

Dar al-Islam

Prophet Mohammad and Islam

- Mohammad – Highly respected merchant and trader.
 - Influenced by Christianity, Judaism, and Zoroastrianism.
- 610 – Vision from the angel Gabriel
 - Birth of Islam
- Islam adopted by nomadic groups in Arabia
 - Mohammad's charisma and followers devotion.

After Mohammad's death

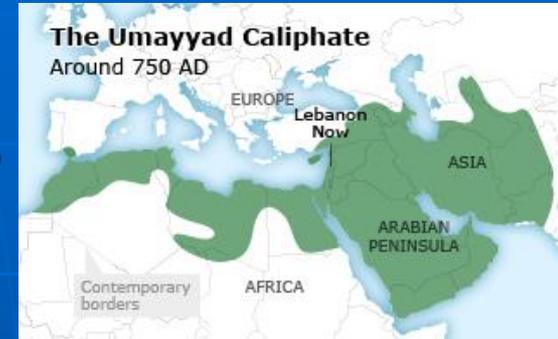
- No pronouncement of succession.
- Caliph
 - Emperor and religious leader at same time.
 - Next 4 Caliphs = Islam expanded rapidly.
 - 4th Caliph, Ali (Muhammad's son in law), was assassinated. Replaced by son, who abdicated to prominent family from Mecca.
 - Start of Umayyad dynasty.

Sunni – Shi'a split

- Shi'a (Shiite) believe the Islamic leader should come from the family of Ali.
- Sunni – Do not believe in a hereditary line. Leaders of empire should be open to most qualified.
 - Sunni – Shi'a split a continuity in Islam
 - Led to weakening and disunity of political entities (caliphates)
 - Issues even today (eg. ISIS is Sunni and targets Shiites).

Umayyad Caliphate 661-750

- After 4th Caliph, Ali's, assassination.
- Military expansion increased size of caliphate (and Islam).
- Tolerant (respected dhimmi).
- Continued tradition of strong social position for women.
- Taxed non-Arabs (including Malawi).
- Decline
 - Luxury over governance by caliphs
 - Divisions within empire
- Part of caliphate lived on: Cordoba, Spain



Abbasid Caliphate 750-1258

- Abbasids and allies defeated Umayyad
- Abbasid rule = Islamic Golden Age
 - Expansion of Islam
 - Mass conversions (no more tax for Malawi)
 - Shows appeal of Islam
 - Dhimmi still respected
 - At the center of overland and maritime Afroeurasian trade.
 - Baghdad = Magnificent capital
 - math, science, universities, art, architecture, literature, trade...all at or near the top in the world.
- Established harem
 - Seclusion of upper-class women



Abbasid Decline (c. 9th – 13th centuries)

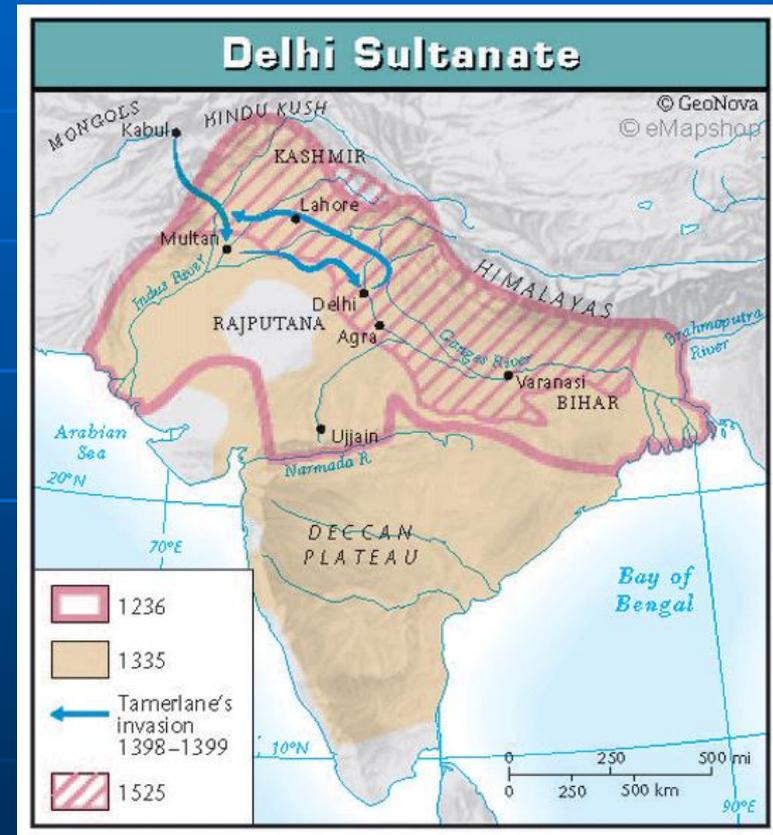
- Palace extravagance
- Empire too large to manage
- Internal revolts
 - Not Sunnis, but everybody else. Increased taxes not popular.
 - No succession plan.
- External pressures
 - Turks, Byzantine Empire, Persians (Persian became primary written language of later Abbasid court).
 - Led to destruction of empire infrastructure (irrigation)
 - Overthrown by the Mongols, 1258
 - Center of Islam moved from Baghdad to Cairo in Egypt and later Istanbul (Ottoman Empire).

Islam in India

- First contact made by Arab traders during Umayyad Caliphate.
- Indians saw an invasion by a culture as sophisticated as their own.
 - Cultural diffusion from India throughout Dar al Islam and beyond:
 - Math (Indian numerals), medicine, science

Delhi Sultanate(1206-1526)

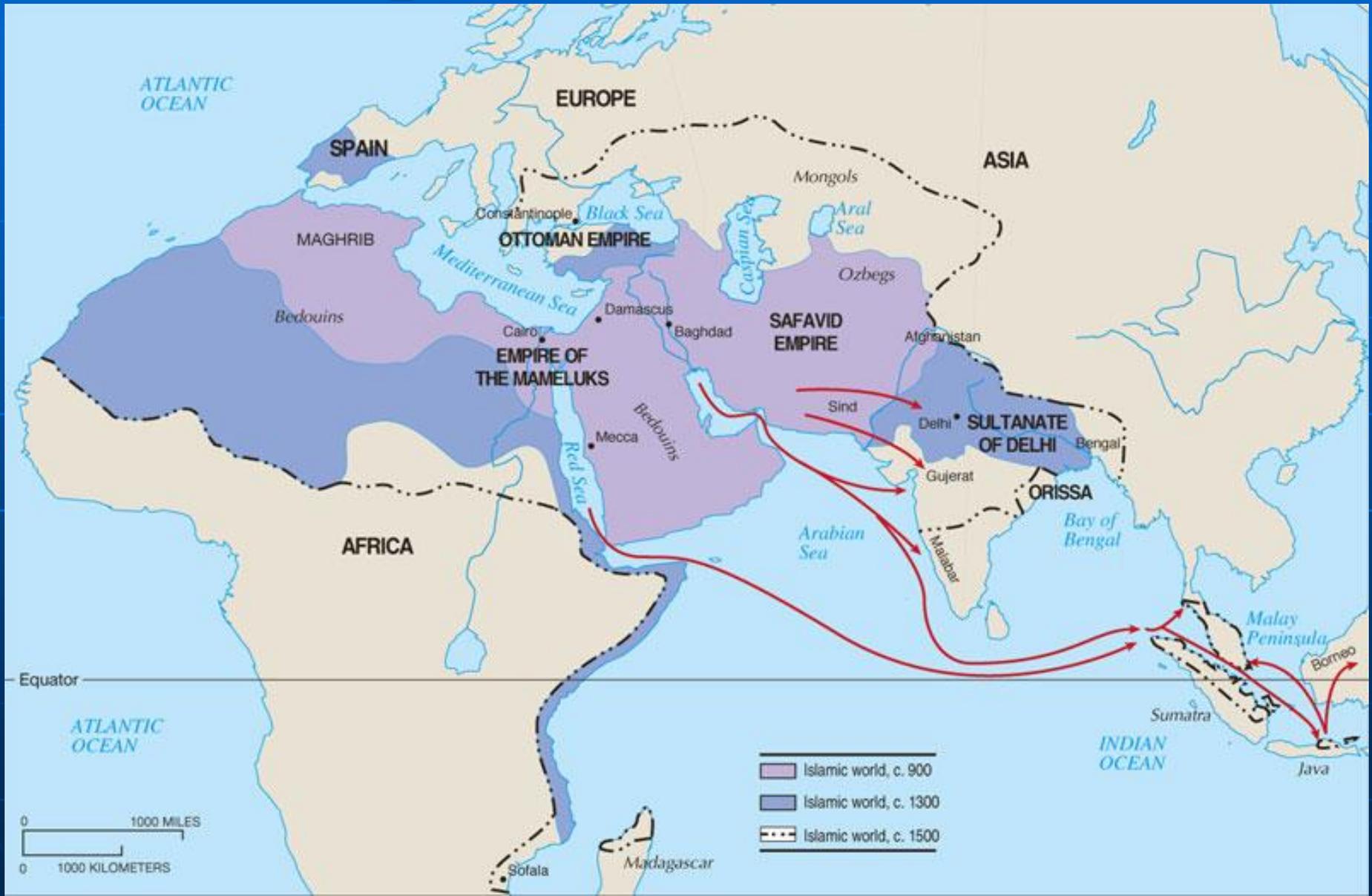
- Starting in 10th century, Islamic Turks, began invading northern India.
- 1206: creation of Delhi Sultanate, an Islamic state in north central India.
 - Muslim rulers governed Hindu subjects
 - Some Indians convert
 - Traders and Sufis most influential in helping conversions.
 - Buddhists and lower castes most likely to convert.
 - Hinduism adjusts = becomes more inclusive
 - Most in Delhi Sultanate remain Hindu
 - Unlike the rest of Dar al Islam
 - Muslims take on Hindu traditions in treatment of women.
 - Earlier marriage ages
 - Prohibition of widow remarriage



Hinduism and Islam

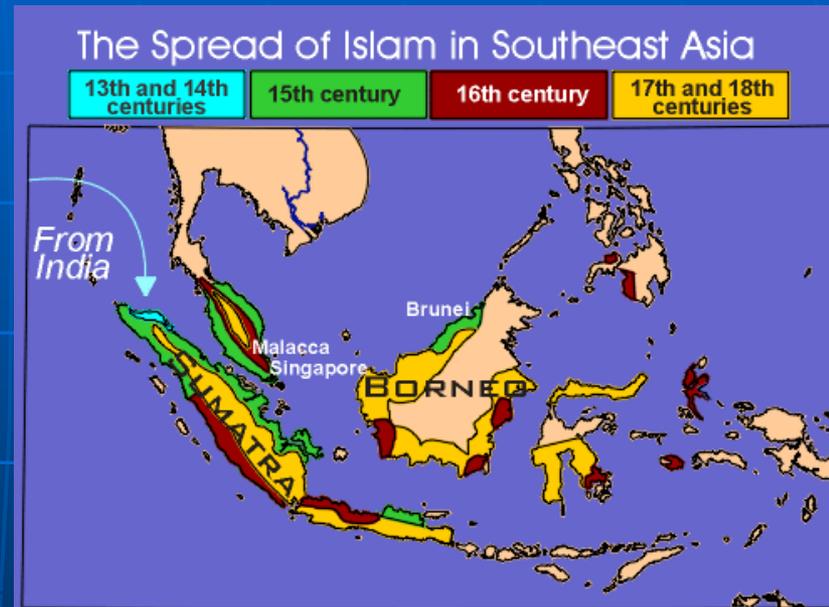
	Hinduism	Islam
Religious doctrine	Open to interpretation (different believers worshipped different idols and gods)	Islam – Devoutly monotheistic (There is no god but Allah).
Socially	Strict, based on castes. Status could not change (in this life)	Stressed equality (all believers equal in sight of God). Could move up, or down in society based on talent and skill.

Islam Spreads to Southeast Asia

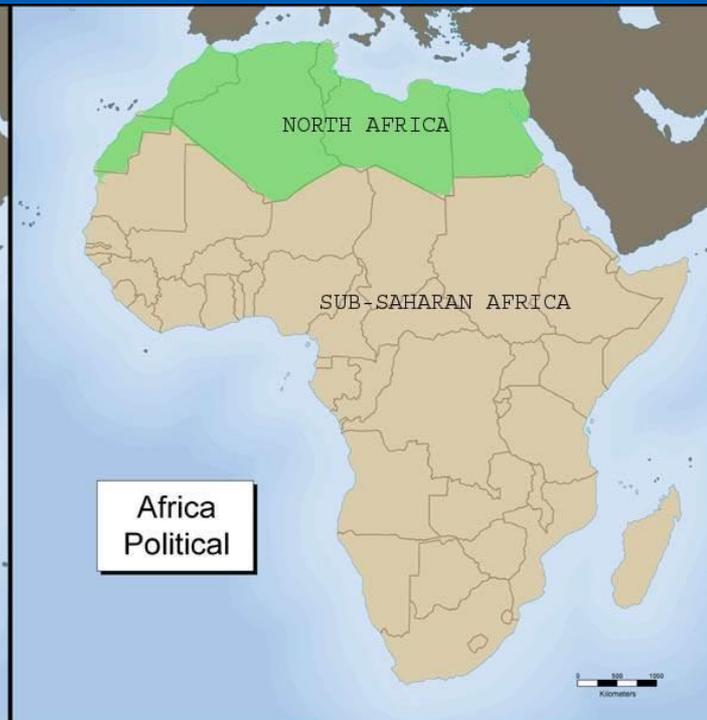


Islam in Southeast Asia

- After Islam reaches India, Islam continues to spread east; result of trading contacts and Sufi conversion efforts rather than military conquests.
- 8th c.: Muslims had gained control of Indian Ocean commerce
 - Southeast Asian sailors and traders interacted with Islamic traders
- Coastal cities were most receptive to Islam; most exposed to a variety of cultures due to interactions with others through trade
- Conversions were generally peaceful: New believers combine Islamic teaching/rituals with elements of local religion.
- Islamic law ruled legal transactions.



Africa and Islam



African states 600-1450

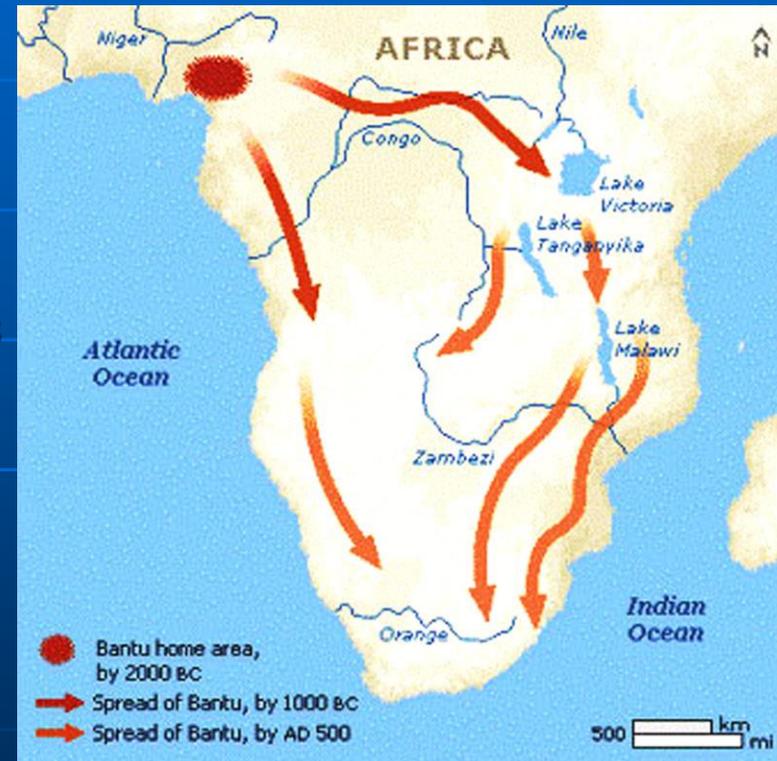


African Diversity

- African continent extremely diverse before and after Islam
 - Stateless societies (ruled by community councils not central government).
 - Christianity in Ethiopia
 - Some larger, more centralized empires
- Islam became dominant in North Africa, and became influential in East African city-states and West Africa (Sudanic kingdoms).

Bantu Migrations in Central Africa (1000 BCE – 1000 CE)

- Migrations south and east
 - Why? Drought and famine, population increase, need to find fertile land, tribal conflicts, and disease.
- Diffusion:
 - Iron working techniques
 - Farming and new crops (bananas and yams)
 - Spread of bantu language
 - Best evidence of the extent of migrations



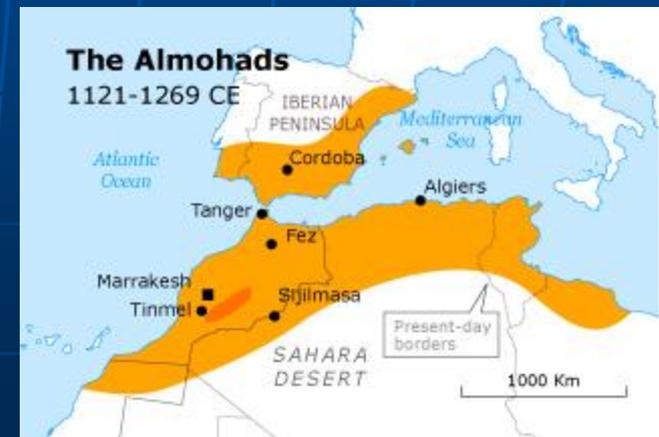
Influence of Islam in Africa

- 7th century – Islam spread, mostly by trade (Trans-Saharan routes) to North Africa.
 - Rapid conversions by Berbers (Saharan nomads)
 - Continue to spread Islam
 - Jihad
 - Trade

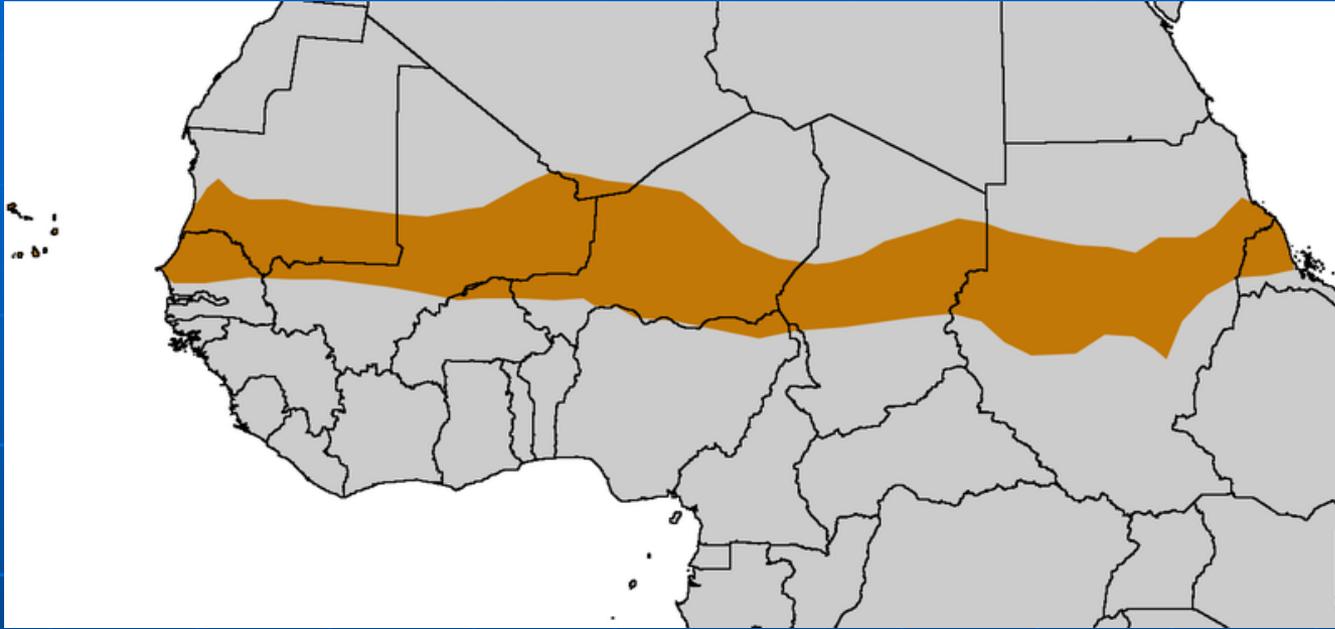


Why is Islam attractive?

- Egalitarian
- Reinforces king's authority
- Equality with other (Arab) Muslims
- Strong, appealing faith
- Community
- Trade



West African Kingdoms



- Grasslands Kingdoms = West African Kingdoms = Sudanic States = Ghana, Mali, Songhai
- Sahel Grasslands: transition zone between Sahara Desert and savannahs to the south
- Point of exchange between North and Sub-Saharan Africa; important region of trade once gold is found

West African Kingdoms

■ Islam = Increases King's Power (religious and political leader).

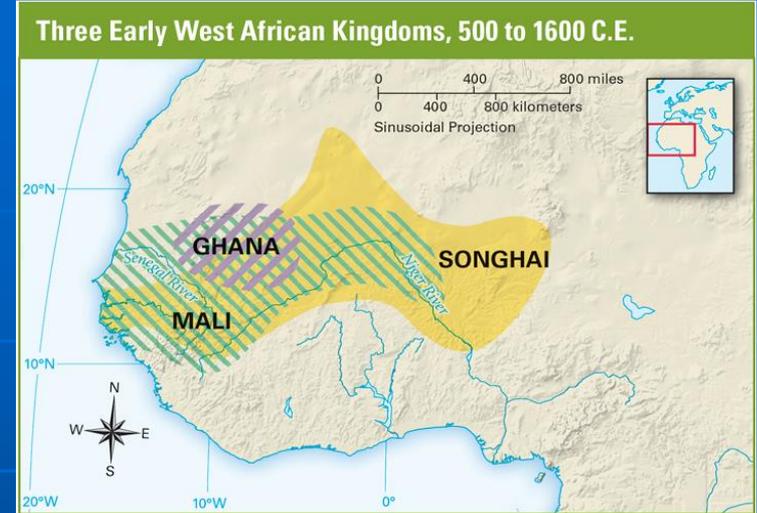
- Joining Islam gives rulers prestige and associates them with other great Muslim leaders

■ Majority of population never converted; retain their polytheism/animism

■ Trade gold and salt

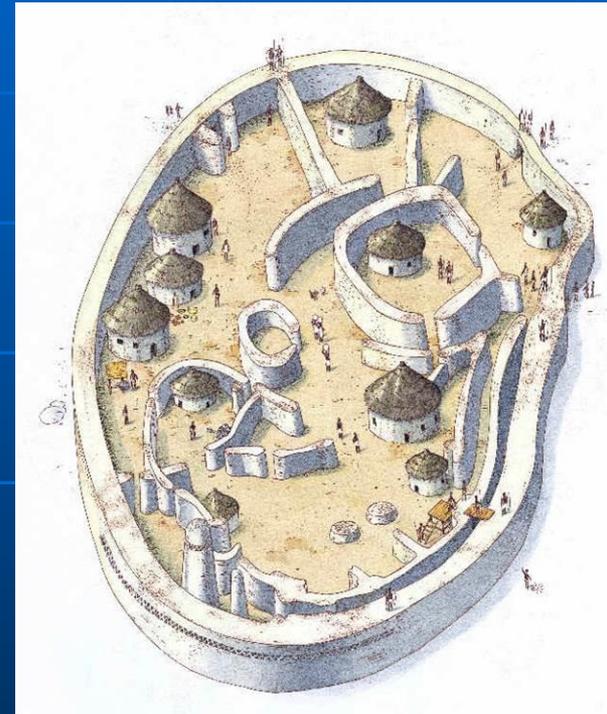
■ Mali, Ghana and Songhai

- Combine Islamic religion/culture with local practices
- Each will exert power over subordinate communities through taxes, tribute, and military support



Central Africa without Islam

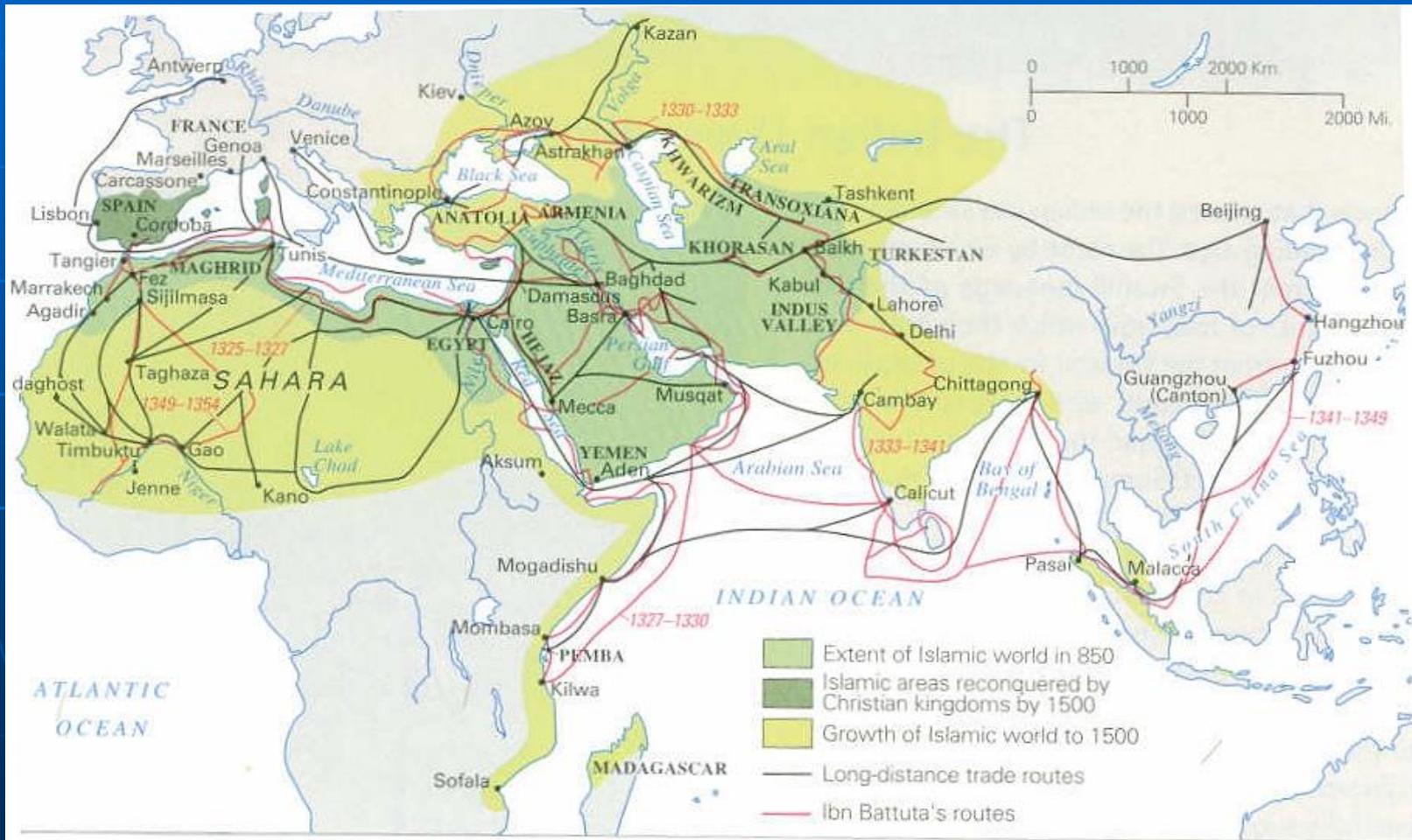
- Little to no contact with Islam
- Herders, farmers; skilled with iron
- Some stateless societies
- Some large states
 - Kongo
 - Great Zimbabwe



Dar al-Islam as a World System

- Dar al-Islam or the Abode of Islam
 - Not based on economic activity which is traditionally used to define a “world system”
 - Built on the shared traditions of all Muslims
 - the Five Pillars
 - the Qur’an
 - Hadiths and the Sharia
 - Arabic language

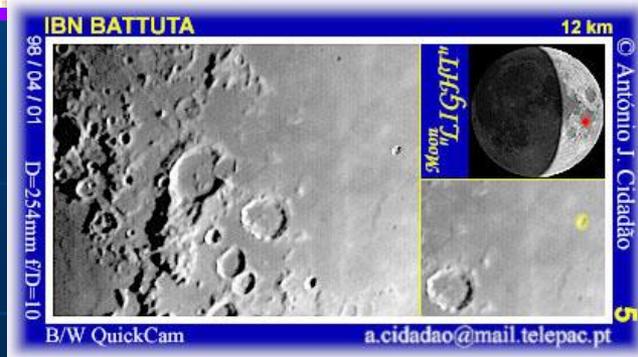
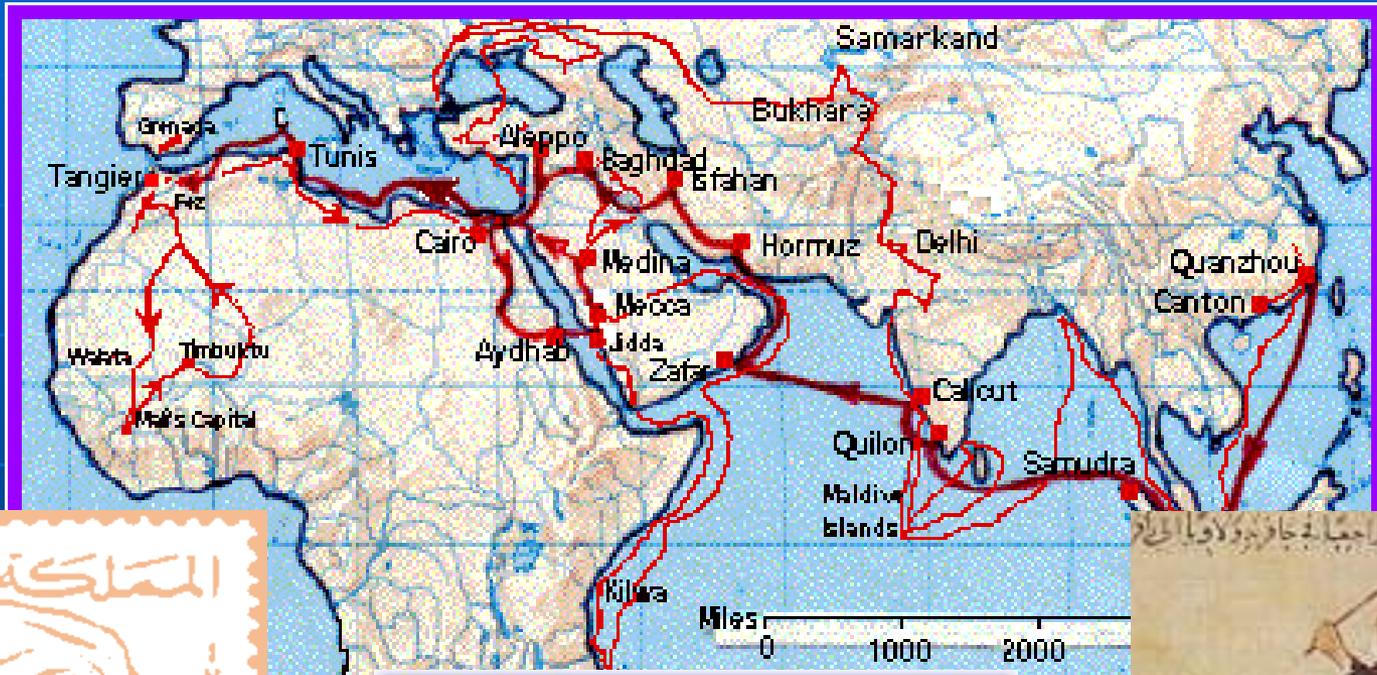
Dar al-Islam



Ibn Battuta 1304-1368

- Muslim lawyer and traveler
- Left for hajj in 1325 at age 20
 - Travels for 29 years covering 75,000 miles (traveled through 44 modern countries)
- Rihla of journey indispensable source of knowledge for the Middle Ages
- Why was he able to accomplish this?
 - Dar al-Islam

Travels of Ibn Battuta



Yes, it's Ibn Battuta crater!

Cultural Accomplishments of Dar al-Islam

Muslim Scholarship

- Abbasid Caliph al-Ma'mun opens the House of Wisdom in Baghdad in 800 CE
 - Combination library, school, and translation center
 - Translates classic Greek and Roman works
- Cordoba, Spain will be instrumental in revival of European learning

Medical Advances

- Greatest physician of the Middle Ages was al-Razi
 - Treatise on Measles and Smallpox
 - Classified material into three categories: animal, vegetable, and mineral
- World's best hospitals
- Doctors had to go to medical school
- Ibn Sina's *The Canon of Medicine* was used by the West for 600 years

Math and Science

- Two main ideas introduced by Muslim scholars
 - Scientific observation and experimentation
 - New mathematical solutions
- Al-Khwarizmi created *al-jabr*
 - “art of bringing together unknowns to match a known quantity”
 - That’s right: Algebra!



Soviet Union postage stamp, 1983

Math and Science

- Al-Haytham laid the foundation for modern optics
- Al-Biruni wrote 146 works (13,000 pages) on cartography, mathematics, and astronomy
- Al-Tusi and Al-Shatir created a symmetrical orbit of the planets

Literature

- *Shah-Nama* (Book of Kings) by Firdawsi
 - "one of the most exquisite works of Islamic art"
- *Rubiyat* Omar Khayyam
- *The Thousand and One Nights*

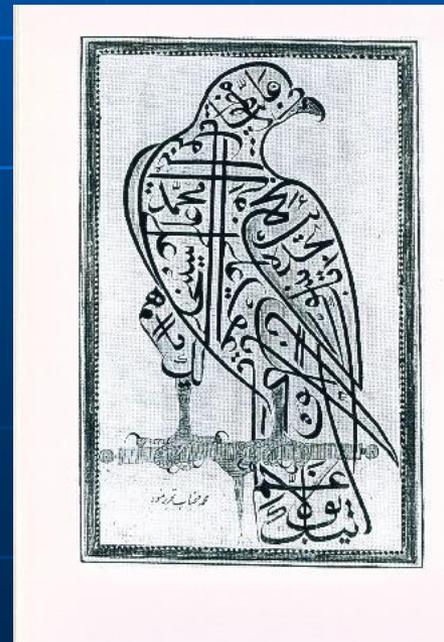
Calligraphy



Calligraphy is an art form closely associated with Islam.



Muslim Statement of Faith

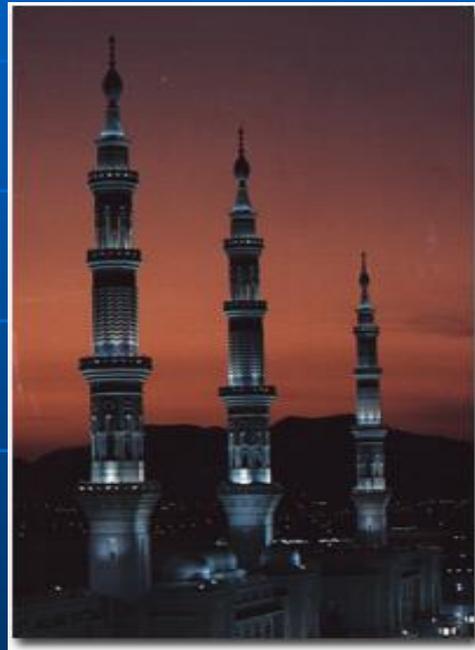
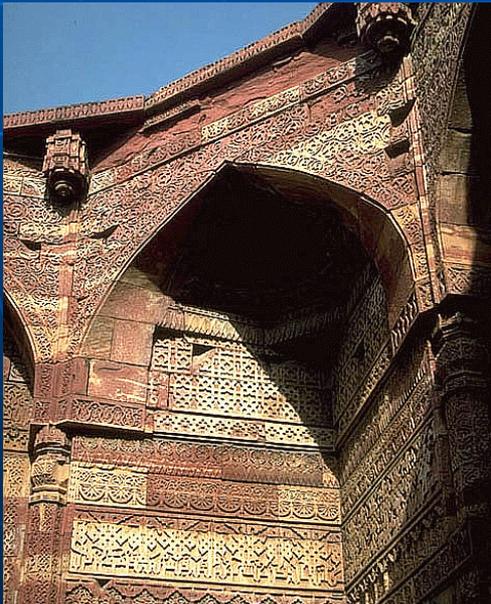


Bird and a Muslim poem

Architecture

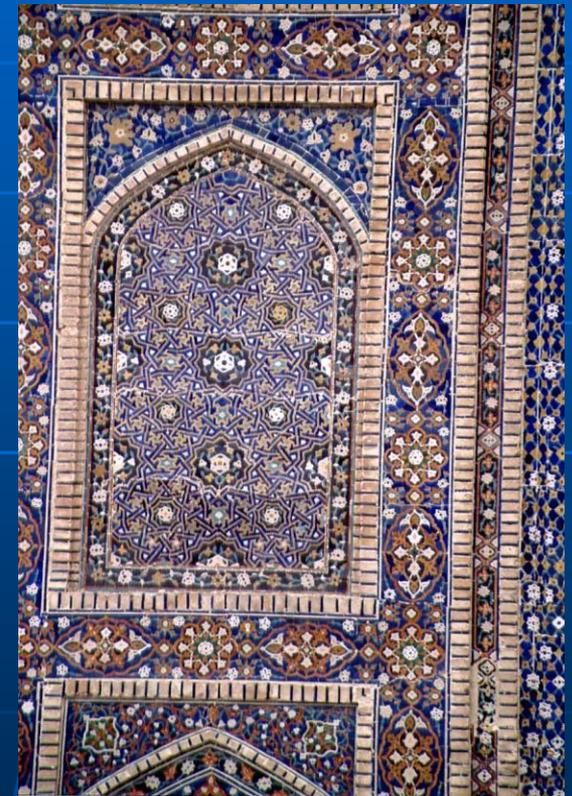
What makes Islamic architecture unique?

- Mosaics
- Minarets
- Squinches



Minarets of Prophet's Mosque, Medina

What a fine squinch!

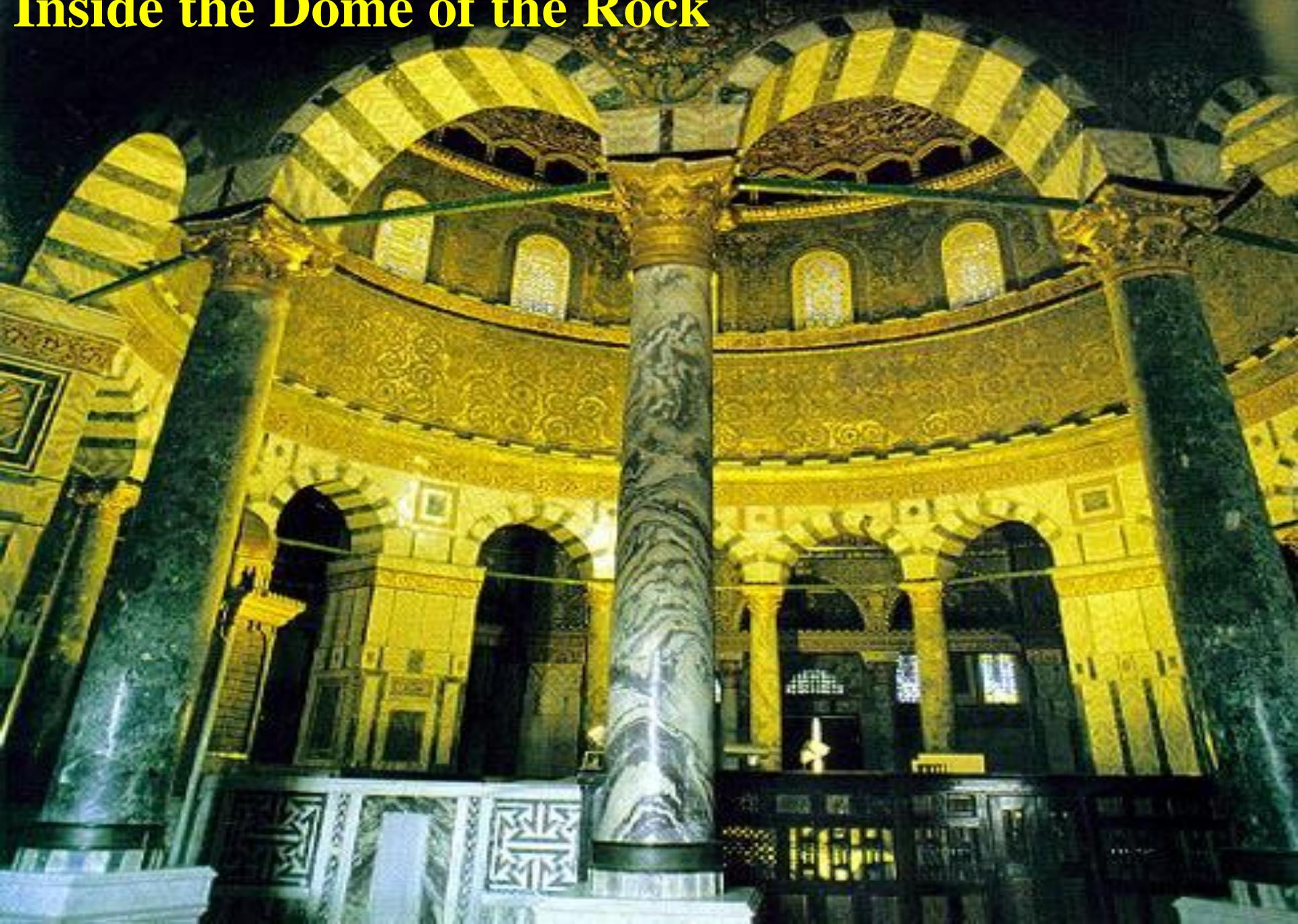


Mosaic, Mir-i-Arab Mosque Bukhara, Uzbekistan

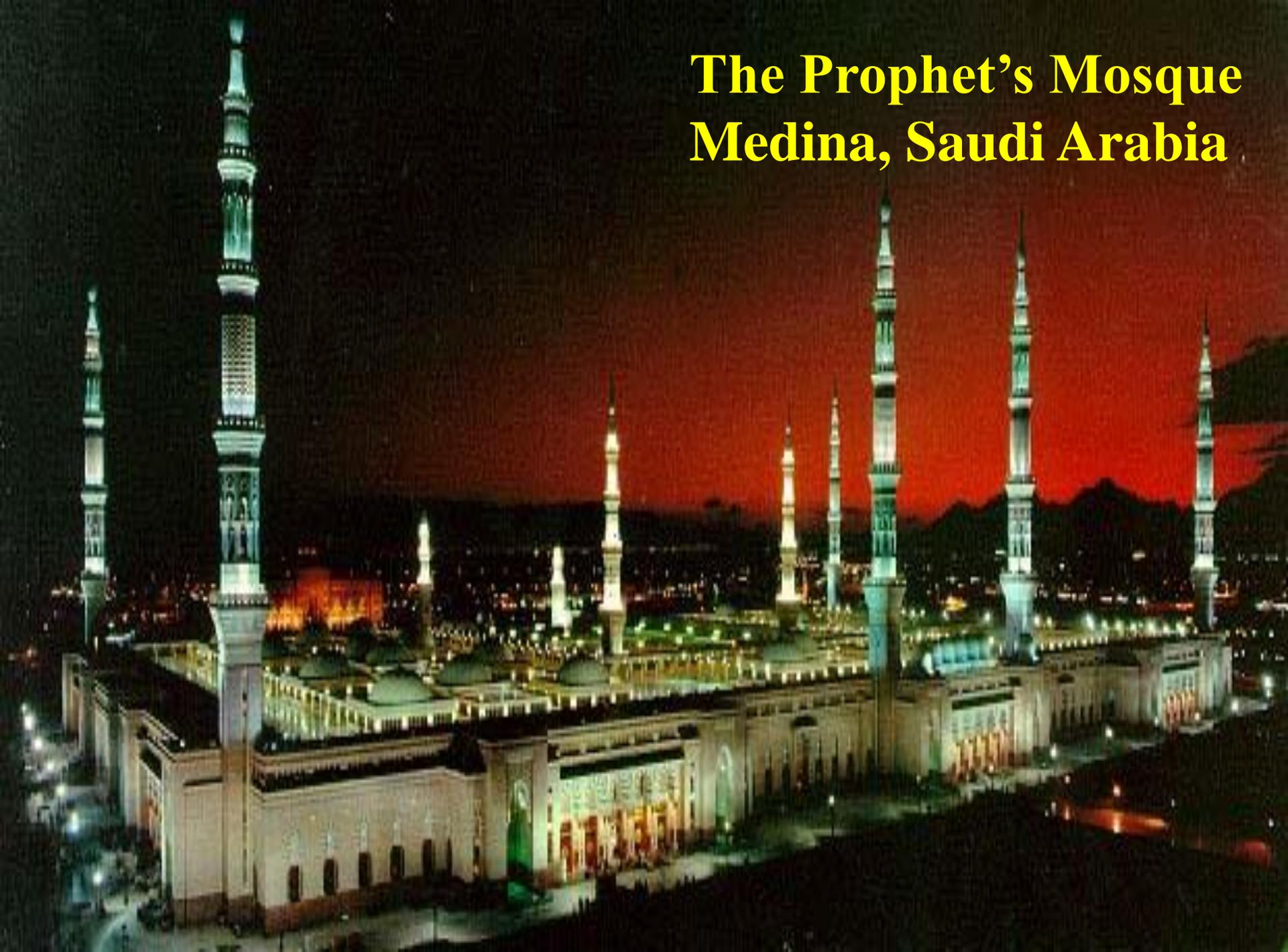
Dome of the Rock Jerusalem



Inside the Dome of the Rock



The Prophet's Mosque Medina, Saudi Arabia



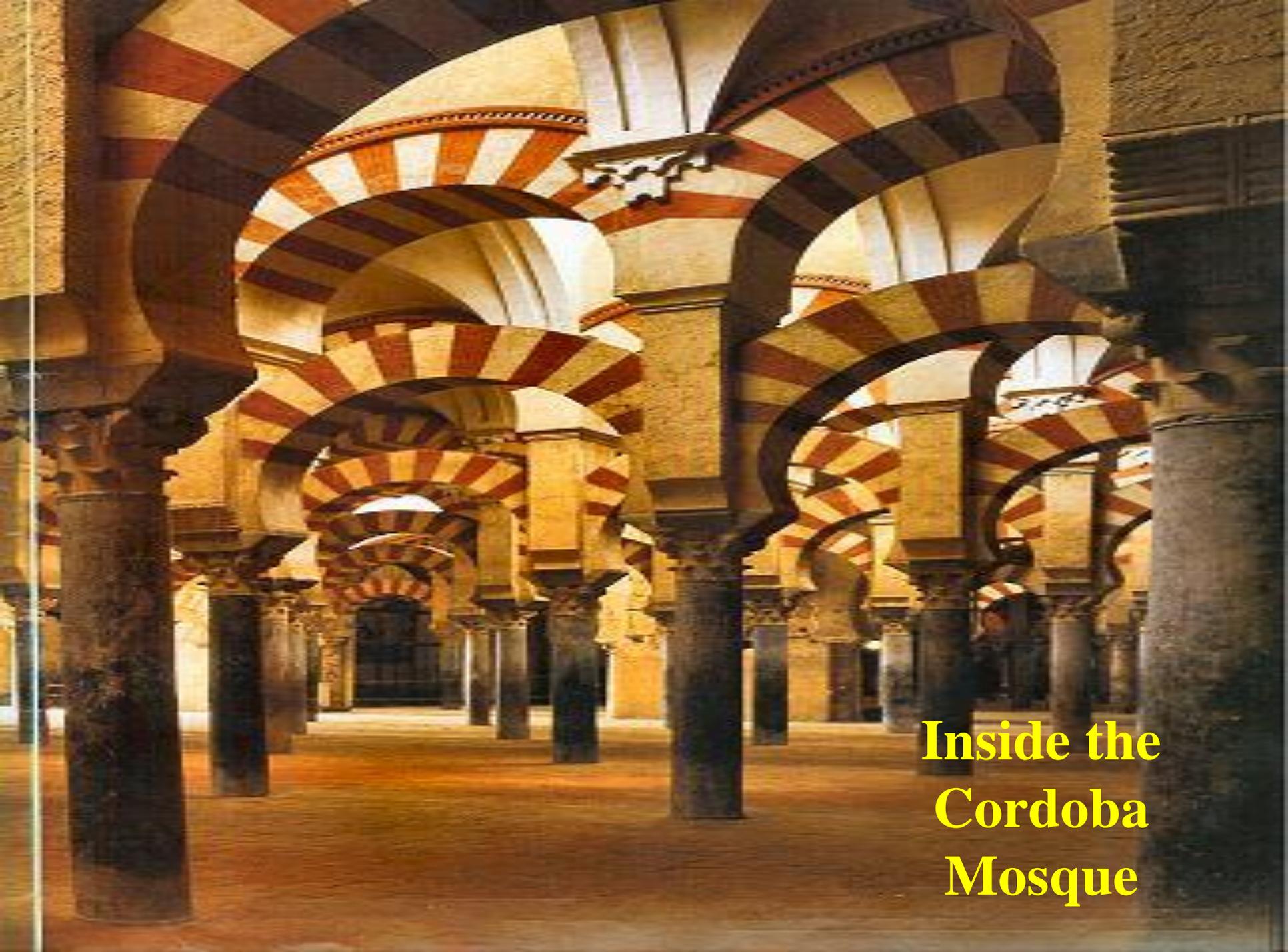
Mosque of Cordoba Cordoba, Spain



Roman Bridge



**Inside the
Cordoba
Mosque**



**Inside the
Cordoba
Mosque**