**Chapter 9 Reading Guide**

1. What aided the spread of the religion of Islam in the Afro-Eurasian world?
2. What regions, besides the Middle East, did Islam spread to?

**I. The Birth of a New Religion**

**A. The Homeland of Islam**

1. Examine the “Map of Time”. The textbook gives the dates of 600CE-1500CE for the Post-Classical era, while the College Board marks the dates as 600CE-1450CE for the Post-Classical era.
	1. Which periodization best reflects Islamic history? Why?
	2. Which periodization bets reflects “western” (European) history? Why?
2. Who were the **Bedouins**? Describe their politics and culture.
3. What was the significance of the city of Mecca before the rise of Islam?
4. Give evidence to support the argument that Islam was influenced by Persian and Roman religious beliefs.

**B. The Messenger and the Message**

1. Describe the early founding of Islam.
2. What was the Qur’an’s message?
3. What did the Qur’an expect from those who followed its teachings?
4. Define “**umma**”
5. List the 5 Pillars of Islam:
	1. b
6. Define “**jihad**”

**C. The Transformation of Arabia**

1. Who initially opposed Islam in Arabia?
2. Explain how early opposition to Islam in Arabia was similar to early opposition of Buddhism in India. (You may have to refer back to your chapter 4 reading guide for help if you don’t remember.)
3. Explain how the hijra was a turning point in the history of Islam.
4. Define “**usury**” and explain why wealthy elite families would be enraged by usury being outlawed.
5. Explain how Muhammad and his religion of Islam was able to consolidate most of the Arab world into one unified state so quickly.
6. How was the history of early Christian church different than that of Islam?
7. Define “**sharia**”

**II. The Making of an Arab Empire**

**A. War, Conquest, and Tolerance**

1. Why were Arabs able to construct such a huge empire so quickly?
2. List some of the political, social, and economic motives that led to the creation of the Islamic Empire.
	1. Political:
	2. Social:
	3. Economic:
3. Describe the treatment of Jews and Christians within the Islamic empire.
4. Define “**dhimmis**” and explain how they were treated within the empire.

**B. Conversion**

1. What accounts for the widespread conversion to Islam?
2. Define “**Arabization**”
	1. List some places that have been “Arabized”
	2. Explain why this process occurred in those regions and not others such as Iran, Turkey, or Pakistan.

**C. Divisions and Controversies**

1. Define “**caliph**”
2. Who were the “rightly guided Caliphs?”
3. Explain the difference between Sunni and Shia Islam.
4. Explain the difference between the Sunni “ulama” and the Shia “imams.”
5. What was the first dynasty (lineage of kings) to rule the Islamic empire after the Rightly Guided Caliphs?
6. What was the second dynasty to rule the Islamic state?
7. Which of the two dynasties treated Non-Arab Muslims with more equality?
8. In what ways were Sufi Muslims critical of mainstream Islam?

**D. Women and Men in Early Islam**

1. List some of the positive changes made to women’s lives by the arrival of early Islam.
2. List some examples of how the view of women became more negative over time.
3. List some examples of opportunities offered to women in the Sufi sect of Islam.

**III. Islam and Cultural Encounter: A Four-Way Comparison**

\*\*\*As you read pages 428-436, track the spread of Islam into each of the following locations.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **India** | **Anatolia** | **West Africa** | **Spain** |
| Role of Migration |  |  |  |  |
| Role of trade and cultural exchange |  |  |  |  |
| Methods of Conversion |  |  |  |  |
| Opposition to spread of Islam |  |  |  |  |
| Lasting Impact of Islam |  |  |  |  |

**A. The Case of India**

1. Explain how the religion of Sikhism is an example of syncretism.

**B. The Case of Anatolia**

1. Why was Islam more widely and easily adopted in Anatolia than in India?

**C. The Case of West Africa**

1. What was the main difference in how Islam arrived in West Africa as compared to India and Anatolia?

**D. The Case of Spain**

1. Explain how the deteriorating relationship between Muslims and Christians in Spain ultimately led to the downfall of Muslim control over Spain.
2. What benefits did Europe gain from its cross cultural exchanges with formerly Muslim Spain?

**IV. The World of Islam as a New Civilization**

**A. Networks of Faith**

1. “Dar-al-Islam” literally translated means “house of Islam.” It is a phrase often used to describe the global civilization of Islam. At the end of the Post-Classical era, after the 13th century invasions by the Mongols, Islam was no longer unified politically as an empire; however, believers still felt a common sense of unity. List some of the factors that unified Muslims across Dar-al-Islam hat are listed in this section.

**B. Networks of Exchange**

1. What are some reasons as to why Muslims were so extensively involved in trade across the globe during this era?
2. What new foods and agricultural techniques spread as a result of the growing Islamic network of exchange?
3. What new technologies spread as a result of the growing Islamic network of exchange?
4. What ideas technologies spread as a result of the growing Islamic network of exchange? (Hint: think math and science. Use the snapshot on pg. 440 to help you if necessary.)

**V. Reflections: Past and Present: Choosing Our History**

1. What historical evidence exists that prevents us from making the argument that “Muslims and Non-Muslims have never and will never live peacefully with one another?”