



# STRUGGLES WITHIN ISLAM



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# STRUGGLES WITHIN ISLAM

- Main Idea (Objective):



- While Muslims split into two groups, the Arab Empire reached new heights.



# STRUGGLES WITHIN ISLAM

- Lecture Focus (Essential Question):



- Have you ever belonged to a club whose members could not agree on a leader? Lets look at what happened when Muslims disagreed about who should lead them.



# STRUGGLES WITHIN ISLAM

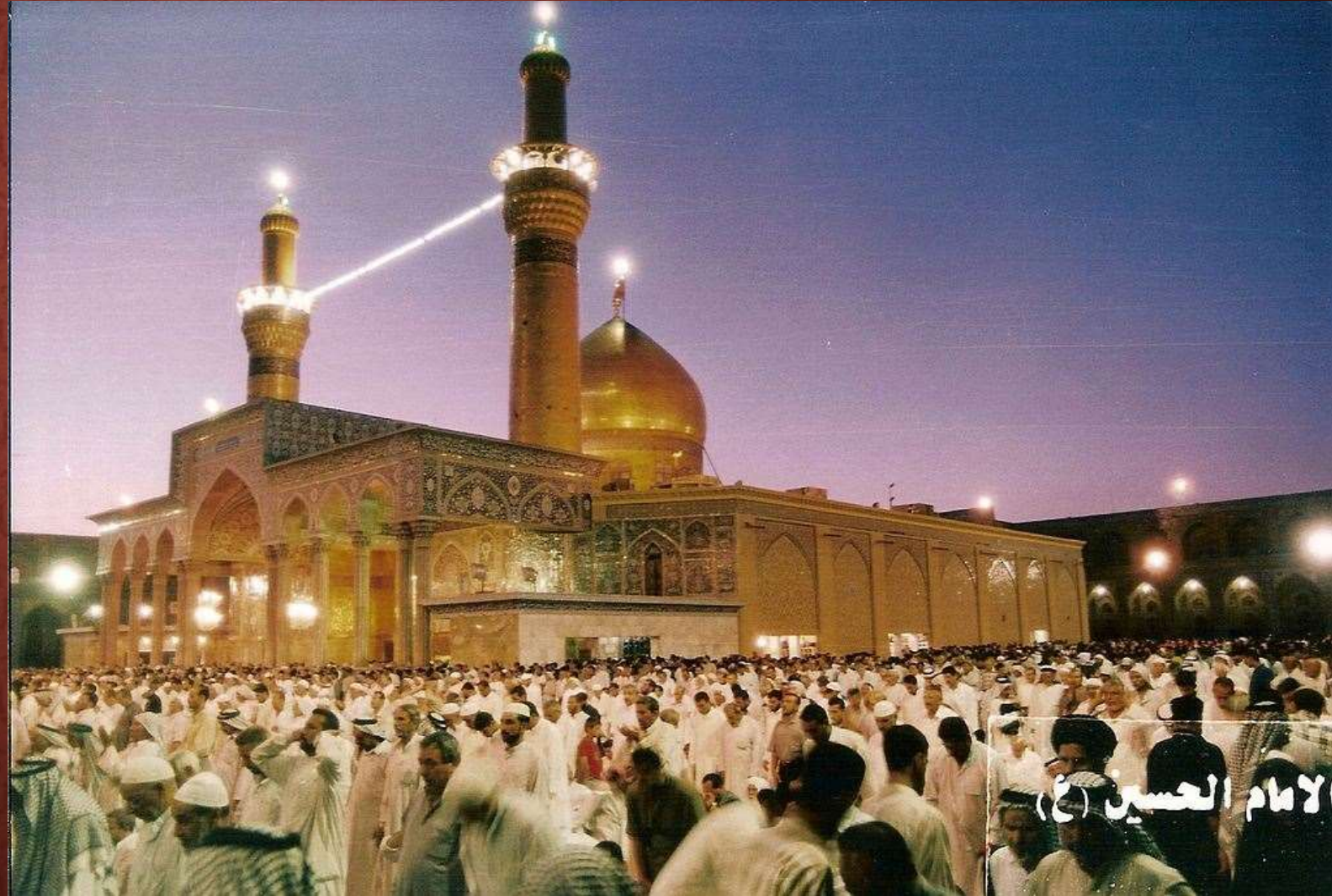
- Muhammad died in 632 C.E. and conflicts began in the Muslim community over who should be the **Caliph**.



- **Caliph** - Islamic rulers who are considered politic and religious leaders who rule in accordance with Islamic law.  
(Abdülmejid II is the last Caliph of Islam from the Ottoman dynasty)



# STRUGGLES WITHIN ISLAM



- The quarrel over who should succeed Muhammad split the Muslim world into two different groups, the **Sunnis** and the **Shiites (Shia)**.



# STRUGGLES WITHIN ISLAM

- **Sunni** - Commonly described as orthodox...Muhammad left the process of determining who would succeed him to the Muslim community to decide by consensus; they chose the Prophet's close companion **Abu Bakr** to be Caliph.



- The next three caliphs were also former companions of the Prophet and after the passing of the fourth caliph, Muhammad's son-in-law Ali, the caliphate's authority became more political than religious.



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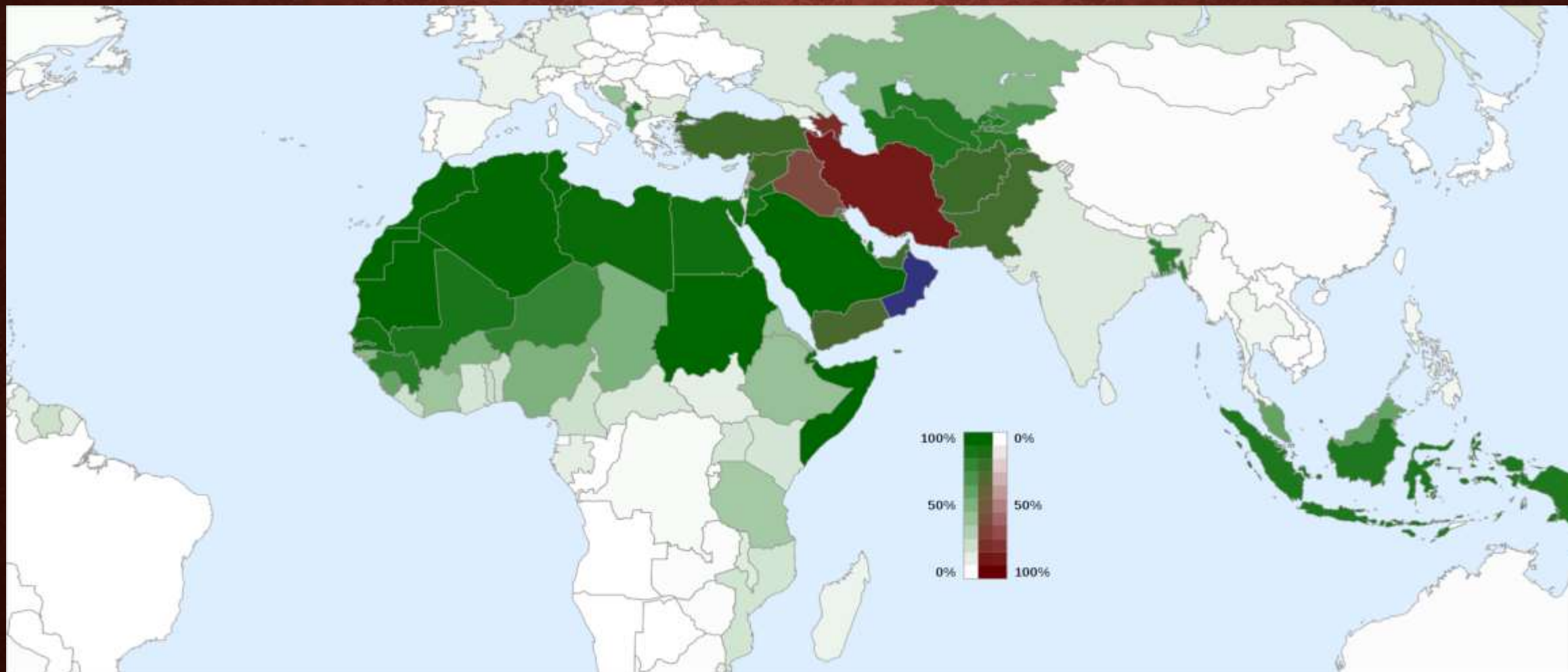
- **Shiites (Shia)** - Shiite belief disputes the validity of the first three caliphs, and the lines of authority diverge after the passing of the fourth, Ali, the son-in-law of Muhammad. According to Shiite teaching, the proper line of succession went through Muhammad's family, not community consensus.



- In this view, the first legitimate successor was Ali, whom they regard as the first in the line of infallible and sinless successors referred to as Imams.



# STRUGGLES WITHIN ISLAM



- Sunni = Green
- Shia = Maroon



# STRUGGLES WITHIN ISLAM

- This division of the Muslim world has remained through present day.



- Today most Muslims are Sunnis...however there are large populations of Shiites located throughout **Iran** and **Iraq**.



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# STRUGGLES WITHIN ISLAM





# STRUGGLES WITHIN ISLAM

- Lecture Focus (Essential Question):



- How were Arabs able to spread their new idea of Islam...what were the new groups within Islam?



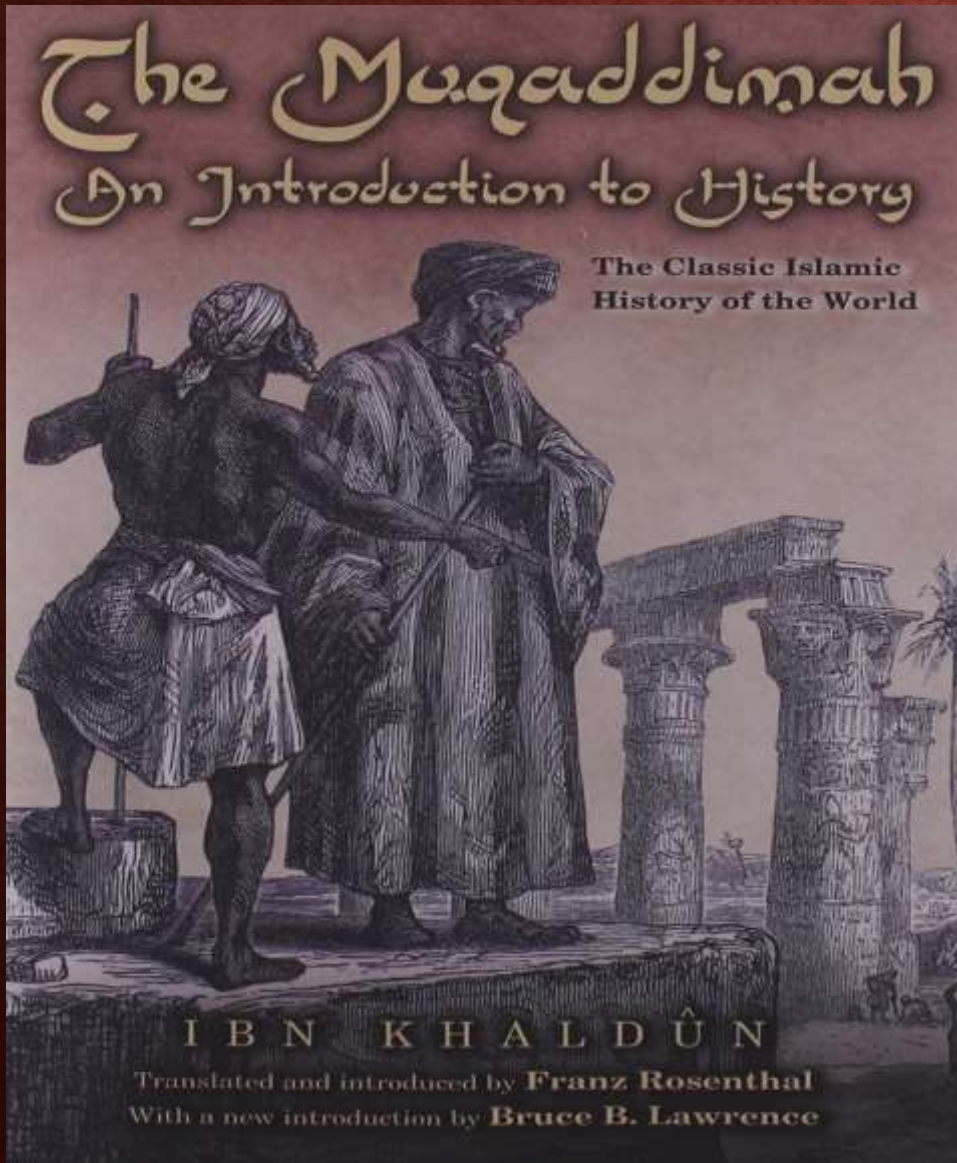
# STRUGGLES WITHIN ISLAM

- **Primary Source Document based Questions:**  
**Royal Caliphs**
- **Ibn Khaldun** recorded historical events and his interpretation of them...he was essentially a historian and was regarded to be among the founding fathers of modern **sociology**.
- The following excerpt can be found in Ibn Khaldun's book, "**The Muqaddimah**"





# STRUGGLES WITHIN ISLAM



- “When one considers what God meant the Caliph to be, nothing more needs to be said about it. God made the Caliph his substitute to handle the affairs of his servants. He is to make them do the things that are good for them and forbid them to do those that are harmful. He has been directly told so. A person who lacks the power to do a thing is never told to do it.”



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# STRUGGLES WITHIN ISLAM

- DBQ: Document Based Questions:
- Answer the following question in a complete, one paragraph, open ended response.
- **According to Khaldun, what is the relationship between God and the Caliph?**



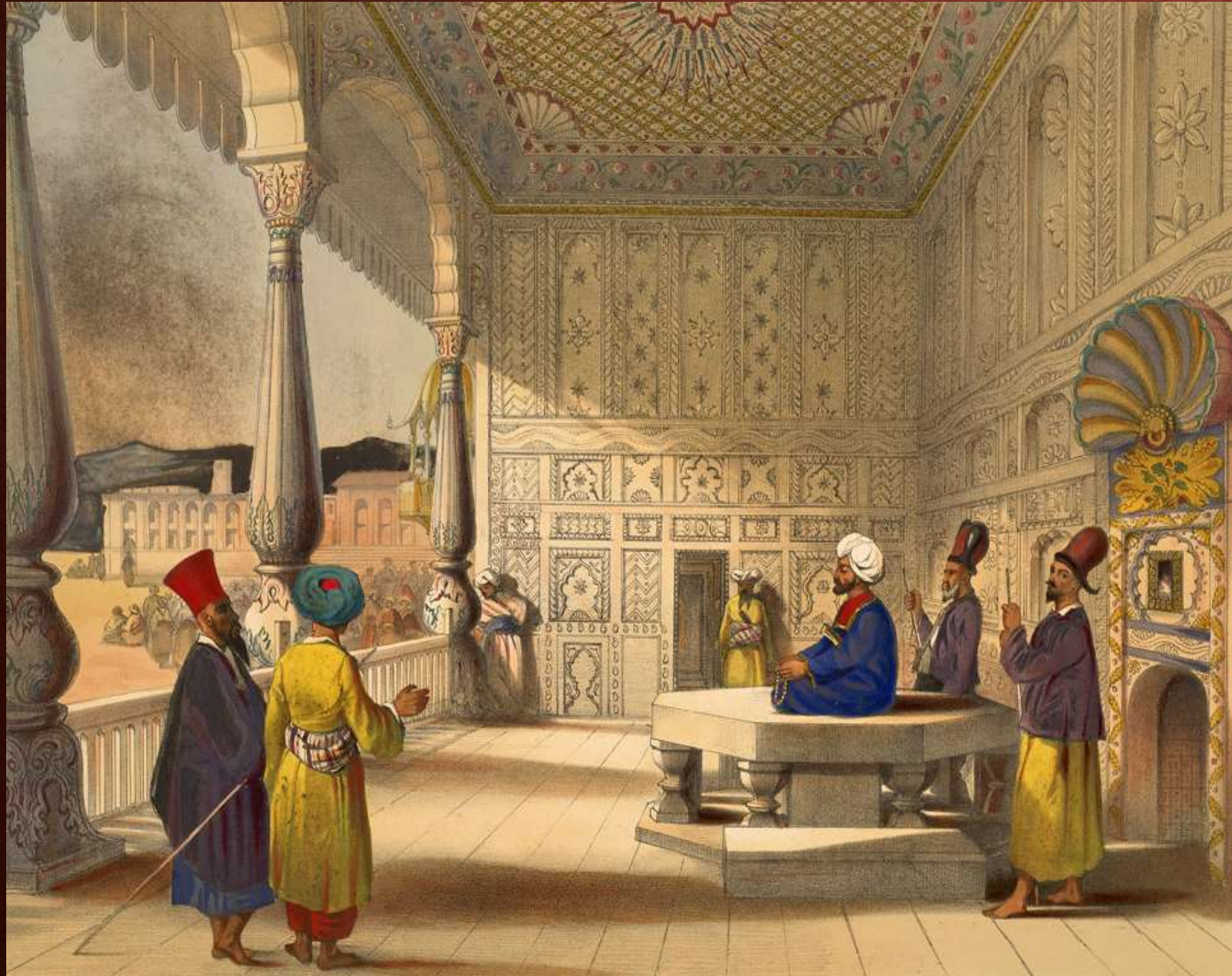
# HOW DID ISLAM SPLIT?



- Shiites believed that Ali, Muhammad's son-in-law should succeed and that all future Caliphs should be Ali's descendants.



# HOW DID ISLAM SPLIT?



- According to the Shiites, the **Umayyad Caliphs** in Damascus had no right to rule.



# HOW DID ISLAM SPLIT?



- Sunnis, who outnumbered Shiites, accepted the Umayyad dynasty as rightful Caliphs, though they did not always agree with their policies.



# HOW DID ISLAM SPLIT?

- Over time, the Shiites and Sunnis developed different religious practices and customs.



- They also developed frustrations towards each other and over time these frustrations moved into heated fighting.



# HOW DID ISLAM SPLIT?

- **Questions:**
- **1) What are the two different groups within the Muslim world?**
- **2) What were the differences between these two groups?**
- **3) The countries of Iraq and Iran had the largest number of \_\_\_\_\_ Muslims.**



# HOW DID ISLAM SPLIT?

- **Questions:**
- **1) What are the two different groups within the Muslim world?**
  - **Sunnis and Shiites**
- **2) What were the differences between these two groups?**
  - **Shiites believed that Ali's descents should have been the Caliphs and Sunnis believed the Umayyad dynasty were the rightful caliphs**
- **3) The countries of Iraq and Iran had the largest number of \_\_\_\_\_ Muslims.**
  - **Shiite Muslims**



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# WHO WERE THE ABBASIDS?

- The Abbasids were the dynasty that came after the Umayyad's lost power in 750 C.E. because they angered many Muslims, especially in Persia.



- Persian Muslims felt that Arab Muslims got special treatment, better job opportunities and fewer taxes.



# WHO WERE THE ABBASIDS?

- When these Muslims rebelled, people all over the empire joined them.
- They overthrew the Umayyads, ushering in a new dynasty of Islam.





# WHO WERE THE ABBASIDS?

- The new Caliph was a descendent of Muhammad's uncle, named Abu al-Abbas.



- This new Abbasid dynasty lasted until 1258 C.E.



# WHO WERE THE ABBASIDS?

- The Abbasids devoted their energies to **trade**, **scholarship** and **the arts**.



- They also built a new capital called, Baghdad.



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# WHO WERE THE ABBASIDS?





# WHO WERE THE ABBASIDS?

- Baghdad prospered because it was beside the **Tigris River** and near the **Euphrates River**.

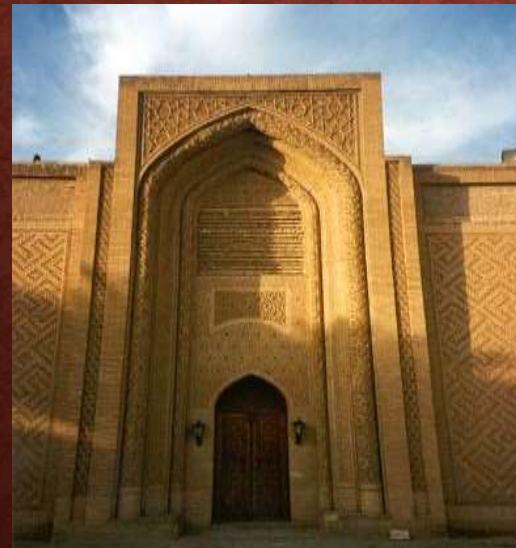


- It was a great location to trade since many people used the rivers to ship goods all over the middle east...as a result, the **Arab Empire** grew extremely wealthy.



# WHO WERE THE ABBASIDS?

- The Abbasid dynasty is also known for bringing Persian influence into the empire.



- Baghdad was very close to Persia and the Abbasid rulers came to know and love the art and literature of Persia.



# WHO WERE THE ABBASIDS?

- **Questions:**
- **1) What was the Muslim dynasty that came after the Umayyads?**
- **2) What was the name of the new capital city that became part of this new dynasty?**
- **3) What two rivers was this city built around?**
- **4) Why would it be important to have a city close to these rivers?**



# WHO WERE THE ABBASIDS?

- **Questions:**

- 1) What was the Muslim dynasty that came after the Umayyads?

- Abbasid Dynasty

- 2) What was the name of the new capital city that became part of this new dynasty?

- Baghdad

- 3) What two rivers was this city built around?

- Euphrates and the Tigris Rivers

- 4) Why would it be important to have a city close to these rivers?

- Easy to sell goods and become wealthy



# THE SELJUK TURKS



- Time brought many changes in the 500 years of Abbasid rule...the first being that Muslims in Egypt and Spain wanted their own Caliphs.



# THE SELJUK TURKS

- At about the same time, a new people, the Seljuk Turks of central Asia, began moving south into the Arab Empire.



- The Abbasids were losing control of the Arab Dynasty.



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# THE SELJUK TURKS

- The Seljuk Turks were **nomads** and extremely great warriors.



- **Nomads** - A member of a people having no permanent home and who travel from place to place to find fresh pasture for their livestock.



# THE SELJUK TURKS

- Then the Seljuk Turks first moved into the empire, the Abbasids hired them as soldiers.



- Soon, however they saw how weak the Abbasids were and decided to formulate a plan to take power for themselves.



# THE SELJUK TURKS

- First, the Seljuks took over much of what is now Iran and Turkey.



- Then, in 1055 C.E., they boldly took Baghdad itself...a stab wound to the heart of the Abbasid Empire.



# THE SELJUK TURKS

- The Seljuks were satisfied to rule only the government and army.



- They let the Abbasid Caliph remain as the religious leader.



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# THE SELJUK TURKS

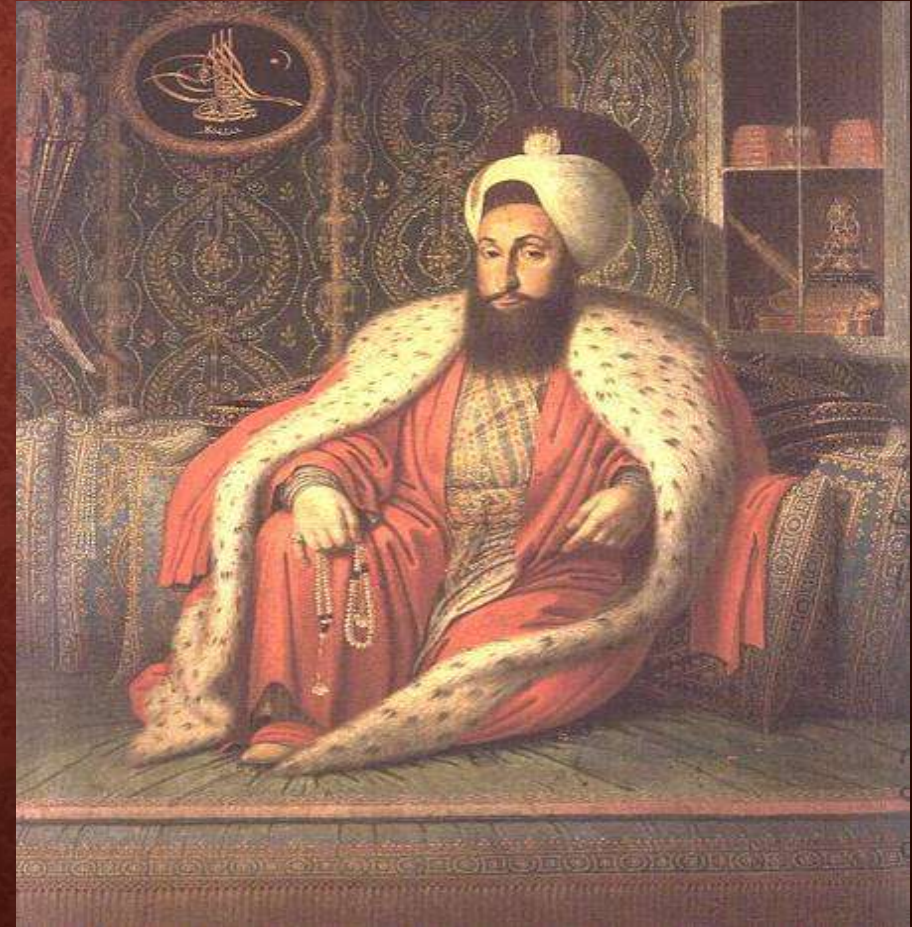
- The Seljuk ruler called himself **Sultan**, or “Holder of Power”.





# THE SELJUK TURKS

- For 200 more years, the empire continued in this way...the Seljuks ruled, however, it was still the Abbasid Dynasty.



- Then in 1200, another people swept into the empire.



# THE SELJUK TURKS

- The Mongols were building their own empire and destroying many of the civilizations they conquered.



- In 1258 they stormed into Baghdad and burned it to the ground.



# THE SELJUK TURKS



- The Arab Empire had officially ended.



# THE SELJUK TURKS

- **Questions:**
- 1) What does the term **Nomad** mean?
- 2) The Abbasids originally hired the Seljuk Turks as \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3) What did the Seljuk Turks call their leader?
- 4) What Asian Empire brought down the Arab Empire?



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# THE SELJUK TURKS

- **Questions:**

- 1) What does the term **Nomad** mean?

- **Someone who moves around from place to place for food and shelter.**

- 2) The Abbasids originally hired the Seljuk Turks as \_\_\_\_\_.

- **Soldiers**

- 3) What did the Seljuk Turks call their leader?

- **Sultan**

- 4) What Asian Empire brought down the Arab Empire?

- **The Mongols**



# THE SELJUK TURKS

- **Reading Check:**

- In a well written one paragraph response, answer the following question.

- **In what ways were the Sunni and the Shia Muslims different. How did this effect the Muslim Empires of the past and how does it influence the Muslim world today?**



# THE SELJUK TURKS