

# Introduction to Islam

**Wonders of Arabia**

Windstar Cruises

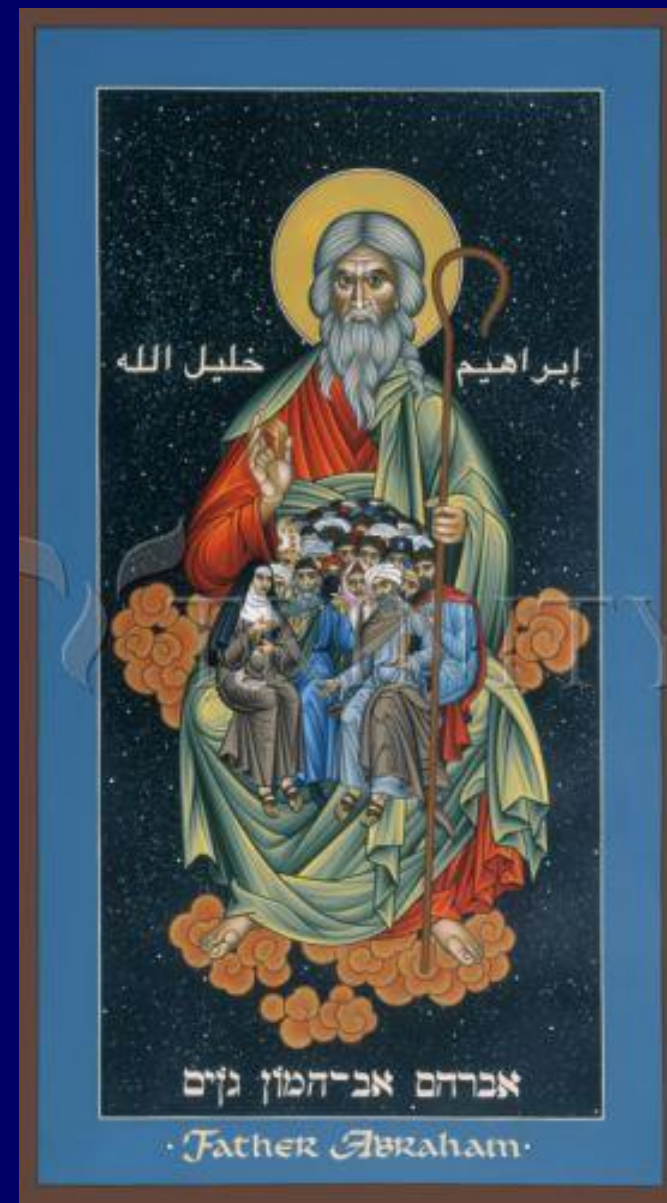
Ross Arnold, Spring 2015

# Wonders of Arabia: April Lectures

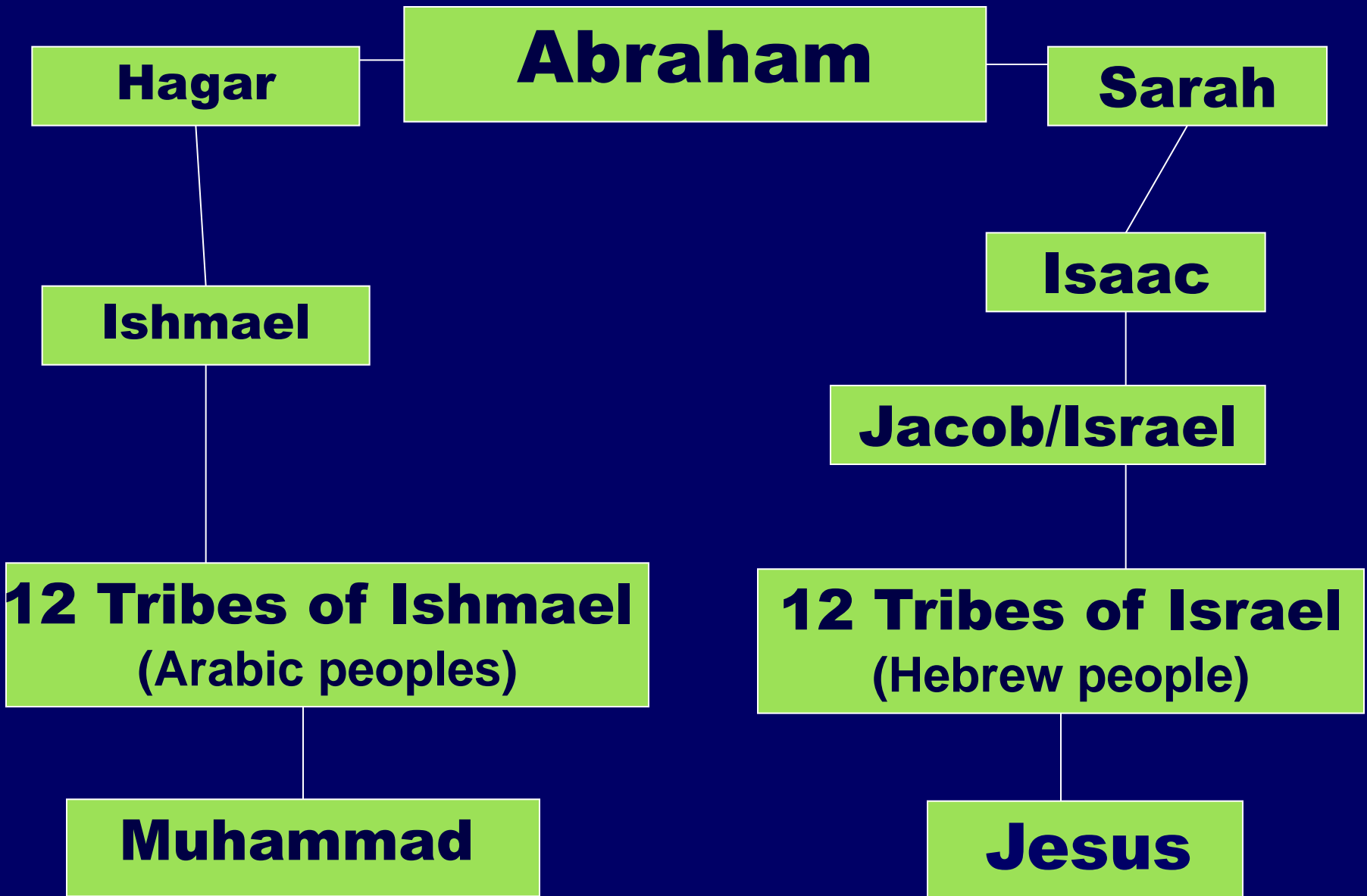
- April 25- Intro to the Wonders of Arabia
- April 26- Birthplace of Empires
- April 26- Faith & Culture in the ANE
- April 27- History and Culture of Oman
- April 27- Unity & Diversity in the Middle East
  - 4/28- Salalah, Oman
- April 29- The Children of Abraham
- April 29- Moses, the Israelites & Crossing the Red Sea
- **April 30- Introduction to Islam**
- April 30- Alone in the Desert: Christian Monasticism

# Wonders of Arabia: May Lectures

- May 1- Lawrence of Arabia, Bedouins & WW1
- May 2- Mysteries of the Nabateans & Petra
- May 2- The Permanence of Ancient Egypt
- May 3- Pharaohs, Temple & Tombs
  - May 4-5- Safaga & Luxor, Egypt
  - May 6- Sharm el Sheikk & St. Catherine's Monastery
  - May 7- Aqaba, Jordan & Petra
  - May 8- Hurghada, Egypt
  - May 9- Suez Canal Transit
- May 10- The Crusades
- May 10- History, Culture & Conflict in the Middle East
- May 11- Alexander the Great & Hellenism
- May 11- Greece: Birthplace of Western Civilization



**Father Abraham** – the world's first monotheist, and source of all three great monotheistic religions: Judaism, Christianity and Islam.



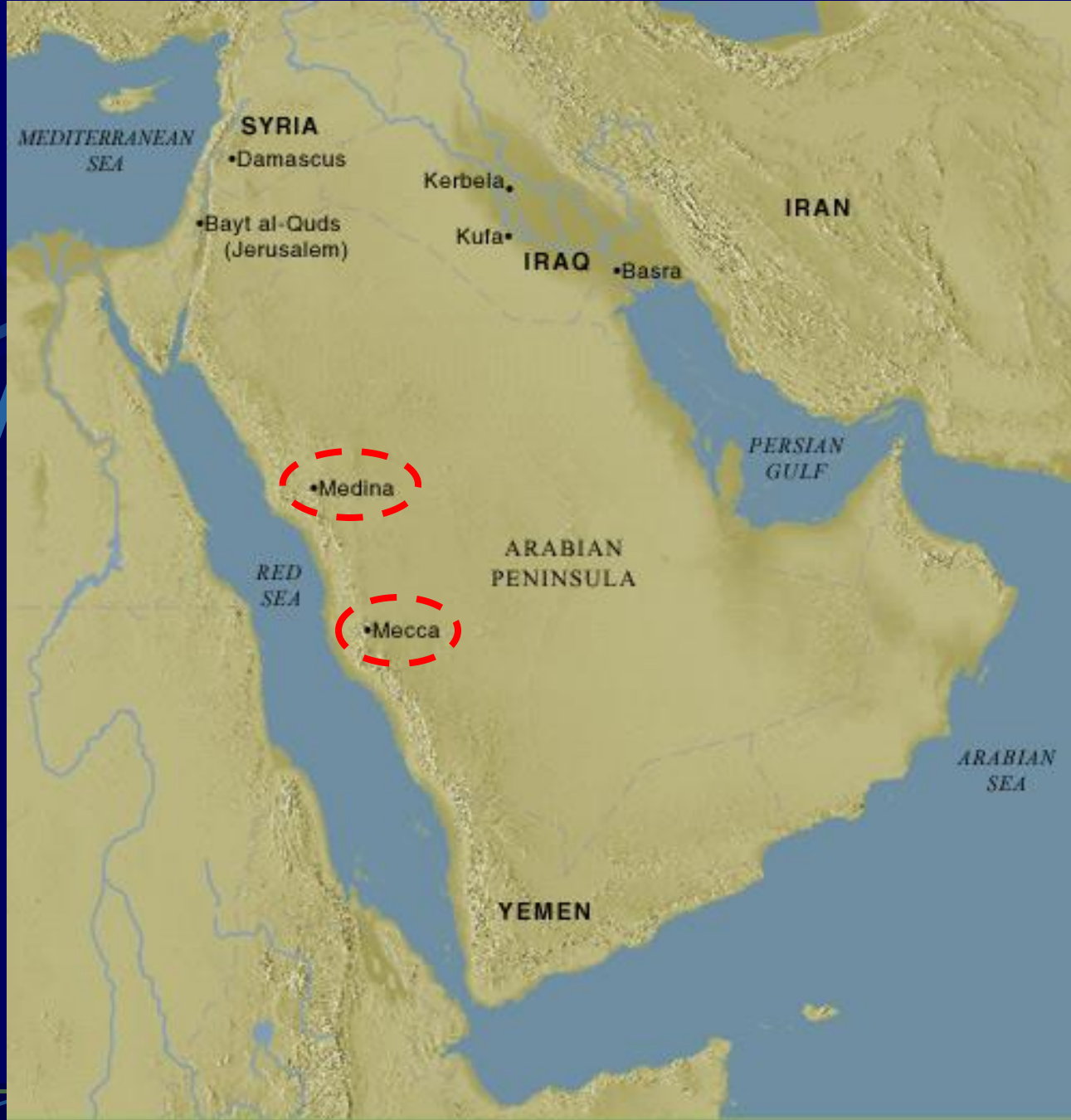




لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ مُحَمَّدٌ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ

Prophet Muhammad  
570-632 AD





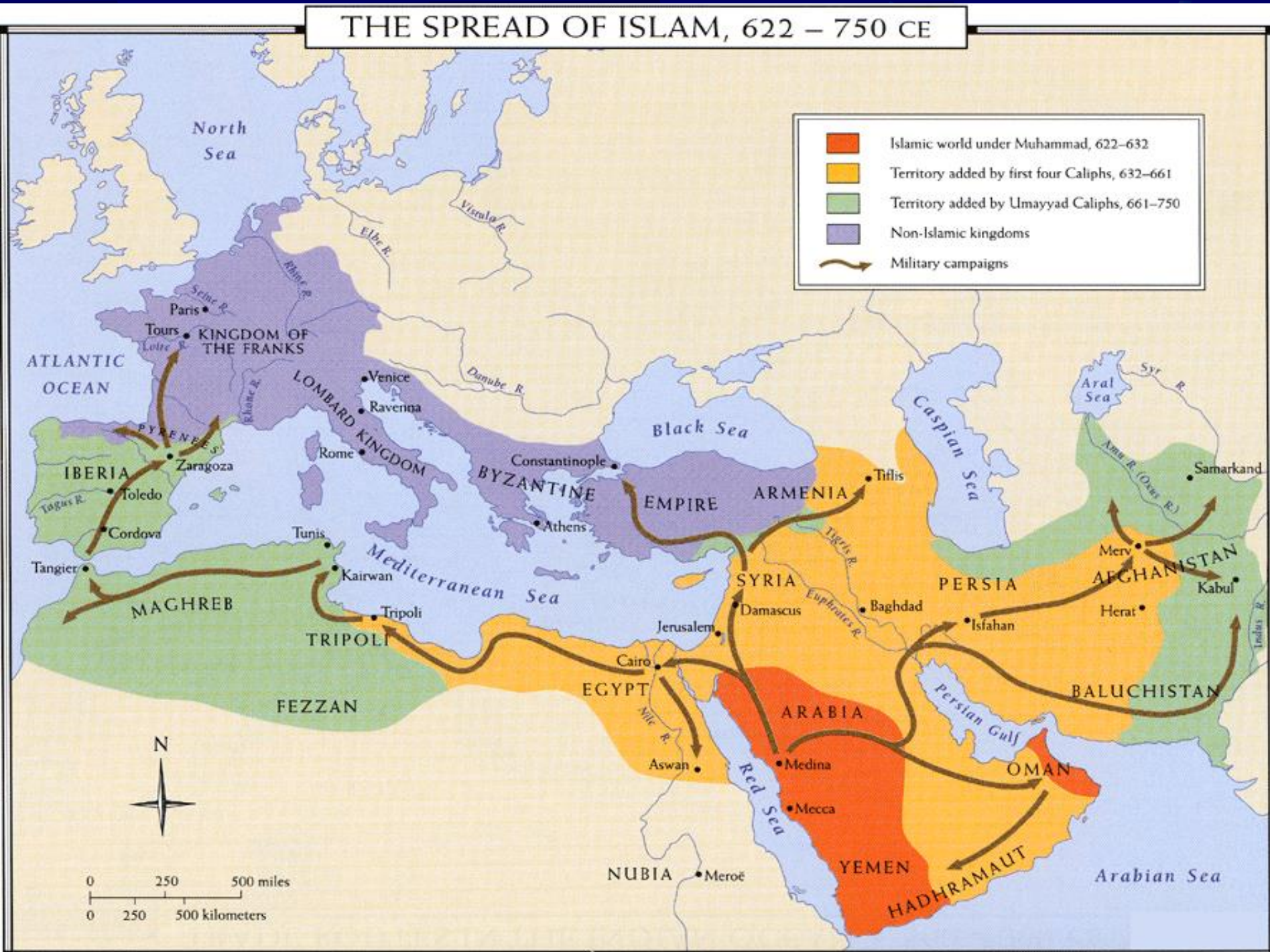


## **Key Dates in Islam**

- 570 AD – Muhammad born in Mecca.
- 610 AD – Muhammad receives first revelation of Qur'an, in a cave.
- 622 AD – Islam officially born during the *Hijira* to Medina.
- 630 AD – Muhammed and followers return and defeat opposition in Mecca.
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# THE SPREAD OF ISLAM, 622 – 750 CE

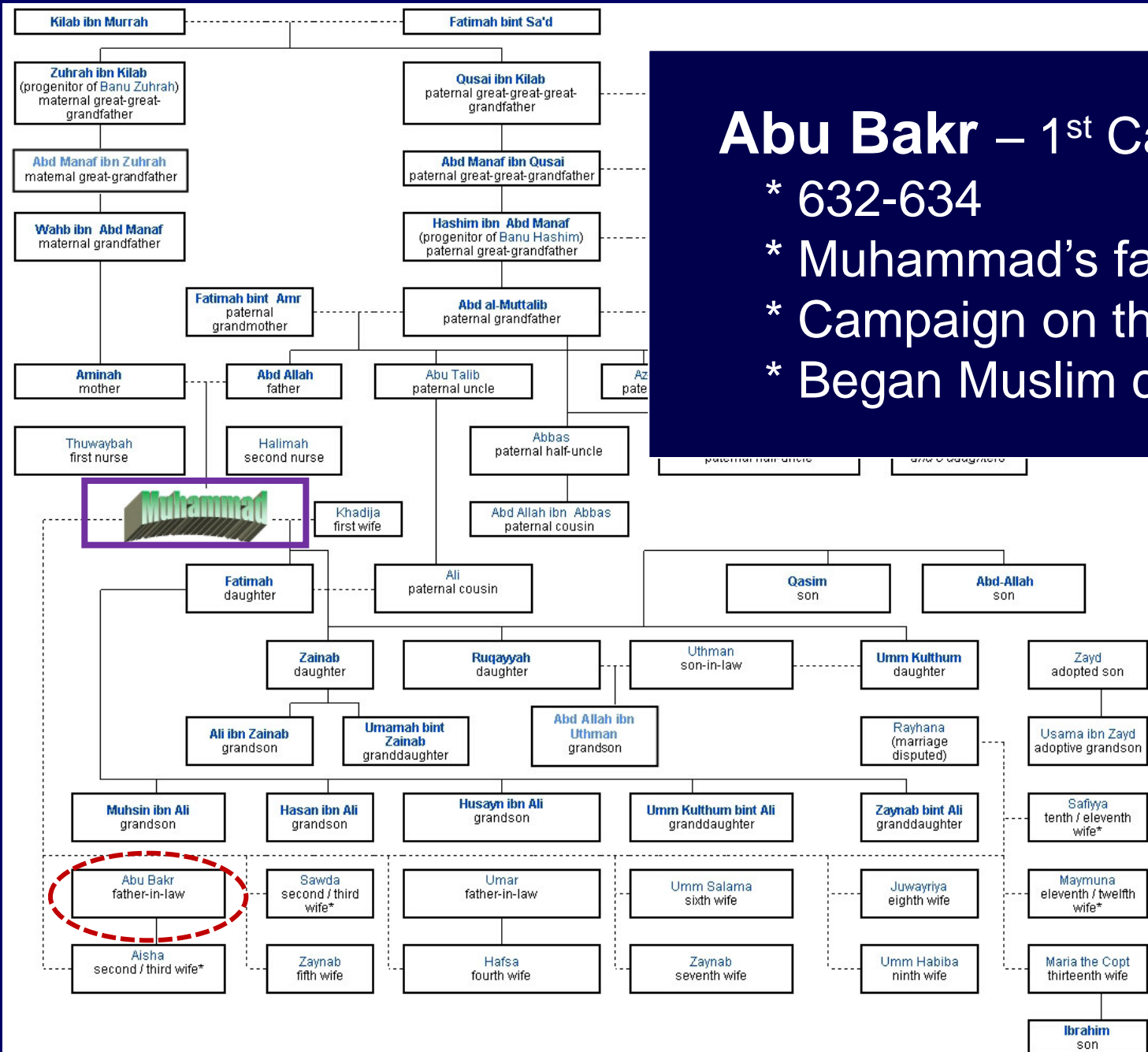


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- 632-661 AD – the Rashidun Caliphate  
Abu Bakr, Umar, Uthman and Ali

# Abu Bakr – 1<sup>st</sup> Caliph

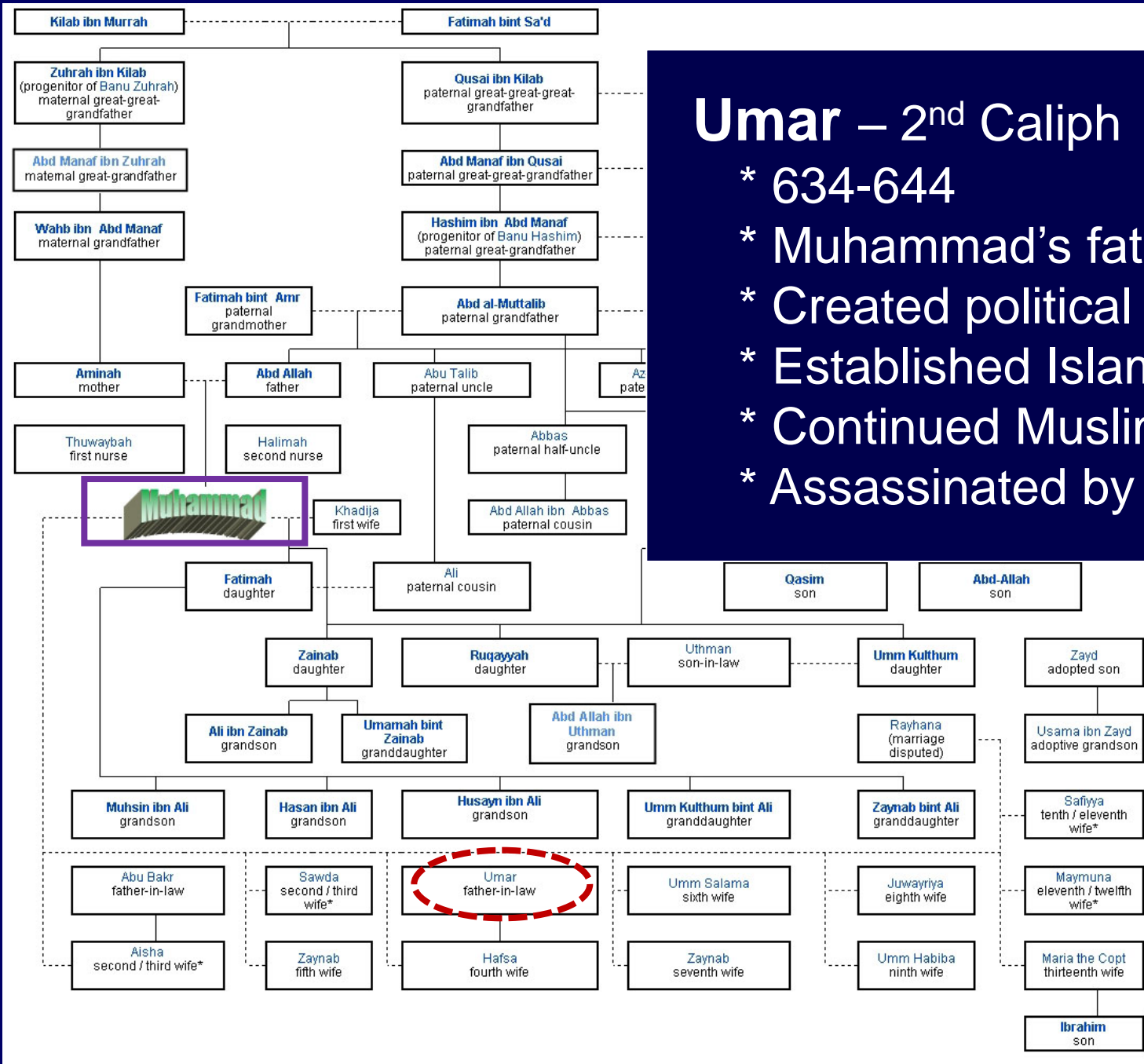
- \* 632-634
- \* Muhammad's father-in-law
- \* Campaign on the Apostasy
- \* Began Muslim conquests





# Umar – 2<sup>nd</sup> Caliph

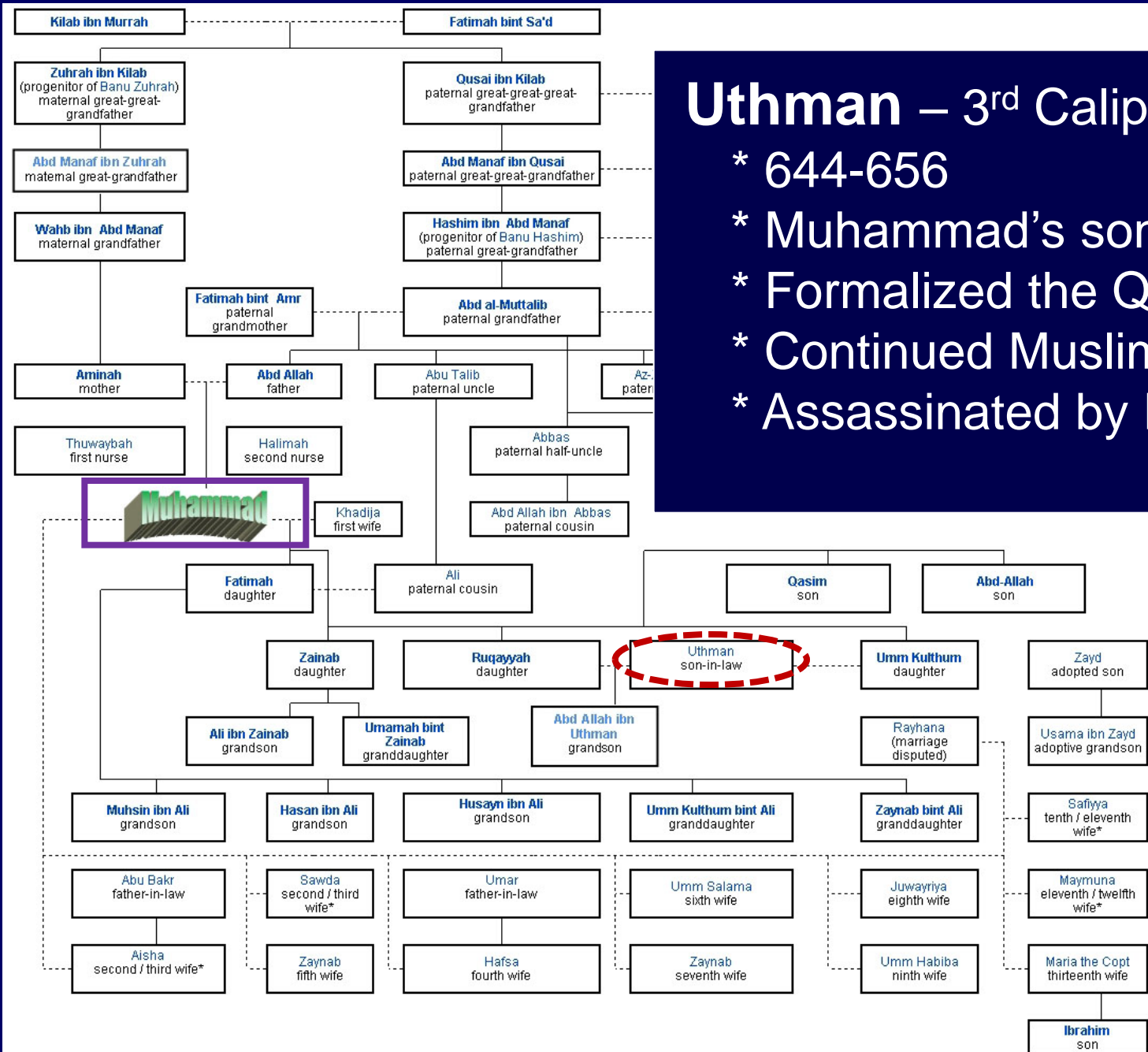
- \* 634-644
- \* Muhammad's father-in-law
- \* Created political structure
- \* Established Islamic calendar
- \* Continued Muslim conquests
- \* Assassinated by Persian slave





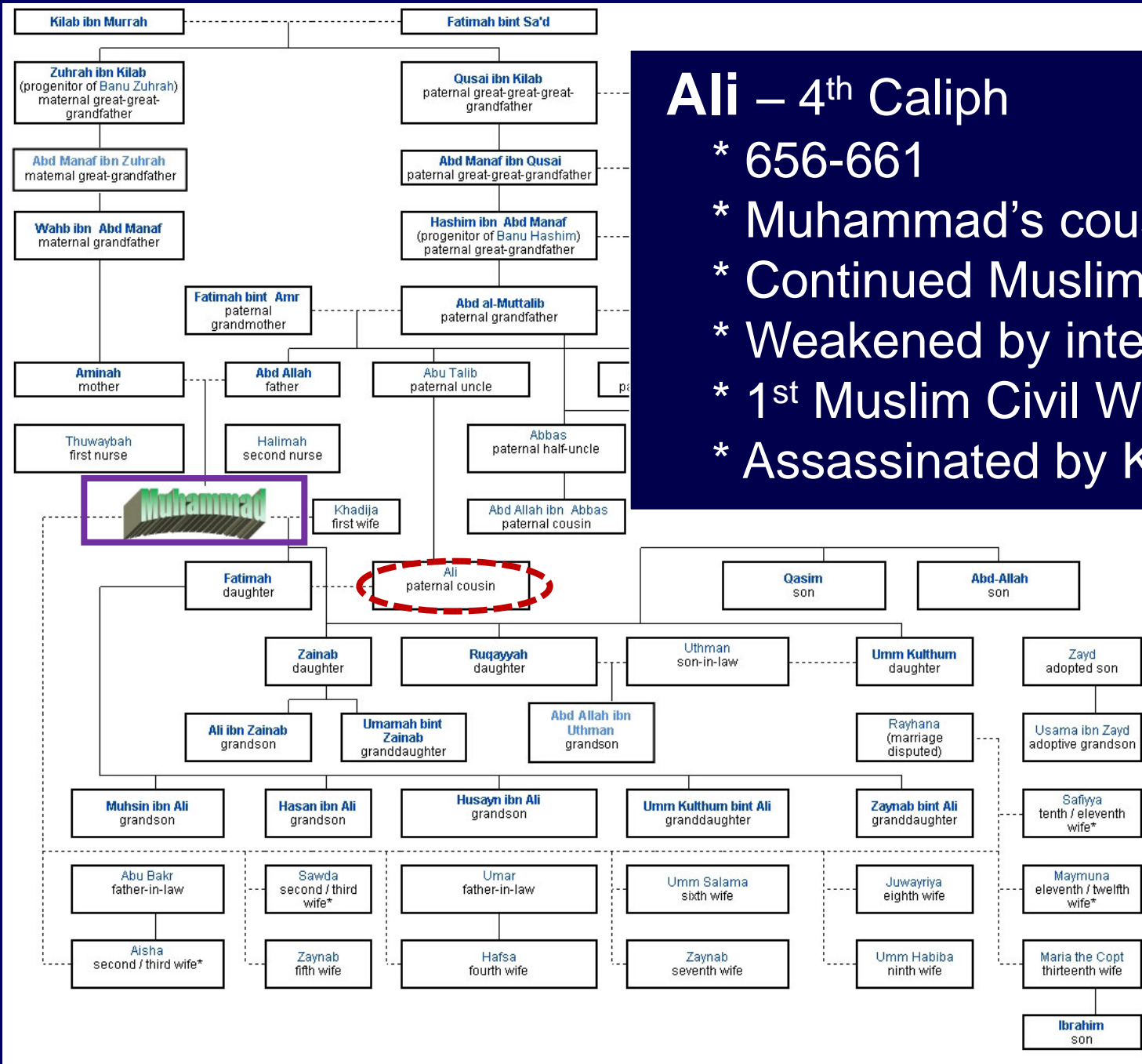
# Uthman – 3<sup>rd</sup> Caliph

- \* 644-656
- \* Muhammad's son-in-law
- \* Formalized the Quran
- \* Continued Muslim conquests
- \* Assassinated by Egyptian rebels



# Ali – 4<sup>th</sup> Caliph

- \* 656-661
- \* Muhammad's cousin & son-in-law
- \* Continued Muslim conquests
- \* Weakened by internal rebellion
- \* 1<sup>st</sup> Muslim Civil War
- \* Assassinated by Kharijite rebels





Extent of Islam under the Rashidun Caliphs (632-661)  
the “Four Rightly Guided Caliphs”  
Abu Bakr, Umar, Uthman and Ali

## **Key Dates in Islam**

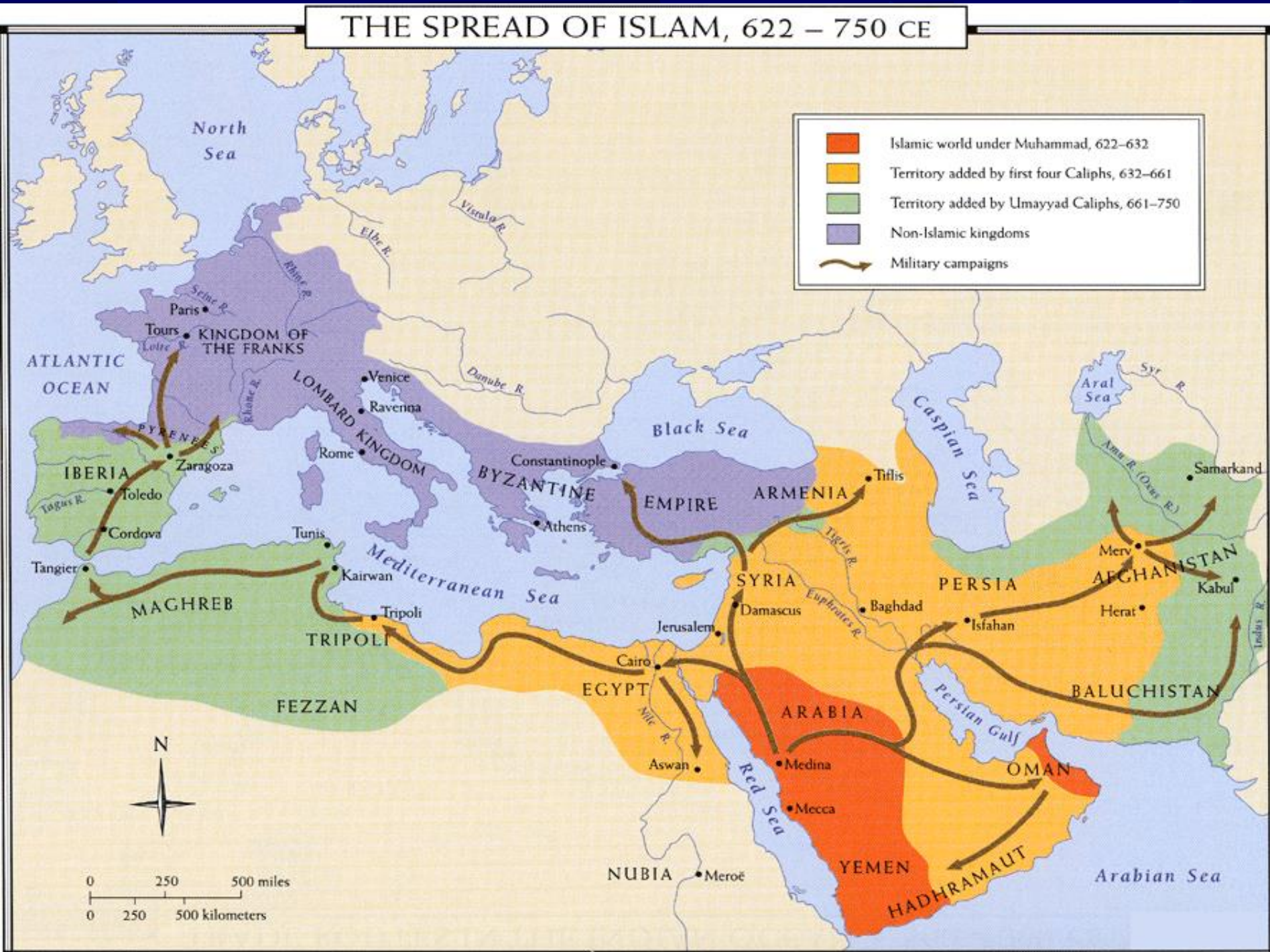
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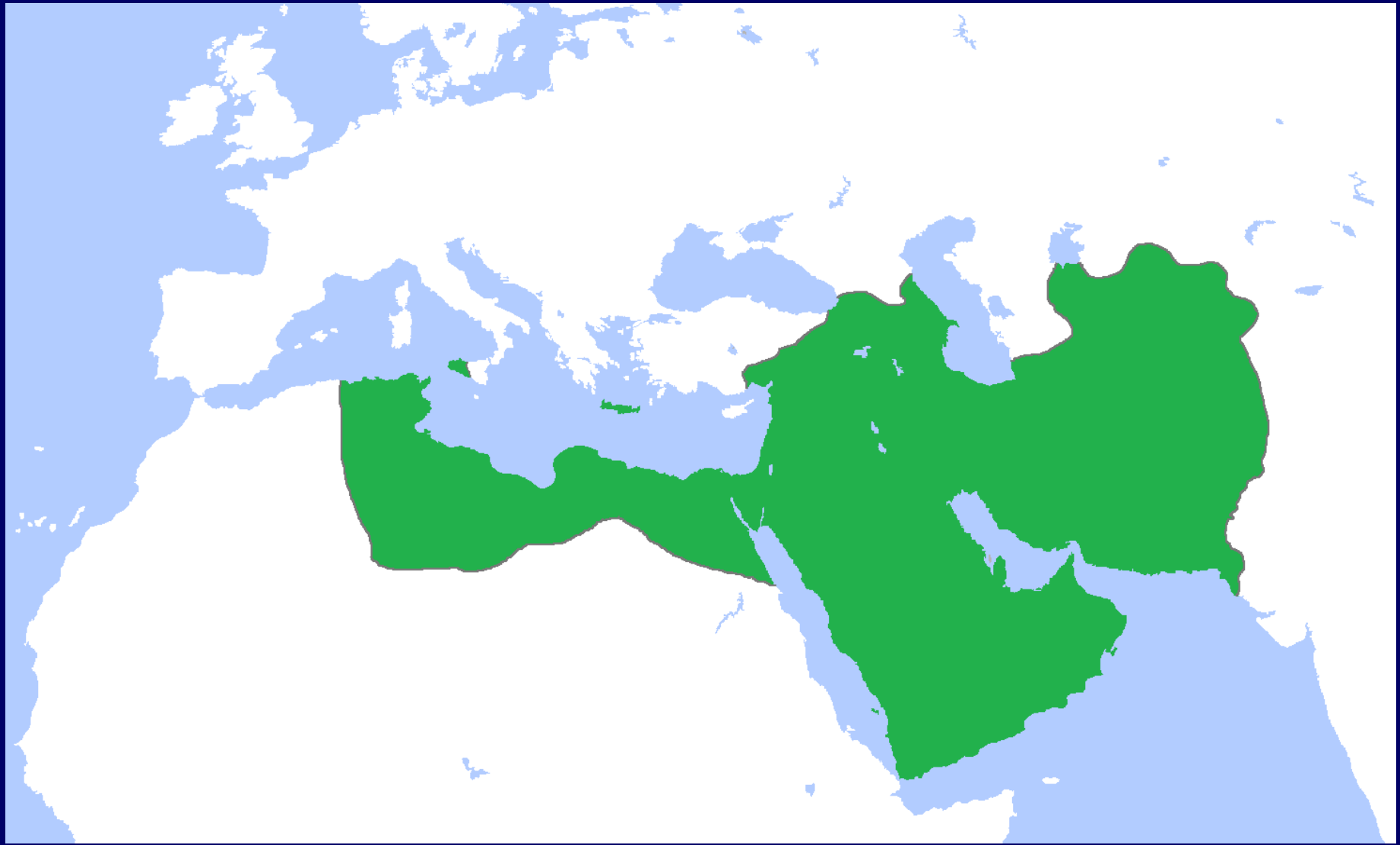
Extent of Islam under the Umayyad Caliphate (661-750)

# THE SPREAD OF ISLAM, 622 – 750 CE



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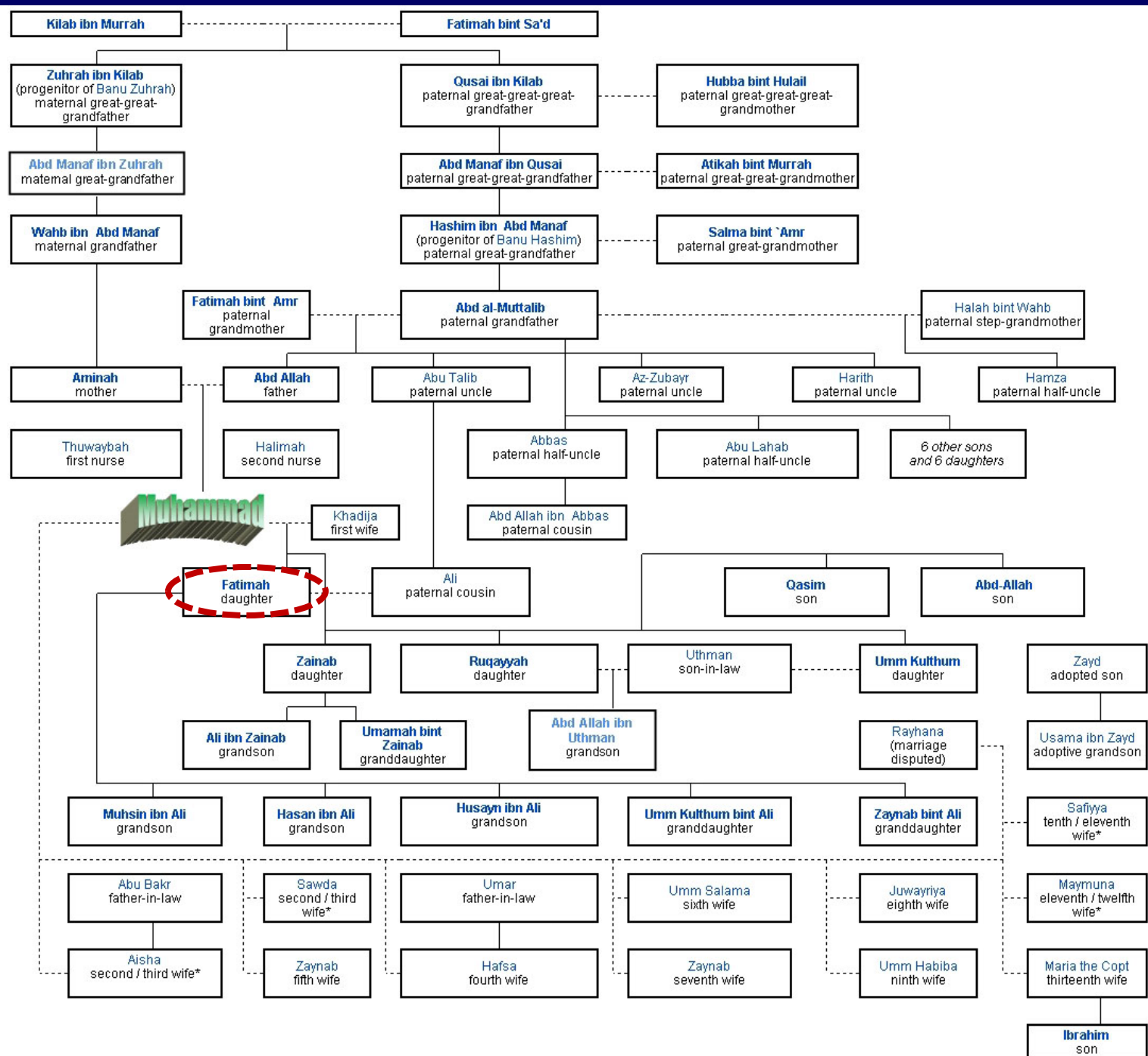


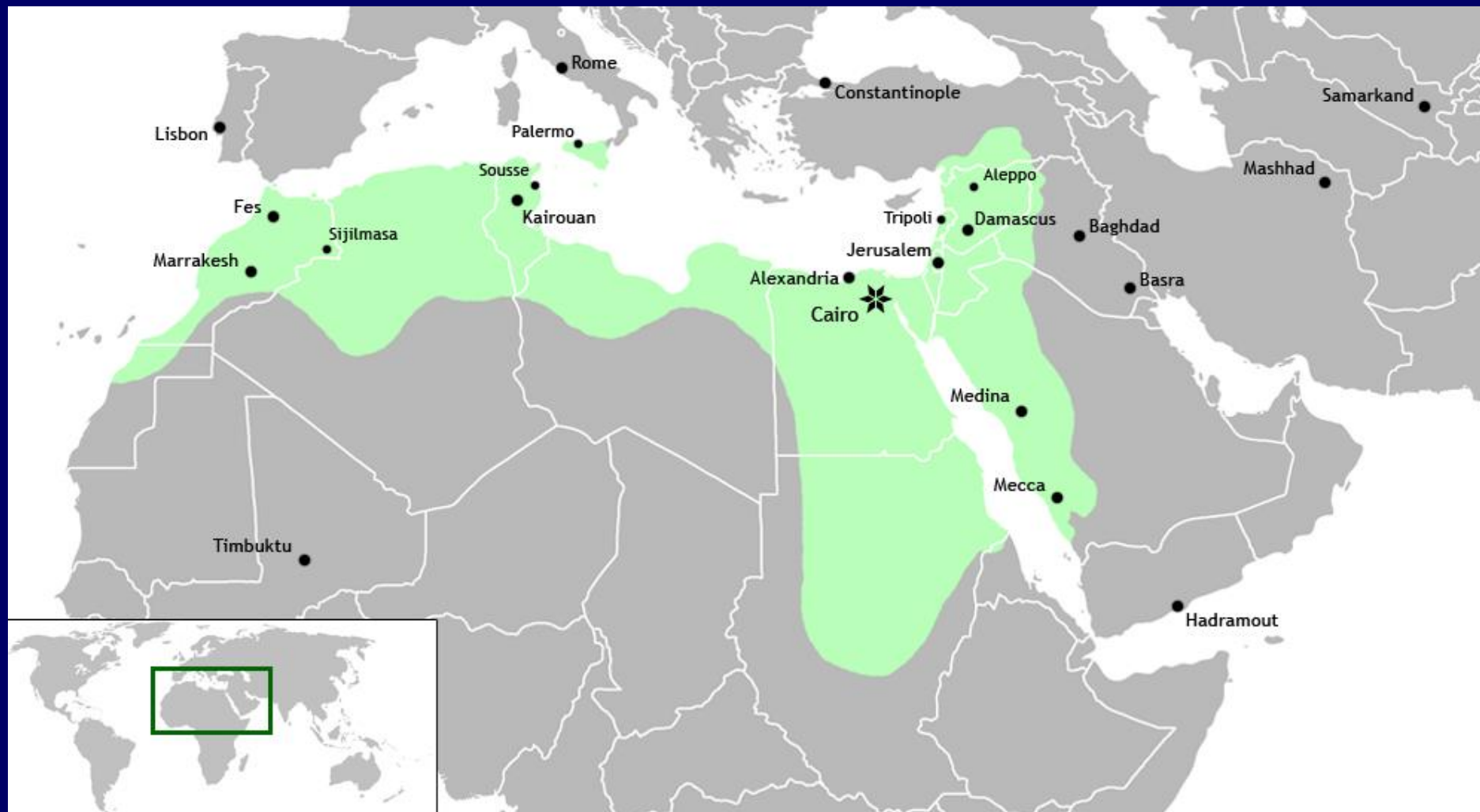
Extent of Islam under the Abbasid Caliphate (750-1517)  
(map represents greatest extent, c. 850)



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Extent of Islam under the Fatimid Caliphate (909-1171)

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- 1174-1250 AD – the Ayyubid Dynasty





Extent of Islam under the Ayyubid Dynasty (1174-1260),  
which began when Saladin overthrew the Fatimid Caliphate.



Extent of Islam under the Seljuk Turks (1037-1194)  
(map represents greatest extent, c. 1092)

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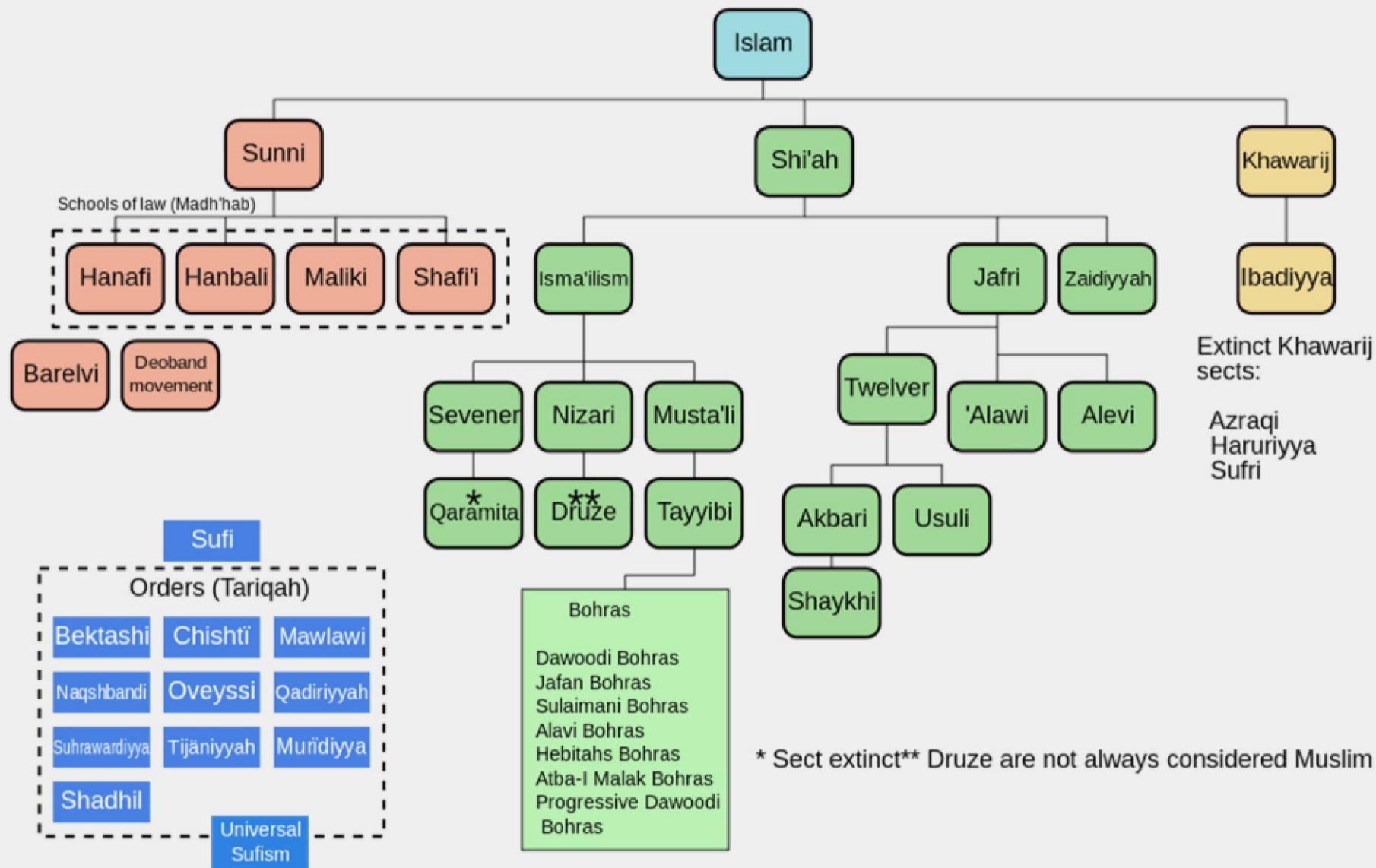
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- 1174-1250 AD – the Ayyubid Dynasty
- 1453-1924 AD – the Ottoman Empire

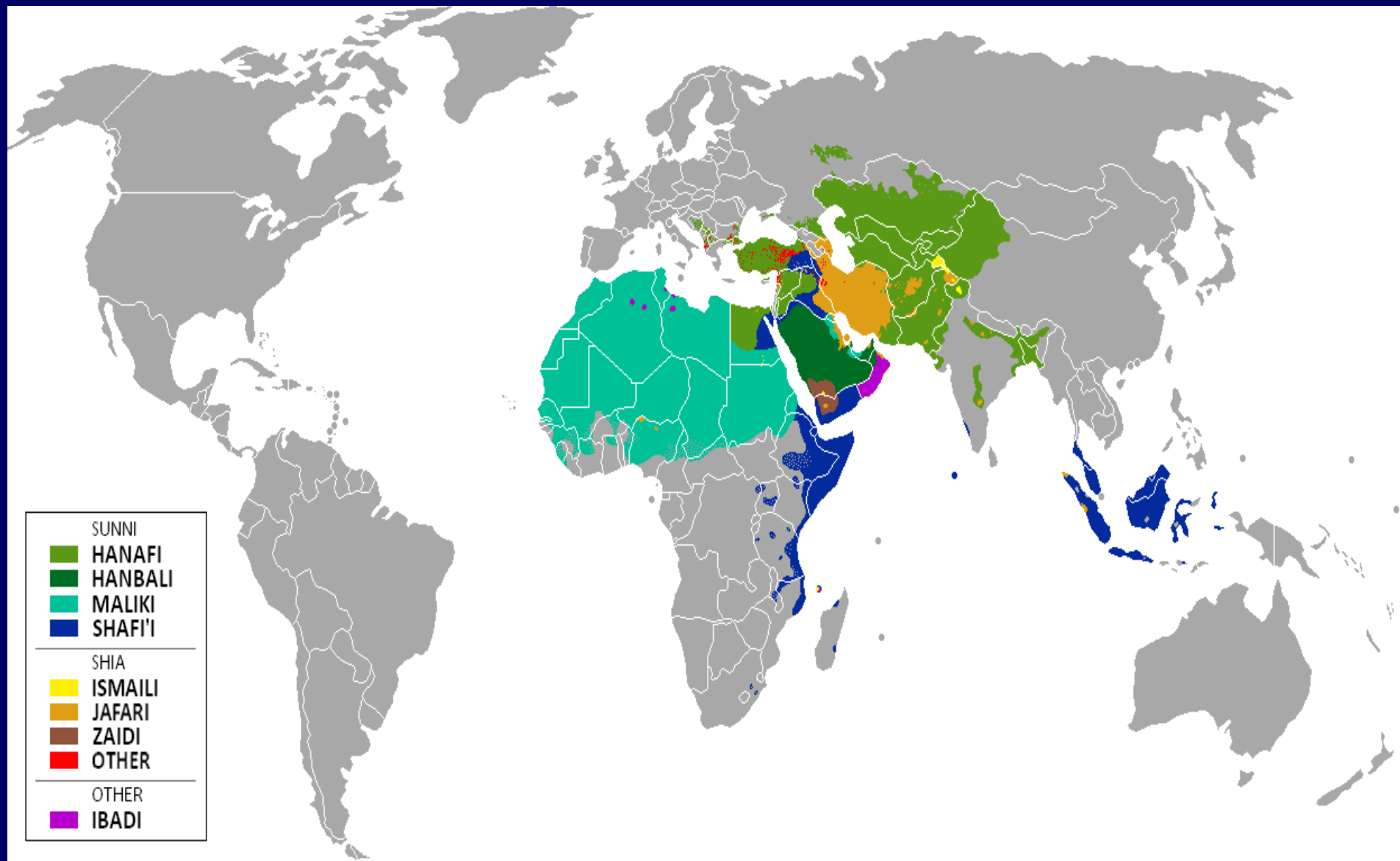




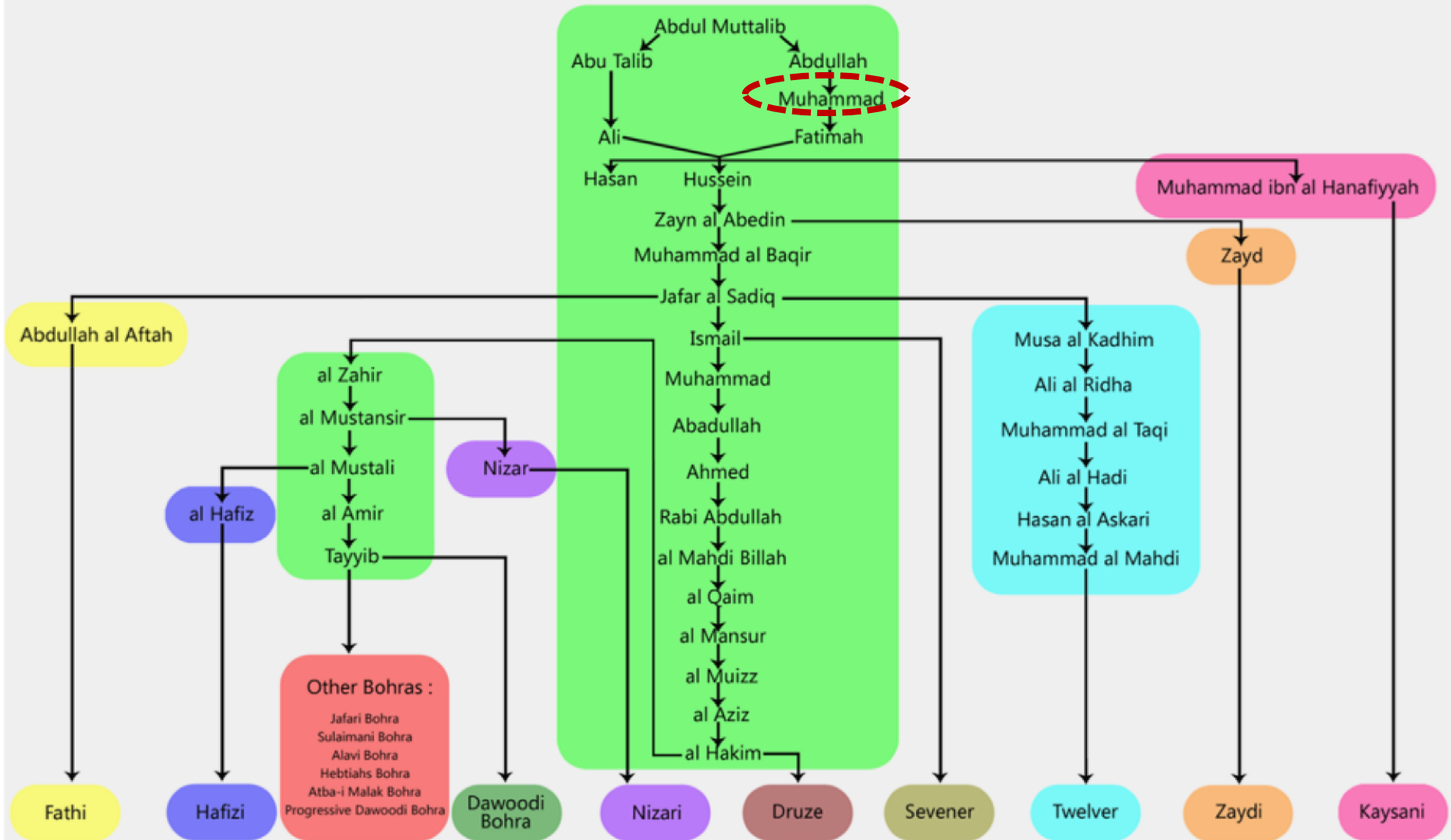


**Extent of Islam under the Ottoman Empire (1453-1914)**



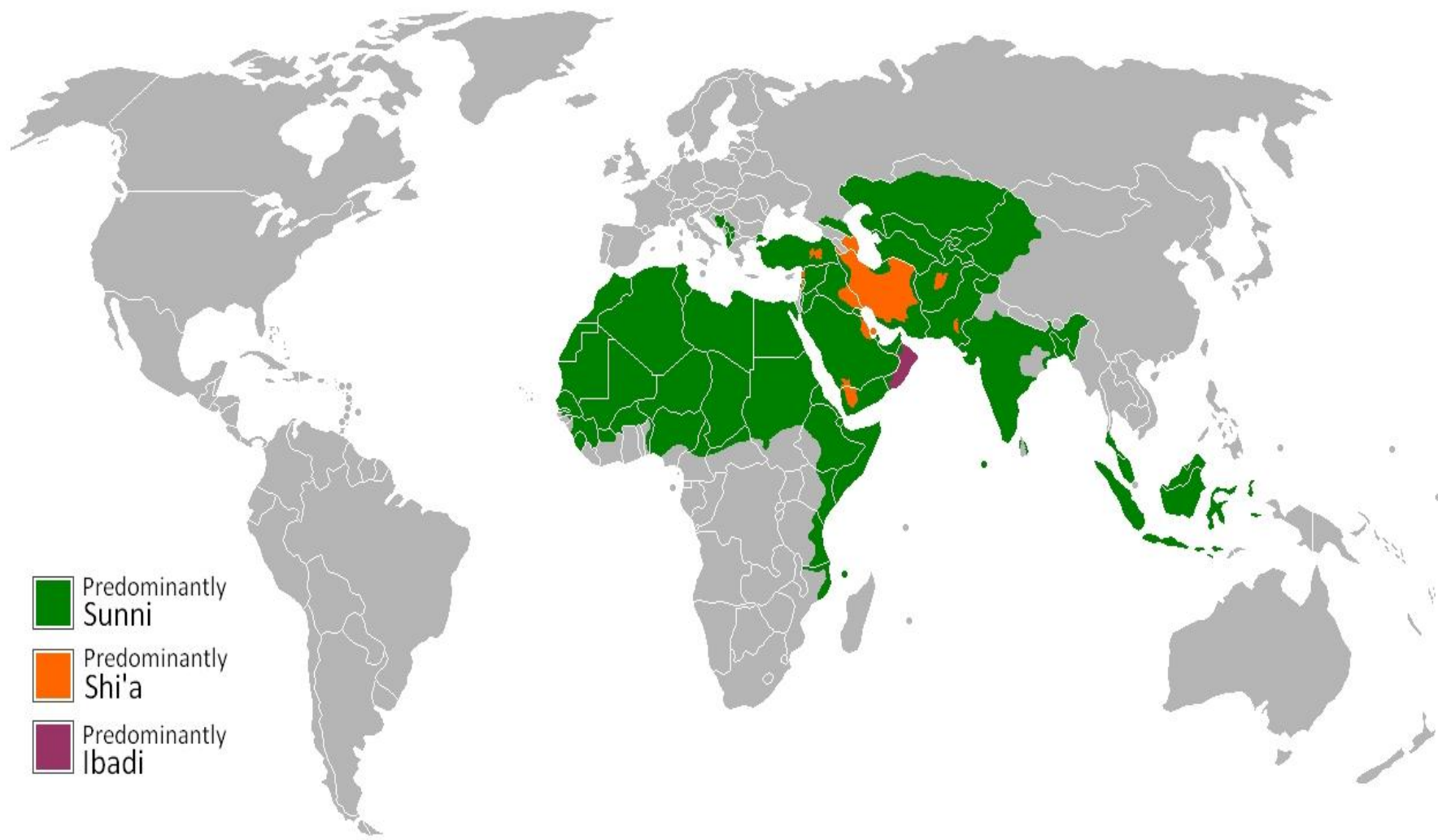


## Shia Islam



“Ismailis” “Imamiyyah” “Fiver”





# Basic Beliefs of Islam

- **Islam** means “*submission*,” to Allah and His will. A **Muslim** submits to Allah.
- Muslim life is more about **orthopraxy** (right action) rather than **orthodoxy** (right belief) — based on the writings of the ***Qur'an***; ***sunnah*** (life example of Muhammad); and ***hadith*** (sayings of Muhammad and his companions).
- The revelation to Muhammad was in Arabic, considered the holy language.

# ***The Qur'an, the Hadith, the Sunnah***

- ***The Qur'an*** ("recitation" in Arabic) is the sacred text of Islam and highest authority in both religious and legal matters.
- Muslims believe the Qur'an to be a flawless record of the Angel Gabriel's revelations to Muhammad from 610 until his death in 632 AD. It is also believed to be a perfect copy of a heavenly Qur'an that has existed eternally, and represents the very words of Allah. It is divided into 114 *surahs* (chapters) of varying length, generally arranged from longest to shortest.

# ***The Qur'an, the Hadith, the Sunnah***

- ***The Hadith*** ("narrative" or "report" in Arabic) is a record of the words and deeds of the Prophet, his family, and his companions.
- Although not regarded as the spoken Word of God like the Qur'an, Hadith is an important source of doctrine, law and practice, revered in Islam as a major source of religious law and moral guidance. It has been studied in Muslim religious colleges since the Middle Ages.
- Each Hadith has two parts: the tradition itself, or ***matn*** (for instance, the words of the Prophet) and the ***isnad*** ("chain of authorities" – the human transmitters through which the tradition came).



# ***The Qur'an, the Hadith, the Sunnah***

- ***The Sunnah*** (“clear, well trodden path” in Arabic) is the ideal way of life for Muslims, based on the teachings and practices of Muhammad (the prime exemplar) and interpretations of the Qur'an.
- ***Sunnah*** includes Muhammad's specific words, habits, practices and approvals, addressing ways of life dealing with friends, family and government.

# ***The Six Articles of Faith of Islam***

1. Belief in one God;
2. Belief in the angels of God;
3. Belief in the prophets & messengers of God, especially Muhammad;
4. Belief in the books of God, especially the Qur'an;
5. Belief in the Day of Judgment (and the afterlife); and
6. Belief in the supremacy of God's will and divine decree.

# The Messengers and Prophets of Islam

## Messengers:

- ❖ **Noah**
- ❖ **Abraham** (received *Scrolls of Abraham*)
- ❖ **Moses** (received the *Tawrat*, or Torah/Law)
- ❖ **Jesus** (received the *Injil*, or Gospel)
- ❖ **Muhammad** (received the *Qur'an*)

Prophets: 24 others, including Adam, Job, Lot, Ishmael, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Aaron, Elisha, Zachariah, Jonah, David (who received the *Zabur*/Psalms) and John the Baptist.

# ***The Five Pillars of Islam***

## **1. Profession of Faith – The *Shahada*:**

“There is no God but Allah, and Muhammad is his prophet.”



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2. **Prayer** – ***Salah***, 5 times daily facing Mecca; on Fridays in a mosque.

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3. Generous almsgiving – ***Zakat***.

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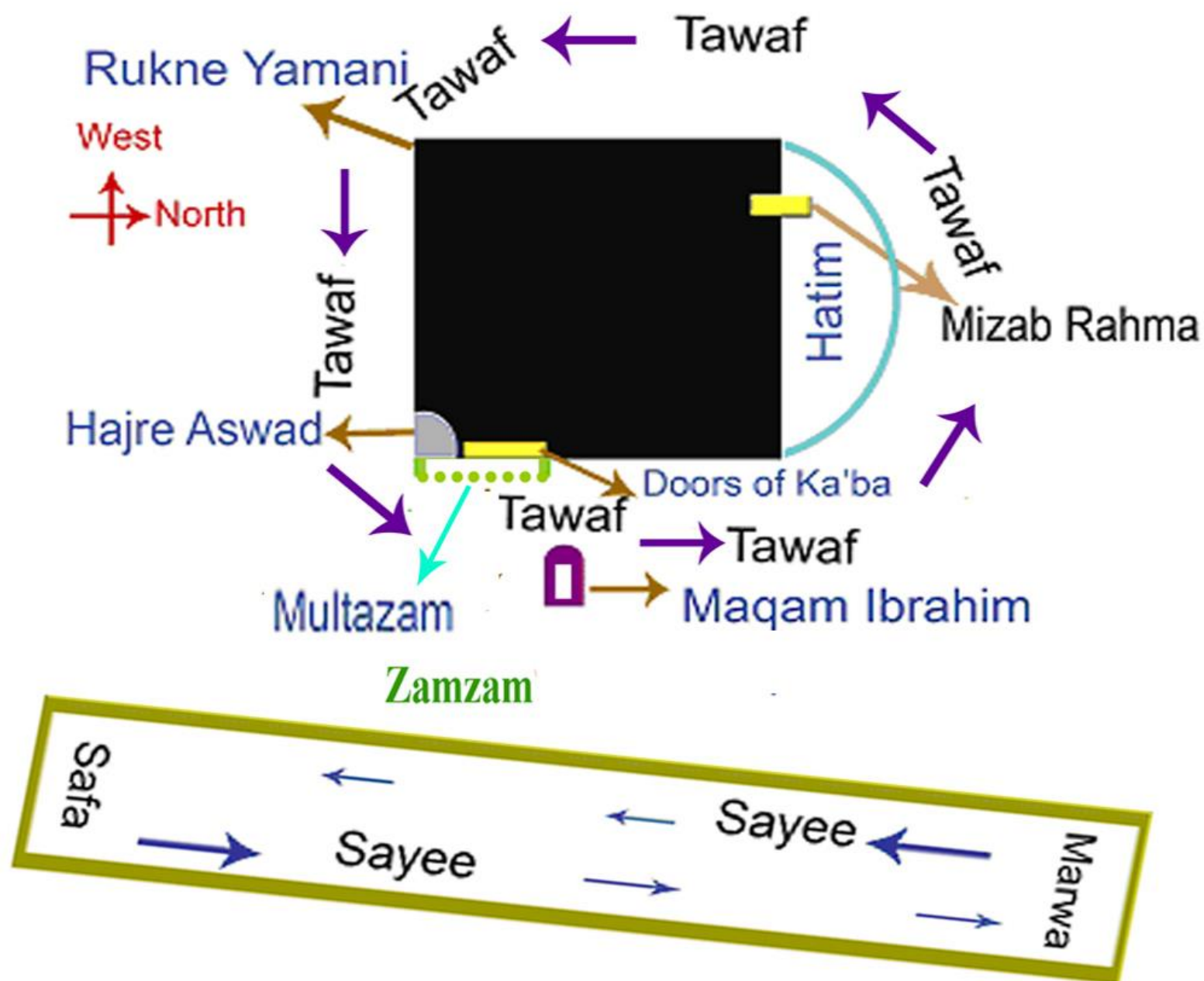












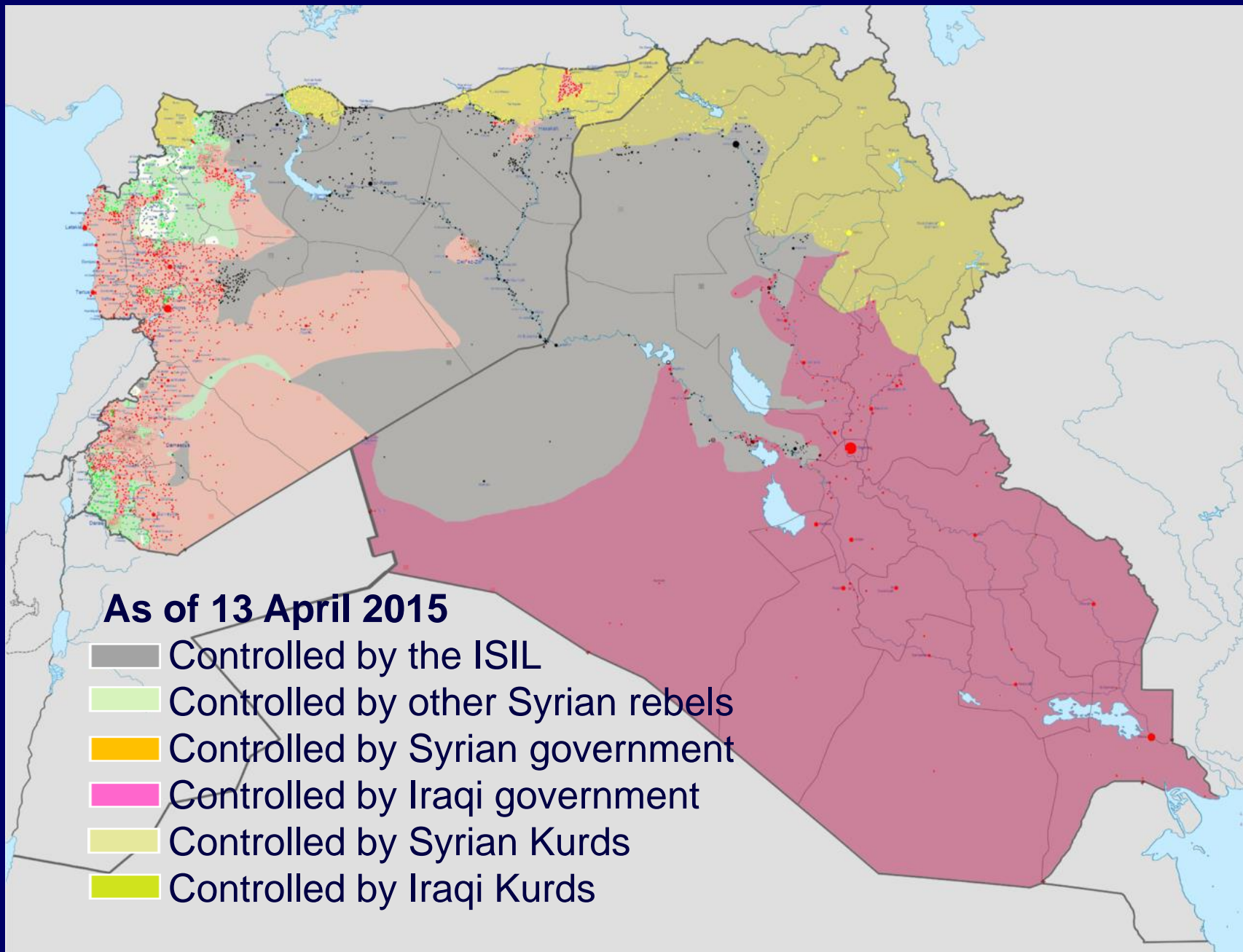
# The Rise of Political Islam

- Islamism, or Political Islam – a set of ideologies holding that "Islam should guide social and political as well as personal life;" or "the active assertion and promotion of beliefs, prescriptions, laws or policies that are held to be Islamic in character."
- The Salafi Movement – a movement within Islam named for the *salaf* ("ancestors," "predecessors"), the earliest Muslims who are supposed to provide the perfect example of Islamic practice. A popular *hadith* quotes Muhammad saying '*The people of my own generation are the best, then those who come after them, and then those of the next generation,*' suggesting Muslims follow the example of those first three generations.

# The Rise of Political Islam

- Wahhabism – an extremist Islamic "reform movement" to restore "pure monotheistic worship," named after an eighteenth century preacher and scholar, *Muhammad ibn Abd al-Wahhab* (1703–1792). Wahhabism began in the remote region of the Arabian Nejd, purging practices such as the popular cult of saints, shrine and tomb visitation, and impurities and innovations in Islam.
- ISIL or ISIS or IS – an extremist, jihadist Sunni “state” in Iraq and Syria, originating in 1999 as part of al-Qaeda in Iraq (AQI). In 2006, it joined other Sunni insurgent groups, gaining support due to perceived discrimination against Iraqi Sunnis, under the leadership of Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, who declared himself world-wide *caliph* on 29 June 2014. In April 2013, the group’s name changed to the ***Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant***.





# Lakeside Institute of Theology:

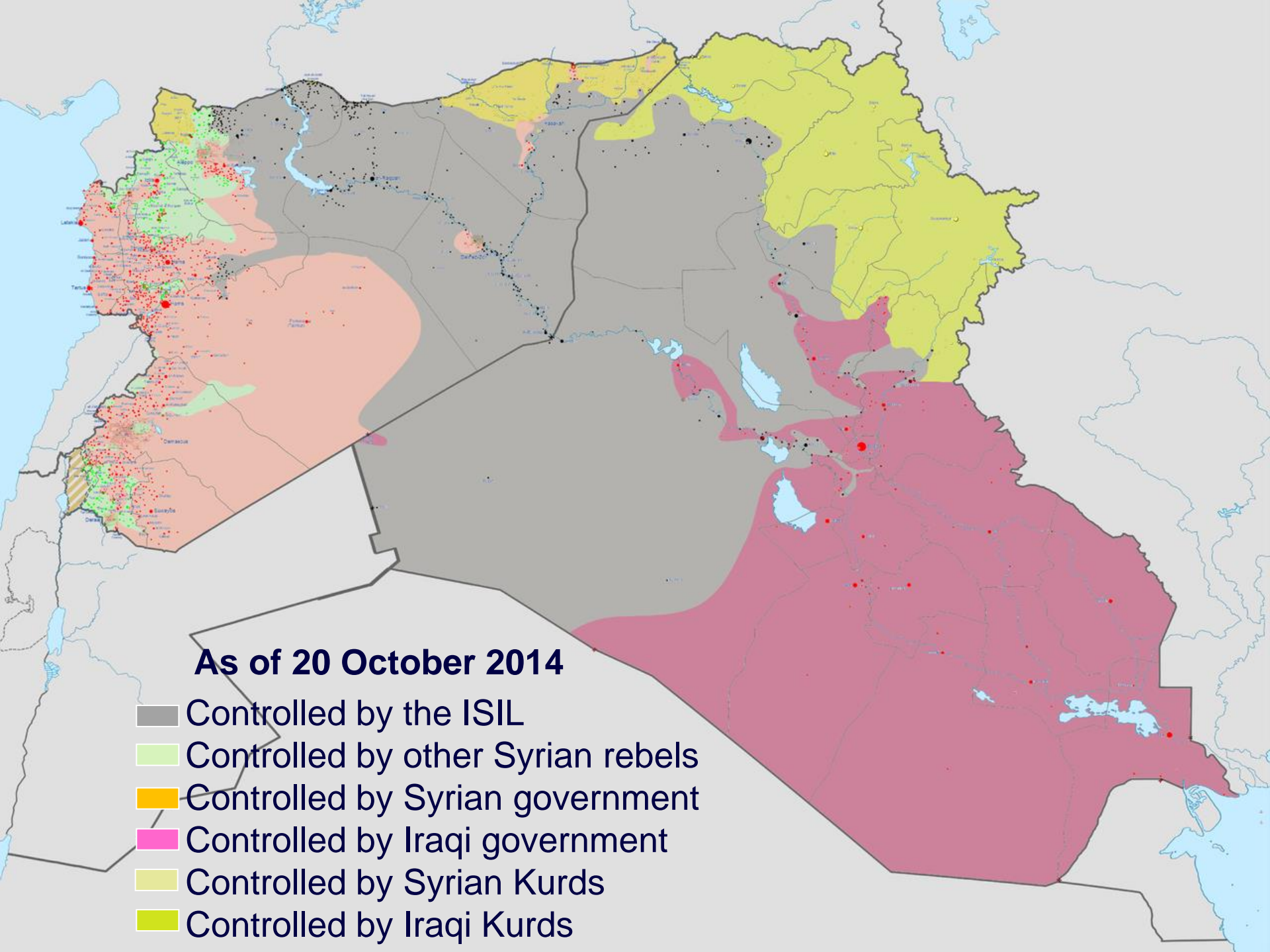
**[www.litchapala.org](http://www.litchapala.org)**

Videos of the Windstar lectures will be posted as soon as possible after our return

[rda@rossarnold.net](mailto:rda@rossarnold.net)





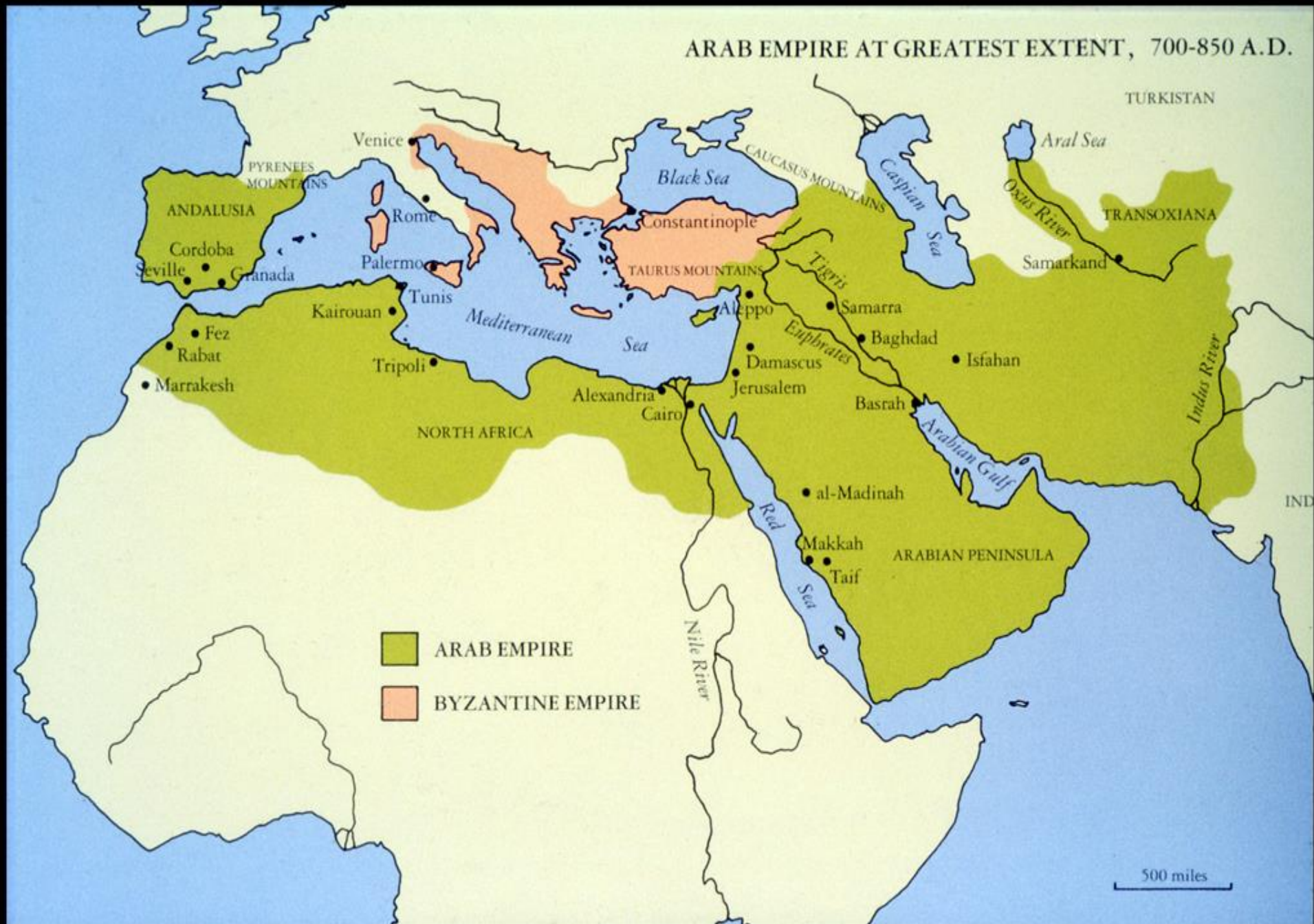


**As of 20 October 2014**

- Controlled by the ISIL
- Controlled by other Syrian rebels
- Controlled by Syrian government
- Controlled by Iraqi government
- Controlled by Syrian Kurds
- Controlled by Iraqi Kurds



# ARAB EMPIRE AT GREATEST EXTENT, 700-850 A.D.



# Byzantine (Eastern) Empire Under Justinian

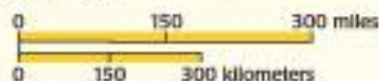






## Arabian Peninsula

- International boundary
- ★ **Riyadh** National capital
- **Jidda**
- **Mecca**
- **Ad Damman**
- A city's relative size is shown by the size of its symbol and lettering.



Website for lecture videos:

**[www.litchapala.org](http://www.litchapala.org)**  
(Lakeside Institute of Theology)

Ross Arnold's email:

**[rda@rossarnold.net](mailto:rda@rossarnold.net)**