

## THE HUMANITIES: Culture, Continuity, and Change

### Chapter 2 -- THE RISE AND SPREAD OF ISLAM: A New Religion

What is the Kaaba? Why was it significant to the Bedouins? Why is it significant to the Muslims?

From whom is Muhammad descended? Why did the Archangel Gabriel first visit him?

Define "Islam".

Why do Muslims believe that the Qur'an cannot be translated?

According to the "Closer Look" passage, why is calligraphy so important in the Muslim culture?

How many wives were Muslim men allowed to have? How did the Qur'an advise women how to dress? Why?

What allowed Islam to spread so quickly?

What led to the split of Islam into different factions around 661?

What figures are notably absent from the mosaic decorations of mosques? Why?

What activity led to the considerable Muslim impact in Africa? What is considered a possible reason why conquered Africans were eager to convert to Islam? Why did Timbuktu gain in importance?

What led to the Islamic presence in Spain? Which regions did they control? Why did Spanish Jews welcome the Muslim invasion? Why did Muslim Spain flourish intellectually?

Who was Moses Maimonides? Judah Halevi? What were their major works?

What is The Alhambra?

What was the conflict regarding music in the Muslim world? How is Arab music distinct from Western music?

Who were Al-Kindi and Ziryab?

What important process was introduced to the Arab world from China? What was its cultural impact?

What is the *Haft Paykar*? Why would an author use a framing tale?

Who are the Sufis? How would the Sufi understanding of love impact European literature?

#### Vocabulary:

bismillah

griot

mosque

caliph

hadith

qibla

calligraphy

hajj

Qur'an

chador

hijra

romantic epic

framing tale

jihad

Umma