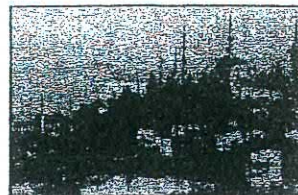




Islam

Outcome: Islamic Empires



1. Setting the Stage: Islamic Culture

- The Qur'an says "Men are the managers of the affairs of women" and "Righteous women are therefore obedient."
- Qur'an also declares that men and women, as believers, are equal.
- After the fall of Rome in 476, Muslim Scholars Preserved and expanded much of the Scientific Knowledge that had been gained.
- In early 800s, the House of Wisdom was built in Baghdad; place where different cultures worked side by side to translate from Greece, India, Persia and elsewhere into Arabic.
- Muslim scientists made many advances in mathematics and astronomy.
- Islam led to the rise of three important empires: The Ottomans, Safavids and Mughals.

2. Ottoman Empire

a. Where were they located?

- Byzantium & Anatolia (Modern day Turkey)
- By 1566, lands included Hungary in the North, Egypt in the South, Algeria in the West, and Mesopotamia in the East.

b. Who were they?

- Anatolia was home to many descendents of nomadic, militaristic Turks who had a long history of invading other countries.
- Many Anatolian Turks saw themselves as ghazis, or warriors for Islam.
- Osman was the most successful ghazi; followers called Ottomans in the West.
- Ottomans successful military relied on Gun Powder.
- Mehmed I and Mehmed II led expansion of empire through 1566.
- Mehmed II captured Constantinople and opened it to Jews, Christians, and Muslims; Muslims renamed it Istanbul.
- Selim the Grim captured Meca, Medina, & Cairo for the Ottomans.
- By 1526, Suleyman the Lawgiver controlled the Eastern Mediterranean Sea, added Tripoli in North Africa, and extended power into Europe; was most powerful Monarch on earth.

c. Why they are significant

- The Ottomans acted kindly to those they conquered; often improved the lives of peasants living in their territories.
- Had one of the largest empires in history; lasted until World War I.

3. The Safavids

a. Where were they located?

- East of Mesopotamia but West of India.
- Part of the former Persian Empire.

b. Who were they?

- Part of the Shi'a branch of Islam.
- Concentrated on building a powerful army.

