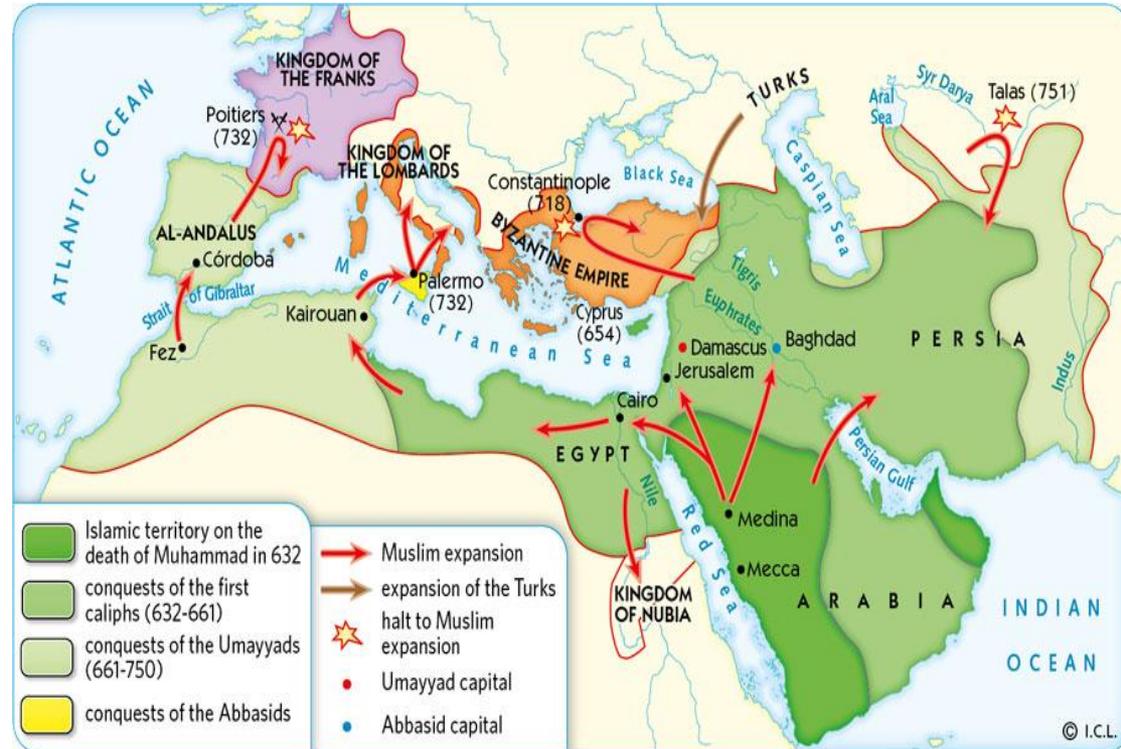


HOW DID ISLAM EXPAND?

- After Muhammad's death, Islamic Empire expanded from Arabian Peninsula to the Atlantic Ocean in the West and to the Indian Ocean in the East

A) The Expansion Of Islam (632-846)

- ❑ **632** (Muhammad's death: Arabian Peninsula had converted to Islam, initiating a military expansion)
- ❑ **7th century:** expansion by Byzantine territories (Syria, Egypt) and Persian Empire.
- ❑ **8th century:** they reached Indus river; besieged Constantinople without conquering it. They expanded by North Africa, **Hispania (711-718)**, and were rejected from France (Poitiers, 732).
- ❑ **9th century:** Nubia (South of Egypt) and southern Italy (846).



The Islamic Empire absorbed several cultures and dominated trade between Asia and the Mediterranean sea.

B) The Organisation of the Caliphate:

During the middle ages different dynasties governed the Islamic Empire:

- ❑ First four caliphs (632-661): Muhammad's family members.

During this period the Islam was divided for the first time into two groups:

- ❖ **Shia:** They believe the caliph should be chosen from Muhammad's descendants. They only accept the Koran.
- ❖ **Sunnis:** The caliph could be any devout Muslim believer. They use the Koran and the Sunnah or book of Islamic laws and traditions.

- ❑ Umayyad dynasty (661-750) Capital of their empire: **Damascus**. During their dynasty Islam arrived to Spain and other regions.
- ❑ Abbasid dynasty (750- 1258). Capital city: Baghdad. During their period some parts of the empire got independent from the empire.
- ❑ Turks (Ottoman) dynasty. Up to the XXth century. In 1453 the conquered Constantinople.

C) Cultural and economic splendour

- ❑ The spread of Arabic language. Also, Muslims enjoyed economic and social benefits, so most of the population converted to Islam (Islamization).
- ❑ They promoted schools and libraries.
- ❑ They spread the use and production of paper as a new writing material.
- ❑ Ancient Greek and Roman culture was copied and spread.



HOW DID THE ISLAM ARRIVE TO THE IBERIAN PENINSULA?

THE WEAKNESS OF THE VISIGOTHIC KINGDOM

- ❑ Beginning of the 8th century: while a famine was occurring, there was a clash (war) between the supporters of Achila (son of the previous King) and the supporters of Roderic (who had been elected)
- ❑ Achila's supporters asked for help from the Muslim governor of Northern Africa. But, after the exploration of Tarif in 710, they decided to conquer the Visigothic Kingdom.
- ❑ Tariq and Musa crossed the Gibraltar Strait and defeated Roderic's troops in the Battle of Guadalete River (711) and they conquered most of the Iberian Peninsula fighting and negotiating the surrender of many towns. The conquest finished by 718.
- ❑ Some Christians from the Visigothic Kingdom migrated to the Cantabrian Mountains or beyond the Pyrenees.





AL-ANDALUS



1-The Dependent Emirate (718- 756)

- ❑ After the conquest, the Iberian Peninsula (Al-Andalus) became a province or emirate, that was part of the Caliphate of Damascus (ruled by the Umayyad dynasty).
- ❑ The capital of the emirate was Córdoba. From this place, the emir governed the territory, but in the north of the Central System there were only some military garrisons.



2-The Independent Emirate (756-929)

- ❑ After the murder of the Umayyads by the Abbasids (750), the only survivor, prince Abd al-Rahman I, fled to Al-Andalus and proclaimed the Umayyad Emirate of Al-Andalus (756).
- ❑ He held all the political power but the only religious authority was still the Caliph of Baghdad.





AL-ANDALUS

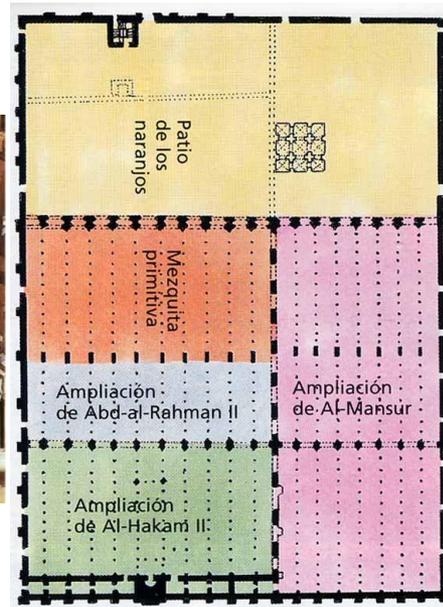


3. The Caliphate of Córdoba (929- 1031)

- In the early 10th Century Abd al- Rahman III proclaimed himself the Caliph of Córdoba, so he got totally (politicaly and religiously) independent from Baghdad authority. The caliph had absolute power.
- This period is known as THE GOLDEN AGE OF AL-ANDALUS, because of its economic prosperity, its cultural and scientific splendour and because they could dominate the Christian Kingdoms militarily, specially during Al-Mansur's (Almanzor) military expeditions.



Mosque of Córdoba



Medina Azahara (Córdoba)





4. The Taifa Kingdoms (1031- 1248)

- By the beginning of the 11th century the Caliphate broke up, because the aristocracy struggled to get the power from weak caliphs. As a result, in 1031 the territory was divided into 25 taifas or small kingdoms.
- These taifas were weaker to face the Christians, but they achieved prosperity.
- To stop the Christian advance, they asked for help from Northern African empires:
 - Almoravids from the 11th to early 12th century.
 - Almohads from the 12th to early 13th century. They were defeated by Christian armies in Navas de Tolosa (1212).



Aljaferia, Zaragoza, example of art during the period of taifas



Torre del Oro and Giralda, examples of Almohad art.





AL-ANDALUS



5. The Nasrid Kingdom of Granada (1248-1492)

- It was the last taifa that survived to Christian advance. Its capital was Granada, where Alhambra and Generalife palaces were built for the royal family.
- The Nasrid governors (sultans) used to pay taxes to Castile to avoid Christian attacks.
- The last Nasrid sultan was Boabdil, who surrendered the capital city to the Catholic Monarchs in 1492.



Alhambra

Generalife

