

In the Lebanese confessional system this situation has endured to this day with religious-political movements, such as the Shi'ī Hizballāh, having their own Scouting organisations. In British India and the Netherlands East Indies (Indonesia), indigenous Scout movements, among them different Muslim organisations, developed from the 1920s onward—many of them not affiliated with the world movement founded by Baden-Powell, but tied to various local communities and political parties. Here, as elsewhere, the modernising post-colonial state tried to unify the Scout movement into a national organisation.

Today, there are more than nine million Muslim Scouts in the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM). Among them are also a number of Muslim Scout troops in Western countries, such as Britain, France, Germany, and the United States.

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Bukhara, art and architecture

The art and architecture of Bukhara are marked by currents that were characteristic of Islamic art in general as well as regional and local elements, reflecting the city's role as a political and cultural centre in Islamic Central Asia. Ancient traditions of Central Asia were integrated with functional and formal developments from the capitals of the Arab caliphate. An intense exchange with Iran, and later with India, took place from the Sāmānid period (204–395/819–1005) and continued to the nineteenth century. With the Russian conquest of Central Asia, Bukhara remained a stronghold of tradition, where art was practised with few systemic changes until the Soviet conquest in 1920. Since then, modernism has held sway, with occasional references to regional traditions, while pre-modern arts and crafts practices continue as elements of folklore for tourists.

1. ARCHITECTURE

With its great number of preserved monuments, the city of Bukhara (a