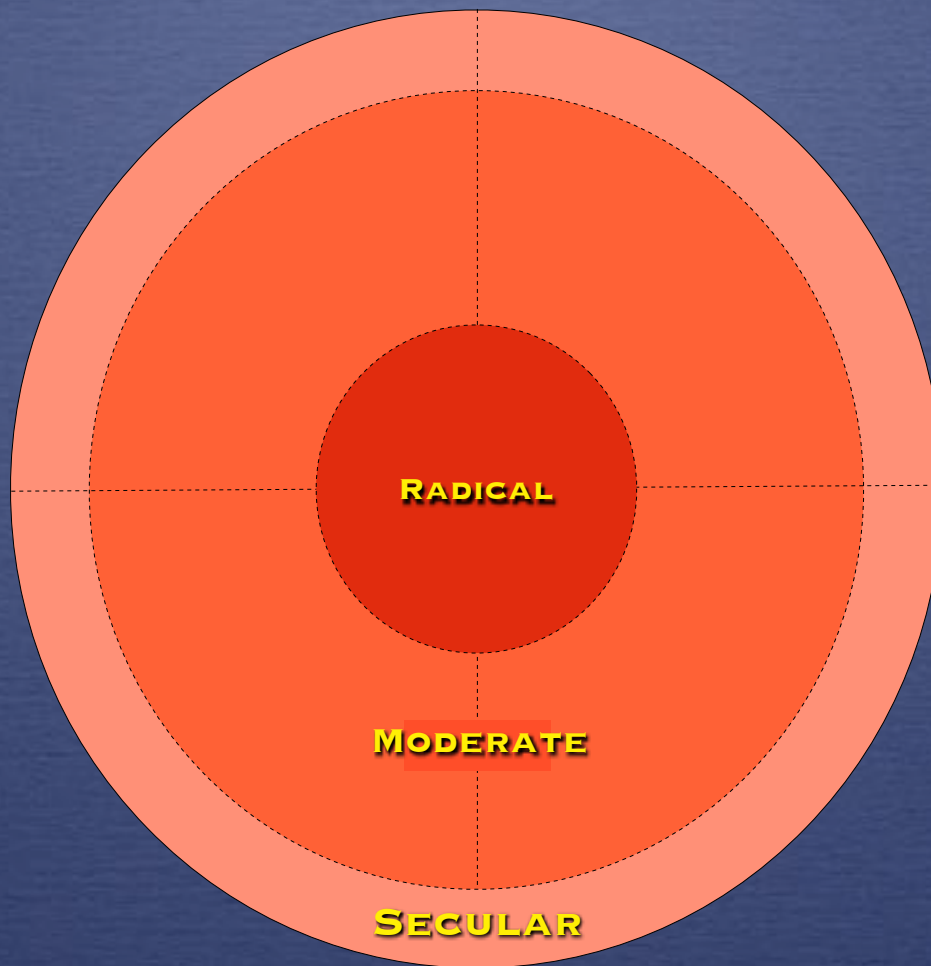
POLITICAL

RADICAL

MODERATE

SECULAR

FORMAL RELIGION



These are based on 3 Sources

1. Qur'an (The Holy Book)
2. Hadith (Tradition)
3. Shari'a Law (Civil & Moral Law)

Folk Islam, also known as popular Islam, refers to the syncretic blend of traditional Islamic beliefs and practices with pre-existing indigenous religious beliefs and practices.

It's essentially the way most Muslims experience Islam in their daily lives, often incorporating local customs, rituals, and spiritual practices into their understanding and observance of the faith.

II. Folk Islam – What is it?

The Hajj - pilgrimage

The Ka'ba

Kissing the Black Stone

The Use of Amulets and Charms for Magic

The Evil Eye, The Blue Bead

The Qarina - Twin Spirits
and, the jinn

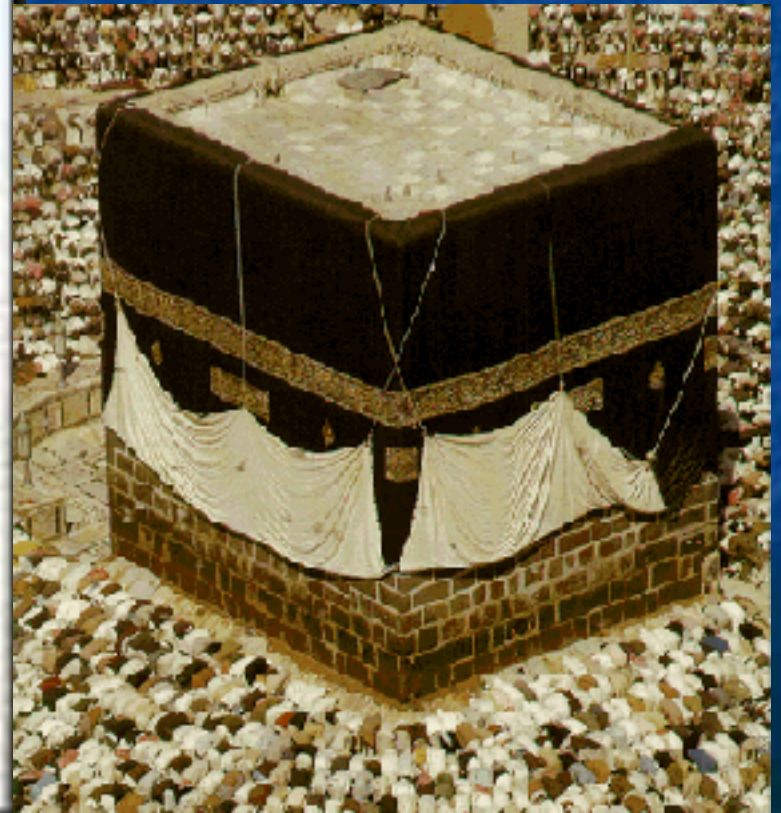
Islam means Surrender

Position of a slave



Islam means Surrender

Position of a slave



Main Problem for Muslims

FEAR, Fear Fear:

Fear of God

Fear of Satan

Fear of Evil Spirits

Demons/Jins – Qarina

Fear of torture of death

Fear of Qada w Qadar – Fate

Predetermined will of God

Concept of God

Mysterious – Unknowable

Aloof – Unapproachable

Free and unpredictable

Demands blind submission

Dictates Beliefs – unquestioned

Cannot be trusted/Capricious will

Practices of Folk Islam

Repeating 99 names of God

Divination

Fortune telling

Spells, amulets, charms,

Evil Eye – blue beads

Baby shoes, egg shells

Hand of Fatima

Kissing the Black Stone

Appeasing God with Jihad

Ways of Jihad

Jihad means struggle

Anything you do for God is Jihad
especially if it hurts.

Giving alms

Building a mosque

Going on the Hajj

Fighting/Martyrdom

Jihad al Muta (pleasure marriage)

Conquering Christian women

Kissing the Black Stone



“...Not only does superstition prevail among the vast majority of Muslims...but it is in the very source of Islam, the Koran and the Traditions. Their doctrine of God includes the magic use of His names and attributes... In no monotheistic faith are magic and sorcery so firmly established as in Islam.

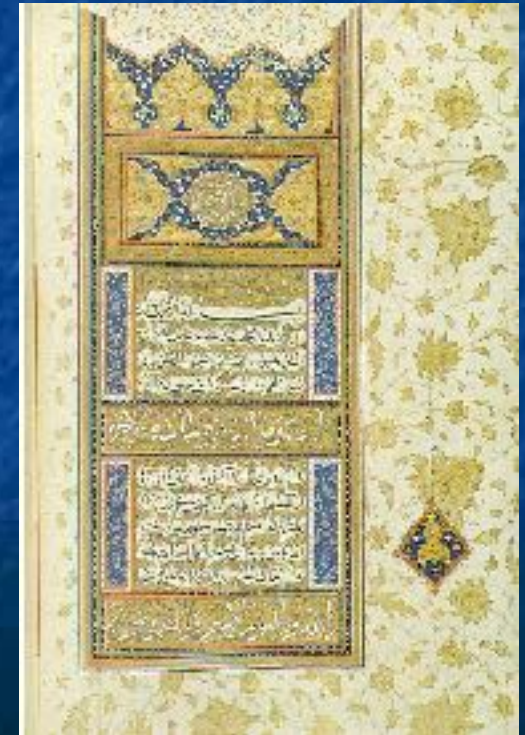
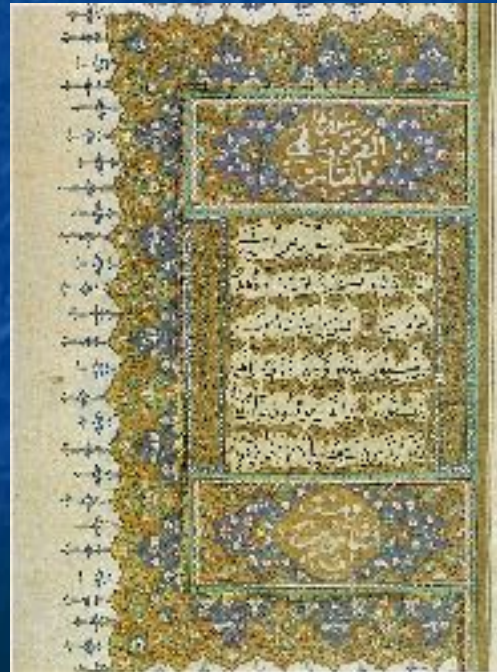
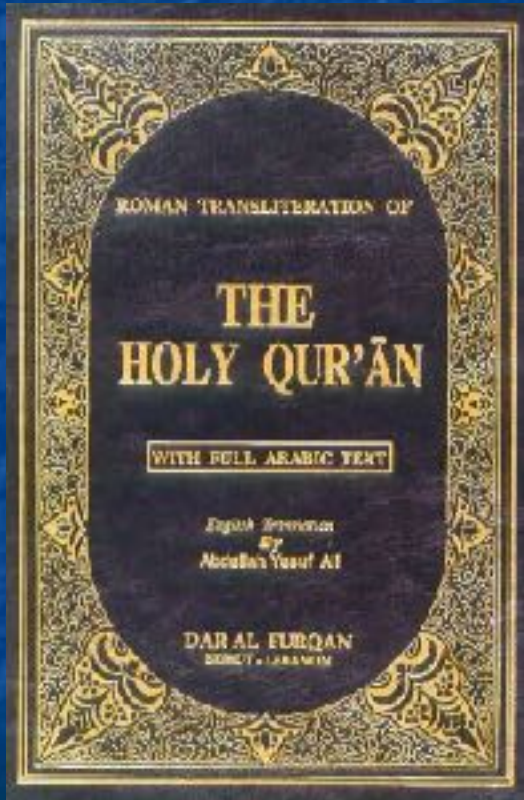
S. Zwemer

Articles and fetishes



Quran has magical power

The Qur'an



The Balsama: Declaring In the name of Allah Compassionate and merciful



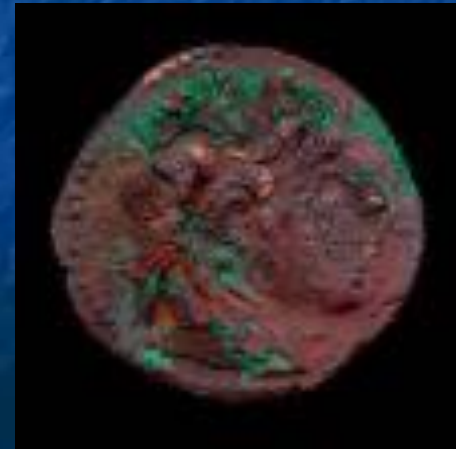
The **Fatiha** – opening chapter of the Qur'an



Charms in different forms



Amulets, Talismans, Charms





Amulets for Sale



Common Amulets

Hand of
Fatma



Masbahah

33 Beads x 3 = 99 Names of God





Muhammad praying
with prayer beads



Prayer Beads
Subha or Tesbi

Alphabetic and Numeric Charms

d	t	b	4.	9	2
j	h	z	3.	5	7
h	a	w	8	1	6

15's

15	2	19	6	23
16	8	25	12	4
22	14	1	18	10
3	20	7	24	11
9	21	13	5	17

65's

Shrines of Saints and Holy Places



Shrine

The Evil Eye Hassad



Shift to 99 Names Chart

Christian Answers to Folk Muslims' Fears

Fear of the Unknown

Security in Jesus Christ
I am the Way, I know...
Jn 14:6, 27; Ps 18:2;
2 Tim 1:7

Fear of Evil Spirits

Jesus' Power over Evil Spirits
Mat 8:28; 12:22; 15:22;
17:18; Mk 1:23; 5:2; 9:14;
12:23-27 Lk 8:2

Fear of the Future

God is in control of the Future
and God Loves Me
Jos 1:9; Ps 23