



## **Headlines:**

- By 2040, Islam could be the Second-Largest Religion in the US
- Trump Ambassador to the Netherlands who claimed Islam caused 'Chaos' in Europe Refuses to Address the Controversy
- Army Chief says Pakistan Felt Betrayed by US Criticism, Aid Cuts

#### **Details:**

### By 2040, Islam could be the Second-Largest Religion in the US

The Muslim population is growing, and in the next two decades Muslims could become the second-largest religious group in the United States, according to a Pew Research study. However, that's not the whole story. The Pew Research Center combined studies they conducted in 2007, 2011 and 2017 with yearly data from the US Census (which does not track religious affiliation) to put together a portrait of the future of Muslims in America. According to their data, the Muslim population is growing at an accelerated rate, and will more than double from an estimated 3.45 million in 2017 to an estimated 8.1 million in 2050. In the meantime, Muslims are expected to surpass Jews as the second-largest religious group. According to the Pew Research Center, the number of Muslims in the United States is expected to more than double between 2017 and 2050. Why? One easy answer is immigration -- Pew's research showed a record number of Muslims immigrated to the US in 2016. In fact, according to Pew, three-quarters of Muslims currently in the US are immigrants or children of immigrants. There is another factor as well. On average, according to Pew, the Muslim population is younger than other religious groups, which means they have a higher fertility rate. However, even as the Muslim population in America is set to double in the next few decades, they will still account for a tiny fraction of the overall US population, and shifts in other groups will also have a big impact on the country's makeup. For instance, in 2020, the projected Christian population will be 252,970,000 -- almost 70 times the projected Muslim population. In 2050, the projected Christian population will be 261,960,000 -- a massive growth in numbers, but because of the growth of other religious groups, a declining percentage of the population. Even then, even as the second largest religious group, Muslims will still only account for 2.1% of the population. [Source: CNN]

# Trump Ambassador to the Netherlands who Claimed Islam caused 'Chaos' in Europe Refuses to Address the Controversy

The United States ambassador to the Netherlands on Wednesday refused to answer Dutch reporters' questions about controversial comments he made in 2015, including an assertion that the "Islamic movement... [had] put Europe into chaos." Pete Hoekstra, whom President Donald Trump nominated last summer, made headlines in December when a Dutch reporter asked him about comments he made at a 2015 conference. Hoekstra denied making them—despite a video of the conference that showed otherwise. "The Islamic movement has now gotten to a point where they have put Europe into chaos. Chaos in the Netherlands, there are cars being burned, there are politicians that are being burned. And yes, there are no-go zones in the Netherlands," Hoekstra says in the clip. At a Wednesday press conference marking Hoekstra's first official day as ambassador, reporters "repeatedly" asked Hoekstra to address those comments, as well as the December incident, the Associated Press reported. "This is the Netherlands, you have to answer questions," one reporter maintained, according to the outlet. The ambassador, however, declined to do so, the AP reported. [Source: Newsweek].

Just like the liar Trump, his administration is also full of liars who routinely accuse Islam and Muslims of falsehood. The only positive aspect about the Trump's administration is its open declaration on racism, bigotry, Islamophobia and discrimination against people of all colour both at home and round the world.

## Pakistan's Army Chief says Pakistan Felt Betrayed by US Criticism, Aid Cuts

Pakistan's army chief has told a top US general that his nation feels "betraved" by US criticism that it is not doing enough to fight terrorism, which has prompted Washington to suspend military aid for Islamabad. The Pakistani military in a statement on January 12 said that General Qamar Javed Bajwa told US Central Command chief General Joseph Votel in a phone conversaton this week that the "entire Pakistani nation felt betrayed over US recent statements despite decades of cooperation." Bajwa told Votel that Pakistan will not seek to restore US military aid, but it does "expect honorable recognition of our contributions, sacrifices and unwavering resolve in the fight against terrorism," the statement said. US President Donald Trump on January 1 accused Pakistan of "lies and deceit" and said the United States would suspend around \$2 billion a year in military aid until Islamabad moves decisively against Afghan Taliban and Haqqani Network militants who he said have found safe haven within Pakistan's borders. During their conversation, Votel sought to reassure Bajwa, Pakistan's army statement said, saying the United States is not contemplating any "unilateral action inside Pakistan" to go after the militants. "The general said that US values Pakistan's role [in the] war on terror and expects that on-going turbulence [will be] a temporary phase," the statement said. [Source: Radio Liberty]

Pakistani army chiefs are supposed to identify the enemy and deal with the enemy in an appropriate fashion. However, from Musharraf to Bajwa the Chief of Army Staff have committed blunder after blunder in trying to appease America knowing full well that this would lead to the destruction of the country. If Bajwa possesses any sincerity, he should immediately stop all forms of cooperation with the US starting with the closure of the embassy and the expulsion of all American personnel from Pakistan.