

Characteristics of Middle Eastern Culture WebQuest

[Background Notes](#) (from the U.S. State Department)

[BBC Country Profiles](#) (includes info re: country's media outlets)

[CIA World Factbook](#)

[World History in Context](#) (Gale) – history focus (unlike general PowerSearch database)

[Virtual Reference Library](#) (Gale) – digital reference books on a variety of topics

[Encyclopedia Iranica](#) (international collaboration based at Columbia U)

[Food and Culture](#)

Please navigate the above and similar vetted databases to become familiar with the intriguing mix of traditions rooted in ancient customs and modern influences that make up contemporary culture in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iran, & Iraq. You may consider other topics upon approval. Each student will select a topic for research and create a slide on the class googleslide presentation that I have shared with you. Select an image or images to represent your topic on your slide and include an informal outline of your 1-2 presentation in the notes section below the slide. Use MLA parenthetical citations to cite specific sources for piece of borrowed information.

Racial/Ethnic Groups: 4 students – 1 per country

- Afghanistan
 - i.e. Pashtuns, Hazaras, Tajiks, Aymaks, Kafirs, Uzbeks, Turkmens
- Pakistan
- Iran
- Iraq

Political Forces: 4 students – 1 per country

- Afghanistan
 - i.e. Constitutional Monarchy, Russia/Mujaheddin, Taliban/Northern Alliance
- Pakistan
- Iran
- Iraq

Religions: 2 students – 1 for Islam & 1 for all others

- Sunni Islam
- Shia Islam
- Others

Language: 1 student

- Pashto, Dari
- Urdu
- Farsi/Persian
- Arabic, Kurdish
- Others

Customary Dress & Dress Codes: 1 student

- Men
- Women
- Children

Gender Roles, Statuses, & Family Structures: 2 students – 1 for men & 1 for women and children

- Men
- Women
- Children

Regional & Local Cuisine: 1 student

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Art & Music: 1 student

- (use directions for imbedding music from the FIRC PPT webpage)
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Traditional Celebrations: 1 student

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Sports & Entertainment: 1 student

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Landmarks & Architecture: 2 students – 1 mosques & 1 landmarks & monuments

- Mosques
- Houses & Public Building
- Public Monuments & Landmarks

Approved Area of Personal Interest for Research:

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