

List of Converts to Islam from Christianity

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A

- [Kareem Abdul-Jabbar](#) (Lew Alcindor) - retired basketball player & the NBA's all-time leading scorer.^[1] He initially converted from [Christianity](#) to [The Nation of Islam](#) to mainstream [Sunni Islam](#).
- [Mahmoud Abdul-Rauf](#) (Chris Jackson) - retired basketball player^[2]
- [Tariq Abdul-Wahad](#) (Olivier Saint-Jean) - originally from France, former basketball player for the Mavericks and Kings^[3]
- [Thomas J. Abercrombie](#) - photographer^[4]
- [Éric Abidal](#) (changed his name to Bilal) - French football player, currently playing for [FC Barcelona](#), converted to Islam after marriage.^[5]
- [Ivan Aguéli](#) (Johan Agelii) - Swedish painter.^{[6][7]}
- [Akhenaton](#) - French rapper and producer of [French hip hop](#).^[8]
- [Muhammed al-Ahari](#) born January 6, 1965 as Ray Allen Rudder is an American essayist, scholar and writer on the topics of American Islam, Black Nationalist groups, heterodox Islamic groups and modern occultism.
- [Abdul-Karim al-Jabbar](#) (Sharmon Shah) - former [NFL](#) player^[9]
- [Sana al-Sayegh](#), dean of the Science and Technology Faculty at Palestine International University, converted to Islam in August 2007. [Fatah](#) has accused its political rival [Hamas](#) of forcing the professor to convert from Christianity, a charge Hamas denies.^[10]
- [Muhammad Ali](#) (born Cassius Marcellus Clay, Jr.; January 17, 1942), from [Baptist](#)^{[11][12]} to [The Nation of Islam](#) to [Sunni](#) Islam.^[13] Famous American professional boxer (3 time world heavyweight champion), philanthropist and social activist.
- [Rowland Allanson-Winn, 5th Baron Headley](#) - British soldier and peer.^[14]
- [Ryan G. Anderson](#) - former Lutheran, convicted of charges of espionage for [Al Qaeda](#)^{[15][16]}
- [Farqad as-Sabakhi](#) - an [Armenian Islamic](#) preacher who was formerly a Christian^[17] known for his knowledge of [Judeo-Christian](#) scriptures.^[18]

B

- [Kristiane Backer](#) - a [German](#) television presenter, television journalist and author residing in [London](#).^[19]
- [Yasin Abu Bakr](#) (Lennox Philip) - of [Trinidad and Tobago](#),
- [Muhammad Abd-al-Rahman Barker](#) (Philip Barker) - professor of Urdu, former chair of the [University of Minnesota](#)'s Department of South Asian studies and creator of the [Tékumel](#) fantasy world.^[20]
- [Kevin Barrett](#) - university lecturer and member of [Scholars for 9/11 Truth](#).^[21]
- [Abdullah Beg of Kartli](#) - [Georgian](#) convert to Islam^[22] who was a claimant to the kingship of [Kartli](#).
- [David Belfield](#) - American, fled to [Iran](#) after [assassinating Ali Akbar Tabatabai](#), an Iranian dissident.^[23]
- [Ronald Bell](#) or Khalis Bayyan (born 1 November 1951, Youngstown, Ohio) is an American singer, composer and saxophonist
- [Józef Bem](#) - Polish and Hungarian general

- [Mohammed Knut Bernström](#) - Swedish ambassador to Venezuela (1963–1969), Spain (1973–1976) and Morocco (1976–1983)^[24]
- [Ibrahim Bey](#) - an [Egyptian Mamluk](#) of [Georgian](#) Christian origins.
- [Art Blakey](#) - [American Jazz](#) musician^[25]
- [Wojciech Bobowski](#) - raised [Protestant](#), he was a [Polish musician](#) and translator of the [Bible](#) into [Ottoman Turkish](#).^[26]
- [Omar Bongo](#) - Gabonese, President of [Gabon](#).^[27]
- [Claude Alexandre de Bonneval](#) or Humbaracı Ahmet Paşa was an 18th-century French nobleman.^[28]
- [Tawana Brawley](#) (changed her name to Maryam Muhammad) - African American woman noted for claiming to have been raped by several white men, a claim determined to be a fabrication by a grand jury. Later in life she converted to Islam.^{[29][30][31]}
- [Willie Brigitte](#) - [French](#) convert to [Islam](#) who associated with [al-Qaeda](#) in [Pakistan](#) and was possibly involved in a plot to conduct a terrorist operation in [Australia](#).^[32]
- [Dolores "LaLa" Brooks](#) - American musician.^[33]

C

- [Torquato Cardilli](#) - Italian ambassador, converted from [Catholicism](#).^[34]
- [André Carson](#) - former [Baptist](#),^[35] second [Muslim](#) to serve the [United States Congress](#).^[36]
- [Count Cassius](#) - Visigothic aristocrat who founded the [Banu Qasi](#) dynasty of [Muladi](#) rulers.^[37]
- [Cat Stevens](#), now known as [Yusuf Islam](#) (born Steven Demetre Georgiou; 21 July 1948), British singer-songwriter, multi-instrumentalist, humanitarian, education philanthropist, and prominent convert to Islam.^[38]
- [Dave Chappelle](#) - comedian and television star^[39]
- [Benjamin Chavis](#) - controversial former head of the [NAACP](#); joined the Nation of Islam.
- [Chrisye](#) - Indonesian singer. He changed his birth name to Chrismansyah Rahadi from Christian Rahadi
- [Hedley Churchward](#) - English painter^[40]
- [Aukai Collins](#) - fought in [Chechnya](#), paid [FBI informant](#), author of an [autobiographical](#) book^[41]
- [Jerôme Courtailler](#) - one of two French brothers convicted by French authorities in 2004 for abetting terrorists^{[42][43][44]}
- [Robert D. Crane](#) is the former adviser to President [Richard Nixon](#), and is former Deputy Director (for Planning) of the U.S. National Security Council.^[45]

D

[Ian Dallas](#) - Abdalqadir as-Sufi — Sufi [shaykh](#) of [Scottish](#) origins.^[46]

E

[Isabelle Eberhardt](#) - from [Lutheran](#) Christianity, 19th-century explorer and writer^[47]

- [Abdullah el-Faisal](#) - a Muslim cleric who preached in the United Kingdom until he was convicted of stirring up racial hatred and urging his followers to murder Jews, Hindus, Christians, and Americans.^{[48][49]}
- [Wadiah el-Hage](#) born to a Maronite Christian family in Sidon, Lebanon, a former al-Qaeda member.^[citation needed]
- [Nathan Ellington](#) - English football player^[50]
- [C. Jack Ellis](#) - Mayor of [Macon](#), Georgia^[51]

- [Keith Ellison](#) - [American](#), Representative from [Minnesota's 5th congressional district](#), first [Muslim](#) to be elected to the [United States Congress](#), converted from [Catholicism](#)^[52]
- [Yahiya Emerick](#) - American Muslim scholar, President of the Islamic Foundation of North America, converted from [Protestantism](#).^[53]
- [Erekle I of Kakheti](#) - [Georgian](#) convert to Islam^[54] who ruled the kingdoms of [Kakheti](#) and [Kartli](#).
- [Yusuf Estes](#) - Former preacher and federal prison chaplain, converted from [Protestantism](#).^[55]
- [Chris Eubank](#) - [British](#) boxer^[56]
- [Emeka Ezeugo](#): is a former Nigerian football defender and midfielder played in 1994 World Cup. (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Emeka_Ezeugo)
Reference:(http://newagebd.com/newspaper1/archive_details.php?date=2012-02-13&nid=50241)

F

- [Shah Shahidullah Faridi](#) - Writer of [German](#) descent born to a [Christian](#) family.^[57]
- [Danilo Fernando](#) - Brazilian Footballer. He changed his name become Muhammad Danilo Fernando
- [Firouz](#) - an [Armenian Christian](#) convert to [Islam](#)^[58] who served as a spy for [Bohemund](#) during the [Siege of Antioch](#).^[59]
- [Radu cel Frumos](#) - was the younger brother of [Vlad Tepes](#) (Dracula) and prince of the principality of Wallachia, who converted from [Catholicism](#).^[60]

G

- [Adam Gadahn](#) (born Adam Pearlman) - [al-Qaeda](#) English language spokesman. Home-schooled Christian.^[61]

H

- [Sir Archibald Hamilton, 5th Baronet](#) - a distinguished British convert to [Islam](#).^{[42][62][63]}
- [Omar Hammami](#) - American-born member of the Somali Islamist paramilitary group [al-Shabaab](#). Known by the nom de guerre Abu Mansoor Al-Amriki.^[64]
- [Ryan Harris](#)- football player for the Denver Broncos^[65]
- [Joel Hayward](#), British scholar, author and poet.^[66]
- [Murad Wilfred Hofmann](#) - [NATO](#) official, converted from [Catholicism](#)^[67]
- [Knud Holmboe](#) - Danish journalist and explorer who converted from [Catholicism](#).^[68]
- [Bernard Hopkins](#) - [American](#) boxer^[69]

I

- [Silma Ihram](#) - formerly a born again [Baptist](#) who is an [Australian](#) pioneer of Muslim education in [the West](#), founder and former school [Principal](#) of the 'Noor Al Houda Islamic College', campaigner for racial [tolerance](#), and [Author](#).^[70]
- [Ahmed el Inglizi](#) - was an English architect and engineer who worked for the Sultan of Morocco [Mohammed ben Abdallah](#) in the 18th century and converted to Islam.^[71]
- [Iyasu V](#) - Ethiopian emperor.^[72]

J

- [Gauhar Jaan](#) - British-Indian Singer.^[73]
- [Ibn Jazla](#) - an 11th-century [physician](#) and [Christian](#) convert to [Islam](#) who later wrote to refute doctrines of Christianity.^[74]
- [Jermaine Jackson](#) (Muhammad Abdul Aziz) - [Michael Jackson](#)'s elder brother & one of the original former members of [The Jackson 5](#).^[75]
- [Sarah Joseph](#) - commentator on women's issues and founder of [emel magazine](#), converted from [Catholicism](#).^[76]

K

- [Nuh Ha Mim Keller](#) - Islamic scholar who converted from Catholicism to [agnosticism](#) to Sunni Islam.^[77]
- [Allahverdi Khan](#) - general and statesman of [Georgian](#) origin who was [Christian](#) and converted to [Islam](#).^[78]
- [Mirza Malkam Khan](#) - an [Iranian Armenian](#) proponent of [Freemasonry](#) who was active during the period leading up to the [Iranian Constitutional Revolution](#).^[79]
- [Michael Muhammad Knight](#) - American novelist, writer, and journalist.^[80]

L

- [Colleen LaRose](#) - American citizen charged with terrorism-related crimes
- [Leo of Tripoli](#) - a [Byzantine Greek renegade](#) who freed 4000 Muslim prisoners while attacking the Byzantine city of [Thessalonica](#).^[81]
- [Samantha Lewthwaite](#) also known as Sherafiyah Lewthwaite or the White Widow, is one of the United Kingdom's most wanted terrorism suspects.^[82]
- [Tage Lindbom](#) (1909-2001), Swedish historian, PhD in Political science. He was a disciple of the Swiss metaphysician [Frithjof Schuon](#).
- [Germaine Lindsay](#) - one of the suicide terrorists in the [7 July 2005 London bombings](#)^{[42][83][84]} in which 52 people were murdered.
- [John Walker Lindh](#) - an American insurgent, known as the "American Taliban", who converted from [Catholicism](#)^{[85][86]}
- [Alexander Litvinenko](#) - former FSB officer converted to Islam on his deathbed.^{[87][88]}
- [Loon](#) - American hip hop and rap artist^[89]
- [Badr al-Din Lu'lu'](#), an [Armenian](#) convert to Islam^[90] and successor to the [Zangid](#) rulers of [Mosul](#).
- [Vincenzo Luvineri](#) - [American](#) rapper and the lyricist behind the [Philadelphia](#) underground hip-hop group [Jedi Mind Tricks](#), converted from [Catholicism](#).^[91]

M

- [Daniel Maldonado](#) - American Islamist convicted in the United States on charges of training with al-Qaida in East Africa. Raised Catholic.^[92]
- [Ruqaiyyah Waris Maqsood](#) - British author, converted from [Protestantism](#).^[93]
- [Ingrid Mattson](#) - [Canadian](#) scholar and current president of the [Islamic Society of North America](#) (2006) who converted from [Catholicism](#).^[94]
- [Jacques-Francois Menou](#) - French general under [Napoleon I of France](#).^[95]
- [Bruno Metsu](#) - French coach of the Senegal team at the 2002 FIFA World Cup^[96]
- [Köse Mihal](#) - a [Byzantine](#) renegade, he accompanied [Osman al-Ghazi](#) in his ascent to power and converted to Islam.^{[97][98]}

- [Mleh, Prince of Armenia](#) - an [Armenian](#) convert to [Islam](#) from Catholicism,^[99] he was the eighth [lord of Armenian Cilicia](#).
- [Preacher Moss](#) - American comedian who converted from [Baptist Christianity](#)^[100] American comedian and comedy writer.^[101]
- [Matthew Saad Muhammad](#) (formerly Matthew Franklin) - former boxer, converted from [Catholicism](#).^[102]
- [Peter Murphy](#) - vocalist of the goth/rock group [Bauhaus](#) who converted from [Catholicism](#).^[103]
- [Sheila Musaji](#) - founder of [The American Muslim](#) magazine.^[104]
- [Ibrahim Muteferrika](#) (original name not known) - From [Unitarian Christianity](#), an early example of a Muslim publisher and printer.^[105]

N

- [John Nelson](#) - [Englishman](#) sailor who converted to Islam in Morocco before 1583.^[106]
- [Adam Neuser](#) - a [German Lutheran](#) pastor who criticized [the doctrine of the trinity](#) and was consequently imprisoned.^[107]
- [Tech N9ne](#) - an [American](#) rapper born to a Christian mother who converted to Islam during adulthood.^[108]

P

- [Robin Padilla](#) - Filipino actor.^[109]
- [Wayne Parnell](#) - South African [cricketer](#) converted to Islam in January 2011.^[110]
- [Hersekzade Ahmed Pasha](#) - born to a Christian [Croatian](#)^[111]
- [Koca Yusuf Pasha](#) - a [Georgian Grand Vizier](#) of the [Ottoman Empire](#) who also served as the governor of [Peloponnese](#).^[112]
- [Morali Enişte Hasan Pasha](#) - [Greek](#) Ottoman [Grand Vizier](#).^[113]
- [Judar Pasha](#) - conqueror of the [Songhai Empire](#).^[114]
- [Omar Pasha](#) - Ottoman general who converted from Serbian Orthodoxy.^[115]
- [Raghib Pasha](#) - was a [Greek Ottoman](#) politician who served as [Prime Minister of Egypt](#)^[116] and who converted to Islam from Christianity.^[117]
- [Suleiman Pasha](#) - [French](#)-born [Egyptian](#) commander.^[118]
- [Zağanos Pasha](#) - one of the prominent [military commanders](#) of [Mehmet II](#) (Mehmet the Conqueror) and a *lala*, at once an advisor, [mentor](#), [tutor](#), [councillor](#), [protector](#), for the [sultan](#).^[119]
- [St. John Philby](#) - [Arabist](#), [explorer](#), [writer](#), and British colonial office [intelligence operative](#); converted from Anglicanism.^[120]
- [Bilal Philips](#) - Islamic scholar and author^[121]
- [Marmaduke Pickthall](#) - famous translator of the [Quran](#).^[122]
- [Poncke Princen](#) - [Dutch](#) soldier and human rights activist who converted from [Catholicism](#).^[123]

Q

- [William Abdullah Quilliam](#) - 19th-century British poet, ambassador and journalist.^[124]

R

- [Ilie II Rareș](#) - prince of Moldavia.^[125]
- [Ahmad Rashād](#) - [Emmy](#) award-winning sportscaster (mostly with [NBC Sports](#)) and former [American football wide receiver](#).^{[126][127]}
- [Richard Colvin Reid](#) - shoe bomber (convicted terrorist)^[128]

- [Franck Ribéry](#) - a French football player. His name after he converted to Islam is Bilal.^[129]
- [Yvonne Ridley](#) - British journalist, from Anglicanism. She converted after being kidnapped and released by the Taliban.^{[130][131]}
- [Robert of St. Albans](#) - an [English templar knight](#) who converted to [Islam](#) from [Christianity](#) in 1185 and led an army for [Saladin](#) against the [Crusaders](#) in [Jerusalem](#).^[132]

S

- [Salman the Persian](#) A convert from Christianity^[133] who was previously Zoroastrian.
- [Ahmed Santos](#) - [Filipino](#), fugitive, founder of the [Rajah Solaiman Movement](#) converted from [Catholicism](#)^{[134][135][136]}
- [Ratna Sarumpaet](#), Indonesian stagewright, director, and actress^[137]
- [Brad Terrence Jordan \("Scarface"\)](#) - American [rapper](#)^[citation needed]
- [Mario Scialoja](#) - Italian ambassador and President of the World Muslim League.^[138]
- [Betty Shabazz](#) - wife of [Malcolm X](#); former Methodist.^[139]
- [Zaid Shakir](#) - [American Muslim](#) convert former [Baptist](#) to Sunni Islam, speaker, intellectual, author, Islamic scholar, and co-founder of [Zaytuna College](#) in the [United States](#).^{[140][141]}
- [Omar Sharif](#) - [Egyptian actor](#) who converted from [Catholicism](#).^{[142][143]}
- [Ahmad Faris Shidyaq](#) - a [Lebanese](#) scholar, writer and journalist who was a [Maronite](#) convert to Islam.^[144]
- [Anthony Small](#) - professional boxer^[145]
- [Sean Stone](#) - Son of Oliver Stone and documentary producer.^[146]
- [Daniel Streich](#) - A Swiss military instructor, community council member and a former member of Swiss People's Party who led the campaign for the national ban on the construction of new minarets.^[147]

T

- [Abu Tammam](#) - 9th-century Arab poet born to Christian parents.^[148]
- [Tekuder](#) - [Mongol](#) leader of the [Ilkhan empire](#) who was formerly a [Nestorian Christian](#).^[149]
- [Joe Tex](#) - soul singer and recording artist.^[150]
- [Ahmad Thomson](#) - [British barrister](#) and writer and also a member of the [Murabitun](#) movement.^[151]
- [Danny Thompson](#) - [English double bass](#) player converted from [Catholicism](#).^[152]
- [Joseph Thomas](#) - Australian convert, acquitted of terrorism charges, placed under a control order under the [Australian Anti-Terrorism Act 2005](#), currently pending retrial.^{[153][154]}
- [Richard Thompson](#) - [British musician](#), best known for his [guitar](#) playing and songwriting.^[155]
- [Gabriele Torsello](#) - [Italian freelance](#) photojournalist based in [London](#) who was abducted in [Helmand Province](#), [Afghanistan](#).^[156]
- [Mihnea Turcitul](#) - was a [Prince \(Voivode\)](#) of [Walachia](#). Converted from Eastern Orthodox Christianity.^[157]
- [Anselm Turmeda](#) - a [Majorcan](#) writer and a [Franciscan friar](#) who converted to [Islam](#)^[158]
- [Mike Tyson](#) - American boxer and Sunni Muslim^[159]

U

- [Ismael Urbain](#) - [French](#) journalist and [interpreter](#).
- [Abu Usamah](#) - American-born Imam of [Green Lane Masjid](#) in [Birmingham](#), [UK](#). Accused of preaching messages of hate towards non-Muslims in a UK Television documentary.^[160]

V

- [Bryant Neal Vinas](#) - participated in and supported [al-Qaeda](#) plots in Afghanistan and the U.S., and helped al-Qaeda plan a bomb attack on the [LIRR](#)^[161]
- [Rudolf Carl von Slatin](#) - Anglo-[Austrian](#) soldier and administrator in the [Sudan](#). Later reverted to Catholicism.^[162]
- [Arnoud Van Doorn](#) - A leading member in the far-right Dutch politician Geert Wilder's party.^[163]

W

- [Siraj Wahaj](#) - Former Baptist.^[164] African-American Imam, noted for his efforts to eliminate [Brooklyn](#)'s drug problems.^[165]
- [Alexander Russell Webb](#) - Former [Presbyterian](#).^[166] American journalist, newspaper owner, and former Consul-General of the U.S.A. in the Philippines.^{[167][168]}
- [Suhaib Webb](#) - American Islamic activist and speaker.^[169]
- [Dawud Wharnsby-Ali](#) (David Wharnsby) - Canadian singer/poet.^{[170][171]}
- [John Whitehead](#) - an [American singer](#), [songwriter](#), and [record producer](#).^[172]
- [Danny Williams](#) - British boxer^[173]
- [Sonny Bill Williams](#) - New Zealand Rugby Union Rep player(All Blacks)& NZ Rep League Player(Kiwis),^[174]
- [Timothy Winter](#) - prominent British Islamic thinker and scholar, and a [lecturer](#) in [Islamic studies](#) in the Faculty of Divinity at the [University of Cambridge](#).^[175]

X

- [Malcolm X](#) - was a leading African-American Muslim minister, public speaker, and human rights activist. He converted from [Christianity](#) to [The Nation of Islam](#) and later to mainstream [Sunni Islam](#).
- [Abel Xavier](#) - former Portuguese professional footballer converted to Islam with his new name Faisal.^[176]

Y

- [Khalid Yasin](#) - Executive Director of the Islamic Teaching Institute, and a [Shaykh](#) currently residing in Australia.^[177]
- [James Yee](#) - previously [Lutheran](#)^[178] and former U.S. Army Muslim chaplain.^[179]
- [Mohammad Yousuf](#) - [Pakistani](#) cricketer. Known for holding the world record for the most Test runs in a single calendar year, converted from [Catholicism](#).^[180]
- [Hamza Yusuf](#) - American convert from [Greek Orthodox](#) to Sunni Islam; co-founder of the [Zaytuna College](#).^[181]

Z

- [Mohammed Zakariya](#) - an American master of [Arabic calligraphy](#), best known for his work on the popular [Eid](#) U.S. [postage stamp](#).^[182]