



Daily Life in Early Arabia

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Daily life in Early Arabia

- **Main Idea (Objective):**



- The deserts, coastline and oases of Arabia helped shape the Arab way of life.

Daily life in Early Arabia

- **Lecture Focus (Essential Question):**



- Do you ever think about how rainfall shapes your life? Lets look at how the lack of rain helped shape the Arabs' way of life.

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Daily life in Early Arabia

- Desert stretches over most of the Arabian peninsula.



- The heat is intense and travelers are at the whim of blinding sandstorms.

Daily life in Early Arabia



- Water is only found at **Oases**...green areas fed by underground water.

Daily life in Early Arabia



Daily life in Early Arabia

- Not all of Arabia is dry, however...



- In the mountains of the southwest, enough rain falls to support plants such as juniper and olive trees.

Daily life in Early Arabia

- To survive this harsh environment, Arabs formed into clans...which are groups of people related by family ties and who are completely loyal to each other.



- The tribes leaders were called a **Sheikh**.

Daily life in Early Arabia



- In today's Arab world the term **Sheikh** is used to describe someone who is royalty, or basically people of imperial blood or status within a country. (Tomb from Sheikh Abdul Hamid in West Martapura, Indonesia.)

Daily life in Early Arabia

- Lets look back on our **Lecture Focus (Essential Question)**.



- How has the lack of rainfall shaped the desert areas of the Middle East?

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Daily life in Early Arabia

- **Questions:**

- **1)** What is a Oases?

- **2)** How are these Oases able to survive?

Daily life in Early Arabia

- **Questions:**

- **1) What is a Oases?**

- **A green area that can be found in the middle of a desert.**

- **2) How are these Oases able to survive?**

- **They are feed by ground water**

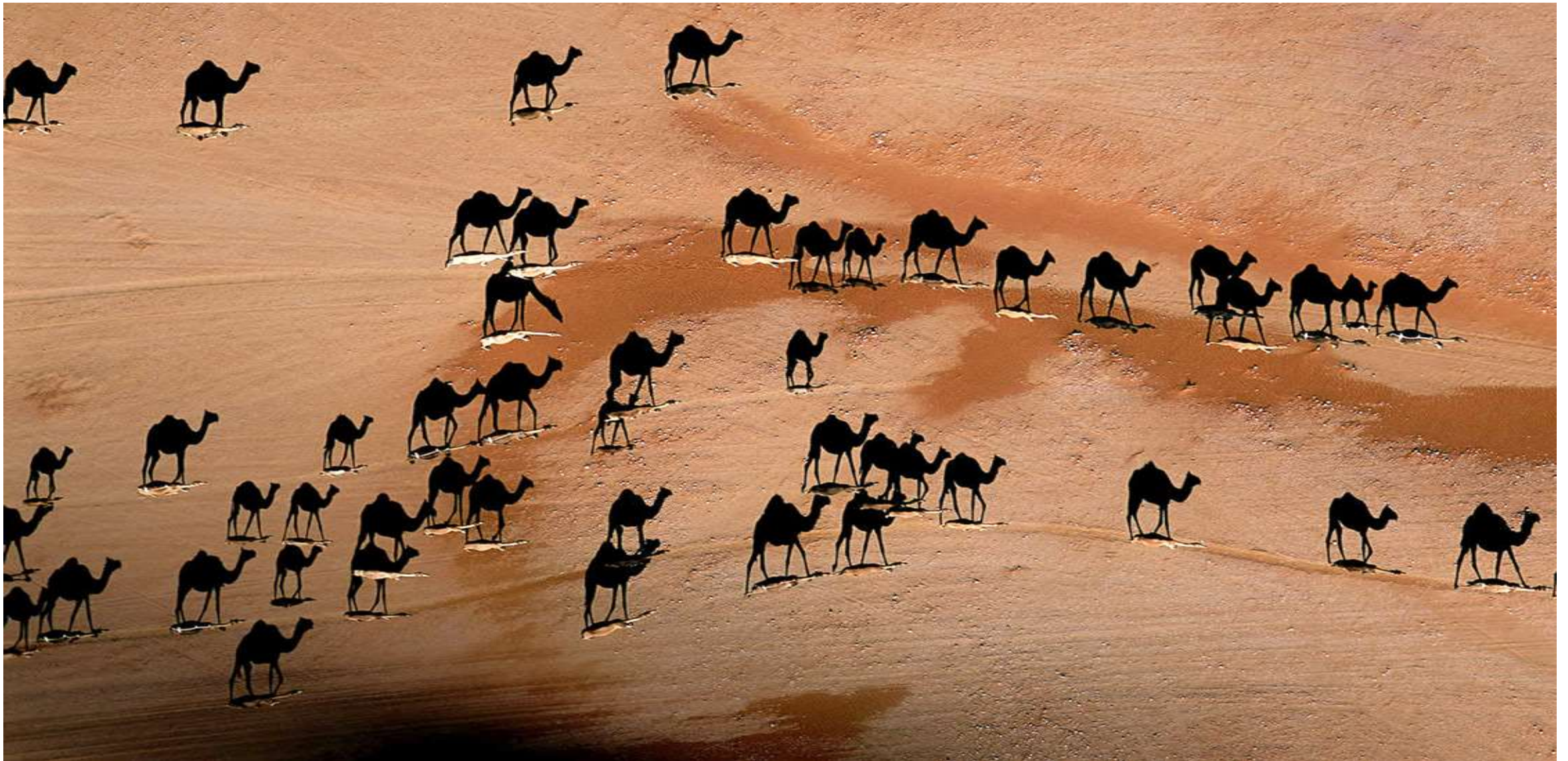
Who are the Bedouins?

- Some Arabs were desert herders...to water and graze their camels, goats and sheep, they traveled from oasis to oasis.



- These herders were called **Bedouins**(Bed-oo-win).

Who are the Bedouins?



Who are the Bedouins?



- Today, many Bedouins still roam the desert and live in tents.

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Who are the Bedouins?

- Bedouins in the past lived in tents and ate what they could forage...dried fruits and nuts. They also drank the milk of their animals.



- Only rarely would they eat meat...their animals were much too valuable to be used as food.

Who are the Bedouins?

- **Questions:**

- **1)** What is a herder?

- **2)** Why do you think a herder's animals are more valuable alive than used as food?

Who are the Bedouins?

- **Questions:**

- **1)** What is a herder?

- **A person who raises animals for a living**

- **2)** Why do you think a herder's animals are more valuable alive than used as food?

- **Answers will vary...**

Trade and Towns

- Many Arabs lived in villages where they farmed or raised animals.



- These villages were located near Oases or in the northern mountain ranges.

Trade and Towns

- Some of the villagers were merchants who transported goods across the desert.



- To fend off attacks by Bedouins, many Arabs traveled in a **Caravan**.

Trade and Towns



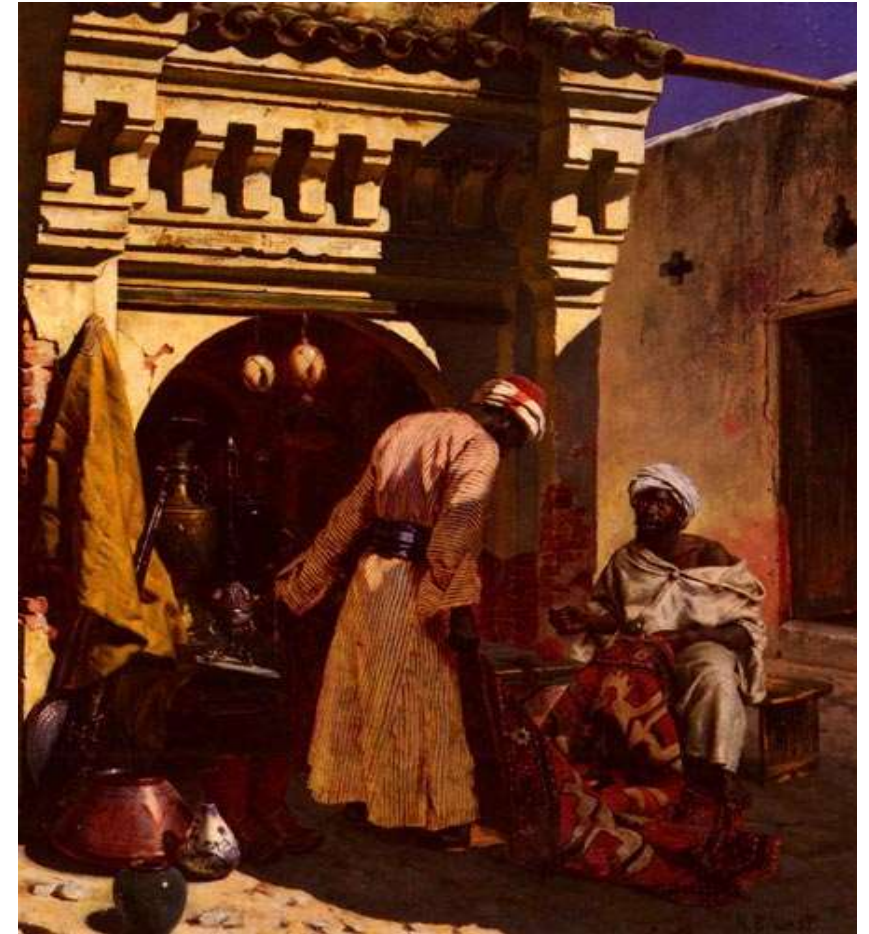
- **Caravan** - a group of traveling merchants and animals .

Trade and Towns



Trade and Towns

- By about 500 C.E., Arabian merchants handled most trade between India and the Mediterranean Sea.



- As their trade grew, Arab merchants founded towns along their trade routes in Arabia.

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Trade and Towns

- **Makkah**, also known as **Mecca**, became the largest and richest of the established towns.



- Mecca was a crossroads for merchants and also became an extremely important religious site...today its located in Saudi Arabia

Trade and Towns

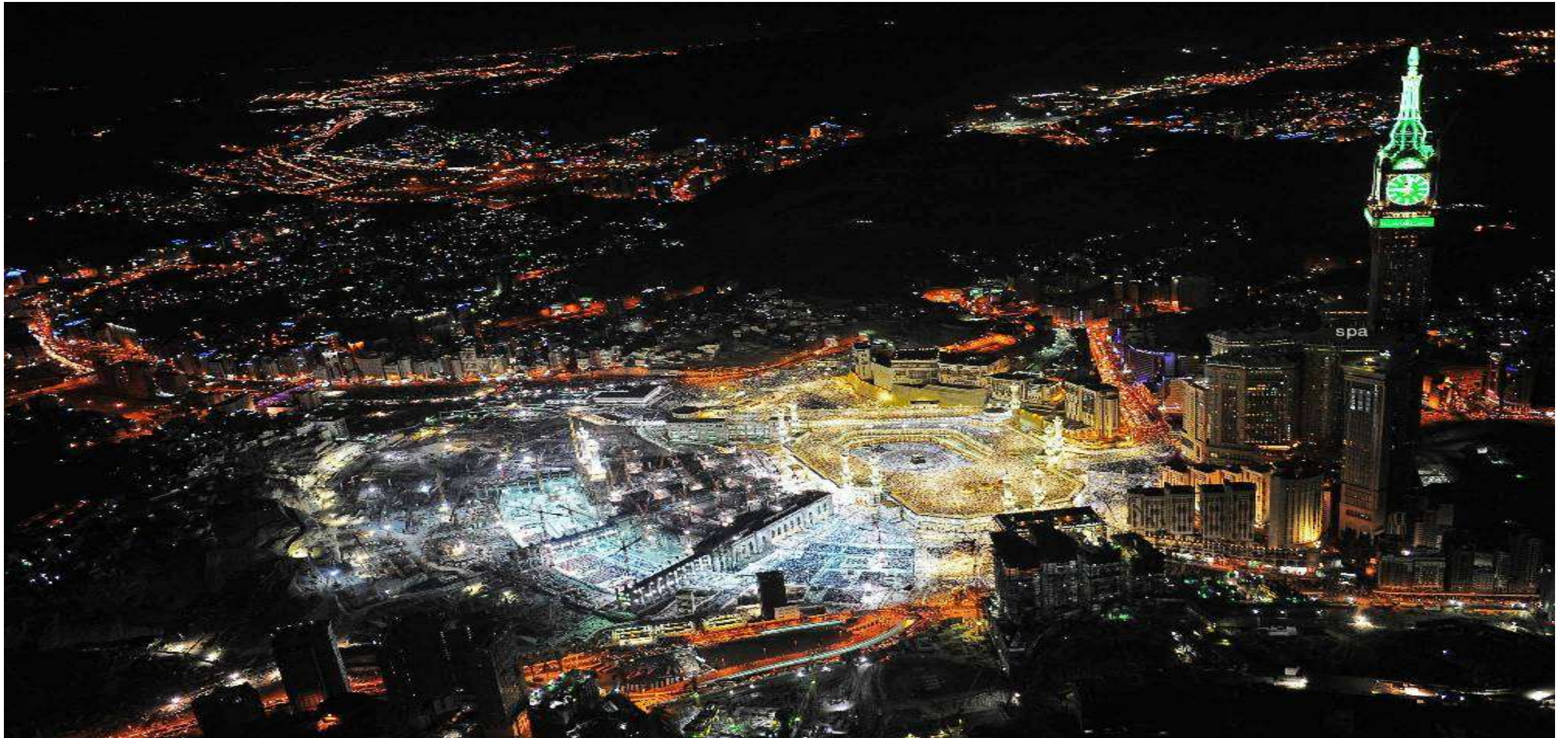


- Mecca became the holiest city in Arabia, holding within its walls the sacred place in the **Islamic Religion**.

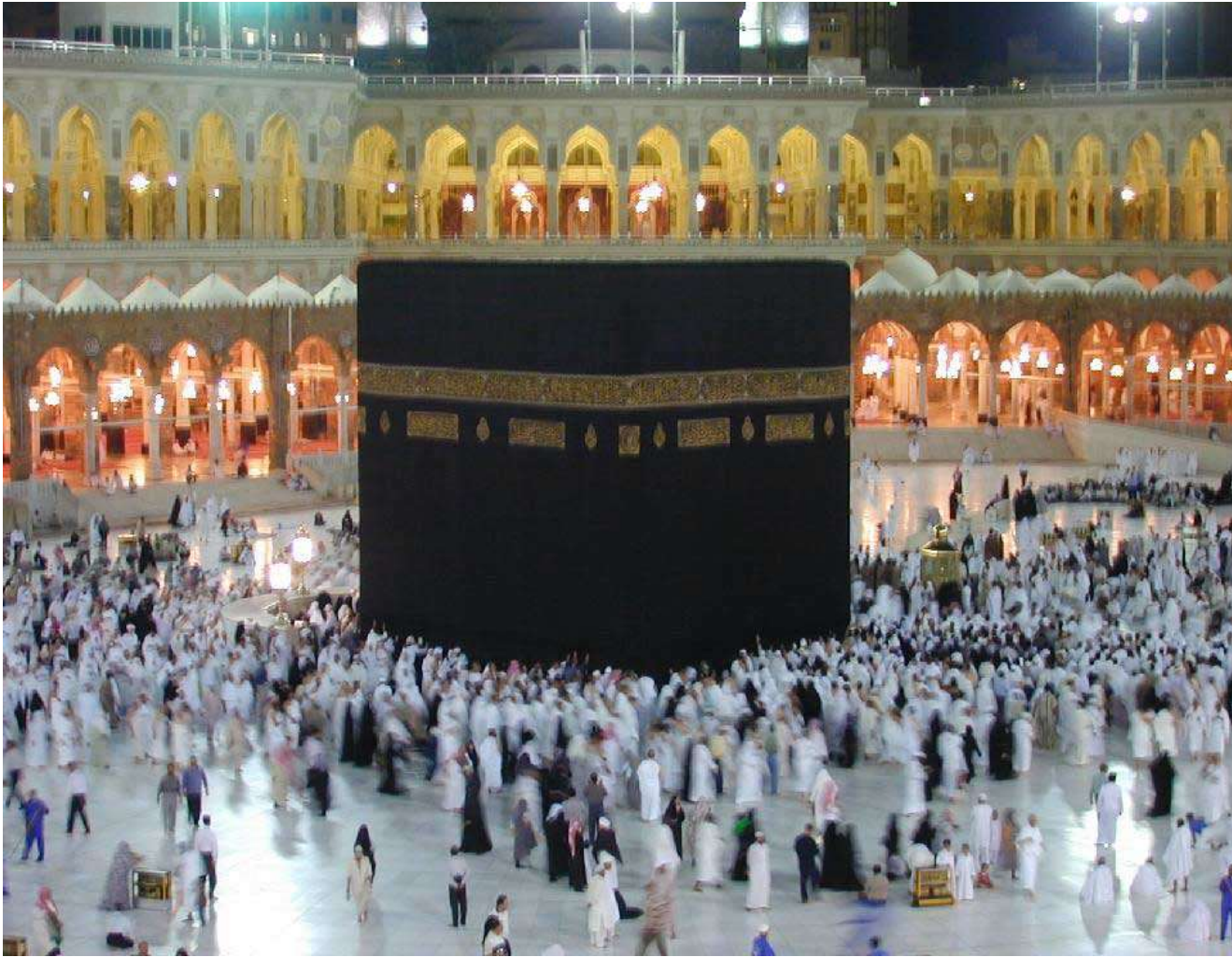
Trade and Towns



Trade and Towns



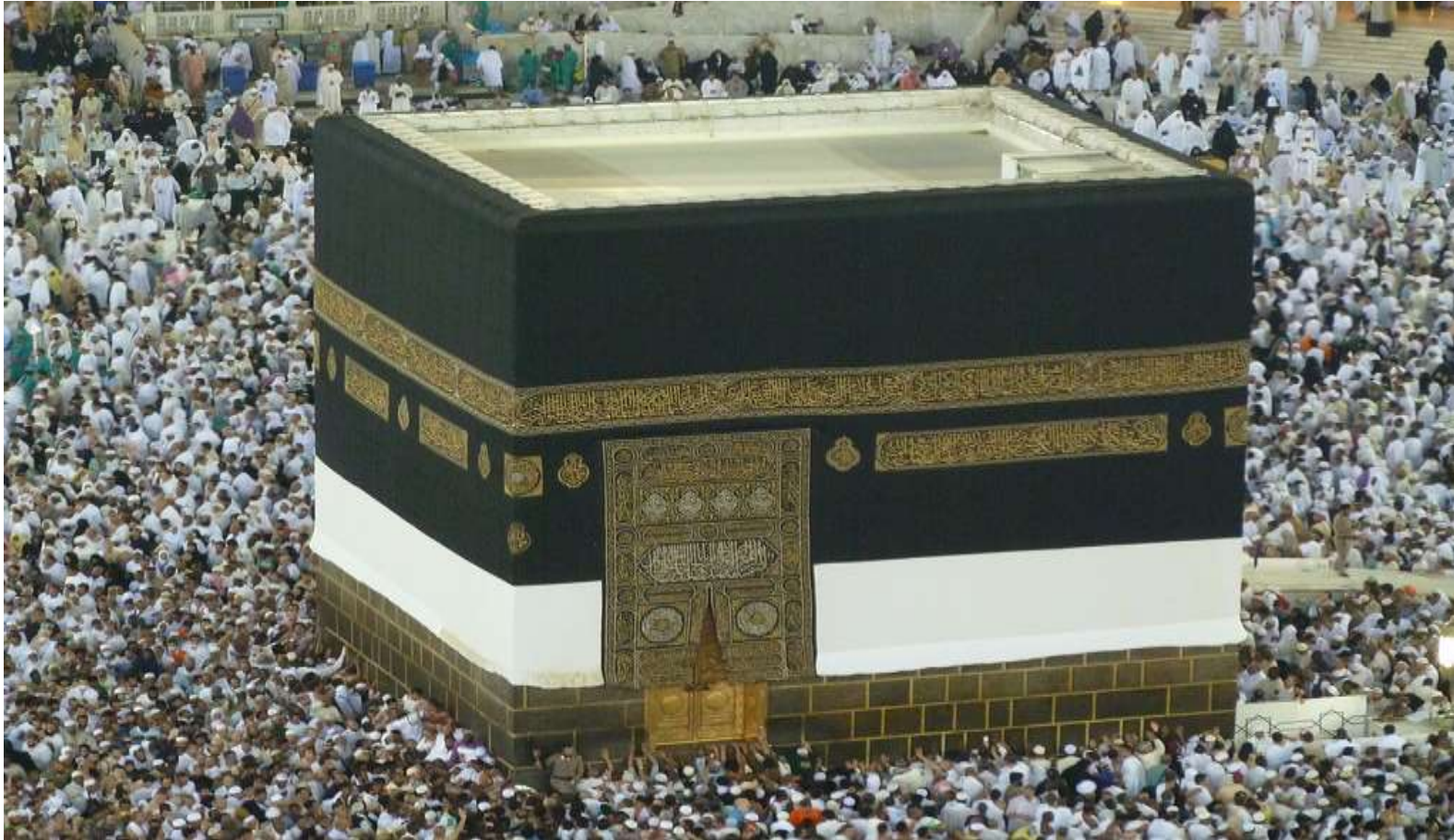
Trade and Towns



- In the middle of mecca was the **Kaaba**, a low square building surrounded by statues of gods and goddesses.

Trade and Towns

- Essentially the **Kaaba** is a granite brick, covered with a silk curtain and calligraphy in gold and silver-wrapped thread.



- Arabs believed that the great stone inside the Kaaba was actually from heaven.

Trade and Towns



Trade and Towns

- **Pilgrims**, or people who travel to a holy place, flocked to Mecca.



- Arabians worship many gods, but the most important was **Allah**.

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Trade and Towns



- **Allah** was considered to be the creator of the world within the Islamic Religion.

Trade and Towns

- **Questions:**

- **1)** What is a caravan and how were they used in Arabia?
- **2)** What was the most important town to be established in Arabia?
- **3)** What is the Kaaba and how is it important?

Trade and Towns

- **Questions:**

- **1)** What is a caravan and how were they used in Arabia?

- **A group of merchants traveling from town to town**

- **2)** What was the most important town to be established in Arabia?

- **Mecca**

- **3)** What is the Kaaba and how is it important?

- **A great stone in Mecca, believed to be from heaven**

Trade and Towns

- **Using Geography Skills:**
- **1)** Which empire was located north and west of the Arabian Peninsula?
- **2)** What modern countries were part of the Persian Empire?



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Trade and Towns

- **Lecture Check:**

- How do you think geography shaped life in ancient Arabia?



Trade and Towns

- **Persuasive Writing:**

- Answer the following questions in a well organized and creative re open ended explanation.
- Pretend that you are a **Bedouin**. What dangers lye ahead of you on your journey throughout the desert. What challenges do you have with raising your livestock in this environment? How can you create a safe trip for you and your animals?