

# History • World History: Early Islamic Civilization

**Key Learning Question:** Why did the period around 900AD become known as the 'Islamic Golden Age', and how does it compare to Britain at that time?



## Crucial Knowledge

- In 900AD, while Britain was in the dark ages, the Islamic civilization was growing and spreading across Asia and the Middle east, North Africa and Spain. Known as its "Golden Age", the early Muslim world was significantly more advanced in knowledge, technology, culture and society.
- The city of Baghdad, built in 725, was the centre of the Islamic Empire. London was still a simple Anglo Saxon settlement at this time.
- International trade routes such as the Silk Road passed through Baghdad which spread the Islamic faith and made the empire very wealthy.
- Some of the most important discoveries known to man were made during this time, in the 9<sup>th</sup> century. Knowledge of science, maths and astronomy lead to these discoveries
- During the Islamic Golden age, many scholars came to the House of Wisdom in Baghdad. They created one of the greatest intellectual libraries in history to help support a peaceful world.



## Key Vocabulary

civilization: The way of life of people or a society

empire: A group of countries ruled over by one leader

golden age: A period of time where lots of great things were achieved

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

scholar: A student or a very well educated person

trade: The buying and selling of goods

merchants: People who buy or sell goods, particularly with foreign countries

Silk Road: A trade route from China to Eastern Europe

## Big Ideas:

Chronology • Evolution & Technology • Beliefs • Society • Change Makers • Conflict



## 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-Haythm

Al-Haythm was born in 945 and died in 1040 AD. He first discovered how optics and human sight worked.



### Al-Khwarizmi

Al-Khwarizmi was born in 780 and died in 850 AD. He has been described as the father of algebra.

## We Are Building Our Knowledge From

- Ancient Greeks (Y4)
- Vikings and Anglo Saxons (Y5)

## This will help when we learn about

- Immigration Through Time (Y6)



## Timeline

622	630	632	661	750	762	832	900	1258
Islamic state is established	Muhammad & his Empire overtook Mecca	Rashidun caliphate rule begins	Umayyad Caliphate rule begins	Abbsaid Caliphate rule begins	City of Baghdad is built	House of Wisdom built	Peak of Golden Age	Baghdad sacked by Mongols