

Key Vocabulary

advanced – An advanced system, method, or design is modern and has been developed from an earlier version of the same thing. .

civilisation – A human society with its own social organisation and culture.

culture – The ideas and social behaviour of particular people or society.

Islamic Empire – Islamic Empire was a collection of regions in which Islam was practised. It flourished with trade, invention and innovation.

philosopher – Philosophy is an activity people undertake when they seek to understand fundamental truths about themselves, the world in which they live, and their relationships to the world and to each other.

religion – The belief in and worship of a superhuman controlling power, especially a personal God or gods.

scholar – A scholar is a highly educated person.

society – A society is the people who live in a country or region, their organisations, and their way of life.

traders - A trader is someone who engages in the purchase or sale of assets in any financial market, either for themselves or on behalf of another party.

What you should already know:

- Muhammad is the prophet of the Islamic religion.
- Prophet Muhammad was born in the city of Mecca
- The Quran is the Islamic holy book.
- Mecca is the holy city of Islam.
- Muslims consider Mecca to be a sacred place and endeavour to take a pilgrimage to pay homage.

Early Islamic Civilisation

From the seventh to the thirteenth centuries CE, the Islamic Empire controlled vast stretches of Asia, Africa and Europe. Its extraordinary leaders, soldiers, scholars and scientists made the empire one of the most advanced civilisations the world had ever seen. This advanced society built the world's first hospitals, universities and observatories. Meanwhile, Europe, who were in the Dark Ages, were under Viking influence. The story of Islamic civilisation started with the birth of the Prophet Muhammad.

613

Muhammad begins to spread the word of Islam.

624

The Battle of Badr.

632

Muhammad died.

762

Baghdad to be the capital of the Islamic Empire.

786

House of Wisdom is founded.

570

Birth of Muhammad

622

The Hijra

630

Muhammad founded the religion Islam in Medina.

637

Islam spreads to Persia, Palestine, Syria, Iraq and Egypt.

767

The Mansur Mosque is built.



Silk Road

The **Silk Road** was a vast trade network connecting Southern Europe, East Asia and East Africa via land and sea routes. It earned its name from Chinese silk, a highly valued commodity that merchants transported along these trade networks. The Silk Road was over 9,000 kilometres long.

To the left is a map showing the major route that traders took along the ancient Silk Road.

The Round city of Baghdad

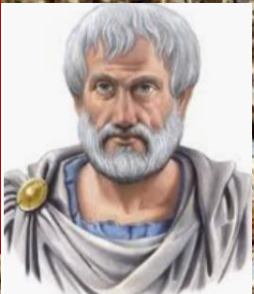
Baghdad was a huge circular city where great advances in mathematics and science were made. The city included beautiful palaces, mosques, gardens, libraries and parks.



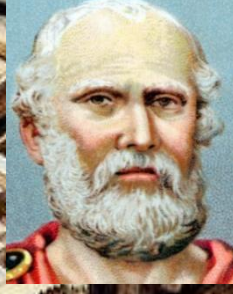
The Round city of Baghdad

House of Wisdom

The House of Wisdom was built primarily as a library. The writings of the Greeks, Romans and Arabs were collected here. Scholars and philosophers, such as Aristotle and Plato, had their ideas translated here.

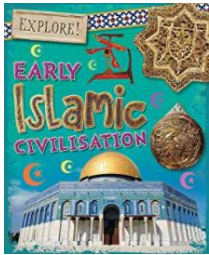


Aristotle
Greek philosopher
 385 BC – 323 BC

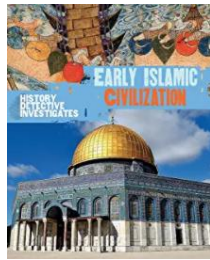


Plato
Greek philosopher
 428 BC – 348 BC

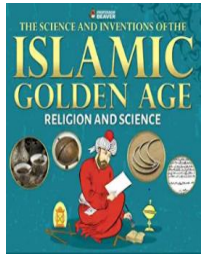
Books you might find useful...



Early Islamic Civilisation
Izzi Howell



Early Islamic Civilization
Claudia Martin



Islamic Golden Age
Professor Beaver

Websites you might find useful...

- https://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/islam/history/muhammad_1.shtml
- https://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/islam/texts/quran_1.shtml
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/islam/holydays/alhijra.shtml>
- <https://www.bbc.com/education/clips/zv6sb9q>