

MUSLIM ACHIEVEMENTS



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Muslim Achievements

- Arabic was the common language of the Muslim Empires.



- We have previously discussed how the Arabic language encouraged trade, however, it also helped different people in the empires to share knowledge.

Muslim Achievements

- In 830 C.E. the **Abbasid Caliph Mamun** founded the **House of Wisdom** in Baghdad.



- **Mamun** staffed the his center with Christian, Jewish and Muslim scholars...these scholars exchanged ideas and re-wrote Greek, Persian and Indian works in Arabic.

Muslim Achievements



- Scholars in Muslim lands saved many of the texts and knowledge of the ancient world.

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Muslim Achievements



- Europeans in the West had lost most of this knowledge after the fall of the **Western Roman Empire**.

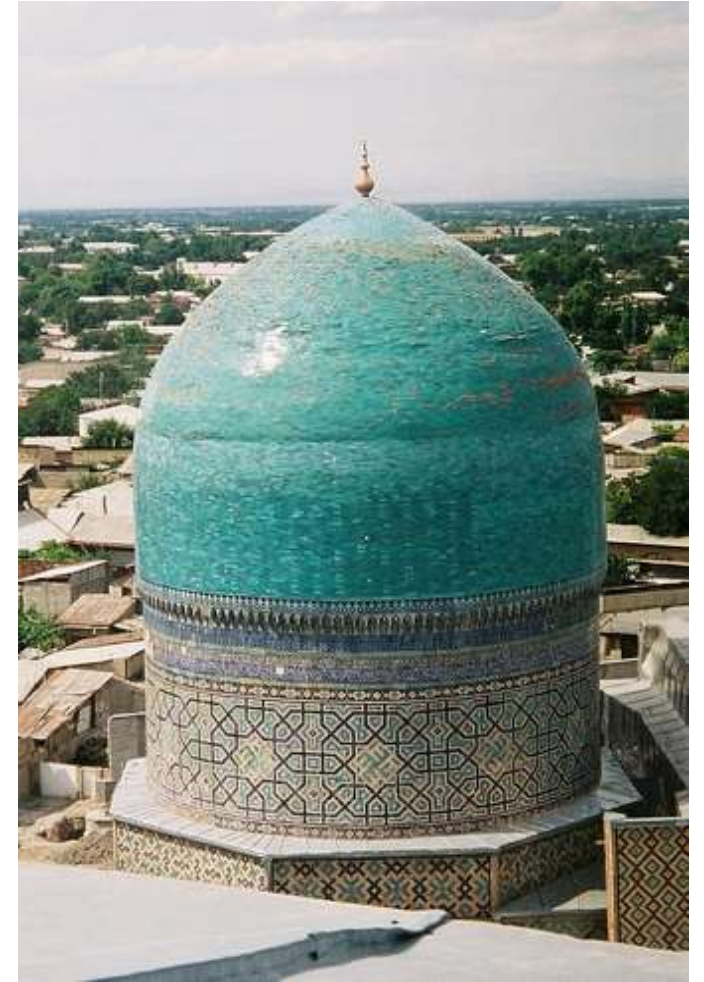
Muslim Achievements



- Through Muslim scholars, Western Europeans were able to read all different types of ancient texts written by Greek, Roman and Indian legends, such as **Aristotle** and **Dante**.

Muslim Achievements

- Lecture Focus (Essential Question) :



- What are some of the major contributions the Muslims created during their empires ?

Muslim Achievements

- **Questions:**

- **1)** What caliph founded the House of Wisdom?

- **2)** What occurred in the House of Wisdom?

- **3)** In your own opinion, was the House of Wisdom a good idea or bad idea?

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Muslim Achievements

- **Questions:**
- **1) What caliph founded the House of Wisdom?**
 - **Abbasid Caliph Mamun**
- **2) What occurred in the House of Wisdom?**
 - **Scholars rewrote ancient books into Arabic**
- **3) In your own opinion, was the House of Wisdom a good idea or bad idea?**
 - **OPINION**

Linking the Past and the Present

- Then:



- The teachings of Muhammad state that women's garments should not attract attention.

Linking the Past and the Present

- The female Muslim custom of **Hijab**, which is wearing garments that cover the head and body.



- This was really only followed by **upper class women** during the first few hundred years of Islam.

Linking the Past and the Present



- During the Middle Ages, the **Hijab** became very common and can still be found in the Muslim culture to this day.

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Linking the Past and the Present

- Now:



- Hijab today ranges from colorful scarves to black robes.

Linking the Past and the Present

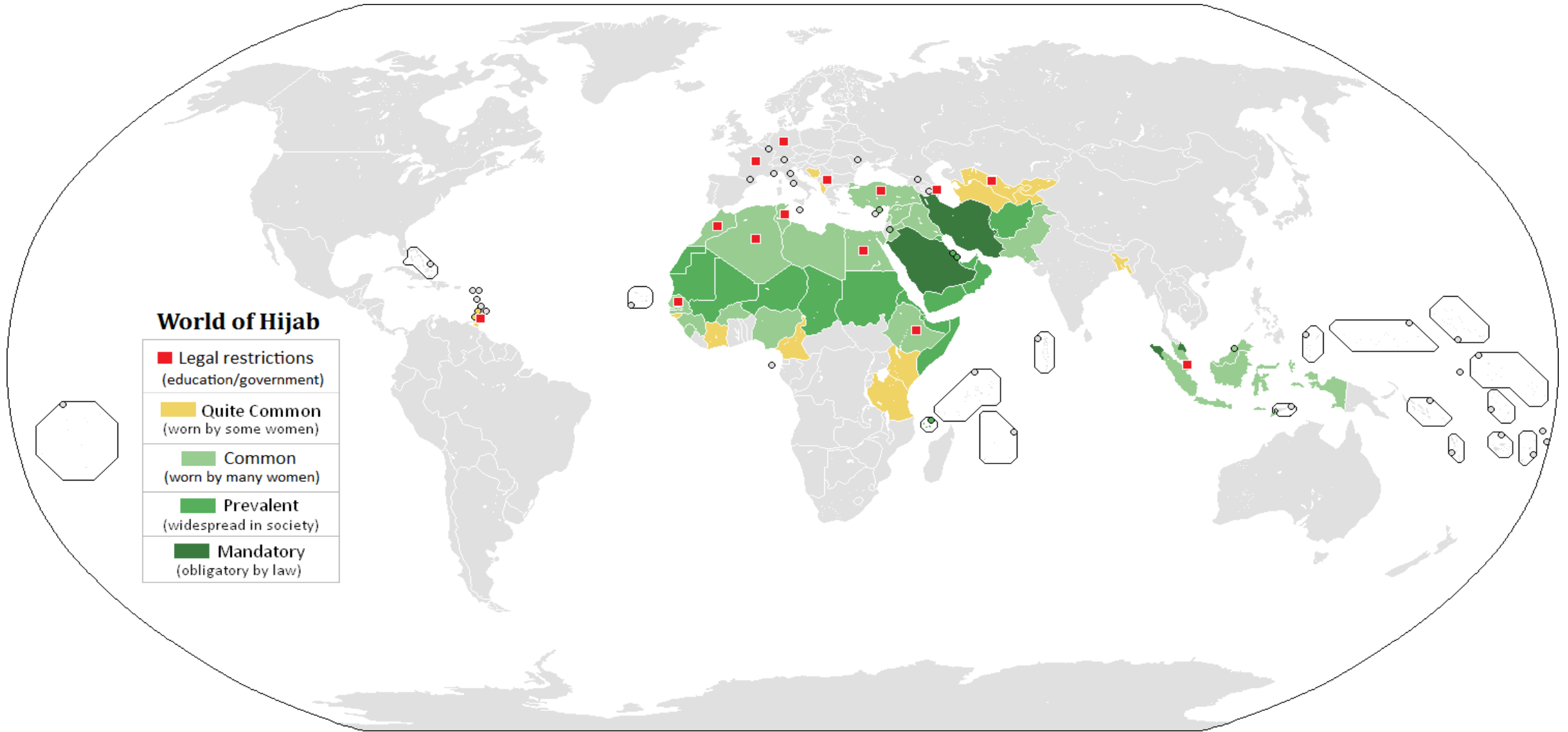
- Some women wear a hijab and some do not, despite it being a Muslim tradition.



- Others think it allows them to be judged for themselves and not their bodies...some countries even require women to wear a hijab.

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Linking the Past and the Present



Linking the Past and the Present

- **Reading Response:**
 - Answer the following question in a short answer response.
- **What are your feelings on the Hijab in the United States today?**

Mathematics and Science

- Muslims made important advances in mathematics.



- Later, they passed these discoveries onto the Europeans...for example, Muslims created Algebra, a type of mathematics still taught in schools today.

Mathematics and Science

- The Muslims also borrowed the symbols 0 through 9 from Hindu scholars in India.

Brahmi	↓		—	=	≡	+	८	९	०	१	२
Hindu	↓	०	१	२	३	४	५	६	७	८	९
Arabic	↓	•	١	٢	٣	٤	٥	٦	٧	٨	٩
Medieval	↓	0	I	2	3	٤	٥	6	٨	8	9
Modern		0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

- These numbers were later used by Europeans and are collectively known as the “**Arabic numerals.**”

Mathematics and Science

- Muslims also made progress in science.



- Muslims scientist who studied the stars, perfected the Greek **Astrolabe**, a tool sailors used to study the stars to determine their location while at sea.

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Mathematics and Science

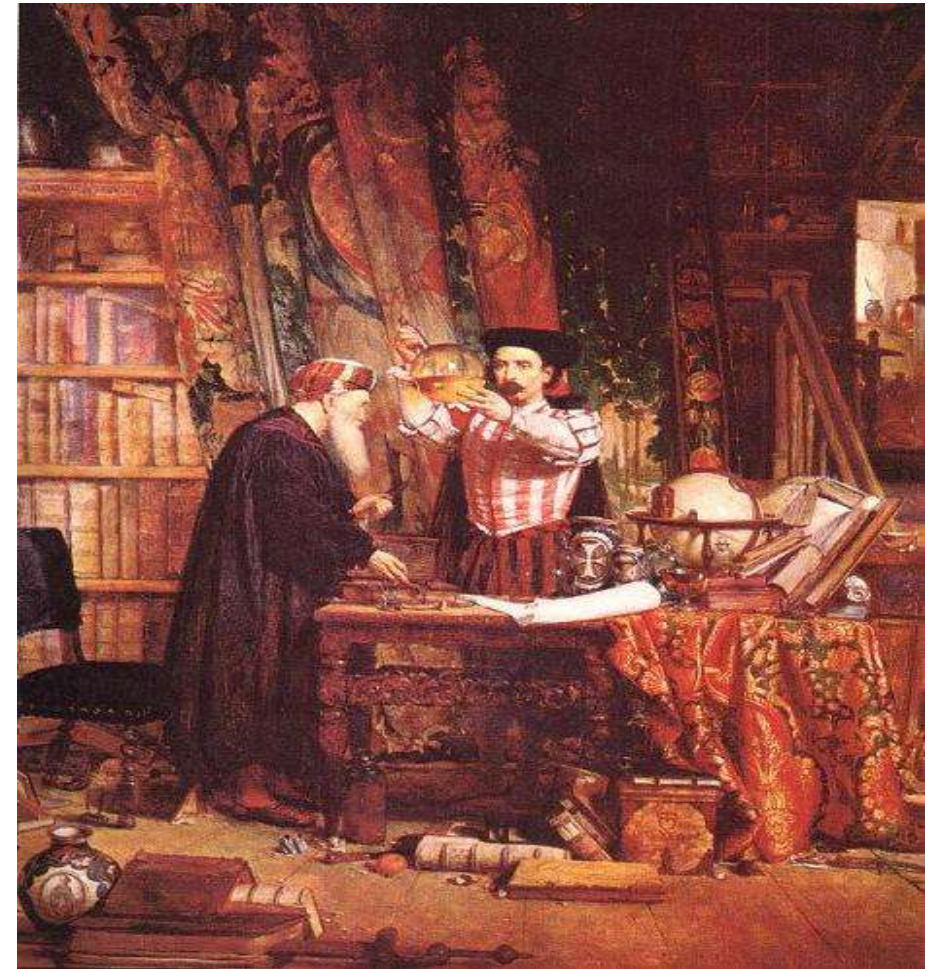
- Muslim scientist used the Astrolabe to measure the size and distance around the earth.



- Based on their measurements, they realized the earth was completely round.

Mathematics and Science

- Other Muslim scientists experimented with metals and kept records of their work.



- As a result, the Muslims are considered the founders of Chemistry.

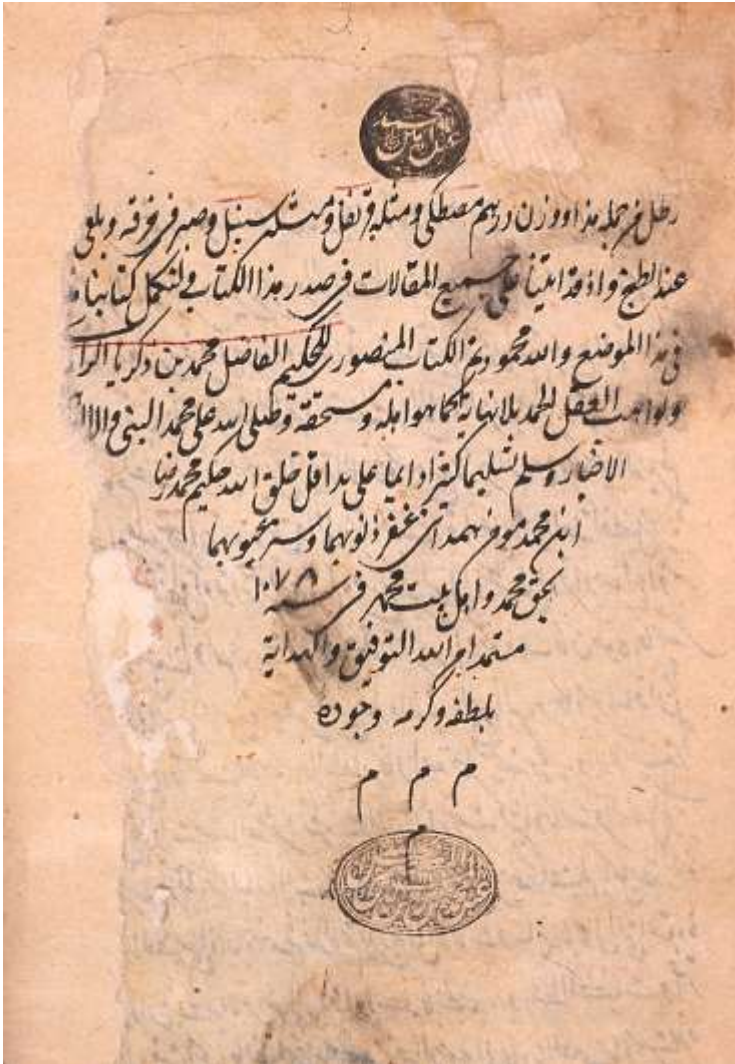
Mathematics and Science

- One of the best known Muslim chemists was **al-Razi**, who lived from 865 C.E. to 925 C.E.



- **Al-Razi** developed a system for categorizing substances as animal, mineral or vegetable.

Mathematics and Science

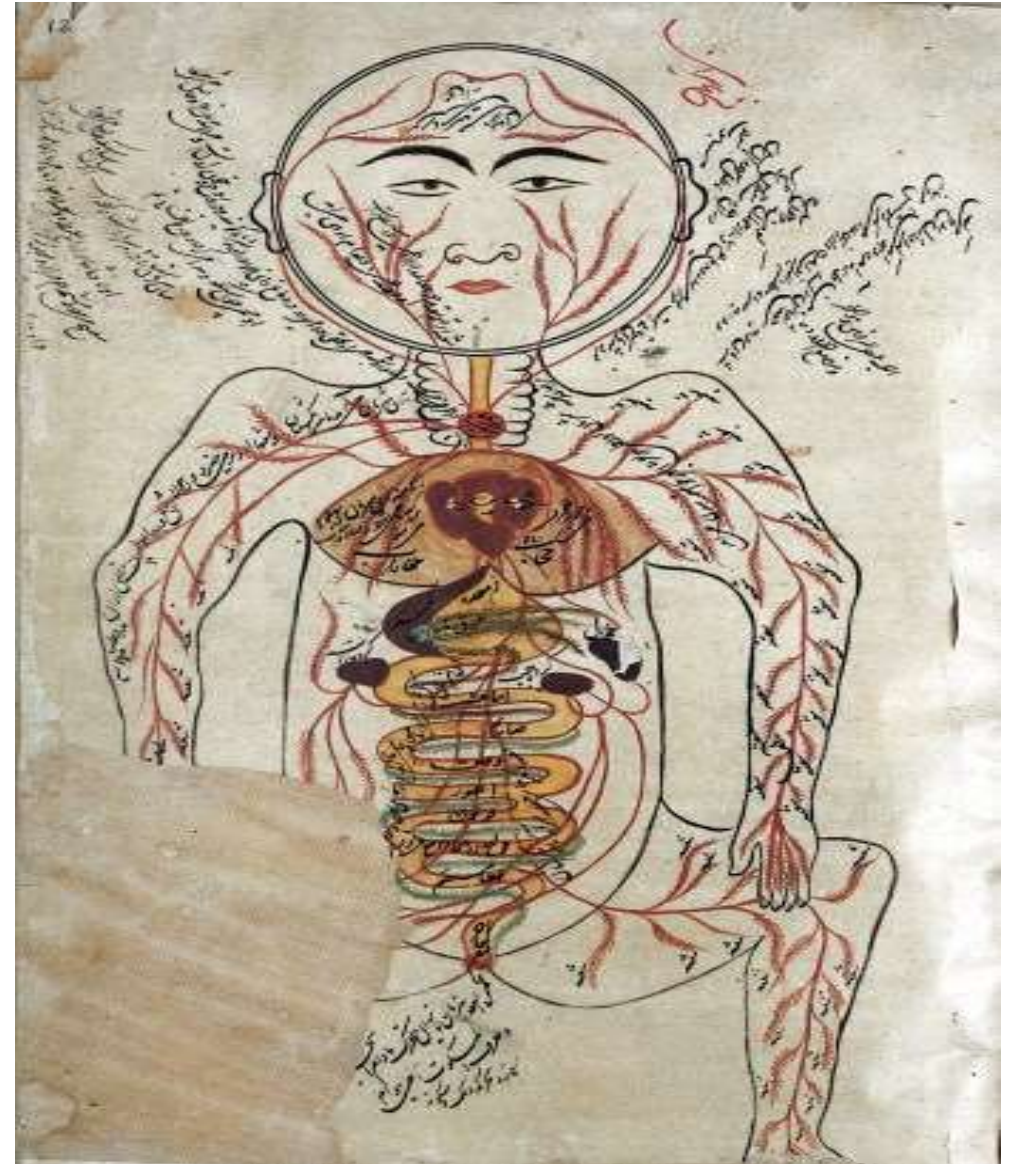


- Al-Razi also wrote books for doctors that helped to classify and identify diseases.

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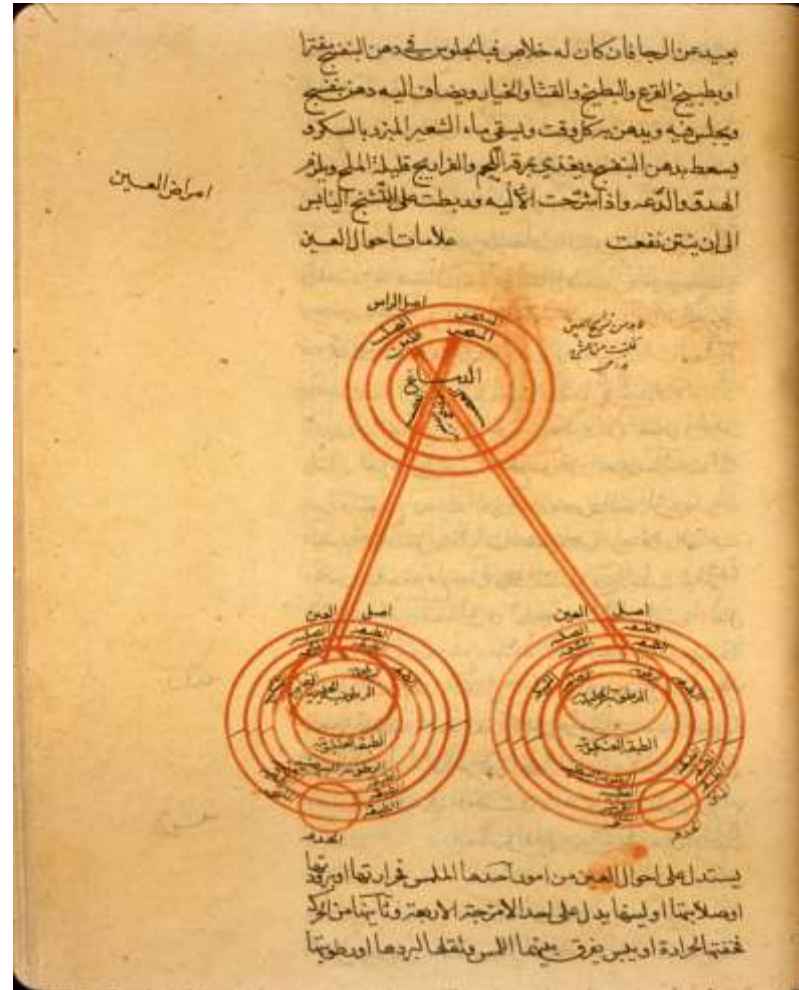
Mathematics and Science

- Muslim doctors were the first to discover and document that blood circulates throughout the body and travels to and from the heart.



Mathematics and Science

- The Persian doctor **Ibn Sina** showed how diseases spread from person to person.



- As they worked, Muslim doctors published their findings for the world to see.

Muslim Achievements

- Lecture Focus (Essential Question) :



- What are some of the major contributions the Muslims created during their empires in the areas of science???

Mathematics and Science

- **Questions:**

- **1)** What form of mathematics was by the Muslims?
- **2)** What were the symbols that were borrowed by the Muslims from Hindu scholars?
- **3)** What is an Astrolabe and what was it used for?
- **4)** What is al-Razi best known for?

Mathematics and Science

- **Questions:**

- **1) What form of mathematics was by the Muslims?**

- **Algebra**

- **2) What were the symbols that were borrowed by the Muslims from Hindu scholars?**

- **The Arabic numerals, 0 through 9**

- **3) What is an Astrolabe and what was it used for?**

- **Tool used to determine your location at sea.**

- **4) What is al-Razi best known for?**

- **Muslim Chemist who categorized everything into groups.**

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Mathematics and Science

- **Primary Source:** The Mystery of Smallpox...



- The Muslim scientist as-Razi urged scientists and doctors to search for causes of disease, rather than just treatments.

Mathematics and Science

“Although scholars have certainly made some mention of the treatment of Small Pox...there is not one of them who has mentioned the cause of the existence of the disease, and how hardly anyone escapes it...”

- Al-Razi, “On the causes of Small-Pox”



Mathematics and Science

- Al-Razi's own theory about the causes of smallpox was incorrect.



- His efforts to find the cause, however helped, change how doctors and scientist investigated diseases.(**Smallpox virus on a developing duck**)

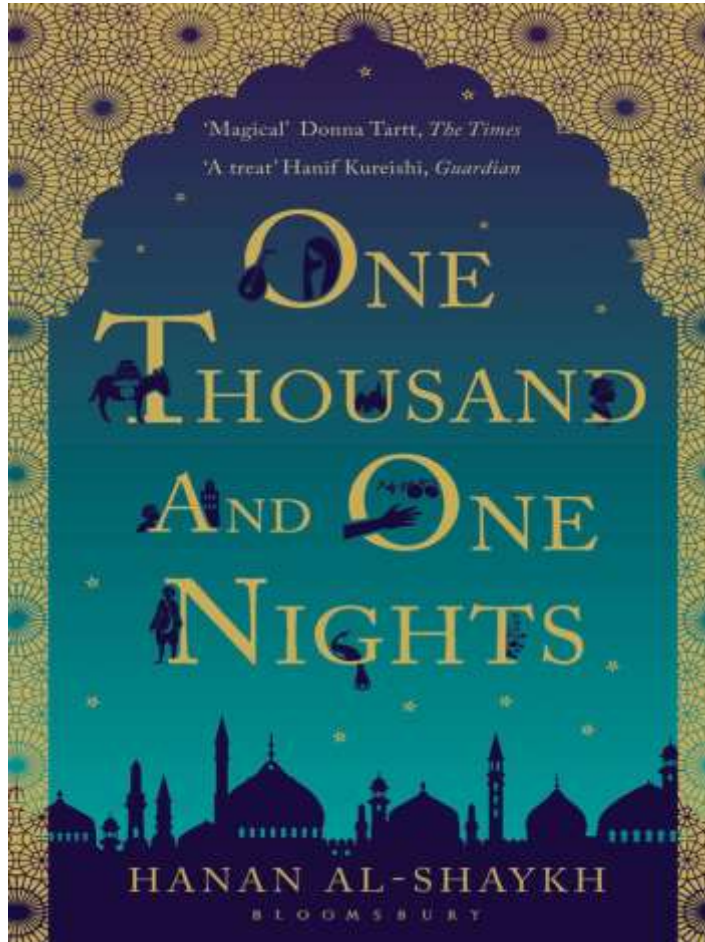
Mathematics and Science

- **DBQ:** Document Based Question
- Answer the following in a well organized and complete paragraph.
- **Why was al-Razi concerned about previous scholars study of Smallpox?**

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Muslim Writing

- The Quran is probably the most famous collection of writings in the Muslim world , but Muslims produced other famous works as well.



- One of the most well known is *The Thousand and One Nights*, also called *The Arabian Nights*.

Muslim Writing

- *The Arabian Nights* is a collection of West and South Asian stories and folk tales compiled in Arabic during the Islamic Golden Age.



- The work was collected over many centuries by various authors, translators, and scholars across West, Central, South Asia and North Africa.

Muslim Writing

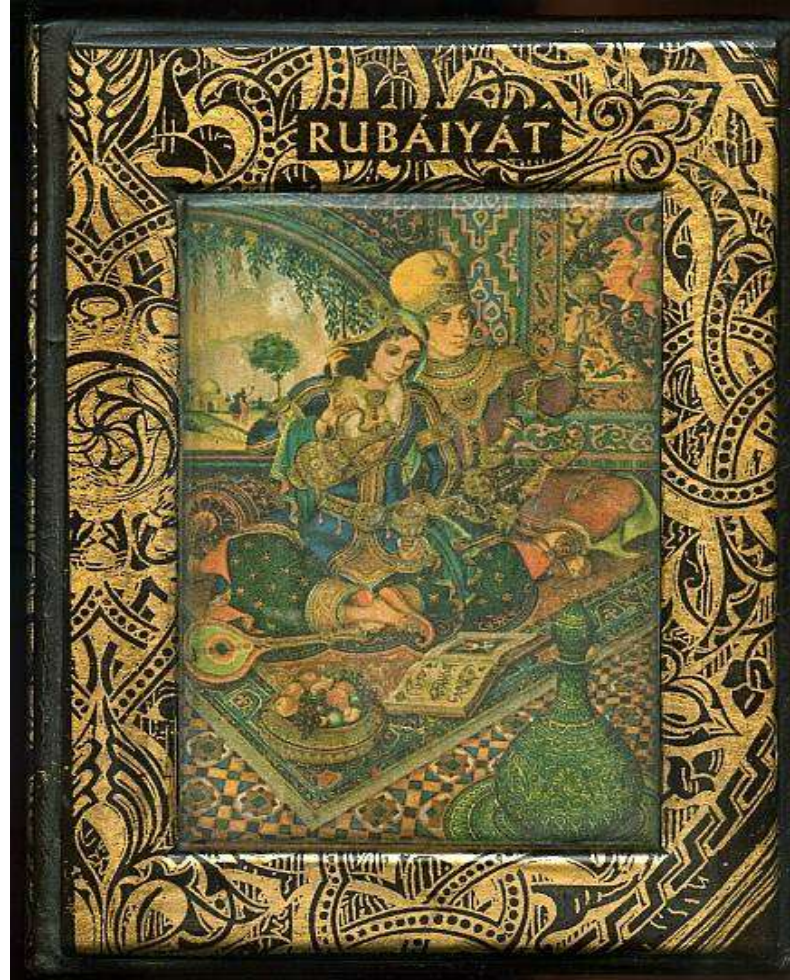
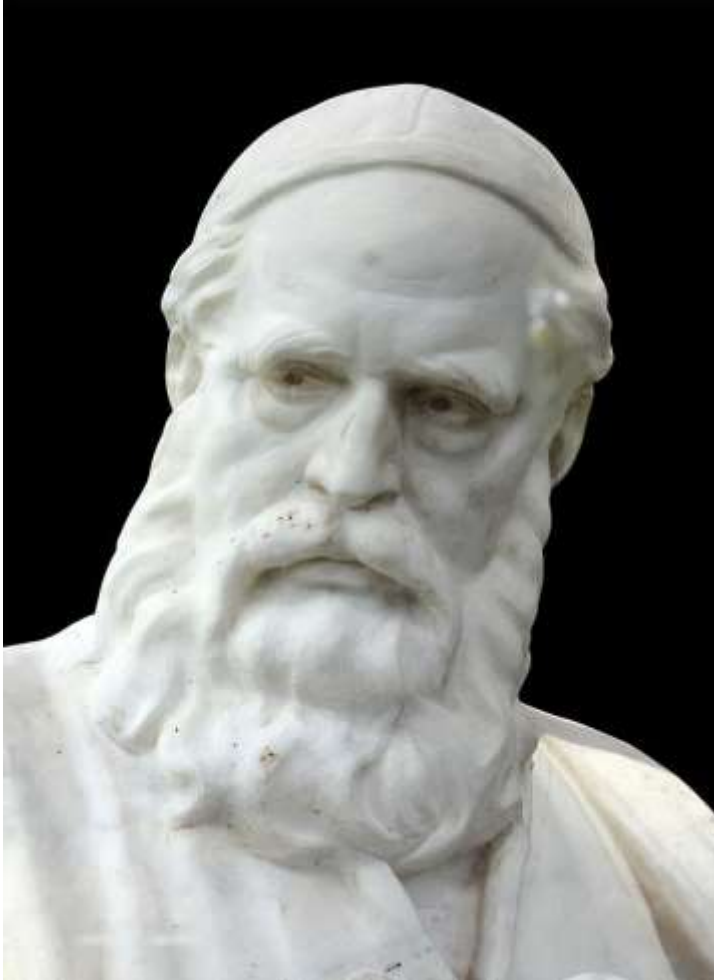
- The tales themselves trace their roots back to ancient and medieval Arabic, Persian, Indian, Egyptian and Mesopotamian folklore and literature.



- One of the stories even tells a tale about Aladdin and his magic lamp.

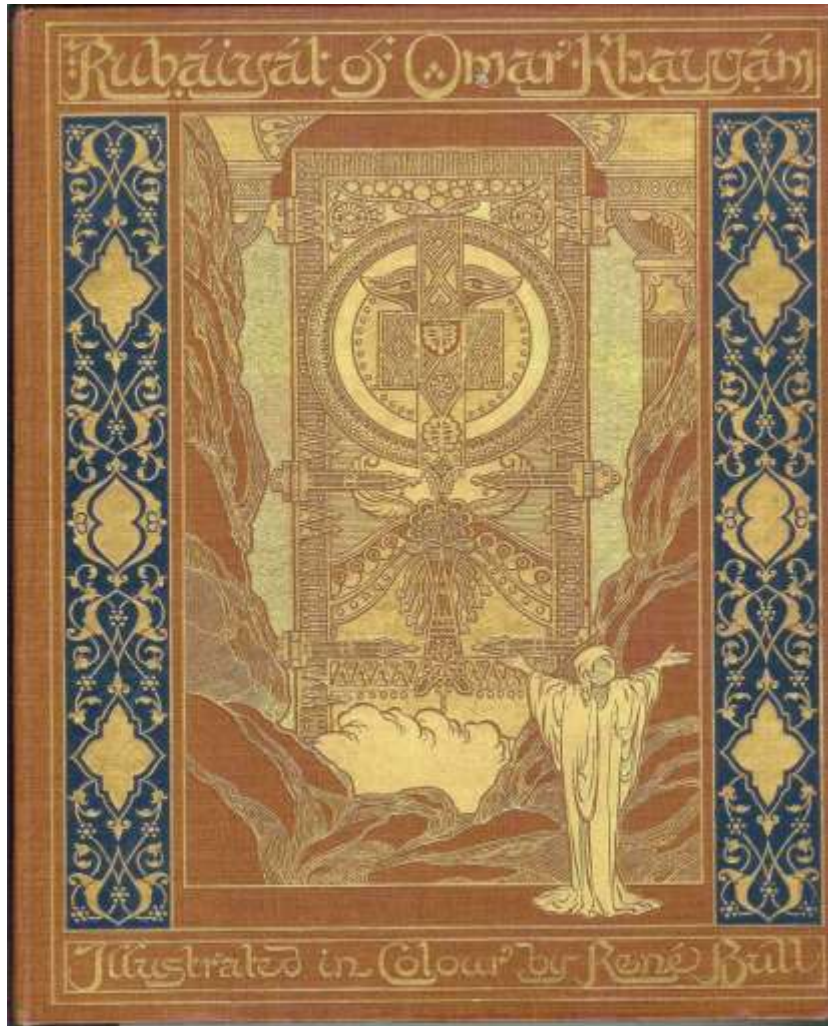
Muslim Writing

- Another Muslim, the Persian poet **Omar Khayyam** (mathematician and astronomer), wrote parts of the **Rubaiyat** around 1100 C.E.



- **Rubaiyat** - A collection of Persian poetry

Muslim Writing



- Many historians and poets consider Omar Khayyam's contributions to the Rubaiyat to be one of the finest poems ever written.

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Muslim Writing

- In addition to stories and poems, Muslims wrote about and cataloged historic events.



- The great Muslim historian **Ibn Khaldun** wrote in 1375 that all civilizations rise, grow and then fall...a philosophic outlook on empires.

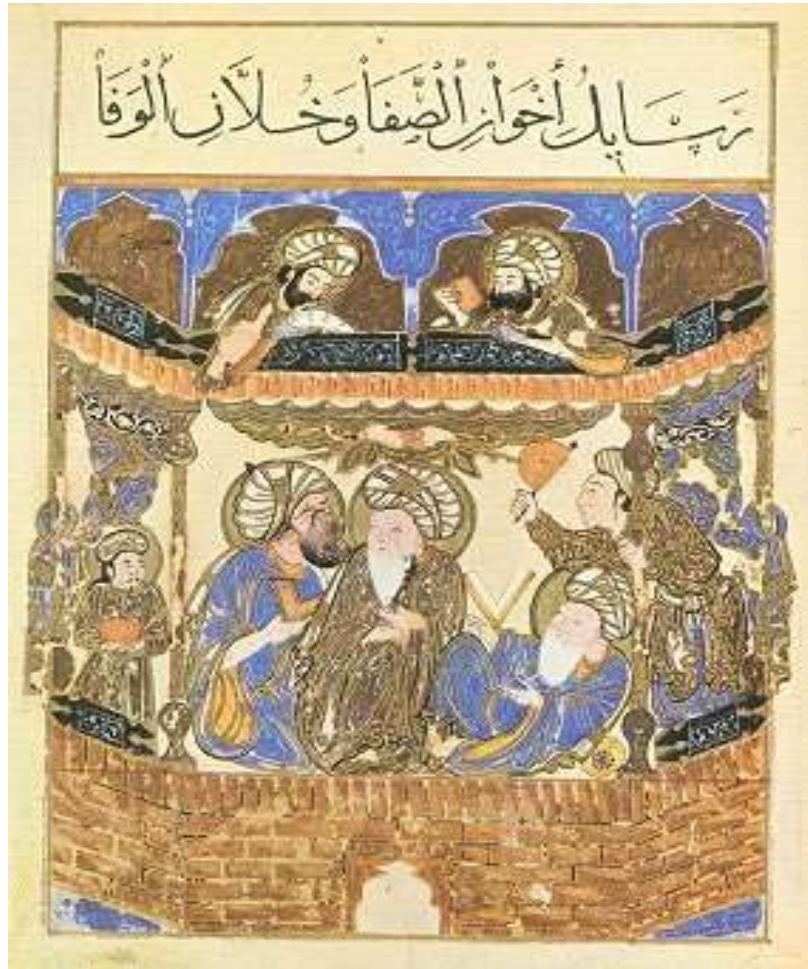
Muslim Writing



- He was also one of the first historians to study the effect of geography, economics and climate on empires and their people.

Muslim Achievements

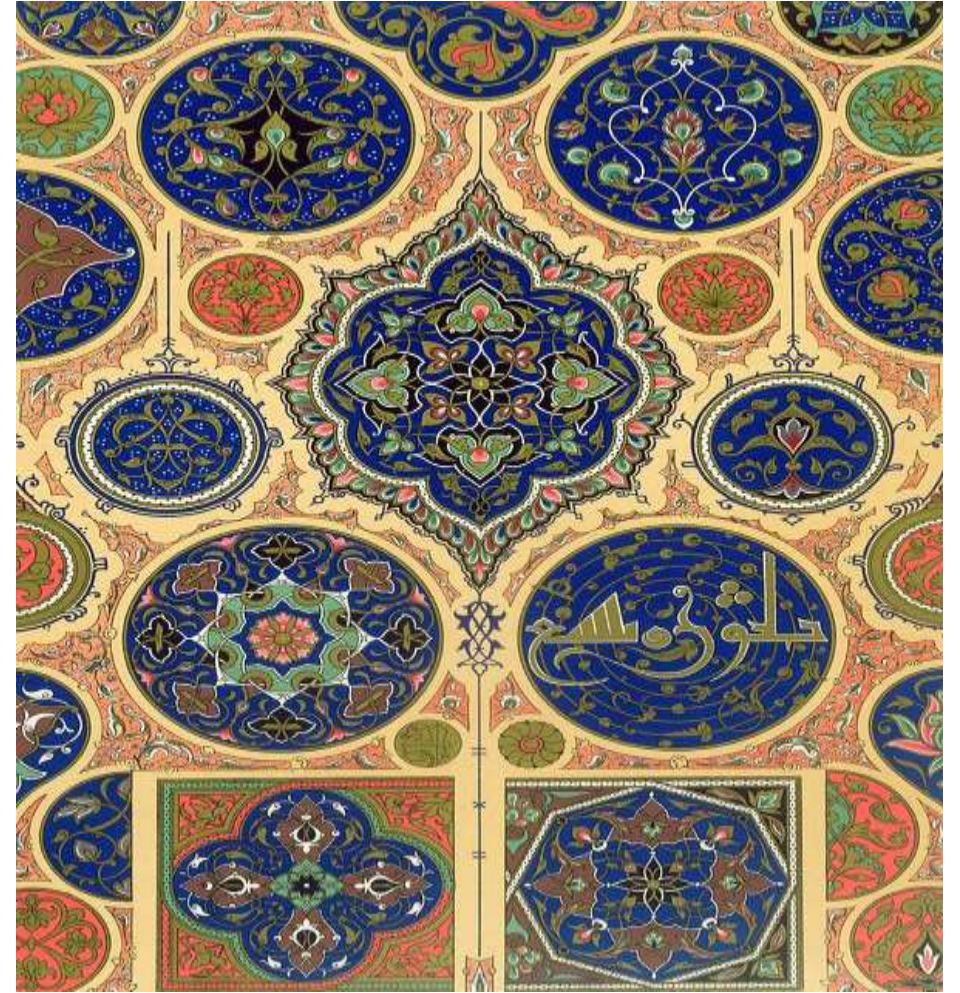
- Lecture Focus (Essential Question) :



- Again lets look at some of the major contributions the Muslims created during their empires in the areas of science???

Art and Buildings

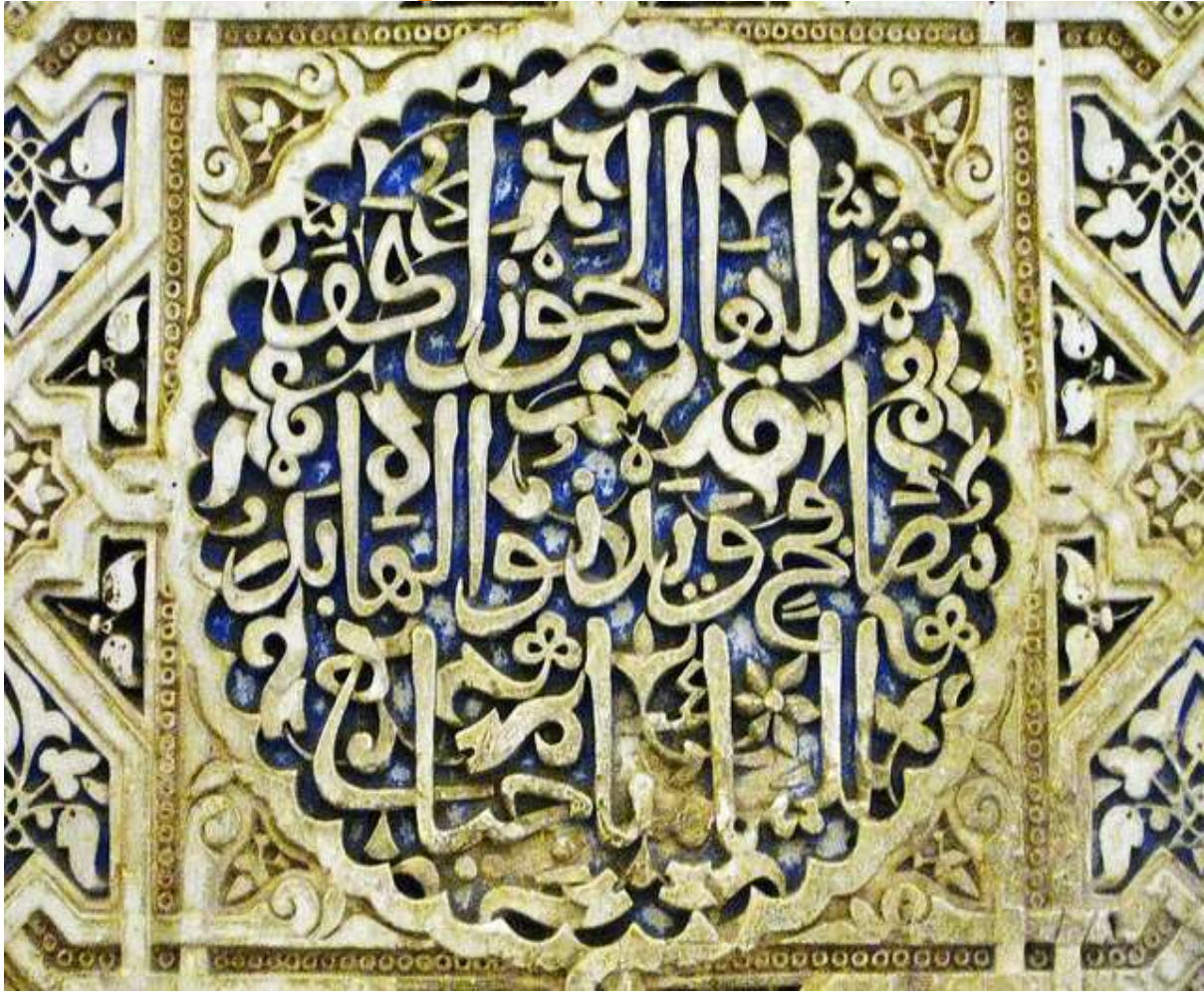
- Muslims developed a form of art based around Islam.



- Muslims are not allowed to show images of Muhammad in art, they believe that such images might cause people to worship Muhammad instead of Allah.

Art and Buildings

- Instead, designs entwined with flowers, leaves, stars and beautiful writing make up most Muslim art.

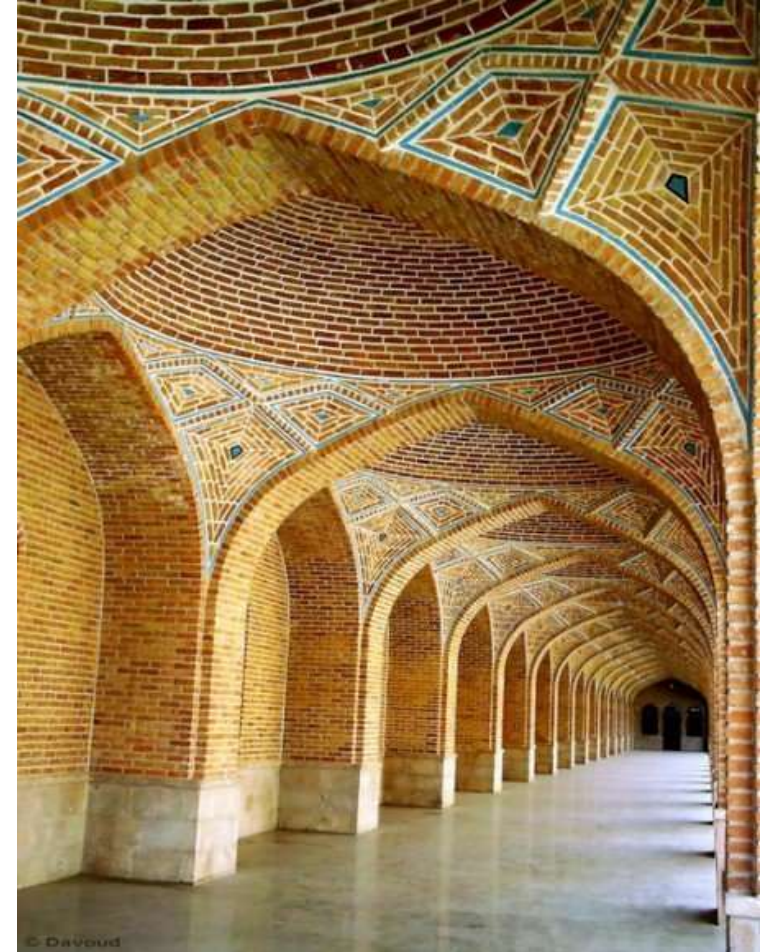


- Muslims use these designs to decorate walls, books, rugs and buildings.

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Art and Buildings

- Muslims were also known for their beautiful buildings.



- Mosques filled Muslim cities like Baghdad, Damascus, Cairo and Istanbul.

Art and Buildings

- Domes top many Mosques , however, the Mosques most striking features are its **Minarets**.



- **Minarets** – Tall towers surrounding a Mosque, from which a **Crier**, or announcer, calls believers to prayer five times a day.

Art and Buildings



- A Crier performing his duty.

Art and Buildings

- Islamic rulers lived in large brick palaces.



- These palaces often had large courtyards at their center.

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Art and Buildings



- To cool the courtyards during the hot summer month's, the architects added porches, fountains, and various pools.

Art and Buildings



- To provide protection, large, surrounding walls were constructed.

Art and Buildings

- The most famous example of a Muslim palace is the **Alhambra in Granada, Spain.**



- It was constructed in the 1300's C.E.

Art and Buildings



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Art and Buildings

- Another famous Muslim building is the **Taj Mahal** in Agra, India



- Made of marble and precious stones, the **Taj Mahal** is one of the worlds most beautiful buildings...Today the Taj Mahal is considered one of the wonders of the world

Art and Buildings



Art and Buildings

- The Taj was Commissioned in 1632 by the Mughal emperor Shah Jahan to house the remains of his cherished wife.



- It took more than 20 years to construct and is one of the most outstanding examples of Mughal architecture, which combined Indian, Persian and Islamic influences.

Art and Buildings



Art and Buildings

- After the death of his father, King Jahangir, in 1627, Shah Jahan emerged the victor of a bitter power struggle with his brothers, and crowned himself emperor at Agra in 1628.



- At his side was Mumtaz Mahal "Chosen One of the Palace", whom he married in 1612 and cherished as the favorite of his three queens.

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Art and Buildings

- In 1631, Mumtaz Mahal died after giving birth to the couple's 14th child. The grieving Shah Jahan, known for commissioning a number of impressive structures throughout his reign, ordered the building of a magnificent mausoleum across the Yamuna River from his own royal palace at Agra.
- In all, more than 20,000 workers from India, Persia, Europe and the Ottoman Empire, along with some 1,000 elephants, were brought in to build the mausoleum complex.



Art and Buildings



- According to one gruesome story, Shah Jahan had his minions cut off the hands of the Taj Mahal's architect and his workers after the structure was completed, ensuring they would never build another of its kind.

Art and Buildings



- Today, the Muslim Empires are gone, however, Islam is still a major world religion with about **1.6 billion followers**.

Art and Buildings

- **Questions :**
- 1) What was the name of the most well known Muslim books? (**Hint: Aladdin and his magic lamp**)
- 2) Why are Muslims not allowed to show images of Muhammad in art?
- 3) What is a Minaret?
- 4) Who sits on a Minaret and announces prayer time five times a day?

Art and Buildings

- **Questions :**
- 1) What was the name of the most well known Muslim books? (**Hint: Aladdin and his magic lamp**)
 - **The Thousand and One Knights or also called Arabian Knights**
- 2) Why are Muslims not allowed to show images of Muhammad in art?
 - **They believed that people might pray to Muhammad instead of Allah**
- 3) What is a Minaret?
 - **Towers surrounding a Mosque**
- 4) Who sits on a Minaret and announces prayer time five times a day?
 - **Crier**

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Art and Buildings

- **Descriptive Writing :**
- **Imagine you are living in a Muslim city. Write to a friend describing your experiences shopping at a Bazaar. Describe what a bazaar is, the type of items you can buy there and the people that you interacted with.**

Art and Buildings