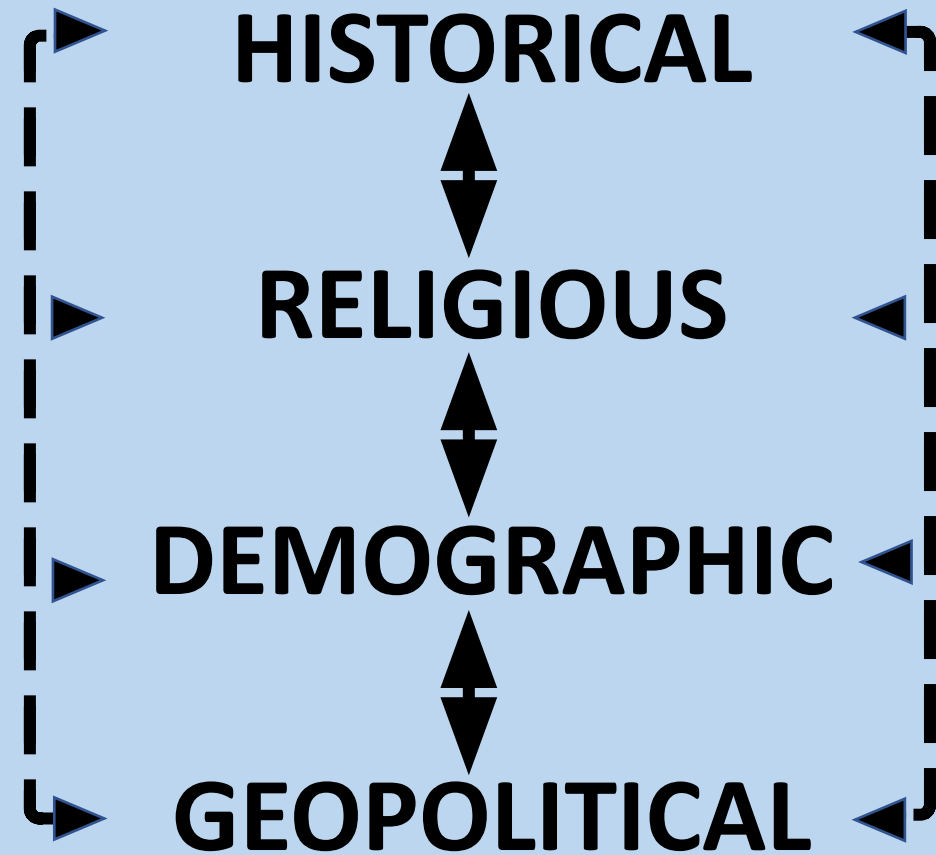




GOLDEN AGE OF ISLAM

**FROM PROPHETIC COMMUNITY
TO EMPIRE(S)**

THE RISE AND EXPANSION OF ISLAM: CONTEXT



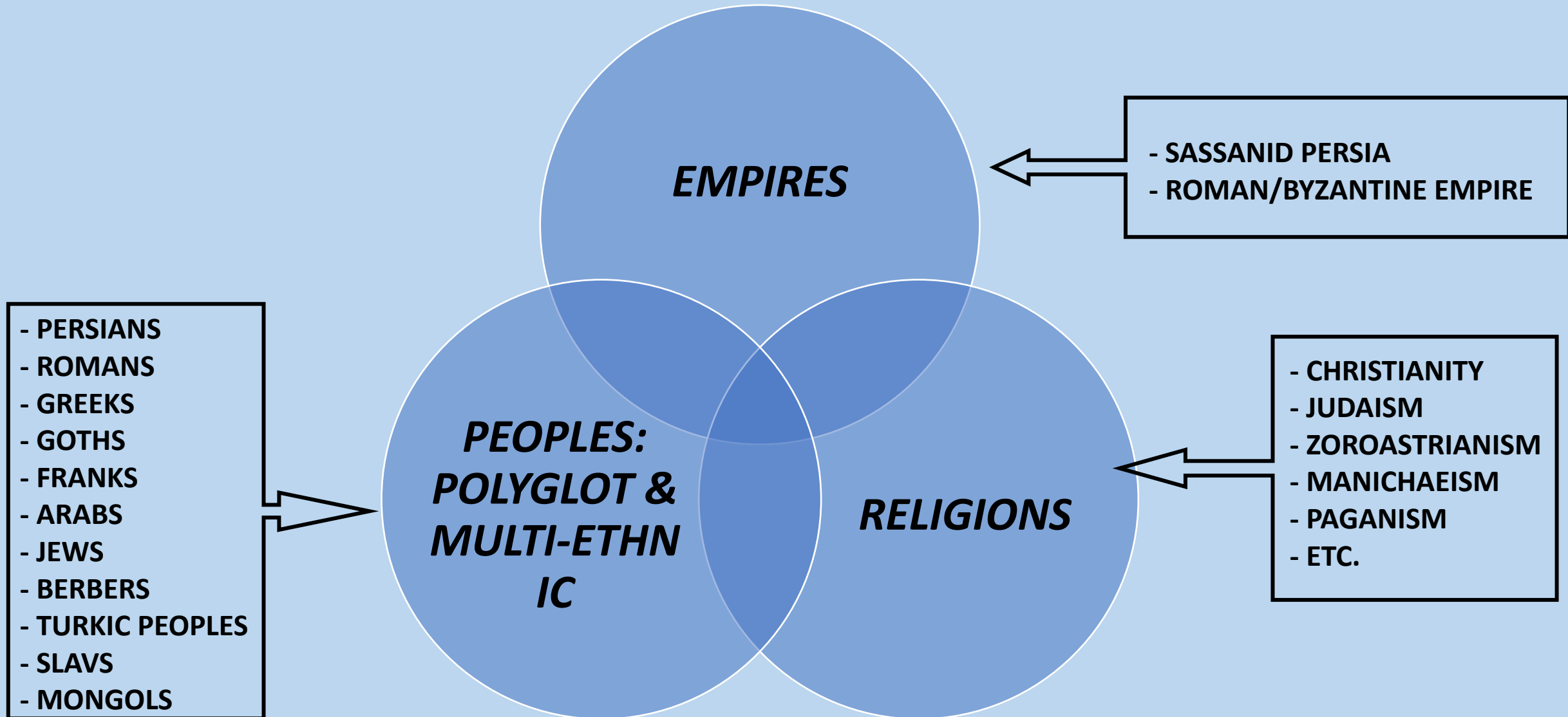
**HOW DOES CONQUEST, ONGOING ARMED CONFLICT
AND RELIGIOUS HEGEMONY YIELD...**



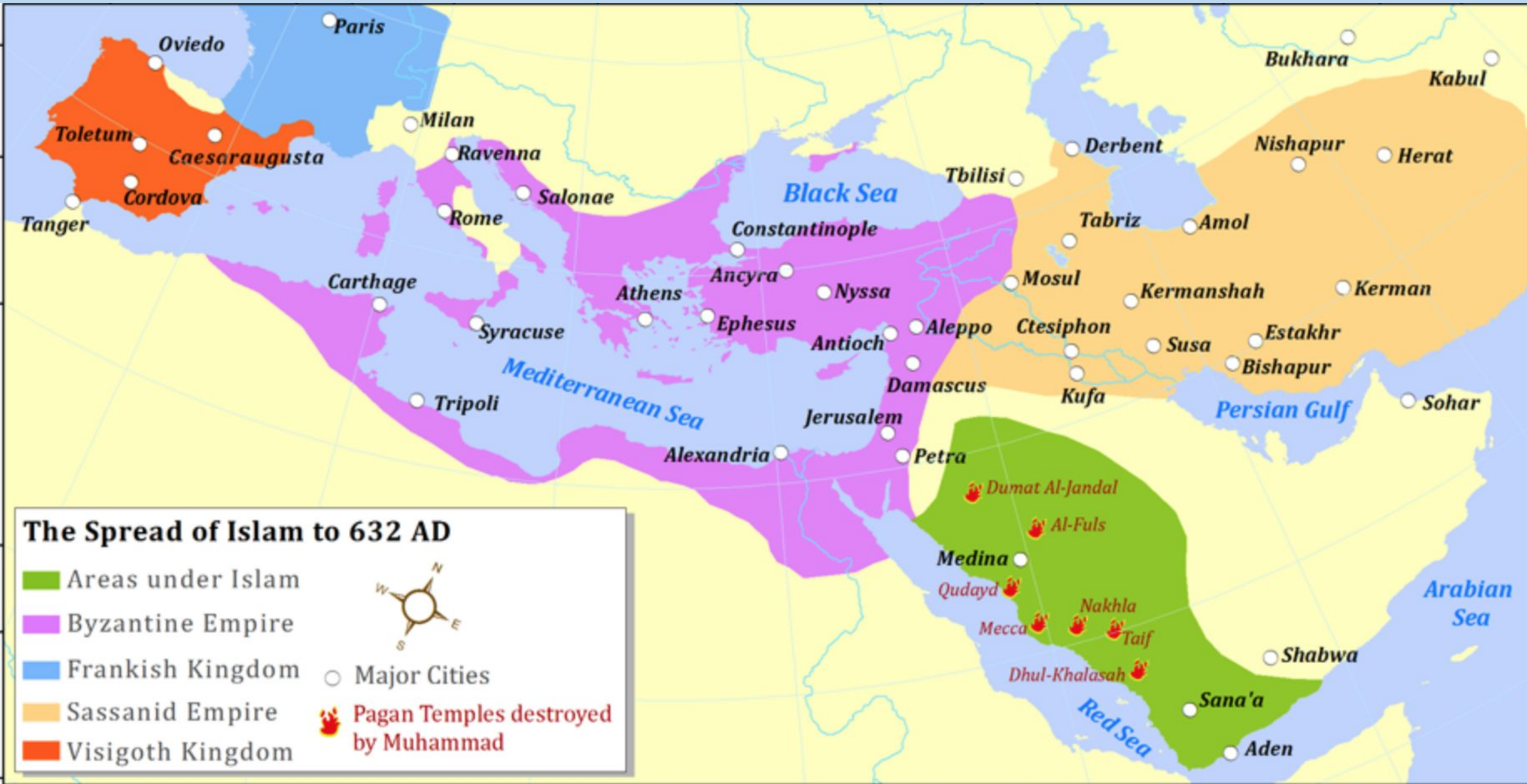
A CULTURAL AND SCIENTIFIC GOLDEN AGE

REGIONAL CONTEXT BEFORE ISLAM

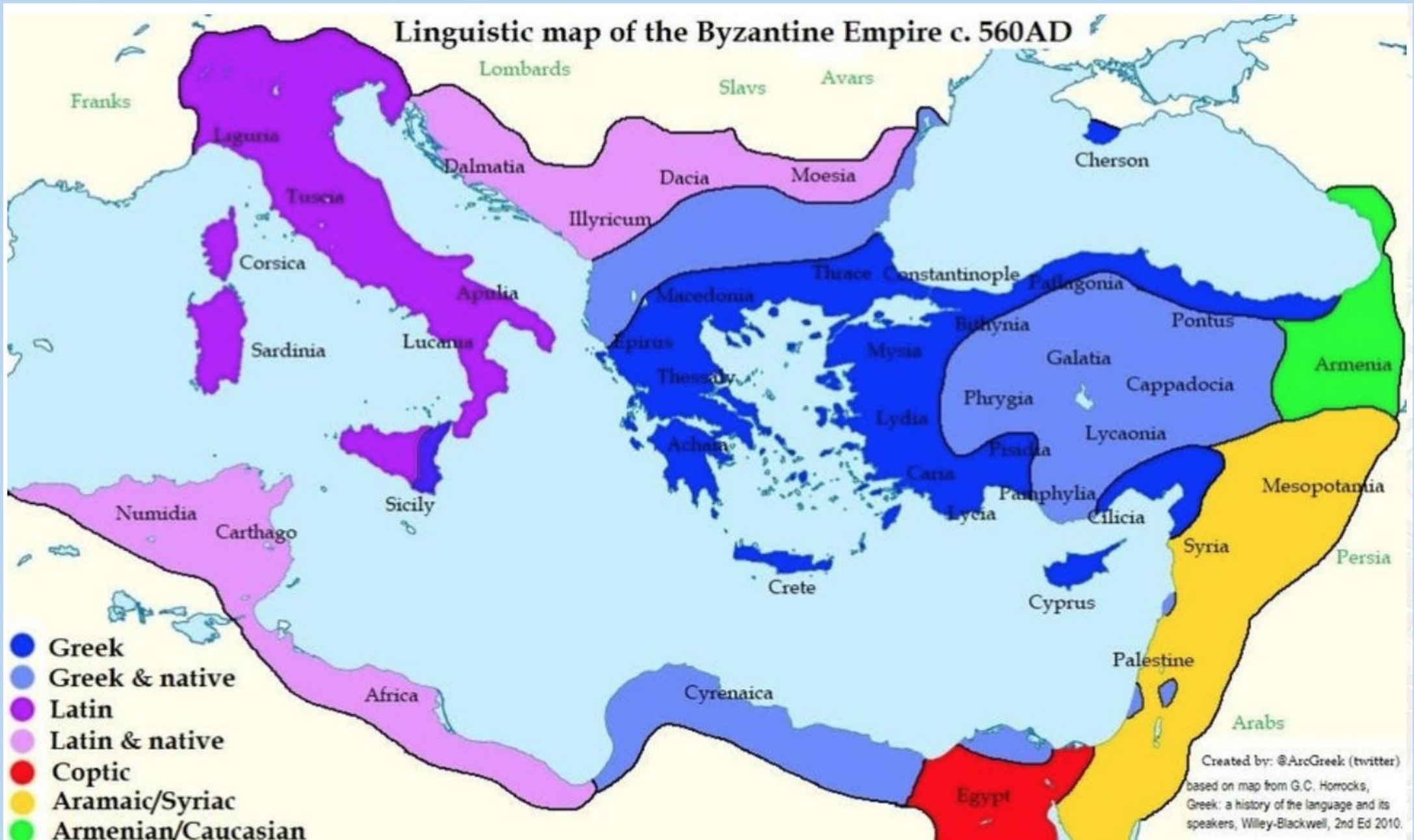
RELIGIO-POLITICAL DYNAMISM/FLUIDITY/CONFLICT



ON THE EVE OF THE ARAB CONQUESTS



BYZANTINE EMPIRE, 6TH CENTURY





(Byzantine) Empire

Persian Empire
(Sassanid Dynasty)

Western Göktürk Khaganate

The Persian Empire
in 600 AD
(under the Sassanid Dynasty)

Updated 7-12-2008
www.WorldHistoryMaps.info

Persian vassals

ON THE PERIPHERY OF EMPIRES

- MANY PEOPLES WITH DIFFERENT RELATIONSHIPS TO THE CENTER
- KINGDOMS, PRINCIPALITIES, TRIBES, CLANS
- NOMADIC AND SETTLED
- "COOKED" BARBARIANS
 - SERVED IN IMPERIAL ARMIES
 - RULERS PROTECTED LOCAL AUTONOMY
 - ADOPTED IMPERIAL TITLES AND OFFICES
 - RECEIVED SUPPORT AND FAVORS
- "RAW" BARBARIANS RAIDED THE BORDERS
- ARABS AND TURKIC TRIBES BOTH SUCCESSFUL VASSALS AND AGGRESSIVE OF THE RAIDERS

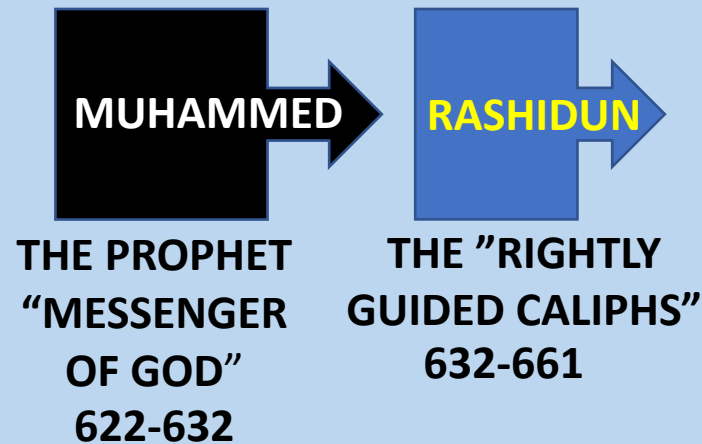
GEOPOLITICAL STANDOFF AND CONFLICT IN LATE ANTIQUITY (4th to 6th CENTURIES)

**BYZANTINE
EMPIRE**



**PERSIAN
EMPIRE**

MUHAMMED AND THE PROPHETIC COMMUNITY



FIRST PARADIGM OF ISLAM:

- CONQUEST, PROSELYTIZING AND CONVERTING IN ARABIA
- BEGINNING CONQUEST BEYOND ARABIA
- FROM FRAGMENTED TRIBAL POPULATION TO SINGLE COMMUNITY
- NO DISTINCTION BETWEEN RELIGIOUS AND SECULAR
AUTHORITY—POLITICAL, SOCIAL AND MORAL AUTHORITY UNDER THE
AEGIS OF ISLAM

SPREAD OF ISLAM DURING MUHAMMED'S LIFE



SOME USEFUL NOMENCLATURE

ARAB	ROOTS IN THE ARABIAN PENINSULA, CALLED SARACEN BY THE BYZANTINES, TAYYAYA BY THE PERSIANS
<i>HIJRA</i> (HEGIRA)	MIGRATION OF MUHAMMED AND HIS FOLLOWERS FROM MECCA TO YATHRIB (MEDINA)
CALIPH (<i>KHALIFA</i>)	"SUCCESSOR" (TO MUHAMMED) AS RULER OF THE MUSLIM COMMUNITY (<i>UMMAH</i>)
<i>DHIMMI</i>	"PROTECTED PEOPLE," NON-ISLAMIC PEOPLE OF THE BOOK IN THE CALIPHATE
<i>JIZYAH</i>	TAX PAID BY <i>DHIMMI</i> , COULD BE EXEMPTED FOR MILITARY SERVICE
SHIA ISLAM	FOLLOWERS/ADHERENTS OF ALI IBN ABI TALIB AS MUHAMMED'S RIGHTFUL SUCCESSOR
SUNNI ISLAM	RECOGNIZE ABU BAKR AS MUHAMMED'S RIGHTFUL SUCCESSOR, RELY ON THE <i>SUNNAH</i> AS WELL AS THE QUR'AN FOR GUIDANCE

MUHAMMED

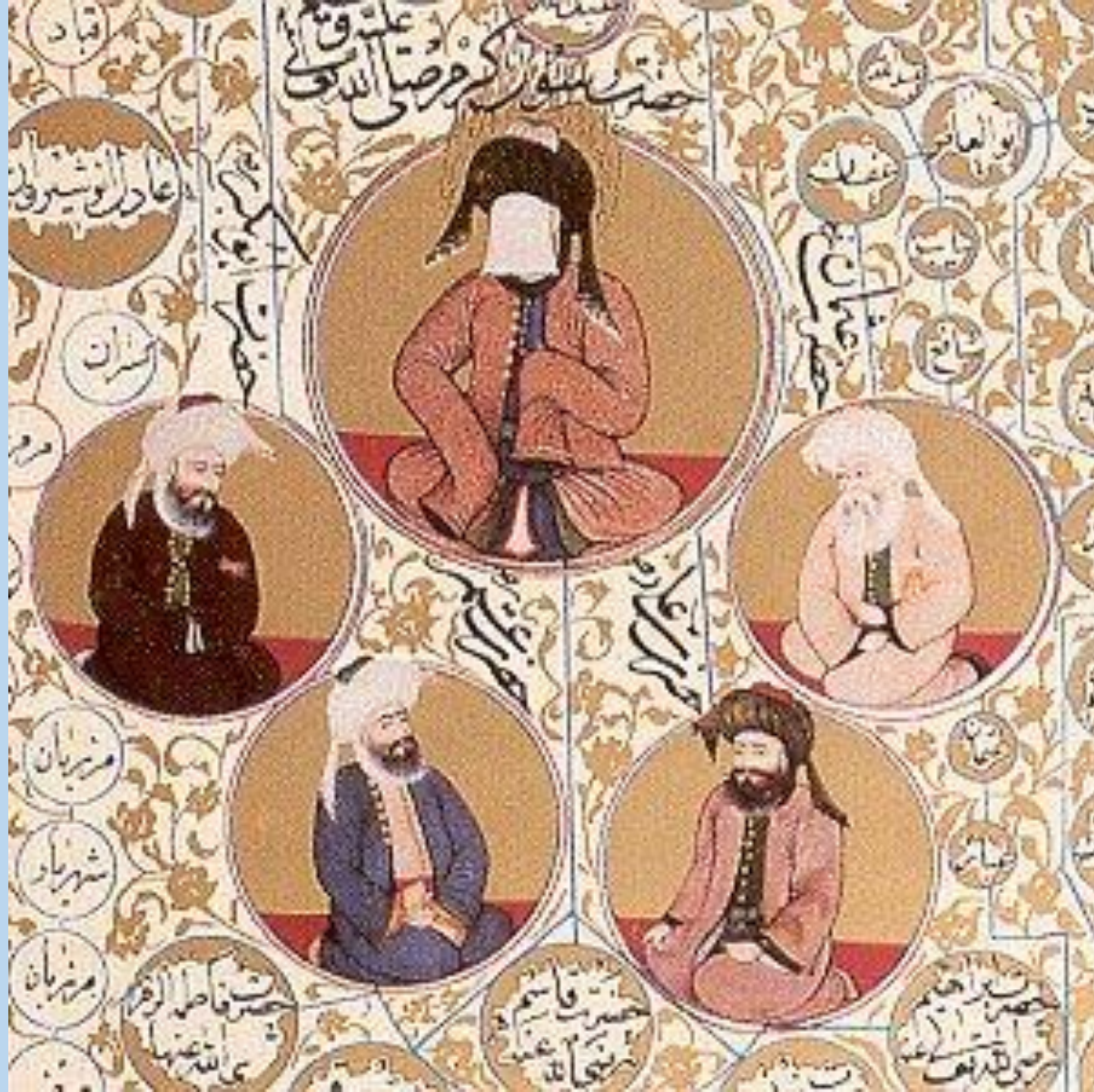
THE PROPHET
"MESSENGER
OF GOD"

622-632

RASHIDUN

THE "RIGHTLY
GUIDED CALIPHS"

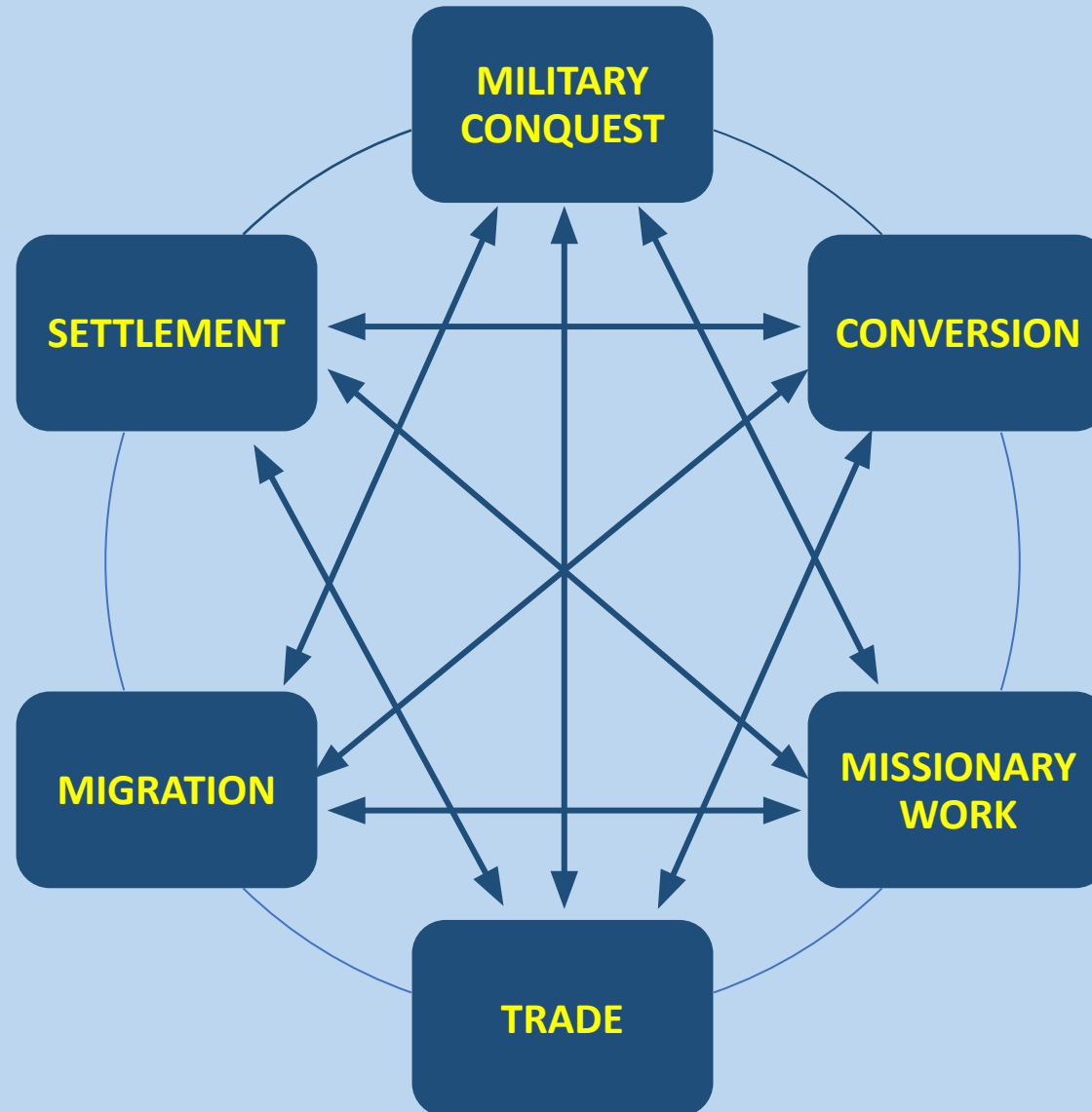
632-661



RASHIDUN EXPANSION AS OF 654
PARADIGM SHIFT TO IMPERIAL ISLAMIC SOCIETY
CRITICAL TO THE EMERGENCE OF THE GOLDEN AGE



ISLAMIC EXPANSION



LEADERSHIP SUCCESSION

"ECUMENICAL" CALIPHATES

THE PROPHET
"MESSENGER
OF GOD"

Muhammed

622-632

RASHIDUN

632-661

UMAYYAD

661-750

ABBASID

750-1258

ABBASID
(MAMLUK,
CAIRO)

1261-1517

OTTOMAN

1517-1924

FRAGMENTATION: "NON-ECUMENICAL" CALIPHATES

UMAYYAD
CALIPHATE OF
CORDOBA

929-1031

FATIMID CALIPHATE
(EGYPT, ISMA'ILI)

909-1171

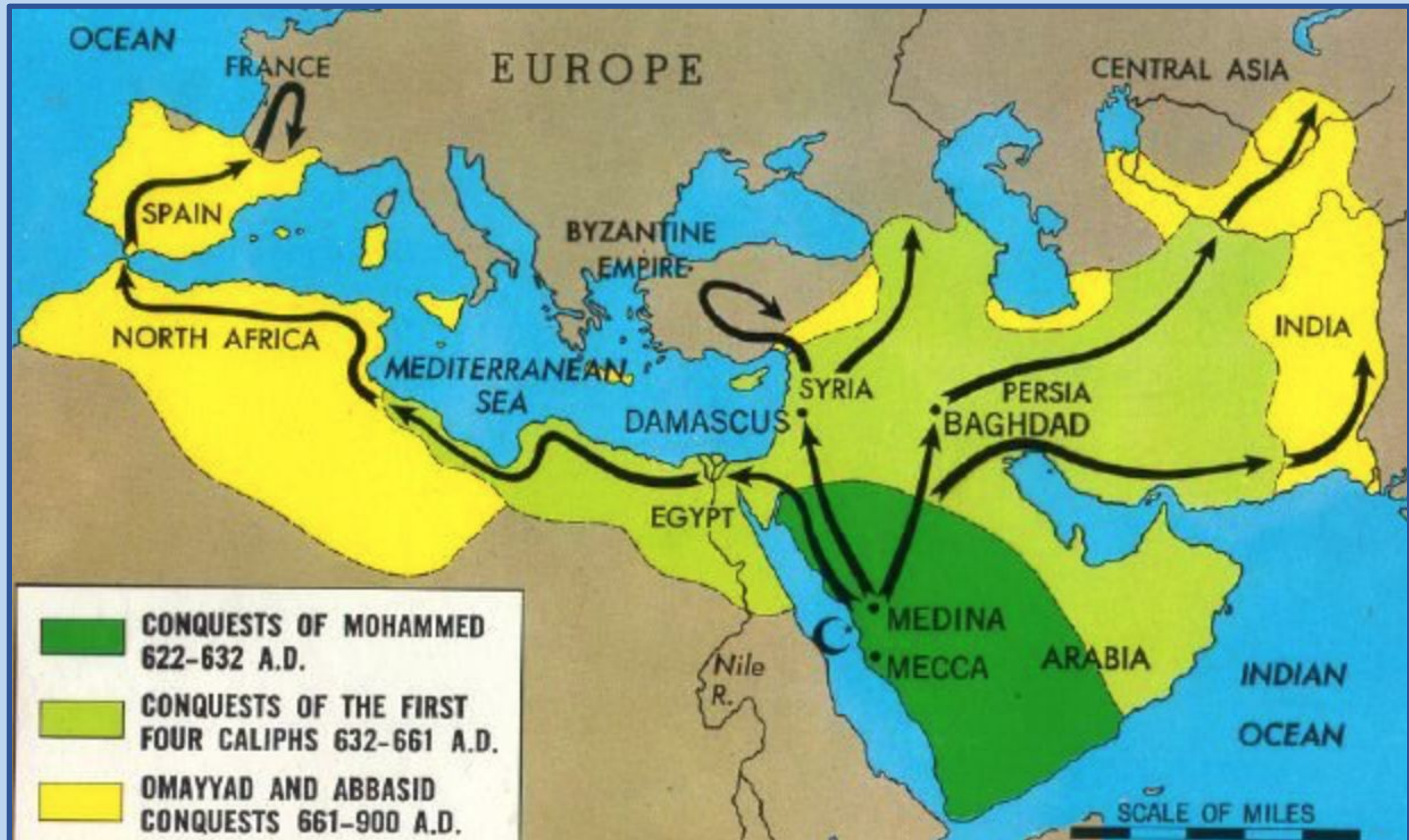
ALMOHAD
CALIPHATE
(MAGHREB, BERBER)

1145-1269

GOLDEN
AGE



SPREAD OF ISLAM, 622-900 C.E.



BEGINNINGS OF FRAGMENTATION, 10th CENTURY



This map illustrates the Caliphate of Córdoba in c. 1000 AD, covering most of the Iberian Peninsula. The caliphate is divided into several administrative regions (marches and provinces) and includes numerous cities. Neighboring Christian kingdoms and the Zenata Tribes are also shown.

Caliphate of Córdoba (c. 1000)

Regions and Provinces:

- al-Ġarḅ (Lower March):** Located in the southwest, including the city of al-Lixbuna (Lisbon).
- al-Mawṣat (Middle March):** Located in the central part of the caliphate, including the city of Qurtuba (Córdoba).
- al-Ḥarq (Levante):** Located in the southeast, including the city of Mursiya (Murcia).
- al-Ġarḅ (Lower March):** Located in the southwest, including the city of al-Lixbuna (Lisbon).
- al-Ġarḅ (Lower March):** Located in the southwest, including the city of al-Lixbuna (Lisbon).

Cities and Towns:

- al-Lixbuna (Lisbon)
- Batalyawṣ (Badajoz)
- Silb (Silves)
- Isbiliya (Seville)
- Qurtuba (Córdoba)
- Bayyana (Benahadux)
- al-Mariyya (Almería)
- al-Ġazirat (Algeciras)
- Ṭanja (Tangier)
- Ṭilayṭulah (Tledo)
- Madinat-Salim (Medinaceli)
- Saraqusta (Zaragoza)
- Larida (Lleida)
- Ṭirtuxa (Tortosa)
- Balansiya (Valencia)
- Mayurca (Majorca)

Neighboring Christian Kingdoms and Territories:

- KINGDOM OF LEÓN**
- KINGDOM OF NAVARRE**
- COUNTY OF CASTILE**
- RIBAGORÇA**
- COUNTY OF BARCELONA**
- EMIRATE OF NEKOR**

Geographical Features:

- Oceans/Seas:** Atlantic Ocean, Cantabrian Sea, Mediterranean Sea.
- Rivers:** Minho, Douro, Mondego, Tāgus, Guadalquivir, Segura, Júcar, Ebro.

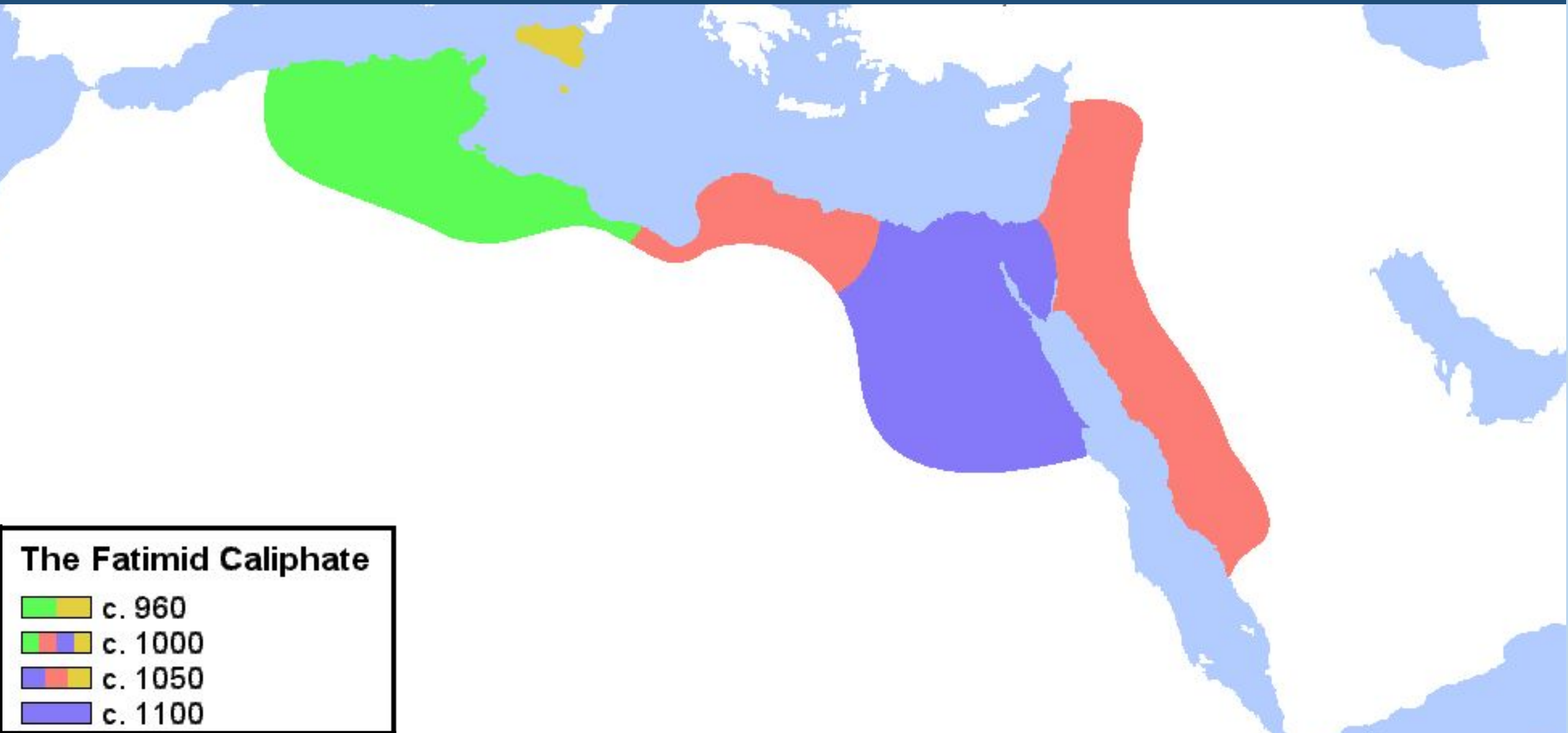
Other Labels:

- ZENATA TRIBES**

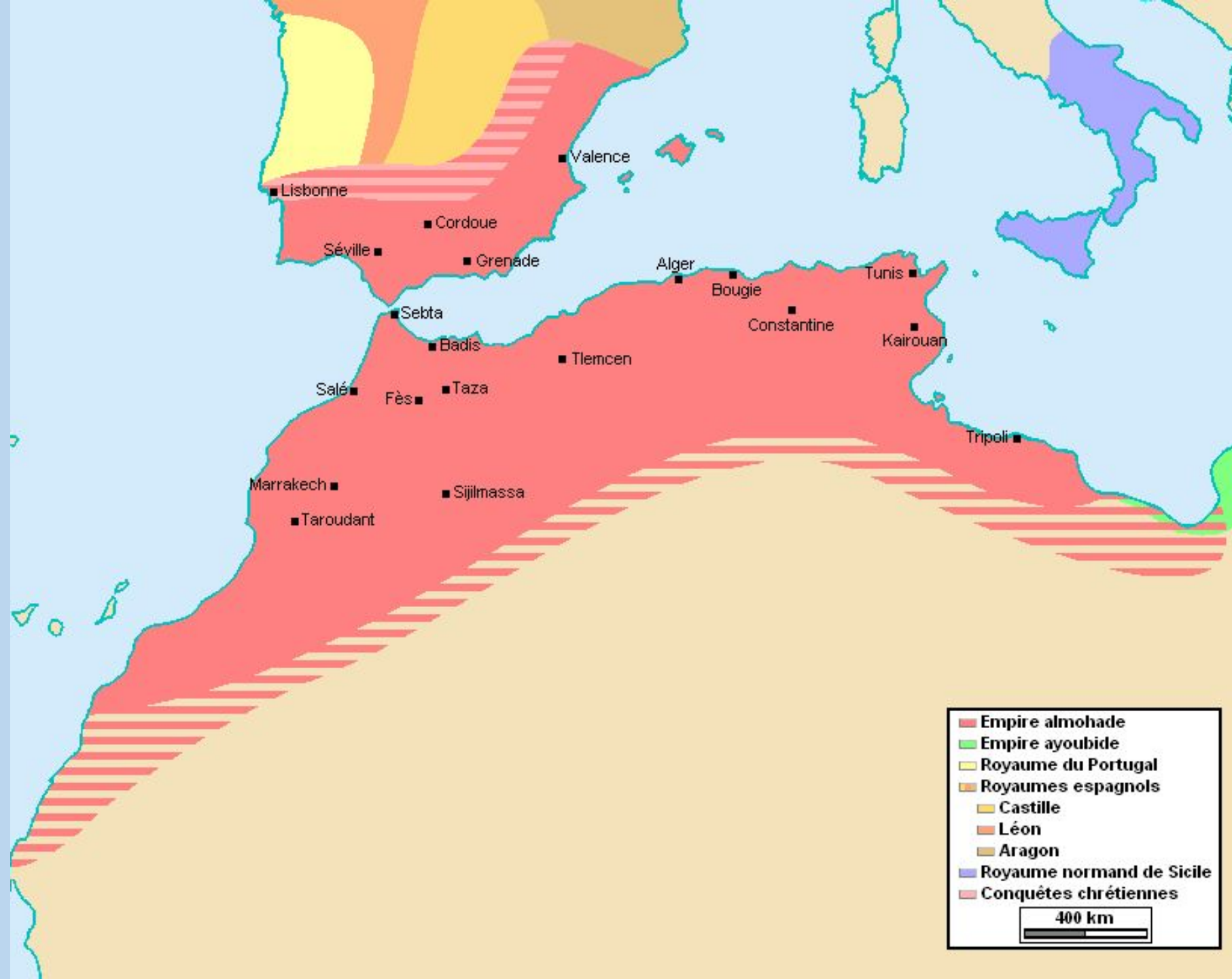


FRAGMENTATION

(FATIMIDS IN NORTH AFRICA, 10TH-11TH CENTURIES)



FRAGMENTATION (BERBER ALMOHADS 12TH CENTURY)



CULTURAL FLOWERING

- **PRESERVATION/DISSEMINATION OF CLASSICAL KNOWLEDGE/PHILOSOPHY**
- **MEDICINE**
- **MATHEMATICS--ARABIC NUMERALS, ALGEBRA AND TRIGONOMETRY**
- **ASTRONOMY, COSMOLOGY**
- **PHYSICS**
- **OPTICS**
- **ART & ARCHITECTURE**
- **TRADE & COMMERCE**
- **LAW**
- **PHILOSOPHY**

BACK TO THE CENTRAL QUESTION

**WAS THERE SOMETHING IN PARTICULAR OR SPECIAL
ABOUT THE ISLAMIC WORLD OF THE MIDDLE AGES
THAT FOSTERED OR GAVE RISE TO THE INCREDIBLE
FLOWERING OF INTELLECTUAL, SCIENTIFIC AND
CULTURAL LIFE THAT TOOK PLACE?**

