

# HISTORY

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Early Islamic Civilisation  
Lynher Summer 2 2022

# I know about Baghdad's role in the early Islamic civilisation

## The Islamic Empire c. AD 1000

About one million people lived in Baghdad and its suburbs

Gathered and used books from the ancient Greeks/Romans

Millions of books and many thousands of readers.

Clean water and good drainage in cities

Used advanced mathematics using Arabic numerals and zero

Encourage scientific study

Large Islamic empire

## Europe c. AD 1000

About 20,000 people lived in London and its suburbs

Ignored the writings of ancient Greeks and Romans

Very few books and hardly any readers

Unsafe water supplies and very little drainage in cities

Very poor mathematics using Roman numerals and no zero

Religion tended to be more about faith than scientific study

Many wars between Christian kingdoms

Baghdad is capital of Iraq and when it was built, it was built as a circle in a perfect location for water and trade routes.

Around 700AD the start of the Islamic Empire spread across North Africa and was a peaceful time with maths and science being used and developed whilst in some of Europe it was the 'dark ages' where wars were happening.

Baghdad was important as it was a place of learning with universities, hospitals and clean drainage system compared to Europe which had little drainage at the time.

# I know about the House of Wisdom and how it became a centre for learning

The House of Wisdom was a library and research facility.

It was important as it had more books than any other place in the world and the books were bought there from across the world and translated in Arabic.

Scholars wanted to go there to learn and many inventors and creators worked there including one of the developers of Algebra - Al-Khwarizmi

Unfortunately it was destroyed in 1258 in a siege and the books turned the river to black from the ink.

Without the ideas that were created and passed on by the research and work from the House of Wisdom (such as the translated works from Ancient Greece and Rome), the renaissance that began in Europe in the 14<sup>th</sup> century would not have happened.

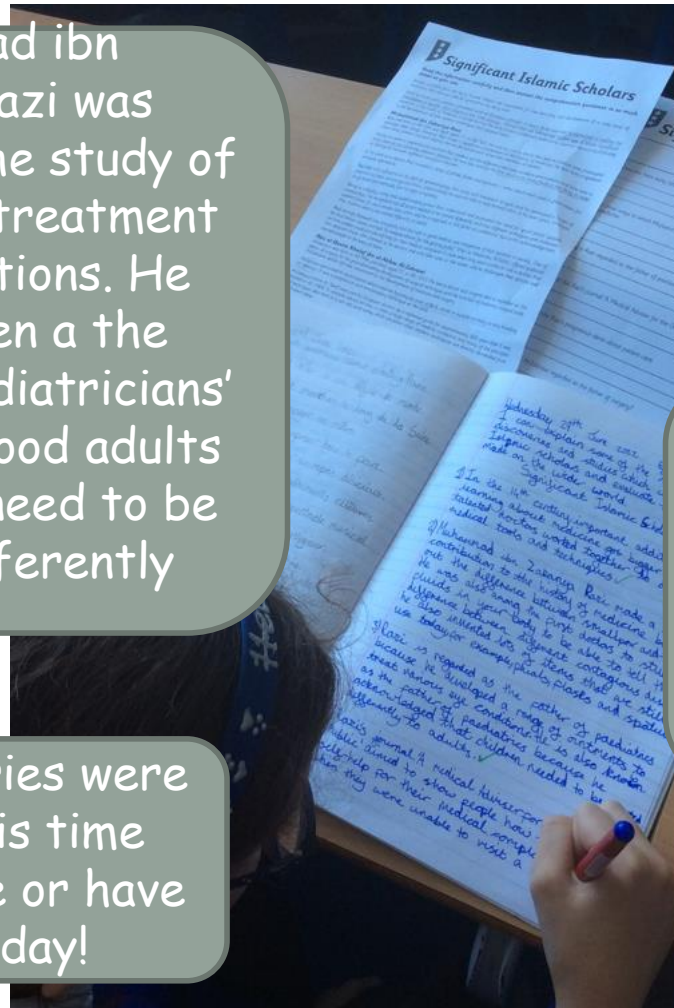
I know some of the significant discoveries and studies which were led by early Islamic scholars and can evaluate the impact they made on the wider world.

Muhammad ibn Zakariya Razi was important in the study of eyes and the treatment of eye conditions. He also was seen as the 'father of Paediatricians' as he understood adults and children need to be treated differently

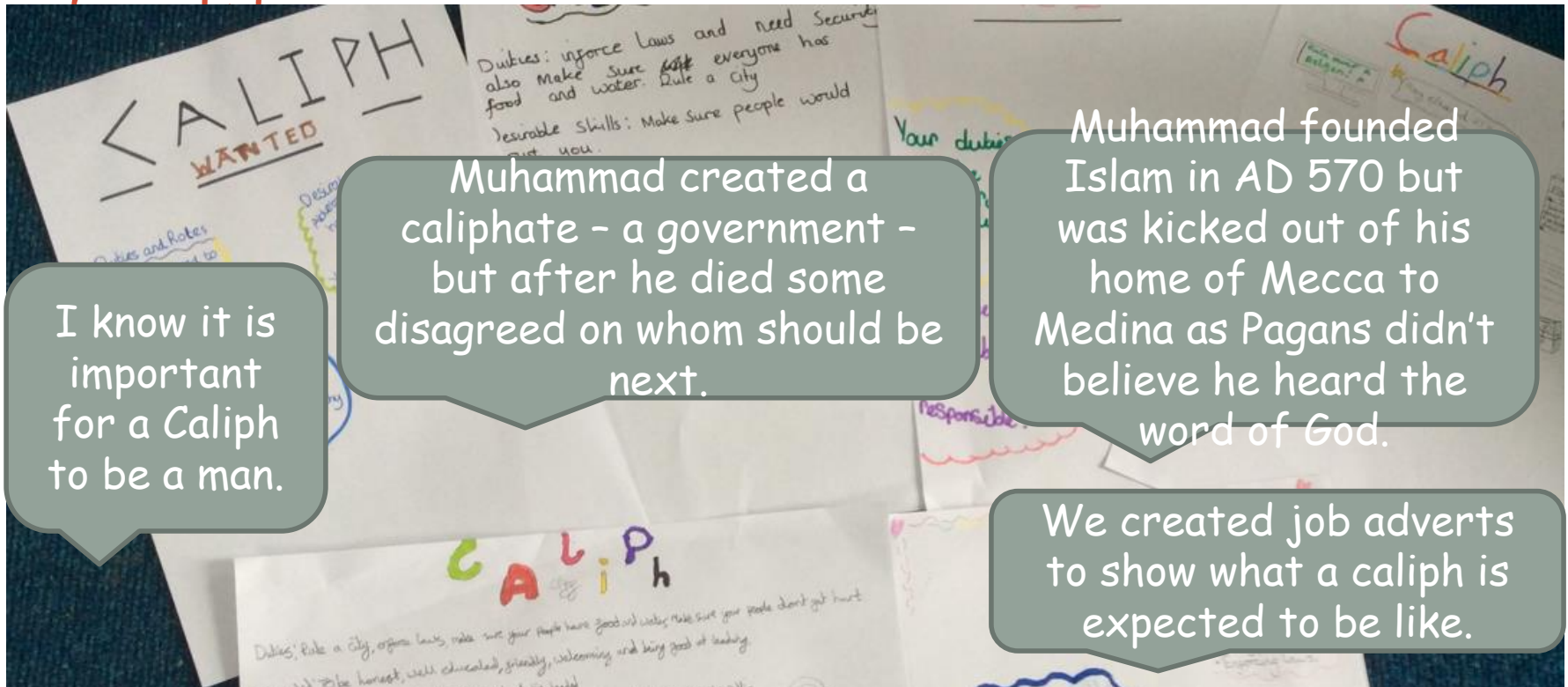
So many discoveries were made during this time which we still use or have developed today!

Al-Zahrawi invented catgut stitches

In 965AD Ibn al-Haytham created the first camera! It was a pinhole camera after he saw a line of light coming through a hole in his window.



I can describe who Muhammad is, say how the first caliphate came to be formed and explain the roles and responsibilities



I know it is important for a Caliph to be a man.

Muhammad created a caliphate - a government - but after he died some disagreed on whom should be next.

Muhammad founded Islam in AD 570 but was kicked out of his home of Mecca to Medina as Pagans didn't believe he heard the word of God.

We created job adverts to show what a caliph is expected to be like.

At the battle of Badr Muhammad attacked a caravan that he believed was travelling with goods they had stolen from him. Despite his army being smaller, he won. After converting some tribal leaders to Islam, they headed with a large army to Mecca in 630AD and converted most to Islam. Though Jewish and Christians' still remained and were free to follow their own faith following their acceptance of Muhammad's rule.



# I can identify and talk about different forms of Islamic art and create my own geometric pattern based on traditional technique

I like the vegetal style using flowers and plants in patterns as I love nature.

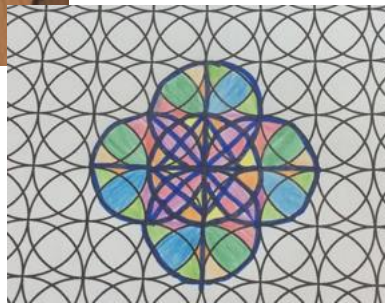


Calligraphy is a form of writing and in Arabic they write from right to left.

They used these art forms on pottery, buildings, books, floors and rugs.

The geometric repeating patterns were difficult to create at first but after a few attempts I could do them using 5 and 7 intersecting circles.

I know they used geometric, vegetal patterns and calligraphy. I'm learning calligraphy at the moment and it can be difficult to do the strokes.



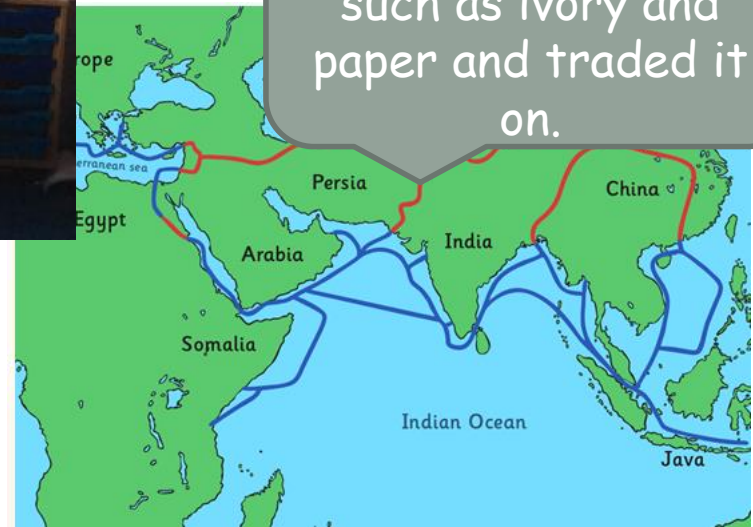
I can identify reasons why the early Islamic civilisation became a major power, know about the Silk Road trade route and the items offered for trade and be able to describe the methods used by early Islamic chemists when making perfume.

Because Baghdad was close to trade routes this helped it do grow into a super power

Its amazing that in the 9<sup>th</sup> century they travelled and traded across Europe, Africa, India and as far as China on the Silk Road.

They realised that making things themselves was cheaper like perfume and silk using natural materials .

They bought things along the routes such as ivory and paper and traded it on.





## Timeline

AD 400

AD 1400

Early Islamic  
CivilisationAnglo-Saxon  
BritainViking  
Britain

Norman Britain

Islamic patterns

vegetal patterns

calligraphy

Culture Capital: To know what makes an ancient civilization. Know how these things have changed. Understand how can archeology help us to piece together the past. Understand immigration through time. Real Life Jobs: Historians, archeologists, museum curators, artists.

## Forever Facts

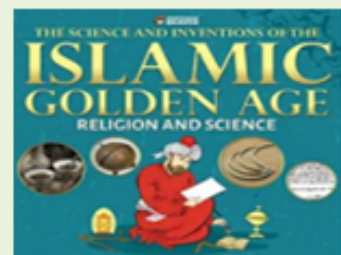
Mohammed was the founder of Islam

The House of Wisdom was a library and research facility which collected and translated writing from many cultures, including Persian, Indian, ancient Greek and Roman texts.

Abu Abdullah Muhammad ibn Musa al-Khwarizmi AD 780 - AD 850 was the 'father of algebra' he introduced Arabic numbers 1-9 and the concept of zero.

Islamic art includes architecture, calligraphy, painted glass, illustrated patterns, pottery, and textile arts.

## Exciting Books



## Subject Specific Vocabulary

Caliph

A caliph is the leader of a caliphate - a political-religious form of government of a Muslim community. A caliph had to be Muslim, male, sane, fair, just and law-abiding.

Dynasty

A succession of rulers of a country or civilisation. Generally the next ruler in the dynasty inherits the title.

Scholar

A person dedicated to learning, often at a high level and in a particular area of study.

Calligraphy

Decorative handwritten lettering.

Islam

A religion founded by Muhammad, who was born in Mecca in AD 570. People who practise Islam are called Muslims.

## Skills

Develop chronologically secure understanding of world history by learning the role of Baghdad in early Islamic civilisation.

Note connections, contrasts and trends over time and develop the appropriate use of historical terms.

Evaluate and assess the impact and significance of some prominent Muslim scholars.

## Our Endpoints

Build up knowledge through the unit to understand how important and significant Baghdad was in helping to build and shape this civilization and develop into a world super power.

**What I have I learnt before:** LKS2: Ancient Rome UKS2: Mesopotamia Valley. RE: Islam - Quran is their holy book, Mohammed is their prophet born in Mecca.