Why It Matters
As civilizations and empires emerged in different parts of the world, new political systems, religions, arts, and sciences developed. These new systems and these new ways of life continue to influence societies in the modern world.
MAKING CONNECTIONS

How can cities survive for thousands of years?

Damascus may be the oldest continuously inhabited city in the world and was conquered dozens of times. Caravan routes converged on the city, making it an important trade center. Today the marketplace in the old city sells food and clothing as well as the traditional handicrafts—high quality textiles, leather goods, filigreed gold, silver objects, inlaid wooden, copper, and brass articles—that made the city famous.

• What might have been traded in addition to goods?
• What makes cities survive?

The World of Islam 600–1500

Section 1 The Rise of Islam
Section 2 The Arab Empire and Its Successors
Section 3 Islamic Civilization
Section 4 The Culture of Islam

Islamic World

630 Muhammad returns to Makkah
732 Charles Martel defeats Arab forces at Battle of Tours
852 Great Mosque of Sāmarrā’ finished

618 Tang dynasty begins in China
c. 800 Civilization at Teotihuacán collapses

HIP/Art Resource, NY, Alison Wright/CORBIS
Chapter Overview—Visit glencoe.com to preview Chapter 6.

- **1187**: Saladin’s army invades Jerusalem
- **1382**: Ibn-Khaldun teaches at university in Cairo
- **1347**: Plague spreads to Italy and France

**Analyzing** Create a Folded Chart to record the advancements made by Muslims in philosophy, mathematics, science, medicine, art, and architecture. Names, places, and dates should be included on the chart.

**History ONLINE**
Chapter Overview—Visit glencoe.com to preview Chapter 6.
The Rise of Islam

Early Arabs were nomads who believed in many gods. In the seventh century, the Arabian prophet Muhammad founded the Islamic religion. Today, more than one billion people around the world are Muslims, and Islam is one of the world’s leading faiths. Over a thousand years after Islam began, the cultural, artistic, and scientific contributions of Muslims continue to enrich our daily lives.

The Arabs

After the domestication of the camel, the trade routes of the Arabs expanded. Communities prospered, but tension among the rich and poor increased.

HISTORY & YOU How does political disorder affect where you travel? Learn how political disorder affected trade routes in early Southwest Asia.

Beginning with the Sumerians and continuing with the Assyrians, the Babylonians, the Persians, and the brief conquests of Alexander the Great, Western Asia has given birth to some of the most powerful civilizations in history. In the seventh century, another force—the Arabs—arose in the Arabian Peninsula and spread their influence throughout Western Asia and beyond.

Like the Hebrews and the Assyrians, the Arabs were a Semitic-speaking people who lived in the Arabian Peninsula, a desert land sorely lacking in rivers and lakes. The Arabs were nomads who, because of their hostile surroundings, moved constantly to find water and food for their animals.

Survival in such a harsh environment was not easy, and the Arabs organized into tribes to help one another. Each tribe was ruled by a sheikh (SHAYK) who was chosen from one of the leading families by a council of elders. Although each tribe was independent, all the tribes were loosely connected to one another.

The Arabs lived as farmers and shepherders on the oases and rain-fed areas of the Arabian Peninsula. After the camel was domesticated in the first millennium B.C., the Arabs populated more of the desert. They also expanded the caravan trade into these regions. Towns developed along the routes as the Arabs became major carriers of goods between the Indian Ocean and the Mediterranean, where the Silk Road ended.

Most early Arabs were polytheistic—they believed in many gods. The Arabs recognized a supreme god named Allah (Allah is Arabic for “God”), but they also believed in other tribal gods. The Arabs trace their ancestors to Abraham and his son Ishmael, who were believed to have built a house of worship called the Kaaba at
Makkah (Mecca). A sacred stone, called the Black Stone, is the cornerstone of the Kaaba. The Arabs revered the Kaaba (KAH•buh) for its association with Abraham. The Arabian Peninsula took on a new importance when political disorder in Mesopotamia and Egypt made the usual trade routes in Southwest Asia too dangerous to travel. A safer route through Makkah to present-day Yemen and then by ship across the Indian Ocean became popular.

Camel caravans transported highly prized frankincense and myrrh along this route. The journey was long and camels had to stop over 60 times.

Communities along this route prospered from the increased trade. Tensions arose, however, as increasingly wealthy merchants showed little concern for the welfare of poorer clans people and slaves.

Reading Check Explaining Why did the communities on the Arabian Peninsula prosper?

The Life of Muhammad

MAIN IDEA The revelations of Muhammad led to the creation of the Islamic religion.

HISTORY & YOU What do you do when people behave unfairly? Learn how Muhammad dealt with tension in his community.

Into this world of tension stepped a man named Muhammad. Born in Makkah to a merchant family, he was orphaned at five. He grew up to become a caravan manager and married a rich widow named Khadija. Over time, Muhammad became troubled by the growing gap between the generosity of most Makkans and the greediness of the wealthy elite. Deeply worried, he began to visit the hills to meditate. During one of these visits, Muslims believe, Muhammad received revelations from God. According to Islamic teachings, the messages were given by the angel Gabriel.
Gabriel told Muhammad to recite what he heard. Muhammad came to believe that Allah had already revealed himself through Moses and Jesus—and thus through the Hebrew and Christian traditions. He believed, however, that the final revelations of Allah were now being given to him. Out of these revelations, which were eventually written down, came the Quran, the holy book of the religion of Islam. The word Islam means “peace through submission to the will of Allah.” The Quran contains the ethical guidelines and laws by which the followers of Allah are to live. Those who practice the religion of Islam are called Muslims. Islam has only one God, Allah, and Muhammad is God’s prophet.

Muhammad returned home after receiving the revelations and reflected on his experience. His wife, Khadija, urged him to follow Gabriel’s message, and she became the first convert to Islam. Muhammad then set out to convince the people of Makkah of the truth of the revelations. Many were surprised at Muhammad’s claims to be a prophet. The wealthy feared that his attacks on corrupt society would upset the established social and political order. After three years of preaching, he had only 30 followers. Muhammad was discouraged by the persecution of his followers, as well as by the Makkans’ failure to accept his message.

In 622, the year 1 of the Islamic calendar, he and his supporters left Makkah and moved north to Yathrib, later renamed Madinah (Medina; “city of the prophet”). The journey to Madinah is known as the Hijrah (HIH•jruh). Muhammad began to win support from people in Madinah, as well as from Arabs in the desert, known as bedouin. These groups formed the first community of practicing Muslims.

Submission to the will of Allah meant submission to his prophet, Muhammad. For this reason, Muhammad soon became both a religious and a political leader. His political and military skills enabled him to put together a reliable military force to defend himself and his followers. In 630, Muhammad returned to Makkah with 10,000 men. After the city surrendered, and most of the people converted to Islam, Muhammad declared the Kaaba a sacred shrine of Islam. Two years after his triumphant return to Makkah, just as Islam was spreading through the Arabian Peninsula, Muhammad died. All Muslims are encouraged to make a pilgrimage to Makkah, known as the hajj (HAJ), if possible.

The Five Pillars of Islam

Belief (Shahaadatayn)

Believing there is no deity but the One God, and Muhammad is his messenger

Prayer (Salāh)

Performing the prescribed prayers five times a day

Charity (Zakaah)

Giving part of one’s wealth to the poor (“giving alms”)

Fasting (Siyamm)

Refraining from food and drink from dawn to sunset through the month of Ramadan

Pilgrimage (Hajj)

Making a pilgrimage to Makkah once in a lifetime

Muslims practice acts of worship called the Five Pillars of Islam.

1. **Describing** What behaviors are encouraged by the Five Pillars of Islam?
The Teachings of Muhammad

Islam, like Christianity and Judaism, is a monotheistic religion. Islam is also both a set of religious beliefs and a whole way of life.

**HISTORY & YOU** What principles of behavior do you follow? Who or what influences your behavior? Learn how Muslims practice their principles of behavior.

Like Christianity and Judaism, Islam is a monotheistic religion. Allah is the all-powerful being who created the universe and everything in it. Islam emphasizes salvation and offers the hope of an afterlife. Those who desire to achieve life after death must subject themselves to the will of Allah.

Unlike Christianity, Islam does not believe that its first preacher was divine. Muhammad is considered a prophet, similar to Moses, but he was also a man like other men. Muslims believe that because humans rejected Allah’s earlier messengers, Allah sent his final revelation through Muhammad.

Islam is a direct and simple faith, stressing the need to obey the will of Allah. This means practicing acts of worship known as the **Five Pillars of Islam**: belief, prayer, charity, fasting, and pilgrimage. Muslims believe there is no deity but the One God, and Muhammad is his messenger (belief). They perform prescribed prayers five times a day (prayer) and give part of their wealth to the poor (charity). During Ramadan, Muslims refrain from food and drink from dawn to sunset (fasting). Finally, believers are expected to make a pilgrimage to Makkah at least once in their lifetime (pilgrimage). The faithful who follow the law go to an eternal paradise.

Islam is not just a set of religious beliefs but a way of life as well. After Muhammad’s death, Muslim scholars developed a law code known as the **shari’ah** (shuh•REE•uh). It provides believers with a set of practical laws to regulate their daily lives. It is based on scholars’ interpretations of the Quran and the example set by Muhammad in his life. The **shari’ah** applies the teachings of the Quran to daily life. It regulates all aspects of Muslim life including family life, business practice, government, and moral conduct. The **shari’ah** does not separate religious matters from civil or political law.

Believers are expected to follow sound principles for behavior. In addition to acts of worship called the Five Pillars, Muslims must practice honesty and justice in dealing with others. Muslims are forbidden to gamble, eat pork, drink alcoholic beverages, or engage in dishonest behavior. Family life is based on marriage.

**Vocabulary**
1. Explain the significance of: Arabian Peninsula, sheikh, Allah, Makkah, Muhammad, Khadija, revelations, Quran, Islam, submission, Muslims, Madinah, Hijrah, bedouin, hajj, Five Pillars of Islam, shari’ah.

**Main Ideas**
2. Locate the expanded trade routes of the early Arab Empire.
3. List the Five Pillars of Islam.
4. Create a chart like the one below showing the changes that Islam brought to the peoples of the Arabian Peninsula.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Early Arabs</th>
<th>Islam</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</table>

**Critical Thinking**
5. Discussing What problems did Muhammad encounter while trying to spread the message of Islam?
6. The BIG Idea Contrasting How is the **shari’ah** different from the Five Pillars of Islam?
7. Analyzing Visuals Examine the photograph of the Kaaba on page 189. Why would the curtain covering the Kaaba be black? How are the people arranged as they pray?

**Writing About History**
8. Descriptive Writing Imagine that you are a former bedouin who now lives in Makkah. Write a letter to your bedouin cousin describing how your life has changed since the move to the city.
The Arab Empire and Its Successors

**GUIDE TO READING**

**The BIG Idea**

**Order and Security** After the death of Muhammad, his successors organized the Arabs and set in motion a great expansion.

**Content Vocabulary**
- caliph (p. 192)
- jihad (p. 192)
- Shia (p. 194)
- Sunni (p. 194)
- vizier (p. 196)
- sultan (p. 197)
- mosque (p. 199)

**Academic Vocabulary**
- oriented (p. 192)
- complex (p. 196)

**People, Places, and Events**
- Abū Bakr (p. 192)
- Mu‘āwiyah (p. 194)
- Umayyad dynasty (p. 194)
- Battle of Tours (p. 194)
- Abbasid dynasty (p. 196)
- Hārūn a-Rashid (p. 196)
- Seljuk Turks (p. 197)
- Saladin (p. 198)
- Mongols (p. 199)

**Reading Strategy**

**Comparing** As you read, create a chart like the one below to help you study. Compare and contrast the characteristics of the early caliphs with the caliphs of the Umayyad and Abbasid dynasties.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Early Caliphs</th>
<th>Caliphs of the Umayyad and Abbasid Dynasties</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**The Arab Empire and Its Successors**

The successors to Muhammad were known as caliphs, rulers who became the secular and spiritual leaders of the Islamic community. As the empire grew, caliphs became more like kings or emperors who wore expensive and elaborate clothes and jewels. This finery was an indication of the strength and power of the growing Arab Empire.

**Creation of an Arab Empire**

Islam grew under the rule of Muhammad’s successors, but there was constant tension over choosing who should rule the empire.

**HISTORY & YOU** What happens when people are dissatisfied with the leaders in your community? Learn how dissatisfaction with leadership caused problems in the Islamic Empire.

Muhammad had been accepted as both the political and religious leader of the Islamic community. The death of Muhammad left his followers with a problem: Muhammad had never named a successor. Although he had several daughters, he had left no son. In a male- oriented society, who would lead the community of the faithful?

Shortly after Muhammad’s death, some of his closest followers chose Abū Bakr (uh•BOO BA•kuhr), a wealthy merchant and Muhammad’s father-in-law, to be their leader. Abū Bakr had been Muhammad’s companion on the journey to Madinah in 622. There Abū Bakr had functioned as Muhammad’s chief adviser and also led the public prayers during Muhammad’s final illness. In 632 Abū Bakr was named caliph (KAY•luhf), or successor to Muhammad.

**Arab Conquest**

Under Abū Bakr’s leadership, the Islamic movement began to grow. He was able to suppress tribal political and religious uprisings, thereby uniting the Muslim world. As the Romans had slowly conquered Italy, so also the Muslims expanded over Arabia, and beyond.

Muhammad had overcome military efforts by the early Makkans to defeat his movement. The Quran permitted fair, defensive warfare as jihad (jih•HAHD), or “struggle in the way of God.” Muhammad’s successors expanded their territory.

Unified under Abū Bakr, the Arabs began to turn the energy they had once directed toward each other against neighboring peoples. At Yarmūk in 636, the Arab army defeated the Byzantine army in
the midst of a dust storm that enabled the Arabs to take their enemy by surprise. Four years later, they took control of the Byzantine province of Syria. By 642, Egypt and other areas of northern Africa had been added to the new Arab Empire. To the east, the Arabs had conquered the entire Persian Empire by 650.

The Arabs, led by a series of brilliant generals, had put together a large, dedicated army. The courage of the Arab soldiers was enhanced by the belief that Muslim warriors were assured a place in paradise if they died in battle.

Arab Rule

Early caliphs ruled their far-flung empire from Madinah. After Abū Bakr died, problems arose over who should become the next caliph. There were no clear successors to Abū Bakr, and the first two caliphs to rule after his death were assassinated. In 656, Ali, Muhammad’s son-in-law and one of the first converts to Islam, was chosen to be caliph, but he too was assassinated after ruling for five years.

In the conquered territories, life went on much as it had done before. Arab administrators were tolerant, sometimes even allowing local officials to continue to govern. The conquered people were not forced to convert to Islam, though some conversions occurred.

Some Christians experienced better treatment than they had under Byzantine rule. Those who chose not to convert were required only to be loyal to Muslim rule and to pay taxes.

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**Reading Check**

Explaining How did the various achievements and policies of Muhammad’s successors help the Arab world to grow?
The Umayyads

Under the rule of the Umayyad dynasty, the Islamic Empire made many conquests, but there were internal struggles that led to a division of the community.

HISTORY & YOU How have governments divided earlier civilizations you have studied? Learn the cause of the split of Islam.

In 661, the general Mu‘awiyah (moo•UH•wee•uh), the governor of Syria and one of Ali’s chief rivals, became caliph. He was known for one outstanding virtue: he used force only when absolutely necessary. As he said, “I never use my sword when my whip will do, nor my whip when my tongue will do.”

Mu‘awiyah moved quickly to make the office of caliph, called the caliphate, hereditary in his own family. In doing this, he established the Umayyad (oo•MY•uhd) dynasty. He then moved the capital of the Arab Empire from Madinah to Damascus, in Syria.

Umayyad Conquests

At the beginning of the eighth century, the Arabs carried out new attacks at both the eastern and western ends of the Mediterranean world. Arab armies moved across North Africa and conquered and converted the Berbers, a pastoral people living along the Mediterranean coast.

Around 710, combined Berber and Arab forces crossed the Strait of Gibraltar and occupied southern Spain. By 725, most of Spain had become a Muslim state with its center at Córdoba. In 732, however, Arab forces were defeated at the Battle of Tours in Gaul (now France). Arab expansion in Europe came to a halt.

In 717, another Muslim force had launched an attack on Constantinople with the hope of defeating the Byzantine Empire. The Byzantines survived, however, by destroying the Muslim fleet. This created an uneasy frontier in southern Asia Minor between the Byzantine Empire and the Islamic world.

By 750, the Arab advance had finally come to an end, but not before the south-ern and eastern Mediterranean parts of the old Roman Empire had been conquered. Arab power also extended to the east in Mesopotamia and Persia and northward into central Asia.

The Umayyad dynasty at Damascus now ruled an enormous empire. Expansion had brought not only great wealth and new ethnic groups into the fold of Islam, but also contact with other civilizations. As a result, the new Arab Empire would be influenced by Byzantine culture, as well as that of the Persians.

A Split in Islam

In spite of Umayyad successes, internal struggles threatened the empire’s stability. Many Muslims of non-Arab background, such as Persians and Byzantines, did not like the way local administrators favored the Arabs. Financial troubles further weakened the Umayyad dynasty. Also, since the empire was so vast, it was difficult to rule from a capital so far from the frontiers. These distant regions began to develop their own power, hostile to the caliphate.

An especially important revolt took place in present-day Iraq early in the Umayyad period. It was led by Hussein (hoo•SAYN), second son of Ali—the son-in-law of Muhammad.

Hussein encouraged his followers to rise up against Umayyad rule in 680. He set off to do battle, but his soldiers defected, leaving him with an army of 72 warriors against 10,000 Umayyad soldiers. Hussein’s tiny force fought courageously, but all died.

This struggle led to a split of Islam into two groups. The Shia (SHEE•AH) Muslims accept only the descendants of Ali as the true rulers of Islam. The Sunni (SU•NEE) Muslims did not all agree with Umayyad rule but accepted the Umayyads as rulers, or caliphs. This political split led to the development of two branches of Muslims that persist to the present. The Sunnis are a majority in the Muslim world, but most of the people in Iraq and neighboring Iran consider themselves to be Shia.

Reading Check Evaluating What weakness in Arab rule led to revolts against the Umayyads?
Encouraged by their success in Spain, Arab armies crossed the Pyrenees and marched northward into southern France. The forces led by ‘Abd a-Rahmān easily captured Bordeaux in Aquitania, and then continued north toward Poitiers and Tours.

The defeated Duke of Aquitaine called on Charles Martel, the Frankish mayor of Austrasia, to help stop the Arab advance. In October 732, Charles’s army met ‘Abd a-Rahmān’s forces on the road between Poitiers and Tours. The Franks killed ‘Abd a-Rahmān and routed the Arabs, who fled south. The Franks’ defeat of Arab forces at the Battle of Tours ended Arab expansion in Europe.

**1. Movement** What do you think influenced the direction of the Arab campaigns into Gaul (modern-day France)?

**2. Regions** After the collapse of Roman rule, France was divided into regions. Why might the Arabs have considered this situation advantageous?
The Abbasid Dynasty

Under the Abbasid dynasty, Islam experienced prosperity and a new cultural outlook.

Resentment against Umayyad rule grew among non-Arab Muslims who resented the favoritism shown to Arabs. The Umayyads also helped to bring about their end by corrupt behavior. Abū al-ʿĀbbās, a descendant of Muhammad’s uncle, overthrew the Umayyad dynasty in 750 and set up the Abbasid (uh•BA•suhd) dynasty, which lasted until 1258.

Abbasid Rule

In 762, the Abbasids built a new capital city at Baghdad, on the Tigris River, far to the east of the Umayyad capital at Damascus. Baghdad’s location took advantage of river traffic in the Persian Gulf and the caravan route from the Mediterranean to central Asia.

The move eastward increased Persian influence and encouraged a new cultural outlook. Under the Umayyads, warriors had been seen as the ideal citizens. Under the Abbasids, judges, merchants, and government officials were the new heroes. The Abbasid rulers tried to break down the distinctions between Arab and non-Arab Muslims. This change opened Islamic culture to the influence of the civilizations they had conquered. All Muslims, regardless of ethnic background, could now hold both civil and military offices. Many Arabs began to intermarry with conquered peoples.

The best known of the caliphs of the time was Hārūn a-Rashīd (ha•ROON ahr•rah•SHEED), whose reign is often described as the golden age of the Abbasid caliphate. Hārūn a-Rashīd was known for his charity, and he also lavished support on artists and writers. His son al-Maʾmūn (ahl•mah•MOON) was a great patron of learning. He supported the study of astronomy and created a foundation for translating classical Greek works.

This was a period of growing prosperity.

The Arabs had conquered many of the richest provinces of the Roman Empire, and they now controlled the trade routes to the East. Baghdad became the center of an enormous trade empire that extended into Asia, Africa, and Europe, adding to the riches of the Islamic world.

Under the Abbasids, the caliph began to act more regally. The bureaucracy assisting the caliph in administering the empire grew more complex. A council headed by a prime minister, known as a vizier, advised the caliph. During council meetings, the caliph sat behind a screen listening to the council’s discussions and then whispered his orders to the vizier.

Decline and Division

Despite its prosperity, all was not well in the empire of the Abbasids. There was much fighting over the succession to the caliphate. When Hārūn a-Rashīd died, his two sons fought to succeed him, almost destroying the city of Baghdad.

Vast wealth gave rise to financial corruption. Members of Hārūn a-Rashīd’s clan were given large sums of money from the state treasury. His wife was reported to have spent vast amounts on a pilgrimage to Makkah.

The shortage of qualified Arabs for key positions in the army and the civil service also contributed to the decline of the Abbasids. Caliphs began to recruit officials from among the non-Arab peoples within the empire, such as Persians and Turks. These people were trained to serve the caliphs, but gradually they began to dominate the army and the bureaucracy.

Eventually, rulers of the provinces of the Abbasid Empire began to break away from the central authority and establish independent dynasties. Spain had established its own caliphate when a prince of the Umayyad dynasty fled there in 750. Morocco became independent, and a new dynasty under the Fatimids was established in Egypt, with its capital at Cairo, in 973. The Muslim Empire was now politically divided.

✓ Reading Check  Describing  What changes did the Abbasid rulers bring to the world of Islam?
Seljuk Turks and the Crusades

**MAIN IDEA** Political turmoil disrupted Southwest Asia after the Seljuk Turks became a powerful military force.

**HISTORY & YOU** Have you ever had to challenge a leader? Learn how the Byzantines and the Christian states of Europe challenged the Seljuk Turks.

The Fatimid dynasty in Egypt soon became the dynamic center of Islamic civilization. From their position in the heart of the Nile delta, the Fatimids played a major role in trade from the Mediterranean to the Red Sea. They created a strong army by hiring nonnative soldiers. One such group was the Seljuk (SEHL•JOOK) Turks.

The Seljuk Turks

The Seljuk Turks were a nomadic people from central Asia. They had converted to Islam and prospered as soldiers for the Abbasid caliphate. As the Abbasids grew weaker, the Seljuk Turks grew stronger, moving gradually into Iran and Armenia. By the eleventh century, they had taken over the eastern provinces of the Abbasid Empire.

In 1055, a Turkish leader captured Baghdad and took command of the empire. His title was sultan—or “holder of power.” The Abbasid caliph was still the chief religious authority, but, after they captured Baghdad, the Seljuk Turks held the real military and political power of the state.

By the second half of the eleventh century, the Seljuks were putting military pressure on the Byzantine Empire. In 1071, the Byzantines foolishly challenged the Turks, and the Byzantine army was routed at Manzikert in modern-day eastern Turkey. The Turks now took over most of the Anatolian Peninsula. In desperation, the Byzantine Empire turned to the West for help.
The Crusades

The Byzantine emperor Alexius I asked the Christian states of Europe for help against the Turks. Because the Christian states and the Islamic world feared and disliked each other, many Europeans agreed, beginning a series of crusades in 1096.

At first, Muslim rulers lost to the invading crusaders, who conquered areas and established crusader states. In 1169, however, Saladin, a new Muslim ruler, took control of Egypt and made himself sultan, thus ending the Fatimid dynasty. He also established control over Syria and took the offensive against the Christian states in the area.

In 1187, Saladin’s army invaded the kingdom of Jerusalem and destroyed the Christian forces there. The Christians were left with only a handful of fortresses along the coast of Palestine. Saladin did not allow a massacre of the population. He even allowed Christian religious services to continue.

The Crusades had little lasting impact on Southwest Asia, except to breed centuries of mistrust between Muslims and Christians. Far more important was the threat posed by new invaders—the Mongols.

Reading Check
Explaining How did the Seljuk Turks affect Southwest Asia?

The Loom of History, Herbert J. Muller, 1958

“...another kind of explanation can be given for the acceptance of Arab rule by the population of the conquered countries. To most of them it did not matter whether they were ruled by Iranians, Greeks or Arabs. Government impinged for the most part on the life of cities and . . . city-dwellers might not care much who ruled them, provided they were secure, at peace and reasonably taxed. The people of the countryside . . . lived under their own chiefs and . . . with their own customs, and it made little difference to them who ruled the cities. For some, the replacement of Greeks and Iranians by Arabs even offered advantages.”


Opposing Viewpoints
How Did the Arab Empire Succeed?

Primary Source 1

“They were aided by the weakness of the two contemporary empires, the Sassanian (Persian) and the Byzantine, which had largely exhausted themselves by their wars on one another... Nor were these Arabs simply zealots fired by the ideals of a Holy War. They were by long tradition tough fighters, accustomed to raiding out of hunger and want; many or perhaps even most of them were not ardent followers of Mohammed. Yet there can be little question that what got the Arabs started, and kept them going, was mainly the personality and the teaching of the Prophet.”

—The Loom of History, Herbert J. Muller, 1958

Primary Source 2

“Perhaps ... another kind of explanation can be given for the acceptance of Arab rule by the population of the conquered countries. To most of them it did not matter whether they were ruled by Iranians, Greeks or Arabs. Government impinged for the most part on the life of cities and . . . city-dwellers might not care much who ruled them, provided they were secure, at peace and reasonably taxed. The people of the countryside . . . lived under their own chiefs and . . . with their own customs, and it made little difference to them who ruled the cities. For some, the replacement of Greeks and Iranians by Arabs even offered advantages.”


Document-Based Questions

During the early eighth century, the Muslims swiftly extended their empire, conquering southwest Asia.

1. **Drawing Conclusions** Do you believe that most people easily accepted outside rule as Hourani suggests?
2. **Making Inferences** Was the success of the Arabs due to religious fervor, military strength, or other reasons?
The Mongols

The violent invasion of the Mongols destroyed the old Islamic Empire established by the Arabs and created a new center of Islamic civilization in Cairo, Egypt.

**HISTORY & YOU** How can one aggressive group terrify a community? Where has this happened in your state or country? Learn how the Mongols’ aggression created terror.

The Mongols were a pastoral, horse-riding people who swept out of the Gobi in the early thirteenth century to seize control over much of the known world (see Chapter 8). Unlike the Seljuk Turks, the Mongols were not Muslims. As nomadic peoples, they often found it difficult to adapt to the settled conditions they found in major cities in the region. These invaders were destructive in their conquests. They burned cities to the ground, destroyed dams, and reduced farming villages to the point of mass starvation. Their goal was to create such terror that people would not fight back.

Beginning with the advances led by Genghis Khan in North China, Mongol armies spread across central Asia. By the time of Genghis Khan’s death in 1227, the Mongol Empire covered land from the Caspian Sea to the Sea of Japan. In 1258, under the leadership of Hülegü (hoo•LAY•GOO), brother of the more famous Kublai Khan (KOO•BLUH•KAHN), the Mongols seized Persia and Mesopotamia. The Abbasid caliphate at Baghdad was brought to an end. Hülegü had a strong hatred of Islam. After his forces captured Baghdad in 1258, he decided to destroy the city. Schools, libraries, mosques (Muslim houses of worship), and palaces were burned to the ground. Possibly a million Muslims were killed, along with members of the Abbasid dynasty.

The Mongols advanced as far as the Red Sea. Their attempt to seize Egypt failed, however, in part because of resistance from the Mamluks. The Mamluks were enslaved Turkish soldiers who had overthrown the administration set up by Saladin and seized power for themselves.

Like the Arabs, Berbers, and Turks, the Mongols became involved in city life through the caravan trade. Over time, the Mongol rulers converted to Islam and began to intermarry with local peoples. Where once they had aggressively destroyed the cities, they now began to rebuild them. By the fourteenth century, the Mongol Empire had begun to split into separate kingdoms. The old Islamic Empire established by the Arabs in the seventh and eighth centuries had come to an end. As a result of the Mongol destruction of Baghdad, the new center of Islamic civilization became Cairo, in Egypt.

**Vocabulary**

- Explain the significance of: oriented, Abū Bakr, caliph, jihad, Muʿāwiya, Umayyad dynasty, Battle of Tours, Shia, Sunni, Abbasid dynasty, Baghdad, Hārūn a-Rashīd, vizier, Seljuk Turks, sultan, Saladin, Mongols, mosque.

**Main Ideas**

2. List the successors to Muhammad through the year 656.

3. Explain the positive and negative results of the Umayyad dynasty.

4. Create a chart that shows the strengths and weaknesses of the Abbasid dynasty.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strengths of Abbasid Dynasty</th>
<th>Weaknesses of Abbasid Dynasty</th>
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</thead>
</table>

5. Identify the event that prompted the Byzantine emperor to ask for help against the Seljuk Turks.

**Critical Thinking**

6. The BIG Idea Comparing and Contrasting How did the different rulers of the Arab Empire create order and security?

7. Making Inferences The initial Mongol reaction to Islam changed over time. Why do you think the Mongols gradually accepted Islam?

8. Analyzing Visuals Examine the painting on page 195. Does this work represent the European or the Arab point of view? Why?

**Writing About History**

9. Persuasive Writing Imagine you are General Muʿāwiya and have just become caliph. Write a speech that outlines how you will rule and why you believe the caliphate should be hereditary.

**History ONLINE**

For help with the concepts in this section of *Glencoe World History*, go to [glencoe.com](http://glencoe.com) and click Study Central.
An extensive trade network brought prosperity to the Islamic world, which necessitated the creation of new rules. The Quran provided fundamental guidelines for all Muslims, not only in spiritual affairs, but also in politics, economics, and social life.

Prosperity in the Islamic World

Growing trade and favorable geography allowed both urban and rural areas to flourish during the period of the Arab Empire.

Overall, the period of the Arab Empire was prosperous. The Arabs carried on extensive trade, not only within the Islamic world but also with China, the Byzantine Empire, India, and Southeast Asia. Trade was carried both by ship and by camel caravans, which traveled from Morocco in the far west to the countries beyond the Caspian Sea.

Starting around 750, trade flourished under the Abbasid dynasty. From south of the Sahara came gold and slaves; from China, silk and porcelain; from eastern Africa, gold and ivory; and from Southeast Asia and India, sandalwood and spices. Within the empire, Egypt contributed grain; Iraq provided linens, dates, and precious stones; and western India supplied textiles. The development of banking and the use of coins made it easier to exchange goods.

The Role of Cities

With flourishing trade came prosperous cities. While the Abbasids were in power, Baghdad, the Abbasid capital known as the City of Peace, was probably the greatest city in the empire and one of the greatest cities in the world. After the rise of the Fatimids in Egypt, however, the focus of trade shifted to Cairo. A traveler described Cairo as “one of the greatest and most famous cities in all the whole world, filled with stately and admirable palaces . . . and most sumptuous temples.” Another great trading city was Damascus in modern-day Syria. Baghdad, Cairo, and Damascus were the centers of administrative, cultural, and economic activity for their regions. Aside from these capital cities, travelers did not find Islamic cities to be especially grand, though the cities did outshine those of mostly rural Europe.

This is exemplified by Córdoba, the capital of Umayyad Spain. With a population of two hundred thousand, Córdoba was Europe’s largest city after Constantinople.
Islamic cities had a distinctive physical appearance. Usually, the most impressive urban buildings were palaces for caliphs or local governors and mosques for worship. There were also public buildings with fountains and secluded courtyards, public baths, and bazaars or marketplaces.

The **bazaar**, or covered market, was an important part of every Muslim city or town. Customers could compare prices and seek the best bargains. To guarantee high standards, inspectors enforced rules, such as the daily washing of counters and containers. One rule stated, “Grilled meats should only be made with fresh meat and not with meat coming from a sick animal and bought for its cheapness.” The bazaar housed many craftspeople’s shops, as well as services like laundries and bathhouses.

### The Importance of Farming

The Arab Empire was more urbanized than most other areas of the known world at the time. Nevertheless, a majority of people still lived in the country, making their living by farming or herding animals.

During the early stages of the empire, most of the farmland was owned by independent peasants. Later, wealthy landowners began to amass large estates. Some lands were owned by the state or the court and were farmed by slave labor. In river valleys like the Tigris, Euphrates, and Nile River valleys, however, most farmers remained independent peasants and continued to farm the way their ancestors had.

**Reading Check**

Identifying List major Islamic cities and the activities centered there.
Islamic Society

According to Islamic teaching, all groups are equal under the eyes of Allah. However, this was not strictly the case in the Arab Empire.

HISTORY & YOU What are some rights you enjoy? Learn about the lack of rights for early Islamic women.

To be a Muslim is not simply to worship Allah but also to live one’s life according to Allah’s teachings as revealed in the Quran, which was compiled in 635. As Allah has decreed, so must humans live. Questions concerning politics, economics, and social life are answered by following Islamic teachings.

Social Structure

According to Islam, all people are equal in the eyes of Allah. In reality, however, this was not strictly the case in the Arab Empire. There was a fairly well-defined upper class that consisted of ruling families, senior officials, nomadic elites, and the wealthiest merchants. Even ordinary merchants, however, enjoyed a degree of respect that merchants did not receive in Europe, China, or India.

One group of people in the Islamic world was not considered equal. They were the slaves. As in the other civilizations we have examined so far, slavery was widespread. Because Muslims could not be slaves, most of their slaves came from Africa or from non-Islamic populations elsewhere in Asia. Many had been captured in war.

Slaves often served in the army. This was especially true of slaves recruited from the Turks of central Asia. Many military slaves were freed. Some even came to exercise considerable power.

Many slaves, especially women, were used as domestic servants. These slaves

Women in Arab societies wore veils to cover themselves before the time of Islam. In ancient west Asia, some wealthy women wore veils and lived secluded lives in urban areas. Women of ancient Mesopotamia viewed wearing a veil as a sign of status and of a woman deserving respect. Under Assyrian law, slaves were not permitted to wear veils. A veil was a symbol of status, purity, and moral character.

Hijab is often used as a general term for the veil of Muslim women. In the Quran, however, hijab has different meanings. In some verses, it is a curtain or partition dividing rooms. In other verses, it is a sacred divide between two things, such as earthly and holy, god and humans, light and dark, and men and women.

INFOGRAPHICS

Understanding the Hijab

Hijab
A headscarf covering the head and neck.

Chador
A black cloak that covers the full body, with a headscarf worn underneath.

Burka
A veil that completely covers the face and body.

CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS

1. Recognizing Bias How can the tradition of wearing a veil be interpreted to promote either women’s equality or inequality?
2. Making Connections In what other religions or cultures do women cover their heads?
were sometimes permitted to purchase their freedom. Islamic law made it clear that slaves should be treated fairly, and it was considered a good act to free them.

The Role of Women

The Quran granted women spiritual and social equality with men. Believers, men and women, were to be friends and protectors of one another. Women had the right to the fruits of their work and to own and inherit property. Women had played prominent roles in the rise of Islam during the time of Muhammad.

Islamic teachings did account for differences between men and women in the family and social order. Both had duties and responsibilities. As in most societies of the time, however, men were dominant in Muslim society.

Every woman had a male guardian, be it father, brother, or other male relative. Parents or guardians arranged marriages for their children. The Quran allowed Muslim men to have more than one wife, but no more than four. Most men, however, were unable to afford more than one, because they were required to pay a dowry (a gift of money or property) to their brides. Women had the right to freely enter into marriage, but they also had the right of divorce under some circumstances. Adultery was forbidden to both men and women.

After the spread of Islam, older customs eroded the rights enjoyed by early Muslim women. For example, some women were secluded and kept from social contacts with males outside their own families. One jurist wrote that

**PRIMARY SOURCE**

“some . . . have said that a woman should leave her house on three occasions only: when she is conducted to the house of her bridegroom, on the deaths of her parents, and when she goes to her own grave.”

—Albert Hourani, *A History of the Arab Peoples*

The custom of requiring women to cover virtually all parts of their bodies when appearing in public was common in the cities and is still practiced today in many Islamic societies. It should be noted, however, that these customs owed more to traditional Arab practice than to the Quran. Despite the restrictions, the position of women in Islamic society was better than it had been in former times, when women had often been treated like slaves.

Even today the rights and customs related to Islamic women are still under debate. Traditional Muslims argue that the meaning of the sacred texts is being manipulated by those who advocate reform, and that the will of Allah, and not social needs, should be the ultimate law.

**Vocabulary**

1. Explain the significance of: Morocco, Caspian Sea, Fatimids, Córdoba, bazaar, compiled, dowry, eroded.

**Main Ideas**

2. Create a chart like the one below to list the characteristics of farming during the Arab Empire.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristics of Farming</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Describe the basic differences in the roles of Muslim men and women.

**Critical Thinking**

4. The BIG Idea Analyzing Explain how Islamic beliefs influenced the treatment of slaves.

5. Making Inferences How might flourishing trade routes and the spread of Islam have influenced the beliefs of early Muslims?

6. Analyzing Visuals Examine the photographs on page 202. Which covering allows the most freedom of movement? What advantages would cloaks have?

**Writing About History**

7. Descriptive Writing Imagine that you are an inspector at a bazaar. Describe what is sold at the bazaar. Then describe the types of violations that you are searching for and ways you use to spot violations.

---

**Reading Check** Describing Describe how life in the Arab Empire did and did not reflect the principle of equality.
The Culture of Islam

Muslim scholars made great advances in the areas of mathematics and the natural sciences. Islamic art and architecture incorporated innovative, geometric decoration, and early Muslim literature continues to be enjoyed today.

Philosophy, Science, and History

Islamic advancements in philosophy, science, and history contributed to the world’s knowledge.

HISTORY & YOU How has the knowledge or achievements of others helped you learn new things? Learn how Islamic achievements contributed to civilization.

During the first few centuries of the Arab Empire, the ancient Greek philosophers were largely unknown in Europe. The Arabs, however, were not only aware of Greek philosophy, they were translating works by Plato and Aristotle into Arabic. The translations were put in a library called the House of Wisdom in Baghdad, where they were read and studied by Muslim scholars. Similarly, texts on mathematics were brought to Baghdad from India.

Preservation of Knowledge

The process of translating works and making them available to scholars was aided by the making of paper, which was introduced from China in the eighth century. By the end of the century, paper factories had been established in Baghdad. Booksellers and libraries soon followed.

It was through the Muslim world that Europeans recovered the works of Aristotle and other Greek philosophers. In the twelfth century, the Arabic translations were translated into Latin, making them available to the West.

Islamic Advancements

The brilliant Islamic civilization contributed more intellectually to the West than translations. When Aristotle’s works arrived in Europe in the second half of the twelfth century, they were accompanied by commentaries written by outstanding Arabic philosophers. One such philosopher was Ibn-Rushd (IH•buhn•RUSHT). He lived in Córdoba and wrote a commentary on virtually all of Aristotle’s surviving works.

Islamic scholars also made contributions to mathematics and the natural sciences that were passed on to the West. The Muslims adopted and passed on the numerical system of India, including the use of the zero. In Europe, it became known as the “Arabic” system.
A ninth-century Arab mathematician developed the mathematical discipline of algebra, still taught in schools today.

In astronomy, Muslims set up an observatory at Baghdad to study the position of the stars. They knew that Earth was round, and they named many stars. They also perfected an instrument called the **astrolabe**, an instrument used by sailors to determine their location by observing the positions of stars and heavenly bodies. The astrolabe made it possible for Europeans to sail to the Americas.

Muslim scholars developed medicine as a field of scientific study. Especially well known was the philosopher and scientist, **Ibn Sīnā (980–1037)**, also known as Avicenna. He wrote a medical encyclopedia that, among other things, stressed the contagious nature of certain diseases. Ibn Sīnā showed how diseases could be spread by contaminated water supplies. After it was translated into Latin, Ibn Sīnā’s work became a basic medical textbook for university students in medieval Europe. Ibn Sīnā was only one of many Arabic scholars whose work was translated into Latin and thus helped the development of intellectual life in Europe in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries.

Islamic scholars also took an interest in writing history. **Ibn-Khaldūn (902–985)**, who lived in the fourteenth century, was the most prominent Muslim historian of the age. Disappointed in his career in politics, he began to devote his time to the study and writing of history.

In his most famous work, **Muqaddimah (Introduction to History)**, he argued for a cyclical view of history. Civilizations, he believed, go through regular cycles of birth, growth, and decay. He tried to find a scientific basis for the political and social factors that determine the course of history.

**Identifying** What were the major contributions of Islamic scholars?
Literature

The Rubaiyat and The 1001 Nights are two major early Islamic works of literature that are still enjoyed today.

**HISTORY & YOU** What are some of your favorite poems about? Learn about the poetry of Omar Khayyám.

Islam brought major changes to the culture of Southwest Asia, including its literature. Though Muslims regarded the Quran as their greatest literary work, pre-Islamic traditions continued to influence writers. One of the most familiar works of Middle Eastern literature is the Rubaiyat (ROO•bee•AHT) of Omar Khayyám (KY•YAHM). Another is The 1001 Nights (also called The Arabian Nights).

We know little of the life and poetry of twelfth-century Persian poet, mathematician, and astronomer, Omar Khayyám. We do know that he composed his poetry orally. His simple, direct poetry was recorded later by friends or scribes. In the following lines, Khayyám wondered about life’s meaning:

“Yesterday and today go on without us; Tomorrow what’s the charge against me, pray? In youth I studied for a little while; Later I boasted of my mastery. Yet this was all the lesson that I learned: We come from dust, and with the wind are gone. Of all the travelers on this endless road No one returns to tell us where it leads, There’s little in this world but greed and need; Leave nothing here, for you will not return.”

—Ehsan Yarshatar, Persian Literature

The anonymous stories of The Arabian Nights are a collection of folktales, fables, and romances that blend the natural with the supernatural. The earliest stories were told orally and recorded later, with many additions, in Arabic and Persian. The famous story of Aladdin and the magic lamp was added in the eighteenth century. The Arabian Nights is full of unusual plots, comic and tragic situations, and unforgettable characters.

**Reading Check** Comparing What are the similarities between the Rubaiyat and The Arabian Nights?

The Great Mosque of Sāmarra was built by Caliph al-Mutawakkil of the Abbasid dynasty. Constructed of baked brick, it was the largest mosque of its time. Today the mosque is mostly a ruin. A walled area on three sides provided for additional worshippers at Friday prayers. The entire mosque complex was enclosed by an outer wall.

**Drawing Conclusions** Why do you think the Abbasid dynasty built this mosque?

**Making Inferences** Minarets originally served as watchtowers illuminated by torches. What other feature probably aided with the defense of the mosque and city?
Islamic art is a blend of Arab, Turkish, and Persian traditions. The best expression of Islamic art is found in the way magnificent Muslim mosques represent the spirit of Islam.

The Great Mosque of Sámarrá in present-day Iraq was the world’s largest mosque at the time it was built (848 to 852), covering 10 acres (more than 40,000 square m). The most famous section of the Sámarrá‘ mosque, its minaret, is nearly 90 feet (27 m) tall and has an unusual outside spiral staircase. The muezzin (moo•EH•zuhn), or crier, calls the faithful to prayer five times a day from the minaret.

The famous ninth-century mosque at Córdoba in southern Spain is still in remarkable condition today. Its hundreds of columns, which support double-horseshoe arches, transform this building into a unique “forest of trees.”

Because the Muslim religion unites spiritual and political power, palaces also reflected the glory of Islam. Beginning in the eighth century with the castles of Syria, Islamic rulers built large brick palaces with protective walls, gates, and baths.

Designed around a central courtyard surrounded by two-story arcades and massive gate-towers, Islamic castles resembled fortresses. The castles even had a gallery over the entrance gate with holes through which boiling oil could be poured down on the heads of attacking forces. This feature was later adopted by the crusaders for the castles of Europe.

The finest example of the Islamic palace is the Alhambra in Granada, Spain. Built in the fourteenth-century, every inch of the castle’s surface is decorated in floral and abstract patterns. Much of the decoration is finely carved plasterwork that looks like lace. The Alhambra is an excellent expression of Islamic art.

Most decorations on Islamic art consisted of Arabic letters, natural plants, and abstract figures. These decorations were repeated over and over in geometric patterns called arabesques that completely covered the surfaces of objects. The Hadith, an early collection of Muhammad’s sayings, warns against imitating God by creating pictures of living beings. As a result, no representations of figures, including the prophet Muhammad, appear in Islamic religious art.

Vocabulary

Main Ideas
2. Explain how Muslim contributions to mathematics were spread throughout the world.
3. Create a table like the one below to identify and describe two important Islamic works of literature.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Literary Work</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. List the other cultures that influenced Islamic art and architecture.

Critical Thinking
5. The BIG Idea Defending Argue against the viewpoint that Islamic civilization was mainly a preserver and transmitter of culture, rather than a creator of culture.
6. Making Inferences What does the poetry of Omar Khayyām tell you about his character?
7. Analyzing Visuals Examine the photograph on page 206. What architectural element is characteristic of mosques?

Writing About History
8. Expository Writing Research the Golden Mosque at Sámarrá‘. Who built it? Why was it famous?
Masters of the Sky

People have always been fascinated by the sky. The path of the sun, the regular cycle of the moon, and the slow procession of the stars are awe-inspiring. The link between the celestial and the terrestrial is obvious in the change of the seasons. Heavenly movements also denote time, and measuring and marking its passage have been crucial to all civilizations. Knowing when to plant and harvest, and when to hold sacred ceremonies, were matters of life and death. For astronomers of the Arab Empire, understanding the movement of the heavens was a religious imperative that made them masters of the sky.

Holy Months and Days

One particular decree from the Quran was interpreted to mean that the calendar should be a lunar one, or based on the phases of the moon. Muslim astronomers faced the difficult task of creating a new calendar—a job made even more so by the definition of the beginning of the month as the night when a crescent moon first appears in the west.

Muslims are required to pray at specific times each day, so time must be calculated accurately. Muslim astronomers determined time by the position of the sun in the sky.

Advances in Mathematics

Solving the complex astronomical problems required making sophisticated geometrical and other mathematical calculations. Muslim mathematicians became experts at trigonometry, developing it far beyond what the Greeks and Indians had achieved. They also made great strides in algebra. Our use of “Arabic” numerals (actually Indian) is a testament to Muslim mathematicians, as are the words algebra, algorithm, azimuth, and zenith.
**The House of Wisdom**

Muslim astronomers and mathematicians made stunning advancements, but Islamic scholarship blossomed in other areas as well. Caliph al-Ma’mūn founded the “House of Wisdom,” a learning academy and library, in Baghdad in 830. There, translators preserved many of the greatest writings from classical Greece—including works on mathematics and the works of Plato and Aristotle. These works, and many original treatises by Muslim scholars, form much of the foundation of Western civilization.

**An Islamic Astrolabe**

Because it can be adjusted and used to make predictions and solve problems, the astrolabe is a type of computer. Islamic scholars identified hundreds of uses for the astrolabe. The more common ones included:

- calculating the length of the day
- telling time and predicting the time of sunrise and sunset
- determining the beginning and ending of months and years
- locating objects in the sky
- solving astrological problems

**Analyzing Visuals**

1. **Comparing** What modern devices serve the purposes that astrolabes once did?

2. **Making Predictions** How might European history have differed if Islamic scholars had not preserved ancient works?
**MUHAMMAD’S VISION and a Powerful New Faith**

- In A.D. 622, Muhammad began preaching a new religion—Islam.
- Arab leaders persecuted Muslims, but Muhammad led an army against them; for Muslims, he was a political, along with a religious, leader.
- The revelations of Allah (God) to Muhammad are written down in the Quran, or holy book of Islam.

**ISLAM Focuses On All Aspects of Muslim Life**

- Commerce and scholarship throve in the Islamic cities of Baghdad, Cairo, and Damascus.
- Social classes existed, but Islam granted merchants and women more status than most other cultures of the era.
- Muslim scholars preserved Greek learning while making significant advances in mathematics and medicine.
- Mosques and palaces testified to Islamic architectural innovation.

**ARAB MUSLIMS Build an Empire**

- In time, issues about who should be the caliph, or successor to Muhammad, resulted in a split between Sunni and Shia Muslims.
- Islamic zeal and territorial ambition led to vast conquests and an empire ruled first from Mecca, then Baghdad.
- The Seljuk Turks established a new Islamic dynasty in 1055, in 1071 they defeated Byzantine rulers who asked the European states for help.
STANDARDIZED TEST PRACTICE

TEST-TAKING TIP

When a question asks for an answer that is supported by information presented in a table, find the answer choice that is proven true by the information in the table.

Reviewing Vocabulary

Directions: Choose the word or words that best complete the sentence.

1. What is the term for a Muslim house of worship?
   A Hajj
   B Mosque
   C Madinah
   D Allah

2. What is the name given to the journey of Muhammad from Makkah to Madinah?
   A Shari’ah
   B Quran
   C Hijrah
   D Hajj

3. Which of these is the Arabic word for the covered market that is a crucial part of every Muslim city or town?
   A Five Pillars
   B Bazaar
   C Mosque
   D Minaret

4. Who was the Islamic philosopher credited with writing commentary on Aristotle’s surviving works?
   A Omar Khayyám
   B Ibn-Khaldūn
   C Ibn-Rushd
   D Ibn Sinā

Reviewing Main Ideas

Directions: Choose the best answers to the following questions.

Section 1 (pp. 188–191)

5. How did trade route expansion negatively affect the early Arab Empire?
   A Tensions increased between rich and poor.
   B All bazaars were shut down.
   C Many camels died during long journeys.
   D Many traders were killed by the Mongols.

6. Why did Muhammad have few followers in the beginning?
   A Most people were Christians.
   B He only wanted to help wealthy people.
   C He did not believe in politics.
   D The wealthy feared he would upset the established social and political order.

7. Which religions are monotheistic?
   A Islam
   B Judaism, Christianity, Islam
   C Judaism, Christianity
   D Christianity, Islam

Section 2 (pp. 192–199)

8. How was Abū Bakr able to unite the Muslim world?
   A By forcing everyone to follow the Quran
   B By leading prayers when Muhammad was sick
   C By suppressing tribal political and religious uprisings
   D By conquering new land

Need Extra Help?

If You Missed Questions . . . 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
Go to Page . . . 199 190 201 204 189 190 190 192
9. Which of the following factors weakened the Umayyad dynasty?
   A Financial troubles and a capital far from the frontiers
   B Christianity
   C The Berbers
   D Too many taxes

Section 3 (pp. 200–203)

10. What happened to farming in the Nile, Tigris, and Euphrates river valleys as urban centers prospered?
   A There were fewer farmers.
   B The government controlled all the farms.
   C Most farmers remained independent.
   D There were serious food shortages.

11. What does Islamic law say about slaves?
   A They could never buy their freedom.
   B They were required to serve in the military.
   C They could never exercise any power.
   D They should be treated fairly.

Section 4 (pp. 204–207)

12. What are some examples of Islamic achievements?
   A Translations of Aristotle’s works, paper, and the use of zero
   B Commentaries on Aristotle’s works, the astrolabe, and algebra
   C Paper, silk, and algebra
   D Medicine, the astrolabe, and the telescope

13. Which piece of literature is enjoyed today for its unusual plots and unforgettable characters?
   A The Quran
   B The Rubaiyat
   C The 1001 Nights
   D Omar Khayyám

Critical Thinking

Directions: Choose the best answers to the following questions.

Use the following table to answer question 14.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>PLACE</th>
<th>VICTOR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>636</td>
<td>Yarmūk</td>
<td>Muslim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>640</td>
<td>Syria</td>
<td>Muslim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>650</td>
<td>Persian Empire</td>
<td>Muslim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>710</td>
<td>southern Spain</td>
<td>Muslim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>717</td>
<td>Constantinople</td>
<td>Byzantine</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. Which of the following statements is supported by the information in the table?
   A In 717, the Byzantines forced the Muslims to give up all their territories.
   B By 710, the Arab Empire had conquered all of Spain.
   C After conquering Syria, Muslim rulers forced its people to study Islamic law.
   D In less than 100 years, the Muslim Empire had conquered all the territories it had invaded.

15. In what way could slaves in the Muslim world find a way out?
   A Under Islamic law, it was considered a good act to free them.
   B Muslims had to pay their slaves.
   C Under Islamic law, no women could be slaves.
   D The Quran states that no one can be a slave for more than a year.

16. How might have the inspectors’ rules for the Muslim bazaars influenced the work of Ibn Sinā?
   A Ibn Sinā grew wealthy from his trade at the bazaars.
   B The inspectors worked to fight causes of disease in an expanding population.
   C The inspectors worked with Ibn Sinā to write his medical encyclopedia.
   D Ibn Sinā worked with the inspectors to create new rules.
17. How did tension between rich and poor people lead to the start of Islam?
   A. Poor people demanded a new religion that was not based on material possessions.
   B. Wealthy people wanted a religion through which they could control the poor.
   C. Muhammad was disturbed by this problem and sought a way to resolve it.
   D. Muhammad wanted to help his wealthy wife, Khadija.

Analyze the map and answer the question that follows. Base your answer on the map.

18. Why did the Abbasid Empire move their capital from Damascus to Baghdad?
   A. Damascus was too far from any trade routes.
   B. Baghdad was closer to the Byzantine Empire, an important trading partner.
   C. Baghdad was closer to the center of the empire.
   D. Baghdad was a bigger city than Damascus.

Document-Based Questions
Directions: Analyze the document and answer the short-answer questions that follow the document. Base your answers on the document and on your knowledge of Chapter 6.

Known in the West as Avicenna, Ibn Sīnā was an eleventh-century Islamic scholar. In his Autobiography, he described his early training. Read the following excerpt.

“By the time I was [10] I had mastered the Quran and a great deal of literature. There followed training in philosophy . . . then I took to reading texts by myself . . . mastering logic, geometry and astronomy. I now occupied myself with mastering the various texts and commentaries on natural science and metaphysics, until all the gates of knowledge were open to me. Next I desired to study medicine, and proceeded to read all the books that have been written on this subject. At the same time I continued to study and dispute on law, being now sixteen years of age.”

19. What can you infer about Ibn Sīnā from this passage?
20. How might Ibn Sīnā’s Autobiography have helped people to understand and value his other writings?

Extended Response
21. The 1001 Nights incorporates tales from many cultures. What does this tell us about the nature of Islamic society?
A religion is a set of beliefs in an ultimate reality and a set of practices used to express those beliefs. Religion is a key component of culture. Each religion has its own special celebrations and worship styles. Most religions also have their own sacred texts, symbols, and sites. All of these aspects of religion help to unite followers regardless of where in the world they live.

**TERMS**
- **animism**—belief that spirits inhabit natural objects and forces of nature
- **atheism**—disbelief in the existence of any god
- **monotheism**—belief in one god
- **polytheism**—belief in more than one god
- **secularism**—belief that life’s questions can be answered apart from religious belief
- **sect**—a subdivision within a religion that has its own distinctive beliefs and/or practices
We study religion because it is an important component of civilization, shaping how people interact with one another, dress, and eat. Religion is at the core of the belief system of a civilization.

The diffusion of religion throughout the world has been caused by a variety of factors including migration, missionary work, trade, and war. Buddhism, Christianity, and Islam are the three major religions that spread their religion through missionary activities. Religions such as Hinduism, Sikhism, and Judaism are associated with a particular culture group. Followers are usually born into these religions. Sometimes close contact and differences in beliefs have resulted in conflict between religious groups.

**Percentage of World Population**

- Islam: 22%
- Christianity: 33%
- Buddhism: 6%
- Hinduism: 13%
- Judaism: 0.2%
- Confucianism: 6%
- Nonreligious or atheist: 15%

Note: Total exceeds 100% because numbers were rounded.

**Early Diffusion of Major World Religions**

[Map showing the diffusion of major world religions with arrows indicating the spread of Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, and Judaism.]
Siddhārtha Gautama, known as the Buddha (“the Awakened”) after his enlightenment at the age of 35, was born some 2,500 years ago in what is now Nepal. The Buddha’s followers adhere to his teachings (dharma, meaning “divine law”), which aim to end suffering in the world. Buddhists call this goal Nirvana; and they believe that it can be achieved only by understanding the Four Noble Truths and by following the 4th Truth, which says that freedom from suffering is possible by practicing the Eightfold Path. Through the Buddha’s teachings, his followers come to know the impermanence of all things and reach the end of ignorance and unhappiness.

Over time, as Buddhism spread throughout Asia, several branches emerged. The largest of these are Theravada Buddhism, the monk-centered Buddhism which is dominant in Sri Lanka, Burma, Thailand, Laos, and Cambodia; and Mahayana, a complex, more liberal variety of Buddhism that has traditionally been dominant in Tibet, Central Asia, Korea, China, and Japan.

**Sacred Text** For centuries the Buddha’s teachings were transmitted orally. For Theravada Buddhists, the authoritative collection of Buddhist texts is the Tripitaka (“three baskets”). These texts were first written on palm leaves in a language called Pali. This excerpt from the Dhammapada, a famous text within the Tripitaka, urges responding to hatred with love:

> “Never in this world is hate appeased by hatred. It is only appeased by love—This is an eternal law.”
> —Dhammapada I.5

**Sacred Symbol** The dharmachakra (“wheel of the law”) is a major Buddhist symbol. Among other things, it signifies the overcoming of obstacles. The eight spokes represent the Eightfold Path—right view, right intention, right speech, right action, right livelihood, right effort, right mindfulness, right concentration—that is central for all Buddhists.
Sacred Site  Buddhists believe that Siddhārtha Gautama achieved enlightenment beneath the Bodhi Tree in Bodh Gayā, India. Today, Buddhists from around the world flock to Bodh Gayā in search of their own spiritual awakening.

Worship and Celebration  The ultimate goal of Buddhists is to achieve Nirvana, the enlightened state in which individuals are free from ignorance, greed, and suffering. Theravada Buddhists believe that monks are most likely to reach Nirvana because of their lifestyle of renunciation, moral virtue, study, and meditation.
Christianity claims more members than any of the other world religions. It dates its beginning to the death of Jesus in A.D. 33 in what is now Israel. It is based on the belief in one god and on the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. Christians believe that Jesus, who was born a Jew, is the son of God and is fully divine and human. Christians regard Jesus as the savior who died for humanity’s sins. Christians feel that people are saved and achieve eternal life by faith in Jesus Christ.

The major forms of Christianity are Roman Catholicism, Eastern Orthodoxy, and Protestantism. All three are united in their belief in Jesus Christ as savior, but have developed their own individual theologies.

**Sacred Text** The Bible is the spiritual text for all Christians and is considered to be inspired by God. This excerpt, from Matthew 5:3-12, is from Christ’s Sermon on the Mount.

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Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.
Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.
Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.
Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.
Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.
Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Blessed are you when men revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.
Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so men persecuted the prophets who were before you.
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Sacred Site  Bethlehem was the birthplace of Jesus Christ and holds great importance to Christians. The Church of the Nativity is located in the heart of Bethlehem. It houses the spot where Christians believe Jesus was born.

Worship and Celebration  Christians celebrate many events commemorating the life and death of Jesus. Among the most widely known and observed are Christmas, Good Friday, and Easter. Christmas is often commemorated by attending church services to celebrate the birth of Jesus. As part of the celebration, followers often light candles.
Confucianism began over 2,500 years ago in China. Although considered a religion, it is actually a philosophy. It is based upon the teachings of Confucius, which are grounded in ethical behavior and good government.

The teachings of Confucius focused on three areas: social philosophy, political philosophy, and education. Confucius taught that relationships are based on rank. Persons of higher rank are responsible for caring for those of lower rank. Those of lower rank should respect and obey those of higher rank. Eventually his teachings spread from China to other East Asian societies.

Sacred Text Confucius was famous for his sayings and proverbs. These teachings were gathered into a book called the Analects after Confucius’s death. Below is an example of Confucius’s teachings.

Confucius said:

“"To learn and to practice what is learned time and again is pleasure, is it not? To have friends come from afar is happiness, is it not? To be unperturbed when not appreciated by others is gentlemanly, is it not?"

—The Analects

Sacred Symbol The symbol of Confucianism, yin-yang, symbolizes the harmony the philosophy offers. The white is yin, the light, bright, cheerful, playful aspect of life. The black is yang, the dark, mysterious, serious part of life. The two act together to balance one another.
Sacred Site  The temple at Qufu is a group of buildings dedicated to Confucius. It is located on Confucius’s ancestral land. It is one of the largest ancient architectural complexes in China. Every year followers gather at Qufu to celebrate the birthday of Confucius.

Worship and Celebration  Confucianism does not have a god or clergy, but there are temples dedicated to Confucius, the spiritual leader. Those who follow his teachings see Confucianism as a way of life and a guide to ethical behavior and good government.
Hinduism is the oldest of the world’s major living religions. It developed among the cultures in India as they spread out over the plains and forests of the subcontinent. It has no single founder or founding date. Hinduism is complex: it has numerous sects and many different divinities are honored. Among the more famous Hindu gods are Brahma, Vishnu, and Shiva, who represent respectively the creative, sustaining, and destructive forces in the universe. Major Hindu beliefs are reincarnation, karma, and dharma.

Hindus believe the universe contains several heavens and hells. According to the concept of rebirth or reincarnation, which is central to their beliefs, souls are continually reborn. In what form one is reborn is determined by the good and evil actions performed in his or her past lives. Those acts are karma. A soul continues in the cycle of rebirth until release is achieved.

**Sacred Text** The Vedas consist of hymns, prayers, and speculations composed in ancient Sanskrit. They are the oldest religious texts in an Indo-European language. The Rig Veda, Sama Veda, Yajur Veda, and Atharva Veda are the four great Vedic collections. Together, they make up one of the most significant and authoritative Hindu religious texts.

> Now, whether they perform a cremation for such a person or not, people like him pass into the flame, from the flame into the day, from the day into the fortnight of the waxing moon from the fortnight of the waxing moon into the six months when the sun moves north, from these months into the year, from the year into the sun, from the sun into the moon, and from the moon into the lightning.
> Then a person who is not human—he leads them to Brahman. This is the path to the gods, the path to Brahman. Those who proceed along this path do not return to this human condition."

——- The Chandogya Upanishad 4:15.5

**Sacred Symbol** One important symbol of Hinduism is actually a symbol for a sound. “Om” is a sound that Hindus often chant during prayer, mantras, and rituals.
Sacred Site  Hindus believe that when a person dies his or her soul is reborn. This is known as reincarnation. Many Hindus bathe in the Ganges and other sacred rivers to purify their soul and to be released from rebirth.

Worship and Celebration  Holi is a significant North Indian Hindu festival celebrating the triumph of good over evil. As part of the celebration, men, women, and children splash colored powders and water on each other. In addition to its religious significance, Holi also celebrates the beginning of spring.
Followers of Islam, known as Muslims, believe in one God, whom they call Allah. The word Allah is Arabic for “the god.” The spiritual founder of Islam, Muhammad, began his teachings in Makkah (Mecca) in A.D. 610. Eventually the religion spread throughout much of Asia, including parts of India to the borders of China, and a substantial portion of Africa. According to Muslims, the Quran, their holy book, contains the direct word of God, revealed to the Prophet Muhammad sometime between A.D. 610 and A.D. 632. Muslims believe that God created nature and without his intervention, there would be nothingness. God serves four functions: creation, sustenance, guidance, and judgment.

Central to Islamic beliefs are the Five Pillars. These are affirmation of the belief in Allah and his prophet Muhammad; group prayer; tithing, or the giving of money to charity; fasting during Ramadan; and a pilgrimage to Makkah once in a lifetime if physically and financially able. Within Islam, there are two main branches, the Sunni and the Shia. The differences between the two are based on the history of the Muslim state. The Shia believed that the rulers should descend from Muhammad. The Sunni believed that the rulers need only be followers of Muhammad. Most Muslims are Sunni.

Sacred Text The sacred text of Islam is the Quran. Preferably, it is written and read only in Arabic, but translations have been made into many languages. The excerpt below is a verse repeated by all Muslims during their five daily prayers.

"In the Name of Allah, the Compassionate, the Merciful,
Praise be to Allah, the Lord of the World,
The Compassionate, the Merciful,
Master of the Day of Judgment,
Only You do we worship, and only You
Do we implore for help.
Lead us to the right path,
The path of those you have favored
Not those who have incurred
Your wrath or
Have gone astray."
—The Quran

Sacred Symbol Islam is often symbolized by the crescent moon. It is an important part of Muslim rituals, which are based on the lunar calendar.
Sacred Site  Makkah is a sacred site for all Muslims. One of the Five Pillars of Islam states that all those who are physically and financially able must make a hajj, or pilgrimage, to the holy city once in their life. Practicing Muslims are also required to pray facing Makkah five times a day.

Worship and Celebration  Ramadan is a month-long celebration commemorating the time during which Muhammad received the Quran from Allah. It is customary for Muslims to fast from dawn until sunset all month long. Muslims believe that fasting helps followers focus on spiritual rather than bodily matters and creates empathy for one’s fellow men and women. Ramadan ends with a feast known as Eid-al-Fitr, or Feast of the Fast.
Judaism is a monotheistic religion. In fact, Judaism was the first major religion to believe in one god. Jews trace their national and religious origins back to God’s call to Abraham. Jews have a covenant with God. They believe God will someday send a messiah who will redeem them from exile and usher in an era of world peace.

Over time Judaism has separated into branches, including Orthodox, Reform, Conservative, and Reconstructionist. Orthodox Jews are the most traditional of all the branches.

**Sacred Text** The Torah is the five books of Moses, which tell the story of the origins of the Jews and explain Jewish laws. The remainder of the Hebrew Bible contains the writings of the prophets, Psalms, and ethical and historical works.

"I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me."

—Exodus 20:2

**Sacred Symbol** The menorah is used in the celebration of Hanukkah, commemorating the rededication of the Temple of Jerusalem following the Maccabees’ victory over the Syrians.
Sacred Site  The Western Wall is what remains of the structure surrounding the Second Jerusalem Temple, built after the Jews’ return from the Babylonian captivity. It is considered a sacred spot in Jewish religious tradition. Prayers are offered at the wall three times a day—morning, afternoon, and evening.

Worship and Celebration  The day-long Yom Kippur service ends with the blowing of the ram’s horn (shofar). Yom Kippur is the holiest day in the Jewish calendar. During Yom Kippur, Jews do not eat or drink for 25 hours. The purpose is to reflect on the past year and gain forgiveness from God for one’s sins. It falls in September or October, ten days after Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year.
Sikhism emerged in the mid-1500s in the Punjab, in northwest India, rising from the religious experience and teachings of Guru Nanak. The religion exhibits influences from Islam and Hinduism, but it is distinct from both. Sikh traditions teach that Nanak encountered God directly and was commissioned by Him to be His servant.

Sikhs (“students, disciples”) believe in one almighty god who is formless and without qualities (nirguna) but can be known through meditation and heard directly. Sikhism forbids discrimination on the basis of class, color, religion, caste, or gender. While 80 percent of the world’s 20 million Sikhs live in the Punjab, Sikhism has spread widely as many Sikhs have migrated to new homes around the world.

Sacred Text The great authoritative sacred text for Sikhs is the Adi Granth (“Principal Book,” also known as the Guru Granth Sahib). Compiled from the mid-1500s through the 1600s, it includes contributions from Sikh gurus and also from some persons also claimed as saints by Hindus and Muslims, such as Namdev, Ravidas, and Kabir.

Enshrine the Lord’s Name within your heart. The Word of the Guru’s Bani prevails throughout the world, through this Bani, the Lord’s Name is obtained.

—Guru Amar Dás, page 1066

Sacred Symbol The sacred symbol of the Sikhs is the khanda. It is composed of four traditional Sikh weapons: the khanda or double-edged sword (in the center), from which the symbol takes its name; the cakkar (disk), and two curved daggers (kirpan) representing temporal and spiritual power, respectively Piri and Miri.
Sacred Sites  Amritsar is the spiritual capital of Sikhism. The Golden Temple (*Harimandir Sahib*) in Amritsar is the most sacred of Sikh shrines.

Worship and Celebration  Vaisakhi is a significant Punjabi and Sikh festival in April celebrating the new year and the beginning of the harvest season. Celebrations often take place along riverbanks with participants dancing and wearing brightly colored clothes.
There are many varieties of religious belief that are limited to particular ethnic groups. These local religions are found in Africa as well as isolated parts of Japan, Australia, and the Americas. Most local religions reflect a close relationship with the environment. Some groups teach that people are a part of nature, not separate from it. Animism is characteristic of many indigenous religions. Natural features are sacred, and stories about how nature came to be are an important part of religious heritage. Although many of these stories have been written down in modern times, they were originally transmitted orally.

Africa The continent of Africa is home to a variety of local religions. Despite their differences, most African religions recognize the existence of one creator in addition to spirits that inhabit all aspects of life. Religious ceremonies are often celebrated with music and dance.

1 These Turkana women from Kenya are performing a traditional jumping dance.

2 Rituals are an important part of African religions. These Masai boys are wearing ceremonial dress as part of a ritual.

3 Masks are a component of ritual and ceremony. This mask from Cameroon is used to celebrate harvest.
**Australia**  The Australian Aboriginal religion has no deities. It is based upon a belief known as the Dreaming, or Dreamtime. Followers believe that ancestors sprang from the Earth and created all people, plant, and animal life. They also believe that these ancestors continue to control the natural world.

6 These Aborigine women are blessing a newborn with smoke during a traditional ritual intended to ensure the child’s health and good fortune.

7 Aborigines, like these young girls, often paint their faces with the symbols of their clan or family group.

**Japan**  Shinto, founded in Japan, is the largest indigenous religion. It dates back to prehistoric times and has no formal doctrine. The gods are known as kami. Ancestors are also revered and worshiped. Its four million followers often practice Buddhism in addition to practicing Shinto.

4 This Shinto priest is presiding over a ritual at a Japanese temple. These priests often live on shrine grounds.

5 Shinto shrines, like this one, are usually built in places of great natural beauty to emphasize the relationship between people and nature.
Native Americans  The beliefs of most Native Americans center on the spirit world; however, the rituals and practices of individual groups vary. Most Native Americans believe in a Great Spirit who, along with other spirits, influences all aspects of life. These spirits make their presence known primarily through acts of nature.

The rituals, prayers, and ceremonies of Native Americans are often centered on health and good harvest and hunting. Rituals used to mark the passage through stages of life, including birth, adulthood, and death, are passed down as tribal traditions. Religious ceremonies often focus on important points in the agricultural and hunting seasons. Prayers, which are offered in song and dance, also concentrate on agriculture and hunting themes as well as health and well-being.

1 Rituals are passed down from generation to generation. These Native Americans are performing a ritual dance in Utah.

2 There are many different Native American groups throughout the United States and Canada. This Pawnee is wearing traditional dress during a celebration in Oklahoma.

3 Totem poles, like this one in Alaska, were popular among the Native American peoples of the Northwest Coast. They were often decorated with mythical beings, family crests, or other figures. They were placed outside homes.
Reviewing Vocabulary

Match the following terms with their definition.

1. sect  
2. monotheism  
3. polytheism  
4. animism  
5. atheism  

- a. belief that spirits inhabit natural objects and forces of nature  
- b. belief in one god  
- c. a subdivision within a religion that has its own distinctive belief and/or practices  
- d. belief in more than one god  
- e. disbelief in the existence of any god

Reviewing the Main Ideas

**World Religions**  
(pp. 214–215)

6. Which religion has the most followers worldwide? Which has the fewest?

7. **Analyzing Visuals** Compare the maps at the bottom of pages 214 and 215. Which religions have spread throughout the world? What factors may have contributed to this spread?

8. On a separate sheet of paper, make a table of the major world religions. Use the chart below to get you started.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Founder</th>
<th>Geographic distribution</th>
<th>Sacred sites</th>
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<td>Buddhism</td>
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<td>Christianity</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indigenous</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Buddhism**  
(pp. 216–217)

9. According to Buddhism, how can the end of suffering in the world be achieved?

10. What is Nirvana? According to Buddhists, who is most likely to achieve Nirvana and why?

**Christianity**  
(pp. 218–219)

11. In what religion was Jesus raised?

12. Why do Christians regard Jesus as their savior?

**Confucianism**  
(pp. 220–221)

13. What is Confucianism based on? Why might some not consider it a religion?

14. What does yin-yang symbolize?

**Hinduism**  
(pp. 222–223)

15. What type of religion is Hinduism? Where did it develop?

16. Describe reincarnation. What role do Hindus believe karma plays in this process?

**Islam**  
(pp. 224–225)

17. What are the two branches of Islam? What is the main difference between the two groups?

18. What role does Makkah play in the Islamic faith?

**Judaism**  
(pp. 226–227)

19. What is the Torah?

20. What is the purpose of Yom Kippur?

**Sikhism**  
(pp. 228–229)

21. Where do most Sikhs live? Why?

22. What other religions have contributed to the Adi Granth?

**Indigenous Religions**  
(pp. 230–231)

23. Many of the sacred stories in local religions explain the creation of people, animals, and plant life. Why would religions feature such stories?

24. Which of the indigenous religions has the largest membership?

**Critical Thinking**

25. **Drawing Conclusions** How are major religions similar? How are they different?

26. **Analyzing Information** How do people’s religious beliefs affect what people eat and how they dress?

27. **Making Inferences** How do religious beliefs influence a society’s laws?

**Writing About History**

28. **Expository Writing** Select one of the religions profiled and write an essay on how that religion has affected the history of a particular country.