

The Birth of Islam

- **Bedouins** = nomadic tribes in the Arabian Peninsula
- **Mecca** = trade center
- **Ka'aba**, contained statues of over 360 Arab deities (Allah was one of the gods in the Arabic pantheon)



Bedouin Tribes



















Before Muhammad

Arabian Peninsula:

- **Coast—settled towns**
- **Interior—Bedouin tribes**



- **Clans fought one another**
- **Isolated—culture not highly developed**
- **Women:**
 - **Had rights**
 - **Traced lineage through maternal line**

Sandstorm March 10, 2009

Saudi Arabia

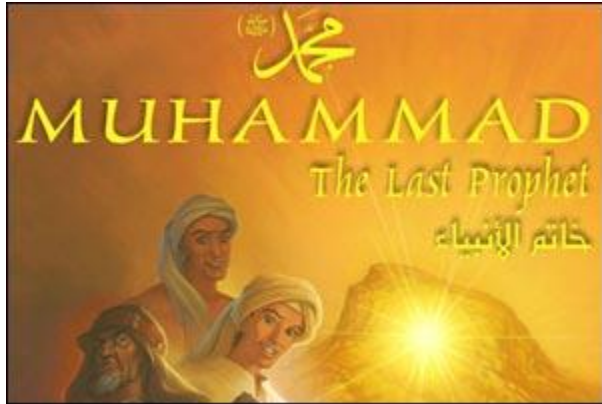




Muhammad

- **Born in Mecca**
- **Married Khadija (boss) at age 25**
- **Night of Power—610 C.E.** He experienced a revelation/vision from archangel Gabriel
- **His teaching: only one God and all must worship**
- **Most Meccans persecute him**
 - **He and his followers flee to Medina (became 1st year of calendar)**

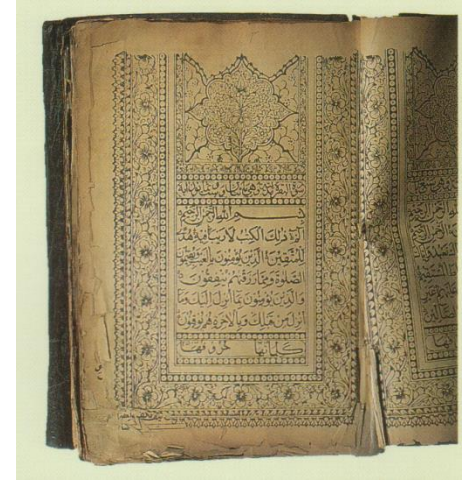
Life of Muhammad Cont.



- Muslims eventually defeat Meccans and destroy the idols in the Ka'aba
- Turned **Ka'aba** into a sanctuary believed to be built by Abraham
- Last and greatest prophets
- Died w/o choosing a successor

Beliefs of Islam

- **Quran (Koran) = holy book**
- **Mecca = most holy city**
- **Medina = 2nd most holy city**
- **Jerusalem = 3rd most holy city**
- **Mosque = place of worship**



Ka'aba





**“Truth has come and
falsehood has vanished.”**

**Muhammad
(when he enters the Ka’aba
in 630 C.E.)**





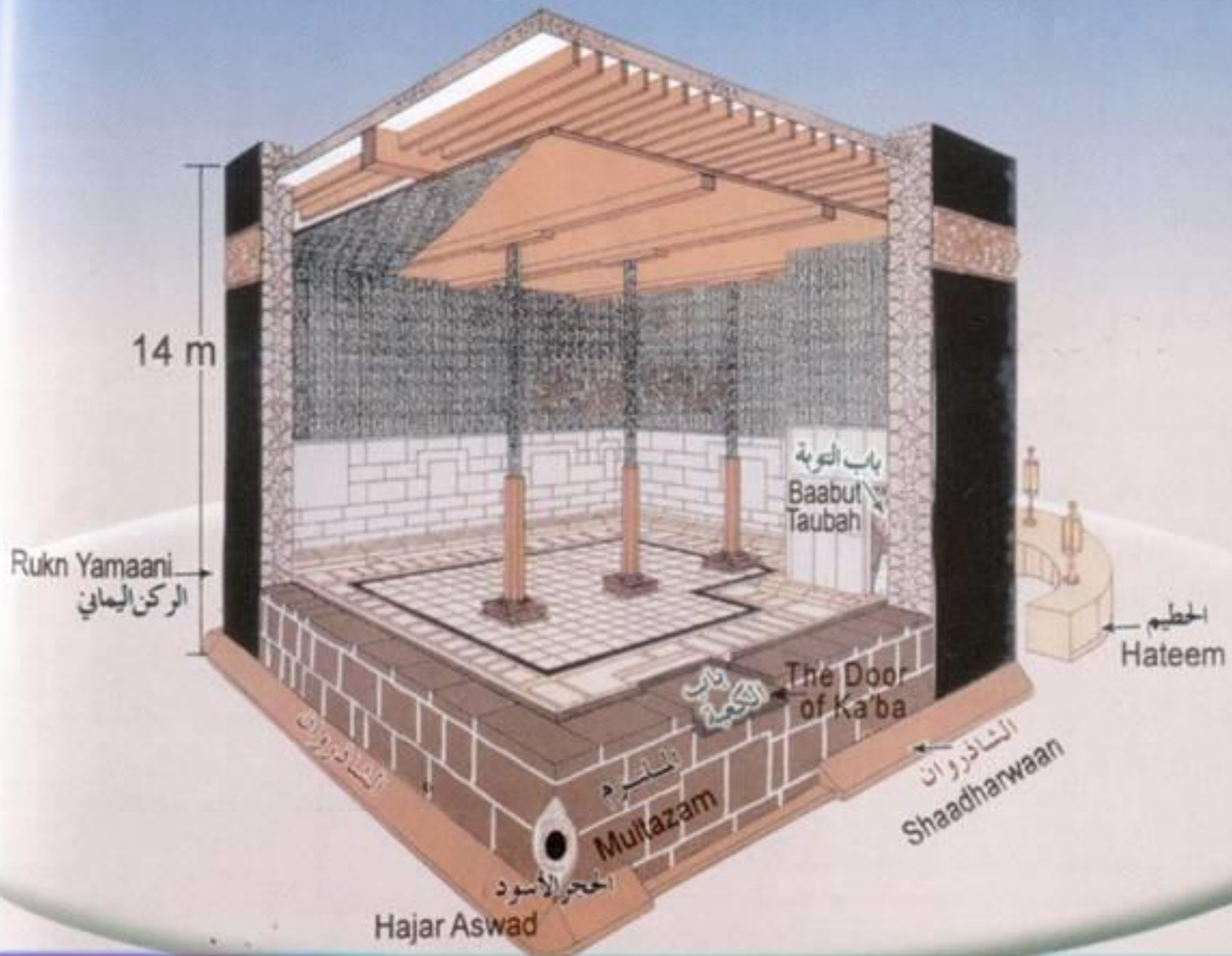
الكعبة المشرفة - مكة المكرمة
Abdulrahman Khuraym Photography

Black Stone—originally white, but turned
black by absorbing the sins of those who touch and kiss it



A white stone given to Adam

The Interior of the Ka'bah







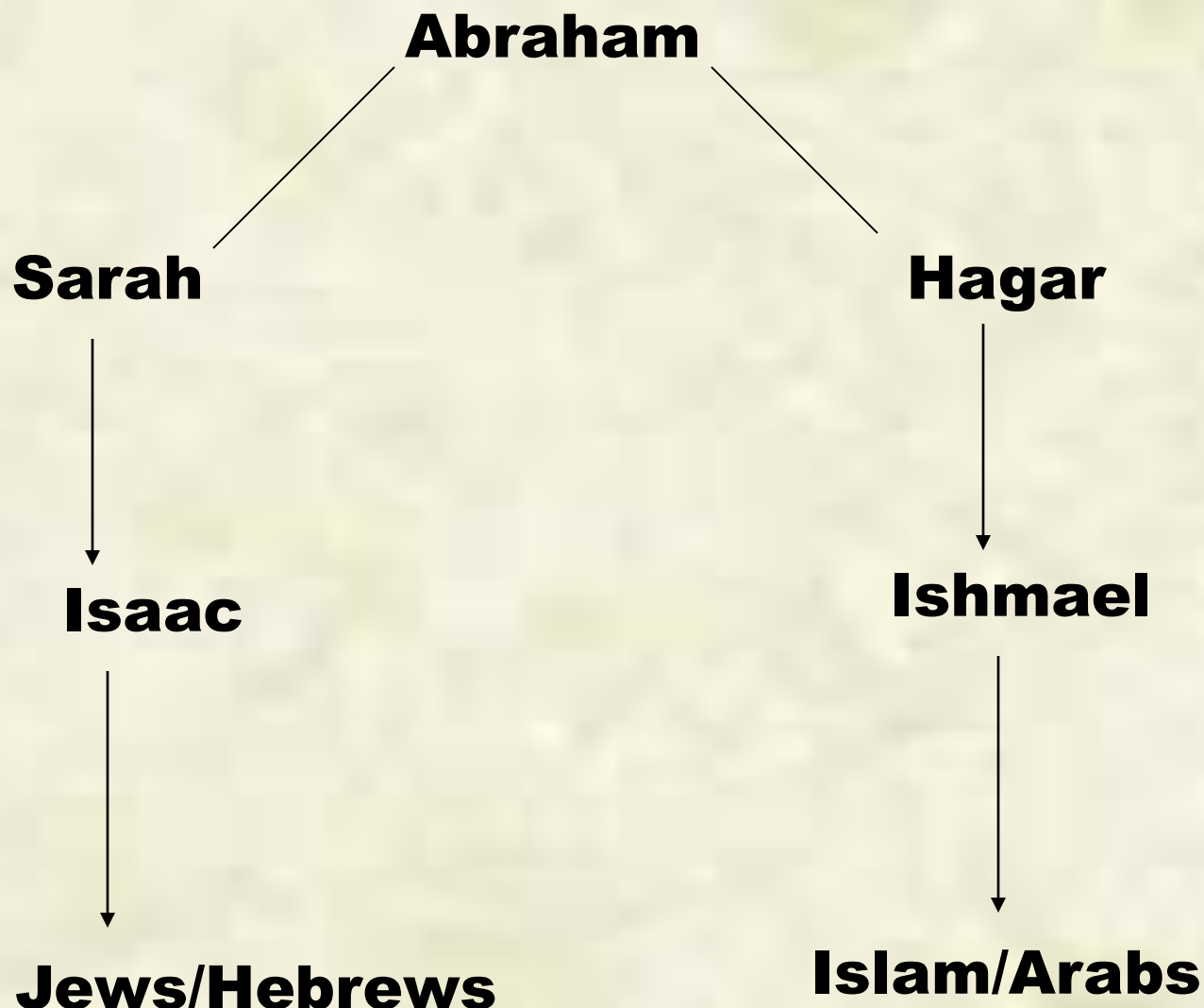
داخل الكعبة المشرفة

Beliefs About Christianity

- Jesus was a **prophet** of God, not God incarnate
- He was not crucified b/c God would not allow one of His prophets to be killed
- Islam is a **continuation** of Judaism and Christianity
- Jews and Christians called “**people of the book**”



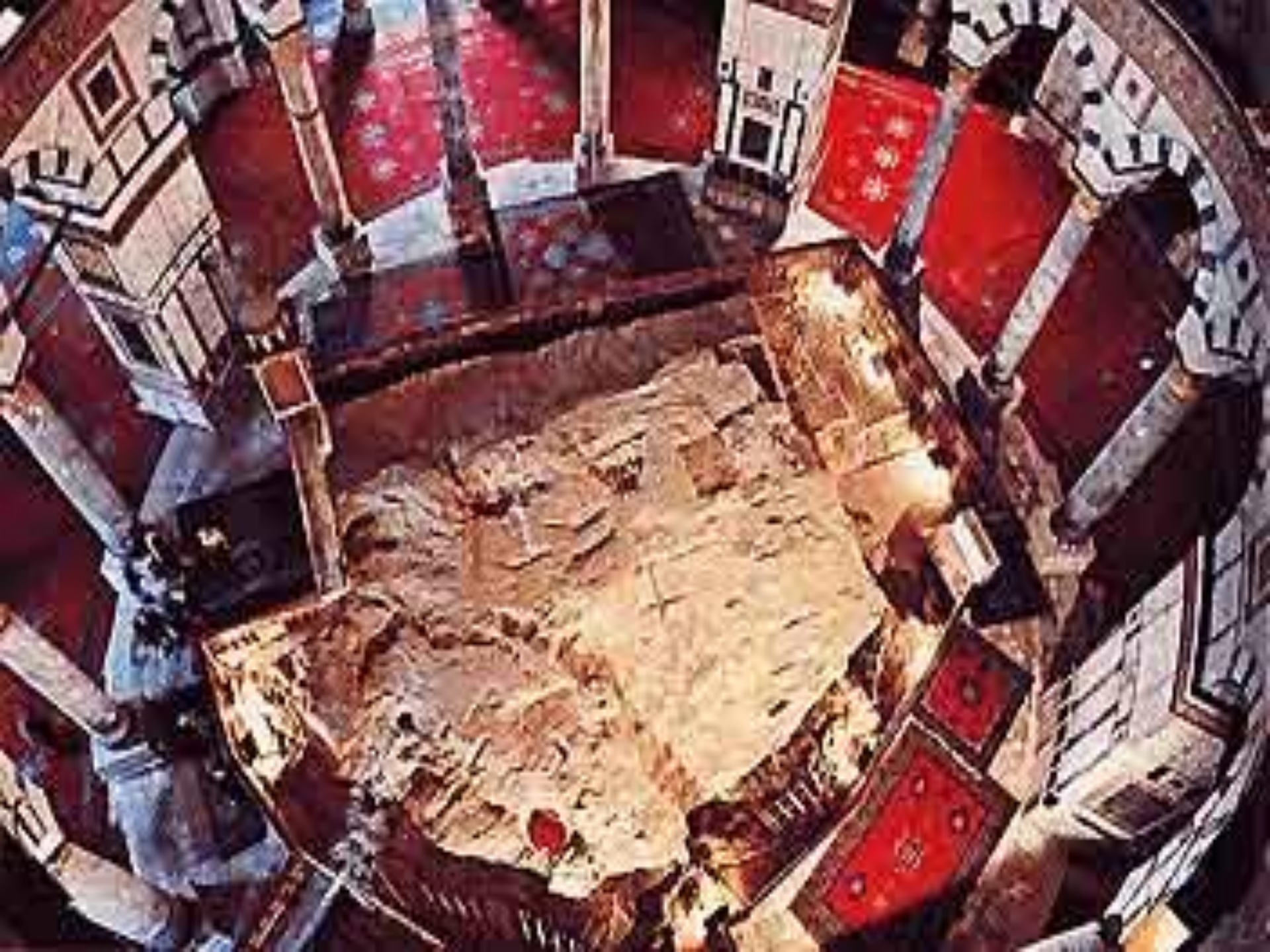
Connection Between Islam and Judaism

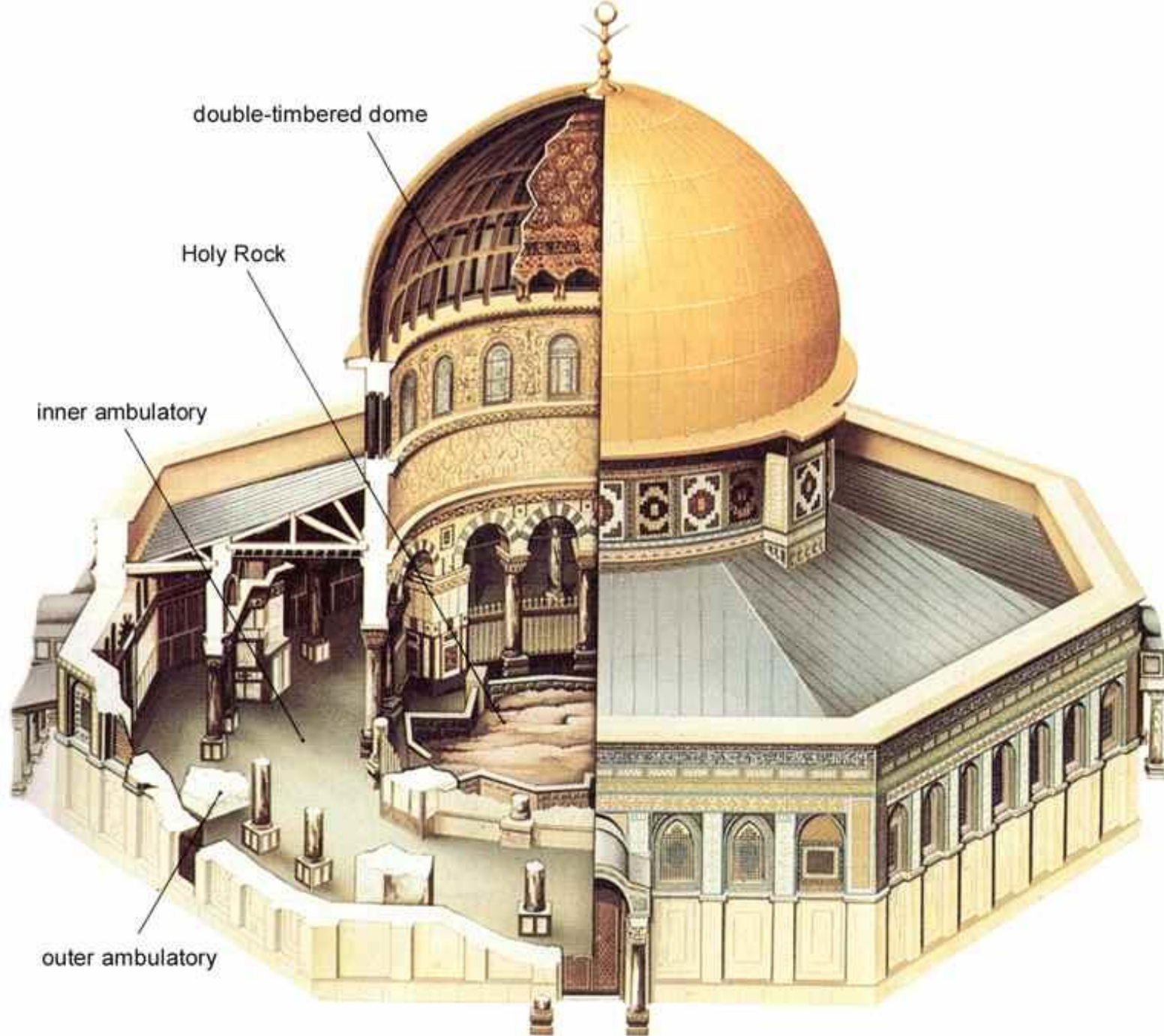


Dome of the Rock—Jerusalem





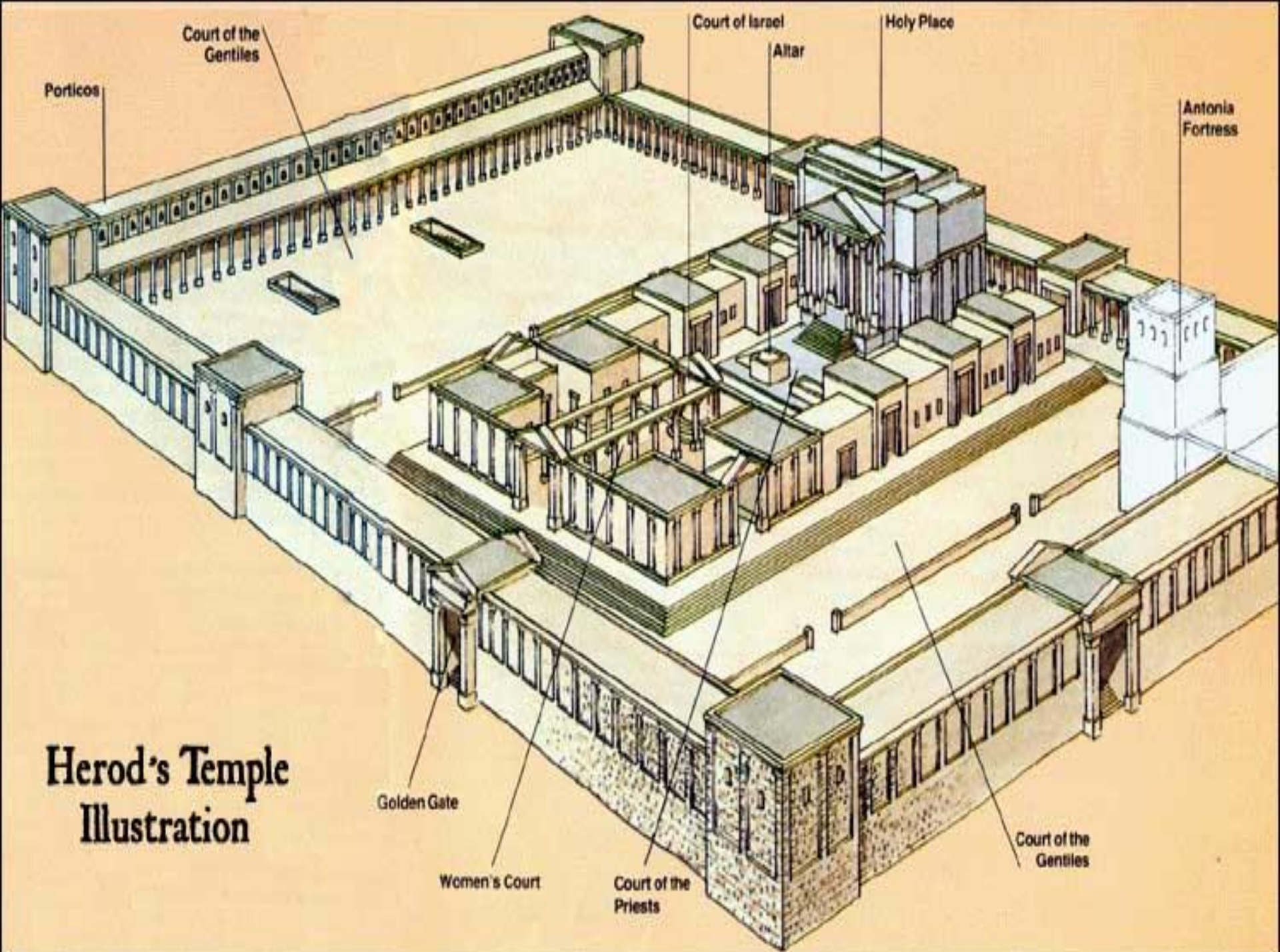












**Herod's Temple
Illustration**

Jewish Temple

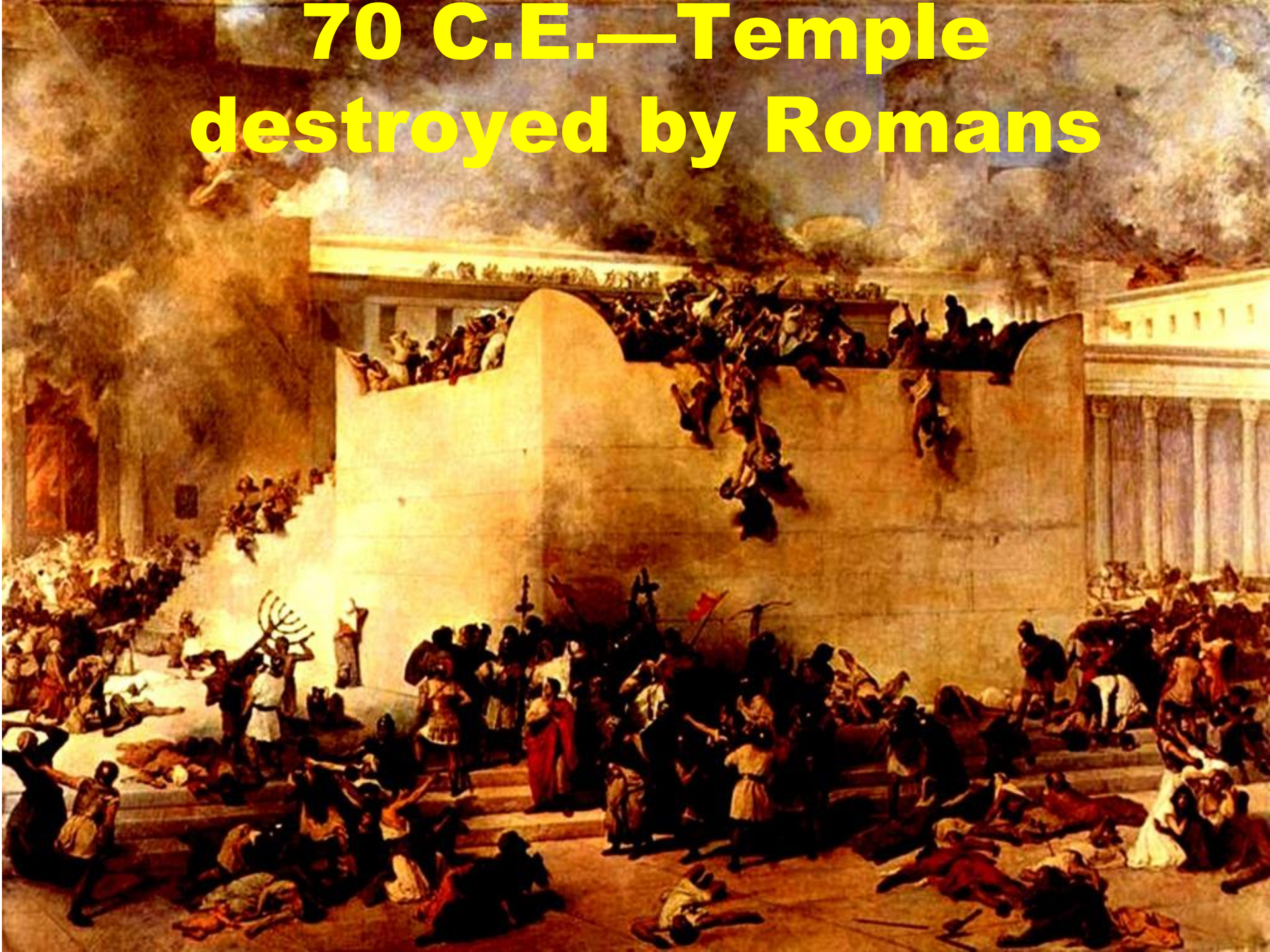


The temple as it may have appeared in Jesus' day, overlaid on today's site



The Dome of the Rock now occupies the temple mount

70 C.E.—Temple destroyed by Romans





Dome of the Rock and the Wailing Wall























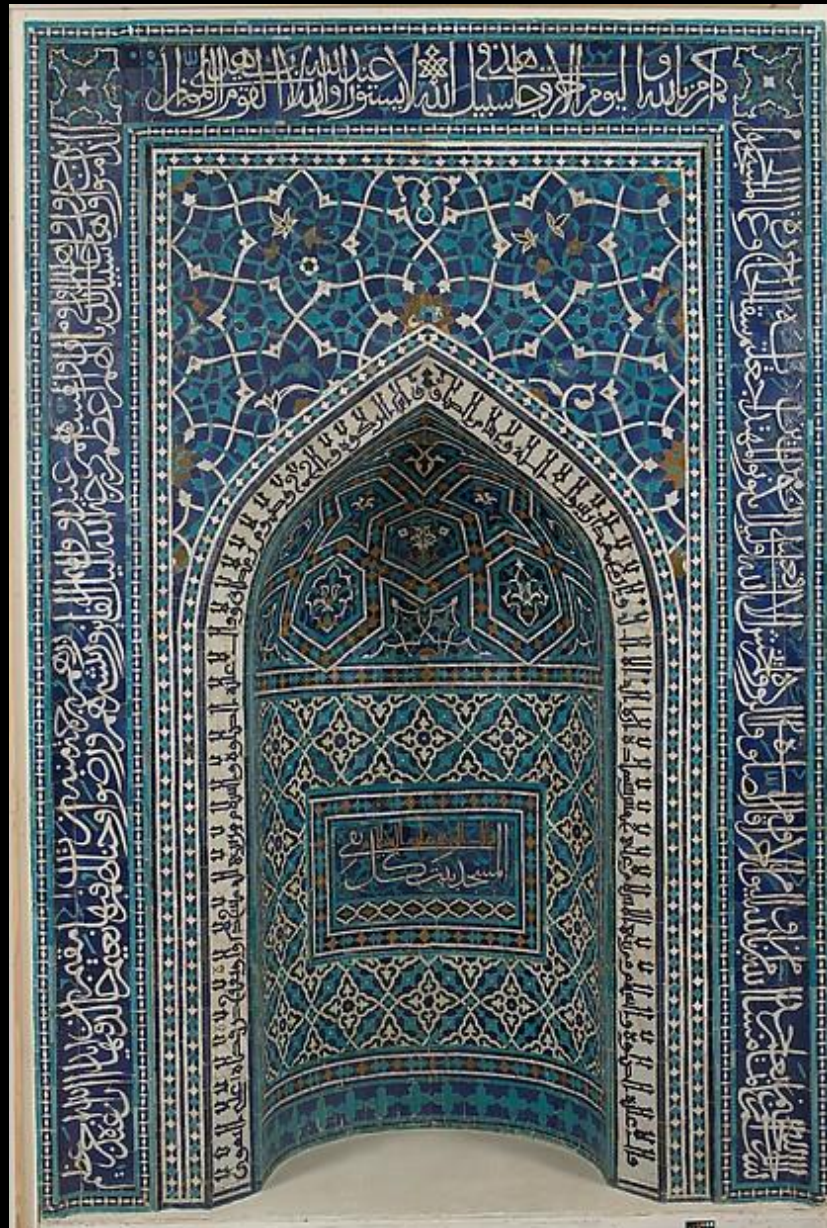
Five Pillars of Islam

- 1. “There is no god but Allah and Muhammad is his prophet”**
- 2. Pray 5 times a day**
- 3. Charity or alms**
- 4. Fasting during the month of Ramadan**
- 5. Pilgrimage to Mecca (hajj)**

- 6. Jihad (often referred to as 6th)**
 - “fight” or “strive” in path of Allah**
 - Not to harm civilians, not to destroy property environment**
 - War of conquest for conversion**



Mihrab—niche in mosque that marks the direction of Mecca



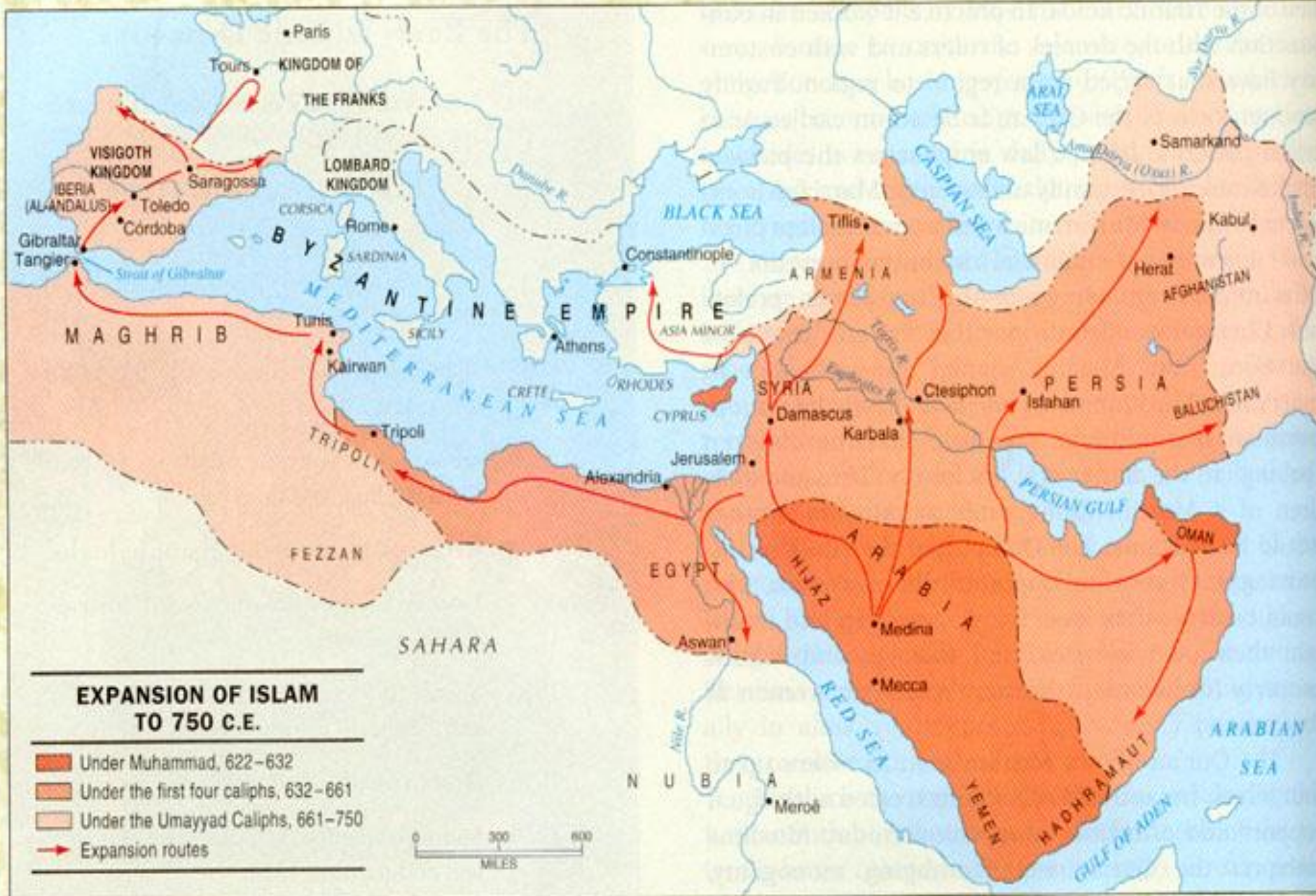


Ramadan



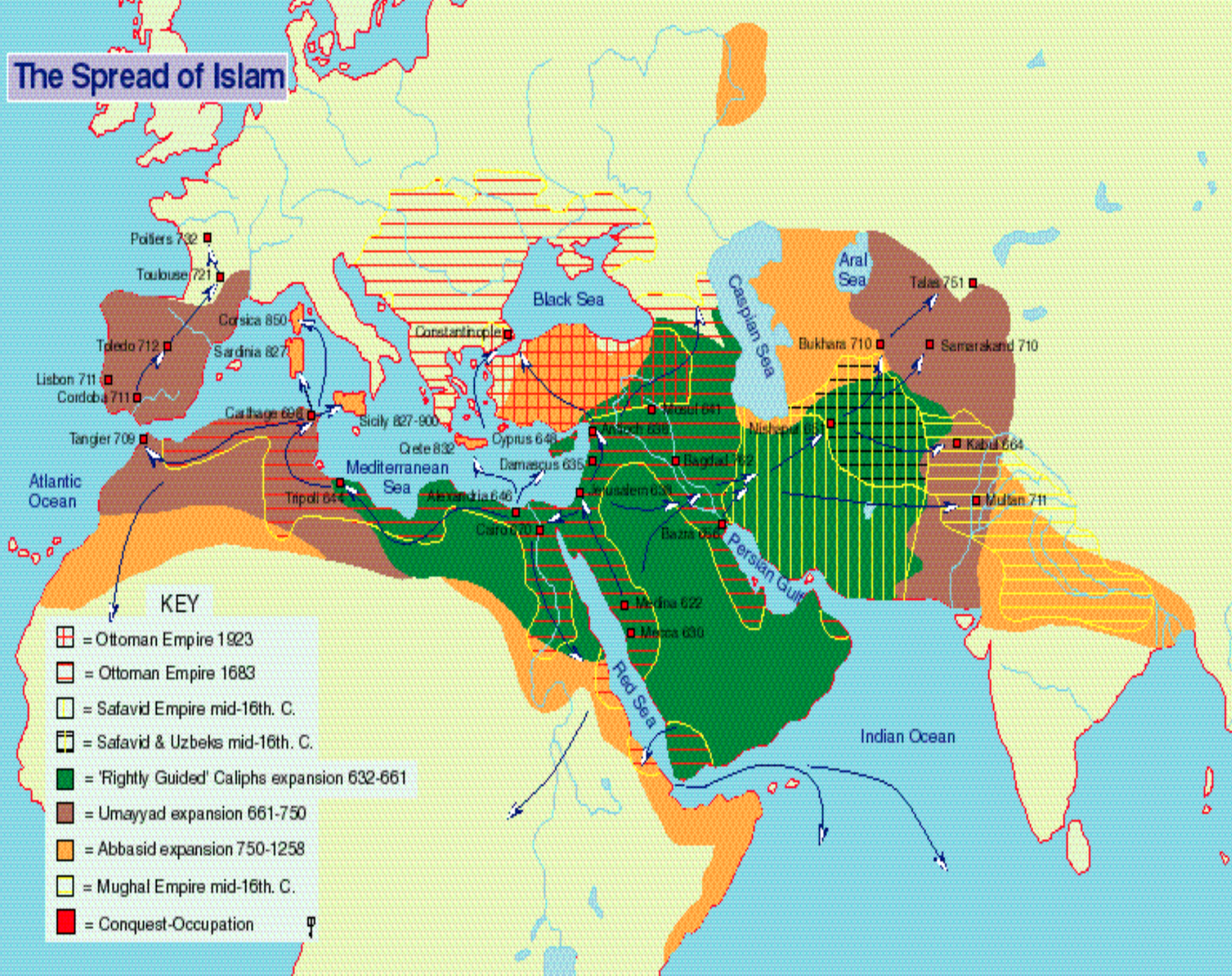
Minaret tower for the call to prayer





The Islamic conquests were rapid and far-reaching. By 750 Islamic monarchs controlled kingdoms stretching from central Asia to Spain.

The Spread of Islam

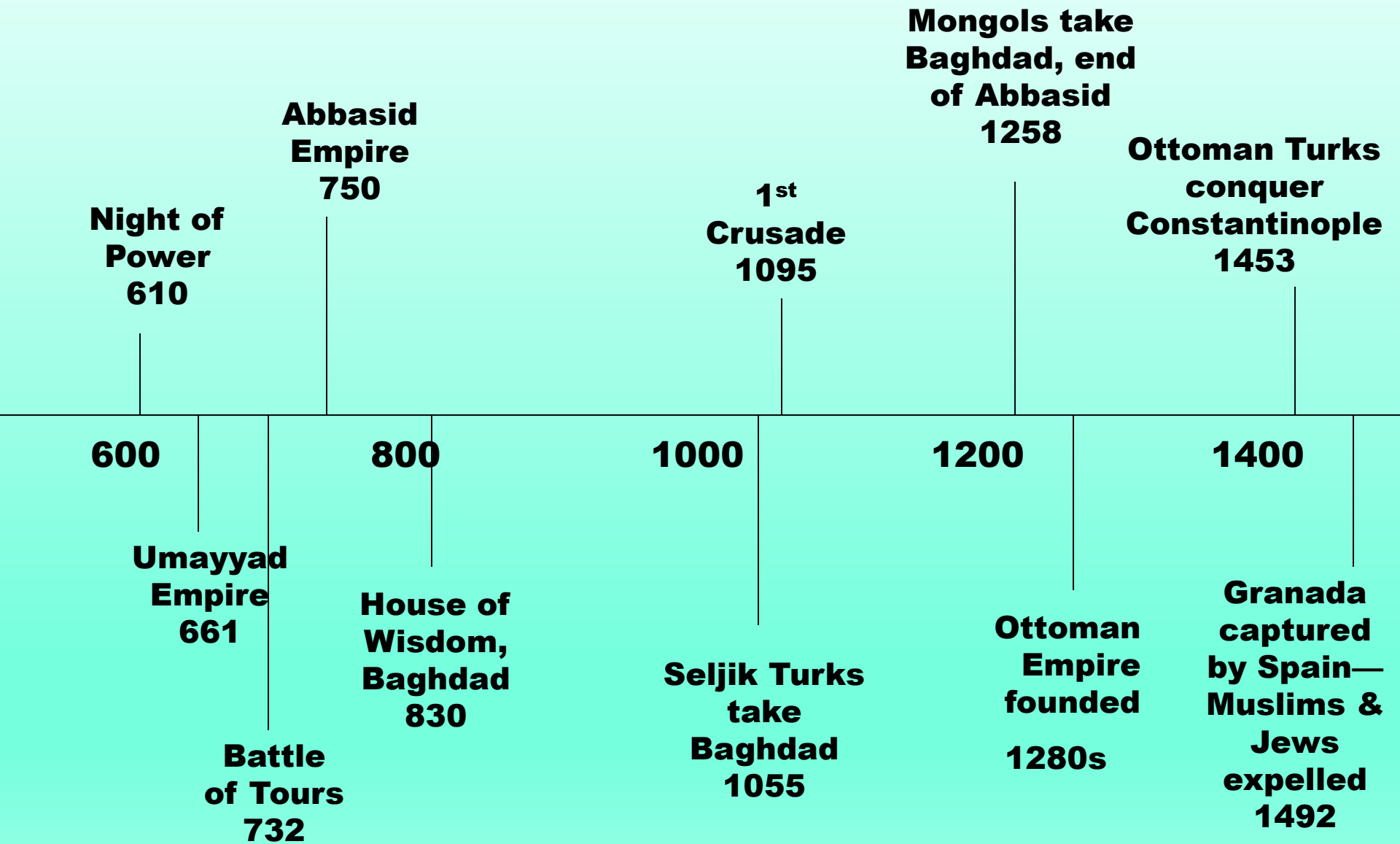


Key Terms

- **Islam = submission to the will of Allah**
- **Umma = community of believers**
- **Hadith = sayings of Muhammad**
- **Caliph = successor to the prophet**



Islam Timeline

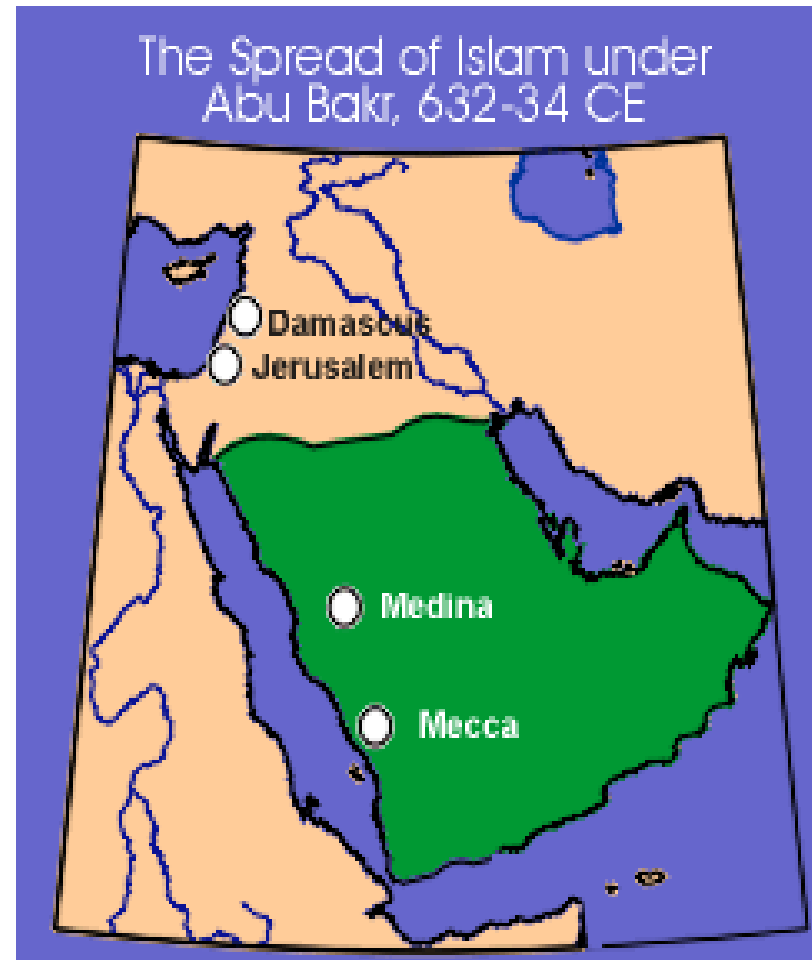


Islamic Empires

- **1st Four Caliphs 632-661**
 - “Rightfully Guided Caliphs” according to Sunni
 - Abu Bakr, Umar, Uthman, Ali
- **Umayyad Empire 661-750**
- **Abbasid Empire 750-1258**
- **Umayyad Empire in Cordoba (Spain) 711-1031**
- **Fatimid Caliphate in Egypt 910-1171**
- **Ottoman Empire 1350-1918**
- **Safavid Empire 1501-1723 (Persia, Iran)**

Abu Bakr—1st Caliph

- **One of Muhammad's original converts**
- **Muhammad's father-in-law**
- **Ridda Wars—against apostasy**
 - **Apostasy was a capital offense under Islamic laws**
- **Brought central Arabia under his control**



Umar—2nd Caliph

- **Dilemma arises—Shi'i (Shi'ite or Shi'a) say that Ali should have been the next caliph**
 - (actually they say Ali should have been the 1st—but he was denied it b/c he was so young)
- **Empire grew**
- **Took Jerusalem in 637**
- **Assassinated in 644 (stabbed 6 xs)**



Uthman—3rd Caliph

- **From the Umayyad Clan (Muhammad's enemy)**
- **Appointed kinsmen as governors of newly conquered territories**
- **Assassinated**

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ إِنَّا خَلَقْنَاكُمْ مِنْ
ذَكَرٍ وَأُنْثَى وَجَعَلْنَاكُمْ شُعُوبًا
وَقَبَائِلَ لِتَعَارَفُوا إِنَّ أَكْرَمَكُمْ عِنْدَ
اللَّهِ أَتَقَرُّمُ إِلَيْهِ

O mankind! We created you from a single soul, male and female, and made you into nations and tribes, so that you may come to know one another. Truly, the most honored of you in God's sight is the greatest of you in piety. God is All-Knowing, All-Aware. (Quran, 49:13)

“The people rushed upon him some striking him with their scabbard, others striking him with their fists. A man came at him with a broad iron-tipped arrow and stabbed the front of his throat, and his blood fell on the Koran. Yet even when they were in the state they feared killing him. Uthman was old and he fainted. His wife... wailed loudly. Al-Tujibi came, drawing his sword to thrust into his belly. When [Uthman’s wife] protected Uthman, he cut her hand. Then he leaned with his sword upon his chest; and Uthman, Allah bless him, was killed before sundown.”

Ibn Jarir al-Tabari (923)

Ali—4th Caliph

- **Cousin & son-in-law to Muhammad (Shi'i say he was 1st male convert)**
- **Shi'i support—saw him as the first rightful caliph**
- **Assassinated—in a mosque during prayers (Ramadan)**



Sasanid Empire—(2nd Persian Empire) conquered by Muslims in 651



Umayyad Empire

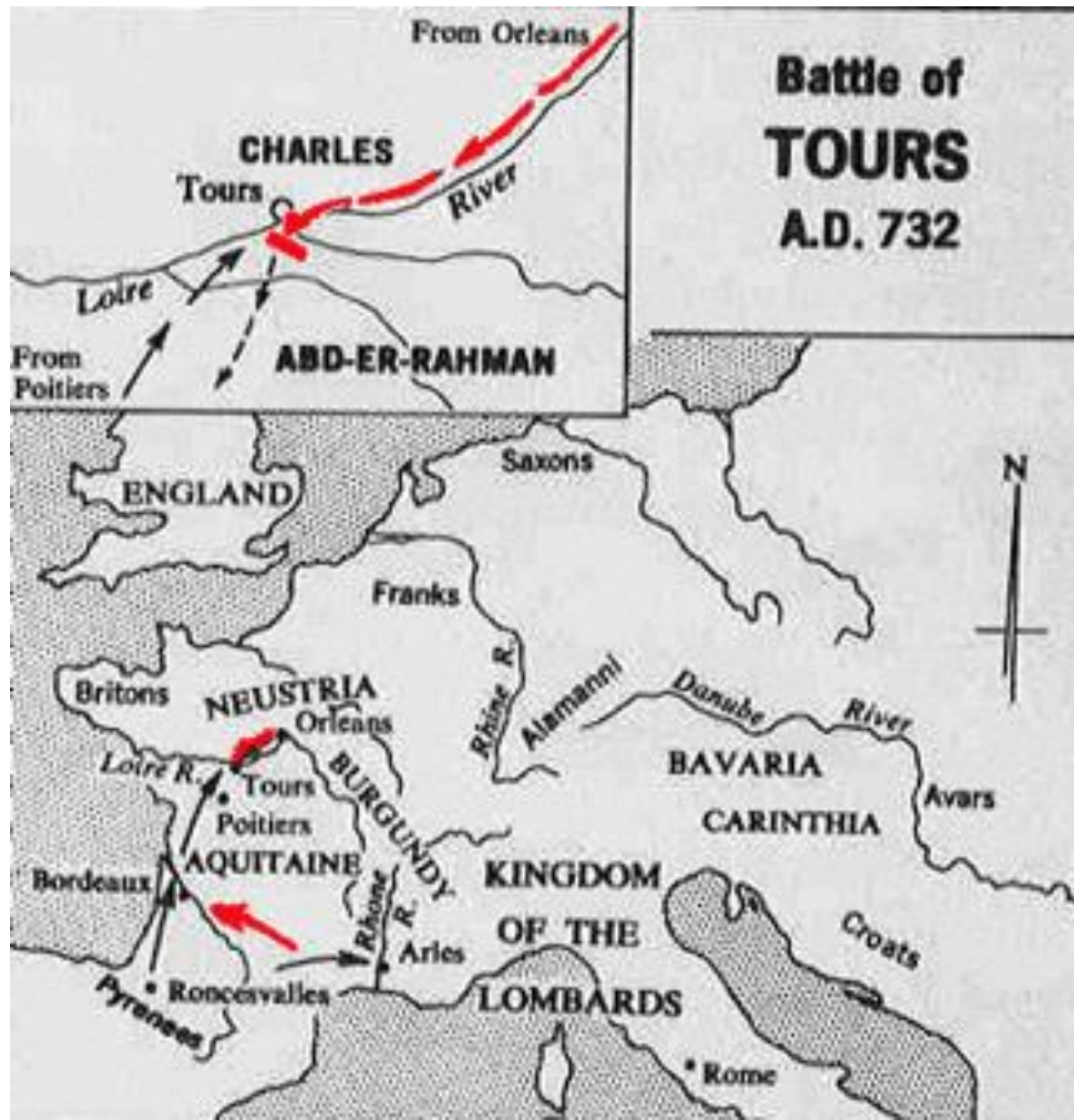
- **Capital in Damascus**
- **Great expansion—North Africa & Iberian Peninsula to present-day Pakistan**
- **Expansion led to their downfall**
- **Abbasid had been their enemy clan**



Umayyad Empire—6,000 miles (2xs the size of the U.S.)



Battle of Tours—732 C.E.



“By the early eighth century, the Islamic empire stretched from North Africa on the west to [modern-day Pakistan] in the east, nearly one quarter the way around the globe, an area that made the empires of the Persians, Alexander the Great, and the Romans seem puny...The Muslims, no longer Arab merchants from the heartland of Arabia, became masters of the economic and cultural heartland of the Near East, and their faith, Islam, was no longer as obscure Arabian cult but the religion of an imperial elite.”

Jonathan Bloom and Sheila Blair (2000)

Abbasid Empire

- Clan was more closely related to Muhammad than Umayyad
- Move capital to Baghdad

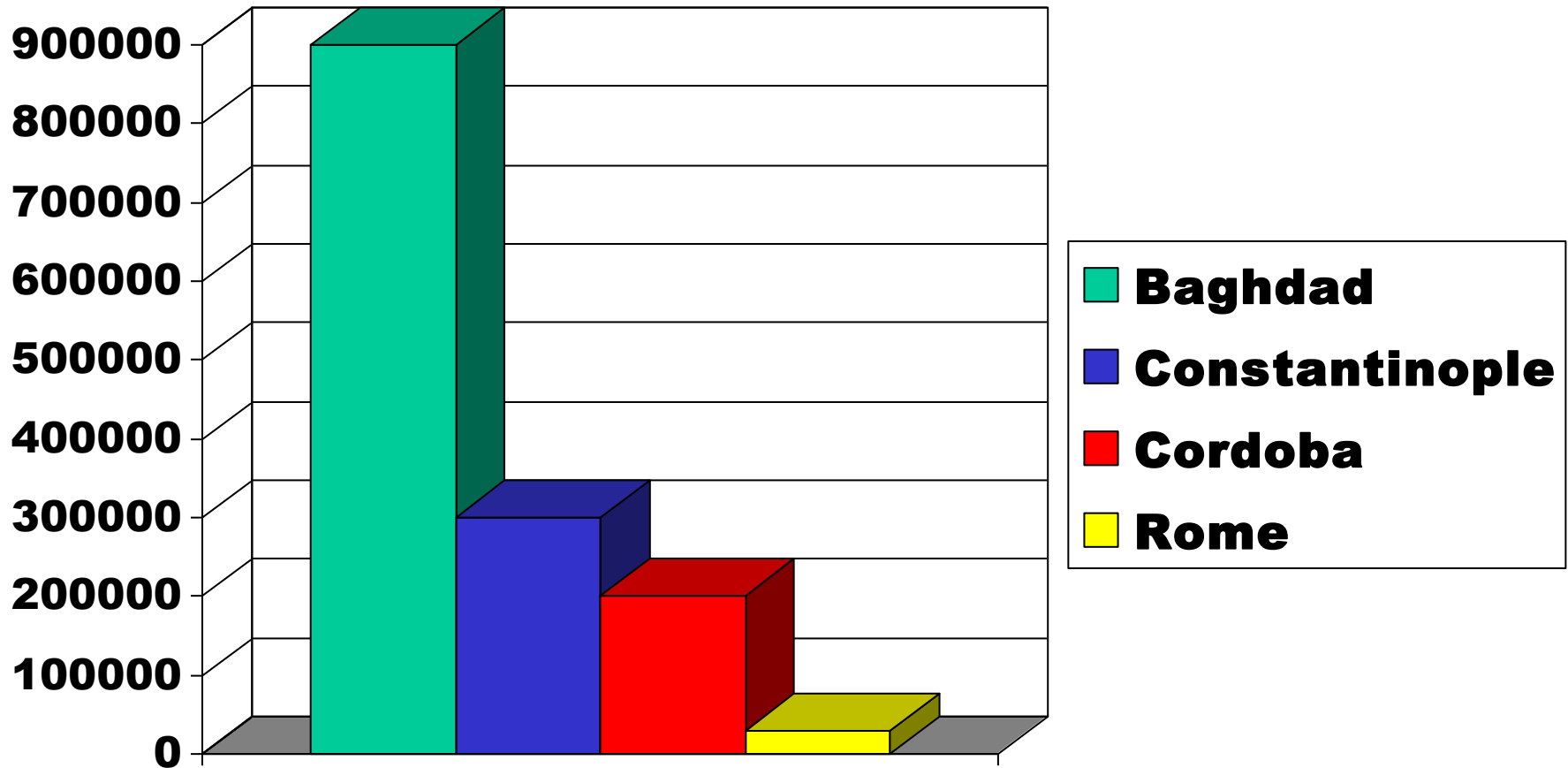


Abu al-Abbas

- **Shi'i ally**
- **Mawali support him to get acceptance**
- **1st of the Abbasid**



Urban Centers, 900 C.E.



Islamic Trade World

