

Outreach and Engagement of the Arabic Speaking Community

The Middle East is composed of three regions

Three Regions:

1. Gulf
2. Northern African Countries
3. Levant Countries

The Gulf

1. Qatar
2. Saudi Arabia
3. United Arab Emirates
4. Bahrain
5. Kuwait
6. Iraq
7. Iran
8. Oman
9. Yemen

Northern African Countries

1. Egypt
2. Sudan
3. Morocco
4. Tunisia
5. Algeria
6. Libya

Levant Countries

1. Jordan
2. Palestine
3. Syria
4. Lebanon

The major Arabic speaking populations in Cambridge

1. Morocco

98.7% Muslim Sunni

1.1% Christian

0.02% Jewish

Languages spoken: Arabic, French, Berber

2. Algeria

99% Muslim Sunni

1% Christian and Jewish

Languages Spoken: Arabic, French, Berber

3. Egypt

90-94% Muslim Sunni

6-10% Christian and Jewish

Languages Spoken: Arabic and English

The major Arabic speaking populations in Cambridge

4. Sudan

70% Muslim

25% Animist

5% Christian

Languages Spoken: Arabic, English, Sudanese language

5. Iraq

97 % Muslim: 60-65% Shia 32-37% Sunni

Languages Spoken: Arabic, Kurdish, English

Concrete Ideas on how to help

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1. Explain the services, the protocol, and what to expect.
2. Too shy to ask for help
3. Mail
4. Interpreters
 - a. If there is an option for in person interpreters and over the phone, ask them what they prefer.
 - b. Request an interpreter that has a similar dialect
 - c. Inquire as to whether or not they prefer a male or a female interpreter

Concrete ideas on how to help

3. Culture:

- a. Hand shaking
- b. Eye contact
- c. Approach with an open mind

4. Literacy

- a. Some are illiterate in their own languages.

5. Race: Arabs with darker skin have reported having different experiences than lighter skinned Arabs.

References

1. <http://www.mideastweb.org/countries.htm>
2. <http://www.internetworldstats.com/list1.htm>