

ALEXANDRE BENNIGSEN

S. ENDERS WIMBUSH

# Muslims of the Soviet Empire

A Guide

C. HURST & COMPANY, LONDON

# CONTENTS

Acknowledgments	page v
Foreword by Hans Bräker	vii

## PART ONE

1. Introduction	1
2. The Spread of Islam and Russian Expansion	5
<i>Arab conquest, 600–800</i>	6
<i>Expansion along trade routes, 800–1200</i>	6
<i>The Mongol empire, 1200–1300</i>	7
<i>Russian expansion, 1500–1900</i>	7
<i>Revolutionary period and Soviet takeover, 1905–1928</i>	11
3. The Official Practice of Islam in the Soviet Union	13
<i>Sunni Islam — Ja'afarite Rite of Shi'ism — The Ismailis of</i> <i>Nizarit rite — The Bahais — The Shi'a extremists —</i> <i>The Yezidis — The official administration</i>	14
4. Mosques, <i>Medressehs</i> and Islamic Publications	17
<i>The number of mosques</i>	17
<i>The religious educational institutions</i>	19
<i>Religious publications</i>	19
5. Parallel Islam	21
6. Soviet Muslims and the Future: Prospects and Problems	24
<i>Demographic shifts</i>	24
<i>Labour distribution</i>	26
<i>Military manpower</i>	28
<i>The problem of identity</i>	31
<i>Borderland dilemmas</i>	35

Notes to Part One	40
-------------------	----

## PART TWO

7. The Muslims of Central Asia	45
(i) <i>The Uzbeks</i>	50
(ii) <i>The Kazakhs</i>	63
(iii) <i>The Kirghiz</i>	73
(iv) <i>The Tajiks</i>	85
(v) <i>The Turkmen</i>	93
(vi) <i>The Dungans</i>	106
(vii) <i>The Karakalpaks</i>	108
(viii) <i>The Uighurs</i>	115
(ix) <i>The Baluchi</i>	120
(x) <i>The Pamirian peoples</i>	121
(xi) <i>The Ironis</i>	123
(xii) <i>The Central Asian Tsiganes</i>	124
(xiii) <i>The Central Asian Arabs</i>	125
8. The Muslims of Transcaucasia and the North Caucasus	127
(i) <i>The Azeri Turks</i>	133
(ii) <i>The Muslims of the North Caucasus</i>	146
(iii) <i>The Daghestanis</i>	160
(iv) <i>The Chechen-Ingush</i>	181
(v) <i>The Cherkess tribes</i>	190
(vi) <i>The Abazas</i>	200
(vii) <i>The Karachai-Balkars</i>	201
(viii) <i>The Muslim Ossetians</i>	204
(ix) <i>The Shah Dagh peoples</i>	206
(x) <i>The Georgian Muslims: Adjars, Ingilois, Laz</i>	207
(xi) <i>The Kurds</i>	209
(xii) <i>The Abkhaz</i>	213
(xiii) <i>The Meskhetians</i>	216
(xiv) <i>The Talyshes</i>	219
(xv) <i>The Muslim Tats</i>	220

9. The Muslims of European Russia and Siberia	224
(i) <i>The Tatars</i>	224
(ii) <i>The Crimean Tatars</i>	240
(iii) <i>The Bashkirs</i>	241
Glossary	249
Bibliography	251
Index	278

## MAPS

Distribution of the Muslim peoples of Central Asia and Kazakhstan	I-II ( <i>between pages 44 and 45</i> )
The Muslim peoples of the Caucasus	126
The Muslim peoples of the Middle Volga	224