

- In 636, World History shifts
 - 627 = Heraclius defeats Sassanid Persians
 - 629 – Muhammad declares *jihad* on Byzantium
 - NOTE: Bedouin tribes united; convert to Islam
 - 1st conflict = Battle of Mu'tah
 - War between Byzantium & Islam lasts until 1453
 - Four factors to Islam's rise
 - 1) Byzantines = exhaustion
 - 2) Population boom
 - 3) Bedouin = excellent fighters
 - 4) *Jihad*
 - 632 - Muhammad dies
 - Successor = Abu Bakr
 - Launches Ridda Wars
 - Invades Persia
 - Then invades Byzantium
 - Drives into Syria; seizes Damascus
 - Invades Palestine
 - 634, Abu Bakr dies
 - Appoints Umar successor
 - Umar = influential *caliph*
 - Creates 1st *caliphate*
 - Creates *Sharia*
 - Invades Levant
 - Captures Jerusalem
 - Conquers Egypt
 - Loss = critical blow to Byzantium
 - Also experience political instability
 - Heraclius dies; Constantine III & Heraklonas = co-rulers
 - Constantine dies; Heraklonas removed
 - Constans II put on throne
 - Umar shifted focus to Persians
 - Topples empire

- NOTE: Umar assassinated
- Uthman (644-656) succeeds Umar
 - Completes conquest of Persia
 - Invades North Africa
 - Triggers resentment
 - Assassinated by rebels
- Assassination divides Islam
 - First *Fitna*
 - Rebels want Ali
 - Islam = split: Sunnites & Shiites
- Ali accepted by both
 - Opposition to Ali
 - Forces of Aisha
 - Muawiya
 - Wars ends with Ali's assassination
- Muawiya proclaims self *caliph*
 - Founds Umayyad Dynasty)
 - Makes caliphate = hereditary
 - Sets sights on Constantinople
- By Constantine IV, Arabs reach heart
 - Defensive strategies of Heraclius
 - PLUS = Greek fire!
 - Constantinople slowly withers
 - Umayyads continue attack
 - New threats emerge
 - Slavs, Bulgars, Vikings
- Byzantine decline = Islamic rise
 - Umayyad expansion thru 750
 - Conquest = attempt to impose cultural unity
 - But political tensions arose
 - Muslims v. Non-Muslims
 - » Christians = majority; plus Jews

- » *Jizya*
- » Restrictions on *Dhimmi*
- » Many convert due to power of religious message
- » Also: *Taqiyya*; *Devshirme*; *Ridda*
- Arabs v. NonArabs
 - » Tensions within Islam
 - Arabs = privileged class
 - *Mawali* outnumber
 - » Resentment grew quickly
 - » Many *Mawali* = Sunnites
 - » Shiites also resent Umayyads
 - Husayn Ibn Ali rebels
 - Killed at Battle of Karbala
 - » *Mawali* & Shiites ally
 - Support Abbasids
- In Civil war, Abbasids defeat Umayyad
 - Abu al-Abbas defeats Marwan II
 - Abu al-Abbas = new *caliph*
- Abbasids overhaul society
 - Success from *mawali*
 - Creates imperial system
 - Growth of town life
 - Fostered economic prosperity
 - Promotes merchant class
 - Greatest Caliph = Al-Mansur
 - Builds Baghdad
 - Patronizes scholarship & arts
 - Islamic scholarship = height
 - Vastness of empire = Creative interchange
 - Baghdad rivals Constantinople
 - Abbasids = High point Islam
- Power not unchallenged by rivals
 - Umayyad “emirate” in Spain

- Fatimids “emirate in Egypt
- Division contrast to Islam’s unity
- Time of enormous prosperity
 - Goods from 3 continents
 - 3 capitols stimulates trade
 - Monopoly on slave trade
- 10th cen migration impacts both Byzantium & Islamc
 - Turkish peoples appear
 - Seljuk Turks blend Persian culture & Islamic teachings
 - 11th Cen drive into Abbasid Empire
 - Seljuks trigger Crusades
 - Byzantium shattered
 - Seljuks barely survive
 - Control smashed by the hordes of Möngke Khan
- Death stroke for both = Ottoman Turks
 - Founder = Osman I – his “dream”
 - In 1453, Mehmed II conquered Constantinople
 - Uses Orban bombards
 - Successors build empire