

Hui People in China

Vocabulary

Repeat each vocabulary word and definition after the teacher.

- **Hui people** A Chinese ethnic group which is composed predominantly of followers of Islam and is found throughout China
- **Predominantly** Mostly of
- **Throughout** Everywhere
- **Han Chinese** The most common Chinese ethnic group, what most people in the world associate with Chinese people
- **With the exception** The act of being different from something
- **Census** An official count of a population
- **Ethnic group** A population group with a similar culture and appearance
- **Distinctive** Something special, unique, that you can see it's very different from others
- **Dietary** Something that relates to what you eat
- **Consumption of** To eat something
- **Hijab** A headscarf worn by traditional Muslim women
- **Variation** A small difference; a different form
- **Non-Sinitic** Not Chinese
- **An'diz** “And is“ (pronounced quickly)
- **Ov'im** “Of them“ (pronounced quickly)

Passage

Read the passage with the teacher, asking questions about content, and then answer the questions on the next page.

The **Hui people** are a Chinese **ethnic group** which is composed **predominantly** of followers of Islam **and is** found **throughout** China, although they are concentrated mostly in the Northwestern provinces of the country. According to a 2011 **census**, China is home to approximately 10.5 million **Hui people**, the majority of whom are Chinese-speaking Muslims, though some may practice other religions. **Hui people** are **ethnically** and linguistically similar to **Han Chinese with the exception** that **most of them** practice Islam, which creates some **distinctive** cultural characteristics. For example, as Muslims, they follow Islamic **dietary** laws and reject the **consumption of** pork, the most common meat **consumed** in China, and this has given rise to their **variation** of Chinese cuisine. Their style of dress differs primarily in that old men wear white caps and old women wear **hijabs**. However, most young **Hui people** are practically the same as mainstream **Han Chinese**. The **Hui predominantly** speak Mandarin Chinese, while maintaining some Persian and Arabic phrases. In fact, the **Hui ethnic group** is unique among Chinese **ethnic** minorities in that it associates with **non-Sinitic** languages.

Courtesy of Wikipedia: <https://en.wikipedia.org/>

Checking Understanding

1. Who are the Hui people?
2. How many Hui people live in China?
3. How are Hui people similar to Han Chinese?
4. What are some distinctive cultural characteristics of Hui people?
5. What language do most Hui people speak?
6. How is the Hui ethnic group unique?
7. How to pronounce “And is” quickly?
8. How to pronounce “Of them” quickly?

Conversation Questions

Take turns asking the questions with your teacher, and if there's any time left over you can free chat

- Have you ever heard of Hui Chinese before?
- Have you been to China before? Would you like to go there someday?
- What are some things you know about Muslim culture?
- Have you ever been to a Muslim country before?
- Do you know any Persian or Arabic phrases?
- Before this lesson did you ever think about Muslims in China before?
- Do you have any dietary laws for yourself? Things you can't eat or won't eat?
- Are there traditional things that old people in your country wear that young people don't?
- What are some differences between young people and old people in your country?
- Does your country have any ethnic groups that are quite different from the rest of the country?
- Do you know what's the population of China? Which country has the second largest population?
- What language is most popular in your country? What are some other languages spoken?
- How are people who live in your area different from others who live far away in the same country?
- What are some distinctive cultural characteristics of your ethnic group?