

**INDIA ARAB CULTURAL CENTRE**  
**Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi**

**M. A International Studies Arab-Islamic Culture**

**Course Title:** Minorities in the Arab World  
**Duration:** One Semester  
**Credit:** 4 credit/100 marks  
**Level of Teaching:** Post-Graduate  
**Method of Instruction:** Lectures, Discussions  
**Mode of Evaluation:** Assignment and End-Semester Examination

**Course description:**

This course is directed to introduce the students to the diversity of the minorities, especially religious, in the Arab World. The lectures and discussions are oriented towards understanding and discerning the complexities of the religious situations from the pre Islamic period till today. The course also aims to enhance the student's awareness of the overall importance of interreligious dialogue for coexistence in mutual understanding.

**Unit One:**

Identifying Identity  
Concept and Terminology : Minority and Majority  
Locating Minorities within Political Precincts

**Unit Two:**

Origin and Development of Muslim Minorities in the Arab World  
Minorities in the Pre Islamic Arab  
The development of *Dhimma*

**Unit Three:**

The Rise of Nationalism in the Ottoman Empire  
The Growth of Arab and Egyptian Nationalism  
20<sup>th</sup> Century Developments: Emergence of Nation States and the Role played by Minorities

**Unit Four:**

Distribution of Minorities in the Arab World  
Religious Minorities : Yazidis  
Ethnic Minorities: Druze  
Linguistic Minorities: Kurds

**Schedule of Examination & Grading:**

<b>Midterm Exam</b>	<b>25 %</b>
<b>Final exam</b>	<b>75 %</b>

### **Suggested Readings**

- Dana, N. 2005. **Druze in the Middle East: Their Faith, Leadership, Identity and Status.** Sussex Academic Press.
- Hourani, A. 1947. **Minorities in the Arab World.** Oxford University Press.
- Kymlicka, W. and Pfohl, E. 2014. **Multiculturalism and Minority Rights in the Arab World.**
- Maoz, M. and G. Sheffer. 2002. **Middle Eastern Minorities and Diasporas.** Sussex Academic Press.
- Nesai, M. 2002. **Minorities in the Middle East.** McFarland and Company Inc. Publication. North Carolina.
- Pachini, A. 1998. **Christian Communities in the Arab Middle East: The Challenge of the Future.** Clarendon Press, University of Michigan.
- White, B. T. 2012. **The Emergence of Minorities in Middle East: The Politics of Community in French Mandate Syria.** Edinburgh University Press