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Introduction to Global Engagement

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Muslim Culture

Muslims live all over the world.

The term “Muslim Culture” is used to represent many diverse cultural groups such as Asians Muslims, African Muslims, European Muslims, American Muslims and the middle Eastern Muslims. Each group has their own variations on customs and tradition Throughout this research paper I learn about their religion, food, family and clothing(Marshall, 2013).

Islam and Muslim are both words used to describe the religion that was revealed by the Prophet Mohamed. Muslim is define as a person who follows the Islamic religion. While on the other hand, Islam is the religion preached by the Mohammed the prophet. Muslim is the second largest religious group in the world according to a 2010 study that was released in January 2011(Marshall, 2013). The study showed most Muslims follow one of two denominations: Sunni or Shia. Islam is the dominant religion in the Middle East, North Africa and Indonesia, which houses up to 12% of the Muslims. Based on the study, there are approximately 62% Muslims in the

world. Within the Islamic religion the words “The Five Pillars of Islam” means offering ritualistic prayers five times per day, fasting, Almsgiving and pilgrimage to the holy shrine (Woodward, 2001). In a video I watched, titled, “Islam Empire Faith”, Muslims were seen in the temple in a bending posture with knees and hand on the floor. They bowed constantly in an intense and passionate manner and their worship appeared extraordinary. Based on the video the Muslims pray five times per day in the above mentioned manner and can pray anywhere during the day not only in the temple. Before praying an the individual body has to be cleansed in the presence of God. The main purpose of the prayer is to maintain their relationship and close contact with God (Marshall, 2013).

The Quran and its significance, what is the Quran it's the Islamic Bible, their religious book. The Quran, literally means “Recitation” Is the central religious text of Islam, which Muslims believe to be a revelation from God. According to the video on Muslim history, they believe the Quran was verbally revealed by God to Muhammad through the angel Gabriel over 23 years ago. They believe that the book is a divine guidance with a message to the hearts of men based on morality and rules that have to be followed within its teaching. Its contexts means that God is

addressing an individual. The Quran is divided into chapters and verses which is the most important miracle according to the prophet Mohamed. Although the Quran was written in Arabic language and can be translated into English. Finally, the Quran is said to be the Muslim's constitution, law and discipline (Marshal, 2013).

The type of food that is eaten by Muslims is as followed: Halal meat, which is animals that have been slaughtered and prepared a certain way. The animals are killed upside down which allows blood to stay in the body of the animals. They do not eat pork and the drinking of wine is not an option it is forbidden; they must be sober at all times, especially for prayer.

The dress code for women is based on "God's order in the Quran. They must wear a covering which is called a veil. It covers their face and head and their dress must be long enough to cover their feet. Their chest must be completely covered. This dress code is only worn in the absence of their husband, parents, brothers, sisters and children. This type of clothing signifies protection from sin.

The Muslim family consists of a wife, husband children and extended family which includes grand parents living together in the same house.

Watching the videos was very interesting for me. I was never exposed or knew about Muslims religion. I was always curious about how they worship and why they prayed so many times for the day. I was always open-minded when it comes to other cultures and religions.

Being expose and aware of different culture will allow me to have the right attitude and view them in a totally different perspective. Now I will fully comprehend when I see them in their clothing and the way they worship. I am happy to gain this knowledge and been exposed to such distinctive unusual culture. Moving forward, I learn to respect and embrace other cultures. There are such diverse communities today. Therefore, this will make me more sensitive to other cultures.

Finally, based on the above research, one can conclude that the Muslim culture Is a very interesting one? Religion plays a vital role in their lives on a daily basis, as they pray and worship the God they learned from their leader the only Mohamed who appeared to influence them greatly. The food they eat and the clothes they wear are also significant to their cultural belief. All cultures have their own unique traditions and customs but in most culture such as the Muslims, religion plays a significant part of their everyday life.

Work Cited

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