


Spread of Islam

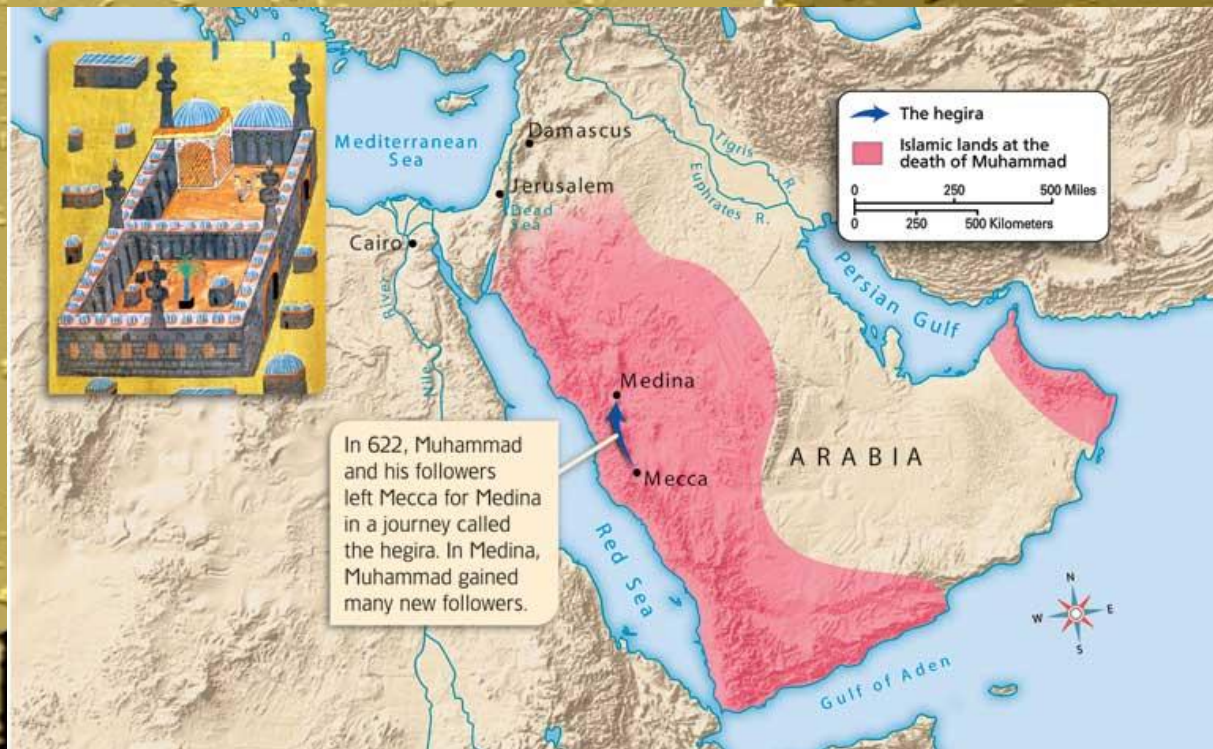
642 CE – 732 CE



 The Spread of Islam. The rapid spread of Islam created within a century a unified cultural and economic zone from India to the Atlantic Ocean within.

Regional Interactions of Islam

- Islam unified the peoples of the Arabian Peninsula under one monotheistic religion



Reasons Islam unified

- Got rid of tribalism – unified the region politically
- Got rid of tribal feuds – provided political and social stability
- Gave Arabs common goal – spread of Islam

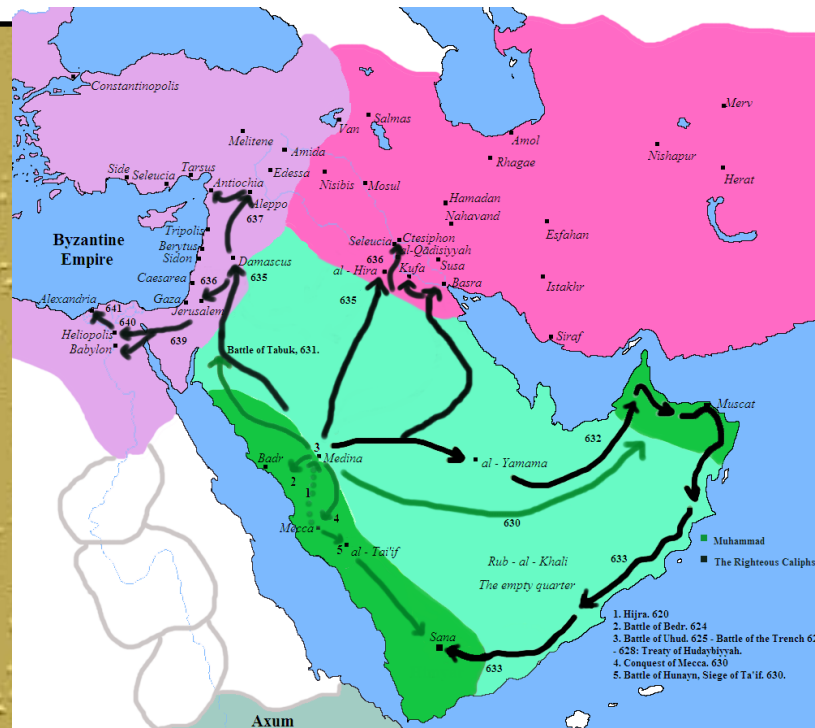
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Critical Thinking Question

Why would regional stability be so important before inter-regional expansion?

Spread of Islam in the Region

- Under the Righteous Caliphs Islam expanded into the areas immediately surrounding Mecca



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Expansion out of Region

Egypt

- Removed unpopular Byzantine rule
 - Byzantines are the east Romans
- Moved capital from Alexandria to new city of Cairo



Inter-Regional Expansion



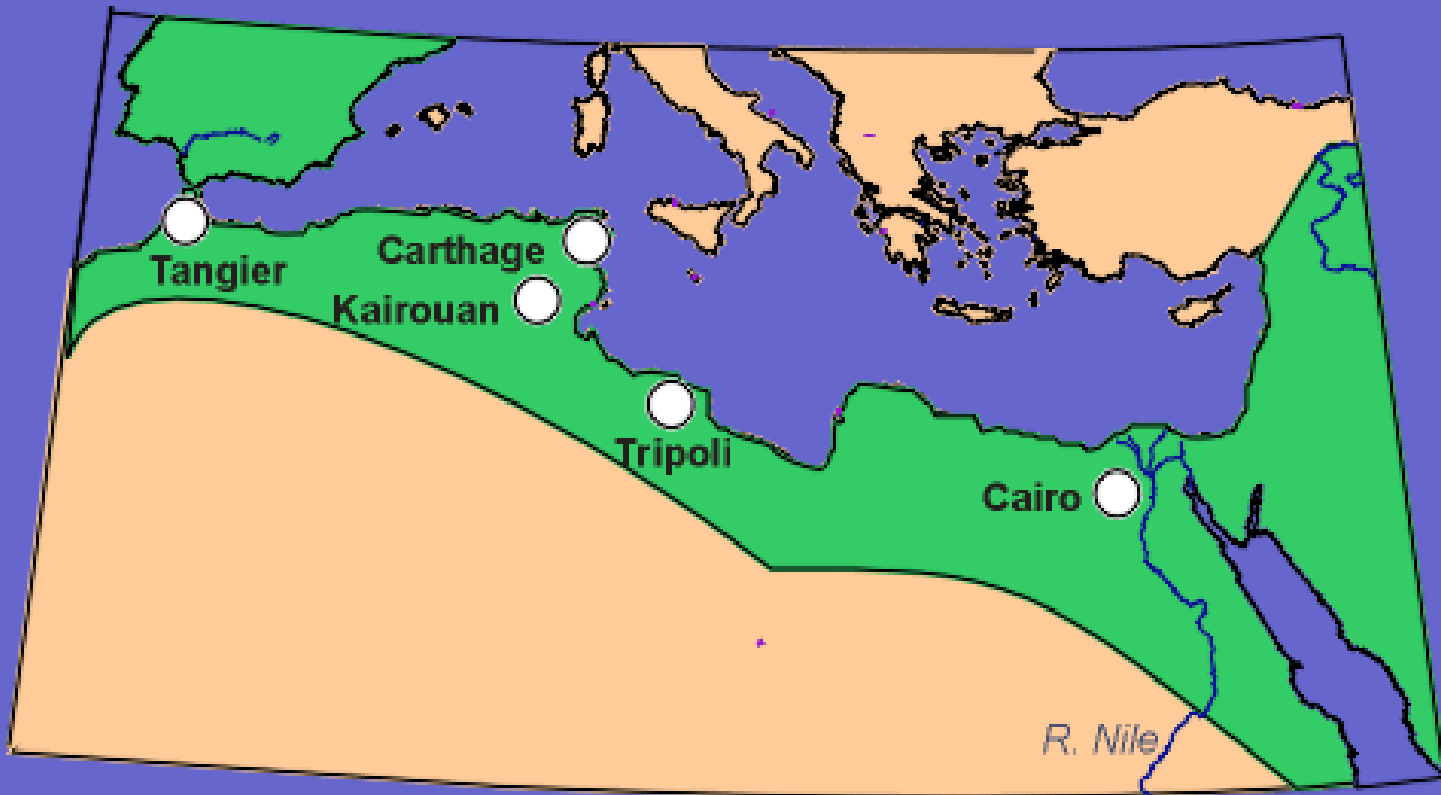
Al-Maghrib

- “The West”
- Met heavy resistance from Byzantines and native Berbers
- Arabs destroy Byzantine navy around 690 C.E. making expansion easier
- Allowed Arabs to push as far west as Carthage

Al Maghrib

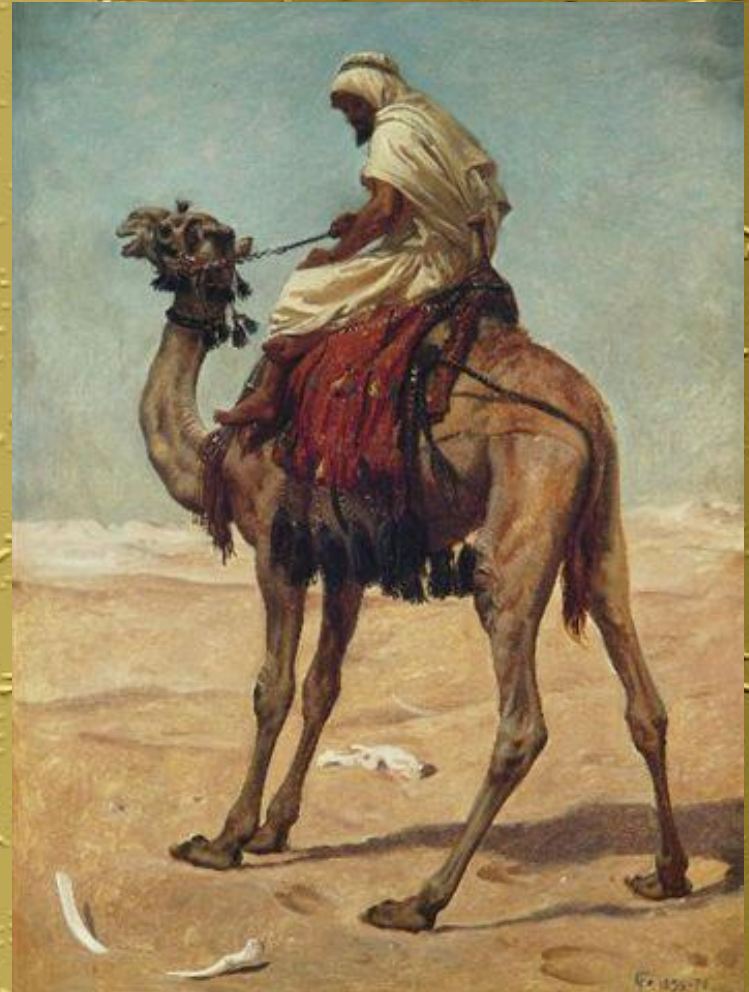


Muslim Expansion in North Africa
under the Umayyad Dynasty, 661-750 CE



Inter-Regional Interactions: The Berbers

- Socially the Berbers were similar to pre-Islamic Arabs
- Many joined army
- Muslims did not force Berbers to convert, but most still converted to Islam



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Critical Thinking Questions

Why might the Berbers be so easy to conquer?

Why might the Berbers convert even though they were not forced?

Inter-Regional Interactions: Muslim rule of North Africa

- Conquered could pay Jizya (tax), or convert
 - Tax often cheaper than Byzantines taxes
- Began trans Saharan trade for slaves and goods
- Arabic overtook the Ancient Egyptian and Coptic languages as business language of the region

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Critical Thinking Questions

How would the Jizya and language persuade the people to accept the culture of the Muslims without the Muslims having to force them to accept?

How could the slave trade and the Jizya help the Muslims to control the region easier?



Halt to Expansion

- Early 8th century Muslims began arguing about the true Caliphate
- 732 C.E. - Muslim Army defeated by Franks at battle of Tours in France



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Critical Thinking Question

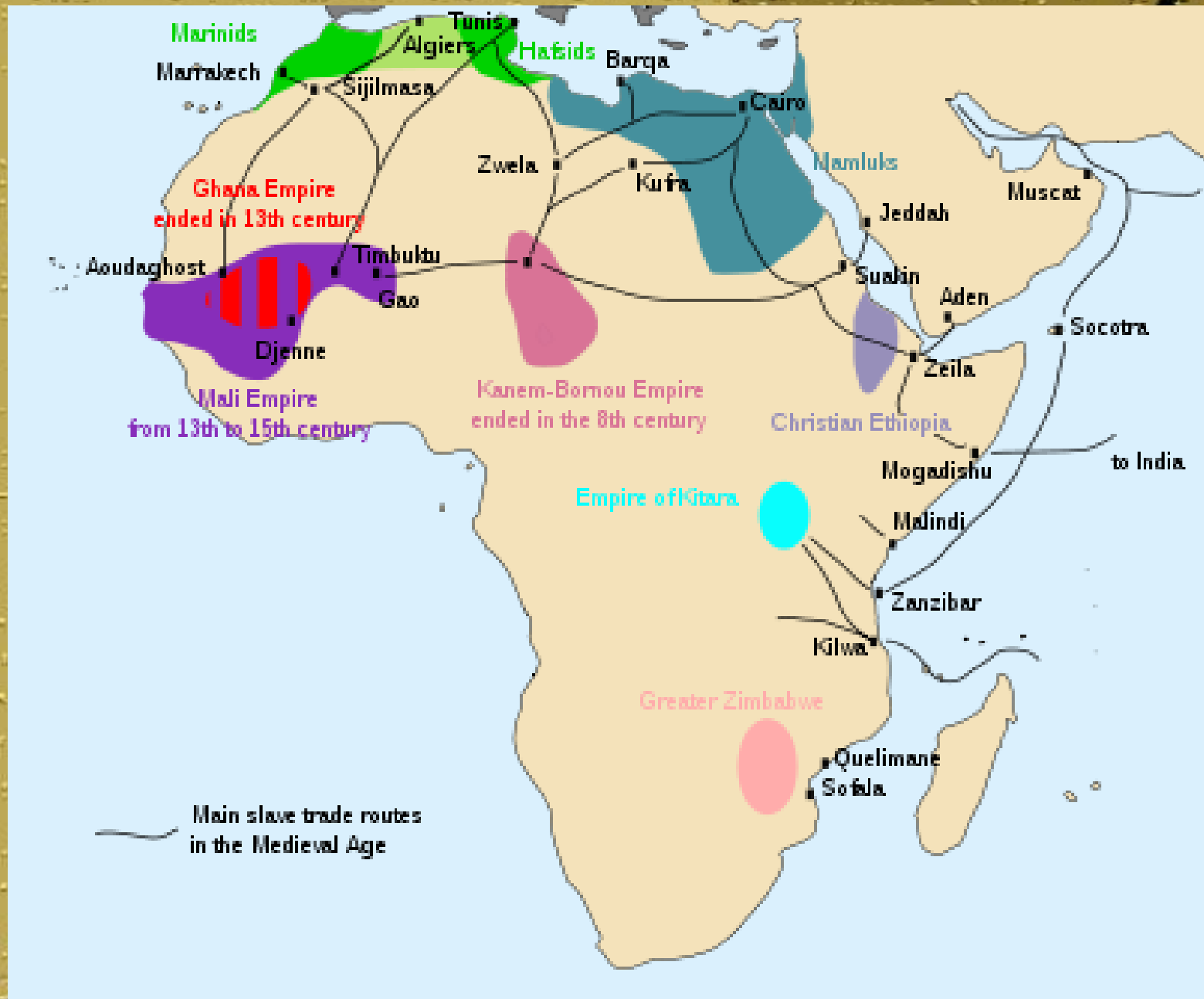
Speculate what might have happened had the Franks lost the battle of Tours, explain your reasoning.

Inter-Regional Trade

Trans-Saharan Trade

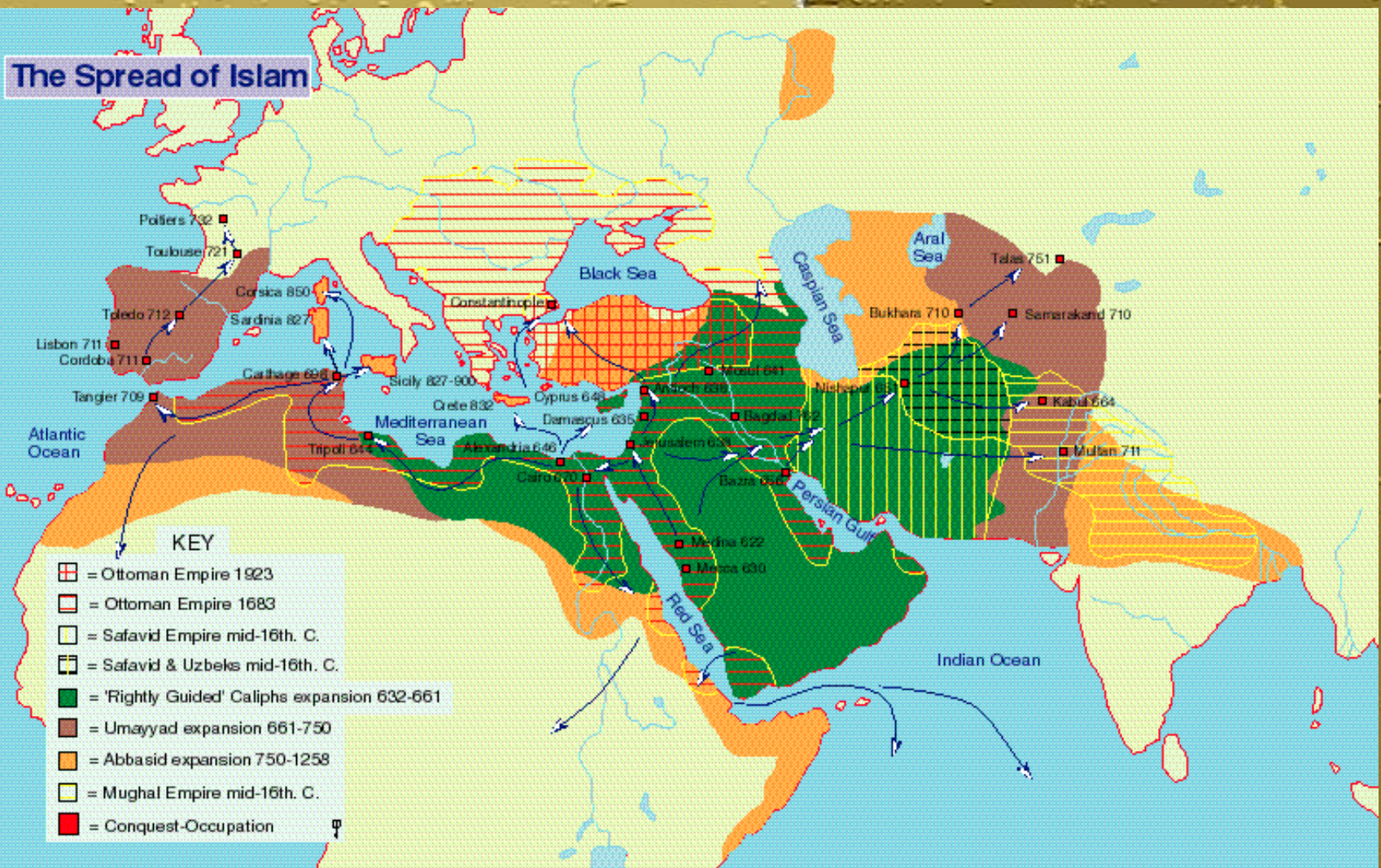
- Brought goods from Middle East and Europe to south, brought slaves and gold north.
- Gold needed by Muslims to fund expensive military campaigns

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Regional and Inter-Regional Expansion

The Spread of Islam





Exit Quiz

Answer the following questions in complete sentences:

1. Explain Islam's importance for the regional, and inter-regional relationships for the Arabs.
2. Explain how the Muslim's expansion was aided and hindered by their religion.