AFGHANISTAN

The majority of Afghanistan’s ethnic groups (87%), including the Hazara (9%), Brahui (1.25%), Pashtun (42%), Baloch (2%) and Tajik (27%), have all lived here since before the 16th century (CF, LC, EB). The ancestors of the Turkmen (3%) came mostly at the end of the 19th century from east of the Caspian Sea (LC), from what we take to be today’s Turkmenistan. The Qizilbash (1%) are said to be descendants of Iranian administrators who came during the 18th century (LC). Uzbeks (9%), whom we assume to have ancestors in today’s Uzbekistan, also live in Afghanistan (CF, EB).

Estimate:

Afghanistan: 87%
Iran: 1%
Turkmenistan: 3%
Uzbekistan: 9%

ARMENIA

Armenia is ethnically very homogenous, with ethnic Armenians, present before 1500, making up 97.5% of the population (CF, WCD). Yezidi Kurds (1.5%) are said to have come from Turkey during the 19th and 20th centuries (CF, WCD, CQ, EKI). Ethnic Azeris (0.5%) came mostly during the Soviet period and are attributed to Azerbaijan (EB, CQ, NE, WCD). Russians (0.5%) are another significant ethnic population whose ancestors are assumed to have lived in Russia (CF, CQ, WCD).

Estimate:

Armenia: 97.5%
Azerbaijan: 0.5%
Russia: 0.5%
Turkey: 1.5%

AZERBAIJAN

Ethnic Azerbaijani (93%) make up the majority of the population and their ancestors are assumed to have been present before 1500 (CF, EB, NE, WCD, CQ). The ancestors of the Talysh (1%) are assumed to have lived in Iran (LC, WCD). The ancestors of the Dagestani population (2.2%) are assumed to have lived in the Dagestan region of Russia (CF, LC, CQ, NE). There is also an ethnic Russian (1.8%) population whose ancestors are assumed to have lived in Russia (CQ, CF, NE, WCD). Other ethnic minority populations have come from Armenia (1.5%) and Turkey (0.5%) (CF, NE, WCD).

Estimate:

Armenia 1.5%
Azerbaijan 93%
Iran: 1% (as ancestors of Talysh)
Russia 4% (2.2% as ancestors of Dagestani)
Turkey: 0.5%
BAHRAIN

The majority of long-term (as opposed to temporary) inhabitants are indigenous Bahrainis (87%) of Northern Arab stock (NE). Iranian domination began around 1600, so the ancestors of the country’s Persian minority (8%) are attributed to Iran (CQ). Since the 1970’s, temporary workers from Asian, Arab and European countries have come into the country (NE). The country does not encourage long-term residency (LC), but workers from Arab countries appear more likely to stay for long periods. Thus, we don’t count temporary workers in Bahrain’s population with the exception of those from Arab countries, half of whom we assume to be long-term residents, for lack of better information. Non-native Arabs are said to make up 10% of the population; as noted above, we count only half of this (NE, CQ). Since sources differ as to where the majority of these Arabs come from (one source claims the Egyptians dominate (LC), and another the Omanis (NE)), they were split according to the following proportion: 2% Egypt, 2% Oman, 0.5% Saudi Arabia, 0.5% Palestine. The largest European presence is from the UK (1.3%) (EB). They are also assumed to be temporary residents and thus are not included in our population estimates.

Estimate:

Bahrain: 87%
Egypt: 2%
Iran: 8%
Oman: 2%
Palestine/Israel: 0.5%
Saudi Arabia: 0.5%

BANGLADESH

Bangladesh is mostly ethnically homogenous, with an ethnic Bengali population making up 98% of the population (LC, CF, CQ, EN). However, this also included a significant number of people who fled from India following the 1947 partition of British India. About 864,000 Muslim refugees including Biharis Muslims fled from India to this region which was formerly known as East Pakistan after 1947, and this group accounts for about 2% of the total population in East Pakistan around 1950 (LC, EB, NE). We assumed that the same proportion holds for their current descenidents in Bangladesh. Thousands of Bengalis also moved into Bangladesh from Pakistan after the founding of Bangladesh, but the percentage is negligible (EB).

Estimate

Bangladesh: 98%
India: 2%
BHUTAN

The Bhutia (33.7%), or Ngalops, are descended from Tibetans who began arriving in the 9th century (EB). The Sharchops (21.9%) are believed to be the earliest inhabitants of Bhutan, migrating possibly from Assam or Burma (LC). The Assamese (5.7%) are assumed to be indigenous. The Dropka (12.3%), Lechya (1.7%), and Doya are all aboriginal peoples who originated from Indian states (LC), presumably before 1500. The population from Nepal includes Nepali (Paharia) (9.4%), as well as the Rai (2.7%), Gurung (2.3%), and Limbu (1.7%) ethnic groups (CQ); they arrived in the late 19th and early 20th century (LC).

Estimate:

Bhutan: 83.9%
Nepal: 16.1%

CAMBODIA

The original inhabitants of the region, the Khmer, account for 90% of the population (CF, EB, CQ, NE). Vietnamese (5%) immigrants started to arrive in the 17th century. Some ethnic Chinese have lived in the country since the 10th century, but most of the country’s Chinese population (1%) has ancestors who arrived in the 18th and 19th centuries (CF, EB, CQ, NE). Some small tribal groups (4%) are assumed to be indigenous to Cambodia (CF, CQ, NE).

Estimate:

Cambodia: 94%
China: 1%
Vietnam: 5%

CHINA

Ethnic Han accounts for 92% of China’s total population, and there are also 55 other smaller ethnic groups (CIA, CQ). Nearly all the groups lived in this region for hundreds or thousands of years.

Estimate

China: 100%
CYPRUS

The majority of Cyprus inhabitants are Greek Cypriots (77%), whose ancestors arrived before the 16th century (CF, LC, CQ, EN, EB). The ancestors of the Maronite minority (1.1%) also migrated into Cyprus before then (LC, WCD). The ancestors of the Turkish Cypriots (18%) came during the 16th century and have been joined by more recent immigrants from Turkey (CF, EB, CQ, EN). Members of the Armenian minority (1.5%) came at the end of WWI (LC, WCD). Lebanese Arabs (2.5%) arrived during the Byzantine period, and were already a significant ethnic group in the late 16th century (LC, WCD). The ancestors of Cypriots of British origin (1.4%) started to arrive in the 19th century (CQ, WCD). The current British population also includes some military personnel (0.4%) with short-term residence status so that they are not included in our estimation.

Estimate

Armenia: 1.5%
Cyprus: 79.5% (2.5% as ancestors of Maronite)
Turkey: 18%
UK: 1%

EAST TIMOR

Many East Timorese (96%) descend from the indigenous Tetum (CQ). There are small populations of Indonesians (4%)—including about 1.5% Javanese—as well as some Chinese (0.5%).

Estimate:

China: 0.5%
East Timor: 95.5%
Indonesia: 4%
GEORGIA

Ethnic Georgians (76.7%) have likely been long established in the area (EB, CF, CQ, EN, WCD). Abkhazians (1.8%) are also considered to be native to the area (SAK, NE, WCD). The ancestors of the Azeri Turk population (6%) came during the 14th century (SAK, CF, NE, CQ, WCD). Ossetians (3%) arrived in what is now Georgia in the 13th century (LC, NE, WCD). The ancestors of the country’s Armenians (7%) resettled from Turkey during the Russo-Turkish War in the 19th century (SAK, CF, WCD, EN, CQ). Most of the country’s Russian minority (2%) came to Georgia during the Soviet period (CF, SAK, CQ, EN, WCD). The ancestors of the ethnic Greek minority (1.9%) migrated to Georgia from Turkey in the 19th century (FM, SAK, WCD). The ancestors of the Kurds (0.6%) fled from the Ottoman Empire, and are assumed to have originated from Turkey as well (FM, SAK, WCD). A small population of Ukrainians (1%), assumed to have come after 1500, also exists (WCD).

Estimate:

Georgia 87.5% (1.8% as ancestors of Abkhazian, 6% as ancestors of Azeri, 3% as ancestors of Ossetian)
Russia 2%
Turkey: 9.5% (1.9% as ancestors of Greeks, 0.6% as ancestors of Kurds, 7% as ancestors of Anatolia Armenians)
Ukraine: 1%

HONG KONG

According to a 2001 census, about 97.1% of the population is ethnically Chinese including both descendents of immigrants from mainland China, and of people who are indigenous in this region. There were about 5000 residents in Hong Kong in the early 1840s when the British first arrived.* If the descendents of these original reproduced at the same rate of increase as is estimated for mainland China’s population, they would account for under one quarter of one percent of Hong Kong’s population today. Therefore, we approximate that all the 97.1% ethnic Chinese originated in mainland China before 1500. There are also Filipino (2.1%), and 0.8% Indonesian (0.8%) minorities living in Hong Kong. Other ethnic groups such as British, Indian, Thai, Japanese, Nepalese, and Pakistani have populations of less than 0.5% and are thus excluded in our estimate.

Estimate:

China: 97.1%
Indonesia: 0.8%
Philippines: 2.1%

* Judy Kestell and Harold Meinheit, “Hong Kong: From Fishing Village to Financial Center,” Library of Congress Information Bulletin http://www.loc.gov/loc/leib/9708/hongkong.html. (Ms. Kestell is an area specialist in the Asian Division, and Mr. Meinheit is a consultant on the Hong Kong exhibit, United States Library of Congress.)
INDIA

The vast majority of India’s population is composed of ethnic groups that have evolved over many hundreds if not thousands of years in the country (LC, EB). Following the 1947 partition up until 1958, around 4.74 million immigrants from West Pakistan and around 4.117 million immigrants from East Pakistan (Bangladesh) moved into India *. We assumed that the descendents of Bangladeshi and Pakistani immigrants account for the same proportions of India’s current population as their ancestors in 1958, which were a little less than 1% for Bangladeshi immigrants, and 1.1% for Pakistani immigrants. In 1971, 8-10 million refugees from East Pakistan fled to India, but most of these refugees returned.

Estimate:

Bangladesh 1%
India: 97.9%
Pakistan: 1.1%


INDONESIA

The indigenous people of Indonesia (96%), resulting from centuries of mixing of various populations, are assumed to have had ancestors living in the country in 1500 (EB). There is an ethnic Chinese population (3%) (EB, WCD) that came in three waves, with the two most recent occurring after the 16th century. Thus, we assume that a little under 2/3 of the 3%, or 2%, had ancestors who lived in China in 1500.

Estimate:

China: 2%
Indonesia: 98%

IRAN

The indigenous people of Iran (97.5%), including Persians, Kurds, Turkmen, Azerbaijani, Arabs, Lur, Balochi, Gilaki, and Mazandarani had ancestors living in the country in 1500 (CF, CS, EB, CQ, *). An influx of refugees from Afghanistan (2%) and Iraq (0.5%) has occurred during the later 20th century (NE, WCD).

Estimate:

Afghanistan: 2%
Iran: 97.5%
Iraq: 0.5%

* http://www.iranchamber.com/people/articles/iranian_ethnic_groups.php
IRAQ

The Iraqi Arabs (58.8%) are a mixture of ancient peoples and Arabs who invaded in the 7th century. The Kurds (23%) are thought to have inhabited the same area for millennia (EB). Iraq’s Bedouins (4.4%) are said to come from the Arabian Desert, mainly migrating to Iraq from the 14th century to the 18th century*. Assuming a steady rate of migration and that Arabian Desert refers to territory now in Saudi Arabia, we conclude that 3/5 of the Bedouins’ ancestors lived in Saudi Arabia in 1500, the rest in Iraq. The ancestors of Iraq’s Turkmen minority (1.2%) were originally brought in by the Ottoman Empire. It is assumed that they had arrived before the 16th century. The Ghorbati Gypsies (a.k.a. Domari gypsies) (0.5%) are ethnic cousins of the Roma gypsies in Europe. Their ancestors originated from India; however, it is believed that they were well-established in the Arabian Peninsula before the 15th century**. We thus attribute their ancestors to Saudi Arabia. Egyptian Arabs (1.2%), Iranians (1.2%) and Azeri Turks (5.6%) are also present.

Estimate:

Azerbaijan: 5.6%
Egypt: 1.2%
Iran: 1.2%
Iraq: 88.86% (1.76% as ancestors of Bedouins)
Saudi Arabia: 3.14% (0.5% as ancestors of Ghorbati Gypsies, 2.64% as ancestors of Bedouins)

* http://www.geographia.com/egypt/sinai/bedouin.htm:

** http://www.domresearchcenter.com/journal/current.html:

ISRAEL/PALESTINE

Due to lack of resolution of conflicting claims on this territory, we treat as a single entity the State of Israel (1948-67 borders), the West Bank and Gaza, which together constituted the Palestine (as opposed to the Transjordan) portion of the British Mandate of Palestine (1923-48). According to the CIA World Factbook, about 54% of this area’s population is ethnically Jewish, and most of the non-Jewish population is Arab (46%). We assume that the Arab (including Bedouin and Druze) residents are indigenous in this region, and then attribute the 54% Jewish population to its countries of origin (see Part II, 2 in the main Appendix.). Note that a large fraction of the Jewish population are persons of Ashkenazi descent whose immediate place of emigration to Israel/Palestine, including Russia, Argentina, and South Africa, differs from the places ancestors are estimated to have lived in 1500. Thus, direct source countries play a much smaller role or in some case no role in the ultimate sources listed here. Descendants of the small Jewish population present in 1500 are too few to appear in our statistics.

Estimate:

Israel/Palestine: 46% (as ancestors of Arabs)
Jews (Total: 54%)
   Algeria 0.71334%
   Egypt 0.83970%
   Ethiopia 0.98226%
   France 2.84796%
   Germany 8.54604%
   India 0.72252%
   Iran 2.28420%
   Iraq 2.86794%
   Italy 4.55706%
   Libya 0.99576%
   Lithuania 0.42714%
   Morocco 5.69322%
   Poland 0.85428%
   Portugal 2.03796%
   Romania 1.85112%
   Russia 0.71226%
   Spain 8.15238%
   Tunisia 0.71334%
   Turkey 4.85784%
   Ukraine 0.71226%
   Yemen 2.63142%
JAPAN

Ethnic Japanese and small populations of indigenous minorities such as Ainu make up 99% of the population, with populations of Chinese, Koreans, Brazilians and Filipinos being too statistically small to include (CF).

Estimate:

Japanese: 100%

JORDAN

29% of the population consists of Bedouin Arabs and of ethnic Jordanians who are a mixture of Arab, Greek, Egyptian, Persian, European and Negroid elements that have been present for millennia (NE, WCD). There are small populations of Armenians (1%), Syrian Arabs (5%), and Circasians (1%), who originated from what is now a part of Russia and came during the 19th century (CF, LC, NE, WCD). Lacking information, we assumed that Armenians and Syrian Arabs both came from Armenia and Syria after 1500. Palestinian refugees (50%) have arrived in waves since the 1960’s (EB, EV, NE, WCD). Around 14% of the population is Iraqi refugees (BRK, WCD) who fled to Jordan around the time of the 1990 Gulf War (RGIT) and subsequently. Lacking information, we treat only 4% out of the 14% from Iraq as long-term residents of Jordan. We reallocate the remaining 10% by raising the population shares of Jordanians and Palestinians by 4% and 6% respectively.

Estimate:

Armenia: 1%
Israel/Palestine: 56%
Iraq: 4%
Jordan: 33%
Russia: 1%
Syria: 5%
KAZAKHSTAN

Ethnic Kazaks are indigenous to the region (LC), and make up 53% of the population (CF, EV, CQ, NE, WCD). The ancestors of the German minority (2.5%) settled in the area around the 17th century; also, Germans migrated to the region during the early 20th century (CF, LC, EB, EV, WCD). The ancestors of a Uygur minority (1.4%) came from China (CF, LC, EB, NE, WCD). Russians (33%) migrated in large numbers during the 19th century and during the Soviet period (CF, LC, EB, CQ, NE, EV, WCD). Ukrainians (4%) came during the 19th and 20th centuries (CF, EB, LC, CQ, NE, EV, WCD). There are Tatar (1.7%) from Crimea in Ukraine, and Korean (0.7%) minorities stemming from deportations from other parts of the Soviet Union to Kazakhstan during the mid-20th century (CF, LC, EB, CQ, WCD). The Koreans are assumed to be from North Korea. Other ethnic minorities whose ancestors arrived in Kazakhstan after 1500 include Byelorussians (0.7%), and Azeris (0.5%) (LC, EB, WCD). Uzbeks (2.5%) consider themselves to be indigenous in southern Kazakhstan (MPISA, CF, LC, EN, EV, WCD).

Estimate:

Azerbaijan 0.5%
Belarus: 0.7%
China 1.4% (as ancestors Uyghur)
Germany 2.5%
Kazakhstan 55.5% (2.5% as ancestors of Uzbeks)
North Korea 0.7%
Russia 33%
Ukraine 5.7% (1.7% as ancestors of Tatar)

KUWAIT

What is now Kuwait was only lightly populated by nomadic Arabs until the 18th Century. Clans coming from the Arabian Peninsula then arrived and built Kuwait into a trading center. They were joined by some Persians whose descendants constitute 4% of the population today (EB). The foreign worker population has grown significantly following WWII. Workers come from Egypt (2%), Iraq (3.5%), Palestine (1.7%), Syria (0.5%), Lebanon (3.3%), as well from South and Southeast Asia (LC). Other significant populations come from the countries of Armenia (0.5%), Oman (0.5%), Syria (0.5%), Malaysia (6.8%), Philippines (3.1%), and Jordan (9.6%). Because Asian workers are likely to return home in a few years (LC), and because acquiring Kuwaiti citizenship is difficult, we treat half of the workers from Arab countries and none of the workers from Asian countries as long-term Kuwaitis.

Estimate:

Egypt: 1%
Iran: 4.0%
Iraq: 1.75%
Israel/ Palestine: 0.85%
Jordan: 4.8%
Kuwait: 20.95%
Lebanon: 1.65%
Oman: 0.25%
Saudi Arabia: 64.5%
Syria: 0.25%
KYRGYZSTAN

Ethnic Kyrgyz are indigenous in this region, and make up 66% of the population (CF, NE, WCD). Most Uzbeks (14%) lived in the Fergana Valley, and had settled in this area by the early 16th century (CF, CQ, CE, WCD, NE). Therefore, they were considered to be originally from Kyrgyzstan. Lacking information, we also assumed that the small group of Kazaks (1%) had also long lived in this region (WCD). In addition, there is a small population of Tajik refugees (1%), the majority of whom migrated from what is now Kyrgyzstan (NE, WCD). Russians (13%) and Ukrainians (1%) came in large number from 1926 to 1959 (CF, EB, NE, WCD). The ancestors of the country’s Tatar minority (1%) lived in what is now a part of Ukraine (EB, WCD, NE), while the ancestors of its Hui minority (1%) lived in China prior to the 16th century (EB, NE, WCD). The ancestors of a Uygur minority (1%) also came from China (CF, EB, NE, WCD). Ethnic Turks (1%) were assumed to have had ancestors in Turkey in 1500 (WCD).

Estimate:

China: 2% (1% as ancestors of Uighur, 1% as ancestors of Hui)  
Kyrgyzstan: 82% (14% as ancestors of Uzbeks, 1% as ancestors of Kazaks, 1% as ancestors of Tajiks)  
Russia: 13%  
Turkey: 1%  
Ukraine 2% (1% as ancestors of Tatar)  

LAOS

Both Lao Loum (68%) and Lao Theung (22%) settled in this region long before 1500 (CF, LC, CQ, NE). Members of the Lao Sung ethnic group (9%) have been coming from China since the late 18th century (CF, EB, NE). There is also a small percentage of ethnic Vietnamese (1%) in Laos, who probably arrived more recently (CF, WCD).

Estimate

China: 9% (9% as ancestors of Lao Sung)  
Laos: 90%  
Vietnam: 1%
LEBANON

The ancestors of the Lebanese already present in 1500 were a mix of Phoenicians, Arabs, Greeks, and others. Palestinian refugees make up 12.1% of the population. Other ethnic minorities are the Armenians (6.4%), Syrians (9%), and French (0.5%) (WCD). Some sources mention sizeable numbers of Ethiopians brought illegally “trafficked” into the country as domestics and sex workers, but since they are mainly recent arrivals and possibly temporary, they are not included in our estimate (SD, WCD).

Estimate:

Armenia: 6.4%
France: 0.5%
Israel/Palestine: 12.1%
Lebanon: 72%
Syria: 9%

MALAYSIA

Ethnic Malays and other indigenous peoples make up 60% of the population (CF, CQ, NE, CQ, UNESCO). The ancestors of Malaysia’s Chinese (26%), Indian (7.5%) and Indonesian (4%, including 3% Javanese) minorities came to Malaysia as foreign laborers in the 19th and 20th centuries (CF, UNESCO, NE, CQ, WCD). There is also a significant population of Filipinos (2.5%) arriving in the late 20th century (NE, WCD).

Estimate:

China: 26%
India: 7.5%
Indonesia: 4%
Malaysia: 60%
Philippines: 2.5%

MONGOLIA

Mongolia’s population consists mainly of indigenous Mongols (91.7%) (CF, NE, LC, CQ). Kazaks (5%) have lived in the westernmost part of Mongolia for centuries (CF, LC, NE). Chinese (1.5%) arrived in large number in the 20th century (WCD, NE). Russians (1%) and Uzbeks (0.8%), both assumed to have ancestors who came from those countries after 1500, make up the rest of the population (WCD).

Estimate:

China: 1.5%
Mongolia: 96.7%
Russia: 1%
Uzbekistan: 0.8%
MYANMAR-BURMA

Several native groups (94.5%) settled in this region long before 1500, including Burman, Shan, Karen, Rakhine, and Mon (EB, CQ, NE, CF). The ancestors of Chinese (3%) and Indian (2%) minorities came during the 19th and 20th centuries (CF, NE, CQ, WCD). There is also a small group of Nepalese (0.5%) (WCD). Lacking information, we assumed them to be more recent immigrants.

Estimate

China: 3%
India: 2%
Myanmar-Burma: 94.5%
Nepal: 0.5%

NEPAL

Almost all of Nepal’s people belong to ethnic groups that have resulted for the mixing of peoples of indigenous, Tibetan, and Indian origin over the centuries. No substantial migration after 1500 is noted in our sources (LC, EB, NEPD, WCD).

Estimate:

Nepal: 100%

NORTH KOREA

The North Korean population is extremely homogenous; ethnic Koreans (99.3%) descend from groups that entered the Korean peninsula several thousand years ago (LC). There has presumably been migration within the peninsula over the centuries, but estimates of what proportion of North Koreans’ ancestors were living in what is now South Korea in 1500 are impossible to come by. A small population of Chinese (0.7%) also exists.

Estimate:

China: 0.7%
North Korea: 99.3%
OMAN

Most ancestors of those living here today were Arabs who already lived in Oman in 1500. Some Arabs and Balochi came to Oman from Iran and Pakistan over the past few centuries (EB). More specifically, the Balochi originate from the Makran coast of Iran and Pakistan (LC). Since this coast seems to be split roughly equally between the two countries, the ancestors of the Balochi are assumed to have originated equally from Iran and Pakistan. Zanzibari Omanis (2.5%) returned from Zanzibar after the overthrow of its Sultanate in the 1960s is assumed to be of mixed Omani and local African origin; therefore, half of their ancestors are assumed to have lived in Tanzania in 1500, the rest in Oman. Foreign laborers from India and the Philippines, as well as those from Malaysia, Saudi Arabia and Egypt, form sizable populations (LC). Although most migrant workers consider their stay temporary, across the Gulf region some migrants are now treating their workplaces more as permanent homes, bringing their families with them*. In the absence of better information, we assume that half of the total estimated number of foreign laborers is now long-term residents of Oman.

Estimate:

Egypt: 0.85%
Indian: 8.725%
Iran: 7.5%
Malaysia: 0.85%
Oman: 72.59%
Pakistan: 7.5%
Philippines: 0.235%
Saudi Arabia: 0.5%
Tanzania: 1.25%


PAKISTAN

Pakistanis generally belong to one of five main indigenous ethnic groups, all of which have been established for many centuries (CQ, EB). Refugees arrived in the mid-20th century from India (8%) and in the 1980’s from Afghanistan (1%) (EB, CF, LC, WCD, NE). Only a very small percentage of immigrants came from Bangladesh after the independence of Bangladesh (EB).

Estimate:

Afghanistan: 1%
India: 8%
Pakistan: 91%
PHILIPPINES

The ancestors of present-day Filipinos (99%) have been established within the country for thousands of years (CQ). Chinese (1%) have settled in the country for centuries and mixed with the native people (CQ, LC, EV), and we assumed that the majority of them came before 1500.

Estimate:

Philippines: 100%
QATAR

The indigenous population is made up of Arabs (13%) who migrated here during the 18th century from the central part of the Arabian Peninsula (i.e. Saudi Arabia) and Kuwait (NE, EB, EV, WCD). Lacking further information, we assume that 9% came from Saudi Arabia and 4% from Kuwait. East Africans (8%) were brought to Qatar as slaves- we estimate the following proportions for country of origin: Tanzania (60%), Kenya (20%), Uganda (5%), D. R. Congo (5%), Malawi (5%), and Mozambique (5%). The rest of the population consists of temporary workers and other foreigners coming from different countries and areas including Iran (10%), Palestine (10%), Lebanon (7%), Syria (6%), Egypt (1.5%), Saudi Arabia (1.5%), Sudan (1.5%), India (18%), Pakistan (18%), Philippines (2.5%), Malaysia (1.5%), the U.K. (1%), and the U.S.A. (0.5%) (CF, WCD). The ancestors of those from the U.S. are assumed by us to have come proportionately from the top seven European countries represented in the U.S., since the source identifies them as being overwhelmingly white. We assume that 2/3 of the guest workers from Iran and the Arab countries have resided there at least 10 years, while only 1/3 of the people from the rest of the countries have resided in Qatar at least 10 years, to be counted in the permanent population according to our convention. Because the percentages listed above are based on the total population including those whom we classify as temporary, the percentages from Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and East Africa are rescaled up as those from other countries are adjusted downwards.

Estimate:

Egypt: 1.7%
Kuwait: 6.7%
India: 10%
Iran: 11.1%
Israel/Palestine: 11.1%
Lebanon: 7.8%
Malaysia: 0.8%
Pakistan: 10%
Philippines: 1.4%
Saudi Arabia: 16.7%
Sudan: 1.7%
Syria: 6.7%
UK: 0.675% (0.075% from the U.S. Whites)

East Africans: (Total 13.4%):
- Congo, D.R.: 0.67%
- Kenya: 2.68%
- Malawi: 0.67%
- Mozambique: 0.67%
- Tanzania: 8.04%
- Uganda: 0.67%

U.S. Whites: (Total 0.3%):
- France: 0.0225%
- Germany: 0.09%
- Ireland: 0.06%
- Italy: 0.03%
- Netherlands: 0.0075%
- Poland: 0.015%
- UK: (0.075%)
SAUDI ARABIA

The vast majority of Saudis are people of Arab stock (83.3%) whose ancestors have lived in the area for millennia (CQ, ME). East Africans (1.5%) were brought to Qatar as slaves—we estimate the following proportions for country of origin: Tanzania (60%), Kenya (20%), Uganda (5%), D. R. Congo (5%), Malawi (5%), and Mozambique (5%) (LC, WCD). Foreign workers include Arabs from Egypt (1.8%), Palestine (1.2%), Jordan (1.1%), Lebanon (1%), Syria (0.5%), Sudan (0.5%) and Yemen (0.7%) (WCD). There are also many foreign workers from Korea (0.5%) and the Philippines (2.8%) (LC, WCD). Workers of Punjabi (2.4%) and Hindi (0.5%) ethnicity (WCD) were assumed to have come from India, while those of Urdu (2.2%) ethnicity (WCD) were divided between Pakistan and India according to their current population distribution between the two countries: 1/10 to Pakistan, and 9/10 to India. We assume that 2/3 of the guest workers from Iran and the Arab countries have resided in Saudi Arabia for at least 10 years, making them permanent residents by our criterion, while only 1/3 of the people from the rest of the countries have resided in Qatar at least 10 years, to be counted in the permanent population according to our convention. Because the percentages listed above are based on the total population including those whom we classify as temporary, the percentages from Saudi Arabia and East Africa are rescaled up as those from other countries are adjusted downwards.

Estimate:

Egypt: 1.3%
India: 1.8%
Jordan: 0.8%
Lebanon: 0.7%
Pakistan: 0.1%
Palestine: 0.9%
Philippines: 1%
Saudi Arabia: 90.8%
South Korea: 0.2%
Sudan: 0.4%
Syria: 0.4%
Yemen: 0.5%

Africans: (Total 1.1%)
  Congo, D.R.: 0.055%
  Kenya: 0.22%
  Malawi: 0.055%
  Mozambique: 0.055%
  Tanzania: 0.66%
  Uganda: 0.055%
SINGAPORE

Most of Singapore’s population can be broadly classified as Chinese (77%), Malay (14%), and Indian (7.5%) (CF, LC, NE, WCD). The ancestors of the current ethnic Chinese are assumed to have originated in mainland China, even if some reached Singapore by way of Taiwan, Hong Kong, and other countries (LC). About 80% of ethnic Malays are said to originate from the islands that form part of Indonesia (LC). Combined with more recent migrants identified as Indonesian, we estimate that the ancestors of about 11% of Singapore’s population originated in Indonesia, and 3% came from Malaysia. Indians (7.5%) came largely in the 19th and 20th centuries, about 5% being Tamils (LC). Lacking information, we assigned 6% to India, and 0.5% to each of Sri Lanka, Pakistan, and Bangladesh (EB, NE). Finally, small populations of British (0.5%), Japanese (0.5%), and Filipinos (0.5%) also exist (CF, LC, NE).

Estimate:

China: 77%
Japan: 0.5%
Philippines: 0.5%
UK: 0.5%
Indian: (Total 7.5%)
  Bangladesh: 0.5%
  India: 6%
  Pakistan: 0.5%
  Sri Lanka: 0.5%
Malay (Total 14%)
  Indonesia: 11%
  Malaysia: 3%

SOUTH KOREA

Like North Korea, South Korea is extremely homogenous. Koreans are believed to descend from a people who migrated to the Korean peninsula thousands of years ago. There has undoubtedly been some migration within the Korean peninsula over the centuries, but no information is available that would permit an estimate of the proportion of ancestors of today’s South Koreans who lived in what is now North Korea in 1500. A small but statistically insignificant population of ethnic Chinese live here (CF, CQ, NE).

Estimate:

South Korea: 100%
SRI LANKA

Native inhabitants of Sri Lanka (74%) are a result of mixing between various groups over the last 2500 years (LC, CF, CQ, NE). The Sri Lankan Tamils (14%) are descendants of medieval invaders from India and were thus assumed to have been established in Sri Lanka by 1500 (LC, EB, WCD, CQ, NE). Indian Tamils (5%) are more recent arrivals whose ancestors were brought from India to Sri Lanka under British rule (EB, CF, LC, WCD). Members of the group known as Moors (7%) trace their origins back to Arab traders who arrived during the 8th century (EB, CF, WCD).

Estimate:

India: 5%
Sri Lanka: 95%

SYRIA

The vast majority of Syria’s population is Arab, and is assumed to be indigenous to the country. There are also some Palestinian (2.8%) and Lebanese (0.5%) refugees living in the country (NE, WCD). Some Kurds (4%) have lived in the country for generations, but others (4%) came from Turkey in the early 20th century (LC, EV). The majority of Syria’s Armenians (0.2%) and Turks (0.3%) also came from Turkey during the first half of the 20th century as refugees (LC, EV, WCD). The Bedouin Arabs (7.4%) are believed to have emigrated from the interior of the Arabian peninsula between the 14th and 18th centuries; thus, the ancestors of about two-fifths of the Bedouins are treated as having lived in Saudi Arabia (3%), which constitutes the vast majority of the peninsula. There is also a small population of Azerbajianis (0.7%) whose ancestors are assumed to have lived in present-day Azerbaijan (WCD).

Estimate:

Azerbaijan: 0.7%
Israel/Palestine: 2.8%
Lebanon: 0.5%
Saudi Arabia: 3%
Syria: 88.5%
Turkey: 4.5% (4% as ancestors of Kurds, 0.2% as ancestors of Armenians)

TAIWAN

The aboriginal inhabitants of Taiwan make up only 2% of the population (EB, CF, NE). The descendants of migrants from the Chinese mainland who began arriving in large numbers in the 17th century (84%) and of Chinese who left the mainland at the time of the Communist victory in 1949 (14%) comprise the bulk of the population (EB, CF, NE).

Estimate

China: 98%
Taiwan: 2%
TAJIKISTAN

Contemporary Tajiks (70%) are descendants of Iranians that have long inhabited the area (CF, LC, NE, CQ, WCD). The ancestors of most of the Uzbek (25%) and Kyrgyz (1.1%) minorities in Tajikistan also settled in this area a long time ago (CS, EB, EV, CF, NE, CQ, WCD), and therefore, they were both attributed to Tajikistan. The ancestors of the country’s Tatars (1.4%) came from what is now Ukraine (EB, WCD). The Russian population (2.5%) has been declining since the end of the Soviet period (CF, EB, NE, CQ, WCD).

Estimate:

Russia: 2.5%
Tajikistan: 96.1%
Ukraine: 1.4% (as ancestors of Tatar)

THAILAND

Ethnic Thai and other long-term inhabitants make up most of the population. There is an ethnic Khmer minority (1%) consisting mainly of long-time inhabitants, with a negligible number of recent refugees from Cambodia (LC, NE, EB, WCD). A substantial Chinese (14%) minority have migrated from China during the past century (LC, CF, CQ, NE, WCD). The Karen (1%) is a people living on the boarder of Thailand and Burma, and they are likely to be indigenous to the country (LC, WCD).

Estimate:

China: 14%
Thailand: 86%
TURKEY

Most of the population is descended from the mixing of Turkic-speakers originally from inner Asia with various peoples of Western Asia and Southeastern Europe. The ancestors of Kurds (20%) had settled in this region by the 5th century B.C. (CF, LC, WCD, NE). The ancestors of the Crimean Tatars (7.2%) are originally from an area that now forms part of Ukraine (LC, EB, WCD). Although Turkey’s Arab population (1.5%) is heavily concentrated along the Syrian border, there is no evidence that their ancestors lived beyond that border in 1500 (LC, WCD). The ancestors of the Circassians (0.8%) came from Russia starting from the late 18th century (LC, WCD). Refugees from Iraq (0.7%) arrived in the early 1990’s (NE, WCD). A small Azerbaijani population (1%) also lives in Turkey, and we attributed them to Azerbaijan (WCD). Rumelian Turks (2%) arrived mostly from Bulgaria since 1878*.

Estimate:

- Armenia: 0.5%
- Azerbaijan: 1%
- Russia: 4%
- Turkmenistan: 93%
- Ukraine: 1.5% (1% as ancestors of Tatar)


TURKMENISTAN

Turkmenistan is an ethnically very homogenous country, with 85% of the population made up of native Turkmen. Russians arrived in the late 19th century (4%) (CF, LC). Tatars (1%) originated from a place that is now part of Ukraine (EB, WCD). Other ethnic minority groups include those from Azerbaijan (1%), Armenia (0.5%), Ukraine (0.5%) (NE, WCD). Lacking further information, we assumed that the ancestors of Turkmenistan’s Uzbek (6%) and Kazak (2%) (CF, CQ, NE, WCD) minorities were living within what is now Turkmenistan even in 1500, since the places of residence of members of various Central Asian ethnic groups were interspersed with one another and not governed by present country boundaries.

Estimate:

- Armenia: 0.5%
- Azerbaijan: 1%
- Russia: 4%
- Turkmenistan: 93%
- Ukraine: 1.5% (1% as ancestors of Tatar)
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

We were unable to find any estimate of the proportion of the country’s foreign workers (who together constitute 80% of the current population) who can be considered to have settled in the country permanently. We assume that all long-term residents are indigenous.

Estimate

United Arab Emirates: 100%

UZBEKISTAN

The ancestors of the Uzbeks (80%) moved to Uzbekistan in the late 15th century (CF, CQ, NE, WCD). The ancestors of most Kazakhs (3%) and Tajiks (5%) in Uzbekistan settled in this area long ago, and their lands were arbitrarily allotted to Uzbekistan during the Soviet era (EAN, CACI, GEO, CF, LC, WCD). Lacking further information, we assume that Uzbekistan’s Kirghiz minority (about 1%) (WCD) are also descended from people long resident in the area. The origin of the Karakalpak ethnic group (2.5%) is unknown, although they are known to have lived in the area for a long time. We assumed them to be from Uzbekistan (EB, CF, LC, WCD). Uzbekistan’s Crimean Tatar population originates from deportation to Uzbekistan at the end of WWII; their ancestors are assumed to have lived in the Crimea, now in Ukraine (EB, CF, LC, EN, WCD). Other ethnic minority populations include Koreans (1%) whose presence in Uzbekistan also stems from deportations from other parts of the Soviet Union during the mid-20th century (WCD). We assume that they or their ancestors were from North Korea.

Estimate:

North Korea: 1%
Russia: 5.5%
Ukraine: 2% (2% as ancestors of Tatar)
Uzbek: 91.5%

VIETNAM

The vast majority of Vietnam’s population is descended from people who have inhabited the country for thousands of years (LC, CQ). Some non-ethnic Vietnamese minorities (11%) descend from ancient migrants from southern China (LC). There is an ethnic Chinese population (2.5%) whose ancestors came to Vietnam over the past 300 years (CQ, WCD).

Estimate:

Vietnam: 97.5%
China: 2.5%
YEMEN

Yemeni Arabs descend from people who have been long established in the area. (EB). There is a population of Somalis who have sought refuge in the country within the last 10 years, but are not included in our estimate due to their possible transient status (NE). Other ethnic minority populations include the Sudanese (1.7%), Omani (0.7%), Indians (0.5%), and Pakistanis (0.5%) (WCD). The ancestors of the Arabized black (1%) population were estimated to be from the following African countries: Ethiopia (0.4%), Tanzania (0.2%), Malawi (0.2%), Mozambique (0.2%).

Estimate:

Yemen: 95.6%
Sudan: 1.7%
Oman: 0.7%
India: 0.5%
Pakistan: 0.5%
Arabized Black: (Total 1%)
  Ethiopia: 0.4%
  Tanzania: 0.2%
  Malawi: 0.2%
  Mozambique: 0.2%