

The Origins and Spread of Islam

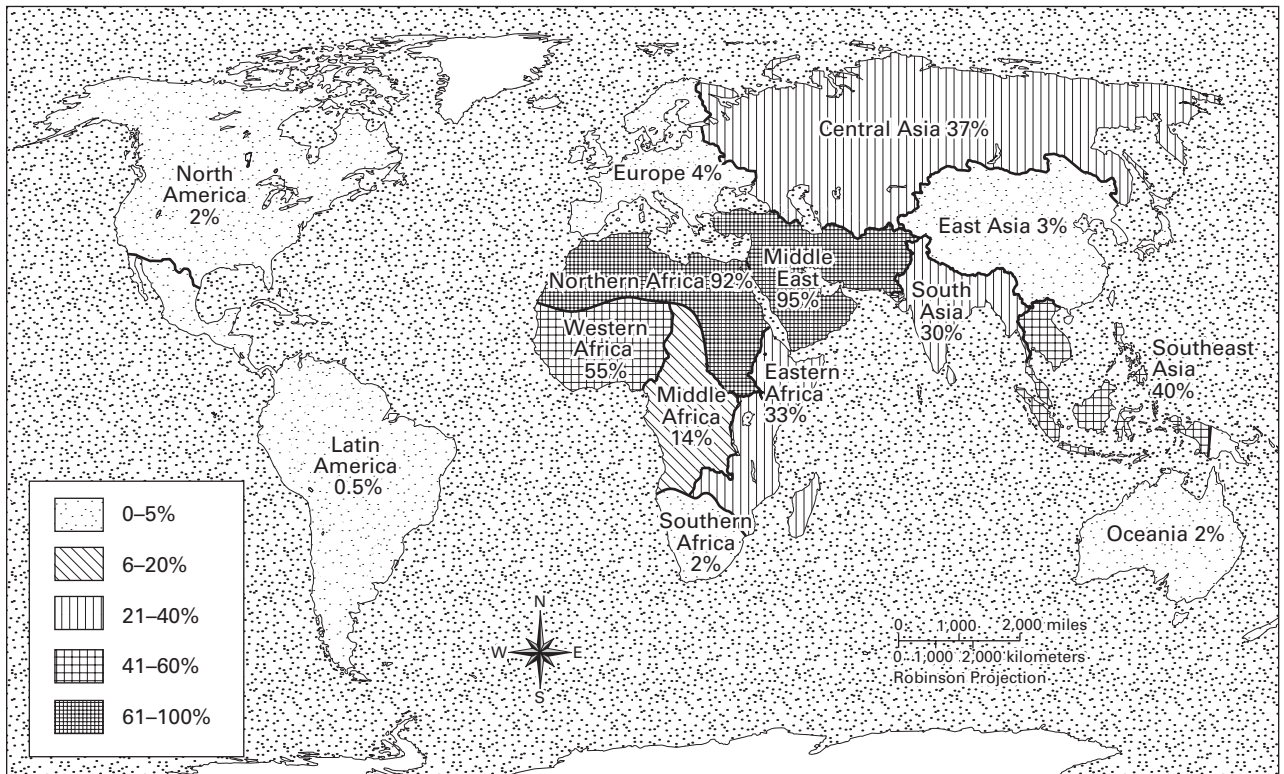
How did Islam originate and spread?

PREVIEW

Muhammad began the religion of Islam in the 7th century. Look at the map showing the modern-day distribution of the followers of Islam, called Muslims. Then answer the following questions:

- What regions of the world have the highest concentration of Muslims? The lowest?
- Based on this map, in what region of the world do you think the Islamic faith may have originated? Why?

Muslim Population, 2006

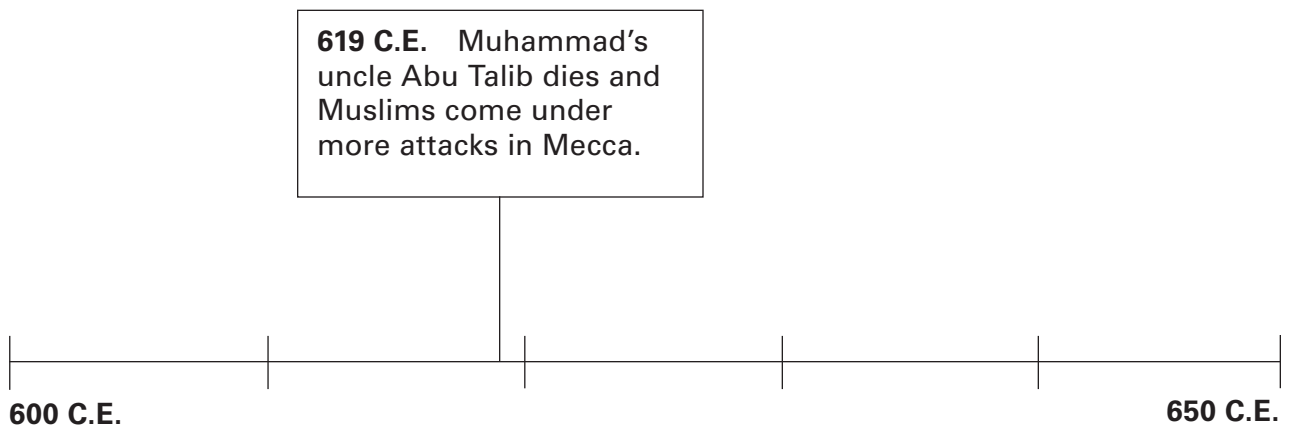


Section 5

1. Walk around the room to find the four words or terms that best match the part of the story you just heard. Write the English translations of the Arabic words here.

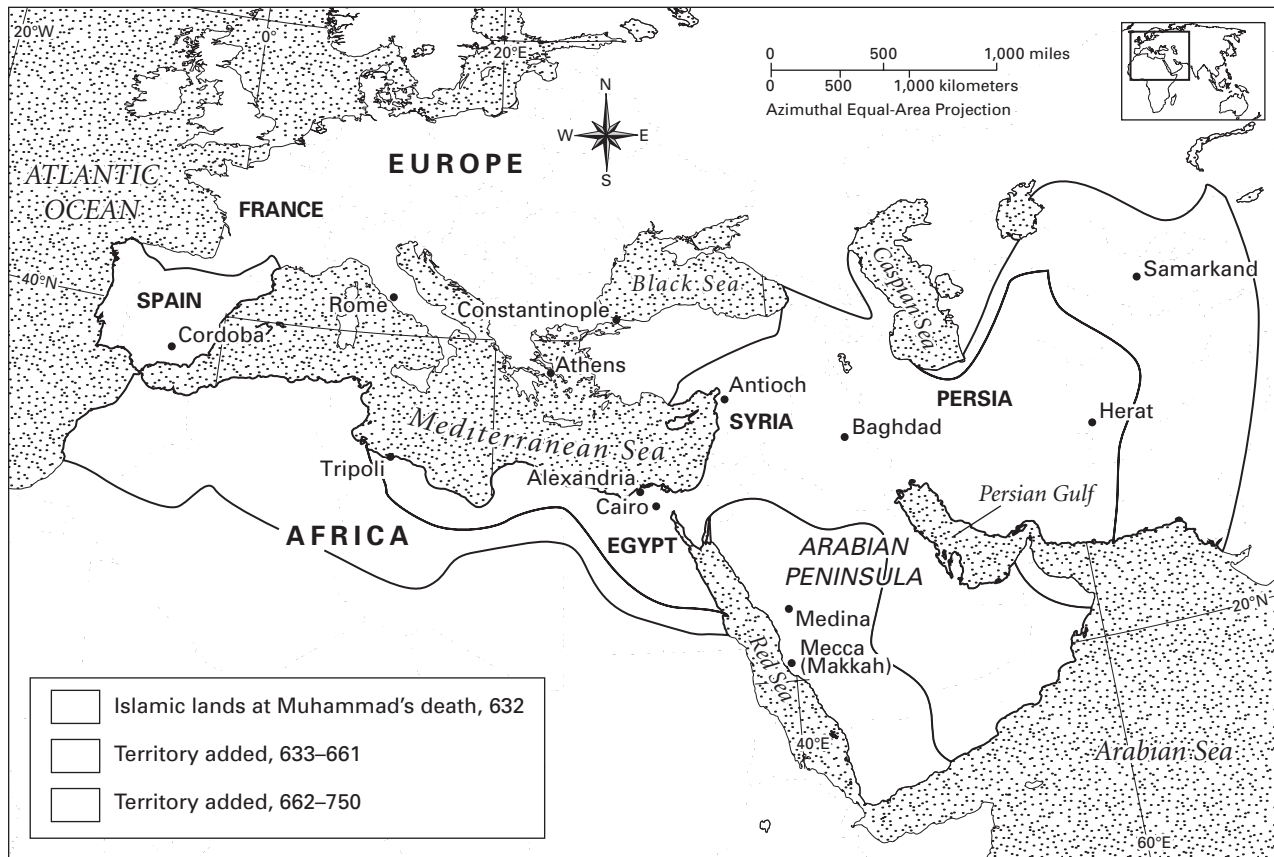
2. On the timeline below, place each of the following events. Make sure you include the date for each event. One example is done for you.

- Muhammad and his followers leave on the hijrah.
- Muhammad develops a new Muslim community in Medina.
- Fighting breaks out between the Muslims and Meccans.
- Meccans make a truce with the Muslims.
- Muhammad’s army captures Mecca; he rededicates the Ka’bah to Allah.
- Muhammad delivers his Last Sermon.



Sections 6 to 7

Read Sections 6 and 7 and follow the directions below the map.



1. Complete the map by adding labels for Tours, Jerusalem, and Damascus. Then color in the key and the corresponding regions. Use three colors.
2. Write a summary of the early spread of Islam. Include these events: Muhammad's death, the caliphs unify Arabia, Ali's election to the caliphate, the Muslim entry into Spain, and the Battle of Tours.

PROCESSING

Suppose that you are an Arab merchant living in the late 7th century. You have just traveled to Mecca and Medina for business, and have met Muhammad and his followers. *On a separate sheet of paper*, write a short letter to a family member or a friend telling about your experience. In your letter, be sure to explain who Muhammad is and what he is teaching.