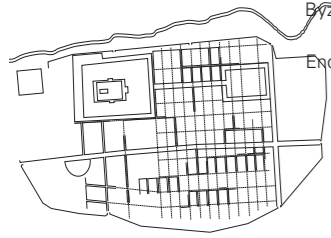


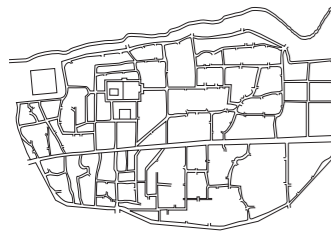
Muslim Conquest until 11th Century



MUHAMMAD, 570-632 born in MECCA. He is believed by Muslims to have communicated God's revelation in the Koran



Roman Damascus 400 AD



Damascus after islamification. First basic approaches of an islamic architecture are formulated



The Dome of the Rock, Jerusalem, built in 685 by caliph Abd al-Malik is the first great building to have been constructed after Arab conquest. The building surrounds the rock from where Muhammad is believed to have embarked on his journey to heaven



715 Damascus Mosque built by the Umayyads is one of the wonders of the world.

- 622 Islamic calendar begins with flight of MUHAMMAD & followers from MECCA to MEDINA =HIJRA (migration). Medina becomes first muslim city. Constitution of Medina. The clans accepted Muhammad as the Prophet of God. It defines the role of non-Muslims in the community. Jews & Christians were allowed religious freedom upon payment of a yearly tax.
- 624 Battle in BEDR. Muslims against Meccans
- 628 Death CHOSRAUS II King of Persia. Pax between Byzantium & Persia
- 632 Death of MUHAMMAD
- 632 ABU BAKR
- 634 UMAR IBN AL-KHATTAB
- 635 Muslims capture JERUSALEM
- 636 Battle in JARMUK blunted power of Byzantines. HERACLIUS Emperor of Byzantium
- 636 CTESIPHON Persian capital falls into muslim hands
- 638 Byzantine has to leave Balkan to Slaves
- 642 End of the SASSANID Empire in Persia
- 644 UTHMAN AFFAN
- 656 ALI ABI TALIB
- 657 Battle of SIFFIN
- 661 MU'AWIYA ABI SUFYAN
- 668 Umayyad Dynasty. DAMASCUS AS CAPITAL
- 668 Siege in CONSTANTINE fails
- 685 -691 Dome of Rock built in JERUSALEM
- 685- ABD AL-MALIK IBN MARWAN
- 700 -710 final conquest & islamification of North Africa
- 705-715 AL-WALID I. IBN 'ABDALMALIK
- 715 Great Mosque of DAMASCUS gets built under Umayyads
- 717 Muslims unsuccessfully attack CONSTANTINOPLE
- 724-743 HISHAM IBN AL -MALIK
- 726 Break between Byzantine & Roman Church
- 732 Muslim empire reaches its furthes extent. Battle of TOURS (France) prevents further advance northwards
- 740 Victory over Arabs in ACROINON. They have to focus more to North Africa and Spain and become less important. Arabia loses its importance.
- 744-750 MARWAN II. IBN MARWAN
- 747 Revolt defeats the Umayyads. Under the Umayyads an arabic aristocracy is initiated

633 Muslim conquest begins

The Muslim state administered the conquered territories with a tolerance almost unheard of in that age. In DAMASCUS they would grant to the inhabitants to give them security for their lives, property and churches. Their city wall shall not be demolished, neither shall any Muslim be quartered in their houses. In contrary the Byzantines were always regarded as intruders.

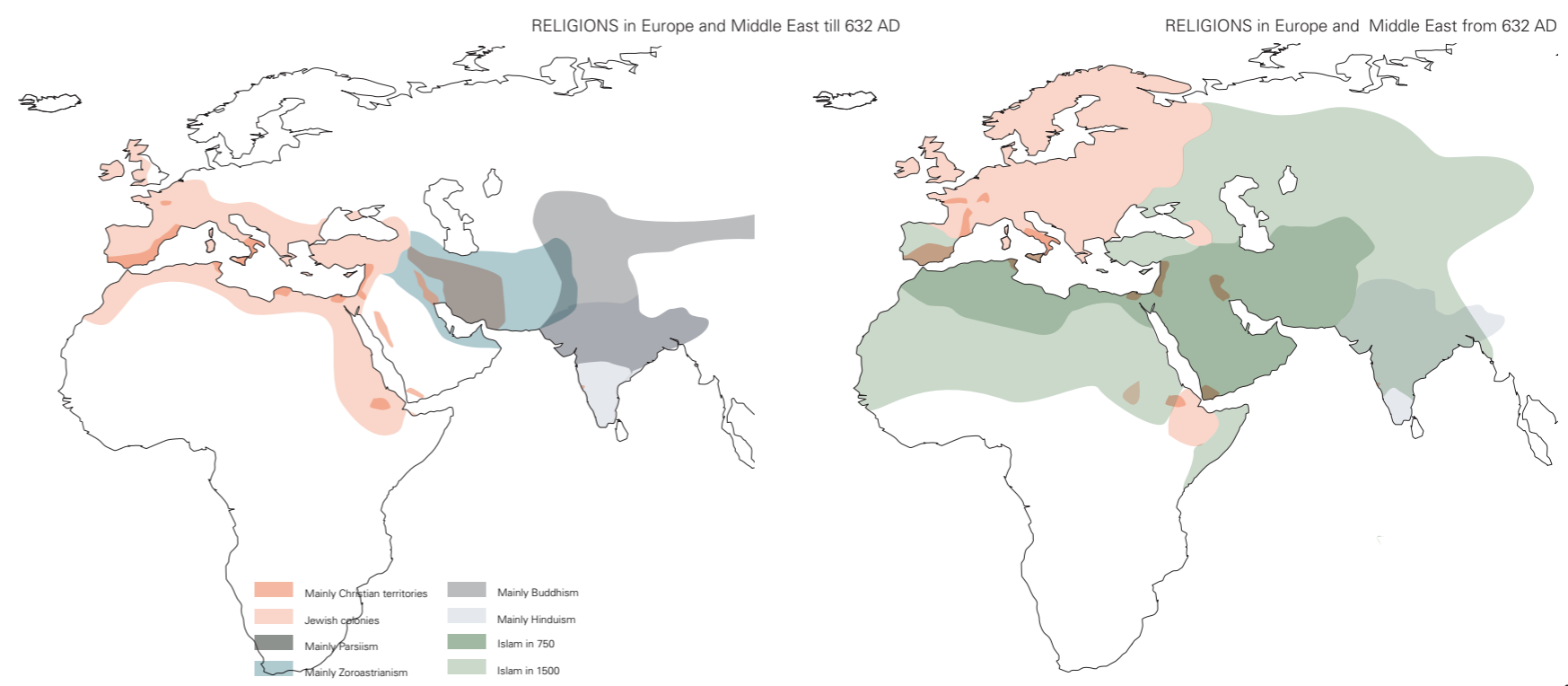
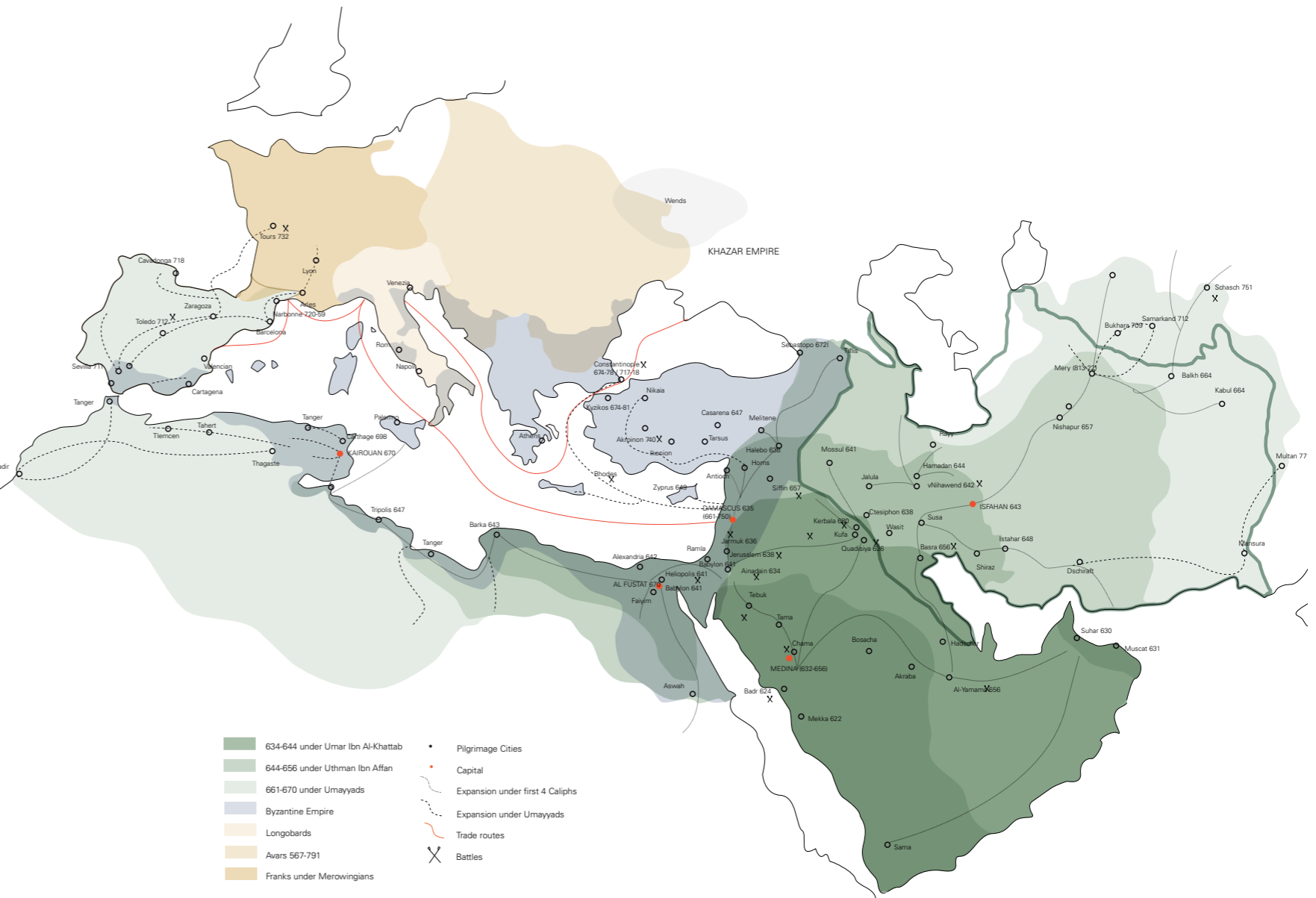
650 Caliph UTHMAN has the Qur'an written down. And also established Arab navy. He was accused of favoritism to members of his family, the clan of Umayyad. He was killed. An act that caused a rift in the community of Islam that has never entirely been closed. As ALI was chosen caliph this rift even widened. The conflict came to climax in SIFFIN

661 Basic social & legal institutions of the newly founded Islamic world were established. Some of the most beautiful existing buildings in the Muslim world were constructed. They organized a bureaucracy able to cope with the complex problems of a vast and diverse Empire & made Arabic the language of the government.

670 HUSAYN (son of ALI) the last relative of MUHAMMAD gets battered to death in KERBALA. Which becomes a pilgrimage site of the Shi'ites. His death marks the beginning of the division between Sunnis and Shi'ites

MALIK directed the cleaning and reopening of the canals that irrigated the Tigris-Euphrates Valley. A key to the prosperity of MESOPOTAMIA ever since

Arabic becomes official written language (instead of Greek and Persian) and Arab coinage is established.



Muslim Conquest until 11th Century

THE ABBASIDS 750-848



The ABBASIDS, who succeeded the Umayyads, shifted the capital to Baghdad (built in 762 within 4 years) which soon developed into an incomparable center of learning and culture as well as the administrative and political heart of a vast world.



784 A forest of eight hundred and fifty pillars connected by Moorish arches lines the great mosque of Cordoba.



Founded in 970 under the Abbasids, the Mosque and University of Al-Azhar in Cairo is one of the earliest and finest examples of the Egyptian style in Islamic architecture.

- 750-754 ABU AL'ABBAS AL SAFFAH
- 754-755 AL MANSUR
- 775-775 AL MAHDI
- 786-809 HARUN AL-RASHID
- 800 CHARLEMAGNE acclaims Emperor of Byzantines
- 813-833 AL MAMUN AL-RASHID
- 842 -867 MICHAEL III acclaims Emperor of Byzantines. New hayday of the Empire advances Christianization of Slavs in Balkan.
- 846 Muslim pirates capture ROME
- 850 The four Orthodox Schools of Law were established
- 887 Under KARL III the Frankish Kingdom gets unified
- 908 First FATIMID caliph in Tunisia.
- 945 THE BUYIDS (Persian) invade Baghdad and take power from Caliph.
- 948 Decline of Umayyad Caliphate in Cordoba.
- 969 CAIRO was founded as capital of Egypt. It was still a major center of trade, industry & largest city in Africa
- 976 -1025 BASILEIOS II period marks highrise of the display of the power. West Africa begins to convert to Islam
- 1031 Umayyad caliphate in Cordoba defeated by the Christian Reconquista. Crumbled into independent Kingdoms.
- 1055 SELJUK Turks take BAGHDAD, ABBASIDS now only nominal rulers. The coming of the Seljuks signaled the first large-scale penetration of the Turkish elements into the Middle East. They established a highly cohesive, well administered Sunni state. After the Umayyads they were the first who erect magnificent new buildings
- 1072 SELJUK Turks defeat Byzantines at Battle of Manzikert.
- 1096 First crusaders

754 ABU AL'ABBAS builds ABBASID Caliphate.

755 AR-RAHMAN founds Umayyad Dynasty in Spain & established CORDOBA as most sophisticated city in Europe. He improved trade & agriculture, patronized the arts & made contributions to science.

775-775 AL MAHDI begins to set up a superbe court & organizes the state of Iran & Persia as one big Empire. They sustain their reign on Irans & Turks.

786-809 HARUN AL-RASHID marked the high point of the ABBASID period, called the Golden Age. It was a period of unrivaled intellectual activity in: science, technology, literature, mathematics, astronomy, medicine, and chemistry. They had a massive policy of expansion & adopted the scientific heritage of the Romans & Greeks

800 With the Idrisids, Rustamids and Aghlabids gain independence the ABBASIDS loose control over Andalusia and Maghreb

The ABBASIDS were more fortunate as Umayyads & converted the Arab Empire into a multinational Muslim Empire. Because Islamic rule unified much of Eastern world & a uniform language was spoken thus abolishing many boundaries, trade was freer & more extensive than it had been since the time of ALEXANDER THE GREAT. The creation of an office & postal system was an invasion that brought the ABBASIDS to statecraft.

Since 800 increasingly fragmentation of the Caliph Empire. In Innerasia, Spain, Marocco und Egypt independent Dynasties were formed.

While the ABBASIDS ruled in BAGHDAD, a number of powerful Dynasties such as the Fatimids, Ayyubids and Mamluks held power in Egypt, Syria and Palestine.

In the years following, the Turks (MAMLUKS) made & unmade rulers at will, a trend that accelerated the decline of the central authority. Although the religious authority of the ABBASID Caliphate remained unchallenged, the next four centuries saw political power dispersed among a large number of independent states: Tahirids, Saffarids, Samanids, Buwayhids, and Ghaznavids in the east; Hamdanids in Syria and northern Mesopotamia; and Tulunids, and Fatimids in Egypt.

FATIMIDS (branch of Shi'ites) most stable of the successor Dynasties founded in the ninth and tenth centuries gain power in Egypt and attack Palestine, Syria, and Arabia. For a time the Fatimids aspired to be rulers of the whole Islamic world, and their achievements were impressive, but the Fatimid's dreams of gaining control of the Islamic heartland came to nothing, because they lost effective control of their own mercenaries.

1031 Umayyad caliphate in CORDOBA defeated by the Christian Reconquista. Crumbled into independent Kingdoms.

1055 SELJUK Turks take BAGHDAD, ABBASIDS now only nominal rulers. The coming of the Seljuks signaled the first large-scale penetration of the Turkish elements into the Middle East. They established a highly cohesive, well administered Sunni state. After the Umayyads they were the first who erect magnificent new buildings

