5. AL-ANDALUS SOCIETY

**MUSLIMS**
- **Arabs**: a privileged minority who used to govern and own lands.
- **Berbers**: they arrived from the north of Africa as soldiers. Many worked as farmers.
- **Muladis**: The majority of the population, who had converted to Islam.

**NON MUSLIMS**
- **Mozarabs**: Christians who lived in Al-Ándalus (Islamic territory)
- **Jews**: they lived in juderias, inside the walls of the cities.
The administration of Al-Andalus

- The Muslims could take part of the government, but the highest positions were mainly reserved for men who had arrived from Arabia.

**Take a look to these terms for the exam:**

The following currency was used in Al-Andalus:
- **Dinar**: Gold coin
- **Dirham**: Silver coin
- **Fals**: Copper coin

**The administration of the state**
- Al-Andalus was divided into 21 provinces or **coras**.
- The **caliph** had absolute power. He was supreme judge, the highest religious authority and general of the army.
- Below him was the **hachib** (prime minister), helped by various **viziers** (ministers). Together, they formed the **diwan** (government).
- The governors of the provinces were the **valis**. Generals or **quaids** governed the marches (border areas).
- The **cadis** dispensed justice.
- The **almotacén** controlled the souks (markets) and city trade.
The city in Al-Andalus