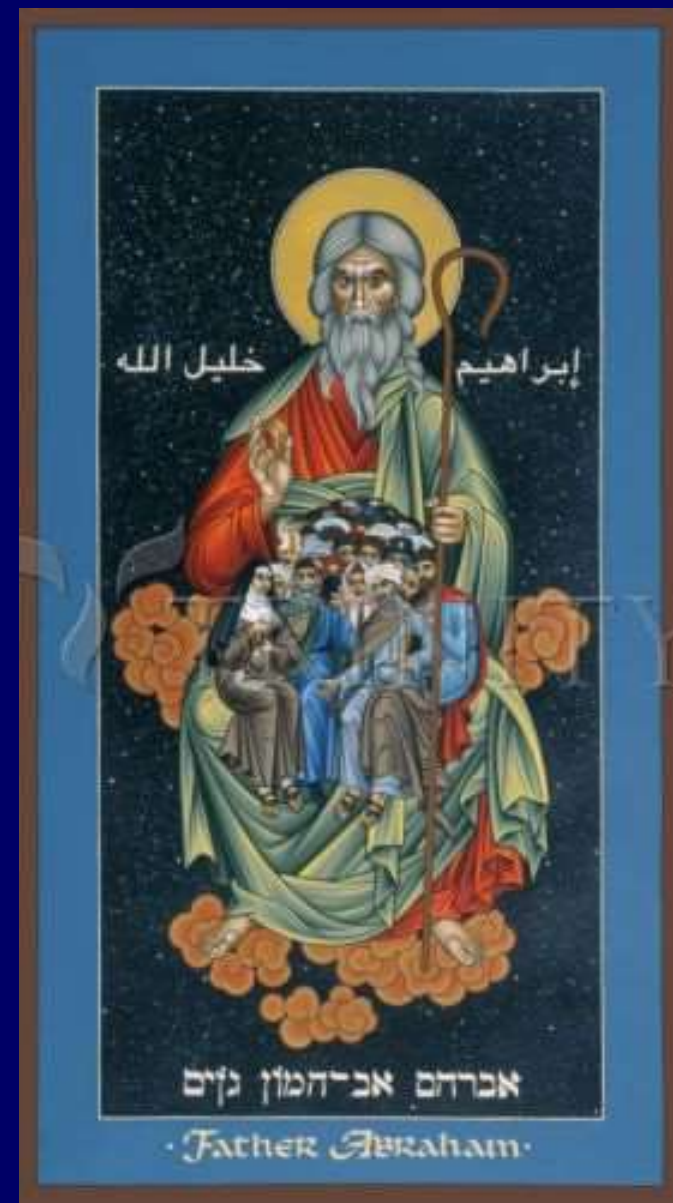


Introduction to Islam

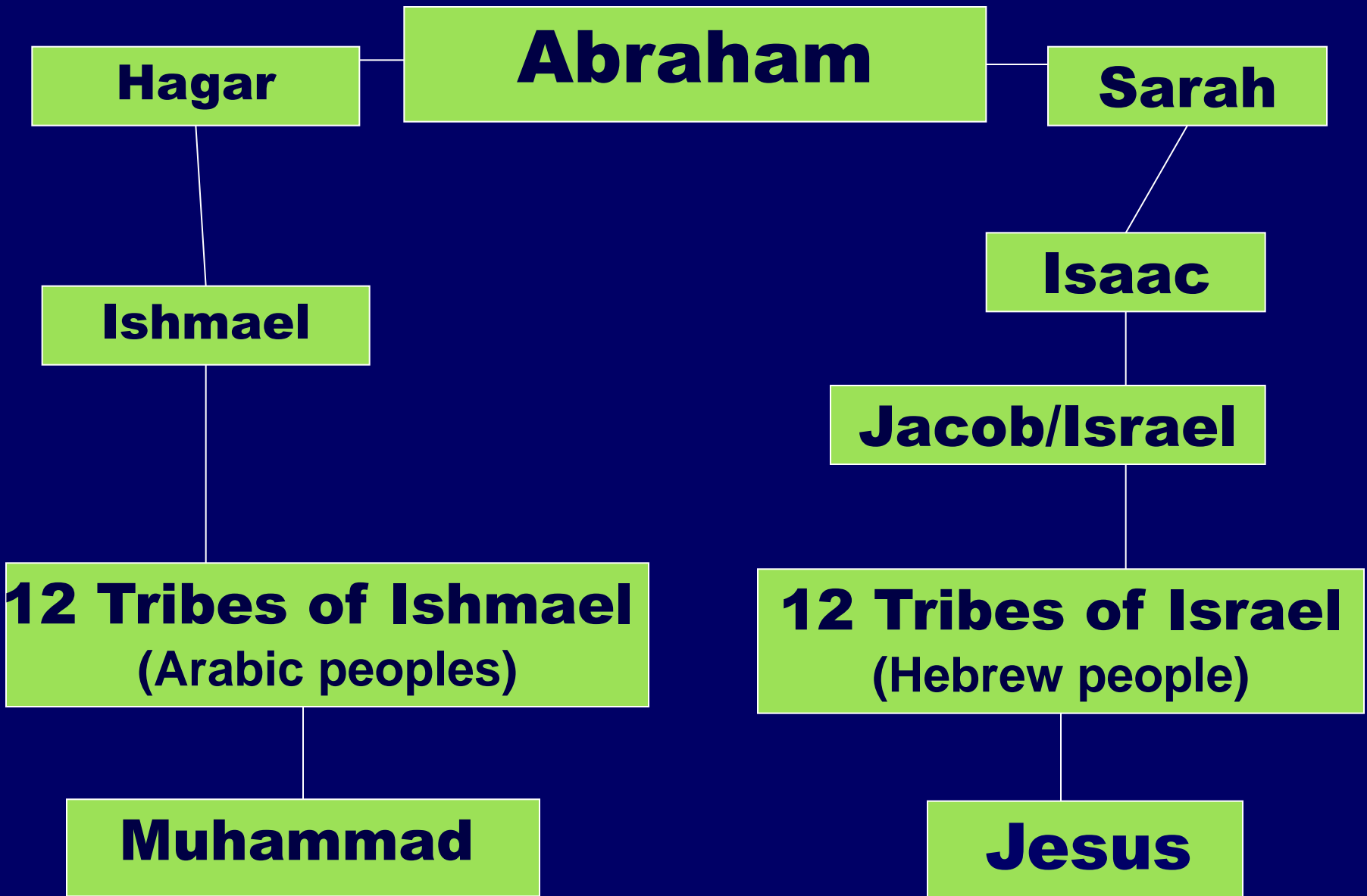
Wonders of Arabia

Windstar Cruises

Ross Arnold, Fall 2014



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

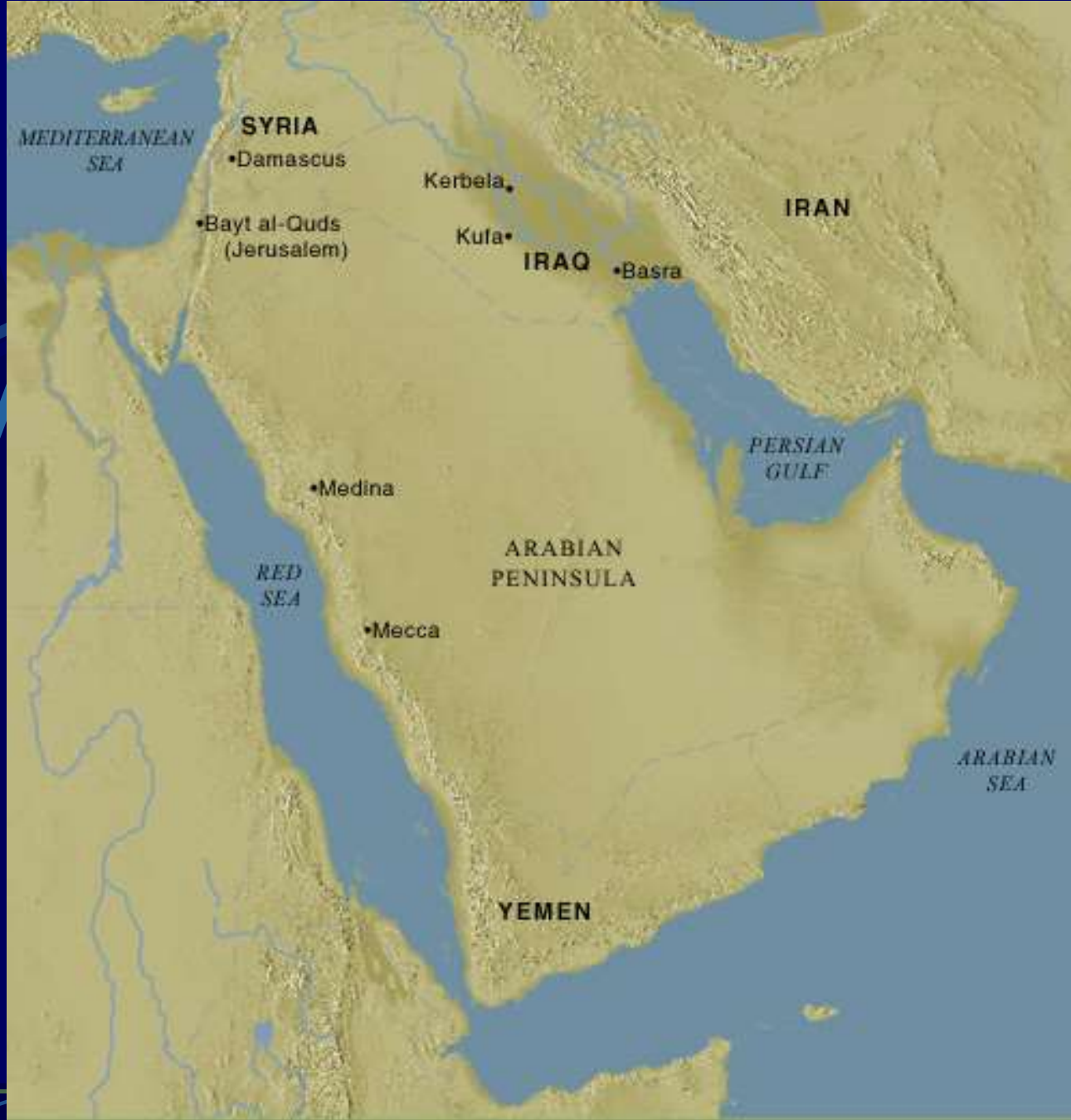




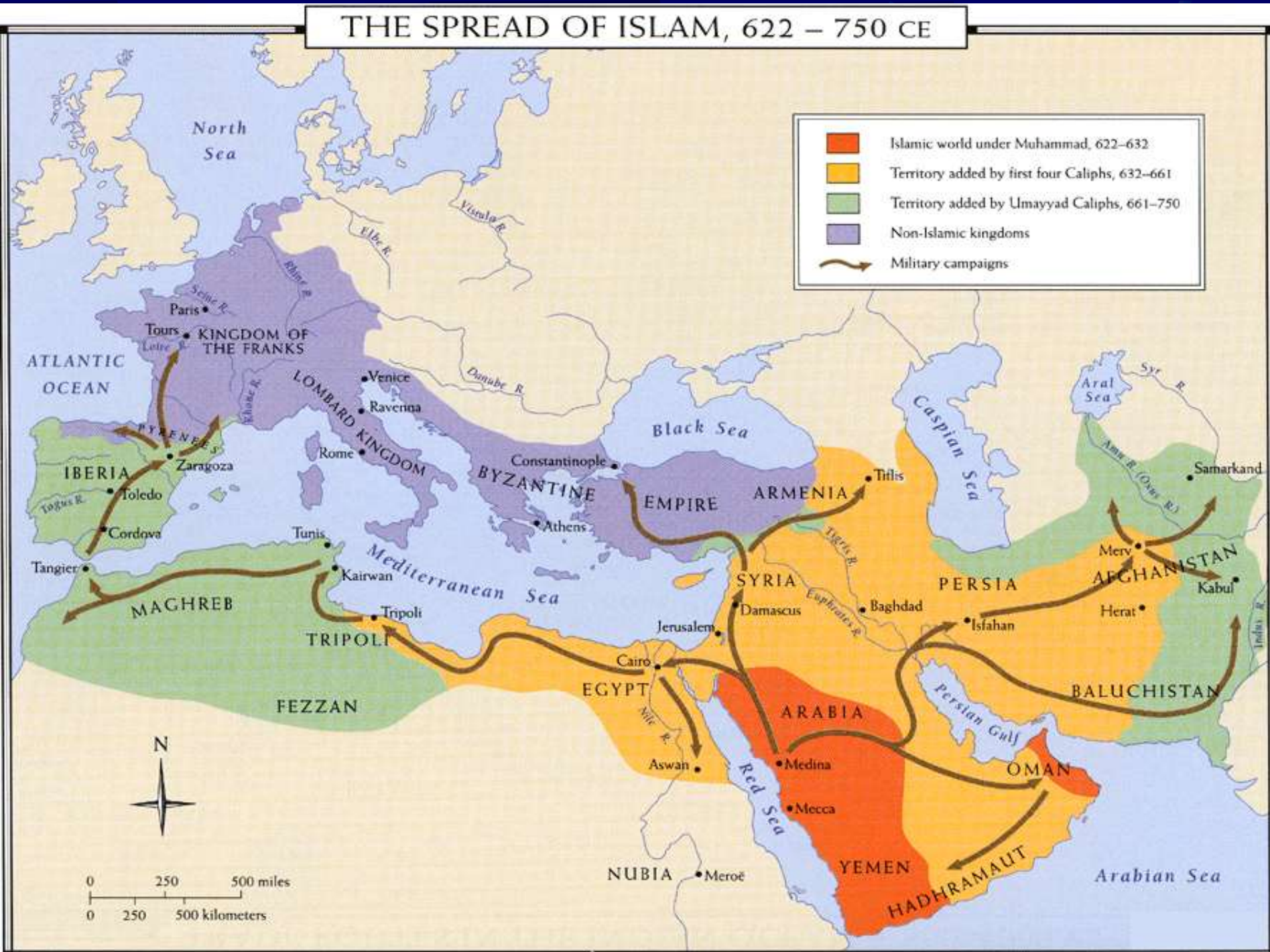
لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ مُحَمَّدٌ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ

Prophet Muhammad
570-632 AD



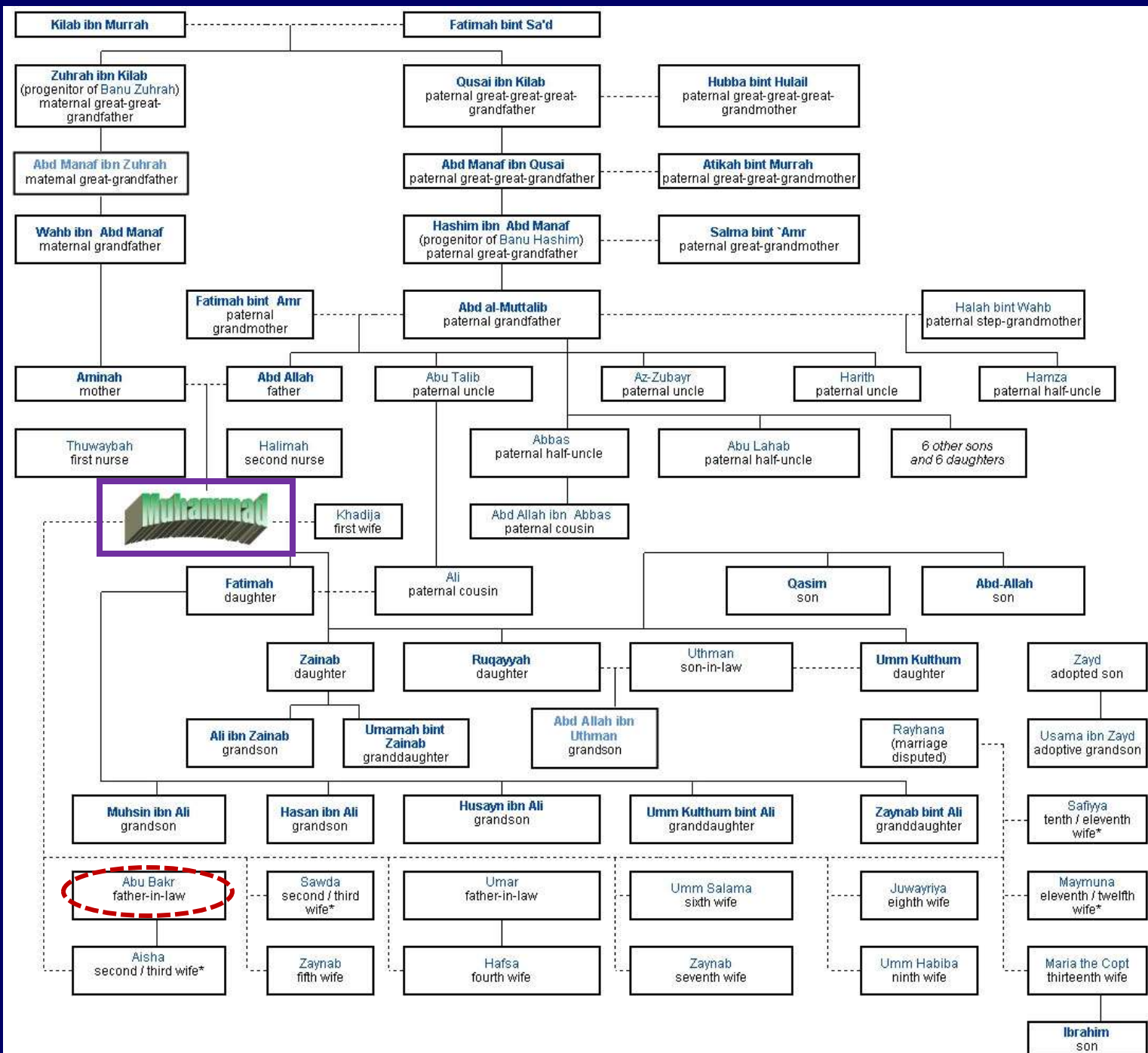


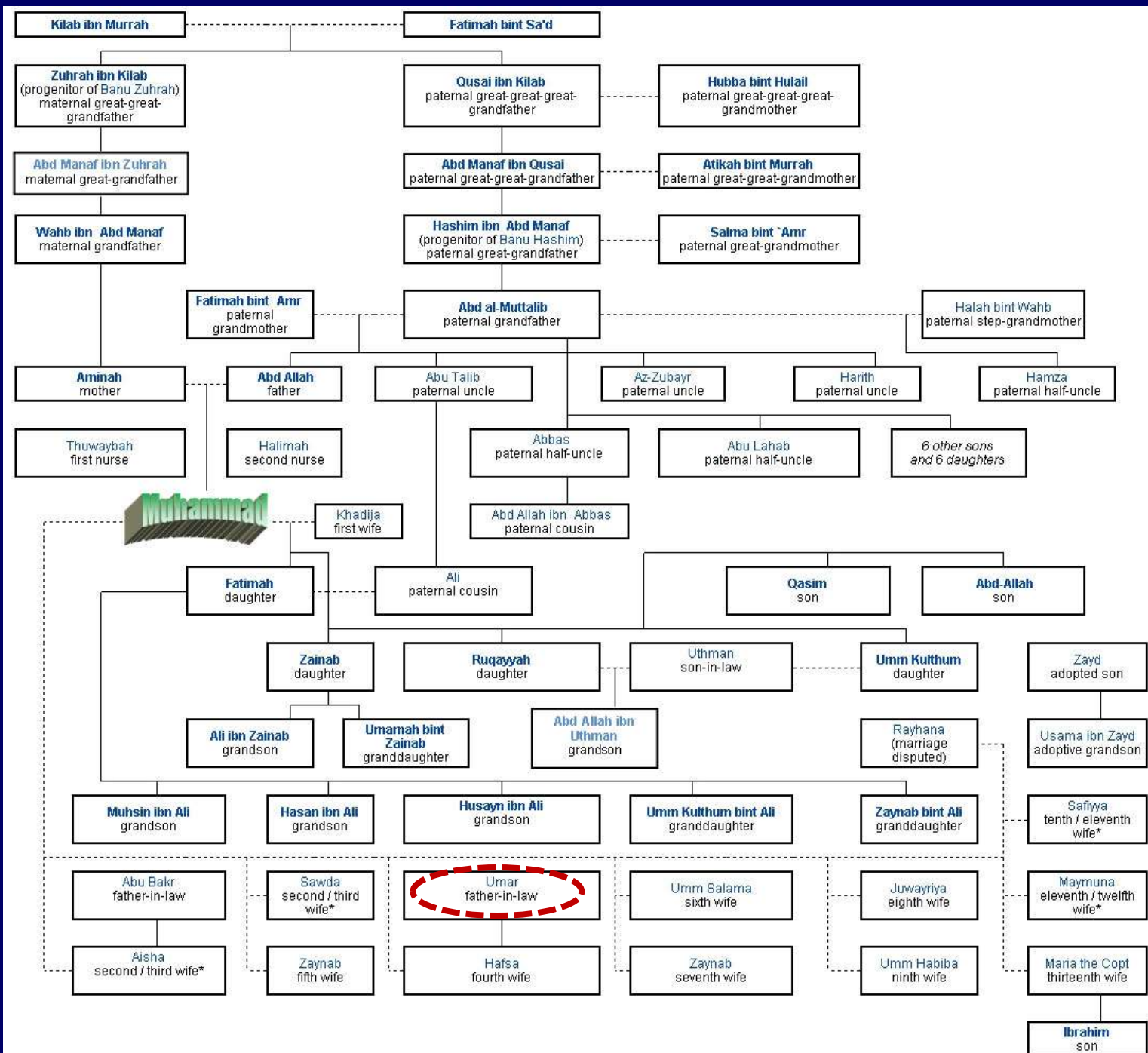
THE SPREAD OF ISLAM, 622 – 750 CE

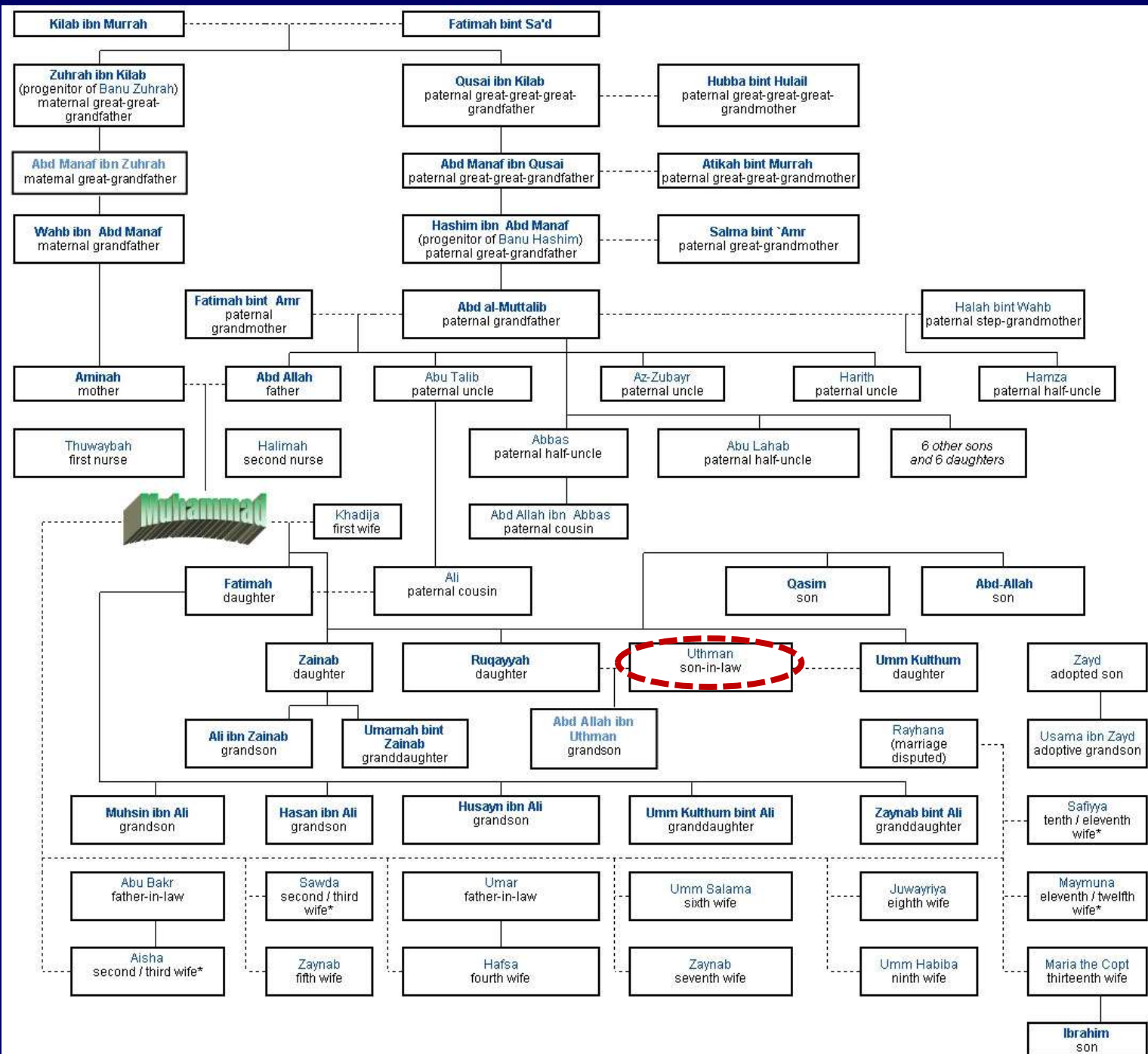


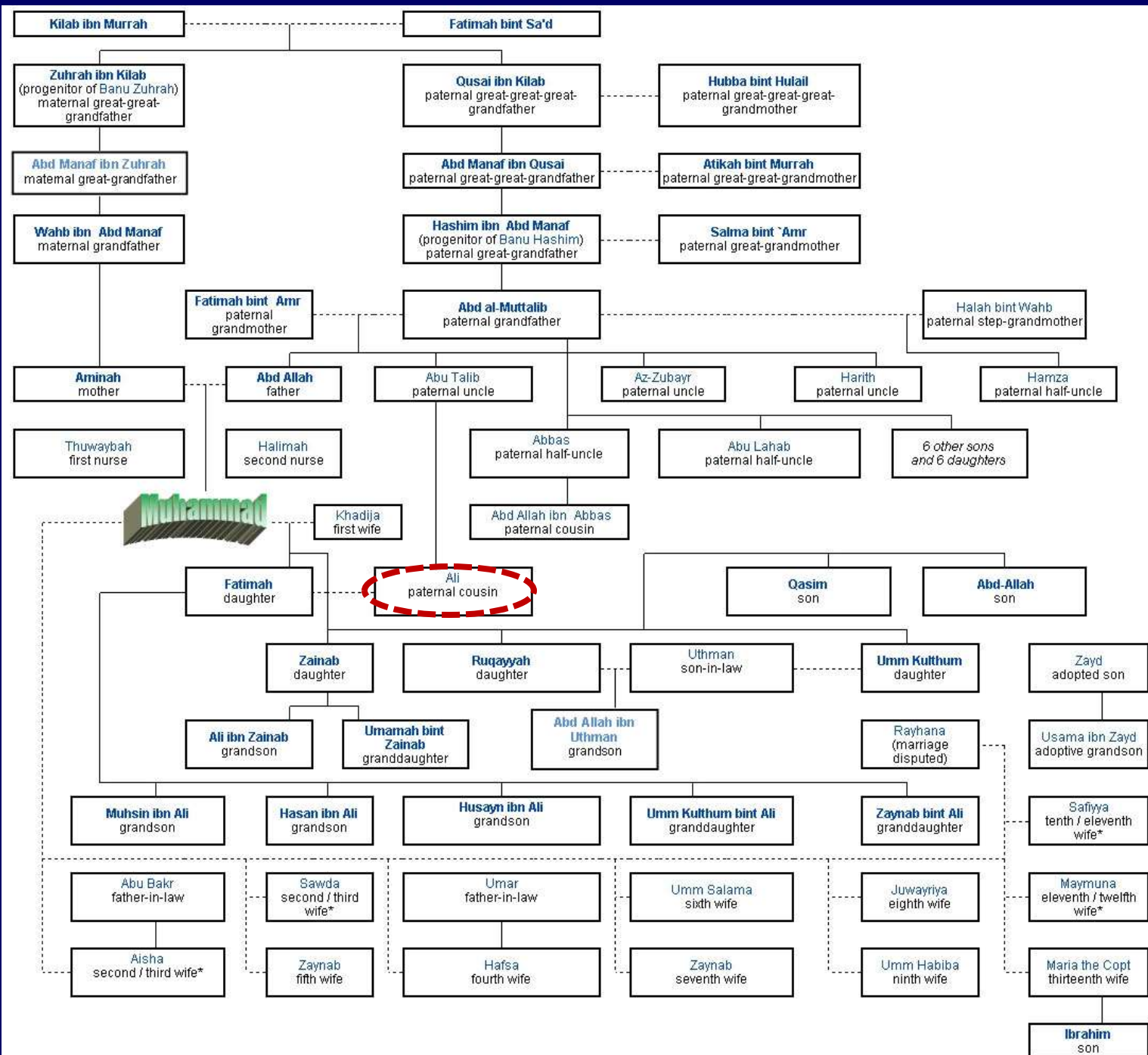
Key Dates in Islam

- 570 AD – Muhammad born in Mecca.
- 610 AD – Muhammad receives first revelation of Qur'an, in a cave.
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- 632 AD – Muhammad dies after converting most of Arabian peninsula. A series of successors (“caliphs”) launch military campaigns of expansion throughout the Mediterranean region.
- 632-661 AD – the Rashidun Caliphate
Abu Bakr, Umar, Uthman and Ali











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

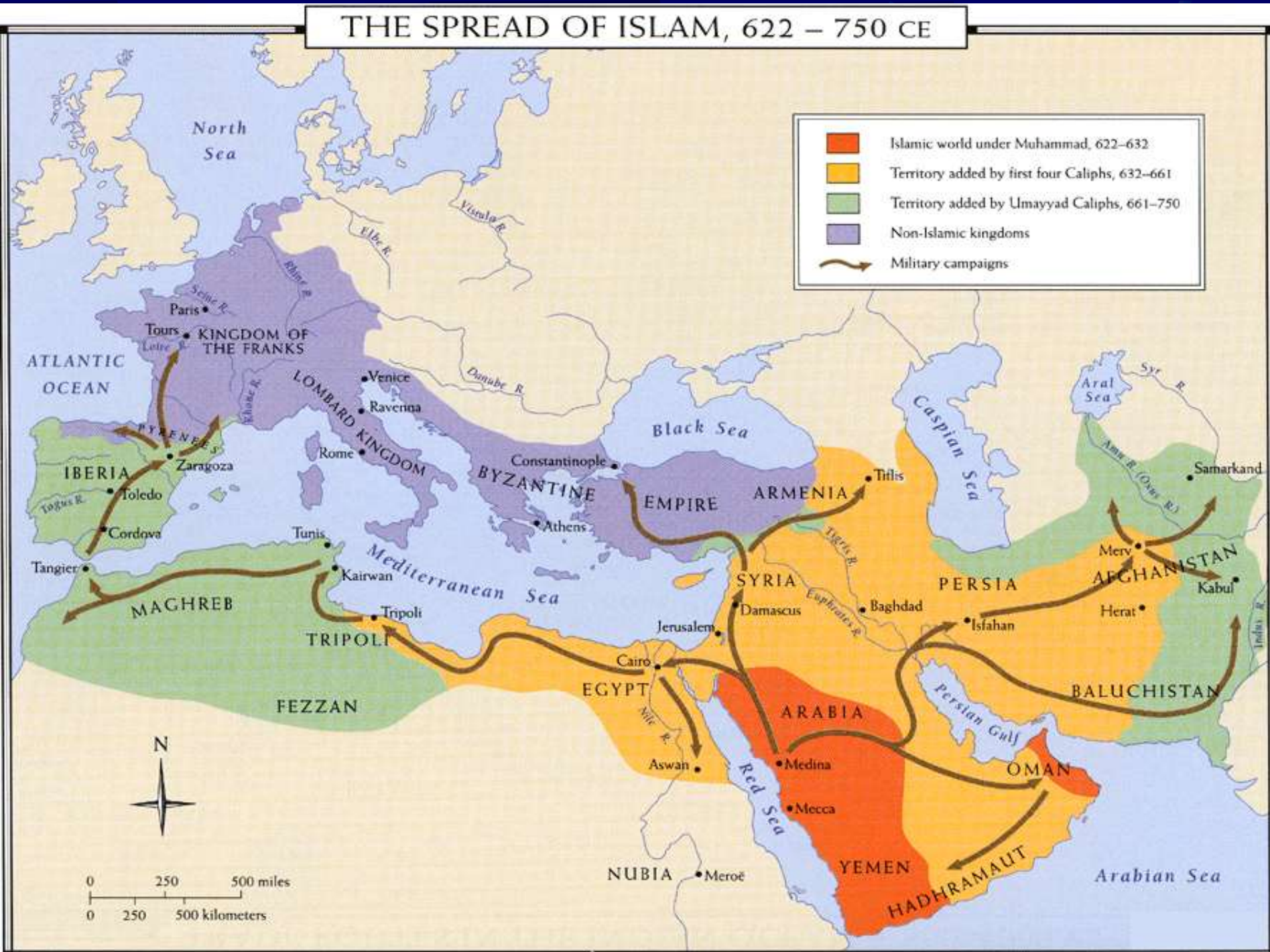
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Extent of Islam under the Umayyad Caliphate (661-750)

THE SPREAD OF ISLAM, 622 – 750 CE



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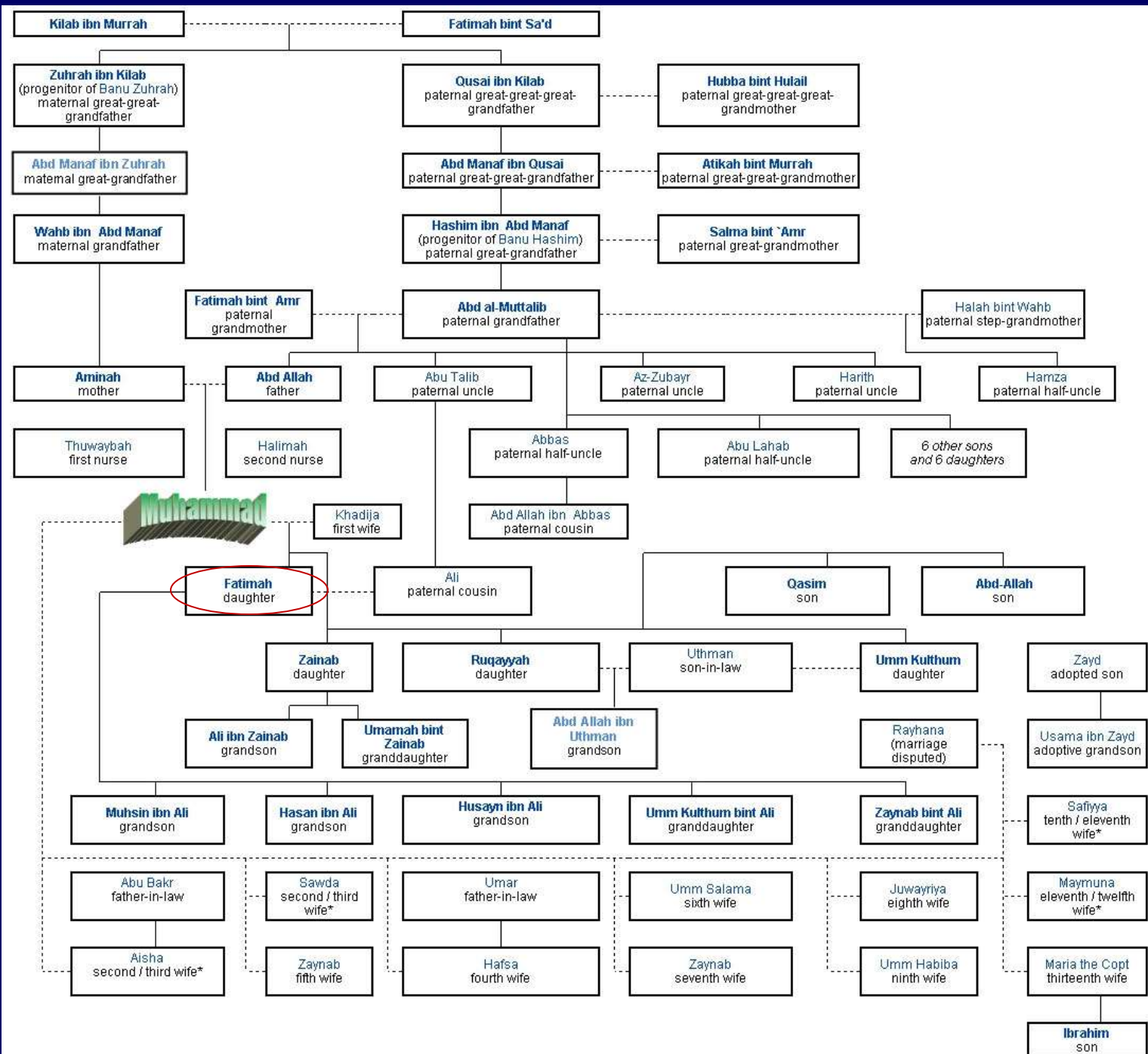
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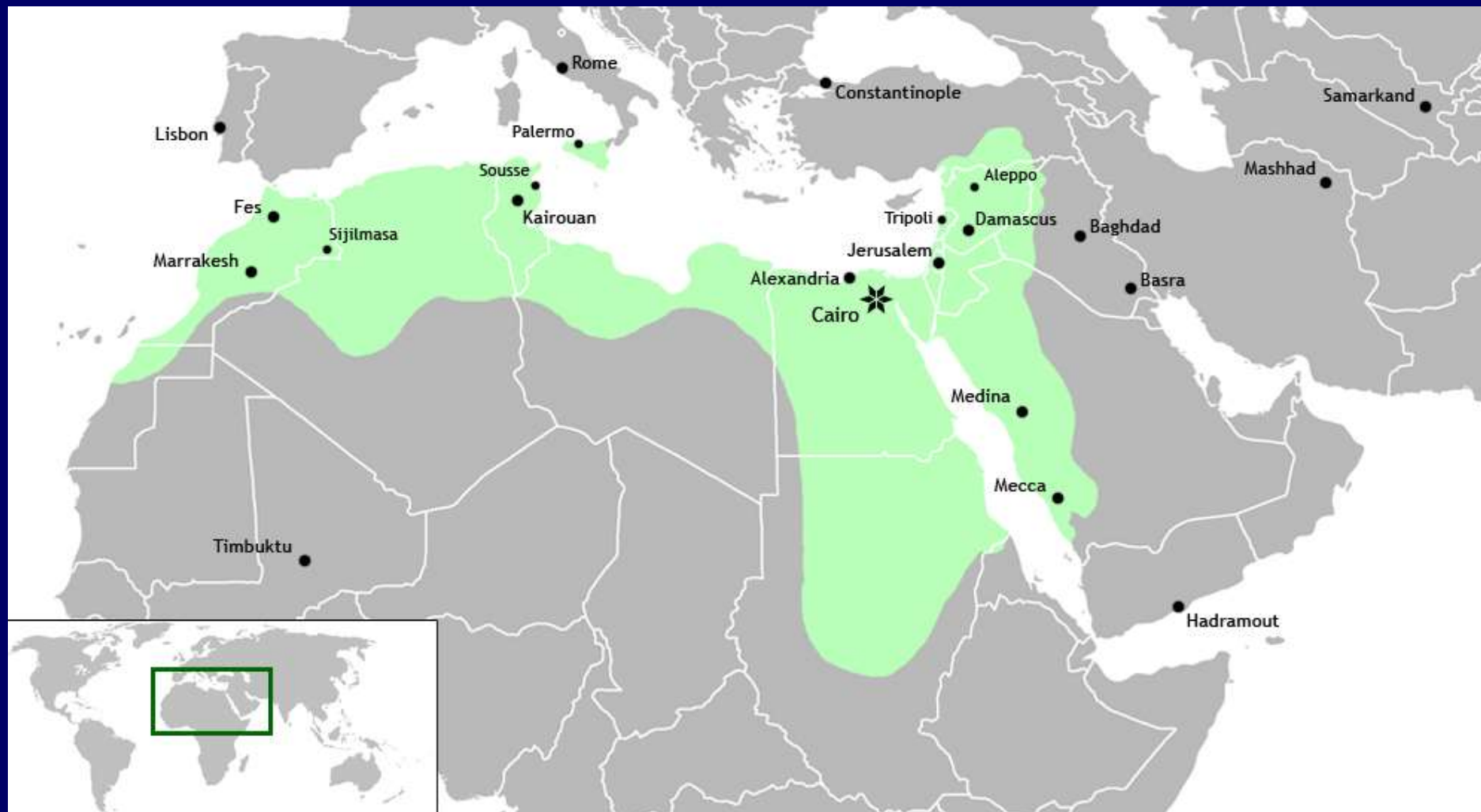


Extent of Islam under the Abbasid Caliphate (750-1517)
(map represents greatest extent, c. 850)

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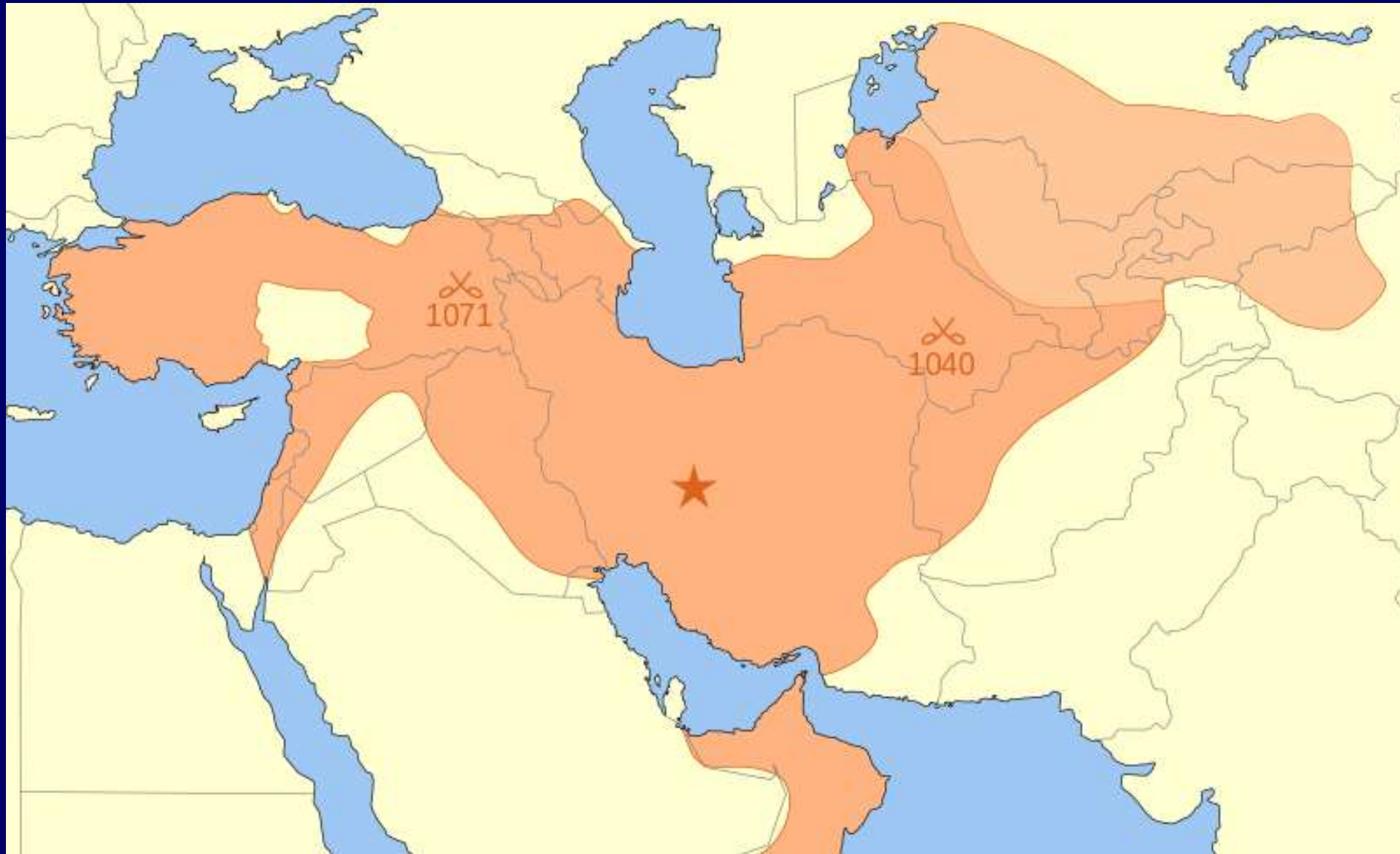
Extent of Islam under the Fatimid Caliphate (909-1171)

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- 1174-1250 AD – the Ayyubid Dynasty



Extent of Islam under the Ayyubid Dynasty (1174-1250),
which began when Saladin overthrew the Fatimid Caliphate.



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

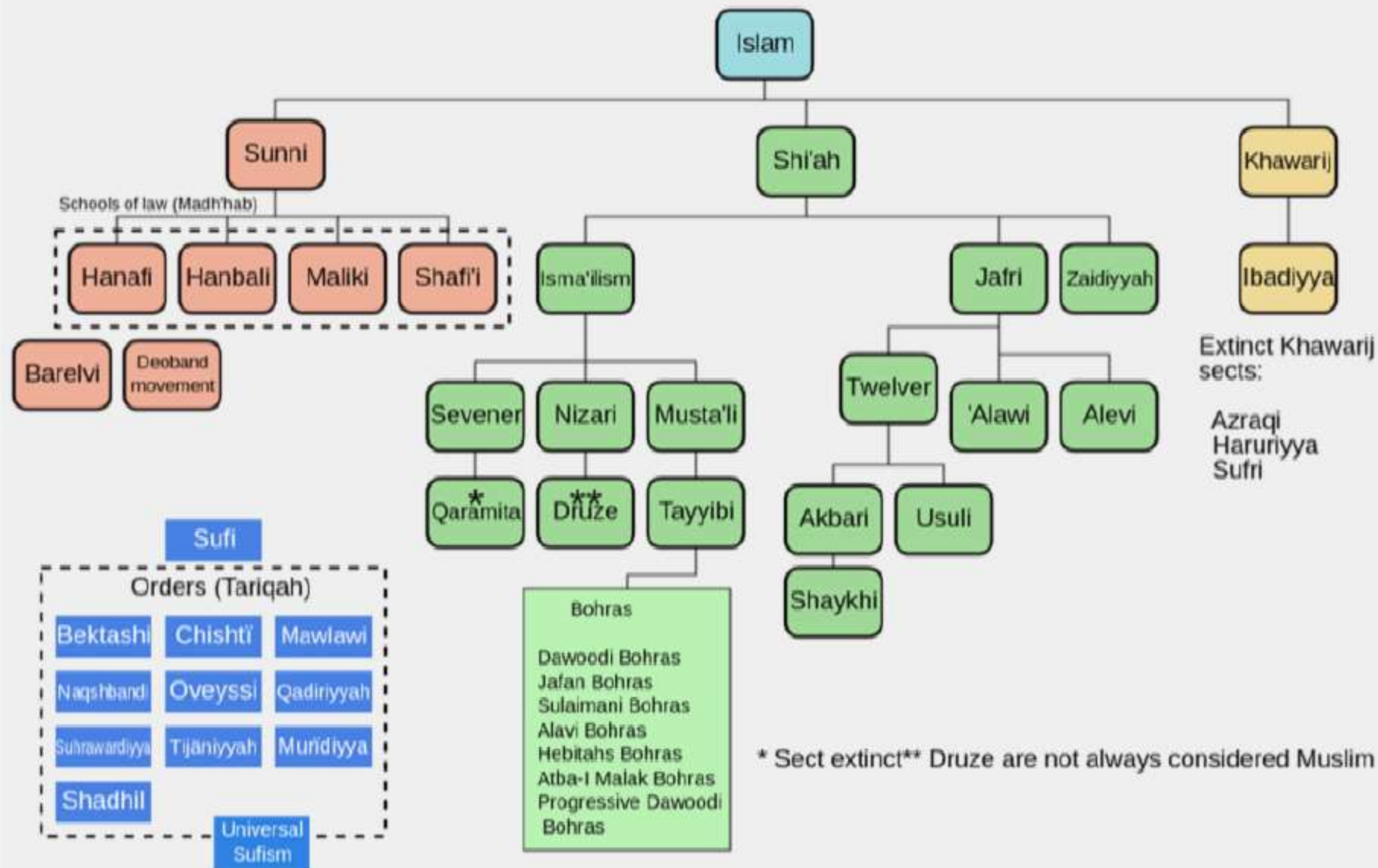
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- 1174-1250 AD – the Ayyubid Dynasty
- 1453-1924 AD – the Ottoman Empire

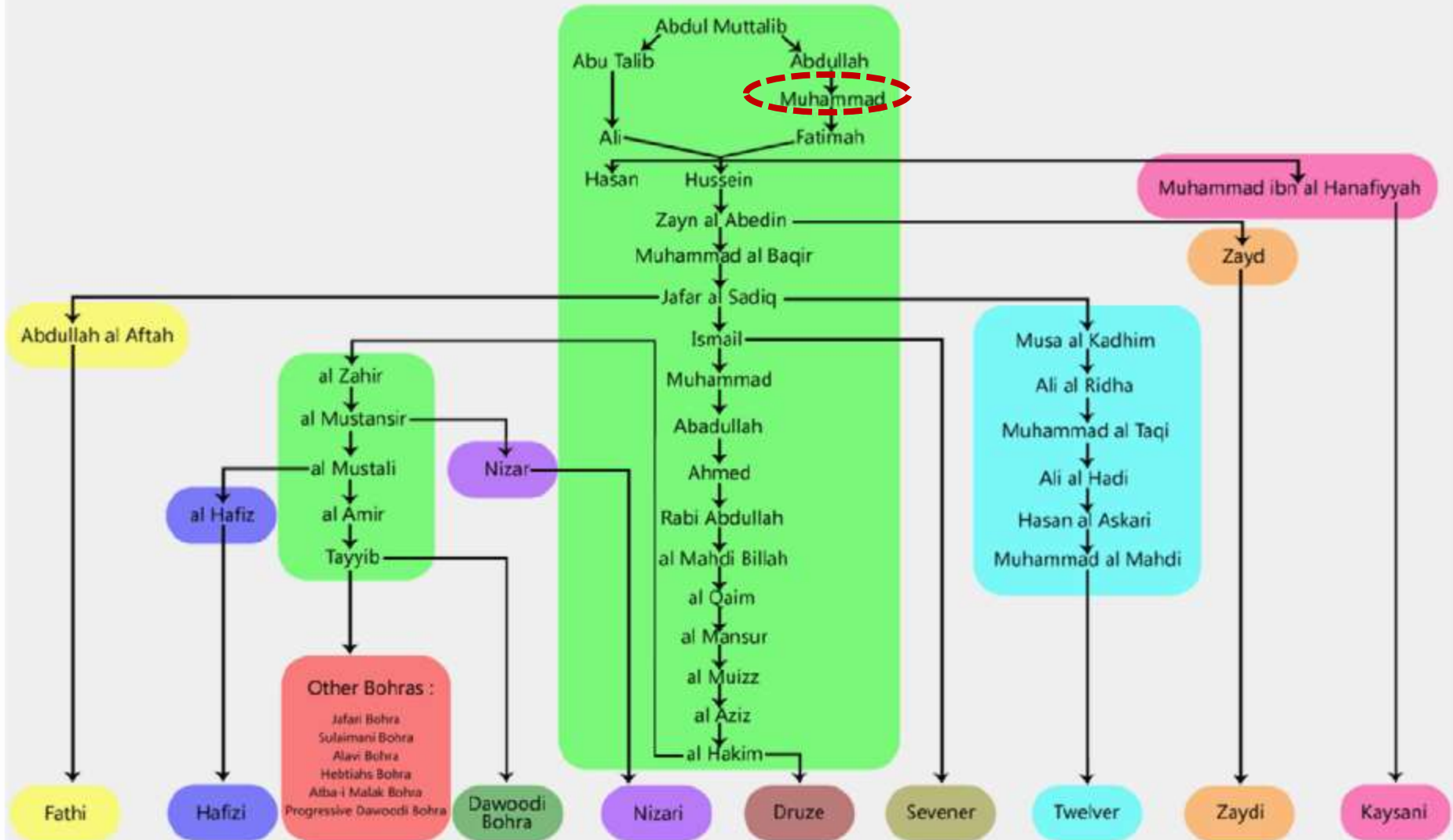




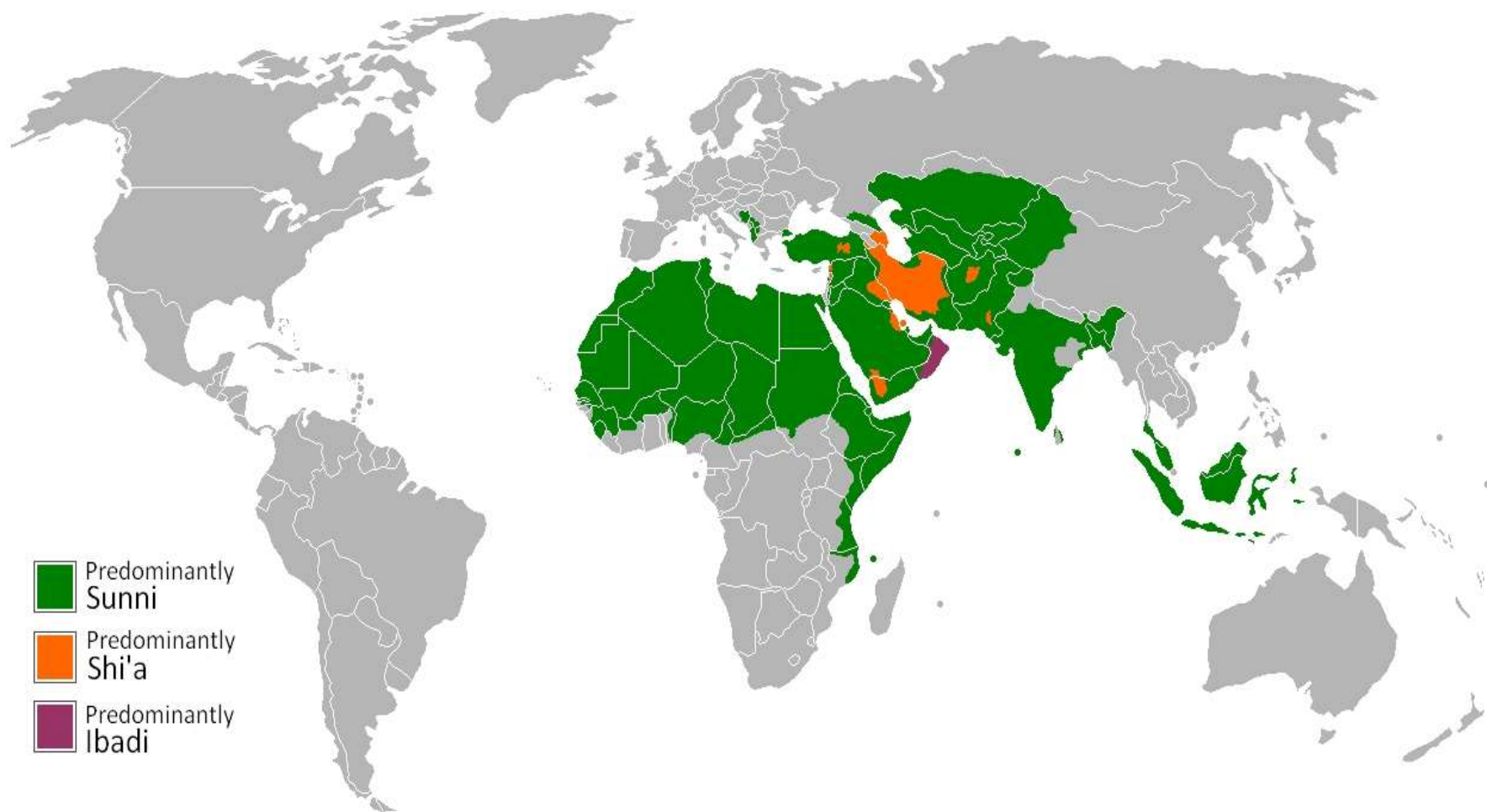
Extent of Islam under the Ottoman Empire (1453-1914)



Shia Islam



“Fiver”



Basic Beliefs of Islam

- 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.
- ***Islam*** means “*submission*,” to Allah and His will. A ***Muslim*** submits to Allah.

The Qur'an, the Sunnah, the Hadith

- ***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 Sunnah, the Hadith

- ***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 Qur'an, the Sunnah, the Hadith

- ***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 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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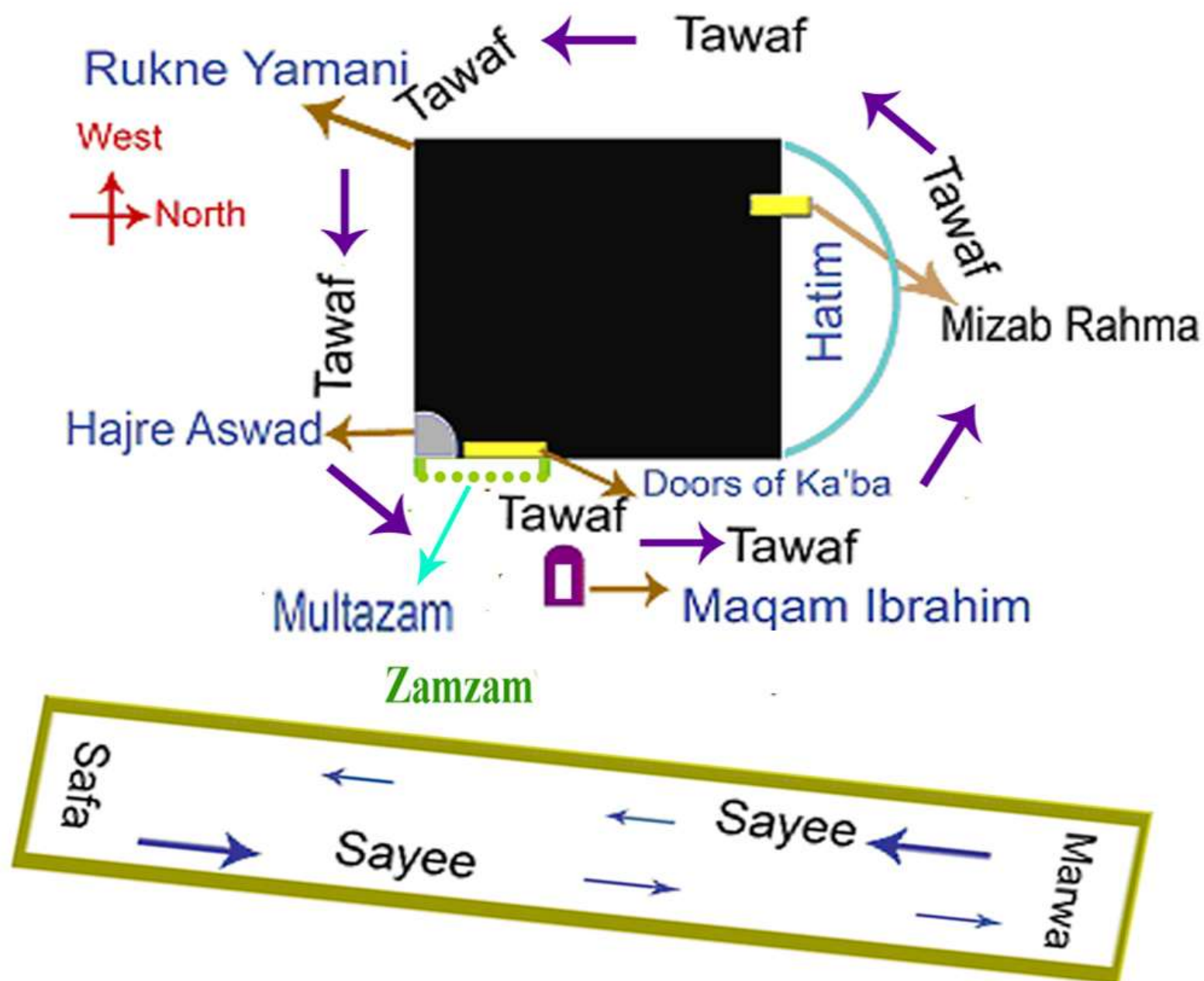
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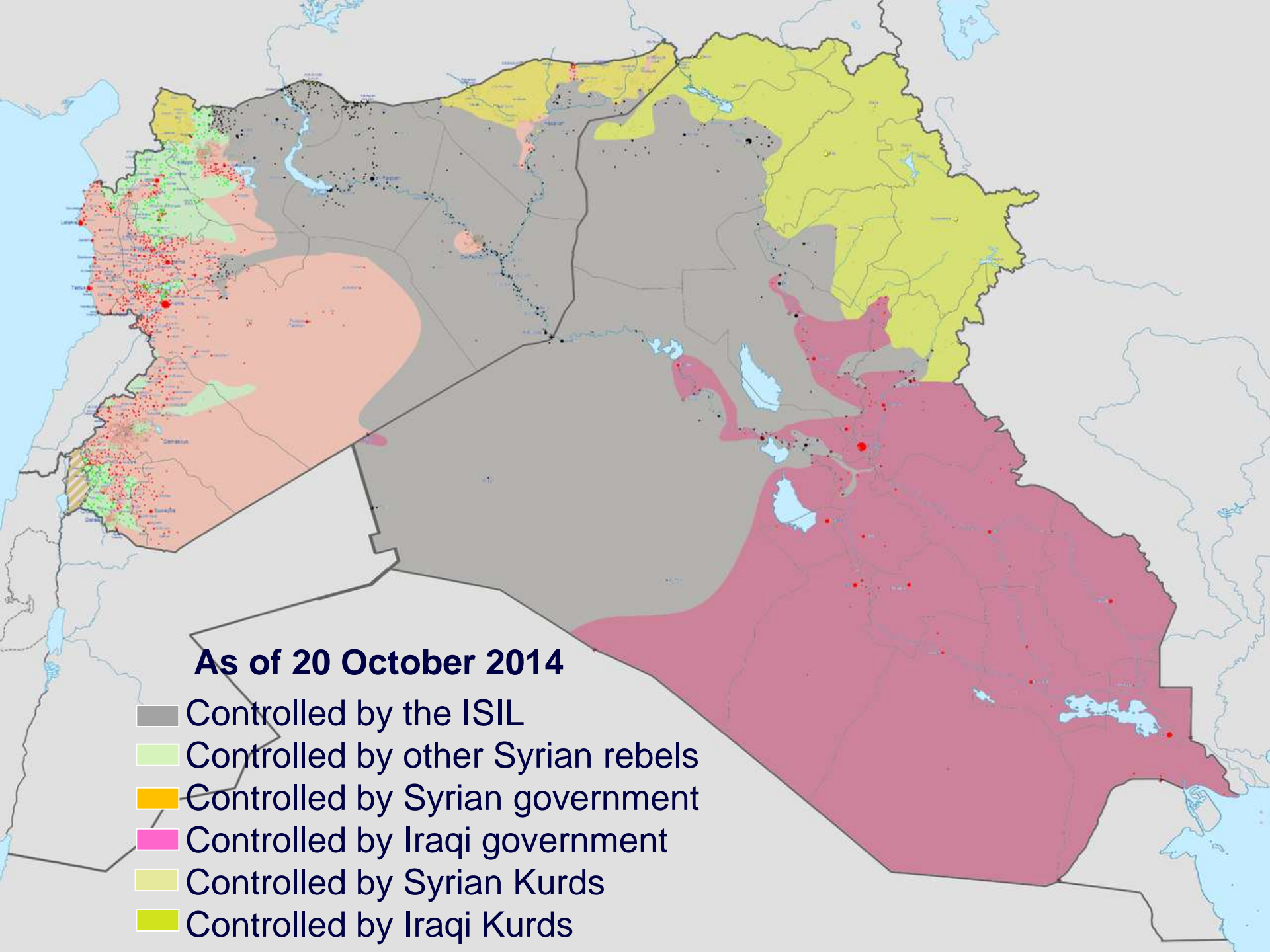


The Rise of Political Islam

- 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***.



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
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