

# Faith of our Fathers

## Class #13: 7<sup>th</sup> Century, *The Rise of Islam*

### I. The Theology of Islam

#### The Five Pillars ...

1. *Shahadah*, or Confession of Faith. "There is no god but Allah, and Muhammad is his prophet."
2. *Salah*, or prayer 5 times day facing towards Mecca
3. *Zakah*, or giving charitable gifts of money to the poor
4. *Sawm*, or fasting in the holy month of Ramadan
5. *Hajj*, or the pilgrimage to Mecca, which a Muslim must try to do at least in his/her lifetime

#### Core beliefs ...

- Allah = God. He is one, and is completely separate from creation
- Allah is transcendent, not immanent
- Allah's main attribute is power
- Jesus was Muhammad's forerunner, but not divine
- The crucifixion of Jesus never happened, since Allah would never treat one of his prophets in this manner.
- Idolatry is the supreme sin
- The Koran, allegedly containing 14 messages from Gabriel to Muhammad, was the only "miracle" Muhammad performed

### II. Life for the Church under Islamic rule

- Christians became segregated communities of 2<sup>nd</sup>-class citizens in the Islamic Empire
  - Organized under a bishop who bore political responsibility for the community
  - Required to pay a heavy poll tax
  - Had to wear distinctive clothing
  - Forbidden to use/use swords or horses
  - No public processions carrying crosses or icons allowed
  - Not permitted to ring bells or beat drums to announce worship services
  - Marriage between Muslims & Christians forbidden
  - Christians forbidden from evangelizing; conversion from Islam to Christianity punishable by death

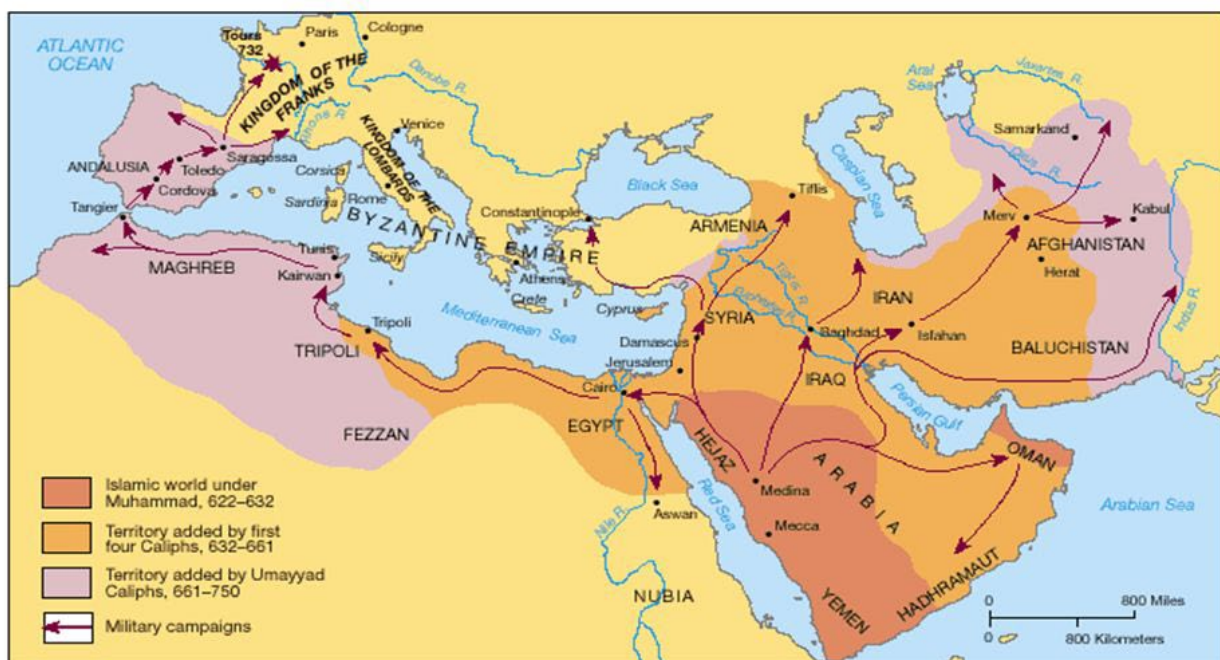
### III. Key Christian Leaders/Events


1. Husein ibn Ishaq
2. Timothy I
3. John of Damascus
4. Council of Constantinople (686)

# Building a Muslim Empire



## THE ISLAMIC EMPIRE: HEIR OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE



 The Spread of Islam. The rapid spread of Islam created within a century a unified cultural and economic zone from India to the Atlantic Ocean within.