

# **Ethnic Mosaic of Modern China: A Study of Muslims**

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- **56 “nationalities” are officially identified in China:**
  - **“Han” the majority people, and**
  - **55 minority groups ranging in size from 17 million (Zhuang) to just under 4,000 (Lhoba).**
- **Although the question of religion is not asked in the Chinese censuses, ten of the ethnic minorities are known to be Muslims.**
- **Muslims may be classified in two groups:**
  - **the Hui (look like the ordinary Chinese people) , and**
  - **others such as the Uygur, Uzbeks, Tatars (different in ethnographic and linguistic terms).**

# Some young Hui people



# Some Uygur men from Xinjiang



## Some Historical Facts

- Islam came to China through trade. First trade delegation in 651 AD, head: the Sahabi *Saad Bin Abi Waqas*, 18 years after the death of the Prophet.
- A mosque built a few years later in Guangzhou; Muslims brought with them economic expertise and for centuries dominated import, export and other businesses.
- They prospered, became fully integrated by adopting Chinese language, customs and many married Chinese women.
- Ching Dynasty attempted to suppress them over 300 years till its fall in 1911.
- Religious freedom during 1912-1948; but suppression during the earlier parts of the communist era.



## Population of China and selected Muslim groups

Year	Population of China (in millions)	% of the total population of China			
		All Muslims	Hui	Uygur	Others
1953	577.9	1.38	0.61	0.62	0.14
1964	691.2	1.34	0.65	0.58	0.11
1982	1,003.9	1.46	0.72	0.59	0.14
1990	1,130.5	1.56	0.76	0.64	0.16
2000	1,242.6	1.64	0.79	0.68	0.17
2010	1,332.8	1.74	0.79	0.76	0.19
Period	Population growth rate (% per year)				
1953-1964	1.63	1.37	2.15	0.92	-0.36
1964-1982	2.07	2.54	2.67	2.22	3.37
1982-1990	1.48	2.32	2.19	2.37	2.81
1990-2000	0.85	1.44	1.31	1.53	1.67
2000-2010	0.70	1.30	0.75	1.81	1.67

## Ethnic composition of Muslims in China, 1990-2010

Ethnic group	Population (in thousands)			Population growth rate (% p.a.)	
	1990	2000	2010	1990-2000	2000-2010
All Muslims	17,599.3	20,320.6	23,142.2	1.44	1.30
Hui	8,612.0	9,816.8	10,586.1	1.31	0.75
Uygur	7,207.0	8,399.4	10,069.3	1.53	1.81
Kazak	1,110.8	1,250.5	1,462.6	1.18	1.57
Dongxiang	373.7	513.8	621.5	3.18	1.90
Kirgiz	143.5	160.8	186.7	1.14	1.49
Salar	87.5	104.5	130.6	1.77	2.23
Tajik	33.2	41.0	51.1	2.11	2.20
Uzbek	14.8	12.4	10.6	-1.77	-1.57
Baoan	11.7	16.5	20.1	3.46	1.97
Tatar	5.1	4.9	3.6	-0.35	-0.80



- More than 90% of Uygur, Kazak, Kirgiz, Tajik, Uzbek and Tatar in Xinjiang.
- Similar % of Dongxiang and Baoan in the neighbouring Gansu.
- Salars mostly in neighbouring Qinghai.
- In Xinjiang: 45% Uygur, 41% Han, also majority of Uygurs in rural and Han inurban areas;
- The Hui found all over China.

The Hui by province, 2000 census

Ningxia	19%
Gansu	12%
Henan	10%
Xinjiang	9%
Qinghai	8%
Yunan	7%
Hebei	6%
Shandong	5%
Anhui	3%
Liaoning	3%
Beijing	2%
Inner Mongolia	2%



## Age and sex composition of the Han and Muslims: China, 2010

Ethnic group	%			Mean age	Males per 100 females			
	<15	15-59	60+		<15	15-59	60+	All ages
Han	23	67	10	33	114	106	95	106
All Muslims	30	62	8	28	106	102	108	104
Hui	27	64	9	30	108	103	97	104
Uygur	33	60	7	27	103	101	125	104
Kazak	31	64	5	26	104	102	106	103
Dongxiang	33	60	7	27	112	103	101	106
Kirgiz	34	59	7	26	101	103	115	103
Salar	33	60	7	27	107	105	106	106
Tajik	35	57	8	26	103	103	121	104
Uzbek	29	64	7	28	104	113	115	111
Baoan	34	59	8	28	110	101	100	104
Tatar	27	67	6	28	105	110	121	109

## Some fertility indices for the Han and Muslims: China, 2000

Ethnic group	Crude birth rate per 1,000	Standardised		Total fertility rate**
		fertility ratio	birth rate per 1,000	
Han	10.3	1.000	10.3	1.218
All Muslims	15.5	1.403	14.4	1.717
Hui	13.4	1.259	12.9	1.534
Uygur	17.7	1.600	16.4	1.991
Kazak	15.9	1.221	12.5	1.556
Dongxiang	15.9	1.343	13.8	1.679
Kirgiz	16.5	1.460	15.0	1.835
Salar	17.9	1.482	15.2	1.787
Tajik	13.8	1.302	13.4	1.590
Uzbek	13.7	1.229	12.6	1.613
Baoan	16.3	1.455	15.0	1.809
Tatar	*	*	*	*

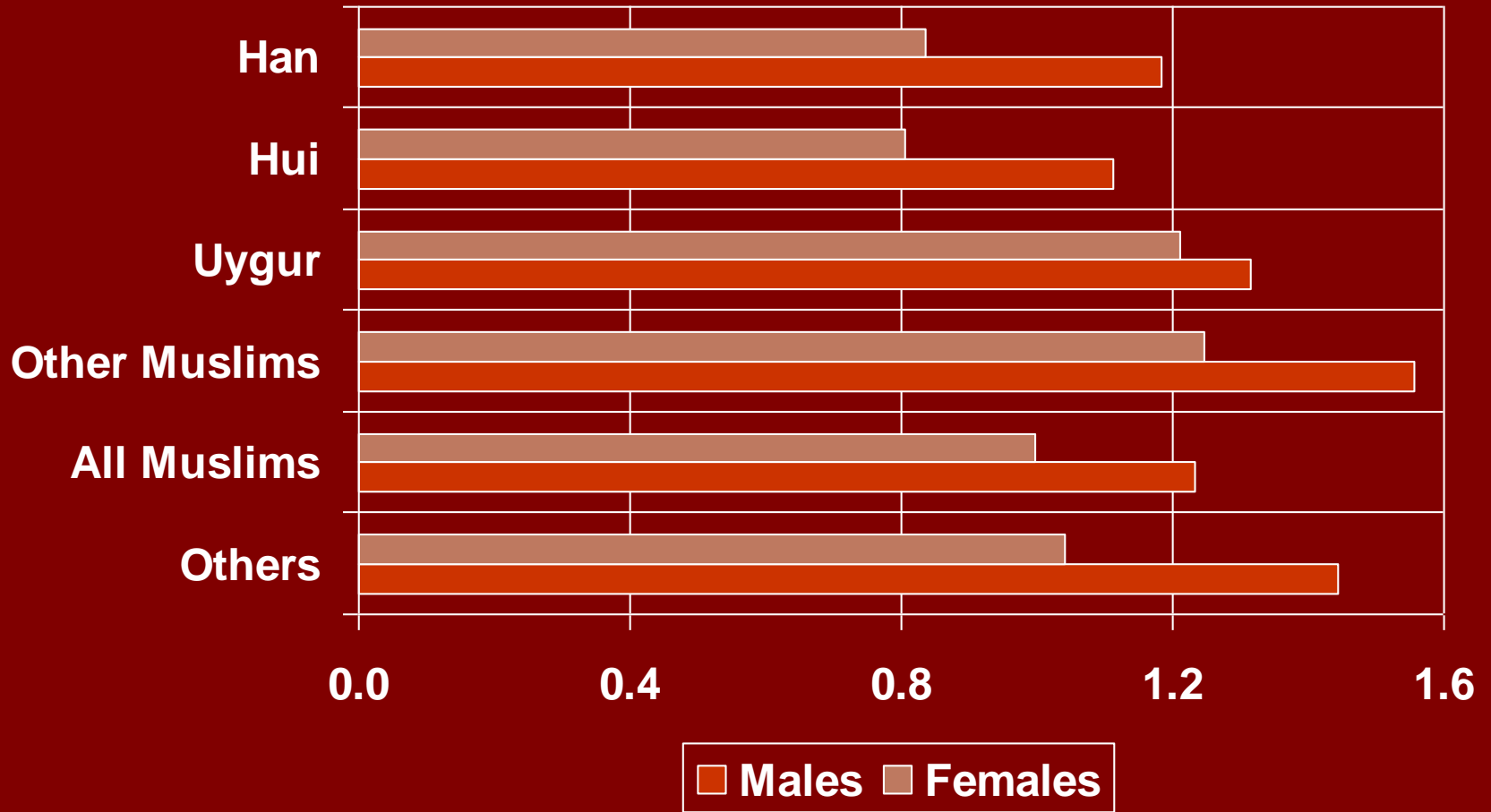
\* Data not reported due to small number of births      \*\* Average lifetime births per woman

## Some mortality indices for the Han and Muslims: China, 2000

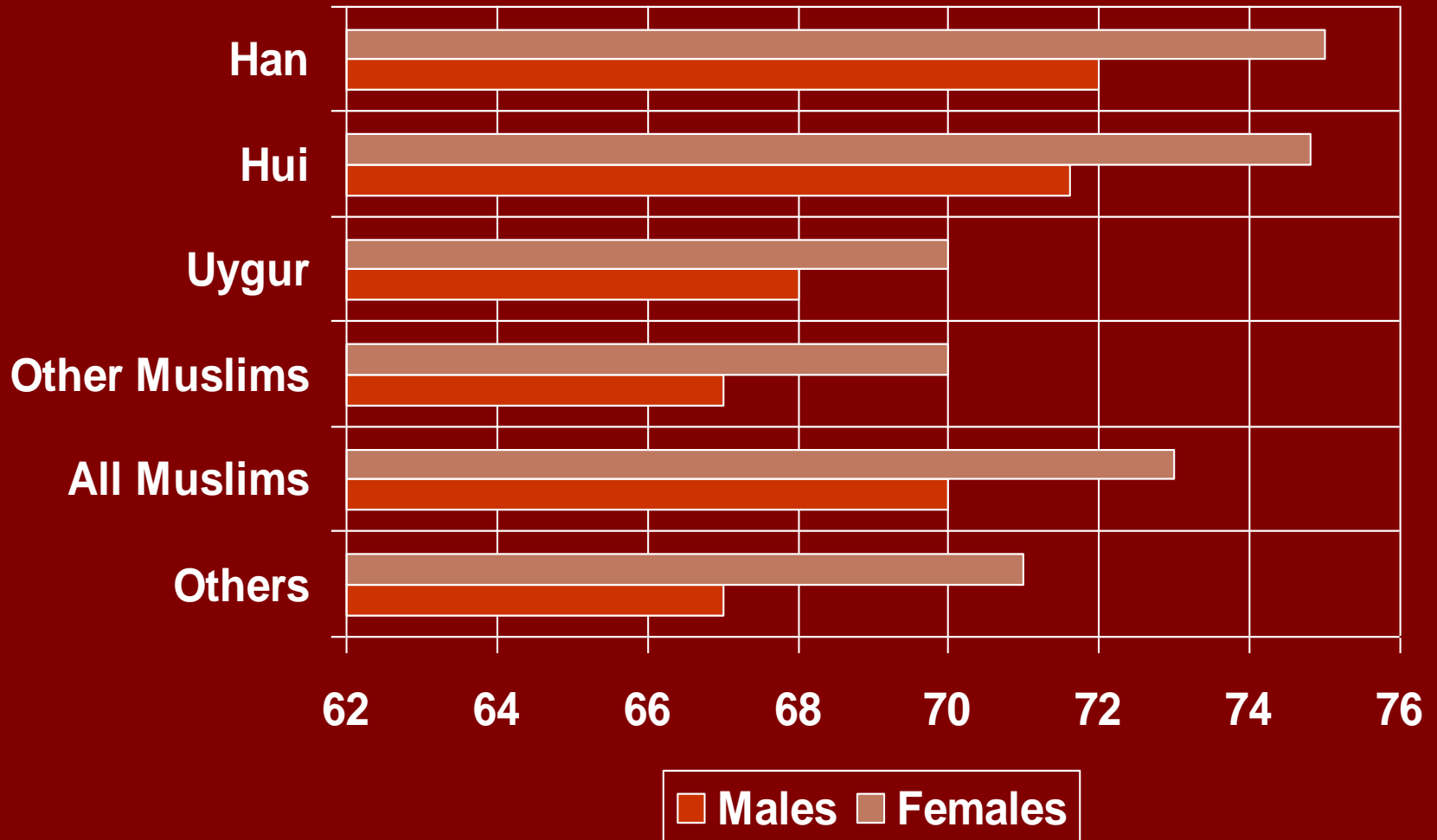
Ethnic group	Crude death rate per 1,000	Standardised		Infant mortality rate**
		mortality ratio	death rate per 1,000	
Han	5.9	1.000	5.9	26.6
All Muslims	5.5	1.108	6.5	36.8
Hui	4.9	0.953	5.6	28.9
Uygur	6.2	1.241	7.3	41.1
Kazak	5.2	1.507	8.9	26.9
Dongxiang	5.7	1.315	7.7	94.9
Kirgiz	5.9	1.278	7.5	49.5
Salar	5.3	1.185	7.0	75.2
Tajik	5.8	1.150	6.8	28.9
Uzbek	*	*	*	*
Baoan	*	*	*	*
Tatar	*	*	*	*

\* Data not reported due to small number of births      \*\* Infant deaths per 1,000 live births p.a.

## Standardised mortality ratio by sex and ethnicity



## Life expectancy by sex and ethnicity



- **“One-child “policy does not apply to the ethnic minorities in China.**
- **When I first visited China in 1975, there was only one mosque open in Beijing mainly for the Muslim diplomats .**
- **During my recent visits I have seen many mosques open in a number of cities and towns. An unconfirmed estimate shows more than 30,000 mosques in China.**
- **I understand that tablighi jamaat’s are able to visit and preach in China.**
- **Muslim restaurants are found in many places though there are some issues, e.g. drinks in Beijing and soup for fried noodles in Kunming (Yunan).**
- **Problems in Xinjiang.**
- **Examples of Chinese currency.**





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ZHONGGUO RENMIN YINHANG

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Cunghuoqizhizhengzhan yinhangz

5

5 YUAN

2005年



Any questions or comments?

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