

Abstract

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The Making of Prayer Circles (PC) and Prayer Direction Circles (PDC) Map

Track: Cartography and Map Production

Author(s): Ahmad Massasati

Geographic information systems have proven to be an essential tool for automated cartography. The problems of finding the direction to the city of Makkah is extremely important to Muslims around the globe to perform the five time daily prayer. The challenge to solve such a problem is a classic example of map projection on a flat surface where distortion may give the wrong impression of directions. A prayer direction circle and a prayer circle system have been introduced using GIS to solve the problem. Using spherical triangulation solution with the city of Makkah at the center of the prayer circles, a prayer map was designed to solve the problem. Knowing that map making is an art as well as a science, Islamic calligraphy and designs were added for better enhancement of the map.

Ahmad Massasati

United Arab Emirates University

Geography

Geography Department

P.O. Box 17771

Al-Ain , Middle East 9999

United Arab Emirates

Phone: 00971-3-7064681

Fax: 00971-3-7671706

E-mail: A.Massasati@uaeu.ac.ae