Dar al-Islam: The Islamic World and South Asia

Unit 1A
The Postclassical World (Answer the following in complete sentences on a sheet of paper)

▪ Religion: Why do we believe what we believe?
▪ What is culture? Provide examples of cultural traits/aspects in your answer?
▪ Can culture spread? Why/How or Why not?
The Classical World
Division of the Roman Empire
Bad Times for the Roman and Byzantine Empires
Division of the Roman Empire

Roman Empire: Falls c. 500CE

Byzantine Empire: Falls 1453 CE
Why did Islam and Arab political expansion happen at this time?

- **Characteristics of a society when government institutions break down? (List)**

- **Why would people turn away from old systems (social, political, cultural, and economic?)**

- **Why would people turn toward religion during times of chaos and disorder? Particularly new religions?**
Reading Quiz

• Pgs 156-166 (stop @ The Arab Empire of the Umayyads)

• Quiz Coming up – You are allowed to use reading notes on this quiz

• Notes must be handwritten OR printed (before class and not by me)

• I will take questions after roll
Get into groups of 3-4
Move desks – I want to see DISTINCT groups

Each group needs 1 sheet of paper.
Write everyone’s name on this sheet

Each group needs a facilitator to keep the group on task.

Each group needs a recorder to write answers.

Each group needs a traveler to share information with other groups

*Some of the answers may overlap and be used more than once*
Religion:
Personal Benefits

Religion:
Political Benefits

Religion:
Social/Cultural Benefits

Religion:
Economic Benefits
List 2 ways your group could improve efficiency and benefits of small group tasks

List 3 ways the class as a whole could improve
Have a seat

• We will get into new groups after roll and good things
List 2 ways your group could improve efficiency and benefits of small group tasks

List 3 ways the class as a whole could improve

List 2 ways I can improve efficiency and benefits of small group tasks
Pre-Islamic Arabia

- Nomadic herders and traders
- Impact on settlement patterns and methods of government/rule?
- Clans and clan rivalries
- Limited urbanization (cities serve as religious and/or trade centers)
The Arabian Peninsula:
Increased trade is a huge benefit for the Arabian peninsula in the Postclassical Era

What impact did increased trade have on cultural development/influence in the Arabian peninsula?
Cultural Diffusion

Cultural Diffusion

Cultural Diffusion

Cultural Diffusion

Cultural Diffusion

Cultural Diffusion
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bedouins</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Consistent struggle for resources and trade rights/goods</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Pre-Islamic Arabia:**
Increased trade is a huge benefit for the Arabian peninsula in the Postclassical Era

- Nomadic herders/traders led by Shayks (clan/tribe leaders)
  - *Impact of this lifestyle on society?*
  - *Why might this result in clan/tribe rivalries?*

Limited (but important urbanization) on the Arabian peninsula
Founded and led by the powerful **Umayyad** clan.

City was/is home to the **Ka’ba** (multiple spellings), a pre-Islamic religious site. Also a center for trade.

Today it is the most sacred site in Islam.

**Why was the location of Mecca ideal for the spread of ideas?**
- Less dominant trade center
- Political rivalries between multiple Bedouin and Jewish clans

Mecca was dominated by the Umayyad during the pre-Islamic period. Yathrib (Medina) had multiple groups competing for power.

Briefly compare and contrast the political power structure in the cities? Which city is likely stronger and more unified? Why?
Women in pre-Islamic Arabia

Greater social/economic role than women in many other contemporary well-developed cultures

Why?
Arts and Religion in pre-Islamic Arabia

Limited development....WHY????

• Polytheistic Animism (nature spirits)
• Ethics based on tribal custom and tradition rather than religious doctrine
The Birth of Islam

▪ Political Climate
  – Powerful empires: Byzantine (Roman) and Sassanid Persia

The Arabian Peninsula:
Based on the map and your reading, why might this region struggle to become powerful in the Postclassical Era?
The Birth of Islam

- Political Climate
  - Conflict on the Arabian Peninsula
  - Clan rivalries
    - Impact on political unity?
    - Is political unity (or lack of) a factor in the ultimate success of Islam?

Influential clans and their approximate locations on the Arabian Peninsula c. 600 CE
The Birth of Islam

The Jewish diaspora 70-500 CE

The spread of Christianity 300-600 CE
The Birth of Islam

▪ Political Climate

▪ Cultural Factors
  ▪ Cultural Diffusion and Trade Connection
  ▪ Regional Monotheistic Religions
Tonight’s Reading

• Pgs 166-180

• Quiz Wednesday

• Notes must be handwritten OR printed (before class and not by me)
STAT

- Have a seat
- No Macbooks at this time
- We will begin in a few minutes
Reading Quiz

• Pgs 166-180

• Quiz Coming up – You are allowed to use reading notes on this quiz

• Notes must be handwritten OR printed (before class and not by me)

• I will take questions after roll and Crash Course World History
Hang on to yesterday’s quiz

- We will look at these in a few minutes
### P.E.R.S.I.A.N Chart

- Organizational method often used in history
- Limited detail, main themes and ideas, only notes
- Some things may overlap
- Some sections may have less than others

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POLITICAL</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Leaders, Elites</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- State Structure</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- War</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Diplomacy, Treaties</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Courts, Laws</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECONOMIC</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Type of System</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Technology, Industry</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Trade, Commerce</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Capital/Money</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Types of Businesses</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELIGIOUS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Holy Books</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Beliefs, Teachings</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Conversion</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Sin/Salvation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Deities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCIAL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Family</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Gender Relations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Social Classes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Inequalities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Life Styles</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INTELLECTUAL, ARTS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Art, Music</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Writing, Literature</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Philosophy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Math &amp; Science</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Education</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEAR: GEOGRAPHY</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Location</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Physical</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Movement</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Human/Environment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Region</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Your Assignment

- Use pgs 166-192 to complete the Umayyad and Abassid P.E.R.S.I.A.N charts

- Individual work – no groups at this point

- Charts will be shared in small groups 24 hours from when we begin and then turned in for a grade – your grade is based on validity/importance of information and evidence of effort
  - (Up to 20/20 pts – basically a quiz grade)

- These will be very helpful in our upcoming comparative essay (next week)
**P.E.R.S.I.A.N Chart**

- Complete P.E.R.S.I.A.N charts
- Remember – This is individual work
- Use pgs 166-192
- You may listen to music while working on this assignment
- When you finish you may read or work on material for class
- We will discuss these in small groups at 10:40
Pick up the article & your PERSIAN Charts from the front and have a seat.

Read the article on your own. We will use these in a few minutes.
Turn in assessment when finished

- Tonight
  - Read pgs 182-192 (a bit of a change in schedule)
  - Reading Quiz Tomorrow
  - I have extra PERSIAN charts if you would like one
Umayyad Empire (661-750)

- Continued Arab/Islamic conquests
- Umayyad become both land and sea power in the Mediterranean
Umayyad Empire (661-750)

New capital at Damascus, Syria

Possible political/social issues with the size of the empire?
Umayyad Empire (661-750)

- Arab Aristocracy
  - Political and economic elite

- Bureaucracy
  - Government institutions designed to efficiently run the empire

- Cultural Assimilation (Acculturation)
  - Interactions, cultural exchange, intermarriage, voluntary conversions

Little effort to convert non-Arabs to Islam

- Mawali – non-Arab converts to Islam
- Dhimmi – “People of the book”
Family and Gender
- Polygamy
  - Men allowed multiple wives
  - Must be economically able to care for family
  - Formal marriage is encouraged

Women
- Increased social role as compared to other civilizations at the time

Outlaw of female infanticide
Legal rights of divorce, property ownership, and inheritance
Umayyad Empire (661-750)

- **Decline and Fall**
  - Decadent lifestyle of ruling elite did not correspond to Islamic faith
  - Alienation of religious subjects
  - Alienation of Arabs (not all enjoyed the spoils of war and expansion)
  - Alienation of minority groups

  - **Anti-Umayyad coalition formed** – led by *Abbasid* faction (Descended from one of Muhammad’s uncles)
  - Military defeat of Umayyad forces & massacre of Umayyad family
Tonight

- Read pgs 182-192 (a bit of a change in schedule)
- Reading Quiz Tomorrow
- I have extra PERSIAN charts if you would like one
Before we begin

- Review pgs 182-192
  - If you did not read the excerpt from One Thousand and One Nights on pg 178 please do so now

- I will take questions before the quiz
- You need paper for the open response on today’s quiz
Al-Andalus established by Abd al-Rahman I
Abbasid Empire (750-1258)

New Capital of the Abbasid Caliphate -- Baghdad
Abbasid Empire (750-1258)

- Characteristics of Early Rule
  - Arabization of the empire
  - Absolutist Caliphate
    - Adopts a more “Persian” style of rule
  - Bureaucracy grows
    - Wazir – Chief advisor, oversaw bureaucracy
  - Urbanization, Economic, and Agricultural Expansion
- Arabic language increasingly used across the empire
- Acceptance of non-Arab Muslims
- Active conversion efforts
- Equality among Muslims
- Growing sea trade
- Growth of merchant class
- Growth of landed gentry (Ayan)
- Skilled artisans -- guilds form
- Growth of slavery
Nature of the Abbasid Dynasty

▪ Diverse nature of administration (i.e. not exclusively Arab)
▪ Less focus on imperial expansion
▪ Dar al-Islam
  – The Islamic World
▪ Growth through military activity of autonomous Islamic forces
Abbasid Dynasty

- Impact of Trade?
  - Increased Urbanization
  - Growth of professional/educated classes
  - Advances in math, chemistry, astronomy, medicine, and cartography
Formation of a Hemispheric Trading Zone

- Historical precedent of Arabic trade
- *Dar al-Islam* encompasses silk routes
  - Impact?
- Camel caravans
- Maritime trade
Banking and Trade

- Scale of trade causes banks to develop
  - *Sakk* ("check") Credit is developed

- Uniformity of Islamic law throughout *dar al-Islam* promotes trade
Abbasid Advances

- “Houses of Wisdom”
  - 830s opened as depositories for books
  - Served as centers for learning
  - Translated Greek and Roman works
Abbasid Advances

- Math and Science
  - Advanced Greek and Indian scholarship
  - Arabic Numbering (Actually from India)
  - Algebra
  - Astronomy
  - Chemistry
  - Medicine (1st Hospitals)
The Seeds of Abbasid Decline

- Political/Religious Divide
- Decadent lifestyle of Abbasid elites
- Succession issues and civil war
- Decline in the role of Caliph = Rise in power of advisors and outside forces
Increased Independence and Foreign Threats

- 900s AD -- Abbasid power declines
  - European Crusades
  - Egypt Independence – Fatimid/Mamluk rule
  - Buyid Dynasty (Persian) and Seljuk Turks
  - Non-Arab Muslims – Sultans use Abbasid Caliphs as figureheads
- Mongols
GEOGRAPHY SKILLBUILDER
INTERPRETING MAPS

Location: Which group took control of most of the Abbasids' eastern lands?
Mongol Conquests