

IS 225 – History of Islam

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 Saturdays, 1:00-4:00 PM
 Bulwagang Salam

Overview

Islam has been a vital force for more than 1400 years. Presently, it is the basis of life, belief and culture of more than 23% of world's population according to 2010 Pew report. Through examination of selected texts, students' academic writings, and class discussions, this course explores Islam and Muslim history and historiography from pre-Islamic era to the decline of the Ottoman Empire. It includes survey of intellectual, political, social, economic, and cultural developments and processes that shaped various Muslim communities (these are, Arabs, Persians or Iranians, Turkish, Chinese, Africans, South Asians or Indians, and Southeast Asians or Malays).

Objectives

- When asked what was the speed of sound Albert Einstein said: "I do not carry such information in my mind since it is readily available in books. The value of an education is not the learning of many facts but the training of the mind to think."¹ This course is designed to train the minds of students to think and to think critically by letting them express their thoughts freely and be guided by the instructor regarding the assigned text. This class is not about short-term memorization of facts that enable students pass quizzes and seatwork.
- To familiarize students of scholarly and academic sources (peer-reviewed journal articles, monographs, book chapters, edited volumes, and encyclopedic essays published by top and reputable publishers). Thus avoiding journalistic sources such as magazines, editorial news, columns, op-ed, letters, position and policy papers, Wiki articles and various internet sources, among others, written by pseudo-scholars, frequent TV/media commentators, bloggers, polemicists, propagandists, etc.
- Papers (these are, think piece, critical essay, abstract proposal, and research essay) serve as intellectual measurement of student skills in reading comprehension (their understanding of the text) and academic writing capability.
- Train to write proper abstract proposals and efficient delivery of paper presentation including discussing another one's paper in an academic conference setting.

To be more specific, students are expected to:

- Get acquainted with concepts and trends in Muslim history and Islamic historiography.
- Acquire necessary intellectual stamina on discourses and debates emphasized by texts.
- Trace the development of Muslim societies in its historical and spiritual characters.
- Identify the connections from pre-Modern to Modern Muslim communities.
- Engage with historical themes and events on how they relate to contemporary times.
- Develop students' skills in academic writings through their examination of the selected reading materials.

¹ In response to not knowing the speed of sound as included in the Edison Test: *New York Times* (18 May 1921); *Einstein: His Life and Times* (1947) Philip Frank, p. 185; *Einstein, A Life* (1996) by Denis Brian, p. 129; "Einstein Due Today" (February 2005) edited by József Illy, Manuscript 25-32 of the Einstein Paper Project; all previous sources as per *Einstein His Life and Universe* (2007) by Walter Isaacson, p. 299.

Requirements

The course's pedagogy requires extensive reading skills, contemplation and understanding of the text(s) assigned for that particular meeting. Lectures, to some extent, will aid you but it is up to your determination and passion to do research which will help you pass the course. This is an intensive research-driven course that entails the following requirements:

Diagnostic Test:	Constitute 3 to 5-sentence summary and 3 to 5-sentence analysis of a text.
Think Piece:	Constitute 150-word analysis of one assigned text.
Critical Essay:	Constitute 200-word answer to one paradigmatic question.
Abstract Proposal:	A brief 250-word summary/in-dept analysis that constitutes the issue (research problem and question), framework (theoretical/conceptual), method(s), and hypothetical proposition of your research essay.
Research Essay:	The 750-word research essay is divided into 150-word introduction, 525-word body, and 75-word conclusion. See details below.
Academic Conference Presentation:	Composed of 4 paper presenters (serving also as discussants) and 1 chair. Division of time depends on the number of students per section within 2-day duration. Paper presenter highlights the kernel of his/her paper within a limited time. Discussant assesses the paper and raises critical points and inquiries. Randomly selected chair moderates and serves as timer of the panel.

Introduction of Research Essay

- This may have one heading and one up to two subheadings depending on your prescribed division. The word 'introduction' must be omitted. This constitutes 150 words only.
- This has two parts: (1) the abstract, and (2) review of related literature.
- The abstract includes overall thesis statement, research problem, research question(s), theories and methods to be used, and your main hypothesis.
- Thesis statement is "a short statement, usually one sentence, that summarizes the main point or claim of an essay, research paper, etc., and is developed, supported, and explained in the text by means of examples and evidence." (See <http://www.dictionary.com/browse/thesis-statement>)
- "A research problem is a definite or clear expression [statement] about an area of concern, a condition to be improved upon, a difficulty to be eliminated, or a troubling question that exists in scholarly literature, in theory, or within existing practice that points to a need for meaningful understanding and deliberate investigation. A research problem does not state how to do something, offer a vague or broad proposition, or present a value question."
[See <http://libguides.usc.edu/writingguide/introduction/researchproblem> or cite Bryman, Alan. "The Research Question in Social Research: What is its Role?" *International Journal of Social Research Methodology* 10 (2007): 5-20.]
- "A research question is an answerable inquiry into a specific concern or issue. It is the initial step in a research project. The 'initial step' means after you have an idea of what you want to study, the research question is the first active step in the research project." Ensure that it is not too broad or too narrow. (See <http://study.com/academy/lesson/writing-research-questions-purpose-examples.html>)
- Specify theories in Islamic Studies you will use and explain how it will benefit your research essay. You may utilize eclectic approach or single theoretical understanding. If you are confident you can create your own theory, but the difficulty is that you have to provide its explanatory power and empirical applicability.

- You may use multiple research methods both in traditional (pre-modern) and contemporary (modern) studies in Islam. Selected references are:

- Addas, Waleed A.J. (2008). *Methodology of Economics: Secular vs. Islamic (A Comparative Study of Economics: From Self-Interest to 'God's Interest')*. Kuala Lumpur: International Islamic University Malaysia.
- Ahmed, Farah. (2013). Exploring *Halaqah* as Research Method: A Tentative Approach to Developing Islamic Research Principles within a Critical 'Indigenous' Framework. *International Journal of Qualitative Studies in Education*, DOI:10.1080/09518398.2013.805852.
- Al-Sharqawi, Muhammad Abdallah. (2010). The Methodology of Religious Studies in Islamic Thought. *Journal of Qur'anic Studies*, 2(2), pp. 145-174.
- Berg, Herbert., ed., (2003). *Method and Theory in the Study of Islamic Origins*. Leiden and Boston: BRILL.
- Dalhat, Yusuf. (2015). Introduction to Research Methodology in Islamic Studies. *Journal of Islamic Studies and Culture*, 3(2), pp. 147-152.
- Duderija, Adis. (2011). *Constructing a Religiously Ideal "Believer" and "Woman" in Islam: Neo-traditional Salafi and Progressive Muslims' Methods of Interpretation*. New York, USA: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Günther, Sebastian., ed., (2005). *Ideas, Images, and Methods of Portrayal: Insights into Classical Arabic Literature and Islam*. Leiden and Boston: BRILL.
- Haque, Ziaul. (1976). Islamic Research: Method and Scope. *Islamic Studies (Islamic Research Institute, Islamabad)*, 15, pp. 43-56.
- Hughes, Aaron W. (2011). Method in the Study of Islam. *Islamic Studies (Oxford Bibliographies Online Research Guides)*, DOI: 10.1093/OBO/9780195390155-0132.
- Janos, Damien. (2012). *Method, Structure, and Development in al-Fārābī's Cosmology*. Leiden and Boston: BRILL.
- Koenig, Harold G. and Saad Al Shohaib. (2014). *Health and Well-Being in Islamic Societies: Background, Research, and Applications*. Switzerland: Springer International Publishing.
- Peters, Rudolph and Peri Bearman., eds., (2014). *The Ashgate Research Companion to Islamic Law*. England and Vermont: Ashgate Publishing.
- Rafiuddin, Moharnmad. (2000). The Meaning and Purpose of Islamic Research. *The Qur'anic Horizons*, 5(1), pp. 12-33.
- Rahman, Fazlur. (1965). *Islamic Methodology in History*. Islamabad, Pakistan: Islamic Research Institute.

This also include three pieces of advice from:

1. Dar al-Iftaa Al-Missriyyah's *The Research Methodology in Traditional Islamic Scholarship*
<http://eng.dar-alifta.org/Foreign/ViewArticle.aspx?ID=113&CategoryID=3>
2. Osman Bakar's *The Question of Methodology in Islamic Science*
<http://i-epistemology.net/osman-bakar/116-the-question-of-methodology-in-islamic-science.pdf>
3. Shaykh Mansour Leghaei's *Research Methods in Islamic Sciences*
<https://www.al-islam.org/articles/research-methods-islamic-sciences-sheikh-mansour-leghaei>

Continuation of Introduction of Research Essay

- Hypothesis is "an idea or explanation for something that is based on known facts but has not yet been proven." (See <http://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/english/hypothesis>)

- “A literature review is an evaluative report of studies found in the literature related to your selected area. The review should describe, summarize, evaluate and clarify this literature. It should give a theoretical basis for the research and help you determine the nature of your own research. Select a limited number of works that are central to your area rather than trying to collect a large number of works that are not as closely connected to your topic area.” You may cite one or two related review of literature. (See http://library.queensu.ca/webedu/grad/Purpose_of_the_Literature_Review.pdf)
- After you have sufficiently supplied the parts of introduction, you must put connecting independent clauses that will guide and lead the reader to the next section of your research essay. “An independent clause is a group of words that contains a subject and verb and expresses a complete thought.” (See <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/598/01/>)

Body of Research Essay

- It is divided into two parts: (1) presentation of data and/or findings, and (2) providing your own analyses. The word ‘body’ must be omitted. This is the biggest part of your research essay.
- This may have two headings and two up to four subheadings depending on your prescribed division.
- Presenting data is the way the researcher/writer organize and communicate information using selected methods and with the guidance of your chosen (or invented) theories. Each data must deliberately connect or relate to your abstract which encompasses thesis statement, research problem, question(s), and your hypothesis. Two to three data suffices the requirements for this particular research essay.
- After data presentation, you will then provide your thorough analyses. This part must not have in-text citations because this is your overall contribution to the knowledge or literature of your selected research issue or topic. Readers expect to read your personal thoughts, understandings, interpretations, assessments, and detailed examinations of each data presented.
- After you have sufficiently supplied the parts of the body and somehow persuaded the readers, you must put connecting independent clauses that will guide and lead the reader to the next section of your research essay.

Conclusion of Research Essay

- This is the shortest part of your research essay. The length is 75 words only. It only has one heading depending on what words or phrases strikingly unique that are relevant to the totality of your essay.
- The first set of paragraphs comprised a summarized version of the introduction.
- The second set of paragraphs comprised a summarized version of the body.
- And, lastly, posit separated overarching (two-to-three) sentences that completely answers your research question(s) and if your hypothesis is correctly or incorrectly proven.

Instructions to Authors

Please take note that upon completion, proofread your work, and let others proofread it so as to avoid grammatical errors. Please remember that references are aligned in the left margin, and not in the center. In writing your research essay, students must oblige to the following instructions:

- Use 12-point font ‘Times New Roman’.
- Always use two hard returns at the end of a paragraph, rather than indenting the first line of a new paragraph.
- Do not use any hyphenation or justification program, but allow your software to make automatic word-wraps without hyphenation (you should insert hyphens only in words that must be hyphenated).
- Papers must be delivered in double-spaced format, including the reference list.
- All pages must be numbered consecutively, from beginning to end.
- Microsoft Word is the preferred package: Only text files in .doc or .docx are acceptable.

- Provide a word count of your paper upon submission or state it on the upper left of your paper.
- Endnotes are preferred. They should be entered into your paper using the Word note function rather than numbered text at the end of the document. Not only does this allow the processing of the notes more accurately and efficiently, it also ensures that the numbering is consistent. In addition, the dedicated reference list must not be endnotes containing references. The reason is that if a referenced work appears in a dedicated reference section the instructor can create direct links to the works cited anywhere your text appears online. This is not possible with note references. Endnotes must be discursive notes that simply expand on the text.
- As much as possible please avoid tables, figures, boxes or artworks unless they are extremely necessary in supporting your argument.
- Please note that it is not permitted to accept separate font files consisting of special characters (e.g. Arabic, Persian, Bahasa, Urdu, Ottoman or Turkish). Please provide a simple transliteration of foreign words, for example, use ‘*sharia*’ instead of ‘*sharī‘ah*’.
- Use US spelling style. For US spelling, Webster’s *New Collegiate Dictionary* or Webster’s *Third New International Dictionary* are the standard references.
- For both in-text citations and reference list, the Harvard Referencing is much preferred. Please see this free tool at <https://www.citethisforme.com/harvard-referencing>
- Headings and subheadings of the whole research essay complements one another and that there should be a flow of thought throughout the paper. For example:

Wherefore art thou Nation-State, clanged by Muslim Governance?

The Problematique

*Causational Predicament
Exploration of Competing Works*

Withered Nation-State

*The Derivation
Territorial Sovereignty*

Flourished Muslim Governance

*The Derivation
A Sovereign Moral*

Consequential Parity of both Polities

*Analyzing Derivations
Parity of Moral and Territorial Sovereigns*

Conclusion

As you can see in the outline, the introduction is the ‘problematique’, the first part of the body is its presented data on ‘withered nation-state’ and ‘flourished Muslim governance’, while the second part of the body is analyses (that is, ‘consequential parity...’). And, of course the conclusion.

Very Important! On PLAGIARISM

It is defined, according to Black's Law Dictionary (2nd Edition), "the act of appropriating the literary composition of another, or parts or passages of his writings, or the ideas or language of the same, and passing them off as the product of one's own mind." See: <http://thelawdictionary.org/plagiarism/>

In short, it is an intellectual thievery. See <http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml> for more academic details. In Philippine laws, it is a violation of Republic Act No. 8293 (Intellectual Property Code of the Philippines) and Republic Act 10175 (Cybercrime Prevention Act of 2012). When you plagiarized, you will be punishable by:

- A. Imprisonment of one (1) year to three (3) years plus a fine ranging from Fifty thousand pesos (P50,000) to One hundred fifty thousand pesos (P150,000) for the first offense;
- B. Imprisonment of three (3) years and one (1) day to six (6) years plus a fine ranging from One hundred fifty thousand pesos (P150,000) to Five hundred thousand pesos (P500,000) for the second offense;
- C. Imprisonment of six (6) years and one (1) day to nine (9) years plus a fine ranging from five hundred thousand pesos (P500,000) to one million five hundred thousand pesos (P1,500,000) for the third and subsequent offenses.

In most Philippine universities, the disciplinary sanctions may include:

- 1st offense – Failing grade in the examination/quiz concerned
- 2nd offense – Failing grade in the subject concerned
- 3rd offense – Two-week suspension
- 4th offense – Dismissal

Grading System

Description	Quality Point	Numerical Equivalent
Excellent	1.00	98-100
Excellent	1.25	94-97
Very Good	1.50	89-93
Very Good	1.75	83-88
Good	2.00	76-82
Good	2.25	68-75
Satisfactory	2.50	59-67
Satisfactory	2.75	48-58
Pass	3.00	36-47
Conditional	4.00	11-24
Incomplete	Inc	-
Fail	5.00	11 and below

For example:

Requirements	Points	Percentages	Grade
Diagnostic Test	71/100	10%	07.10
Think Piece	78/100	10%	07.80
Critical Essay	90/100	15%	13.50
Abstract Proposal	80/100	20%	16.00
Research Essay	89/100	25%	22.25

Conference Presentation	96/100	15%	14.40
Class Participation	83/100	05%	04.15
Final grade is rounded to the nearest one.		100%	85.20 or 85 (equivalent to 1.75 or very good)

Rubric for Assessing Critical Essay, Think Piece, and Diagnostic Test

80 points – Significant Contribution, Originality and Critical Content Analysis

20 points – Grammar, Well-Organized Academic Writing Style, Coherency, and Clarity

Rubric for Assessing Academic Conference Presentation

90 points – Efficient and clear delivery of research essay

10 points – Sound answers to questions posed by discussant and fellow colleagues

Rubric for Assessing Research Essay and Abstract Proposal

75 points – Significant Contribution, Originality and Critical Content Analysis

15 points – Appropriate & Relevant Literature Review, and Correct Citations and References

10 points – Grammar, Well-Organized Academic Writing Style, Coherency, and Clarity

A+ research essay (90 to 100 points)

Contribution has originality and not mere repetition of previous works. Thesis is sound and clear with coherent flow of thought throughout the essay. Correct usage of grammar, citations and references.

B+ research essay (80 to 89 points)

Contribution has somewhat original with relatively well-organized academic writing style. References are appropriate for the topic. Occasional grammar errors, most probably prepositions, spellings, and articles.

C+ research essay (70 to 79 points)

Partial original contribution with relatively low presentation of evidence, sources, and logical arguments. Frequent incorrect usage of grammar, citations and references. Limited coherent presentation of ideas and substance.

D+ research essay (60 to 69 points)

Limited presentation of ideas, arguments and evidence. Citations are ineffective and inappropriate. Most frequent incorrect usage of grammar and references. Poor academic writing style, e.g., poorly-structured sentences with basic vocabulary.

Failing research essay (below 60 points)

Irrelevant information and incomprehensible evidence and sources are presented. Citations are very ineffective and inappropriate. Inadequate knowledge of grammar. No coherency throughout the essay.

Specific Class Instructions

There will be 10-minute reporting and 15-minute discussion per assigned text as part of your class participation. Assigning a text is alphabetically arranged. If in urgent case you cannot attend the class and you are assigned to report during that week, then, you are obliged to email everyone a week ahead. Failing to do so will negatively affect your class participation's grade.

Food is allowed throughout the meeting, but this depend on university/institute policy. Egregious chatting, consistent use of gadgets and internet that are irrelevant to the class (except documenting the discussion by notetaking and use of helpful websites for checking meanings of words and terminologies), and not paying attention are impermissible.

Structure and References

Please remember that submissions of requirements are in the following chronological weeks: diagnostic test (week 1), think piece (week 4), abstract proposal (week 6), critical essay (week 9), drafted research essay (week 13), academic conference presentation (weeks 15 and 16), and finalized research essay (week 16).

Week 1: Course orientation and submission of diagnostic test (summarizing a text to assessed student's reading comprehension and writing capability)

Week 2: Historical sources, social science approaches and historiographical methodologies

Week 3: Pre-Islamic era

Week 4: The Emergence of Islam

Week 5: The Prophet's time

Week 6: Age of Caliphates

Week 7: Islam in Iran/Persia

Week 8: Islam in Europe/Spain

Week 9: Islam in India/South Asia

Week 10: The Ottomans part 1 of 2

Week 11: The Ottomans part 2 of 2

Week 12: Islam in Southeast Asia part 1 of 2

Week 13: Islam in Southeast Asia part 2 of 2

Week 14: Islam and Western domination

Week 15 and 16: Academic conference presentations and submission of research essays

Afsaruddin, Asma. (2007). *The First Muslims: History and Memory*. Oxford: Oneworld.

---The Rise of Islam and Life of the Prophet Muhammad, pp. 1-18.

---The Issue of Succession to the Prophet, pp. 19-26.

Ahmed, Akbar S. (2002). *Discovering Islam: Making Sense of Muslim History and Society*. 2nd Ed., London and New York: Routledge.

---A theory of Islamic history, pp. 30-64.

Al-Azmeh, Aziz. (2007). *The Times of History: Universal Topics in Islamic Historiography*. Budapest and New York: Central European University Press.

---Islam and the History of Civilizations, pp. 39-66.

Berg, Herbert. (2003). *Method and Theory in the Study of Islamic Origins*. Leiden and Boston: BRILL.

---Reconstructing Early Islam: Truth and Consequences (Chase F. Robinson), pp. 101-136.

---Competing Paradigms in Islamic Origins: Qur'an 15:89-91 and the Value of *Isnads*, pp. 259-292.

Berkey, Jonathan P. (2003). *The Formation of Islam: Religion and Society in the Near East, 600-1800*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

- Part I: The Near East before Islam, pp. 1-54.
- Part II: The Emergence of Islam, 600–750, pp. 55-110.

Esposito, John L. (1999). *The Oxford History of Islam*, New York: Oxford University Press.

- Islam and Christendom (Jane L. Smith), pp. 305-346.
- Central Asia and China (Dru C. Gladney), pp. 433-476.
- Islam in Africa to 1800 (Nehemio Levtzion), pp. 475-508.
- European Colonialism and the Emergence of Modern Muslim States (S.V.R. Nasr), pp. 549-600.

Fierro, Maribel. ed., (2010). *The New Cambridge History of Islam: The Western Islamic World (Eleventh to Eighteenth Centuries)*, Vol. 2., Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

- Al Andalus and the Maghrib (from the fifth/eleventh century to the fall of the Almoravids) by Mari´a Jesu´s Viguera Molins, pp. 21-47.
- The central lands of North Africa and Sicily, until the beginning of the Almohad period (Michael Brett), pp. 48-65.
- The Fatimid caliphate (358 567/969 1171) and the Ayyubids in Egypt (567 648/1171 1250) by Yaacov Lev, pp. 201-236.
- The rise of the Ottomans (Kate Fleet), pp. 313-331.
- The Ottoman empire (tenth/sixteenth century) by Colin Imber, pp. 332-365.
- The Ottoman empire: the age of ‘political households’ (eleventh twelfth/seventeenth eighteenth centuries) by Suraiya Faroqhi, pp. 366-410.

Kennedy, Hugh. (2004). *The Prophet and the Age of the Caliphates: The Islamic Near East from the 6th to the 11th Century*. 2nd Ed., Harlow, England: Pearson Education Limited.

- The Buyid Confederation, pp. 210-247.
- The Kurds, pp. 248-264.

Lapidus, Ira M. (2012) *Islamic Societies to the Nineteenth Century: A Global History*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

- Historians and the sources, pp. 26-30.
- Spanish-Islamic civilization, pp. 382-405.
- The Turkish migrations and the Ottoman Empire, pp. 427-467.
- The Indian subcontinent: The Delhi Sultanates and the Mughal Empire, pp. 507-537.
- Islamic societies in Southeast Asia, pp. 561-580.
- Islam in Africa, pp. 581-634.

Morgan, David O. and Anthony Reid. ed., (2010). *The New Cambridge History of Islam: The Eastern Islamic World (Eleventh to Eighteenth Centuries)*, Vol. 3., Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

- Muslim India: The Delhi sultanate (Peter Jackson), pp. 100-127.
- Iran under Safavid rule (Sholeh A. Quinn), pp. 203-238.
- Early Muslim expansion in South East Asia, eighth to fifteenth centuries (Geoff Wade), pp. 366-408.
- Islam in South East Asia and the Indian Ocean littoral, 1500 1800: expansion, polarisation, synthesis (Anthony Reid), pp. 427-469).
- South East Asian localisations of Islam and participation within a global umma, c. 1500 1800 (R. Michael Feener), pp. 470-503.

Robinson, Chase F. (2003). *Islamic Historiography*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
---Part I: Origins and categories, pp. 3-82.

Robinson, Chase F. ed., (1996). *Islamic World*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
---The Rise of Islam in the World (Patricia Crone), pp. 2-31.
---The Emergence of Islamic World System 1000-1500 (Robert Erwin), pp. 32-61.
---The Islamic World in the Age of European Expansion 1500-1800 (Stephen F. Dale), pp. 62-89.
---The Islamic World in the Era of Western Domination 1800 to the Present (Sarah Ansari), pp. 90-123.

Robinson, Chase F. ed., (2010). *The New Cambridge History of Islam: The Formation of the Islamic World (Sixth to Eleventh Centuries), Vol. 1.*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
---Pre-Islamic Arabia (Michael Lecker), pp. 153-170.
---The late Abbasid pattern, 945-1050, (Hugh Kennedy), pp. 360-394.
--- Modern approaches to early Islamic history (Fred M. Donner), pp. 625-647.

Robinson, Francis. ed., (2010). *The New Cambridge History of Islam: The Islamic World in the Age of Western Dominance, Vol. 5.*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
---The Ottoman lands to the post First World War settlement (Carter Vaughn Findley), pp. 31-78.

van Ess, Josef. (2016). *Theology and Society in the Second and Third Centuries of the Hijra: A History of Religious Thought in Early Islam. Vol. 1.* Trans. John O’Kane., Leiden and Boston: BRILL.
---Setting the Seal on Prophecy, pp. 3-7.

Significant Dates in Islamic History

(See Seth Ward’s syllabus at <http://www.uwyo.edu/sward/2013/2320.40.fa13.htm>)

570-632 Muhammad

570 Traditional date for Muhammad’s birth
595 Muhammad marries Khadija
610 First Revelation
622 Hijra and Year One of the Islamic Calendar
624 The Battle of Badr – Muslims defeat the Quraysh
630 Pilgrimage to Mecca
632 According to tradition, final pilgrimage; Muhammad’s death.

632-661 "Righteous Caliphs"

632-632 Abu Bakr
634-644 Umar
644-656 Uthman
656-661 "Caliphate of Ali," better characterized as 1st Civil War
656 Battle of the Camel
657 Conflict at Siffin settled through arbitration

661-750 Umayyad Dynasty

680 Death of Muhammad's grandson Husayn; start of classical Shi'ism
697 Islamicate reforms in coinage, government

711 Muslims reach Spain and the Indus River in what is now Pakistan

750-1258 Abbasid Caliphate

762 Founding of Baghdad

c. 800 Harun al-Rashid (immortalized in the Thousand and One Nights)

813-833 Al-Ma'mun (AH 198-215)

By the 10th Century the Caliph is no longer a unified political leader; separate Caliphates under various religious leaders appear.

909 Fatimids (Shi'ite faction) proclaim Caliphate in Tunisia

929 Umayyad Abd al-Rahman III proclaims himself Caliph in Spain

945 Buyids enter Baghdad, leader proclaimed Amir al-Umara Mu'izz al-Dawla.

969 Founding of Cairo by Fatimids

971 Al-Azhar (university) founded in Cairo

1050 Traditional conversion to Islam of Mandingo King in Mali (in Africa)

1055 Seljuks enter Baghdad, ending Buyid dynasty.

1071 Battle of Manzikert; Seljuk Turks begin to enter Anatolia (modern day Turkey)-also take power in Jerusalem

1085 Fall of Toledo – Catholics retake Spain

1099 Catholic Crusaders capture Jerusalem

1175-1203 Muhammad Ghorī expands Islamic rule in India

1171 Saladin ends Fatimid Dynasty.

1187 Battle of Hittin; Muslims soon retake Jerusalem

Latter Middle Ages

1250 Mamluk Sultanate established in Egypt

1258 Mongols conquer Baghdad; brief introduction of Buddhism in Persia

1291 End of Christian control of Acre, return of Islam to dominance throughout the Holy Land

Conversion of Il-Khan to Islam; Islam once again dominant in Persia

1345 First Ottoman campaigns in Europe:

1389 1st Battle of Kosovo.

Ottoman Rise and Fall, “Gunpowder Empires”

1453 Muhammad II conquers Constantinople for the Ottomans

1492 Muslims expelled from Spain

1517 Ottomans conquer Egypt

1575 Height of Ottoman Empire, which now includes parts of Asia, Europe, and Africa

1699 Treaty of Carlewitz

1700 Rise of Wahhabi movement to reform Islam (separatist Sunni sect)

The Modern Era

1798 Napoleon invades Egypt (Acre 1799. Expelled in 1801 by combined Ottoman and British troops).

1805 Muhammad Ali establishes an independent Islamic state in Egypt

1917 Ottoman Empire ends after World War I

1924 Caliphate abolished in Turkey (severing “last link” to the divine polity founded by Muhammad); Muslim Brotherhood founded (Sunni reform movement)

1948-49, 1956, 1967, 1973 Arab-Israeli Wars

1979 (Hijra Year 1400), Islamic (Shi'ite) Revolution in Iran led by Ayatollah Khomeini; Russian invasion of Afghanistan, Sadat's Peace Plan, (1978: Orientalism)