

Journey to Islam

East Meets West: Critical and Creative Thinking

Serendipity and Persistence

March, 2016

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Curiosity

Need to know

Suspend belief system

What can I learn?

Tolerating ambiguity and no quick answer...

Critical and Creative Thinking...

Where does Islam exist?

**Asia/Middle East: Bangladesh, China, India,
Indonesia,**

Iran, Lebanon, Pakistan, Turkey

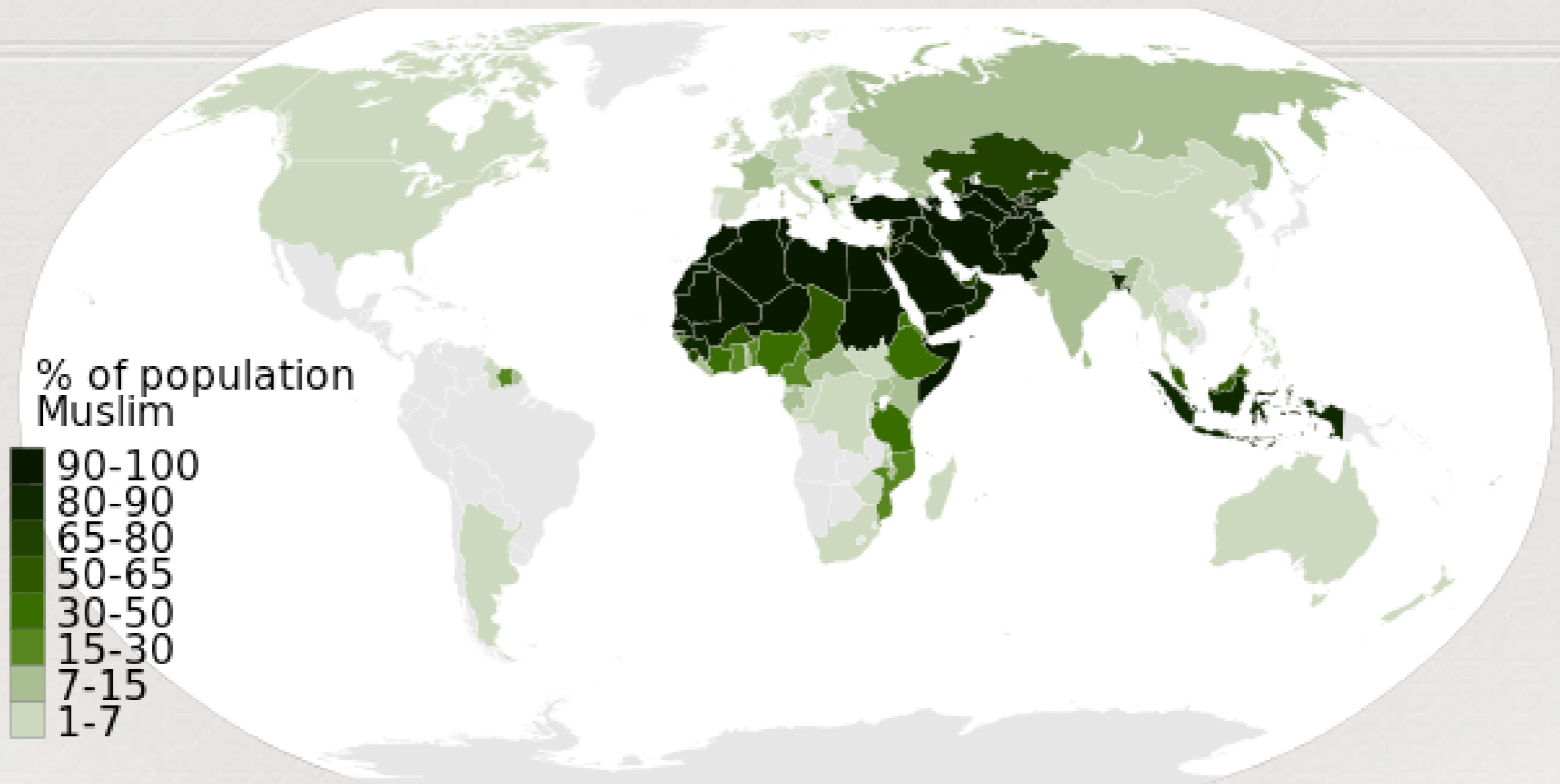
North Africa: Algeria, Egypt, Morocco, Syria, Tunisia,

Sub Saharan Africa: Nigeria

Western Sahara, Somalia, Sudan,

Afghanistan, Hungary, Russia, U.S.A,

Muslims comprise approximately 23.4% of the world population....



**The East is
in the West**

What I learned...

Call to prayer or...



Athaan Makkah,

Saudi Arabia

Levee Camp Holler

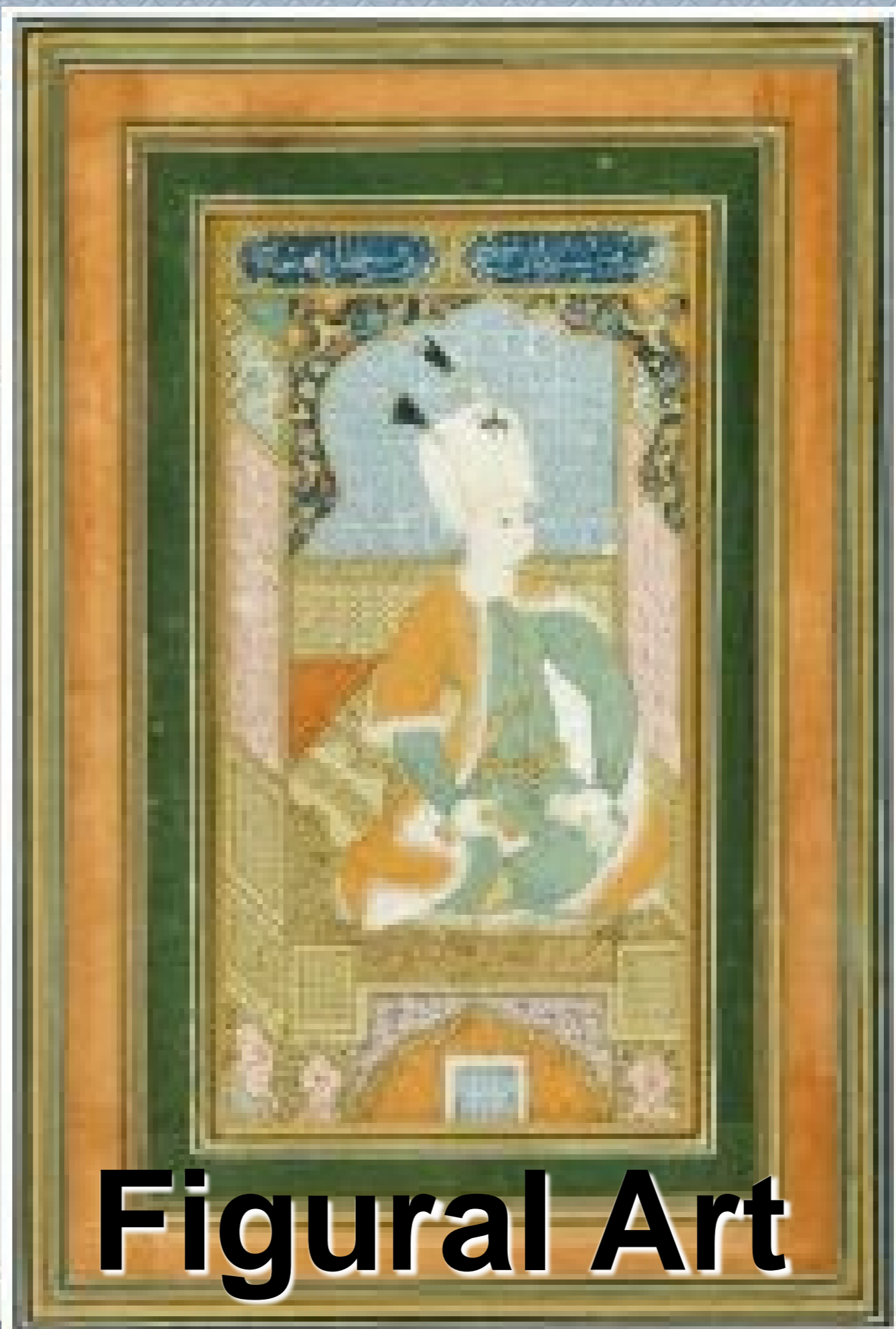


Mississippi Delta

Unlearning common misconceptions..

***Islam exists in many parts of
the world...***

Islamic visual art includes...



Figural Art



Animals and People

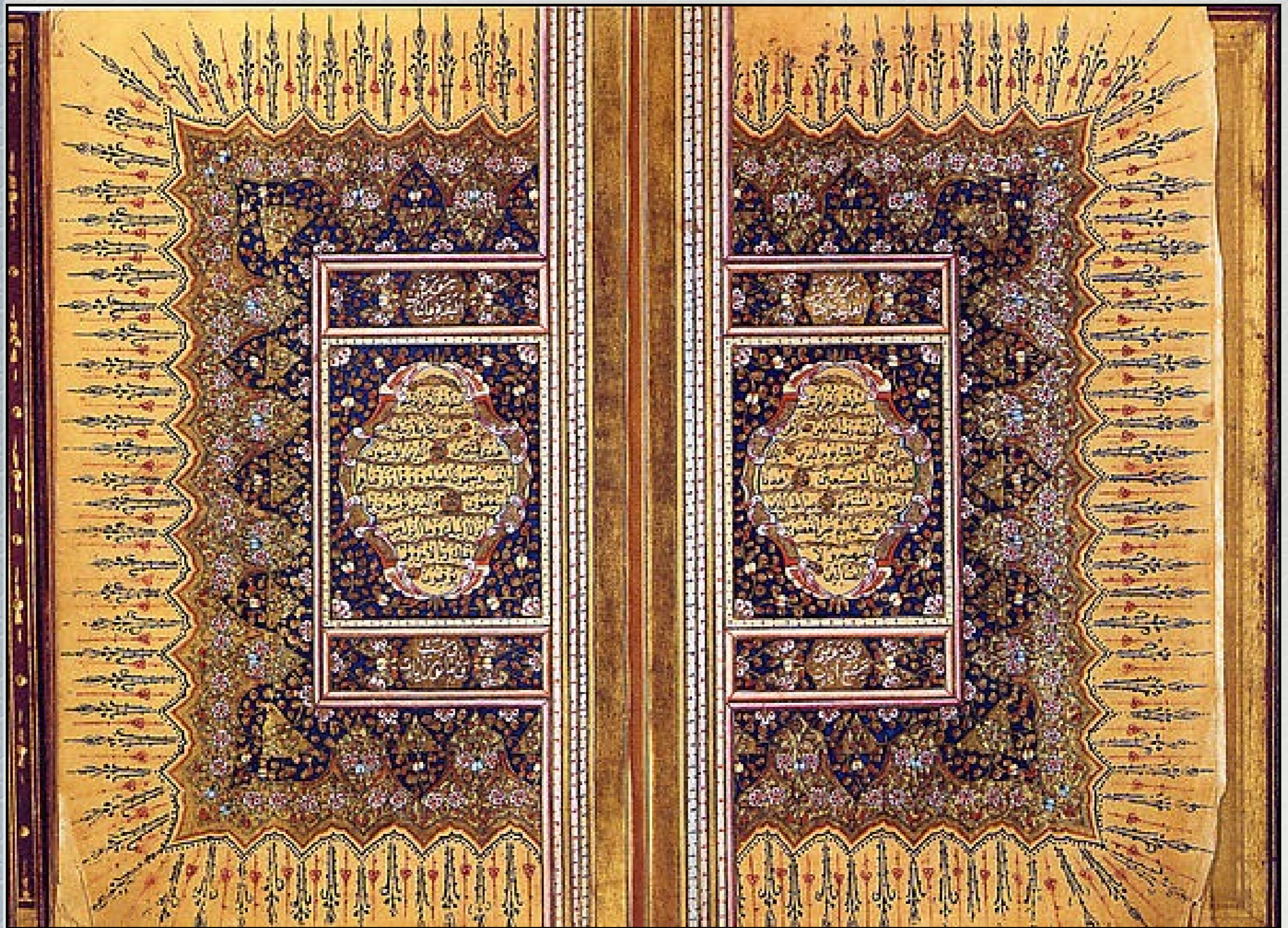
عندتم وحيات وحيارم بركه... ودر معجزات و آيات ما در ربع الاول آمده است وروايت شاه رمضان حج است



and even depictions of Mohammed...
...محمداً وحيارم بركه... ودر معجزات و آيات ما در ربع الاول آمده است وروايت شاه رمضان حج است

The Quran

- ✿ ***Arts of the Book...***
- ✿ ***Calligraphy as decorative art...***
- ✿ ***Illuminating the word of God...***





Decorative Arts

- ✿ *Infinite and
Divine...*

- ✿ *Vegetal*

- ✿ *Geometric*

- ✿ *Arabesque*

Vegetal and Geometric Decoration

Geometric Decoration







The infinite and divine

Nature patterns reappear in modern Western art..

ESCHER

& SCHATTEN UIT DE ISLAM

Escher of the Month

July 2013

Matisse



In closing...

- ✿ ***This brief introduction may raise more questions than it answers***
- ✿ ***Importantly, one can see the profound influence of Islamic arts in Western arts today, especially on the American Art form...***

Jazz and Blues art forms

- ✦ ***Matisse's Jazz Folio***
- ✦ ***Mondrian's Broadway Boogie-
Woogie***
- ✦ ***Works of artists Romare Bardon
and Jacob Lawrence***
- ✦ ***America's Blues and Jazz***

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