

• **RELIGION:**

**DO:**

- \* Understand and respect the devotions of Muslims.
- \* Respect the requirement for Muslims to fast from sunrise to sunset during the holy month of Ramadan. In 1993 Ramadan corresponds to a period from about 22 February to 30 March. Following Ramadan is the festival known as Eid AL Fitr, which is celebrated for three days after Ramadan ends.

**DO NOT:**

- \* Enter a mosque unless invited. If invited, remove your shoes before entering.
- \* Pass in front of a prayer rug while a Muslim is in prayer.
- \* Take photographs of a Muslim while he is in prayer or stare at them while praying.
- \* During the holy month of Ramadan eat, smoke, or drink in public from sunrise to sunset or offer food, beverages, or tobacco products to Muslims.

## 7. Sources for Further Study

Caputo, Robert, "Tragedy Stalks Horn of Africa," National Geographic, Aug 93, pp. 88-122.

"Somalis Recall Fierce Battle Against G.I.'s," New York Times, 4 Oct 1996, p. A4.

Somalia, Operations Other Than War, Center for Army Lessons Learned, Combined Arms Command.



## Vocabulary List: Country Area Studies-- North Africa

**Abyssinia** (ab-i-SIN-ee-uh) Traditional name for the Horn of Africa, Ethiopia in particular.

**Baraka** (BAHR-uh-kah) Indigenous Berber belief that a personal, special spiritual power is given to certain humans. These saints are known in the West as marabouts.

**Brotherhoods** Men's organization which follows a common spiritual discipline. Often a marabout founded such a fraternity. Tariqah (discipline, path) practiced by the brotherhood, enabled them to pursue closeness to God.

**Evil Eye:** The glance or look of certain individuals causes an evil or deadly spell, and danger is particularly great when accompanied by an "evil mouth," that is, by loose talk, praise, joking or cursing. Belief in the evil eye is widespread.

**Folk beliefs and customs** Belief in evil spirits (jinns), amulets made of Qur'anic verses to ward off these spirits, the evil eye and stones carrying magic qualities--are formally denounced by government leaders as "unworthy of the Islamic monotheistic religion."

**Green Book** Omar Qadhafi's vision for Libya's future.

**Harratines** (hahr-rhah-THEEN) The black Muslim population of Morocco.

**Hassan al-Turabi** (hah-SHAN ahl-tu-RHAH-bee) Sudanese cleric, member of the Muslim Brotherhood, who is seen as the de facto leader of the country.

**Infibulation** Female genital cutting, a puberty rite practiced in some African countries.

**Islamism** Term used to describe radical, militant, extremist political Muslim practice.

**Jinn** Moroccans generally believe in the existence of a special group of spiritual beings called jinn, whose supernatural powers can be used either for good or ill.

**King Hassan II** Moroccan King who has ruled since 1961.

**Maghrib** (MUH-grib) The western Islamic world (the time or place of the sunset--the west) which traditionally includes Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia and Tripolitania (populous portions of Libya). Mauritania is sometimes also treated as a part of the region.

**Marabouts** (MAHR-eh-boots) Muslim prayer leader, teacher, and sometimes a healer who is venerated locally and believed to be touched by divine grace, which sometimes confers the right to rule as well.

**Maures** (MOHR-ees) Mauritanian ethnic group who trace their ancestry to Arab-Berber origins. Two strata, the warriors and the religious leaders, dominate their society. The latter are also known as marabouts.

**Meskel** Celebration of the finding of the true cross of St. Helena. Observed in Eritrea.

**Muslim Brotherhoods** Founded in Egypt, this male organization bonds together many followers of Islam. The brotherhood in Egypt claims to be nonviolent.

**Ogaden** (oh-jah-DEEN) Area of southwest Sudan/Ethiopian border where a dispute between these two countries continues to take place.

**Place of Assembly** Location in Massawa, Eritrea, where Muhammad's early followers first prayed on the African continent during the first Hijra of 615.

**Popular Islam** An overlay of Qur'anic ritual and ethical principles on a background of belief in spirits, the evil eye, rights to assure good fortune, and the veneration of local saints.

**Shar'ia** (sha-REE-ah) Islamic law.

**Zawiya** (ZAH-wee-yah) Religious brotherhood center in a combined lodge/shrine.

## Review Quiz: Country Area Studies-- North Africa



**Part 1--Multiple Choice** Place the letter of the most correct answer in the blank provided.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ In addition to spiritual duties, marabouts may be called upon to
  - A. lead Advent prayers.
  - B. arbitrate local disputes.
  - C. slaughter hogs for market.
  
2. \_\_\_\_\_ The El Hor movement in Mauritania monitors
  - A. slavery practice and abolishment.
  - B. forced feeding practices for young women.
  - C. intifada demonstrations in West Sahara.
  
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Western Sahara is claimed and administered by
  - A. Mali.
  - B. Morocco.
  - C. Algeria.
  
4. \_\_\_\_\_ In Morocco, the primary adherents and guardians of austere orthodox Islam are the
  - A. educated Muslims of cities and towns.
  - B. rural Bedouin.
  - C. marabouts and folk religionists.
  
5. \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ has the highest concentration of Berbers of any North African country.
  - A. Algeria
  - B. Libya
  - C. Morocco

**Unit 13--Section 1: Country Area Studies--North Africa**

---

6. \_\_\_\_\_ leads the people of Morocco.
- A. Amir Abdullah
  - B. King Hassan II
  - C. Colonel Quadhafi
7. \_\_\_\_\_ The Islamic Salvation Front (FIS), though outlawed, still exerts terrorist influence in which North African country?
- A. Egypt
  - B. Sudan
  - C. Algeria
8. \_\_\_\_\_ Which North African countries are among the seven states recognized by the U.S. State Department as state sponsors of terrorism?
- A. Egypt and Somalia
  - B. Libya and Sudan
  - C. Tunisia and Algeria
9. \_\_\_\_\_ What North African country canceled 1992 elections, prompting continued long term terrorist activity?
- A. Sudan
  - B. Algeria
  - C. Libya
10. \_\_\_\_\_ Popular Islam combines
- A. Islamic belief, oral tradition and magic/spirit practice.
  - B. Bedouin culture and strict Qur'an interpretation.
  - C. Christian, Muslim and Jewish beliefs.
11. \_\_\_\_\_ The Code of Personal Status, enacted in 1956, raised the status of women in which country?
- A. Egypt
  - B. Algeria
  - C. Tunisia
12. \_\_\_\_\_ The vision for Libya's future, authored by Omar Quadhafi, is found in
- A. the state legislative notes.

- B. the Green Book.
- C. the Little Red Book.

Unit 13--Section 1: Country Area Studies--North Africa

---

13. \_\_\_\_\_ Because of its critical location as a land bridge between Africa and the East, which North African country possesses a major role in Middle East geopolitics?
- A. Somalia
  - B. Sudan
  - C. Egypt
14. \_\_\_\_\_ Female genital cutting is a pronounced practice in which country?
- A. Tunisia
  - B. Libya
  - C. Sudan
15. \_\_\_\_\_ What is the only Sunni Arab state where militant, radical Islamists now rule?
- A. Iran
  - B. Iraq
  - C. Sudan
16. \_\_\_\_\_ Prolonged war in this country resulted in the present day religious freedom and tolerance between Muslim, Christian, and traditional religious people.
- A. Egypt
  - B. Sudan
  - C. Eritrea
17. \_\_\_\_\_ During the war for independence from Ethiopia, women made up what percentage of Eritrea's Armed Forces?
- A. 55%
  - B. 30%
  - C. 5%
18. \_\_\_\_\_ The "Place of Assembly," where some of Muhammads early followers fled to the Horn of Africa, is located in
- A. Massawa, Eritrea.
  - B. Djibouti, Djibouti.
  - C. Berbera, Somalia.

19. \_\_\_\_\_ Which country is located near the world's busiest shipping lanes and close to Arabian oil fields?

- A. Djibouti
  - B. Sudan
  - C. Morocco
- 



**Part 2--True/False** Place the correct letter (T or F) in the blank provided.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ In North Africa marabouts sometimes become local secular as well as spiritual leaders.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ The Maure ethnic group of Mauritania follows a distinct, rigidly set hierarchy of social relationships.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ In Morocco you will frequently see many women at a mosque.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ In some North African countries, production and trafficking of illegal drugs causes concern for U.S. drug enforcement agencies.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Baraka defines a North African Berber belief where spiritual power is recognized to dwell in particular living persons.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ Libya's Omar Qadhafi consistently tries to limit women's roles in the Armed Forces.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ Qadhafi's views and practices concerning women are in keeping with traditional, conservative Qur'anic interpretation.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ Eritrea is composed of two major ethnic groups, the Saho and Tigre.
9. \_\_\_\_\_ African traditional religions are best described as primal religions.

10. \_\_\_\_\_ At present, Somalia's government is well organized and centralized.



**Part 3--Matching:** Place the letter of the correct response in the blank provided.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. _____ Sharia                        | A. Omar Qadhafi's vision for Libya's future.  |
| 2. _____ King Hassan II                | B. Sudanese cleric, member of the Muslim Brotherhood, who is seen as the "de facto" leader of the country.  |
| 3. _____ Muslim Brotherhood            | C. Female genital cutting, a puberty rite practiced in African countries.   |
| 4. _____ Place of Assembly             | D. A special group of spiritual beings whose supernatural powers can be used either for good or ill.  |
| 5. _____ Green Book                    | E. Moroccan King.   |
| many 6. _____ Hassan al-Turabi         | F. The western Islamic world (the time or place of the sunset--west) which traditionally includes Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia and Tripolitania (populous portions of Mauritania is treated as |
| 7. _____ Marabouts                     | G. Muslim prayer leader, teacher, and sometimes a healer who venerated locally and to be touched by which sometimes   |
| 8. _____ Maghrib                       |   |
| 9. _____ Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) |   |
| 10. _____ Jinn                         |   |
| 11. _____ Infibulation                 |   |
- the
- Libya.)  
sometimes also  
a part of the region.
- is  
believed  
divine grace,

confers the  
well.

right to rule as

together many  
The  
claims to

H. Founded in Egypt, this male  
organization bonds  
followers of Islam.  
brotherhood in Egypt  
be non-violent.

followers  
African  
first Hijra

I. Location in Massawa, Eritrea,  
where Muhammad's early  
first prayed on the  
continent during the  
of 615.

J. Islamic law.

Islamic  
Algeria.

K. Outlawed radical, militant,  
fundamentalist political  
group which focuses on



"Become Easygoing"

