

Welcome students, in this session we are going to talk about- Course title- Social Formations and Cultural Patterns of the Medieval World. Title of the unit -the emergence of Islam. The title of the module is Caliphal State-Rise of the Sultanates. This is Prof. Varsha Kamat from PES's RSN College of Arts and Science, Farmagudi . The outline of the module is Caliphal State and Rise of Sultanates.

Caliphal State or the Caliphate or Khilafat in Arabic was the political religious state comprising the Muslim community or Ummah and the lands and peoples under its dominion in the centuries following the death of Prophet Muhammad in 632 CE, ruled by a Caliph or Khalifa who held temporal and sometimes a degree of spiritual authority. The empire of the Caliphate grew rapidly through conquest during its first two centuries to include most of Southwest Asia, North Africa and Spain. Khalifa, a representative or successor in its literal meaning was at first a designation rather than a title. The official title was Amir Al Mumineen, commander of the faithful.

#### Leadership after Mohammed

Mohammed the Prophet, not merely founded a new religion, he created a new state, made the Arabs into a nation, and brought them into history. After the death of Mohammed, urgent need for a successor, as political leader of the Muslim community was met by a group of Muslim elders in Medina who designated Abu Bekr, the man chosen by Muhammad to conduct the prayers in the Medina mosque and also the Prophet's father in law as the first caliph. The early caliphs of Islam were the following Abu Bekr, Omar, Uthman and Ali.

The caliphate state.

The Caliphs authority was largely epistemic. That is to say, based on his superior knowledge of both religious and worldly affairs. Although the reigns of the first Four Caliphs that is Abu Bekr, Omar, Uthman and Ali were marred by political upheaval, civil war and assassination, the era was remembered by later generations of Muslims as a golden Age of Islam. The first Caliphs were collectively known as the rightly guided caliphs or Rashidun because of their close

personal association with Prophet Muhammad, these four Caliphs largely established the administrative and Judicial Organization of the Muslim community and directed the conquest of new lands.

Abu Bekr - 630 to 634 CE.

Abu Bekr was 59, short and thin, simple, kindly but resolute, attending personally to details of administration and judgment and never resting till the justice was done. The tribes of Arabia mistook his modest manners for weakness of will only superficially and reluctantly converted to Islam. They now ignored it and refused to pay the tiths that Muhammad had laid upon them. When Abu Bekr insisted they marched upon Medina, the Caliph improvised an army overnight and let it out before dawn and routed the rebels. He then sent Khalid Al Walid the most brilliant and ruthless of the Arab generals to bring back the turbulent peninsula to orthodoxy, repentance and tiths. The Bedouins tired of starvation and used to war, readily enlisted in these campaigns and before long they were dying enthusiastically for Islam. Abu Bekr encouraged anti- Byzantine sentiment in Arabia and sent help to the Arab tribes in Syria, to rebel and conquered it in 634C E. the year in which he died. The Byzantine Emperor Heraclius had reached all Syria on one battle. Henceforth Syria became the basis of spreading Muslim empire.

The next Caliph was Omar Abu Afsah even alchata 630-644 CE

Omar had been the chief advisor and chief supporter of Abu Bekr and had earned such repute that no one protested when the dying khalif named him as his successor, yet Omar was very opposite of his friend. Tall, broad shouldered and passionate, he was a severe puritan demanding strict virtue of every Muslim. Omar was the real builder of the Arab empire. The unification of Arabia was completed under him, and a large scale territorial expansion outside Arabia was commenced. The Arabs were skillful horsemen and proved superior to the cavalry as well as the infantry of the Sassanid that is the Persian and Byzantine, the Greek empires. In 635, Damascus was taken, in 636 Antioch, in 638 Jerusalem was

conquered, by 640 all Syria was in Muslim hands. By 641 Persia and Egypt were also conquered. Umar personally went to Jerusalem at the request of Sophronius, the Patriarch of Jerusalem to sign the treaty confirmed the Christians in the peaceful possession of all their shrines and chose the site for the mosque known by his name. Once Syria and Persia was secured, a wave of migration set in from Arabia to north and East. Umar forbade the Arab conquerors to buy or till land and hoped that outside Arabia they would remain a military caste, employees supported by the state preserving their martial qualities. His prohibitions were ignored after his death and the Arab conquerors soon gathered wealth and built rich palaces in Mecca and Medina. Umar was assassinated by a Persian slave while leading prayer in the mosque.

The next caliph was Uthman in a year 644 CE.

The dying Caliph had appointed six men to choose his successor. They named Uthman from among themselves as the next caliph. Uthman was an old man of kindly intent. He rebuilt and beautified the Medina mosque. He supported the generals who now spread the Muslim arms to Herat, Kabul, Tiflis and through Asia Minor to the Black Sea. Uthman also represented the Umayyad clan of Mecca, which had suffered a partial eclipse during the prophet's lifetime. Uthman followed the same general policy as Umar, but had less forceful personality than his predecessor. He continued the conquest that had steadily increased the size of the Islamic empire. Uthman tried to create a cohesive central authority to replace the loose tribal alliance that had emerged under Mohammed the Prophet. He established the system of landed fiefs and distributed many of the provincial governorships to members of his family, much of the treasure received by the central government went to the members of his family and to other provincial governors, therefore the army opposed him. Rebellions in 645 CE, rebellions broke out in the provinces of Egypt and Iraq. In 655, the rebels marched upon Medina and besieged Uthman in his house. After several days of fighting, he was killed in 656, while reading the Quran.

The next and the last Caliph was Ali Ibn Talib 656 to 661 CE.

After the death of Uthman, the Umayyad leaders fled from Medina, and the Hashemite faction, at last, raised Ali to the caliphate. Ali was 55, stout, genial and charitable, meditative and reserved. He was the ruler during the hardest period in Muslim history, coinciding with the first Muslim Civil War. He reigned over the Rashidun Empire, which extended from Central Asia in the east to North Africa in the West. He became known as both just and fair ruler from caliphate to Sultanate.

Moriah, the founder of the Umayyad dynasty, became caliph by treachery and Curry jab Rebel assassinated, Caliph Ali near Kufa In 661 CE. The Quraysh aristocracy through Mojave ahead at last won their war against Prophet Mohammed. The Theocratic Republic of the successors became a secular hereditary monarchy.

These are the three sultanate that arose after the four caliphs- Umayyad, Abbasid and Fatimid.

The Umayyad Caliphate of Damascus 660-750 CE.

The assassination of Uthman and the troubled caliphate of Ali that followed, sparked the first sectarian split in the Muslim community. By 661CE. Ali's rival Muawiah, fellow member of Uthman Zumaya Glen, had wrested away the Caliphate and his rule established the Umayyad dynasty which lasted till 750 C.

The Umayyad ruled from Damascus. These are the important Caliphs for the Umayyad caliphate. Despite the largely successful reign of Muawiyah, Tribal and sectarian disputes erupted after his death. The majority of Muslims regarded the Umayyads nominally Muslim at best given their worldly and opulent lifestyles, and on account of their having established dynastic rule by force in a conscious effort to confer legitimacy on themselves and to acquire a religious aura, the Umayyads chose the title Khilafat, Allah or the Deputy of God. Under them, the Muslim forces took permanent possession of North Africa. And converted the native Berbers to Islam. They overran most of the Iberian Peninsula as Visigoth Kingdom collapsed in Spain. They also made progress in the east, with the

settlements in the Indus Valley in India in 750 C. The last Umayyad Calif ,Marwan II, was defeated in the Battle of Grades by the followers of Abbasid family,

The Umayyad Caliphate of Cordoba in Spain

the first Abbasid caliph at Al Safar proclaimed himself the caliph at Kufa and ordered a general massacre of the Umayyads. The only Umayyad of note who escaped was Al Rahman. He made his way to Spain and established a Umayyad dynasty in Cordoba that lasted till 1031 CE.

The Abbasid Caliphate 750 to 1258 C. The Abbasid, descendants of a uncle of Prophet Muhammad, al Abbass owed the success of their revolt to ardent support of the Shia Persian nationalists who held that Caliphate belonged by right to the descendants of Ali. The Abbasid ruled from Baghdad. The period 661 to specially the Caliphate of Harun Al Rashid and Alma Moon is accounted The height of Abbasid rule. The important Caliphs of the Abbasid Caliphate.

Caliph Harun al Rashid.

Legends above all the 1001 nights picture, her own as a gay and cultured monarch, occasionally despotic and violent, often generous and humane. So fond of stories that he recorded them in state archives. He gathered around him in Baghdad and unparalleled Galaxy of poets, jurist, physicians, grammarians, writers, musicians, dancers, artist and bits, judged their work with discriminating Face rewarded them abundantly. He himself was a poet, a scholar in an eloquent orator, no port in history had ever a more brilliant constellation of intellects contemporary with the Empress Irene in Constantinople and with Charlamagne in France, her own excelled them all in wealth, power, splendour and cultural advancement that adorns the rule. the Abbasid power ended in 945 CE, when Buids from Iran took Baghdad under their rule. They retained Abbasid as figureheads, the \*\*\*\*\* finally ended Abbasid line with sack of Baghdad in 1258.

The Fatimid Caliphate 9 not 9/11 71.

The Fatimid Caliphate was and is my Licia Caliphate of the 10th to12th century C established in North Africa by Al Mahdi Billa in 999 C. They trace their ancestry to Prophet's daughter Fatima and her husband Ali , the first Shiite Imam in 921 C,

They conquered and established Almedia city in Tunisia and made it their capital in 969. In 696 C E they conquered Egypt and in 973 established Cairo as the new capital of their Caliphate. They made significant contributions to astrology and astronomy and built many observatories.

In conclusion, after the death of Mohammed, his successors or Caliphs spread the influence and power of Islam in many countries, under the Sultanates of Umayyads in Damascus, in Cordoba, and the Abbasids in Baghdad and the Fatimids at Cairo, the Muslims became the most powerful people in the world. The period from 7th century to 11<sup>th</sup> century was the Great Age of Islam when it was not merely politically powerful, but when by its rich contribution to culture it obtained the intellectual leadership of the world, these are the references.