

# Sithney C.P. School Knowledge Organisers



## History: Early Islamic Civilisation

### What should you already know:

Place some historical periods in a chronological framework.

Use historical terms related to the period of study.

Use sources of information in what that go beyond simple observations to answer questions about the past.

Communicate learning in an organised and structure what, using appropriate terminology

### Historical enquiry:

Why do you think it is important to study Islam in this period, c.900?

How on earth were the Arabs able to spread so far, so quickly, within just a century of the Prophet Muhammad's death?

What can we learn about Islam from the way they set up the capital at Baghdad?

In its Golden Age, ten times more people lived in Baghdad than in London. So what was so special about it and how can we possibly know?

Just how amazing was daily life for rich people in Islamic cities?

Which of the early Islamic achievements has most effect on our lives today?

### Key Dates:

**AD 632** - Muhammad dies and Muslims struggle to agree who should be the next caliph. The first four caliphs appointed after this time come to represent an age of 'pure Islam'. When the last, Ali, was assassinated in AD 661, the Umayyad dynasty of caliphs took over for nearly a century. After that began the reign of the Abbasid caliphs

**AD 752** - Al-Mansur builds Baghdad as the new capital of the Islamic empire on the river Tigris. The newly-founded city of Baghdad became the capital of the Muslim world.

**AD 786** – The House of Wisdom is founded.

**Until 1258**, Baghdad was one of the world centres of culture and learning, with the period being known as the Golden Age of Islam.

**Empire:** A country whose ruler is called an emperor.

**Century:** A period of 100 years.

**Mosque:** A place of prayer for Muslims, or followers of the religion of Islam.

**Caliph:** An important Muslim political and religious leader.

**The Caliphate:** The name of the lands ruled by Muslims from ad 632 to 1258.

**Muslim:** A person whose religion is Islam.

**Scholar:** A person who has done advanced study in a special field.

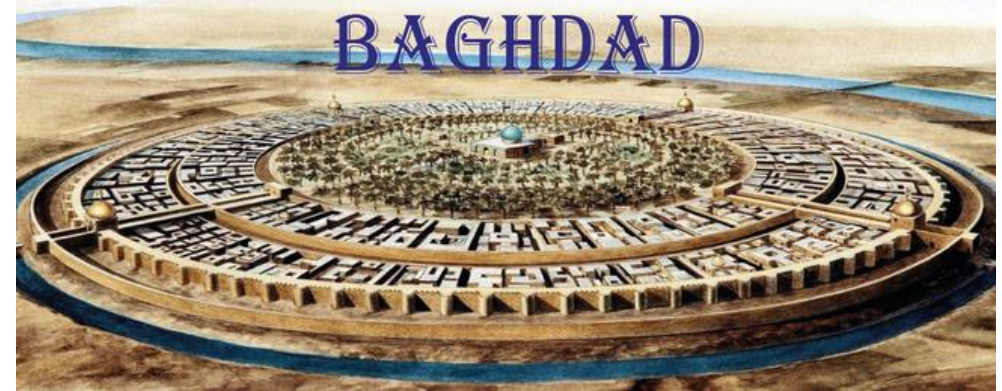
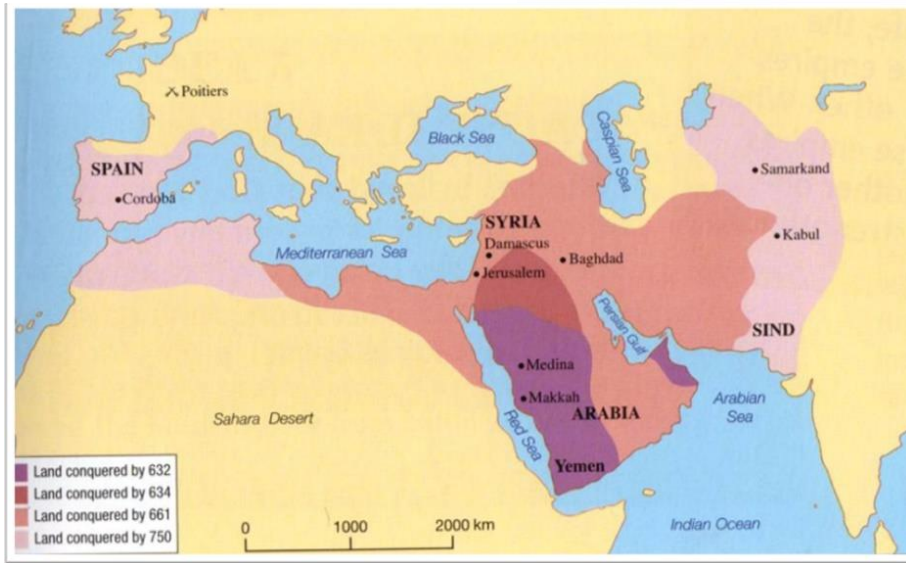
**Muhammad:** The prophet Muhammad was the founder of the religion of Islam. Followers of Islam, called Muslims, believe that Muhammad received messages from Allah (God).

**House of Wisdom:** Built primarily as a library, the House became the home of ancient and modern wisdom during the Islamic Golden Age, preserving important works of scholarship from across Europe and the Middle East.

**Silk Road:** A network of trade routes linking China to the Middle East and Europe, first used to carry Chinese silk.

**Islam:** A religion founded by Muhammad, who was born in Mecca in AD 570. People who practise Islam are called Muslims.

## Keystage History: Islamic Empire



Hamilton Trust



<http://www.whyislam.org/muslim-world/baghdad-libraries-house-of-wisdom/>

## BBC: Islamic Art

