

CIVILIZATIONS IN CONFLICT: BYZANTIUM, ISLAM AND THE CRUSADES

Vocabulary

ANGLO-SAXONS- The general name applied to the Germanic tribes (Angles, Saxons, Frisians and Jutes) that settled in England after the Romans departed. The Anglo-Saxons dominated England from the fifth through the eleventh centuries.

BARBARIANS- Uncivilized people, especially tribes such as the Vandals, the Visigoths, and the Ostragoths, whose invasions led to the collapse of the western Roman Empire.

BYZANTIUM- Originally Byzantium was a Greek city at the mouth of the Bosphorus. In the year 330 A.D., Constantine I, the first Christian Roman emperor, established a new capital of the Roman Empire at Byzantium. Byzantium was renamed Constantinople in honor of the emperor Constantine. When the Ottoman Turks conquered Constantinople in 1453 A.D., they renamed the city Istanbul. The Byzantine Empire as a whole is commonly referred to as "Byzantium."

BYZANTINES- Citizens of the Byzantine Empire.

BYZANTINE EMPIRE- The historical term for the successor state to the Roman Empire of the east. Most historians say the Byzantine Empire was founded in 330 A.D. by Constantine I and finally ended in 1453 when Constantinople fell to the Ottoman Turks.

CALAT ALHAMBRA- The "Red Castle." A magnificent group of palaces and fortresses built by the Moslems who occupied Spain from the 8th through the 15th centuries.

CALIPH- The chief civil and religious ruler in Moslem countries.

CALIPHATE- An area under the rule of a caliph.

CONSTANTINE I- (280–337 A.D.) First Christian emperor of the Romans and founder of Rome's eastern capital, Constantinople.

CONSTANTINOPLE- The Roman's name for Byzantium; the eastern capital of the Roman Empire founded by Constantine I in 330 A.D.

CRUSADES- Medieval military expeditions to reclaim the Holy Land from the Moslems. There were eight Crusades from 1095 to 1270 A.D.

DARK AGES- The first part of the Middle Ages between the fall of Rome and the Renaissance, occurring roughly between 500–1000 A.D. This was a period of decline in art, literature, and science in Western Europe.

DOGE- Title given to the ruling magistrates of ancient Venice and Genoa.

EASTERN ORTHODOXY- The Greek-speaking Christian Church of the Eastern Roman or Byzantine Empire. One of the two great branches of the original Christian Church. The Eastern church developed its own liturgical traditions, system of ethics, and a patriarchal government while resisting the authority and innovations of the Roman papacy.

EMIR- A title of various Moslem rulers.

EMIRATE- The position, reign, or domain of an emir.

FRANKS- Germanic tribes originally living east of the Rhine River. During the third to fifth centuries, they repeatedly attacked and then conquered Roman Gaul. France is named for these conquerors.

ICONS- Sacred images, usually paintings, that are found in Eastern Orthodox churches and the homes of Orthodox Christians.

ICONOCLASTS- During the eighth and ninth centuries, iconoclasts were Eastern Orthodox Church members who denounced the use of icons. This often meant that iconoclasts destroyed icons.

ICONOSTASIS- In Eastern Orthodox churches, the iconostasis is a high screen, decorated with icons, that separates the most sacred part of the church from the area where the congregation stands to worship.

IMAN- A Moslem religious leader who is the chief officer in the mosque and leads the people in prayer; also a title assumed by certain Moslem political leaders.

ISLAM- An Arabic word meaning "submission to God;" is the name of a major world religion founded by Mohammed in the seventh century A.D. It is a monotheistic religion that incorporates elements of Judaic and Christian beliefs.

JIHAD- A Moslem term meaning "Holy War."

JUSTINIAN I- (483–565 A.D.) Probably the most powerful of all the Byzantine emperors.

LOMBARDS- Germanic people who moved down from northwest Germany towards Roman Italy in the fourth century. Today Lombardy, once the kingdom of the Lombards, is Italy's major industrial region.

MECCA- A Saudi-Arabian city that was the birthplace of Mohammed and is the holiest city in Islam.

MOORS- North African Moslems of mixed Berber and Arabic stock who conquered much of Spain and Portugal in the eighth century. Philosophy, architecture, and science flourished under their patronage.

MOSAIC- An art form very popular in both the Roman and Byzantine civilizations. Mosaic pictures are made by cementing tiny pieces of colored stone or glass onto a surface, such as floors or walls.

MOSLEM- Same as Muslim; a person of the Islamic faith.

MOSQUE- A Moslem place of worship.

MOHAMMED- Also spelled Muhammad; founder of Islam born around 570 A.D, died 632 A.D.

MUSLIM- A Moslem; a person of the Islamic faith.

NORMANS- People from the part of France called Normandy who were descended from the Norsemen. They captured England in 1066 and for awhile controlled much of southern Italy.

OSTROGOTHS- The East Goths - Germanic people living to the north of the Black Sea who were in continual conflict with the Romans. The Ostrogoths ruled Italy immediately after the fall of the Western Roman Empire.

OTTOMAN TURKS- A powerful group of Moslem Turks who entered Asia Minor in the late 1200s and eventually captured Constantinople in 1453.

PATRIARCH- Literally means "the head of a family." The Eastern Orthodox Church relies on a patriarchal type of government. Historically, the patriarch of Constantinople ruled the Eastern Church.

PILLAGE- To plunder, forcibly steal, or rob, especially during war.

VANDALS- Ancient Germanic people who invaded Roman Gaul and Spain in the fifth century. The Spanish province (V)Andalusia was once a Vandal Kingdom.

VISIGOTHS The West Goths-a powerful Germanic tribe who wrought havoc with the Roman Empire. The Visigoths lost their Spanish kingdom to the Moslem Moors in 711.

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Timeline

- 776 B.C.** The first Olympic games are held in Olympia, Greece.
- 753 B.C.** The city of Rome is founded.
- 481 B.C.** The Buddha, founder of Buddhism, dies in India.
- 450 B.C.** The civilization of ancient Greece is at its highest point.
- 146 B.C.** Greece is captured by the Romans.
- 70 B.C.** The Romans occupy Mesopotamia.
- 27 B.C.** Beginning of a great period of peace in the Roman Empire called the Pax Romana that would last until 180 A.D.
- 33 A.D.** Christ dies.
- 120 A.D.** High point of the Roman Empire.
- 330 A.D.** Constantine I makes Byzantium in Greece the capital of the Eastern Roman Empire. Constantine is the first Christian emperor. This date is commonly used as the starting point of the Byzantine civilization.
- 376 A.D.** The Roman Empire is officially split into eastern and western halves.
- 476 A.D.** Collapse of the Roman Empire.
- 565 A.D.** Under Justinian the Byzantine Empire is at its maximum size, having recaptured much of the old western Roman Empire.
- 570 A.D.** Mohammed, founder of Islam, is born in Mecca, Saudi Arabia. Europe is in a period of cultural decline called the "Dark Ages" that will last until around 1000 A.D.
- 636 A.D.** Syria is captured by the Moslems.
- 637 A.D.** Palestine is captured by the Moslems.
- 711 A.D.** The Moors capture southern Spain from the Visigoths.
- 815 A.D.** A Science library is founded by Moslems in Baghdad.
- 980 A.D.** Vikings set up camp in Greenland.
- 1000–09 A.D.** The Vikings, under Lief Ericson, reach North America.
- 1054 A.D.** The "Great Schism" occurs: The Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox Churches are permanently separated. This breakup was accompanied by the issuance of mutual solemn curses by the pope and the patriarch of Constantinople.
- 1066 A.D.** The Normans, under Duke William of Normandy, conquer and rule England.
- 1071 A.D.** Seljuks, Moslem Turks from Asia Minor, capture Jerusalem.
- 1091 A.D.** The Normans conquer Sicily after almost 200 years of Arabic rule.
- 1095 A.D.** The First Crusade begins to protect the citizens of Constantinople and to recapture the Holy Land from the Moslems.
- 1099 A.D.** End of the First Crusade.
- 1109 A.D.** Four crusader principalities exist in the Near East.
- 1147–48 A.D.** Second Crusade is led by King Louis VII of France.
- 1150 A.D.** Chinese build the first rockets.
- 1189–92 A.D.** Third Crusade is led by the Holy Roman emperor Fredrick Barbarossa and by the kings of France and England.
- 1201–1204 A.D.** Fourth Crusade. Constantinople is captured by the crusaders during the Fourth Crusade. Italians will rule Constantinople for the next 60 years.
- 1215 A.D.** The Magna Carta is signed by King John of England.
- 1218–1221 A.D.** Fifth Crusade.
- 1228–1229 A.D.** Sixth Crusade. This, the only crusade without warfare, secured Jerusalem for the Christians.
- 1244 A.D.** Moslems recapture Jerusalem.
- 1248–54 A.D.** The Seventh Crusade is led by King Louis IX of France.
- 1250 A.D.** Anasazi build cities on Mesa Verde in what is now southern Colorado in the United States.
- 1270 A.D.** The Eighth, and final, Crusade, also under Louis IX of France.
- 1271 A.D.** Marco Polo begins his epic journey to the far East reaching Japan; he returned home in 1295.
- 1288 A.D.** First known gun is made in China.
- 1330 A.D.** The Aztecs found their great city of Tenochtitlan.
- 1338 A.D.** England and France became locked in a war that would last over 100 years.
- 1346 A.D.** In Europe, the Black Death, a great outbreak of plague carried by rat fleas, kills 25 million people, one third of the population.
- 1347 A.D.** First evidence of guns in Europe.
- 1440 A.D.** The Guttenberg Bible is printed on a printing press that uses movable type. This invention made it possible for books to be produced inexpensively and, as a result, knowledge began to spread more rapidly than ever before in history.
- 1453 A.D.** Ottoman Turks capture Constantinople. Around this time, Europe entered a great period of cultural rebirth, called the Renaissance.
- 1473 A.D.** Michelangelo paints the ceiling of the Sistine chapel at the Vatican, Rome.
- 1474 A.D.** Beginning of the gradual reconquest of Moslem lands in Spain by Christians.
- 1492 A.D.** Columbus discovers the West Indies in the New World.
- 1517 A.D.** Martin Luther starts the Protestant Reformation in Germany.

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Timeline Activity Sheet

DIRECTIONS: Match the historical events in Column Two to the dates listed in Column One by placing the corresponding letter in the blank. Not all letters will be used; some may be used more than once.

COLUMN ONE

COLUMN TWO

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| 1. 330 A.D. _____ | A. The First Crusade begins |
| 2. 476 A.D. _____ | B. Peak of the Byzantine Empire under Justinian |
| 3. 560 A.D. _____ | C. Constantine founds the new Roman capital of the East |
| 4. 1453 A.D. _____ | D. Fall of the Byzantine Empire |
| 5. 1270 A.D. _____ | E. Beginning of a great period of Islamic conquest |
| 6. 1096 A.D. _____ | F. Islamic forces begin conquest of Spain |
| 7. 1054 A.D. _____ | G. Fall of the Roman Empire |
| 8. 632 A.D. _____ | H. Beginning of the last Crusade |
| 9. 711 A.D. _____ | I. Eastern Orthodoxy declares its total independence from the pope |
| 10. 1208 A.D. _____ | J. Italians rule at Constantinople |

**CIVILIZATIONS IN CONFLICT:
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The Five Pillars Of Islam**



FAITH “There is no god but Allah and Mohammed is his prophet” is Islam’s b
 asement of its monotheistic faith.

2. **PRAYER** Moslems must perform ritual prayers five times a day plus prayer in a mosque at noon every Friday.
3. **ALMS** Caring for the poor; donating 2.5% of yearly income for alms.
4. **FASTING** The fast of RAMADAN is celebrated during the ninth month of the Islamic lunar calendar and is considered a fundamental religious duty.
5. **PILGRIMAGE** If physically and financially able, every Moslem is expected to participate in the annual pilgrimage to Mecca at least once in a lifetime.

JIHAD Although not one of the FIVE PILLARS, the concept of Jihad is very important to Islam. Jihad literally means “struggle.” It is a command to work for the good of Islam through study, meditation, preaching, good deeds and, when necessary, fighting for the faith.

ISLAMIC SUB GROUPS

SUNNIS The largest Islamic denomination comprising 90% of all believers. The guiding principle of Sunnis is that Islamic doctrine and thought should be based on the consensus of a majority of believers.

SHI’ITES Ten percent of Moslem believers. Mainly centered in Iran with pockets of believers in Arabia, Lebanon and Iraq. They believe in a line of divinely inspired successors to Mohammed (The Imans). The Shi’ites are characterized by political activism and religious fundamentalism.

SUFIS These are the Islamic Mystics. Sufism is a system of thought and behavior h appears in different forms throughout the Moslem world. Sufis are regarded g very pious and often having special spiritual and miraculous powers.



**CIVILIZATIONS IN CONFLICT:
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The Conflicting Civilizations**

Directions: Complete the chart below by identifying the dates, founders, languages, religions, and geographic areas of the Islamic states, the Byzantine Empire, and the kingdoms of Western Europe.

<u>DATES</u>	<u>FOUNDERS</u>	<u>LANGUAGE(S)</u>	<u>RELIGION</u>	<u>AREA</u>
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Islamic states

Byzantine Empire

Kingdoms of
Western Europe

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Internet Resource

Visit the **Metropolitan Museum of Art's The Glory of Byzantium** website at
<http://www.metmuseum.org/htmlfile/education/byzantium/byzhome.html>

Not only does this site contain glorious photographs of Byzantine art, as well as
details on the history, themes, timeline, and vocabulary associated with

Byzantium, but it has a **Teacher Resources** section at

<http://www.metmuseum.org/htmlfile/education/byzantium/teach.html>

This remarkable section includes class activities and discussion topics which
are really helpful in personalizing the era for students.



**CIVILIZATIONS IN CONFLICT:
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Quiz

TRUE OR FALSE

Directions: Indicate if each of the following statements is true or false by placing a "T" or "F" in the blank in front of it.

1. ____ The size of the Byzantine Empire increased steadily for the first 600 years after the fall of Rome.
2. ____ From 500 to 1000 A.D., great advances in science were made in the Christian countries of Western Europe.
3. ____ The First Crusade was instigated at the request of the Byzantine emperor.
4. ____ Over the last 1900 years, the Eastern Orthodox faith has undergone many more changes in its religious practices than the Roman Catholic faith.
5. ____ As a reward for joining a Crusade, the pope promised to pardon the Crusaders for all the punishment due for their sins.

FILL IN THE BLANKS

Directions: Fill in the blanks with the appropriate terms to complete the following statements.

6. The largest and most famous of the Byzantine Churches, called *Santa Sophia* (Holy Wisdom), was built during the reign of the powerful emperor_____.
7. After the First Crusade, four new states, ruled by Crusader knights, were created. These were the Crusader states of _____, _____, _____, and _____.
8. Traditionally, the leader of the Eastern Orthodox faith always was the _____ of Constantinople.
9. The language of the Western Roman Empire was _____, the language of the Eastern Roman Empire was _____, and the official language of the Islam was _____.
10. The faith of Islam was founded by the prophet _____, who was born in _____, a city in the country that today is called _____.