

In the name of Allah the Merciful, the Compassionate

**Entry of Shia school of thought and Islam to the land of the Germans
how Shia school of thought and Islam got their entry and spread in Germany**

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Note:

German people became familiar with Islam and its teachings, dating back to the sixteenth century. However, the exact number of Shias and Muslims in Germany are not accurately available. Most of the Muslims in Germany belong to Turkish and most of Shia immigrants in Germany originally belong to places like Iran, Afghanistan, Lebanon, Iraq and Pakistan. Most of Shias live in Hamburg at present. View of the German government about groups of Shiite and Muslim varies from nation to nation. The German government has more favorable terms towards Turkish nationals who are resident in Germany, than the other groups , although in despite of all the injustices and rigidities , a large segment of the Iranian could be able to get major position in academic centers and hospital and another group has engaged in business and economic activities .

Entry Islam in Germany

The presence of Muslims in Germany has its roots of relationship of this country with the Ottoman Empire. In ١٠٦٢ A.H / ١٦٨٣ A.D , followed by the second siege of Vienna and retreat of the Ottoman army , the last prisoners in southern state of Prussia (Germany at present) , were released. Thus, after a century the Prussian army selected the Muslims soldiers for the creation harmony in their forces. In the nineteenth century, the German political and business relations were expanded between and the official relation between this land and the Sultan's of Turkey was developed during World War. By the end of this war, some Turkish prisoners were in prisoners of Allies forces and after getting liberation, they settled in Berlin. They established the core seed of Germany's Muslim community, - with the entry of Afghans and Iranians it was expanded more gradually.

With the expansion of economy of Germany and the country's need for foreign labor recruitment, the number of foreign workers, especially the Turkish workers increased thrice times between ١٣٣٩ to ١٣٤٢/١٩٦٠ to ١٩٦٣ A.D.

The first labor crisis occurred in Germany in the years ١٣٤٥ to ١٣٤٦ / ١٩٦٦ ١٩٦٧ A.D. After this, the government confronted with the economic crisis, and more than seventy thousand workers lost their jobs.

In ١٣٥٢/١٩٧٣ A.D the government imposed new rules and regulations regarding immigration. Since ١٣٦٤/١٩٨٥ A.D to onwards, there was a major change occurred in the framework of German

immigration; most of the new immigrants were not seeking work, but they were seeking political refuge from the countries like Turkey and Arab.

In ۱۳۶۵/۱۹۸۶ A.D, due to an increase in political asylum, a contract was signed between both Germany and by this means, one of entry gates were closed for the refugees.

Muslim Demographics

From the angle of population, Muslims are the third largest religious group in Germany after Protestant and Catholic. After the Muslims, Buddhists and Jews stand for the fourth and fifth categories.

According to the reports , there are about three million Turks in Germany , mostly they migrated from the era of Ataturk and onward, for hard work in the coal mines , construction of roads and buildings as well as they migrated for working in industrial factories (steel, automotive, munitions and ...) and with the passage of time they became permanent residents Germany.

Today, the situation of Turkish Muslims in Germany has improved very much and they are working in better jobs.

From the angle of population of Muslims in Germany , after the Turks , Iranians , Moroccans , Afghans , Lebanese , Pakistanis , Syrians , Tunisian , Algerians , Indonesians and Arabs of Oman are stand on the next category.

Germany-based Iranians have active participation in various fields of science, economics and so on. Most of Iranian Muslims who were

living in Germany since a long time, they deals in trade of carpet and have been working in the Port of Hamburg. According to a census that was announced a few years ago, they are more than ten thousand people. The next resident group of Iranians in Germany is Iranian doctors. It can be acknowledged with dare that the president of the most renowned hospitals of Germany or the chairman of the areas of specialization such as neurology, cardiology, orthopedics, are Iranian.

They are scattered in different parts of Germany and this dispersion and lack of relation caused that they have not political organizations among them.

Statistics and Shia Muslims

Official sources of Germany, do not announce the exact number of Muslims in this country. The official and governmental news agency (WDR) admits that political sensitivities are extremely effective regarding this matter.

That is because the exact number of Muslims in Germany remained questionable. However it is a truth that the native converted Muslims of Germany and Muslims living in Germany, are considered the third largest religious community of this country. This report says that four thousand Germans converting to Islam every year and up to now thirty thousand German women (mainly looking for Marriage) have formally converted to Islam.

In addition, most of Shias live in the cities of Frankfurt, Munich, Aachen, Hannover and Hamburg and the largest Shia community is located in the city of Hamburg.

According to another census that was occurred, in ١٣٨٦ (April ٢٠٠٧ A.D): About ٣.١ to ٣.٤ million Muslims live in Germany. According to estimation of the Institute of Sociology of Religion in the city of Bochum, these number are over ٣.٩ million people, and most of them are Turks, Iranians, Moroccan and Bosnian, however the actuality suggests other facts that only the Turkish community in Germany is more than three millions and the total population Muslim community (both German and non- German) is certainly more than five or even six million people.

If it was not fact, the German government would have not announced the Muslims the third largest religious community. German Interior Minister has commented in the German Islam Conference that six thousand Muslims have immigrated to Germany during the past sixteen years.

According to published statistics in the Bulletin in the Department of Press and Information of this country that more than ٩٥ percent of Muslims in Germany are foreigners, of which ٧٦ percent are Turks, Iranians are ranked second position and Muslims in Germany are ٤ % of total population of Germany and the third largest group of Germany is the Muslims community.

Condition Muslims particularly Shias

Germany is of one of the European country after France that is consisting of largest Muslim populations. Germany has been remained

indifference and has been adopted intervention approach against the Muslims since long time . On the basis this approach, Muslim minorities were being considered as a temporary phenomenon, which eventually would return to their own country and therefore they can be ignored.

In recent years, in Germany, it has been reported that several extremist groups attacked on the Muslims and their commercial centers and burnt their mosques, as well as Muslims have complained against the violations of their rights. Here, it is very important question that arises is this why does this occur in German society?

As a answer to this question it should be said that the German government does not recognize officially to the Muslim community and therefore, the group of society has not the legal laws.

The German government establishes the discrimination between newly converted German Muslim and the rest of the population of the country so that they stop the immersion towards the religion of Islam.

Muslims with at least Political Rights

As we said that Muslims are considered very small minority in Germany. On the other hand, because the majority of Muslims in Germany are not a citizen of this country, so they have not right of vote and do not participate in the political destiny of the country.

In addition to it, the presence of Muslims in the top jobs of government is trimmed. However, according to some reports, from ۱۳۸۴ to ۱۳۸۸/۲۰۰۵ to ۲۰۰۹ A.D, five Turkish Muslims were the Member of Parliament. In the elections ۱۳۸۸/۲۰۰۹ A.D twenty immigrants fo this

country, could be able to win the parliament seats and nine members of them were the Muslims .

Restrictions of education of the Muslim

According to some reports, at present about seven hundred thousands o Muslims are engaged in the various department of study, but they are not enrolled in higher institute and most of them have give up their studies without.

Approach of the German government was this that religious structures in the schools should be in the hand of Islamic associations under the supervision of the German government. However at practical levels the Muslims faced many difficulties in establishing these structures and government has created a lot of obstacles in their work.

In spite of all that, in recent years some federal states regarding establishment of these structures with Islamist groups has attained agreements.

Discrimination in Employment

About the employment Shiites in Germany we have not exact information in our hand, but it is certain that the unemployment rate amongst the Muslims in the country has been estimated ۳۰ percent. The main reason of this thing is that they have German nationality and that is because they are employed in jobs that don't need any specialization. In this way, the German government practices the discrimination unofficially about them.

It should be said as conclusions of described contents about the causes of such positions and attitude by the German government towards Muslims and Shiites:

The policies regarding the religious rights of the Muslims are affected by different patterns of religion and the government in Germany and in other European countries, including Britain. The principle problem of all these patterns is this that they hold the superiority and primacy of secular law against the religious.

The secular states of Europe reserve this unilateral right in their hand so that they may control of all spheres of life of the Muslims. So perhaps it should be said that the real reason for the problems of Muslims, is the commitment Europeans with secularism.

Relations between Germany and Iran after the Islamic Revolution

Relations of Iran and Germany have a long history. Hummer Purges'tal who is an Austrian citizen, and the great man of knowledge about Islamic who translated the book of poetry of Hafez in German language translation of and Goethe , the famous German poet, became familiar with Hafiz by this translation .

In 1819, with deep inspiration by Hafez and his poetry, He dedicated his book of poetry "Eastern Western "to Hafez and even today, this work is considered major references for understanding between the East and the West.

After the Islamic Revolution in Iran, despite Iran had her largest trade with Germany, the behavior of the German Embassy and the Consulate General of Germany was very cheap and nasty.

Obtaining residence and work permits until ۱۳۷۹/۲۰۰۰ were based purely on blood basis and German politicians used to say that Germany is not a host country for migrants. So, it was not important that how long the emigrants were staying in Germany.

They were guest workers; however it is interesting point that in spite of selling chemical bombs to Iraq by Germany, Iran sent out the injured persons at largest scale Germany! In this way, Germany left behind the other European countries by accepting Iranian injured soldiers during the war and basically there was not emerged any competition.

Today, the Cultural Section of the Embassy of Iran in Germany, has its schools in the cities of Berlin, Frankfurt, and it represents the Hamburg Islamic Center, Islamic Academy in the same city, and the Islamic Cultural Center in Berlin, Aachen, Frankfurt and other cities, as well as other associations and cultural, social and religious organizations, in Germany

On the other hand, Germany has archaeological Institute and its German language Institute in Tehran that is affiliated with its Embassy, and it offers a services of an expert teacher in the department of ‘German as a foreign language ’ and other institution like; Institute of German Academic services exchange (DAAD) and ‘Protestant Society’ under the supervision of a protestant minister and a German school of its embassy in Tehran , all these institution pursue their religious and cultural activities .