



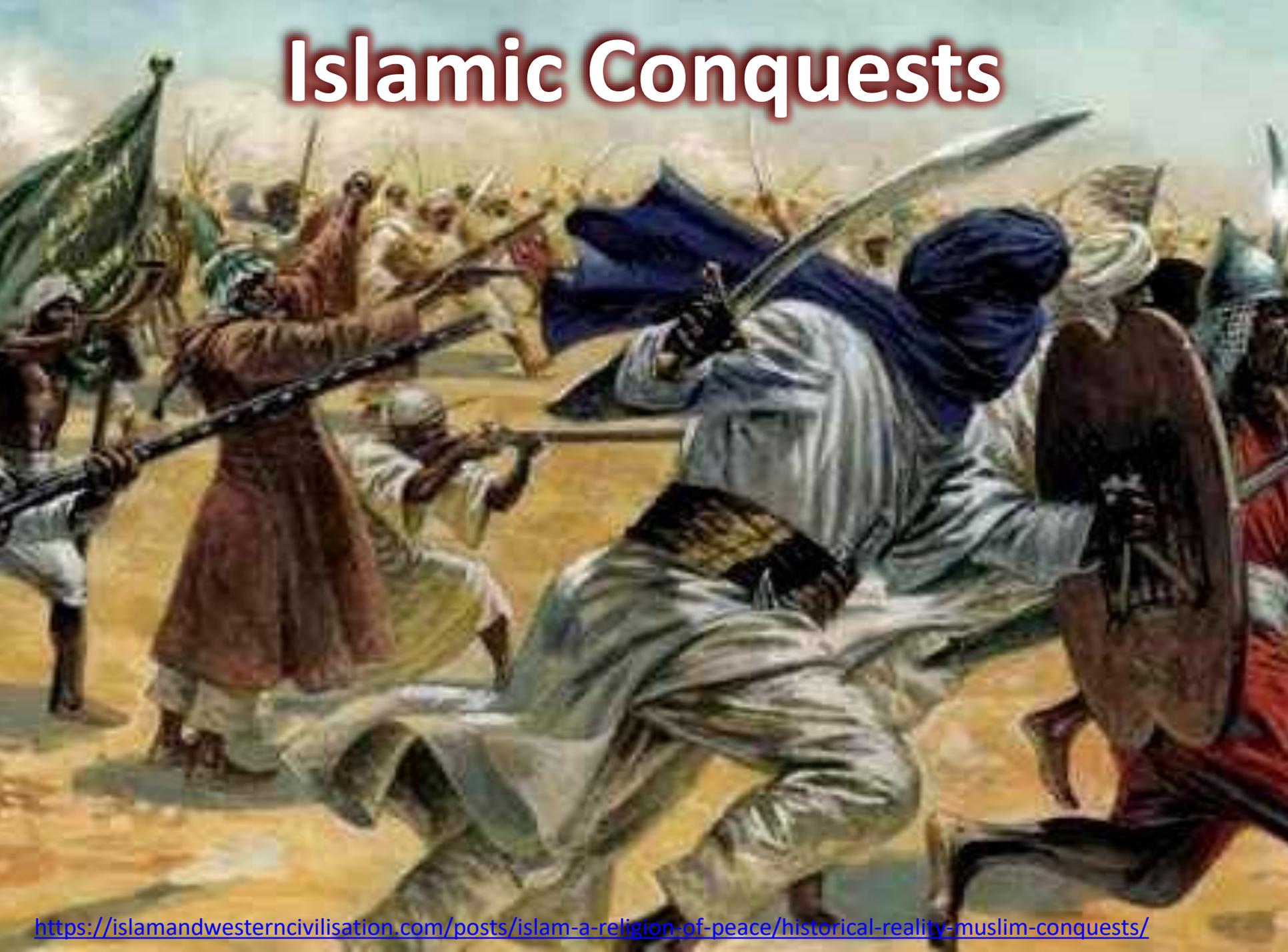
# Review

- When Muslims do a pilgrimage to Mecca what are they going to visit?
  - The **Grand Mosque** and a black building it surrounds called the **Kaaba** – which contains “the black stone”.
- Why was Allah unwilling to forgive Muhammad’s parents when he interceded for them after their death?
  - They were guilty of shirk – the unforgivable sin.
- According to the Hadith, 40 days after someone is conceived, an angel comes and writes a certain number of things that will happen to that person. What are those things?
  - Whether they will be male or female,
  - Whether they’re going to be successful or not,
  - The day of their death,
  - Whether they’re going to heaven or hell.

# Review

- Can a Muslim have any assurance that he is going to paradise when he dies?
  - No – there are people who do the deeds of the people of paradise their **entire life**, they're righteous people, until they are a "hands breadth" from entering into paradise and then what is written of them overcomes them and they go to hell fire.
- Describe the difference in the Quran between the **Meccan** surahs and the **Medinan** surahs and tell why there is a difference.
  - In the **Meccan** Surahs, where Muhammad is **not** in power, there is a lot of pleading for tolerance and religious freedom.
  - But in **Medinan** Surahs, written while Muhammad is in power and the head of the Islamic armies – there is much more of an emphasis on the use of the sword and fighting.
- What did the third caliph, Uthman, do with copies of the Quran that didn't agree with what he thought they should say – and why is this a problem?
  - He burned them
  - We no longer have access to all the manuscript evidence.

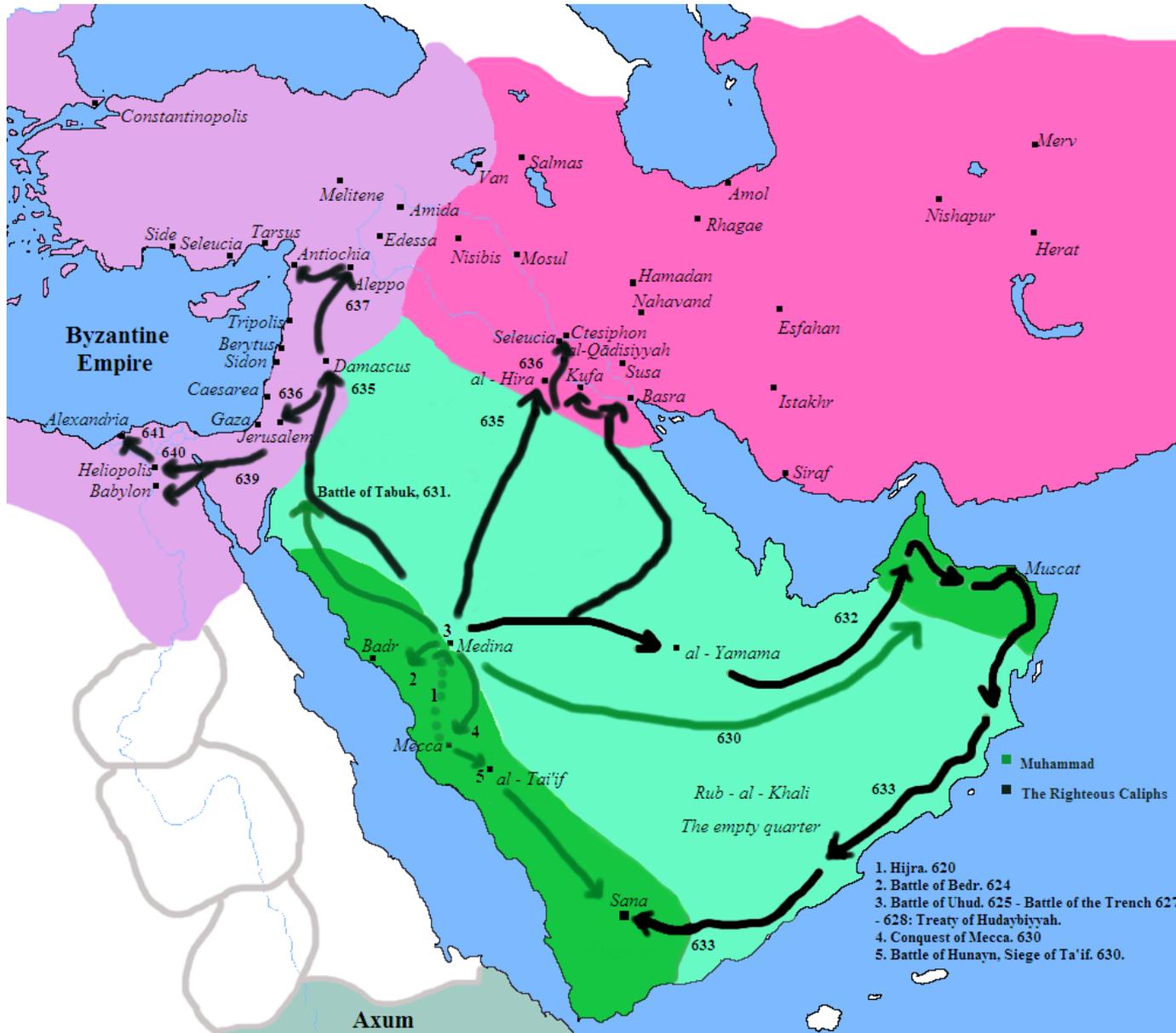
# Islamic Conquests



# Islamic Conquests

- After Muhammad's death in 632, many Arabian tribes rebelled against his successor Abu Bakr, who ruled as caliph from AD 632 to 634 (Muslims refer to the period of a particular caliph's rule as his caliphate).
- Abu Bakr spent much of his brief caliphate subduing the rebellion.
- But under the next caliph Omar (634-44), the Muslim armies came streaming out of Arabia, and the Islamic conquest of the Byzantine Empire began.
  - In AD 635, the Muslims besieged and captured **Damascus**.
  - In AD 637 they took **Jerusalem**.
  - In AD 638, **Antioch, Caesarea**, and 17 other cities along the Syrian coast fell to Muslim forces.
  - By AD 639 they had conquered the whole of **Syria**.
  - In AD 640 Muslim troops invaded **Egypt**;
  - In AD 641 **Alexandria** fell.

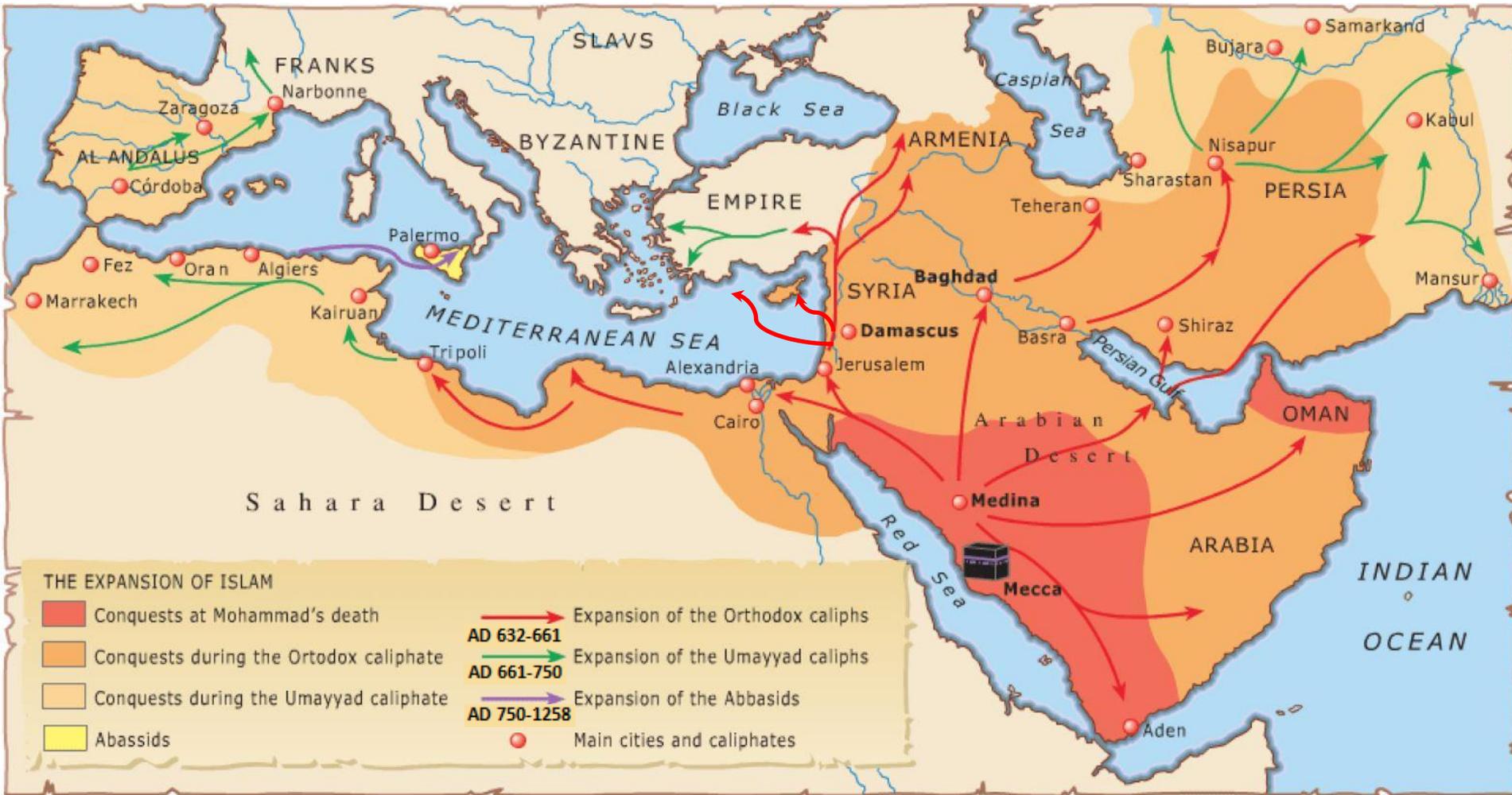
# Islamic Conquests



# Islamic Conquests

- Next, the Muslims turned their attention to destroying what was left of the Byzantine Empire, whose frontiers they had rolled back into Asia Minor.
- Muslim fleets captured or laid waste many of the Mediterranean islands, such as Cyprus (AD 648).
- By AD 651, the southern part of Asia Minor was under Muslim control. So too was most of Armenia.
- The Muslims inflicted a crushing naval defeat on the Byzantines in AD 655 at the battle of Phoenix (off the southern coast of Asia Minor).
- By the early 8th century, Muslim conquests in the east brought Afghanistan and northern India under Muslim control.

# Islamic Expansion in the Middle Ages



# Islamic Conquests

- Finally, under their fifth caliph Muawiyah (AD 661-80), the Muslim forces on land and sea gambled all their strength in a supreme effort to capture ***Constantinople*** itself.
- The siege lasted five cruel years (AD 673-78).
- However, for the first time, the Muslims met with total failure and defeat.
- A recently invented Byzantine secret weapon called “Greek fire” ravaged their armies and ships (it was a chemical mixture which burned furiously when it came in contact with water).
- The defenders of Constantinople hurled Greek fire at the besieging Muslim army and navy, with horrifically destructive effect.

# Greek Fire

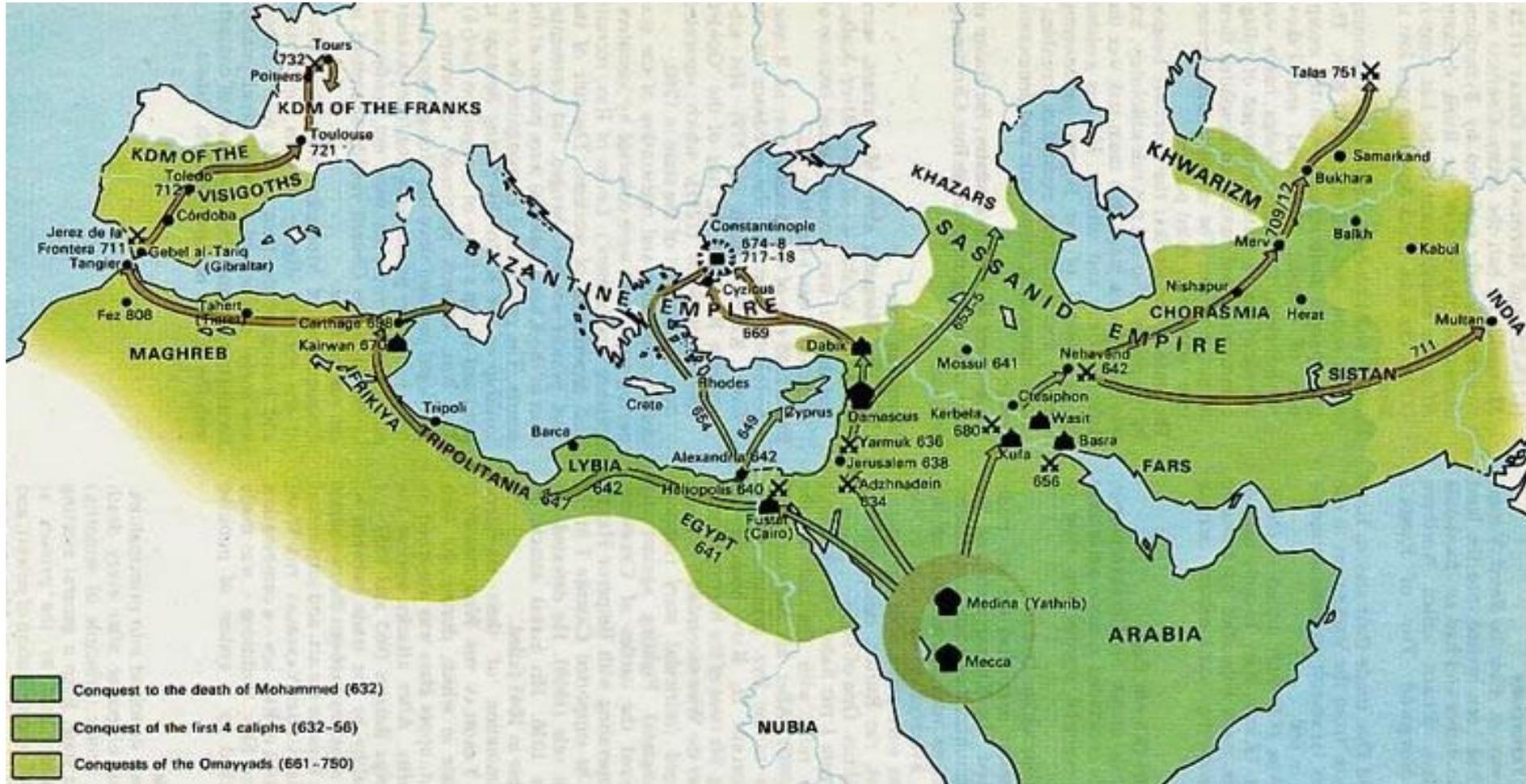


*12th Century Illustration by John Skylitzes*

# Islamic Conquests

- Greek fire became the “nuclear bomb” of medieval warfare – devastating, irresistible, and terrifying. Then a storm off the coast of Pamphylia smashed the Muslim fleet.
- Finally, the great Byzantine Emperor Constantine IV (AD 668-85) wiped out the Muslim army at the Battle of Syllaeum in AD 678.
- In AD 679, Constantine IV and caliph Muawiyah ceased hostilities and officially recognized each other’s territory.

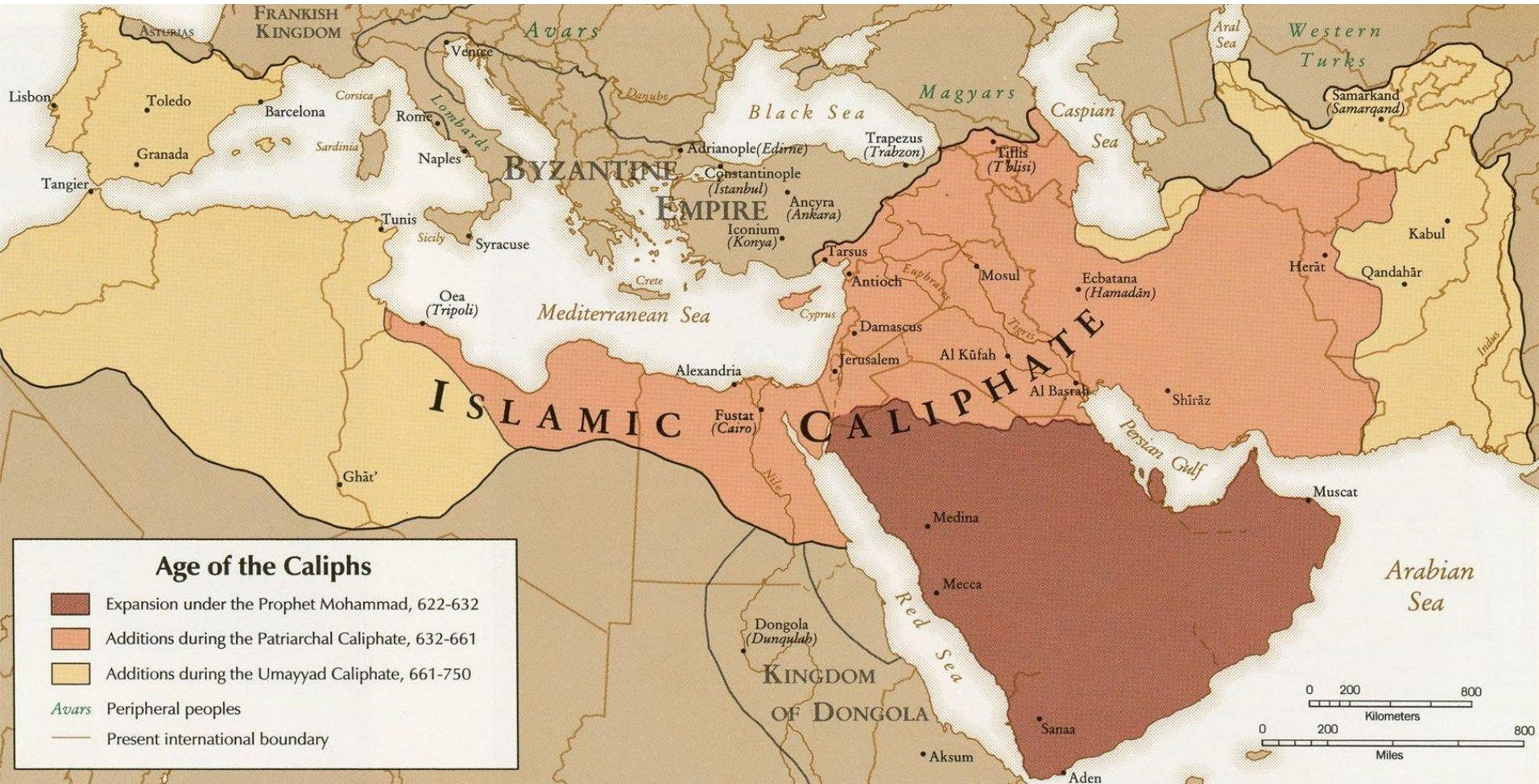
# Islamic Expansion in the Middle Ages



# Islamic Conquests

- In the West, Muslim armies swept on from Egypt into North-West Africa.
- Here they encountered strong resistance from the Berber people. It took the Muslims 50 years of savage fighting to subdue the Berbers, who then embraced the new faith themselves and became strict and zealous Muslims.
- In AD 711, an Islamic Berber army crossed over from Africa into Visigothic Spain, and by AD 718 had conquered almost the whole of it – the northern coastlands alone remained under Visigothic Christian control.

# Islamic Expansion in the Middle Ages



# Islamic Conquests

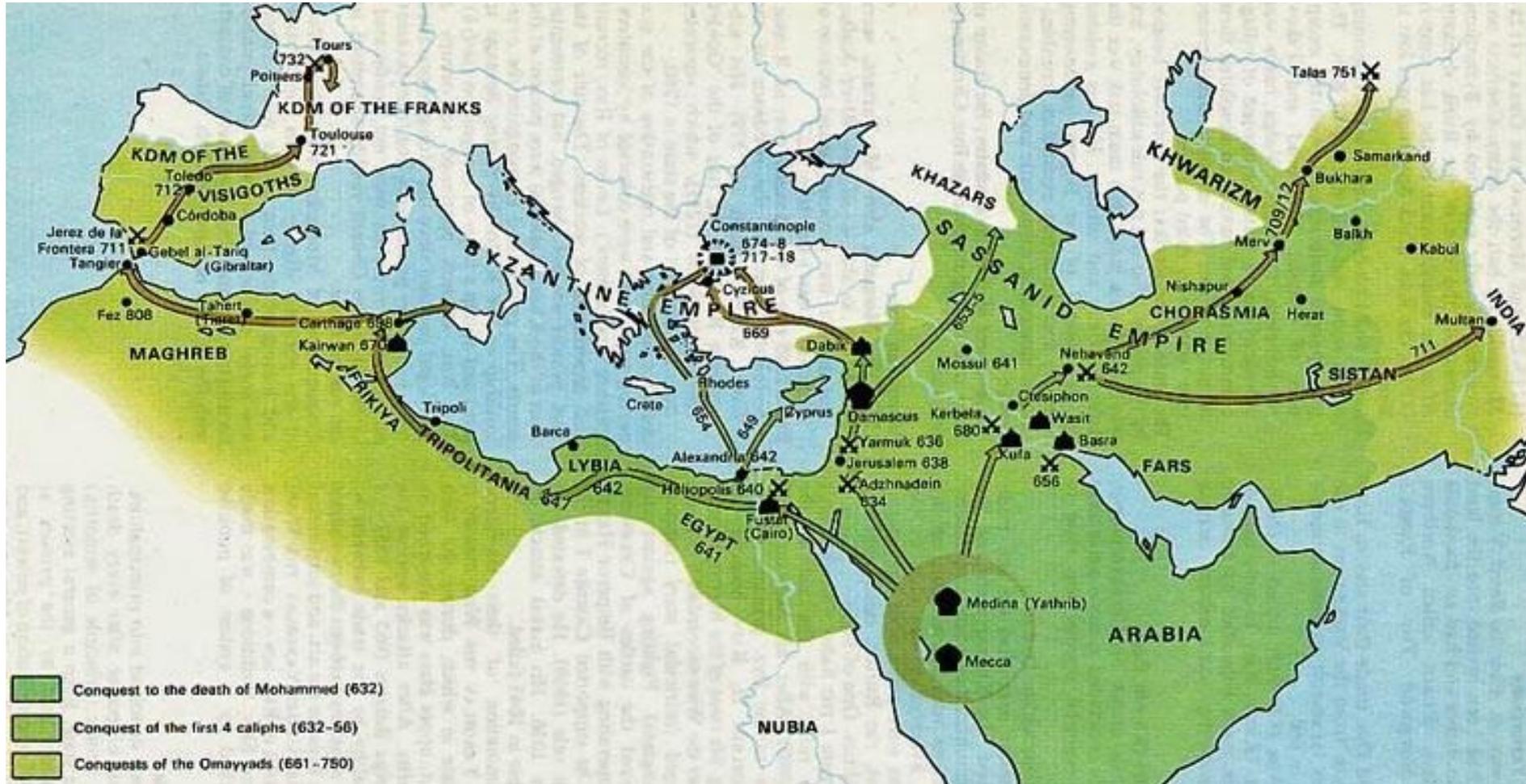
- The Muslims then pushed on into France.
- At Tours, in north-west France, they were met by a Frankish Catholic army.
- Here in AD 732, the Muslim general ***Abd-er Rahman*** fought one of the decisive battles of world history against the Frankish general ***Charles Martel*** (Martel is French for “hammer”).
- The ***Battle of Tours*** was a decisive victory for Charles Martel and the Franks; it permanently halted the Western progress of the Islamic Empire.

# The Battle of Tours



*19th Century Painting by Charles de Steuben*

# Islamic Expansion in the Middle Ages



# Islamic Conquests

- The Franks forced the Muslims back into Spain, and there they stayed for the next 700 years.
- After centuries of struggle between Christians and Muslims in the Iberian peninsula, the great Spanish Catholic king, Ferdinand of Castile and Aragon, finally expelled the last Muslims of Spain back into North Africa in 1492.
- This Christian-Muslim conflict in Spain, with the eventual triumph of the Christians, is known as the Reconquista (the “Reconquest”).

# Islamic Dissention

- The unity of the Islamic Empire was at first impressive, but it did not last.
- Religious dissension arose after the murder of Othman, the third caliph, in AD 656. Muslims divided into **two** parties.
  - **One party** argued that the leadership of the Empire must be **hereditary** within the family of Muhammad, through Ali and his relatives (Ali was Muhammad's cousin and had married Muhammad's daughter Fatima, so that his children were Muhammad's grandchildren).
  - This group was known as the Shiat Ali, "the party of Ali" – or the **Shias**, as they came to be called.
  - Shias held that a living leader (an imam), chosen by God from among Muhammad's family, was essential to the right guidance of the Islamic community.

# Islamic Dissention

- The unity of the Islamic Empire was at first impressive, but it did not last.
- Religious dissension arose after the murder of Othman, the third caliph, in AD 656. Muslims divided into **two** parties.
  - By contrast, the **other party** believed that the nation's elders should freely elect each new caliph (or that the caliph should himself appoint his own successor), and that the caliph did not need to belong to Muhammad's family.
  - This party was called the **Sunnis**.
  - They held that the *sunna* (the authentic hadith concerning Muhammad) was more important than a living leader for the guidance of the faithful.

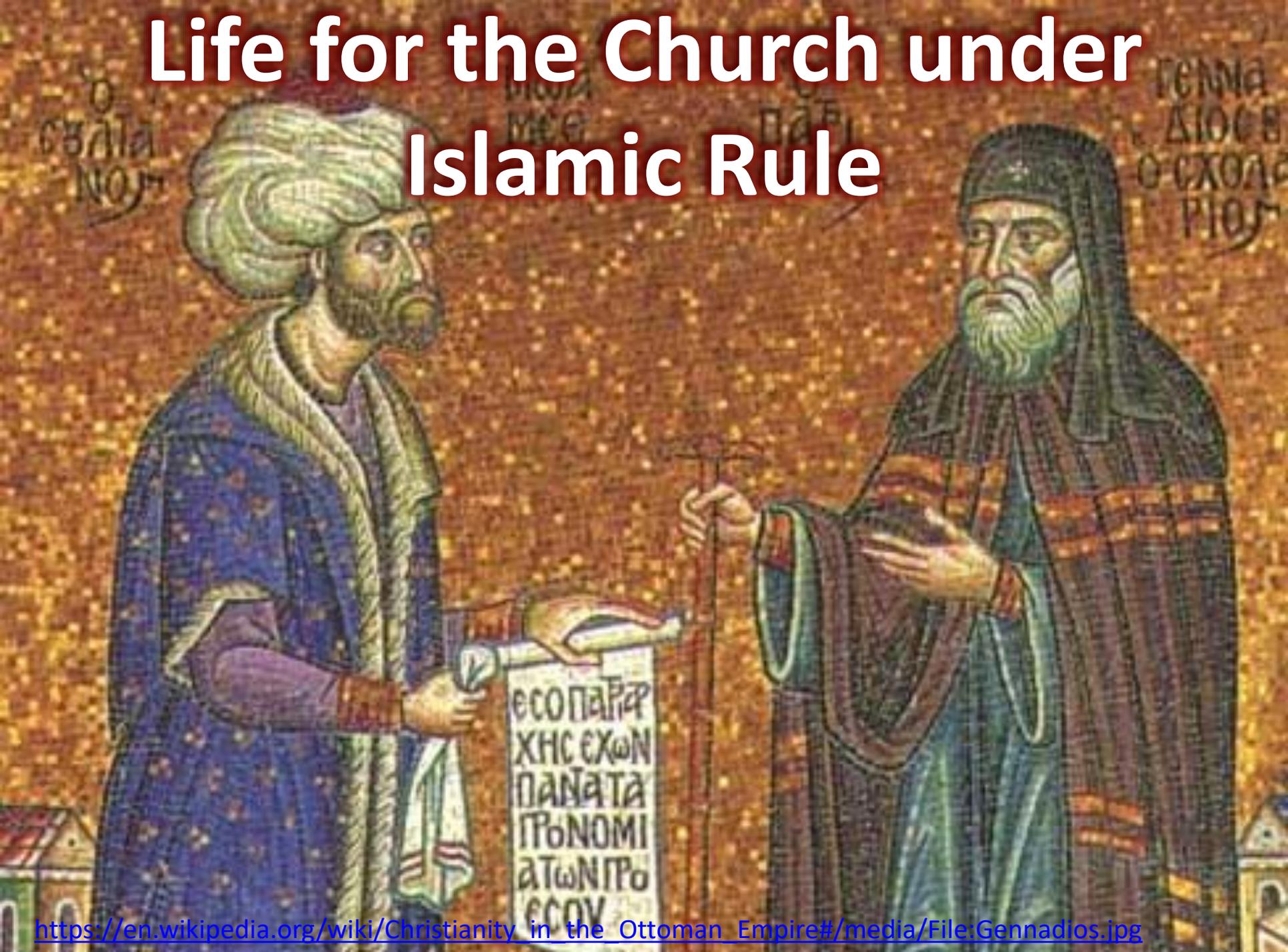
# Islamic Dissention

- The Shias and Sunnis plunged the Islamic Empire into its first taste of civil war.
- The Sunnis massacred Ali's family, but the Shia party survived the disaster.
- These fierce internal conflicts created a permanent religious division in the Islamic world between Sunni and Shia Muslims.
- Shias were always in a small minority (between 10-15%), but their influence was concentrated in one region, Persia (present-day Iran), which became the great Shia stronghold.

# Islamic Dissent

- in AD 756, Muslim Spain seceded from the rest of the Islamic Empire, weakening the Empire's political unity.
- In the 9th century, Shia Persia became effectively independent from the caliphs who ruled in Baghdad. So did Morocco, Tunisia, and Libya in North-West Africa.
- In the 10th century, Egypt also seceded and became an independent Muslim kingdom.
- This political and territorial break-up of Islam paved the way for the Western Catholic conquest of the Middle East by the Crusaders in the 11th century.

# Life for the Church under Islamic Rule



ΕΣΟΠΑΡΑΡ  
ΧΗΣ ΕΧΩΝ  
ΠΑΝΑΤΑ  
ΠΡΟΝΟΜΙ  
ΑΤΩΝ ΠΡΟ  
ΕΣΟΥ

# VOLUNTEERS ARE LIKE BROWNIES!

B BEST OF THE BEST  
R REALLY GENEROUS  
O OUTSTANDING  
W WONDERFUL  
N NATURALLY NICE  
I INVALUABLE TO HOPE  
E EXCELLENT  
S SWEET



# Class Discussion Time



## \*Class Discussion Time

- Because we have the advantage of hindsight, many times as we look back over historical events we can identify times where, in the providence of God, a seemingly minor event significantly changed the course of history.
- Of the historical events that we looked at this morning, do you see any that you would identify as being in this category? If so, which one(s)?
- We know that all of the events of human history are under God's control and will ultimately bring Him glory.
- Do you find it difficult to see how something as terrible as the centuries long expansion of the Islam could bring glory to God? How might it do so?
- Do **you** have a topic or question that **you** would like to see us to discuss?