



4. EVOLUTION OF AL-ANDALUS



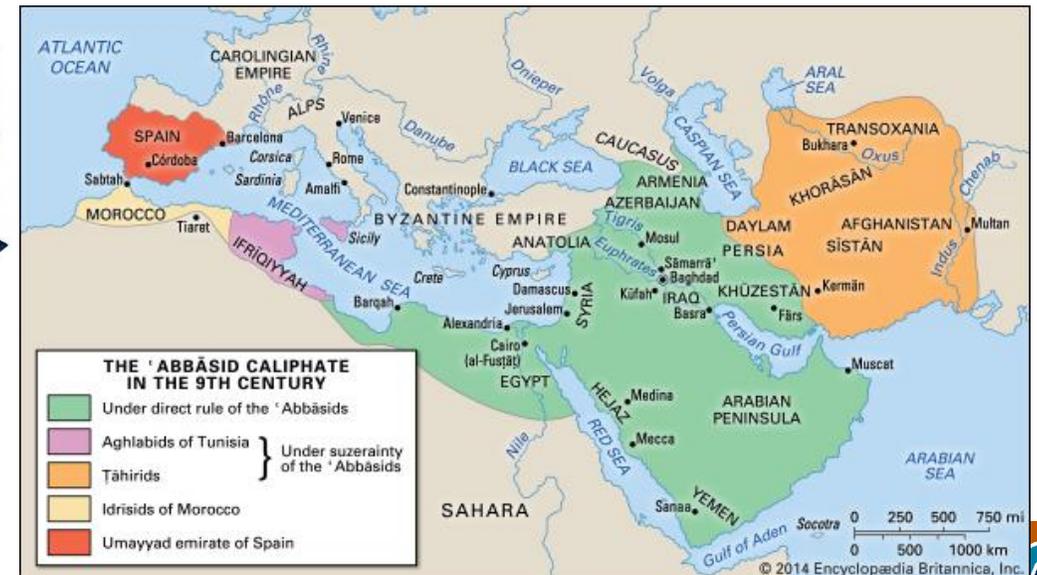
4.1-The Dependent Emirate (718- 756)

- ❑ After the conquest, the Iberian Peninsula (Al- Andalus) became an **emirate** (province) 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** to control the territory and collect taxes.



4.2-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 Independent Umayyad Emirate** of Al-Andalus (756).
- ❑ He held **all the political power** but the only **religious authority** was still the **Abbasid Caliph of Baghdad**.



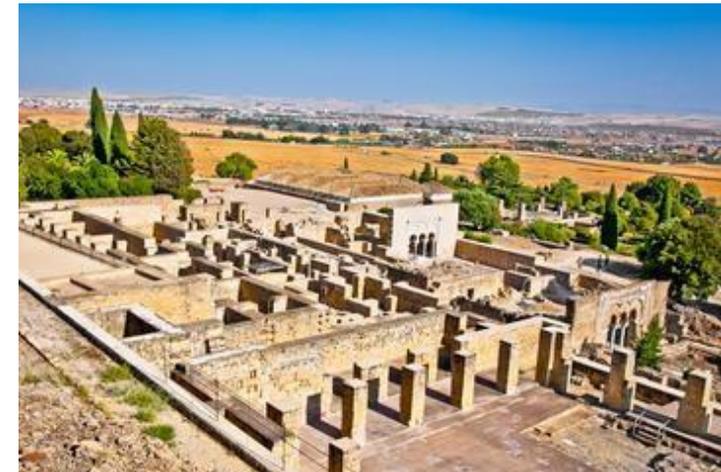
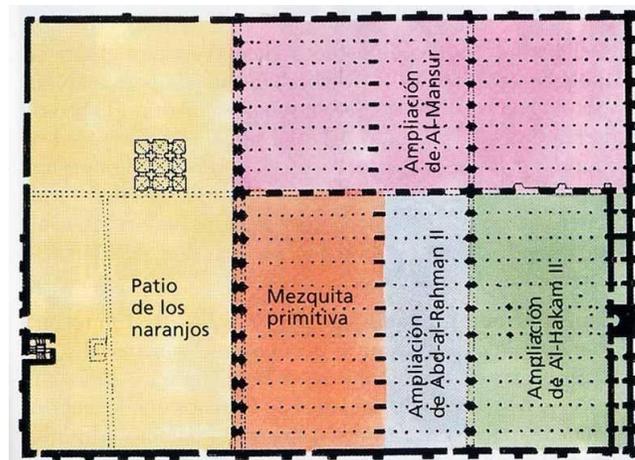
EVOLUTION OF AL-ANDALUS

4.3. 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 (**politically 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)

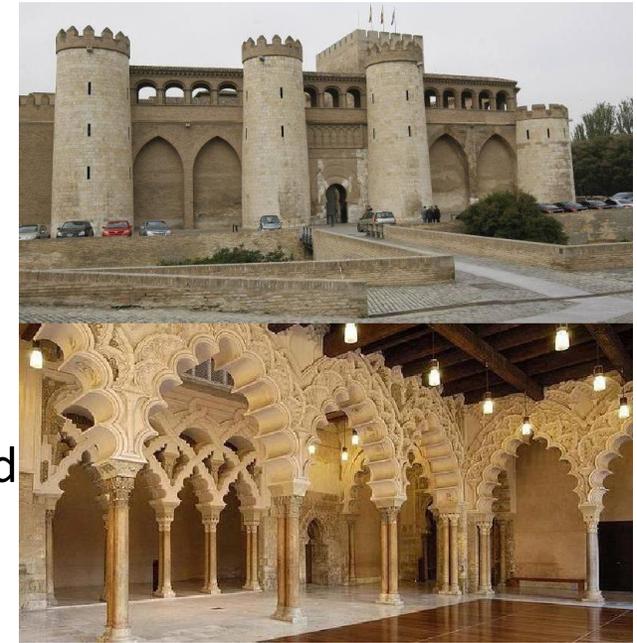
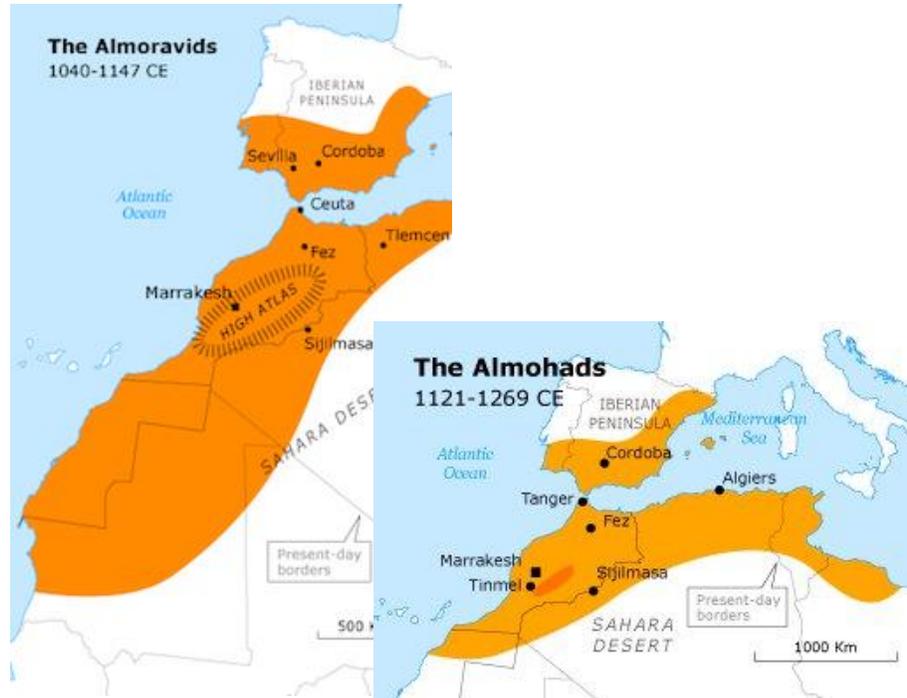


EVOLUTION OF AL-ANDALUS



4.4. 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.





EVOLUTION OF AL-ANDALUS



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

- It was the **last taifa** that survived to Christian advance since the 13th century.
- Its capital was **Granada**, where **Alhambra and Generalife** palaces were built for the royal family:
Nasrid dynasty (Nazarí in Spanish)
- The **Nasrid** governors (**sultans**) used to pay “**parias**”, **tributes 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

