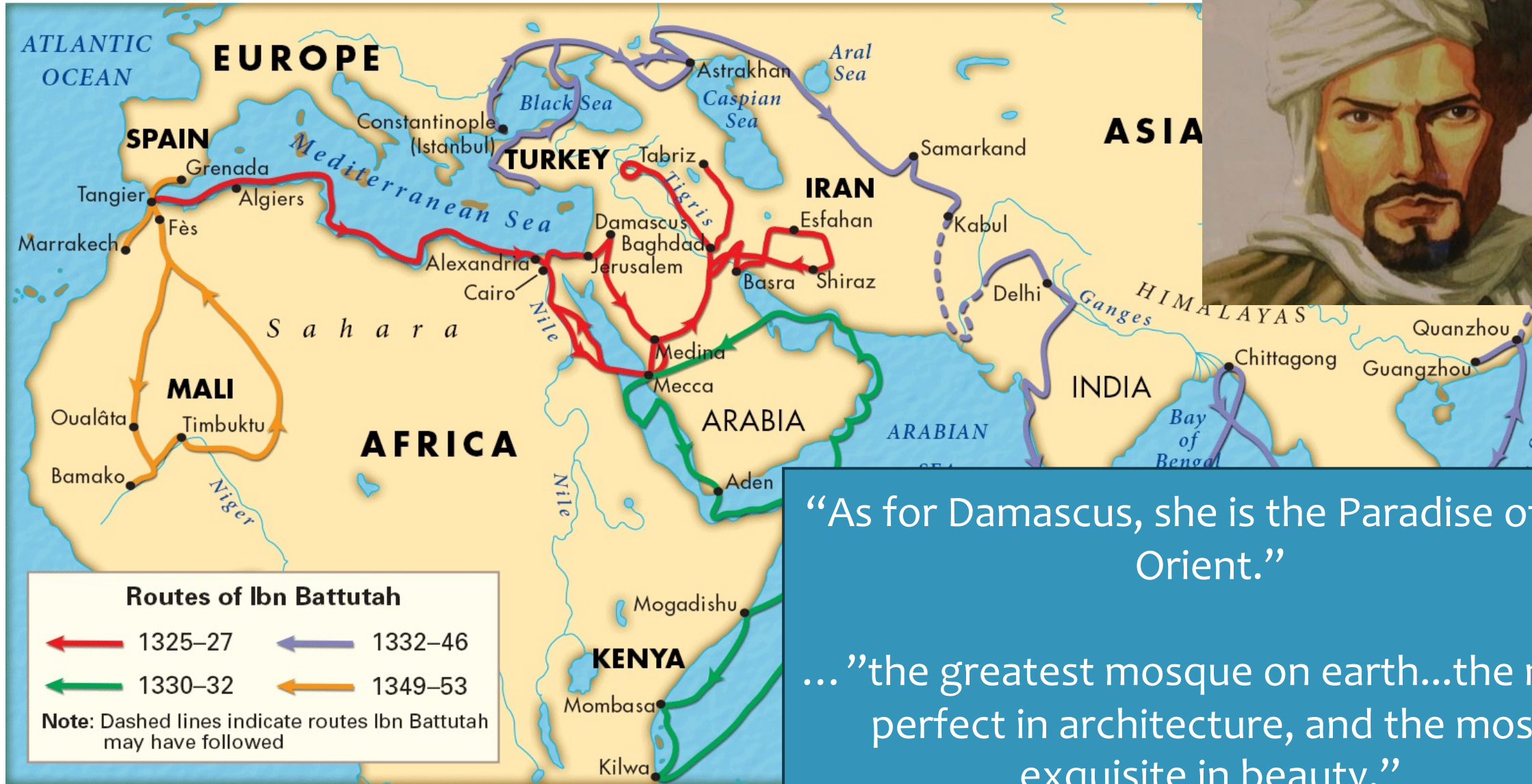




Damascus and the Islamic Empire



“As for Damascus, she is the Paradise of the Orient.”

...”the greatest mosque on earth...the most perfect in architecture, and the most exquisite in beauty.”

Umayyad Caliphate, 661-750



Our focus today...

- Development of Islam: Muhammad in the 7th century
- Central Principles of Islam: Five Pillars
- Islam after the death of Muhammad (632)
- Umayyad Caliphate and Damascus

Muhammad ibn Abdullah



- Born 570 C.E. in Mecca
- Merchant
- Married Khadija
- Daughter Fatima
- Quraysh tribe

Image: Birth of the Prophet Muhammad, Iran, 1315

Arabia in the 7th century

- Tribal, raiding important
- Nomadic
- Polytheist
- Nature deities and Ka'ba



Map 9.1 Arabia at the Time of Muhammad
Chapter 9, *Ways of the World: A Brief Global History with Sources*, Fourth Edition
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مغار به کز دبی اول کون کم جماد اتوک غلعلی الیکر قاتی اولدی
رسول حضرت تک بور کی قیلامدی بنه دو نندی کعبه طوافه



واردی بدی کز کعبه طواف قلدی دخی خدیجه خاتونک
منزلنه واردی هر کم اشمشدی کورمشدی آنی خدیجه خاتون



Ka'ba

Muhammad's Path

- Visions from Archangel Gabriel 610
- Speaks of visions only to family (Khadija, Ali) 610-613
- Preaches in streets of Mecca 613-622



Image: Muhammad and the Angel Gabriel, Persia, 1307



Image: Muhammad and Abu Bakr on the way to Medina, Persia, 14th c.

Hijra = flight to Mecca (622 C.E.)

630 Returns to Mecca



■ Doctrine of Islam

Islam = Submission

Muslim = one who
makes submission to
Allah

Qur'an = All Allah
revealed to
Muhammad (written
by mid-7th c.)

THE FIVE PILLARS OF ISLAM

These are the duties of Islam, the religion of Muslims.

الشهادة

Shahadah
(Faith)



الصلاة

Salah
(Prayer)



الصوم

Sawm
(Fasting)



الزكاة

Zakah
(Almsgiving)



الحج

Hajj
(Pilgrimage)



**First Pillar (Faith):
“There is one God (whom
the Muslims call Allah) and
Muhammad is his
Prophet.”**



Muhammad and Jesus

Second Pillar (Prayer): God demands prayer from his Faithful Five times a day

Daybreak, noon, mid-afternoon, twilight, before bed



Mecca

Third Pillar (Fasting):

Fasting and the observance of dietary prohibitions are demanded of all who can

Ramadan (9th month)

No alcohol or pork



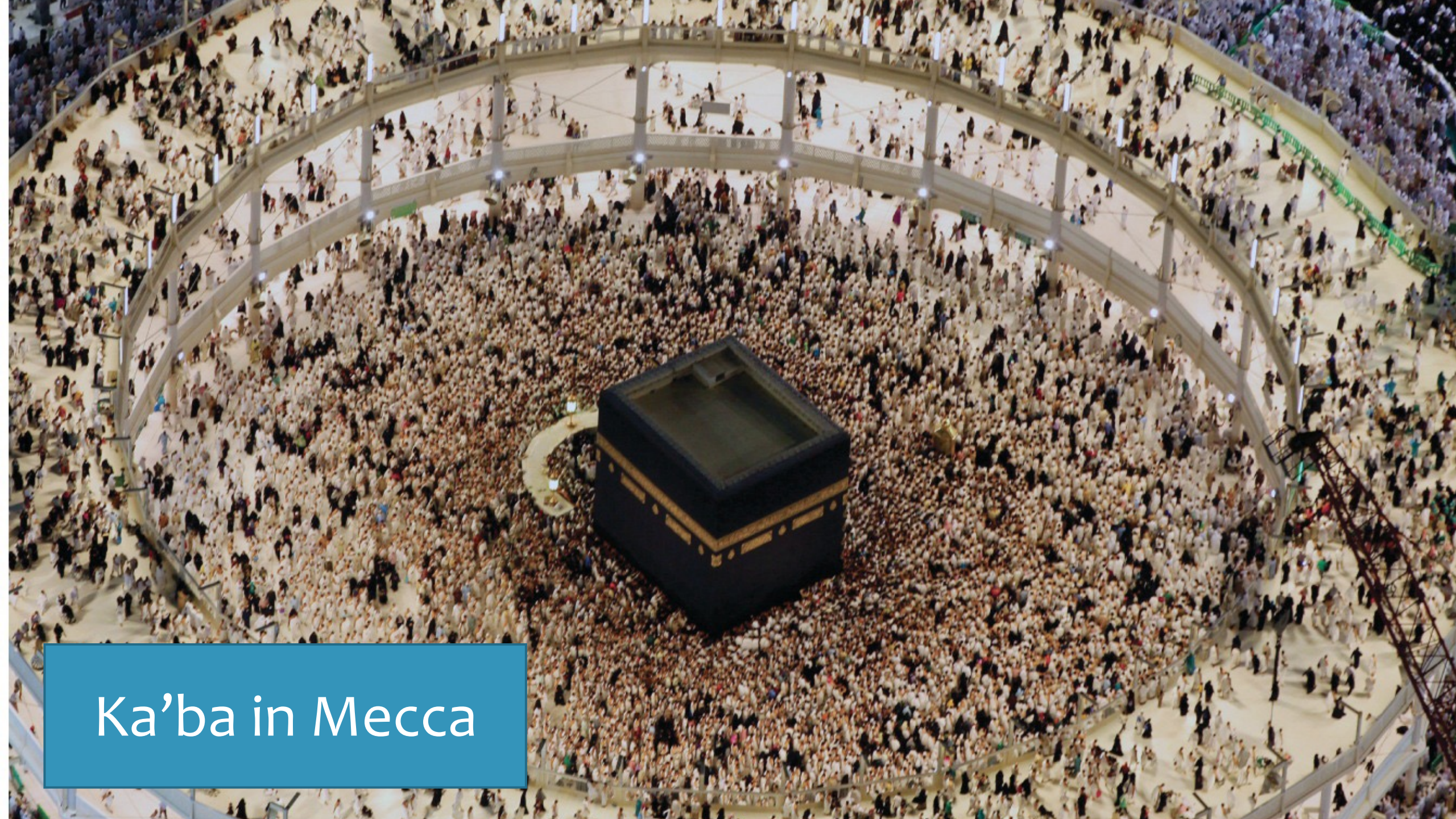
Fourth Pillar (Charity):

The giving of alms to poor Muslims is a command. This is enforced through the practice of tithing.



Fifth Pillar (Hajj):
If possible, every Muslim
must make the Hajj
(pilgrimage) to the Holy
Cities of Mecca and Medina
once in their lifetime





Ka'ba in Mecca

■ Appeal of Islam

- Doctrine of salvation for all
- Elevated but attainable moral code



Islam after the death of Muhammad

Next leader?

Option 1:
Male relative
Ali

**CALIPH =
Deputy of
God's
Messenger**

Option 2:
Closest friend
Abu Bakr

M'awiya as governor of Syria
 Death of Caliph Uthman,
 656
 M'awiya as Caliph, 661



0 250 500 miles
 0 250 500 kilometers

Spread of Islam

- Under Muhammad, 622–632
- 632– 656
- 656–750
- 750–900
- Boundaries of Abbasid Caliphate, ca. 800



0 250 500 miles
 0 250 500 kilometers

Spread of Islam

- Under Muhammad, 622–632
- 632– 656
- 656–750
- 750–900
- Boundaries of Abbasid Caliphate, ca. 800

**Followers of
Ali = Shi'ites**

**Followers of
Abu Bahr and
Umayyads =
Sunnis**

Grand Mosque in Damascus

- Caliph al-Walid ibn Abd al-Malik
- Started in 708



Image: Umayyad Mosque at Damascus, *Book of Wonders* (15th c.)

-
- Temple of Jupiter
 - Central Christian Church (Byzantium, 4th c.)
 - Christian and Muslim space (634)



Image: Former entrance to Jupiter temple.









Dhimmis = Jews and Christians

- Special place in Qur'an
- “Peoples of the Book”
- Dhimmis = protected peoples
- Dhimma = pact
- Communal autonomy
- Jizya = tax