

## Chapter 1 : Practising your religion in Dubai

*Religion is a very important component of UAE society. It is the basis of their culture, their political system and their way of life. Although Islam is the official religion of the country, the United Arab Emirates have always advocated freedom of religion.*

The stunning desert of this region, marvelous mountains, coast reflects the traditional lifestyles that has advanced and developed rapidly. The ability to cope up with some difficulty is must to exist in the harsh conditions in UAE. The largest tribal group, the Bani Yas, took a trip to the sandy desert areas which covers most of the part of the Emirates of Dubai and Abu Dhabi. All the sub tribes the groups of families were adjusted to roam and move to great distances along with their camels in search of grazing. They use to move as complete family units. Dubai is one of the fastest growing country in the UAE which is the perfect tourist destination which attracts the tourists for see the best places and also the best place for foodies too who wants to taste the food of different places in Dubai and has the best places to eat. People who are youth come to Dubai for making a career in life and they look out for the best in class opportunity for making their career at Dubai: The youth also wants to know about making money with studying at Dubai. They opt for using the classified app UAE and then they have to click the photo of used and second hand product and post it on the ad posting app for free along with the catchy and impressive description and you will get the buyers instantly. The beautiful date gardens of Al Ain were watered by effective and amazing traditional irrigation system falaj Ar. Aflaj bring in water from the aquifers in the mountains. Wonderful Emirati traditional outfit is the significant part of the history and heritage of UAE, which also gives delight after wearing the same. This clothing is much identical to the desert clothes used in NorthAfrica. The abaya is the stunning attire used to cover the clothing of females. It can raneer from plain colors to designed ones. There are around different nationalities who are living in the UAE, and it makes it the country which has diversification in the culture. In population growth, UAE has the ranking in the world. The UAE is significantly a Muslim country. The beautiful country is still multi-cultural and tolerant towards other different religions. Everyone in UAE is free to practice their own religion and the locality residents of UAE celebrate the festive occasions like Eid, Christmas and Diwali with their most popular tradition hookah in dubai. This is the magnificent culture and tradition of the amazing country, UAE. It is the glorious country of middle east. Dubai is the mostly admired city in UAE. Many people from around the world come to UAE for flourishing different kinds of businesses. Dubai Poster is the renowned classified ads website of UAE for getting more visitors and customers for your business. The best platform for trading in second hand products and used products of top class brands. You can meet different sellers and buyers directly, without any third person. UAE have the best in class cities to be visited in life such as Sharjah, Dubai, Abu Dhabi and many more cities which are must to visit and you will get to know about the tourist destinations here which will leave you gobsmacked for sure. So, did you love reading about the lovely cultural tradition of UAE? The gulf is must to visit once in a lifetime. If yes, then you can also drop your views in the comments section below and we will love to read your views in the comments.

## Chapter 2 : Culture of the United Arab Emirates - Exploring the United Arab Emirates

*The primary religion in the United Arab Emirates is Islam, with the population estimated to be 96% Muslim. Hinduism and Christianity are minorities as stated by the United States State Department. The official language is Arabic.*

Dubai is known worldwide for its tall buildings and exuberant architecture, luxury and extravagance, and its excellent career opportunities for foreign professionals. Dubai is located on the southeast coast of the Persian Gulf. It is a coastal territory that shares a southern border with Oman. Dubai has the highest population of all the emirates in the UAE. The climate is more agreeable between November and April. The main risk related to territorial conflicts is the opposition between the Emirates and Iran regarding Abou Moussa Island. It is highly recommended to avoid visiting Abou Moussa Island if possible. The highest risk in Dubai is road safety. Indeed, Dubai is one of the countries with the highest rate of mortality due to road accidents. This is mostly due to poor drivers causing increased difficulties on the roads. The statistics say it all: The rate of petty crimes such as theft and pickpocketing is reasonably high in Dubai, being among the most common types of crimes. In fact, the authorities believe that the rate could actually be even higher, because petty crimes are often considered under-reported. In , the homicide rate in the UAE of Dubai was 2. Islam shapes all aspects of cultural, social and professional life in Dubai. This is why, as a foreigner in Dubai, having some knowledge of Islam would be very useful. Nonetheless, the constitution of the United Arab Emirates provides for freedom of religion, which means that all religions can be practiced and are respected in Dubai. Knowing the five pillars of Islam is an essential first step in understanding the religion. The five pillars are mandatory religious duties for Muslims. The first pillar of Islam is Prayer. Muslims are required to pray five times a day, every day at specific hours. Muslims are able to know when they should be praying thanks to Al Adhan, which is the call for prayer emitted by mosques. Prayers involve cleansing rituals, and specific gestures and positions. The second pillar of Islam is Fasting during the month of Ramadan. Muslims fast from sunrise to sunset and usually breakfast by eating dates and drinking milk. Non-Muslims should avoid eating and drinking in public during the month of Ramadan when Muslims fast. The third pillar of Islam is Shahada, meaning a profession of faith. This profession of faith has two distinct parts, which involve the belief in a unique God and the belief in the Holy prophet Muhammad. The fourth pillar involves support of the needy, which is called Zakat. The final pillar is the pilgrimage to Mecca, which is mandatory for financially and physically capable adults. Places of worship can be found all over Dubai. There are many mosques with beautiful architecture. Hindu and Sikh temples can be found, however, there are no Jewish Synagogues. Muslim celebrations are called Eid, which means recurrent happiness. There are two major celebrations, Eid al Fitr, which occurs at the end of Ramadan, and Eid al Adha, which occurs 70 days after Eid al Fitr. Eid al Adha involves the sacrifice of a sheep, which is symbolic for Muslims. Non-Muslim celebrations such as Christmas and Easter are also celebrated and food and decorations can easily be found in shops. Muslim Law It is highly recommended during your visit to the UAE to be discreet and to conform to local laws to avoid any complications. It is important for foreigners to know that proselytising in the UAE is illegal and severely punished. Punishment may include imprisonment or deportation, or even beheading. This may be considered a freedom of speech issue, but criticising Islam is forbidden for Muslims and non-Muslims alike. Sharia law punishes stealing by amputation. And homosexual relations, sexuality before marriage, eating during Ramadan and public demonstration of affection are also punished. Taking photographs of individuals without authorisation is forbidden, all drugs are strictly forbidden. Buying and consuming alcohol is authorised, except during religious holidays, and pornography is forbidden. Etiquette and customs Dubai is a cosmopolitan city where it is not unusual to see all types of clothing styles coexisting in harmony. Nonetheless, it is important to dress modestly, especially for women. The dress code for men typically includes long and fluid white cotton robes known as a dishdasha or gandourah. Gandourah is a traditional garment based on religious beliefs. It is ideal for wearing during heat waves; however, a thicker, warmer and darker variant can also be worn during winter. The dress code for women is similar to that of men. Women also wear a Gandourah. However, the details and colours of the gandourah are generally more refined than male gandourah. Women also wear a veil and cover

their hair. This is seen as a sign of modesty and submission to God. Greeting Arabs is generally an important step when meeting. The best way to greet Arabs is to gently shake hands. Firm handshakes are considered rude, dominant or disrespectful. Handshakes between men and Muslim women should be avoided. However, handshakes are tolerated when women initiate them. Foreign residents in possession of a permit may purchase alcoholic beverages in specialised shops. Restaurants and hotel bars are also allowed to sell alcohol. Consuming alcohol is only forbidden during religious holidays and the legal drinking age is 21 years old.

**Business etiquette** Working days in Dubai can vary highly from one company to another. Working days are generally from Sunday to Thursday and many companies are open six days a week and close every Friday. Working hours are 8am to 1pm, and 4pm to 7pm. Long breaks between working hours are a common practice due to the heat during the middle of the day. Dubai professionals generally work 2 hours less during Ramadan. Dubai is the most liberal of all the emirates, however a modest dress code is expected to be adhered to by everyone. The dress code for businessmen should be regular business suits or formal office clothes. The dress code for businesswomen makes it compulsory for women to cover their arms and legs and stay modest at all times in business environments. Skirts and low necklines should be avoided. Women should be well covered in rural areas of Dubai. When doing business in Dubai, knowing the business etiquette is crucial. Appointments should be made several weeks in advance as a sign of respect and morning meetings are generally preferred. Meetings are rarely private and interruptions can often occur. Offering a coffee or tea before the meeting starts is recommended. In Dubai, punctuality is considered a sign of respect. Handshakes with Arab clients should be gentle and not firm or dominant. Initiating handshakes with women should be avoided to demonstrate your respect. Business conversations and meetings with Arabs are usually informal and friendly. Conversations are overly polite and generally start by inquiring about family or discussing the weather. The topic of family is generally the best choice to begin a conversation. Colleagues and clients should be referred to as Sayed Mr. Sensitive topics should be avoided at all cost. Criticising an Arab business colleague or client is considered rude. Conflict and negative talk should be kept private, as public humiliation is considered extremely disrespectful. In Dubai, minimalist and white designs are usually preferred when it comes to business cards. Business card should have two sides, one in your own language, and one in Arabic. This is considered a sign of politeness and respect. Business cards should be given at the beginning of the meeting. When presenting your business card, always keep the Arabic side of your business card face up with an Arab client. This is considered a sign of respect in Dubai. Kwintessential can help you with our business translation services and Arabic translations. Contact us for more information on Middle Eastern cultural awareness and your translation needs.

## Chapter 3 : Ethnicity, Language, & Religion of the United Arab Emirates

*Know About the Tradition and Culture Facts of UAE United Arab Emirates is the lovely gulf country of the gulf which has the lovely cities like Sharjah, Dubai, Abu Dhabi and many more to be visited once in a lifetime.*

However, as it is also a Muslim city, there are certain factors to take into consideration in terms of dress code and behaviour. Religion plays a significant role in the culture of Dubai. Mosques can be found throughout the city and at sunset the call to prayer can be heard across the rooftops. It is possible for non-Muslim tourists to visit certain mosques in Dubai; perhaps the most impressive is the Jumeirah Mosque, tours of which can be booked through the Sheikh Mohammed Centre for Cultural Understanding. Ramadan is a popular time of year to visit Dubai; although all residents and visitors must refrain from eating or drinking in public in daylight hours, it is a wonderful time to experience the local culture and strong religious heritage of the city. Non-Muslims may eat and drink in designated areas, and many hotels and shopping malls will have various outlets that remain open during Ramadan. Visitors to Dubai should dress modestly, particularly in conservative areas and public places. Swimwear is acceptable at the beach or around the swimming pool, but visitors should cover up elsewhere. Shorts and T-shirts are suitable attire in many places, although when visiting mosques, religious sites or older parts of the city, both men and women may feel more comfortable wearing loose-fitting clothes that cover shoulders, arms and legs. Women will usually be required to wear a headscarf when entering mosques. Courtesy and hospitality are important virtues in the Arab world, and visitors will enjoy the friendliness and warm welcome provided by locals. If you are invited to a majlis, remove your shoes at the entrance. Males and females will probably be escorted to different sections. If you are sharing a meal with your host, accept food and refreshment before moving on to matters of business. It is important to stand up for new guests and older or higher-ranking people, and men are expected to stand when a woman enters the room. When greeting a member of the opposite sex who is Muslim, it is important not to offer to shake hands unless they extend their hand first – both men and women more commonly women may prefer not to shake hands with the opposite sex due to religious reasons. It is customary to accept food and drink with your right hand; this is also the hand you should eat with. Avoid showing the soles of your feet, or pointing your foot at anyone. If you are sitting in front of an important guest, it is considered rude to cross your legs. Do not beckon or point with your finger; if you need to use a hand gesture, use the whole hand. If you are hosting Muslim guests, do not offer them alcoholic beverages or pork. Alcoholic beverages are available in licensed bars and restaurants in Dubai. Visitors may also purchase alcohol from Duty Free shops at Dubai International Airport, as long as they observe the limits set by Dubai Customs. Drinking and driving is strictly prohibited, and Dubai Police take a zero tolerance approach – in other words, it is not safe to have even one drink if you are driving. Visitors should remember that, as Dubai is a Muslim city, a more modest code of behaviour is required. Being drunk and disorderly in public is unacceptable, and may result in a fine or worse. Public displays of affection should be minimal – holding hands is acceptable but kissing and hugging in public is not. The following are also considered illegal in Dubai:

*Culture The Emirati culture has been shaped through the centuries by two distinct communities. Along the coast the pearling industry and sea trading were the biggest influences in the way the people lived, while inland the Bedouins carried on with farming.*

Dubai and Abu Dhabi are known to be the most popular Emirate cities, mostly because of their amazing architecture, unique developments, numerous entertainment options, etc. While the cities and citizens of UAE have adapted a modern lifestyle, it would be surprising to know that they hold their religion, culture, customs and traditions, quite closely. In spite of the presence of state-of-the-art technology, luxurious buildings and all modern amenities, the Emiratis have upheld the Arabic culture of the past. You would not only get to know more about this fascinating people and their culture but also make sure that you do not hurt their sentiments in any way. With this note, let us take a look at some aspects of the UAE culture and traditions. Before the UAE was formed, the citizens were desert dwellers, also known as Bedouin. They lived in tribes and the head of these tribes are the ruling families of today. Then there are the merchant class who historically worked in the pearling industry, but today manage international commerce of the country. Apart from this, there are the middle class professionals who benefitted from free state education and the people of the lower income bracket that includes farmers, former pearl divers and new Bedouin or desert settlers. Even though the locals of UAE no longer live in the desert, they still follow the traditions and customs of their Bedouin culture. UAE is an Islamic country and the citizens follow the Sharia law. Religion is so embedded in the lives of people that it is followed in the social as well as political life of the country. While visiting the country, it is best to not comment or have arguments about Islam either with the locals or any one else. During Ramadan, Muslims in the UAE and everywhere around the world do not eat or drink anything from dawn to dusk. Non-Muslims both residents and tourists cannot drink or eat in public in the day, during this time of the month. It is extremely important to follow this. Always eat in your hotel room or private dining areas in the hotel during the month of Ramadan, as a matter of respect to the people and the country you are visiting. However, most Emirati men and women still dress in their traditional style. The national dress for men is the kandura, a white coloured ankle-length garment which is worn with a head scarf that is either white or red checkered. During important events, sheikhs and businessmen also wear a thin, gold-trimmed robe over their kandura. In the recent times, abayas are available with intricate embroidery and beadwork as well as in different colours too. Women wearing Abaya at the Grand Mosque in Abu Dhabi Visitors do not have to wear the traditional clothes of UAE but have to do so when visiting holy places in the country. Although you may not be able to visit most mosques in the UAE, there are a few that are open to non-Muslims too. The architecture of the mosques in UAE are surreal and something you should not miss. While you can enjoy the beauty of these holy places, make sure that you do not cause any disrespect. Women would have to wear an abaya these are available at mosques for free of cost and men would have to wear clothes that cover their knees. Emiratis do not drink alcohol; however, tourists can buy alcohol at some of the restaurants and bars. Still, it is illegal to drink in public. Moreover, you should refrain from drinking and driving at all costs. Do not indulge in kissing, hugging or cuddling with your partner even your spouse in public. This is not only frowned upon in the UAE but is illegal too. One more thing that you have to be careful is while taking photographs. With so many fascinating places and things to see, you would not be able to switch off your camera. But make sure that you never take photographs of Emirati women without permission as well as that of government and military facilities. The traditional Emirati food consists of rice, bread, yogurt, dates, fish, homegrown vegetables, dates, etc. Meat varieties include chicken, goat, lamb and camel. Pork is considered to be a taboo in Islam and hence not eaten by Emiratis. Some of the most popular dishes of the UAE include stuffed camel interior of the camel stuffed with the meat of chicken, goat and sheep and slow cooked over a charcoal pit for 24 hours, Sharwama slow cooked meat mixed with different ingredients and wrapped inside a flatbread, Kabsa a dish that contains rice and various meats prepared using different ingredients and spices, Harees made with cracked wheat and meat, etc. Arabic coffee and dates are two important aspects of Emirati food culture. It is said to be a victory dance

which was usually performed after a successful tribal war or pearl diving. Today, it is performed during weddings and other special occasions. Also known as stick dance, this is performed by 20 men and women always separately along with a distinct Arabic music that includes the use of large and small drums, brass cymbals and tambourines. With such delightful music and energetic dance steps, Al-Ayyala is a delight to watch. The UAE national bird is falcon, and falconry is definitely the oldest traditions of the country. To know and understand more about falcons, you should visit the Abu Dhabi Falcon Hospital. National Bird of the UAE: Falcon Emirati people have close family ties. Apart from the immediate family, they are close to their extended families as well. Most times, extended families live together, sharing the same compound and there are strong bond between the families. However, this is restricted to each other and does not involve women. For foreigners, the greetings are restricted to handshakes. However, if you are a man, you should refrain from giving a handshake to an Emirati woman, unless she offers first. Tourists may find the traditional garb of Emirati women fascinating but staring at them is considered offensive and should be avoided at all costs, especially if you are a man. When you are meeting an Emirati, always stand when someone enters the room. Also, sitting with the sole of your feet facing a person is considered extremely rude in Emirati culture. Food is always served with the right hand. Left hand is considered to be dirty by the local people. If you want to know more about the same, you must visit the Sheikh Mohammed Centre for Cultural Understanding in Dubai which gives an insight into the life, religion, culture and traditions of the Emiratis by organizing tours and through other interesting sessions.

### Chapter 5 : UAE People Customs and Traditions - Safetravels

*The UAE shares significant aspects of its culture with neighboring Arab countries and the larger Arab culture. Location and Geography. The UAE covers 32, square miles (83, square kilometers) and is located on the Arabian (Persian) Gulf.*

However, with a huge multi-cultural expat community it is tolerant towards other religions. December 2nd, will celebrate 47 years of UAE with much ceremony. Emirati people descend from the Bedouin, or desert dwellers, and still maintain many of the customs and traditions of those times. Emirati traditional dress is an important part of its history and culture and is worn with pride in public. Women wear a long loose black robe called an abaya over the top of their normal clothes. Abayas are sheer flowing fabric with intricate embroidery and beadwork at the wrists and hem. The shayla headscarf covers the head and is becoming more elaborate and somewhat a statement of individuality, particularly among the young. Some women choose to wear a thin black veil covering their face and others, generally older women, wear a leather veil burka, which covers the nose, brow, cheekbones and lips. The kandura, worn by the men is a white full length shirt-like garment, which is worn with a white or red checkered headdress, known as a ghutra, which is secured on the head with a black cord agal. A more formal bisht thin gold-trimmed robe is often worn by sheikhs and important business men at important events. UAE Food Emirati cuisine is a blend of many Middle Eastern and Asian cuisines but the modern day diet has become more cosmopolitan given the influx of expats from around the world. Traditionally their diet was somewhat simple, consisting of mainly meats, rice and cereals, dairy and dates. Meats were mainly chicken and goat; camels are highly prized for milk, transportation and for show and are only eaten on special occasions. Customs and Traditions Arabic henna and tattoos are an important part of Emirati culture. The women wear henna at any time but more especially at weddings and special occasions. Getting together for a henna party in the evening is a common social event for Emirati women. The choice of henna tattoo reveals a great deal about the wealth of the family as well as the value placed on women. Henna is widely available to anyone at salons dotted around the country and is a great experience. The falcon is the national bird of UAE symbolising courage, strong will, determination, grace and pride. Abu Dhabi Falcon Hospital is worthy of a visit and most desert safaris provide access to falcons for the enjoyment of visitors. Emirati traditional dance Al Ayyalah also known as the stick dance is performed in UAE only and is an important part of major celebrations including weddings. On occasions when appropriate the men performing the stick dance may be accompanied by the girls or women performing the hair dance khaleeji. Arabic coffee features highly in Emirati life and traditions and the Arabic coffee pot Dallah is a symbol of hospitality and ubiquitous. It also features around the country as a sculpture often on roundabouts. Offering coffee as a welcome is common and it is rude to refuse. It is a thick and strong cardammon flavoured liquid "give it a try. Photographs of government buildings, military installations and ports and airports is frowned on and could get you into serious trouble. Also, cameras may be banned in public areas designated for women and children only. As such all photographs in this blog post are courtesy of Google and for illustrative purposes only. If you ever get the opportunity to spend more than just a few hours in transit then take it.

**Chapter 6 : Traditions - calendrierdelascience.com**

*Today the United Arab Emirates are made up of a unique cultural jumble somewhere between ancestral traditions and state-of-the-art technology. Culture and Religion One must note that in Arabic countries culture and religion are extremely closely linked.*

Before the establishment of the oil economy in the early s, two main orientations shaped traditional Emirati culture: These subcultures were economically, politically, and socially interdependent, creating a common culture and social identity. The UAE shares significant aspects of its culture with neighboring Arab countries and the larger Arab culture. It shares land borders with Oman, Qatar, and Saudi Arabia. The seven emirates vary greatly in size. Abu Dhabi represents 85 percent of the land, and the smallest emirate is Ajman. Each emirate is named after its capital city, and Abu Dhabi City is the permanent capital of the nation. The inland area is mostly desert with a few oases, and the barren Hajar Mountains run through the country. The UAE has a dry climate with very high temperatures and humidity in the summer. Relative to its size and oil wealth, the UAE has a small population, estimated at 2., in Before , the local population was tiny estimated at eighty-six thousand in and lacked most of the technical skills needed for a modern society. The commercial production of oil triggered rapid population growth as a result of an increase in the national population from improvements in diet, health care, and living standards and the importation on a large scale of mostly male foreign laborers. The latter factor has generated a dependence on expatriate labor; the UAE has become a multiethnic society, and Emirati nationals account for only about 20 percent of the population. This has created an imbalanced population composition in favor of males; in , there were 1., males and , females. The remainder are Arabs, Europeans, and Americans. The official language is Arabic. English is the language of commerce. National Day symbolizes one of the most successful experiments in unity in the modern Arab world. The main metaphor is that of the family, with the president referred to as a father. The colors of the national flag—green, red, white, and black—are shared with other Arab countries. Other cultural symbols are the falcon, camel, Arabian horse, pearling boat, coffeepot, and date palm. They are used to invoke a historical community that survived harsh conditions and now enjoys the benefits of unity and prosperity. These emblems appear on banknotes, coins, and stamps. History and Ethnic Relations Emergence of the Nation. Before the seven emirates were collectively known as the Trucial States, a name that originated from maritime agreements between the British and the leading sheikhs of the tribes inhabiting the southern coast between Qatar and Oman in the first half of the nineteenth century. This led to the settlement of different ethnic groups from countries along the trade routes, such as Iran and India. Trade activities with east Africa led to the importation of Africans as laborers in the pearling industry in the late nineteenth century. The African and Iranian ethnic populations have been fully integrated as citizens. Urbanism, Architecture, and the Use of Space Before , the only settlements were small towns and villages. Oil resources have enabled massive modernization. Towns have been transformed from mud-walled communities into commercial capitals integrated in the global economy. Because of the small population and harsh desert interior, 80 percent of the population lives in the coastal capital cities, leading social scientists to describe them as city-states. Urbanization has been characterized by unparalleled growth. Abu Dhabi is one of the most modern cities in the world. UAE cities have been heavily influenced by the global city type. Dominant urban features include skyscrapers in the commercial city centers, multistory residential buildings, large shopping malls, wide boulevards, an extensive network of highways, and sprawling new suburbs. The cities have a multiethnic composition, with segregated housing areas for nationals and the immigrants. Housing is subdivided further according to class, social power, ethnicity, and nationality. To create a balance between their global and local aspects, in municipalities have adopted policies projecting Arab-Islamic architectural design, particularly arched windows, gates, and decorative stucco. Recently, more urban settings have exhibited decorative designs with local themes related to the national heritage. Preservation of the urban heritage also is seen in the renovation of old forts, palaces, souks marketplaces , and mosques. Date palm trees, symbols of the local culture, have been planted extensively along city roadsides. Food and Economy Food in Daily Life. Before the

s, food consisted mainly of fish, rice, bread, dates, yogurt, homegrown vegetables, and meat from sheep, goats, and camels. The diet has improved in quality and variety, with modern supermarkets offering imported foods. It usually consists of fish, rice, meat, and a vegetable dish. Many Emiratis prefer the traditional style of eating with the right hand. There are strict Muslim taboos against pork and alcohol, and meat must be slaughtered according to the Islamic halal method. Emiratis are known for their hospitality; they feel honored when receiving guests and socializing with friends and relatives. Guests are welcomed with coffee and fresh dates. Incense is passed around so that guests can catch the fragrance in their headwear. With the immigrant population have come restaurants offering a wide variety of ethnic foods, and fast-food restaurants have also become popular. Income is among the highest in the world, but there are large differences between the emirates, with Abu Dhabi, Dubai, and Sharjah producing the most oil. The other emirates have benefitted from oil wealth through the federal welfare system and employment in state institutions. With declining oil prices, the government has attempted to diversify the national economy. This has led to the growth of industry, construction, commerce, free trade zones, transportation, tourism, farming, fisheries, and communications. The national currency name is called the Emirian Dirham. Major Industries and Trade. The UAE is the third largest exporter of crude oil and gas in the Gulf. Citizens account for 10 percent of the total labor force. Almost all nationals 99 percent work in the state sector because of the attractive benefits and are employed mainly in nontechnical jobs in education, the army, the police, and the civil service. They also own all Emirati businesses. Immigrants are employed in both the public and private sectors in manual, technical, and professional occupations. Social Stratification Classes and Castes. Emirati society is divided into two social categories: Citizens are subdivided into four main social classes: Among the immigrants there are hierarchical groups that receive different economic and social rewards: In general, nationals are a privileged minority, and benefit from state laws and business regulations. Symbols of Social Stratification. The symbol of a male national as a distinct social category is seen most visibly in the traditional dress of a white robe kandoura and white head cloth ghutra with a black rope aqal. Men grow short beards and mustaches. An old fortress surrounded by modern buildings in Abu Dhabi. After , mud-walled communities transformed into commercial centers. Women wear long dresses with a head cover hijab and black cloak abayah. The UAE has a federal government that is made up of several organs: The Supreme Council has both legislative and executive powers and includes the rulers of the seven emirates. The cabinet consists of ministers drawn mainly from the ruling families of the emirates. Leadership and Political Officials. The fact that the traditional tribal system of government each emirate was based on similar political principles facilitated the establishment of the UAE. Hereditary dynastic family rule still operates in each emirate as a local government system under the umbrella of the federal system. Members of the ruling families occupy the most important positions in their political administrations. While the political system continues to retain some of its traditional values at formal and informal levels, it has been able to keep pace with economic and social change. The sheikhs are highly regarded for performing the dual roles of modernizers and guardians of the cultural heritage. They still have traditional majlis where citizens have access to their leaders. Social Welfare and Change Programs The development of the infrastructure has been impressive. The welfare system offers womb-to-tomb free state services for all nationals, including high-quality health care, education up to the tertiary level, social security, family allowances, subsidized electricity and water, and housing for low-income groups. This is a major way of distributing oil wealth among the national population. The immigrant population also benefits to some extent, particularly in regard to medical care. NonGovernmental Organizations and Other Associations There were Associations of Public Benefit in , serving interests of many groups and identified with heritage preservation, immigrant communities, professional groups, culture, women, religion, sports, and general humanitarian services. Their role is seen as complementary to that of governmental institutions. Modern economic roles and social status reflect both change and continuity for women. Schools and universities are segregated, and levels of enrollment of girls and their performance are impressive. In higher education, female students outnumber males two to one. In spite of new employment opportunities, most women opt for marriage and raising children. UAE society places a high value on those roles. Conservative cultural attitudes lead women to seek jobs that do not involve mixing with men or commuting far from home. Subsequently, most women are

employed in education, health, and civil service. The Relative Status of Women and Men. Official statements affirm that men and women have equal rights and opportunities to advance themselves and the nation, yet patriarchy as a generalized ideology is still visible in social life.

**Chapter 7 : United Arab Emirates History, Language and Culture | World Travel Guide**

*In order to succeed in the UAE market it is vital to have insight and understanding of Middle Eastern culture, as tradition and customs are significant aspects of business life. The official language in the UAE is Arabic, but in business, as well as in day-to-day life, the English language is just as well accepted and widely used.*

Compared with other Persian Gulf states, the country is relatively liberal and open. Foreign clergy are allowed to minister to foreign populations, and non-Muslim groups—Christians, Hindus, and Sikhs—are permitted to engage in private charitable activities and to send their children to private schools. These groups are not supported financially by the state, however. The capital is Abu Dhabi town. Sunni Islam as it is practiced by lineage to the old Arabian tribes. He is a descendant of Zayed the Great, who was influential in the formation of the Trucial States in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. During his presidency Shaykh Zayed has been concerned with preserving the Islamic identity of the state. He published widely in Islamic law, education, and customs. This movement was established in oil boom of the twentieth century, most of the mosques Arabia in the mid-eighteenth century by Muhammad in the emirates were small, simple buildings without Ibn Abd al-Wahhab, who drew upon the teachings of minarets. This was the case, for example, with the Ibn Taymiyyah, an early interpreter of unique mosque of Bidiyya, near the city of Buraymi in the Hanbali school of Islamic jurisprudence. A puritanical group, the Wahhabis repudiates have been constructed. The well-known Jumeirah innovation and opposed non-Muslim influences, in-mosque in Dubai, for instance, was built in the medieval including the increasing European presence in the Persian Fatimid tradition. Muslims of the emirates initially looked to the Qadim, in Abu Dhabi has been replaced by a modern Wahhabis as a military power to be called upon for sup-mosque with blue domes. As with Muslims elsewhere, follow-Qawasim tribes of the emirates. The asalah of the palm tree and the camel. Patience is a value associated RITUALS Muslims in the United Arab Emirates per-with the camel, which, because of its exceptional ability form those rituals common throughout the Islamic to tolerate intense heat and hunger, can live in the desert. These include the salat prayer five times a day In the United Arab Emirates the camel plays a role on and, for those who are able, the hajj, or pilgrimage to social occasions, such as marriages and weddings, and Mecca. There are, however, no Islamic rituals that are for the payment of hospitality duties and blood money distinctive to the United Arab Emirates. The slaughtering of camels on these occasions denotes the value placed on honor and hospitality. As in other countries, however, Muslims celebrate bors, and friends. Men gather to recite the Koran for such festivals as Id al-Fitr, at the end of the feast of the well-being of the mother and the newly born child, Ramadan, and Id al-Adha, at the conclusion of the pil-and close relatives gather for a meal. The birthday of Muhammad Circumcision for both sexes takes place before the mawlid is also observed. The emphasis for Muslims rently practiced only among local populations. Women wear a traditional full-length gar-though once carried out by matriarchs in the communi-ment called a kandurah. In addition, they wear an overgar-ty, these minor clitoral operations are now performed ment thub made of black lace and frequently over this primarily in clinics or hospitals. Women also wear a hair veil wagayah Marriage is incumbent upon all Muslims. Most or face veil burgo, characterized by a black mask that marriages continue to be arranged, with a family mem-covers the lower part of the nose and the mouth and ber, such as an aunt, or occasionally a well-placed that leaves the eyes shaded by the edge of the hair veil. A The traditional dress of men in the United Arab marriage contract is drawn up, and a dowry is paid. Emirates is a robe kandurah whose color varies accord-Wealthy families sometimes sponsor weeks of celebra-ing to the season. In summer the kandurah is white, while tions. The government, concerned to encourage mar-in winter it is gray or brown, and it is usually worn with riage among the indigenous population, has established a matching, often Western-style jacket. Men wear a a marriage bank sanduq al-zawaj that gives financial sup-skullcap quhfiyya and a square scarf ghutra on their port to men who marry local women, a practice that has heads. The attire of dignitaries includes a cloak bishit. Divorce Clerics and religious functionaries often come from is permitted according to Islamic law. Local religious personnel wear a black it in a white funeral cloth. It is then carried to the local toqueline cap, together with a wide scarf, or rutra. Families sponsor the recita-

Emirates follow Islamic dietary requirements. Alcohol consumption of verses from the Koran for the sake of the deity is available, however, and is not banned, as in Saudi Arabia. Men and women traditionally eat in separate quarters, with the female head of the household directing Islamic religious institutes welcome converts and help youths or young children in serving the males. Women then become integrated into the Muslim community. Despite the capitalist orientation of the United Arab Emirates, the Islamic spirit of social justice is monitored by the government. In addition, are rejected in the United Arab Emirates. Women are annual almsgiving zakat by Muslims provides financial not allowed to hold religious positions, although they aid on a large scale, often organized by religious institutes, to those who need it. Islamic law quickly, Islamic education continues to be emphasized. Poetry, for example, is much revered, and female. Women graduates now work in both the government and the private sector. This is especially true among the native Sunni population who adhere to the Malikite legal tradition. Although it has become less common, tribal men continue to practice polygamy, limited to four or fewer Other Religions wives. The revolution in Iran, a majority Shiite country, had an impact on Shiites in the United Arab Emirates, as it did in other Persian Gulf states. Although Sunni Islam is the official religion, the Shiite encourages marriage among the indigenous population nority is free to congregate and worship in its own and increases the salary of a native male citizen to whom mosques, and Shiites conduct meetings and hold dis- a child is born. As with Sunnis, however, the the participation of the United Arab Emirates in the state monitors activities, including sermons, that take global economy, both the ruling class and ordinary citizens place in Shiite mosques. The Hindu and Sikh communities, el-Aswad, el-Sayed. United Arab Emirates University Press, Islam, Shiism, Sunnism author. Lienhardt, Peter, and Ahmed al-Shahi. Shaikhdoms of Eastern Bibliography Arabia. Abul Rahman, Abdul Allah. Historical Dictionary of the Gulf Arab States.

**Chapter 8 : Dubai & The UAE | Etiquette, Customs, Culture & Business**

*Religion plays a significant role in the culture of Dubai. Mosques can be found throughout the city and at sunset the call to prayer can be heard across the rooftops. It is possible for non-Muslim tourists to visit certain mosques in Dubai; perhaps the most impressive is the Jumeirah Mosque, tours of which can be booked through the Sheikh.*

Emirati people Emirati culture is based on Arabian culture and has been heavily influenced by Persian culture. Arabian and Persian inspired architecture is part of the expression of the local Emirati identity. The official language is Arabic. Other languages such as English, Persian, Hindi and Urdu are spoken among the different people. State Department estimates the people of the UAE to have an average life expectancy of seventy-seven years. Lexicology[ edit ] The word Emirati is an English derived from a combination of the word emir, which is an Islamic leader, and the English suffix -ate. It gradually came to mean United Arab Emirates. The demonym Emirian has a similar root from except with the suffix -ian being added to emir. Rarer Emirian demonyms and adjectives include Emiri and Emiratian, both of which are unofficial and informal alternates. Building materials are simple, but well-adapted to local living and climatic circumstances. Portable tents traditionally provided shelter during tribal wanderings in the winter season. Inland more permanent houses were built of stone guss and were roofed with palm trees leaves. Fossilized coral , cut in blocks, bonded with sarooj , or a lime mixture derived from seashells , and plastered with chalk and water paste, was used extensively in coastal regions. Privacy and ventilation were important influences in. Clothing in the UAE Many of the older Emirati men prefer wearing the traditional Emirati clothes, such as the kandura , an ankle-length white shirt woven from wool or cotton while many local women wear an abaya , a black over-garment, and "shiela" or headscarf. Western-style clothing is also fairly popular, especially among the Emirati youth and expats. Etiquette is an important aspect of UAE culture and tradition, and whilst in the UAE, visitors are expected to show appropriate manners and etiquette. There have been several recent cases of expatriates not respecting the laws and being arrested. For example, there have been instances of expats for inappropriate clothes, and some even being completely without clothes. Emirati cuisine There are a lot of known dishes in UAE, for example: Harees , Machboos and Luqemat. Lebanese, Indian and Iranian also called Persian cuisines are the most common, and these are eaten both at home and in restaurants. The most popular streetside snack is Shawarma i. Distinct[ edit ] Some peculiar cultural traits that are not found elsewhere include the khusmak, a specifically Emirati kiss whereby Emirati men greet one another by touching one another's nose. This is due to the nose being seen as a noble bodily feature. Some expats accuse Emiratis of being more social amongst themselves rather than with others, but Emiratis view this as being a modus operandi that allows them to avoid forgetting their culture. Literature and poetry[ edit ] See also: List of Emirati writers The main themes in Emirati poetry for Arab poets range from satire , chivalry , self-praise , patriotism , religion , family , and love , could range from descriptive to narrative. Poetry in the United Arab Emirates has a great influence on culture, being an Arab country in the Persian Gulf where poetry has been part of since the dawn of time. This form underwent slight modification Al Muwashahat during the period of Islamic civilization in Andalusia Spain , where "the line or bait adhered to the two hemistiches form, each with an equal number of feet, all the second hemistiches ending in the same rhyming letter and sound throughout the poem". The indigenous Arabic poetry form, however, was not spared from western influence; sometime in the 20th century, prose poetry started to make their way into the local literary scene. Ibn Majid , who was born between and in Ras Al Khaimah was an iconic poet. Coming from a family of successful sailors, Ibn Majid has a total of 40 surviving compositions, 39 of which are verses. Three other poets from Sharjah , known as the Hirah group, also thrived during the 20th century including Khalfan Musabah , Sheikh Saqr Al Qasimi , an ex-ruler of Sharjah, and Sultan bin Ali al Owais . Yowla is a type of music and dance performed mainly in communities of Bantu people from the African Great Lakes region. Young girls would dance by swinging their long hair and swaying their bodies in time to the strong beat of the music. Men would re-enact battles fought or successful hunting expeditions, often symbolically using sticks, swords , or rifles. Hollywood and Bollywood movies are popular in Dubai. Kylie Minogue was paid 4. The Abu Dhabi

Festival has been held annually since

### Chapter 9 : Religions and Islam in the UAE - Exploring the United Arab Emirates

*Nonetheless, the constitution of the United Arab Emirates provides for freedom of religion, which means that all religions can be practiced and are respected in Dubai. Knowing the five pillars of Islam is an essential first step in understanding the religion.*

With such a short history but with such great change to have transpired the culture is a testament to the people of this great country! Learn more here about everything from the poetry to the clothing. Although there are many similarities among the culture of the Gulf nations, each has its own distinct traditions and history.

**Arabic Poetry** Learn about the history of famous Arabic poets. Poetry is one of the forms through which the Arabic culture is brought out for the world to embrace. If you speak or understand the Arabic language then you can easily relate to the deep richness in culture and beliefs penned by Arabic poets. If you not an Arabic speaker you may still enjoy poetry readings as the language is a beautiful sing song of words.

**Music and Dance** The Khalili music uses the traditional drum "Tabl". The oud is a famous Arabic musical instrument. Learn also about the traditional dances of the UAE in which Emirati men and women dance separately. I still remember the great excitement of seeing groups of men dancing outside hotels to celebrate local weddings.

**Henna or Arabic Tattoos** Arabic henna designs as an important part of Emirati culture. The henna plant has been used since the Bronze Age for dyeing skin, leather, silk, wool and hair. It is amazing to see the gorgeous designs the local women have made on their hands. We always take visitors to have a go when they visit us in Abu Dhabi too! If you have the chance to visit the Falcon Hospital or go to a desert camp and see the falcons up close-we highly recommend it! Check out our falconry tips here.

**Emirati Clothing** The local Emirati people wear distinct clothing. Learn all about the traditional clothing of the UAE and the meaning and history behind it! From the kandura to the abaya- read more here!

**Islamic Religion** Read more about the Islamic religion and the Muslim beliefs. Learn about their rich culture and heritage. Learn more about the Middle East with this great map and overview of the countries! Never Miss Any Updates or News! I promise to use it only to send you From the Sandpit.