

Islam

Outcome: Islam Today



1. A Statistical Look

- Today there are over 1.2 billion Muslims in the world
- Islam is the fastest growing religion in the world
- Experts predict that it will be the largest religion in the world someday
- Most populous Muslim countries include: Indonesia, Bangladesh, Pakistan, and India.
- Indonesia alone has over 175 Muslims which exceeds combined total of Egypt, Syria, Saudi Arabia, Iran, and Iraq, the traditional heartlands of Islam
- Populations are rising in Europe and North America

2. Peaceful Islam vs. Radical Fundamental Islam

- Islam, at heart, is a Peaceful Religion
- Most Muslims faith is stronger than the average Christian
- Beginning in the 1970s and 1980s Islam reemerged as a potent political force, associated with both reform and revolution
- Radical Islamic fundamentalists are opposed to Western civilization's way of life and imperialistic pursuits
- These fundamentalists represent a small percentage of the population of Islam, so we must be careful not to label or assume
- Jihad: a holy war waged on behalf of Islam as a religious duty; a personal struggle in devotion to Islam especially involving spiritual discipline
- No where in the Quran does it say you will go to paradise if you martyr yourself with a suicide bomb
- Important: The majority of Muslims do not live this way



1. What does Islam Mean for the West?

- Terrorism is a real battle we will continue to face
- 9-11 was not the first attack against the US and experts say it will not be the last
- Can we win the war on terror?
 - invisible enemies of living
 - To win we need to raise the standards in areas of squalor and educate so as to avoid political brainwashing
- "Stop seeing Muslims" and avoid racial profiling

