

Why is the Islamic Empire referred to as 'the Golden Age of Islam?'



Hidden Figure – Lubna of Cordoba



Originally born as a slave, Lubna was an intellectual, mathematician, and poet of the second half of the 10th century known for the quality of her writing and her excellence in the sciences.



Key Learning

- The religion of Islam was founded by the Prophet Muhammad and at its beginnings, it was happening alongside the Anglo-Saxon and Viking period in Britain.
- Muslims expanded their control of the surrounding areas and created an empire. By the middle of 8th century, Islam spread from Arabia to as far as Spain in the west and India in the east, covering a larger area than that of the Roman Empire – almost a third of the world's population.
- The Empire spread far and wide at speed because their enemies were weakened, and they had stronger warriors powered by the zeal of their religion.
- Baghdad was a very wealthy city and a centre of learning. It was also incredibly advanced for its time – it was very hygienic, most households had running water and it included many public services.
- Trade was a main cause of Baghdad's success. Traders travelled by land and sea to many places around the world to get a range of commodities and bring money and jobs into the city.
- Compared with Britain at the time, the cities in the Islamic Empire were far more culturally advanced.



Key vocabulary

Arabs	A large ethnic group mainly inhabiting the Arab world in Western Asia, North Africa, the Horn of Africa, and the western Indian Ocean islands
algebra	The part of maths in which letters and other symbols are used to represent numbers and quantities.
bazaar	A marketplace consisting of multiple small stalls or shops, especially in the Middle East, Northeast Africa, and India.
Caliph	The ruler of a Muslim community, historically seen as a successor to the Prophet Muhammad.
contribution	The part played in helping something to advance
empire	An extensive group of states or countries ruled over by a single sovereign state.
mosque	A Muslim place of worship

Timeline

610	The religion of Islam begins
634	The Islamic Empire begins to expand, including much of the Middle East and part of North Africa.
711	Muslims enter Spain from Morocco and end up gaining control of most of the Iberian Peninsula
750	Baghdad is build as a new capital city.
750 – 1258	The Islamic Empire experiences a period of scientific and artistic achievement that will later be called the golden age of Islam.
1258	The Mongol army invades Baghdad and destroys much of the city.



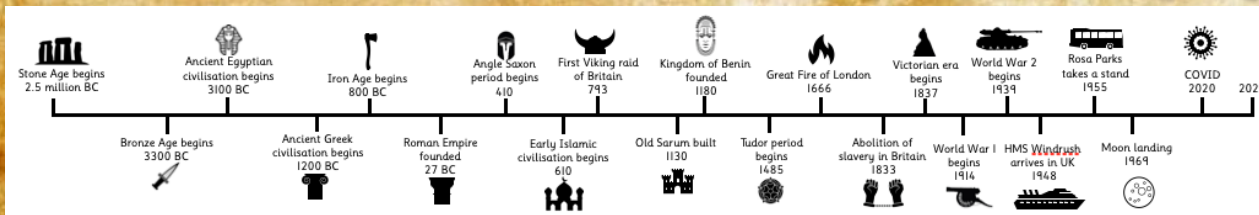
Big Ideas – Our Learning Journey

Reception
Legacy – Nursery Rhymes
Society – Memory Box

Year 1/2
Legacy – Great Fire of London, Wright Brothers, Toys
Society – Seaside, Great Fire of London, Toys

Year 3/4
Legacy – Romans, Ancient Greece, Anglo Saxons
Society – Stone Age to Iron Age, Vikings
Empire – Romans

Year 5/6
Legacy – Islam, Mayans
Society – Benin, Mayans, Islam, Victorians, Salisbury and WWI
Empire – Islam, Benin



Ethics

Why are the Islamic achievements in maths and science often overlooked?