

Map

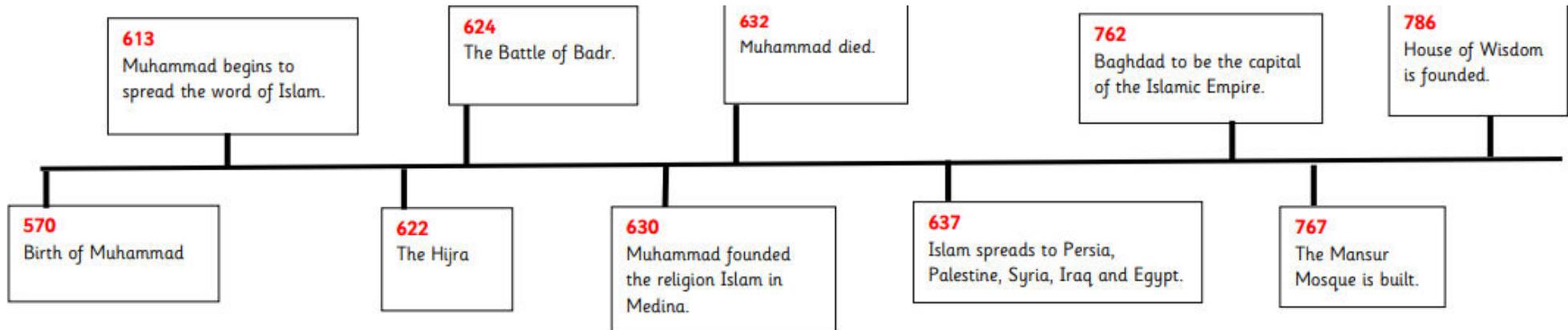


Know that in 750AD the Abbasid Caliphate began.

At this time, the empire consisted of areas in the Middle East, North Africa and Southern Europe, with coasts on the Mediterranean Sea.

What should I already know?

- Know BC means 'Before Christ', BCE means 'Before the Common Era' and CE means 'Common Era'
- Know that a century is 100 years
- Know that an empire is a group of states or countries that all have the same monarch
- Know that a civilisation is an advanced society
- Know that Muhammed was born in 570AD in Mecca
- Know that Muhammed founded the religion of Islam in 610AD



Vocabulary	
Docks	An area of water in a port that can be closed off and that is used for putting goods onto and taking them off ships or repairing ships
Migration	When someone leaves their homeland to go and live in another country
Emigration	Leaving your country
Immigration	Moving into a new country. People who have moved into a different country are called immigrants
Economic migrants	People who move from one place to another in order to improve their standard of living.
Refugee	Someone that flees their own country to seek safety.
Persecution	hostility and ill-treatment, especially because of race or political or religious beliefs; oppression
Caliph	the chief Muslim civil and religious ruler, regarded as the successor of Muhammad. The caliph ruled in Baghdad until 1258
Population	all the inhabitants of a particular place.
Standardised	cause (something) to conform to a standard
Scholars	a person who is highly educated or has an aptitude for stud
Intellectual	a person possessing a highly developed intellect
Philosopher	a person engaged or learned in philosophy
Baghdad	Baghdad is the capital of Iraq and one of the largest cities in the Arab world

Diagram – Baghdad c.900-1200



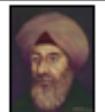
The City Structure of Baghdad c.900-1200AD

The city was known as 'The Round City.' It was built as two giant semicircles with a mosque at the centre. It housed the caliph's palace, government and military buildings. Residential areas for common people was outside the city walls.

Early Baghdad Overview

- The Abbasid Caliphate, under the Caliph al-Mansur, moved the capital of the Muslim world to 'Madinat al Salam' in 762 AD.
- It later became Baghdad.
- It is estimated that between c.900-1200, the population reached between 1.2 and 2 million people (the largest city in the world at the time).
- It was a world centre of learning, including the 'House of Wisdom', which attracted many scholars from all around the world.
- At this time, Islamic law and Arabic grammar were standardised.
- The city was destroyed by Mongols in 1258.

Prominent Figures in Early Baghdad

 <p style="text-align: center;">Caliph Al-Mansur – 714-775 AD</p> <p>Al-Mansur was the second Abbasid Caliph, who reigned from 754 to 775CE. He is often thought of as the first real founder of the Abbasid Caliphate, for his role in growing and stabilizing the dynasty's rule. He is known for founding the 'Round City' of Madinat Al-Salam (now known as Baghdad). Al-Mansur assassinated several of his rivals to strengthen his reign, for example the powerful army commander Abu Muslim.</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">Al-Farabi – c.872-950/951 AD</p> <p>Al-Farabi (known throughout the west as Alfarabius) was a well-known philosopher, who added a great deal of knowledge to the fields of politics, ethics, and logic. He was also a well-respected scientist, mathematician, and cosmologist. He is credited with preserving a number of original Greek texts through the middle ages. He also influenced many other famed philosophers, for example Avicenna and Maimonides.</p>
 <p style="text-align: center;">Ibn al-Haytham – c.965-c.1040 AD</p> <p>Hasan Ibn al-Haytham was an Arab mathematician, astronomer, and scientist of the Islamic Golden Age. He is sometimes referred to as the 'Father of Modern Optics' due to his contributions to the understanding of how humans and animals see. He was the first to identify that light bounces off an object and then travels to the eye. He was also the first to point out that vision occurs in the brain, not the eyes.</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">Avicenna – 980-1037 AD</p> <p>Avicenna (also known as Ibn Sina or Ibn Ali Sina) was one of the most important physicians and scientists of the Islamic Golden Age, and also one of the most important people in early modern medicine. We wrote around 450 works, of which 240 have survived until the present day. He wrote two famous encyclopedias: <i>The Book of Healing</i> and <i>The Canon of Medicine</i>, the latter of which was used as standard at medical universities until 1650.</p>
 <p style="text-align: center;">Al-Tabari – 839-923 AD</p> <p>Muhammad ibn Jarir al-Tabari was a scholar and historian, who composed all of his works in Arabic. He is best known for his knowledge of world history and understanding of the Qur'an, however he also wrote about subjects as diverse as poetry, grammar and mathematics. He was exceptionally gifted – he memorized the Qur'an at the age of 7 and was a prayer leader by 8!</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">Al-Jahiz – 776-868/9 AD</p> <p>Al-Jahiz was an Arabic prose writer and author of works of literature and political/ religious texts. He was born into a poor family, however this did not stop him from gaining an insatiable appetite for learning. He became extremely knowledgeable about history and the sciences, amongst other topics. He wrote over 200 texts, of which around 30 are still in existence today.</p>