

Terms, People, and Places

Abu Bakr:

Caliph:

Caliphate:

Sunni:

Shiite:

Sufis:

Dhimmis:

Umayyads:

Abbasids:

Lesson Objectives

- Explain how Muslims were able to conquer many lands.
- Identify the divisions that emerged within Islam.
- Describe the rise of the Umayyad and Abbasid Dynasties.
- Explain why the Abbasid empire declined.

Summary

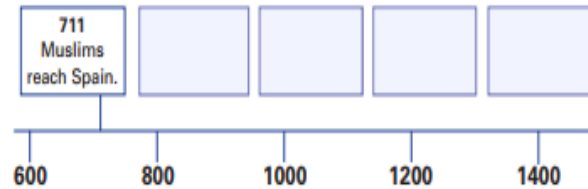
“Building a Muslim Empire”

Inspired by Muhammad’s teachings, Arab armies spread Islam through parts of three continents. The Arab empire was ruled by several powerful caliphates. After 850, they were replaced by independent dynasties ruling separate Muslim states.

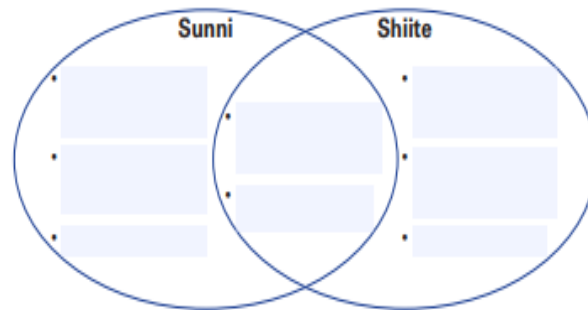
CHAPTER 10
SECTION 2
Note Taking Study Guide
BUILDING A MUSLIM EMPIRE

Focus Question: How did Muhammad’s successors extend Muslim rule and spread Islam?

A. As you read this section in your textbook, complete the following timeline to record the major events in the spread of Islam and the rise and fall of Muslim empires.



B. As you read the section “Divisions Emerge Within Islam” in your textbook, complete the Venn diagram to record points on which Sunni and Shiite Muslims agree and differ.



CHAPTER
10
SECTION 2**Section Summary****BUILDING A MUSLIM EMPIRE**

In 632, Abu Bakr became the first caliph, or successor to Muhammad. He united all Arab tribes as Muslims. Once united, the Arabs defeated the Persian empire and parts of the Byzantine empire.

However, a schism between Sunni and Shiite Muslims occurred after Muhammad's death, and still exists today.

Shiites believe that Muhammad's successors must be descendants of his son-in-law, Ali. They also should be religious leaders and interpret the Quran. Sunnis believe that any pious male Muslim from Muhammad's tribe can lead without performing religious functions. Today, about 90 percent of Muslims are Sunni. Both groups believe in the same God, the Quran, and the Five Pillars of Islam, but they differ in religious practices and laws. Sufis, who may be Sunni or Shiite, meditate and fast to gain communion with God.

In the 700s, a powerful Meccan clan set up the Sunni Umayyad caliphate. They directed conquests that extended Muslim rule from Spain to the Indus River Valley. Their empire lasted until 750. The Muslims brought many people under their rule. Muslim leaders imposed a special tax on non-Muslims, but Jews, Christians, and Zoroastrians could worship and some held important positions. Many people converted to Islam.

However, the Umayyads later faced economic tensions and opposition from those who did not have the same privileges as Muslims. After capturing Damascus in 750, with strong support from Shiites and non-Arabs, Abu al-Abbas founded the Abbasid dynasty. The Abbasids ended conquests and supported education and learning. They enjoyed a golden age, with a more efficient government and a beautiful new capital, Baghdad, in the former Persian empire. Mosques with minarets, or slender towers, graced the cities, and markets sold goods from far-off lands.

In Spain, one of the Umayyads established a separate state. Muslims ruled parts of Spain until 1492. They were tolerant of other religions, supported scholars, and constructed grand buildings.

As the empire declined, independent dynasties took power. Seljuk Turks gained power and their sultan, or ruler, controlled Baghdad by 1055, keeping the Abbasid caliph as a figurehead. Beginning in 1216, the Mongols attacked across southwest Asia. In 1258, they burned and looted Baghdad, ending the Abbasid dynasty.

Review Questions

1. What are the differences between Shiite and Sunni beliefs?

2. What two groups took power from the Abbasid dynasty?

READING CHECK

Which dynasty enjoyed a golden age?

VOCABULARY STRATEGY

What does the word *schism* mean in the underlined sentence? Read the nearby words, sentences, and phrases to find clues to its meaning. What do the context clues tell you about the meaning of *schism*?

READING SKILL

Recognize Sequence Number the following events to show their correct sequence:

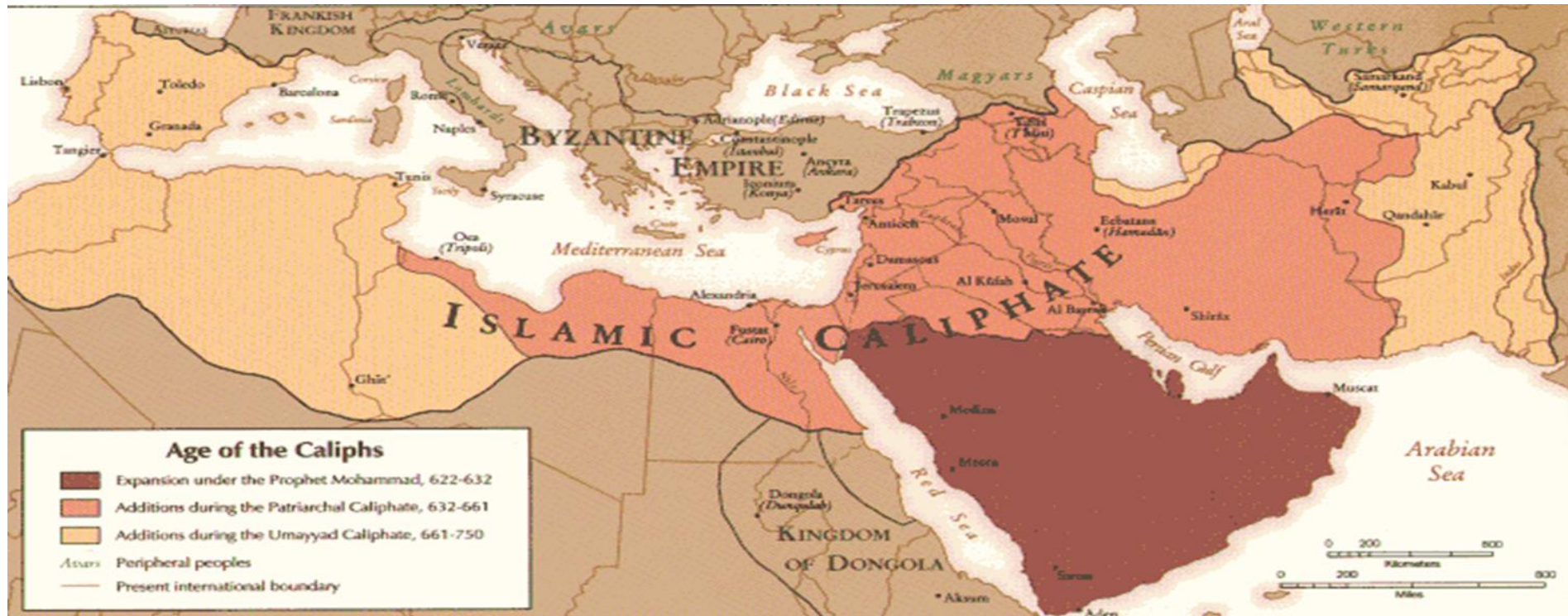
- _____ Umayyads take power.
- _____ Damascus becomes the capital.
- _____ Abu Bakr becomes the caliph.
- _____ Muslim empire expands into Persia and Byzantine empire.

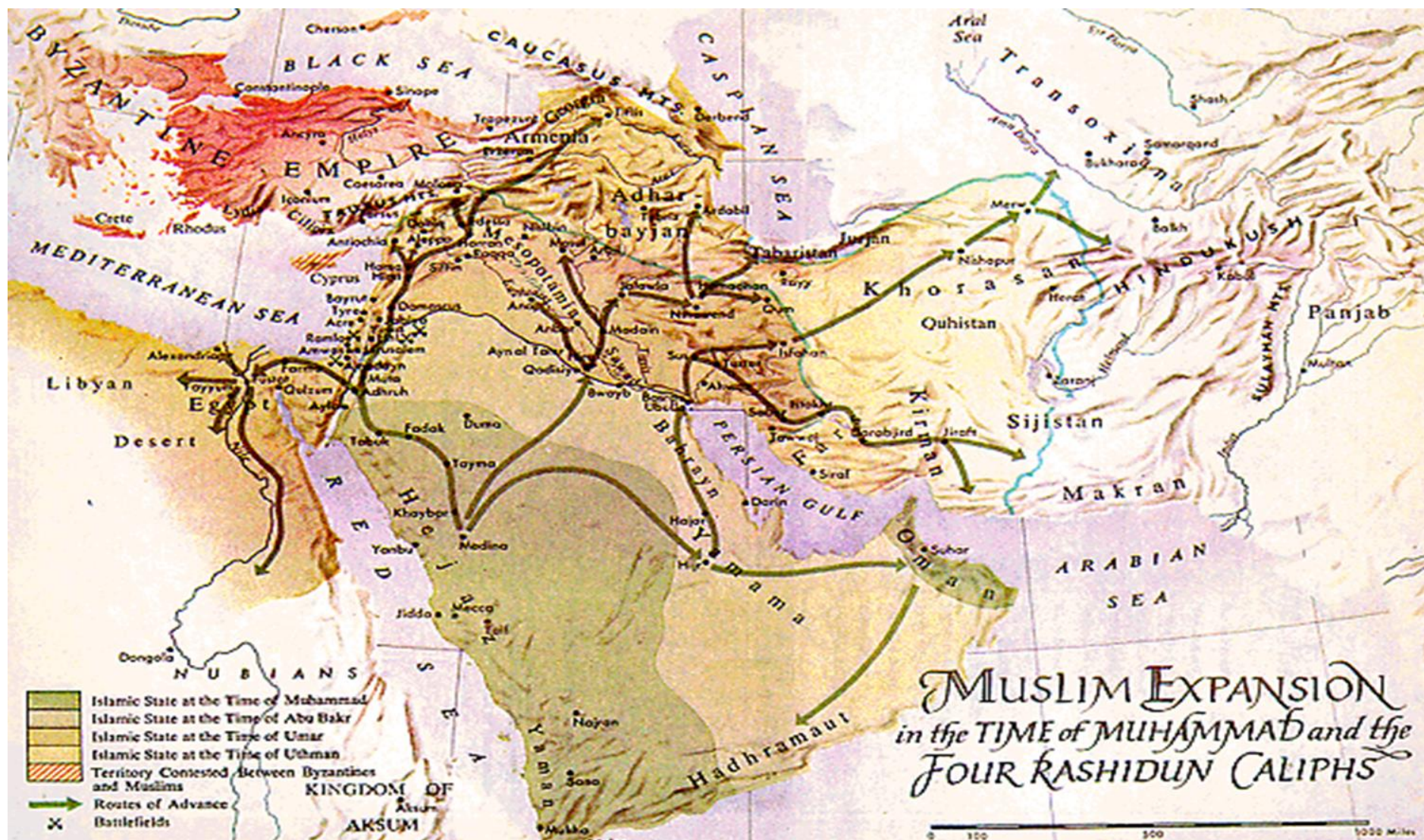
Aim #9: How did Islam spread?



A Muslim Empire

- Abu Bakr - **Caliph**
 - united Muslims & Arab tribes w/ Islam
- 632-900s, Muslim **caliphate**
 - Muslim world expanded





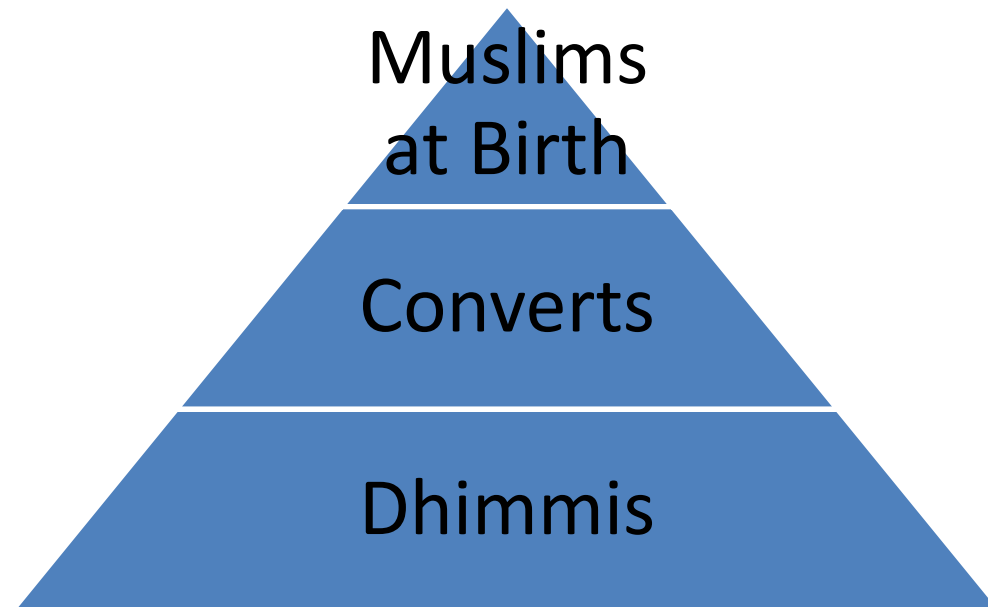
Reasons For Success

- united armies
- Skillful in desert warfare
- Byzantine & Persians exhausted each other
- conquered ppl welcomed Islam
 - bec. of tolerance



Society

- social mobility
- tolerant of **Dhimmis**
 - restrictions
 - non-Muslim tax
- Many converts
 - ❖ for political & economic advantages
 - ❖ success as a sign





Checkpoint

How were Muslims able to conquer many lands?

Division

- disagreement over Caliph
- **Shiites vs. Sunnis (Split)**



Basic Differences Between Sunni and Shi'a Muslims

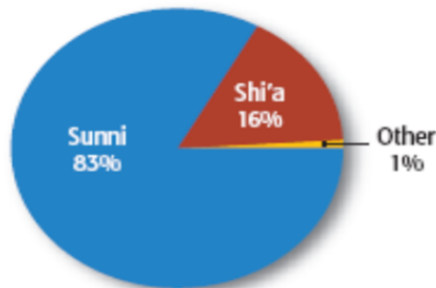
Sunni

- Believe that the first four caliphs were “rightly guided”
- Believe that Muslim rulers should follow the Sunna, or Muhammad’s example
- Claim that the Shi’a have distorted the meaning of various passages in the Qur’an

Shi’a

- Believe that Ali, the Prophet’s son-in-law, should have succeeded Muhammad
- Believe that all Muslim rulers should be descended from Muhammad; do not recognize the authority of the Sunna
- Claim that the Sunni have distorted the meaning of various passages in the Qur’an

Percentage Today of Sunni and Shi’a Muslims Worldwide





Checkpoint

What divisions emerged within Islam?

The Umayyad & Abbasid

These powerful caliphates ruled the Islamic world, expanded the Arab empire, and brought about a golden age in Muslim civilization.

UMAYYADS 661-750

- Moved capital to Damascus
- **Conquered a lot of lands** from Atlantic O., across N. Africa, to the Indus Valley
- **Arabic & Dinar** became common
- Built Dome of the Rock
- Relied on local officials to govern empire, while Umayyads lived in great luxury

Downfall:

- Faced economic tensions between wealthy and poor Arabs
- **Split in Islam** occurs during their reign
- **Moved to Spain** after downfall & had golden age

ABBASIDS 750-1258

- Moved capital to Baghdad
- Promoted equality
- helped make Islam a common religion
- Islam reached its greatest wealth and power through **strong trade network.**
- **Baghdad- world capital in learning, trade & culture (“Paradise on Earth”)**
- Enjoyed a **Golden Age**

Downfall:

- Difficulty controlling vast empire & invasions

Umayyad Dynasty (661-750)



- Damascus, capital
 - large empire; Atlantic O. to Indus River & across N. Africa
 - **Arabic & dinar became common**
 - Dome of the Rock
- tensions bet. Arab Muslim elites & poor
- 750, overthrown by Abu al-Abbas
- Umayyad fled to S. Spain & built flourishing dynasty



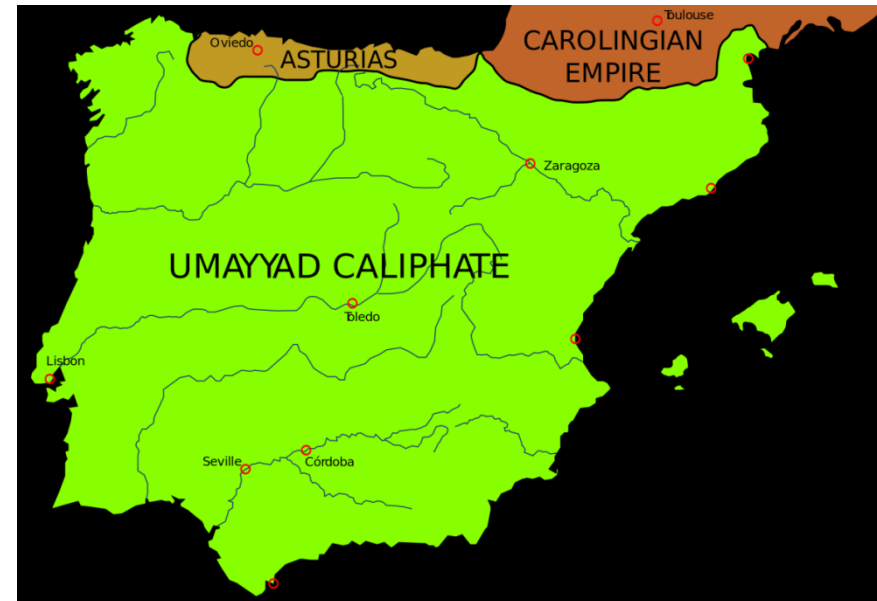
Twice the distance of the U.S.!



stretched 6k miles

Umayyad in Spain- Culture Flourishes

- Muslims rulers presided over dazzling courts
- arts & learning thrived
- **Cordoba**- center of learning
 - Jewish & Christian scholars studied science & philosophy
- Architects built large, beautiful palaces
 - Alhambra in Granada w/ pools, gardens, & decorated marble columns
- This period marked high point in Muslim civilization



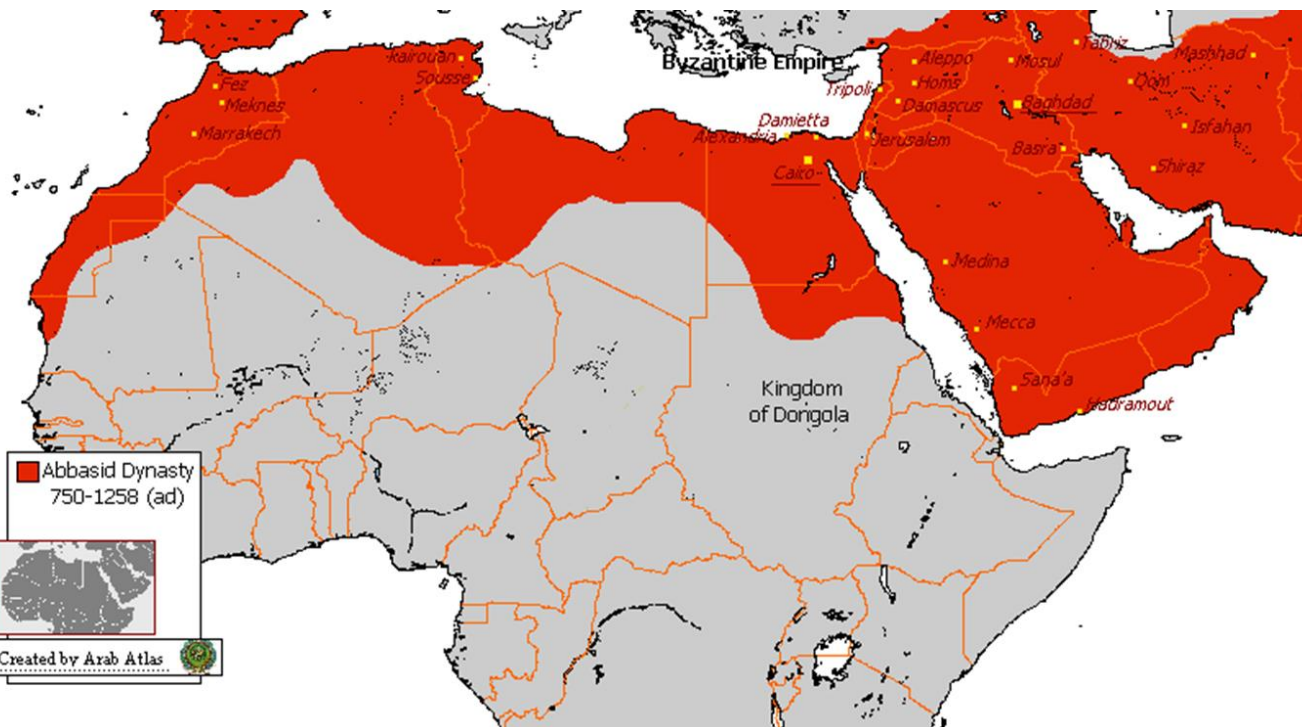


Checkpoint

How did the Umayyad rise and fall?

Rise of Abbasid Dynasty (750-1258)

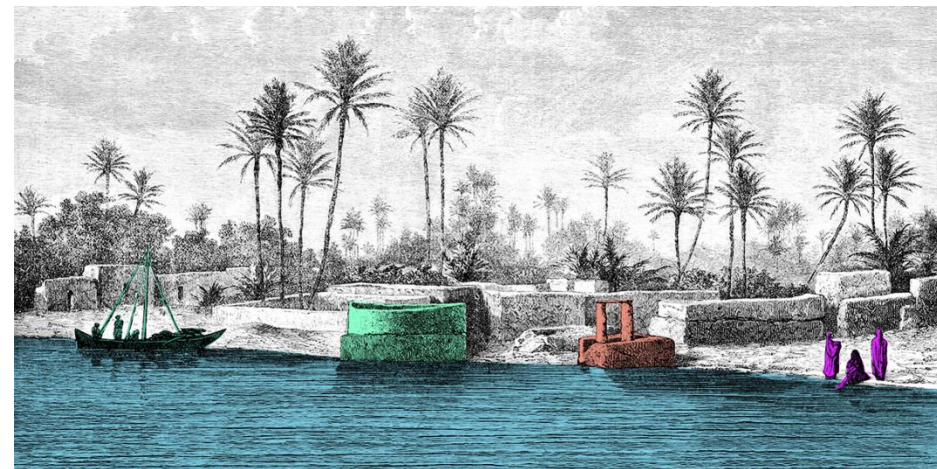
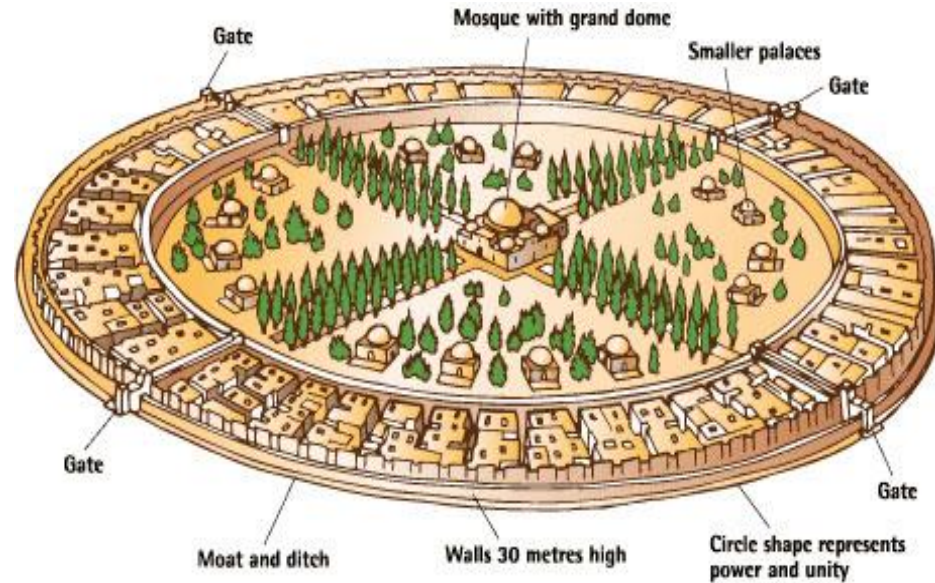
- halted conquests & focused on equality
- capital in Baghdad
 - location provides access to trade
- great wealth & power
- Golden Age



The Splendors of Baghdad

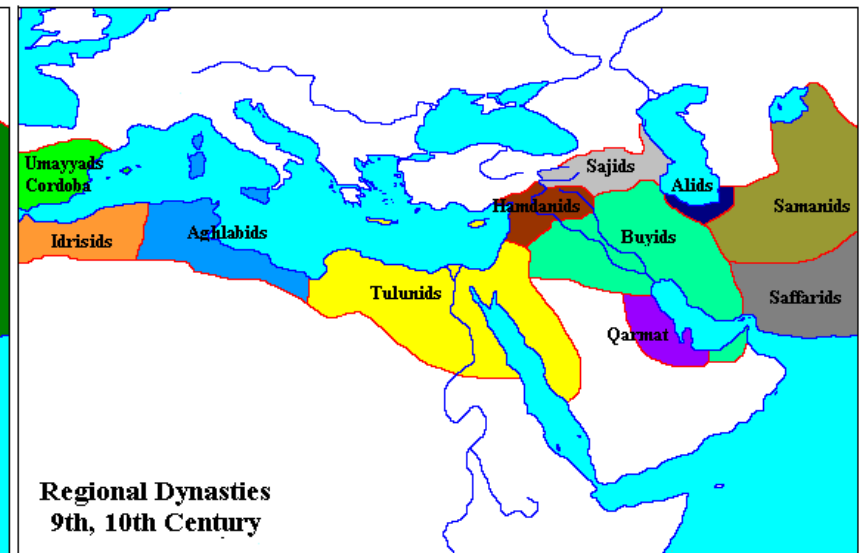
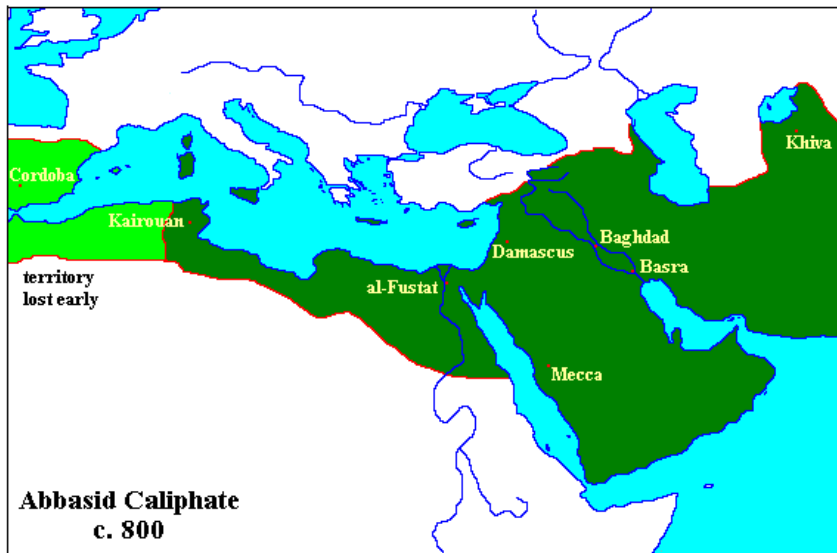
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X1PxJomypQE> “Islam: Empire of Faith” Part II (PBS)

- culture, learning, & business
 - Poets, scholars, philosophers, & merchants flocked to city
- Major crossroads of trade
- “Paradise on Earth”
 - walled w/palace in center
 - Beautiful gardens, palaces, & Mosques decorated city
- exceeded Constantinople's size & wealth



Abbasid Empire Decline & Fall

- 850, independent Muslim dynasties began to rule own regions
- 900s: Seljuk Turks conquered Baghdad
- 1200s: Mongols destroyed Baghdad
- 1258, Hulagu Khan killed last Abbasid caliph
- Both, Seljuk Turks & Mongols adopted Islam

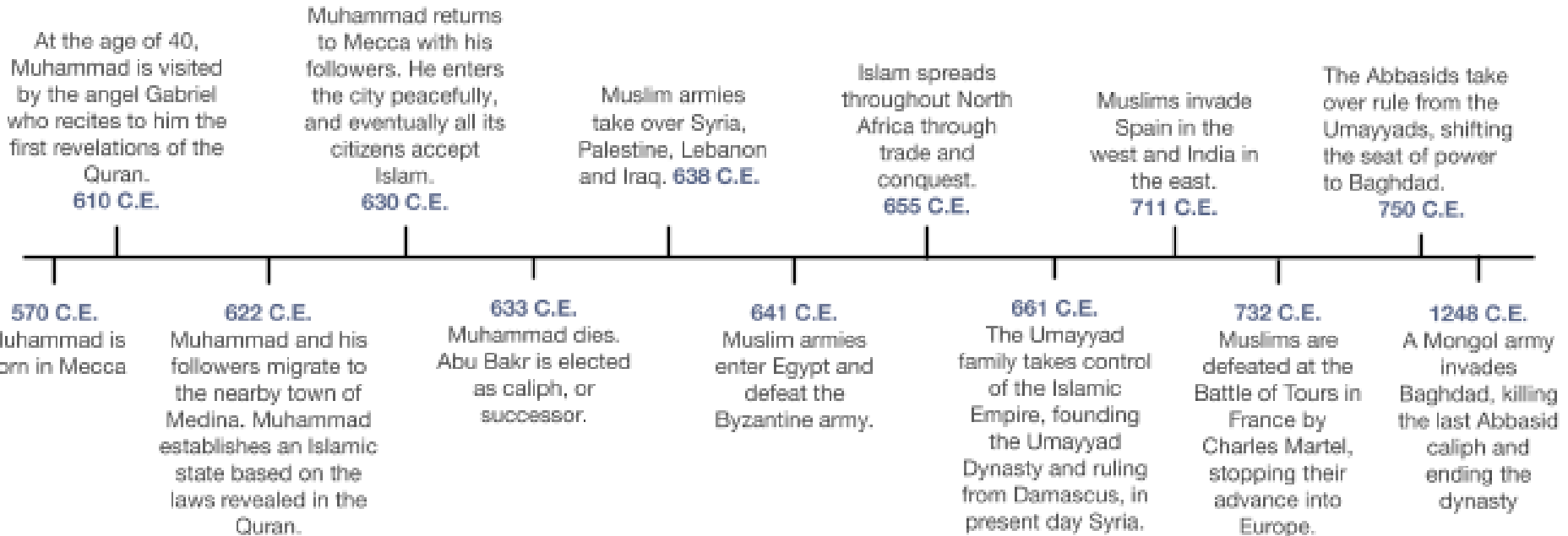




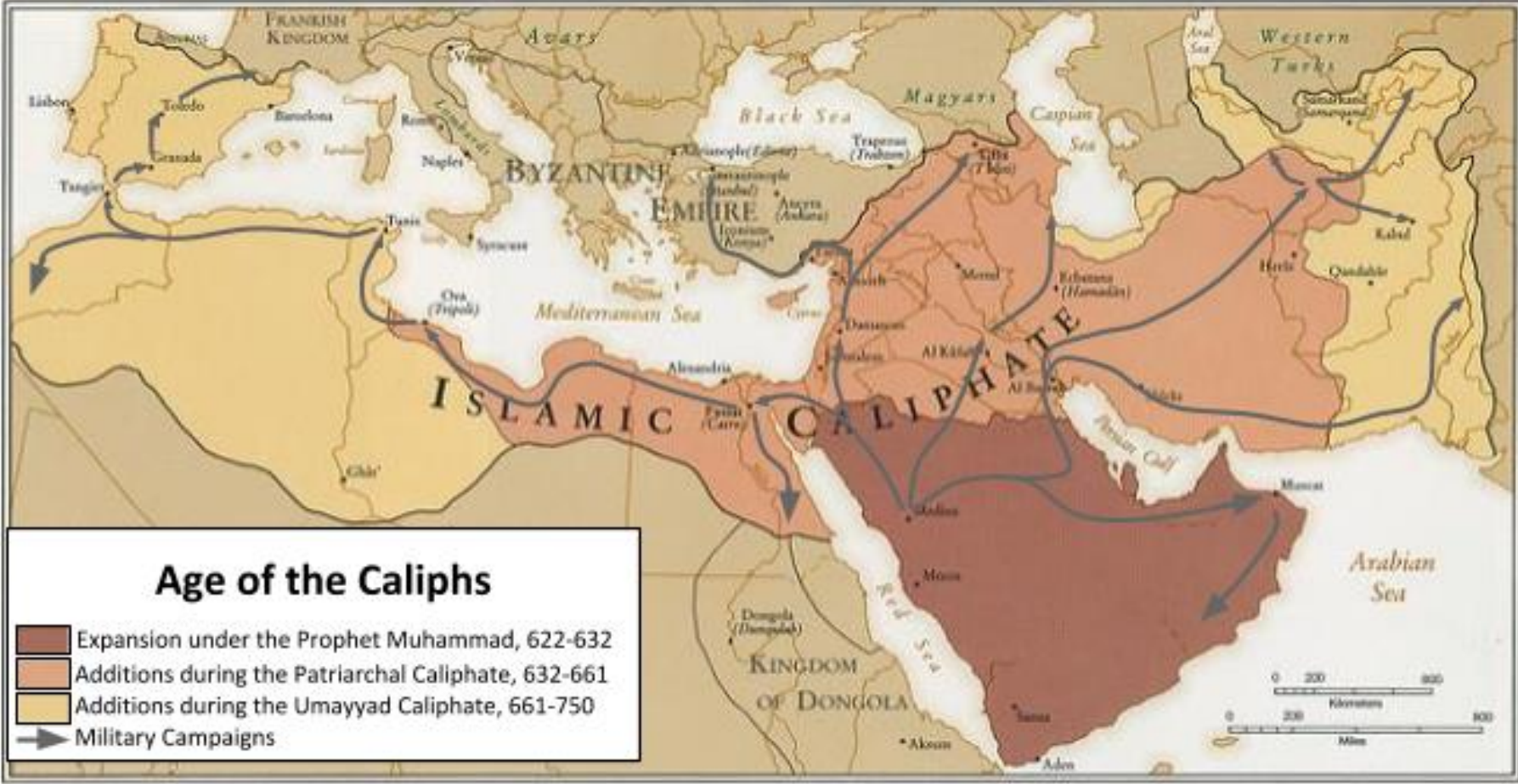
Checkpoint

How did the Abbasids rise and fall?

Document 1: Timeline of the Rise of Islamic Empires (570-1248 CE)



Document 2: Map of Islamic Conquests 622-750



Document 3: Tariq's Address to His Soldiers, 711 CE

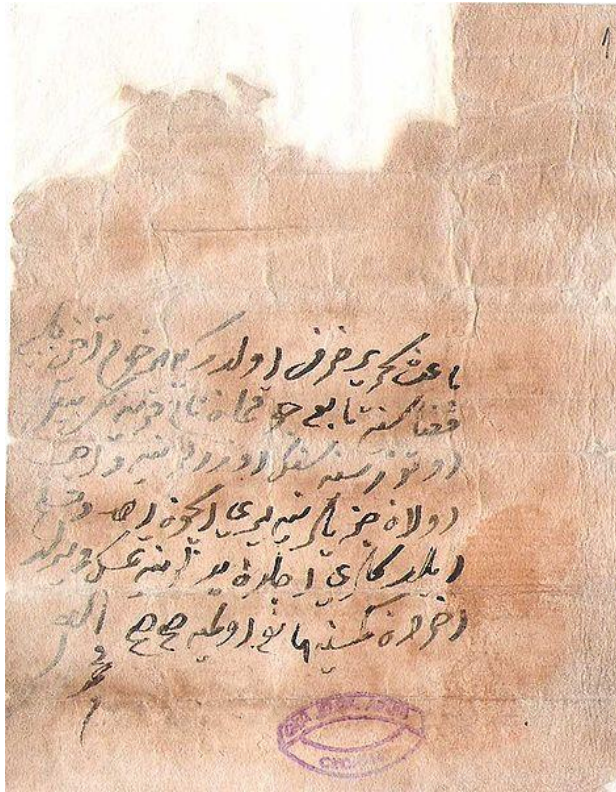
Tariq ibn Ziyad was a Muslim commander during the Umayyad Dynasty who led the armies that conquered most of Spain from 711 to 718 CE. To cross from north Africa to Europe, Tariq ibn Ziyad took his troops across a narrow strip of sea that separates the two continents. At the time of his crossing, it was called the Strait of Hercules, but after his successful military campaign and the Muslim conquest of Spain, it was renamed the Strait of Gibraltar. The name Gibraltar is the Spanish version of the name *Jabal Tariq*, meaning “mountain of Tariq,” referring to the Rock of Gibraltar, a rock formation where Tariq ibn Ziyad gathered his troops near the strait.

The speech below was supposedly given by Tariq ibn Ziyad to his soldiers after they landed in Europe and he had their ships burned so they had no way of returning to North Africa. The speech was recorded by Al-Maqqari, an Arab historian in the early 1600s in his book *The Breath of Perfumes*.

When Tarik had been informed of the approach of the enemy, he rose in the midst of his companions and, after having glorified God in the highest, he spoke to his soldiers thus:

"...Remember that if you suffer a few moments in patience, you will afterward enjoy supreme delight. Do not imagine that your fate can be separated from mine, and rest assured that if you fall, I shall perish with you, or avenge you. You have heard that in this country there are a large number of ravishingly beautiful Greek maidens, their graceful forms are draped in sumptuous gowns on which gleam pearls, coral, and purest gold, and they live in the palaces of royal kings. The Commander of True Believers, Alwalid, son of Abdalmelik [Caliph of the Umayyad Dynasty], has chosen you for this attack from among all his Arab warriors; and he promises that you shall become his comrades and shall hold the rank of kings in this country. Such is his confidence in your intrepidity. The one fruit which he desires to obtain from your bravery is that the word of God shall be exalted in this country, and that the true religion shall be established here. The spoils will belong to yourselves."

Document 4: Religious Toleration and the Poll Tax



A jizyah document from the Ottoman Empire in 1615 stating the amount owed to the government by a non-Muslim living in the empire.

Islamic Caliphates after the death of Muhammad followed the example he started when dealing with non-Muslims in their empires.

Non-Muslims were allowed to practice their religions and follow their religious laws as long as they paid a yearly tax called the jizyah, sometimes referred to as *kharāj* (though the two were sometimes different taxes), the poll tax, or the land tax.

The jizyah was both a punishment for not converting to Islam and payment for continued protection to practice one's religion. The money from the tax was used to finance the government and for the welfare fund that supported Muslims and non-Muslims alike.

With a few exceptions, the jizyah is no longer collected in Muslim majority countries.

Document 5: Pact of Umar

Starting in the mid-600s CE, Islamic armies conquered vast regions in the Middle East, north Africa, and Europe. The areas they conquered were often home to people who were not Muslims. In those areas, the rulers of Islamic Caliphates often made agreements with non-Muslims based on the Pact of Umar, a document that originated in 637 and was the first of these agreements which was between Umar I, one of the first and most powerful caliphs, and the Christians of Syria. The excerpt below is from a Pact of Umar that was used in the 9th century.

In the name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate!

This is a writing to Umar from the Christians of such and such a city. When You [Muslims] marched against us [Christians],: we asked of you protection for ourselves, our posterity, our possessions, and our co-religionists; and we made this stipulation with you,

that we will not erect in our city or the suburbs any new monastery [place where monks live], church, cell or hermitage [secluded retreat];
that we will not repair any of such buildings that may fall into ruins, or renew those that may be situated in the Muslim quarters of the town;
that we will not refuse the Muslims entry into our churches either by night or by day;
that we will open the gates wide to passengers and travellers;
that we will receive any Muslim traveller into our houses and give him food and lodging for three nights;
that we will not harbor any spy in our churches or houses, or conceal any enemy of the Muslims.

That we will not teach our children the Qu'ran;
that we will not make a show of the Christian religion nor invite anyone to embrace it;
that we will not prevent any of our kinsmen from embracing Islam, if they so desire.

That we will honor the Muslims and rise up in our assemblies when they wish to take their seats; that we will not imitate them in our dress, either in the cap, turban, sandals, or parting of the hair; that we will not make use of their expressions of speech, nor adopt their surnames...
that we will not sell wine;

That we will not display the cross upon our churches or display our crosses or our sacred books in the streets of the Muslims, or in their marketplaces;
that we will not recite our services in a loud voice when a Muslim is present;
that we will not carry Palm branches [on Palm Sunday] or our images in procession in the streets; that at the burial of our dead we will not chant loudly or carry lighted candles in the streets of the Muslims or their marketplaces;
and that we will not strike any Muslim.

All this we promise to observe, on behalf of ourselves and our co-religionists, and receive protection from you in exchange; and if we violate any of the conditions of this agreement, then we forfeit your protection and you are at liberty to treat us as enemies and rebels.

Document 6: Umayyad (661- 750) and Abbasid (750-1258) Dynasties Centralize and Standardize the Islamic Caliphates

After over one hundred years of rapid growth, the Islamic caliphates ruled by the Umayyad Dynasty (661-750) and the Abbasid Dynasty (750-1258) consolidated and maintained Muslim power by organizing their governments and creating long-lasting political institutions. Read about some of the methods that the Umayyad and Abbasid Dynasties used to consolidate and maintain their power below.

Document 6a: Arabic Made the Official Language



[Image](#) created by murraytheb and is in the public domain.

"Arabic Language" in the Arabic Al-Bayan Script

The area controlled by the Umayyad and Abbasid Dynasties were diverse in culture, religion, and language. Before the Umayyad dynasty, each of the areas in the empire kept records in their local language or often Greek since that was the language the Byzantines used. The Umayyad made Arabic the official language of the empire and required that all government documents were written in it. The Abbasid Dynasty continued the same policy.

Document 6b: Standard Coinage



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Two copper coins from the Umayyad Caliphate. Aleppo, Syria, ca. 695 CE.

The Umayyad and Abbasid Dynasties replaced Byzantine coins and the coins of other empires that once ruled the areas they controlled with coins that they minted themselves, communicating to inhabitants that they were in control of the economy.



I don't get it...



I get it!

EXIT CARD
Please jot down what you
have gotten from today's
lesson and what you still
have questions on.