# Islam Notes

## The Roots of Islam

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What have I learned?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Islam began on the <strong>Arabian Peninsula.</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 3 Influences on Islam

1. **Zoroastrianism**
2. **Judaism**
3. **Nestorian Christianity**

**Bedouins** were desert dwellers known for their great **survival** ability.

The Bedouins’ ideas of **hospitality & loyalty** to family will greatly influence Islam.

The city of **Mecca** was an important stop on the Arabian trade routes.

Pilgrims would make their way to Mecca to worship at the shrine called the **Kaabah**.

**Hanifs** were unique in the Arab region because while most Arabs were polytheists, Hanifs worshipped one god they called **Allah**.

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## Muhammad

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What have I learned?</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Muhammad</strong> was born in <strong>Mecca</strong> to a powerful Meccan family.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As a young man, Muhammad began working in the **caravan** trade.

Muhammad eventually married his first wife, **Khadija**, who owned the caravan.

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## The Revelations

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age 40, <strong>Muhammad</strong> hears the voice of the angel <strong>Gabriel</strong> while meditating outside a cave.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Gabriel** “reveals” messages from God. Muhammad is to deliver the messages or “**revelations**” to the people of Mecca.

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## Name the other 2 religions that began on the Arabian Peninsula?

- Zoroastrianism
- Judaism

## What people are portrayed in the picture below?

**Bedouins**

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## How does the picture below relate to the history of Muhammad?

**Muhammad traveled in such caravans between Mecca and Medina on behalf of his merchant uncle.**

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## This translated quotation from the Qur’an (Koran) refers to

- A. Buddha
- B. Muhammad
- C. Shiva
- D. **Allah**
Muhammad becomes convinced that he was the prophet of God (Allah).

Allah is the one & only god – all other gods must be abandoned.

Islam = “submission to the will of Allah”

Muslim = “one who submits to the will of Allah”

Muhammad was exiled by the people of Mecca because merchants feared the pilgrimages to the city would stop.

Muhammad & his followers were exiled to Medina.

**The Hijrah (Hegira)**

Muhammad escaped the persecution in Mecca by migrating to the city of Medina in 622. In Yathrib, Muhammad was accepted as a political & religious leader.

Yathrib was renamed Medina - (city of the prophet.)

The significance of the migration (Hegira) is that it resulted in the first community of Muslims in Islam.

622 CE marks the first year of the Islamic Calendar.

In 630 CE, Muhammad led his Bedouin fighters towards Mecca where leaders soon surrendered.

In Mecca, Muhammad made his way to the Kaabah, destroyed its idols & remade it a Muslim shrine by calling for prayer from its rooftop.

**What have I learned?**

Muhammad’s Hijirah

![Map of the Spread of Islam](image)

The Arabs trace their ancestors to Abraham and his son Ishmael, who were believed to have built a house of worship called the Kaaba at Makkah (Mecca). A sacred stone, called the Black Stone, is the cornerstone of the Kaaba.

The Arabs revered the Ka’aba for its association with the house of God.

**Reasons for its Quick Spread:**

1. Exhaustion by the Byzantine and Sassanid Empires
2. The ease of Islam for the newly faithful
3. Muslim armies spread into lands they conquered.

“Perhaps . . . another kind of explanation can be given for the acceptance of Arab rule by the population of the conquered countries. To most of them it did not much matter whether they were ruled by Iranians, Greeks or Arabs. Government impinged for the most part on the life of cities . . . [City-dwellers might not care much who ruled them, provided they were secure, at peace and reasonably taxed. The people of the countryside . . . lived under their own chiefs and . . . with their own customs, and it made little difference to them who ruled the cities. For some, the replacement of Greeks and Iranians by Arabs even offered advantages.”

According to the passage, why was Arab rule readily accepted by people in the countryside?

A. All governments made people’s lives difficult.
B. Arab customs were already familiar to them.
C. The Arab government treated people in the countryside better than people living in cities.
D. Arab govt focused on cities and largely left people in the countryside alone.
### Beliefs & Practices

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What have I learned?</th>
<th>1. Only one God - Allah</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. In the name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Praise be to Allah, The Cherisher and Sustainer of the Worlds;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Most Gracious, Most Merciful;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Thee do we worship, And Thine aid we seek.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Show us the straight way,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. The way of those on whom Thou hast bestowed Thy Grace, Those whose (portion) is not wrath, And who go not astray.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### What have I learned?

- **1.** Allah
- **2.** Good and Evil exist
- **3.** People have Free Will
- **4.** There is a Heaven & Hell, and there will be a Final Judgement Day
- **5.** The Quran is the Holy Book of God

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### The 5 Pillars of Islam

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What have I learned?</th>
<th>1. Shahadah - sincerely reciting the Muslim profession of faith</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2. Salat - performing ritual prayers in the proper way five times each day.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Zakat - paying an alms (or charity) tax to benefit the poor and the needy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Sawm - fasting during the month of Ramadan.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Hajj - pilgrimage to Mecca.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### What have I learned?

- **A.** Baptism
- **B.** Karma
- **C.** Monotheism
- **D.** Animism

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### Which concept is best reflected in this passage?

- **A.** Baptism
- **B.** Karma
- **C.** Monotheism
- **D.** Animism

---

### Muslim Sources of Authority

| What have I learned?                                                                 | 1. Qu’ran                                                                 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|                                                                      |
| 2. Sunnah                                                                            |                                                                      |
| Only Arabic version is true.                                                       |                                                                      |
| 3. Imams                                                                            |                                                                      |
| 4. Sharia                                                                           |                                                                      |
| Body of Law                                                                         |                                                                      |

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### Why do Muslims believe that only the Arabic version of the Qur’an is true?

Because they believe the Arabic version is the only one that has been passed down unfiltered from Muhammad.

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### According to the passage, what helps people as they fast during Ramadan?

The power of God, which sustains them as food does.

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### Muslim Way of Life

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Why do you think Muslims are forbidden to drink alcohol?</th>
<th>Forbidden to eat/drink:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1. Pork</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Alcohol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communal prayer held on Friday</td>
<td>Imam’s are prayer leaders.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### Why do you think Muslims are forbidden to drink alcohol?

Muslims are forbidden to drink alcohol because they believe the Arabic version is the only one that has been passed down unfiltered from Muhammad.
Muslims believe that Jews & Christians are “People of the Book”; that they share a common ancestry—all the way to Abraham.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>After Muhammad</th>
<th>What have I learned?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A caliph is a “successor or deputy”</td>
<td>Growth of Islamic Movement under Abū Bakr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The 1st Caliph was Muhammad’s father-in-law, Abu Bakr.</td>
<td>640 A.D. Gained control of the Byzantine province of Syria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Four Loyal Caliphs are the 1st 4 leaders after Muhammad; named so for their loyalty to Muhammad</td>
<td>642 A.D. Added Egypt and parts of northern Africa to new Arab Empire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Abu Bakr</td>
<td>650 A.D. Conquered the entire Persian empire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Umar</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Uthman</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Ali</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In 656, the caliph, Uthman was murdered.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ali, son-in-law of Muhammad was named 4th Caliph but is challenged by Uthman’s son, Mu’awiyah.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uthman is murdered by a disillusioned follower &amp; Mu’awiyah begins Islam’s first dynasty—the Umayyad dynasty</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Islamic Dynasties

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What have I learned?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Umayyad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Abbasid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Umayyad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Years = 661-750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital = Damascus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions to Govt. = set hereditary system of succession</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abbasid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Years = 750-1258</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital = Baghdad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions to Govt. = opened diplomacy with European states</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

According to the map, which dynasty carried Islam into Spain & Persia?

Islam may have remained intact, instead of breaking into Sunni and Shi’a sects that have been contentious ever since.
### Sunni-Shi’a Split – Islamic Sects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunni</th>
<th>What I have learned?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Support</strong> = Umayyad</td>
<td>How do the beliefs of Shiites and Sunni Muslims differ?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Adherents?</strong> = Majority of Muslims</td>
<td>a. Sunnis seek God through mysticism and elaborate rituals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Imam</strong> = prayer leader only</td>
<td>b. Shiites believe that a caliph has no prophetic functions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Caliph</strong> = any righteous Muslim may be one</td>
<td>c. Shiites are followers of Muhammad’s son-in-law, Ali.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shi’a (Shi’ite)</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Support</strong> = Ali &amp; his family</td>
<td>The ________ accepted the Umayyads as rulers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Adherents?</strong> = Minority of Muslims</td>
<td>A. Shi’a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Imam</strong> = spiritual leader</td>
<td>B. sheikhs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Caliph</strong> = Must be descended of Ali and Fatima</td>
<td>D. Ka’abas</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sufis** are they mystical sect of Islam.

### End of the Spread of Islam

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What I have learned?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Frankish king, Charles Martel stops Muslim advance into Europe.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Grandson of Genghis Khan burns city &amp; kills last Abbasid caliph.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What have I learned?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Which of the following was a result of the Battle of Tours?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Islamic forces gained control of the entire Arabian Peninsula</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Muslim expansion into Europe was halted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. The Byzantine Empire ceased to exist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Spain fell under the control of Islamic forces</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### The Muslim Golden Age - Urban Centers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What I have learned?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education in Muslim cities increased with the creation of universities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muslim scholars played an important role in translating &amp; thereby preserving the works of Greece &amp; Rome.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muslim scholars also improved the discoveries of India &amp; Persia.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The most important Muslim Urban centers were:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Baghdad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Cordoba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Damascus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Cairo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Timbuktu (Mali)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What have I learned?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Which statement about the Golden Age of Islam is a fact rather than an opinion?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Islamic art was more abstract than Greek art</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Muslims were the best early mathematicians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Islamic society preserved Greek and Roman culture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Muslim artists had more talent than European artists</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What have I learned?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>How do you think these cities impacted the spread of Islam?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As non-Muslims are drawn to these reat centers of learning, they are exposed to Islam and its teachings, which they often take back to their own lands.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Role of Women in Islam

Rights of women were/are determined by interpreters of the Koran/Quran.

Women were responsible for the children & home but could also get an education.

Women are often covered by garments called Burkhas.

### What have I learned?

**True or False:** Throughout history, Muslim women have had few rights.

- **False**

## Muslim Universities

The first Muslim University, called the House of Wisdom was opened by Caliph al-Ma’mum in the 800’s CE.

The House of Wisdom included:

1. library
2. academy
3. translation center

Muslim scholars interpreted/translated works from:

1. Greece
2. Rome
3. India
4. Persia

### What have I learned?

According to the image below, what types of activities occurred in the House of Wisdom?

- Scholarship and debate

## Muslim Medical Advances

The physician al-Razi compiled Medical knowledge from Greece, Syria, India & Arabia into an encyclopedia called the Comprehensive Book.

In his study of Smallpox, Al Razi wrote that clean air could aid in recovery as well as good nutrition & exercise. Al Razi’s findings were written in the Treatise on Smallpox & Measles.

### What have I learned?

**Achievements of Islam**

- perfected the astrolabe
- developed medicine as a field of scientific study
- sought a scientific basis for studying history
- Islamic art and architecture
- in literature, the Rubaiyat and The Arabian Nights

According to the chart, what field did Muslims develop as a field of scientific study?

- Medicine

## Muslim Mathematical Achievements

Most of the achievements made in mathematics were a result of their study of astronomy.

The mathematician al-Khwarizmi created a technique called Al-Jabr known today as Algebra.

In addition, the mathematical principle of trigonometry developed during the Muslim Golden Age.

### What have I learned?

One similarity between the Gupta Empire and the Arab dynasties of the Islamic Golden Age is that they

- made advances in mathematics and literature
- gained wealth by obtaining gold from the Americas
- stressed the importance of dharma and karma
- controlled territories around the Mediterranean seacoast
Muslims adopted the **Indian numeral system**. With its spread, it became known as the **Arabic Numeral System**.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Muslim Scientific Achievements</th>
<th>What have I learned?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Muslims were among the first to use <strong>observation</strong> in science as well as try to replicate what they saw by <strong>conducting experiments</strong> in a lab setting.</td>
<td>Why were Arabs given credit for the numerical system created by the Indians? Because they were responsible for its widespread adoption</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The scientist <strong>Ibn al-Haytham</strong> produced the first book on <strong>Optics</strong> leading to the development of <strong>lenses</strong> for <strong>telescopes</strong> &amp; <strong>microscopes</strong>.</td>
<td>What does this image represent? Muslims scholars conducting research into astronomical matters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The 5 Pillars of Islam</strong> led to many advances in <strong>Astronomy</strong>. Advances were made in the science of <strong>cartography</strong> or <strong>map-making</strong>.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To <strong>navigate the seas</strong>, the scientific instrument known as the <strong>astrolabe</strong> was invented.</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Muslim Literature**

The rich tradition of **Muslim storytelling** dates back to the **Bedouin** tribes who would tell stories in their camps at night.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>What have I learned?</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The <strong>Quran</strong> is considered to be the most <strong>standard for all Islamic literature</strong>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The most famous Muslim stories are found in <strong>The Thousand and One Nights</strong>; a mixture of fairy tales, parables, &amp; legends.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The collection of poems called the <strong>The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam</strong> was written by Omar Khayyam who was a Mathematician &amp; Astronomer as well as a poet.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The story of the character below is found in what collection of stories?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Aladdin - The Thousand and One Nights</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Muslim Architecture**

Muslim art & literature is enhanced by the art of beautiful handwriting called **calligraphy**.

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Calligraphy</strong> as well as <strong>mosaics</strong> (art using colored tiles, etc.) would often decorate the mosques.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Much of Islamic architecture is a blending of <strong>Byzantine</strong> architecture with Islamic ideas.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Muslim mosques almost always include **prayer towers** called **minarets**.

**Examples of Islamic Architecture:**
The **Taj Mahal** located in **India** was built by Shah Jahan as a tomb for his wife.

The **Dome of the Rock** in Jerusalem is a Mosque built on a site which is considered sacred to both Muslims and Jews.

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By 750, the Muslim empire included all of Southwest Asia, Asia to the borders of India and China, most of Spain, and all of North Africa. The Muslim government was a **theocracy**—that is, the caliphs were religious as well as political leaders. Laws were based on the Muslim holy book, the Quran. Muslim leaders adapted laws to local practices.

**What type of government was the Muslim empire?**
A. one headed by a monarch  
B. one run by a collection of educated experts  
C. **one run by religious leaders**  
D. one run by an elite few

"They [the Arabs] were aided by the weakness of the two contemporary empires, the Sassanian (Persian) and the Byzantine, which had largely exhausted themselves by their wars on one another . . . . Nor were these Arabs simply zealots fired by the ideal of a Holy War. They were by long tradition tough fighters, accustomed to raiding out of hunger and want; many or perhaps even most of them were not ardent followers of Muhammad. Yet there can be little question that what got the Arabs started, and kept them going, was mainly the personality and the teaching of the prophet."

—Herbert J. Muller, *The Loom of History*, 1958

**According to the passage, the weakness of the ____ aided the Arabs.**
A. Persian Empire  
B. Roman Empire  
C. **Byzantine Empire**  
D. Both A and C

**According to the passage, the majority of Muslims were NOT ____.**
A. tough fighters  
B. city dwellers  
C. **ardent followers of Muhammad**  
D. peasants who lived on the land

**Review the map. What does the placement of the mosque and the palace imply?**
A. The residents of Baghdad were permitted to live next to the mosque.  
B. That only the ruler had the right to worship at the mosque.  
C. **That there is a close relationship between government and religion.**  
D. That few people could worship at the mosque because it was behind walls.

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Baghdad, 700-900 CE