

History • World History: Early Islamic Civilization

Key Learning Question: Why did this period of history become known as the “Islamic Golden Age”?



Crucial Knowledge

We are getting better at investigating the past:

- Islam is a religion created by a man named Muhammad, who was born in Mecca in 570AD.
- The Caliph Al-Mansur built the city of Baghdad in 725AD as the new capital of the Islamic Empire.
- Merchants traded along a route that ran from east to west called the Silk Road.
- During the Golden Age Baghdad had a population of about 1 million, making it the largest city in the world.
- The House of Wisdom was built in the centre of Baghdad. Here Islamic scholars made many advances in science, medicine and art.
- Many inventions we still use today were created during the Islamic Golden Age.
- While the Islamic Golden Age was prospering, Europe was experiencing the Dark ages.
- Baghdad was destroyed by the Mongols and never recovered.
- Without the knowledge from the House of Wisdom, the Renaissance wouldn't have started in Europe.



Key Vocabulary

We are getting better at communicating historically

Caste: A system of social class grouping.

House of Wisdom: A library or university where scholars from all over the world were invited to study.

Scholar: A highly educated person.

Caliph: A Muslim ruler who is regarded as the successor of Muhammad.

Caliphate: An Islamic state ruled by a caliph.

Baghdad: Baghdad was the capital of the Muslim world and is now Iraq's capital.

The Crusades: A series of religious wars between Christians and Muslims.

The Dark Ages: An era (500AD-1000AD) during which there was a decline in European prosperity.

Renaissance: A rebirth of education, science, art, literature, music around 14th-17th century Europe.

We are getting better at interpreting the past:

Big Ideas: Chronology • Civilization • Empire • Technology • Trade • Religion • Evolution and Change • Society



Important People & Places



Al-Zahrawi

Al-Zahrawi was born in 936 and died in 1013. He was a court surgeon to the Caliph Al-Hakam. He has been described as the father of modern surgery.



Al-Idrisi

Al-Idrisi was born in 1099 and died in 1165 in Spain. He was a famous geographer, cartographer and Egyptologist.



Caliph Al-Mansur

Al-Mansur was born 714 and died 775. He reigned between 754 and 775. Baghdad was founded under his rule.



We Are Building Our Knowledge From

- Ancient Greeks (Y4)
- Vikings (Y4)

This will help when we learn about

- Immigration Through Time (Y6)



Timeline

We are getting better at chronology

622

630

632

661-750

750

762

1258

Islamic state is established.

Muhammad & his Empire overtook Mecca

Rashidun Caliphate rules empire.

Umayyad Caliphate rules empire.

Abbasid Caliphate rules empire.

City of Baghdad is built.

Baghdad is sacked by the Mongols.