

# 'A HISTORICAL CRITIQUE OF ISLAM'

## \*A quick overview\*

The newest research on the historical Problems with **Islam's Origins**

Calvary Chapel Chino Hills (CCCH)

Dr. Jay Smith

Sept. 13, 2023



## 4 areas we will investigate...

[1] THE PROBLEM WITH THE SOURCES

[2] THE PROBLEM WITH MECCA

[3] THE PROBLEM WITH MUHAMMAD

[4] THE PROBLEM WITH THE QUR'AN



# What are the claims by the Muslims for their “Standard Islamic Narrative” (SIN)?

The Islamic Traditions for radicals – nominals – liberals



# Muslim's SIN's Traditional Claims

For the last 1400 years...

- **Muhammad** was the last and greatest prophet, who was born in **Mecca** in 570 AD, and died in Medina in 632 AD
  - He modeled 'Islam' as the paradigm for the world
  - He received the Qur'an as the 'final' revelation for the world
- **The Qur'an**, his revelation, was sent down only to him between 610 – 632 AD
  - It is the greatest, the only perfectly preserved, and the final revelation
  - It corrects all previous revelations
- **Islam** is the final religion, based on Muhammad's life and sayings (Sunnah), and on the Qur'an's teachings



# CONCLUSION?

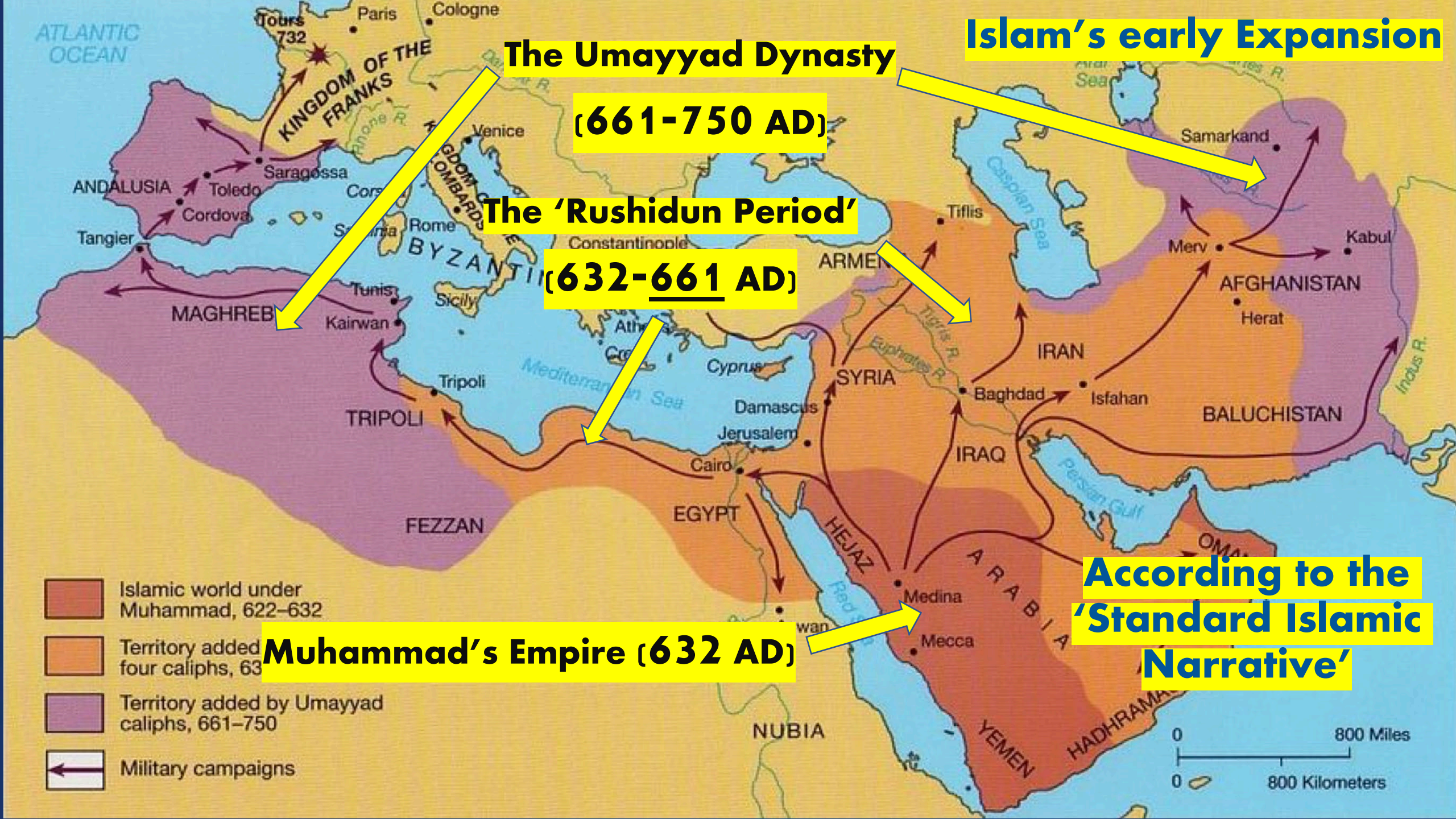
Thus, Islam is completely dependent on:

- **THE QUR'AN = 'The Book'**
- **MUHAMMAD = 'The Man'**
- **MECCA = 'The Place'**
- *Since these 3 areas are foundational to Islam, we should investigate them*
  - *At the time they all existed (i.e. the early 7<sup>th</sup> century)*
  - *In the place they existed (i.e. the Hijaz = Central Western Arabia)*
- *Let's start by looking at the problem of sources, and then move to Mecca...*



# [1] PROBLEM WITH SOURCES

Where did it all come from?



# Islam's early Expansion

**The Umayyad Dynasty**  
(661-750 AD)

**The 'Rushidun Period'**  
(632-661 AD)

**Muhammad's Empire (632 AD)**

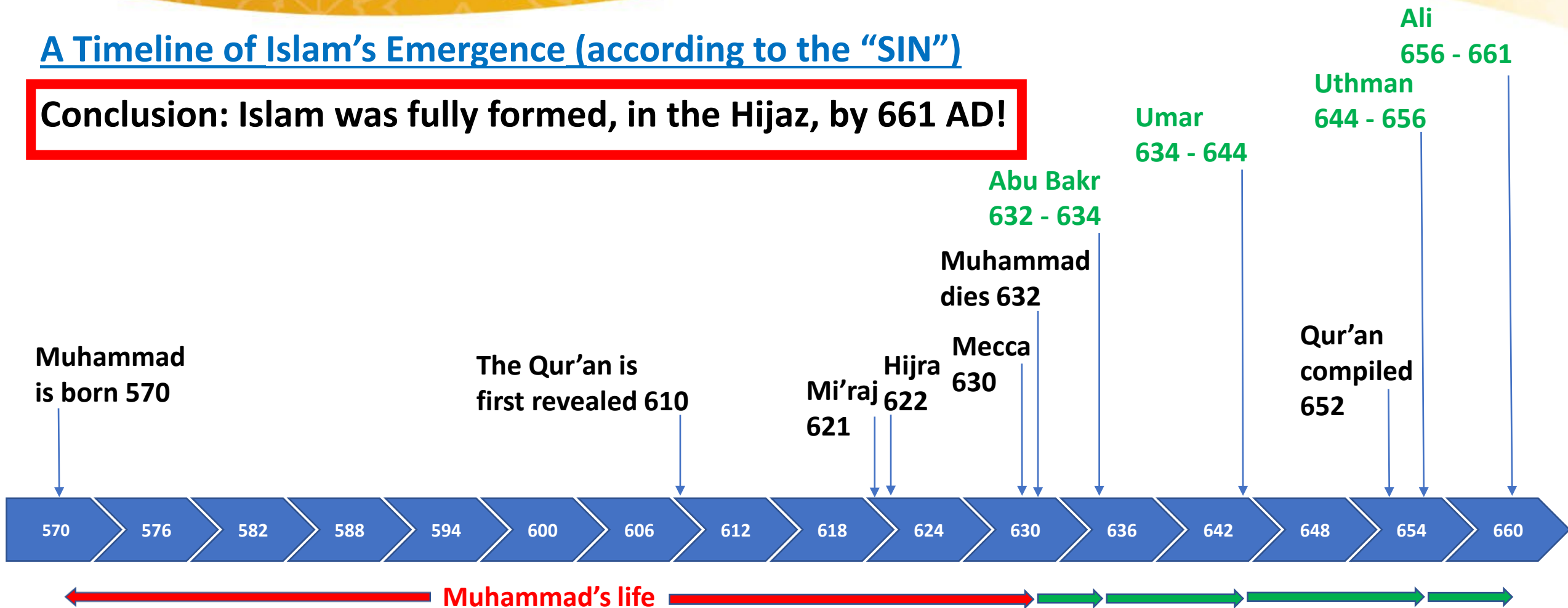
**According to the 'Standard Islamic Narrative'**

- Islamic world under Muhammad, 622-632
- Territory added four caliphs, 632-661
- Territory added by Umayyad caliphs, 661-750
- Military campaigns



## A Timeline of Islam's Emergence (according to the "SIN")

**Conclusion: Islam was fully formed, in the Hijaz, by 661 AD!**



**Question: How do we know all of the above? Where does it come from?**





# Sources for the 'ISLAMIC TRADITIONS' (SIN)

**Sira** = Biography of Muhammad

**Hadith** = Sayings of Muhammad

**Tafsir** = Commentaries on the Qur'an

**Tarikh** = Histories of Mankind

**Conclusion:** Muhammad was revealed 84 years after the Abbasids created him, 141 years after he was first introduced, yet 201 years after he supposedly lived! These are ALL TOO LATE!

**Ibn Hisham** (d.833 AD)

**Al Waqidi** (d.835 AD)

**Al Bukhari** (d.870 AD)

**Sahih Muslim** (d.875 AD)

**At-Tirmidhi** (d.884 AD)

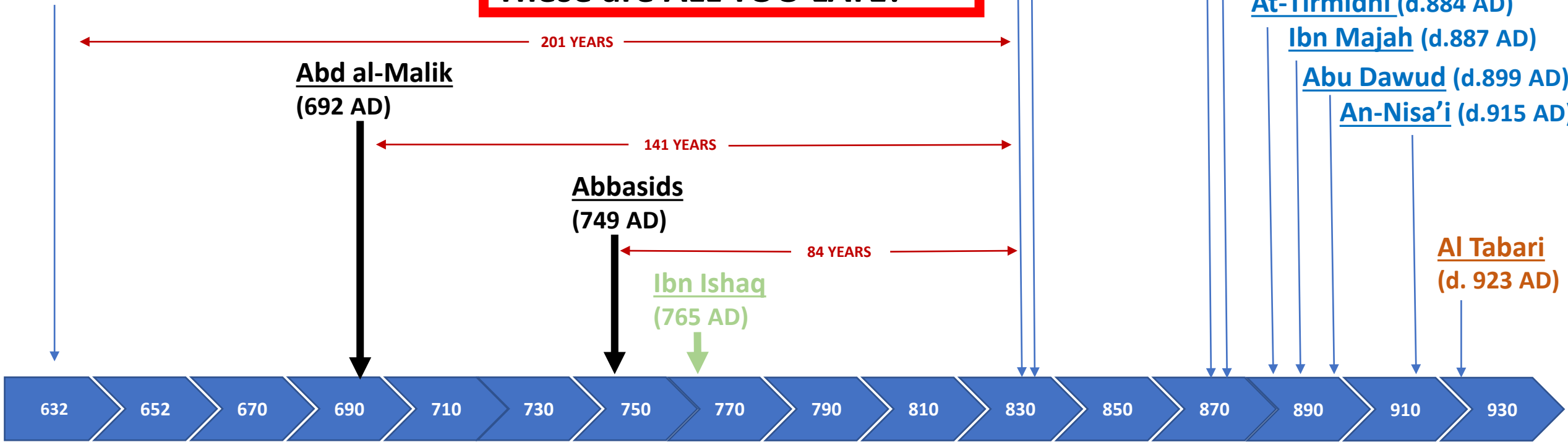
**Ibn Majah** (d.887 AD)

**Abu Dawud** (d.899 AD)

**An-Nisa'i** (d.915 AD)

**Al Tabari**  
(d. 923 AD)

Muhammad dies 632 AD



# The problem of Distance & Direction

The Islamic Traditions say everything happened in Mecca and Medina (in the Hejaz)

Yet, all of the writers of the Traditions worked in Baghdad, which is 1,200 mi. too far north

**Ibn Hisham (The Sira)** is from Basra

But he grew up in Cairo

Cairo – Mecca = 990 mi.

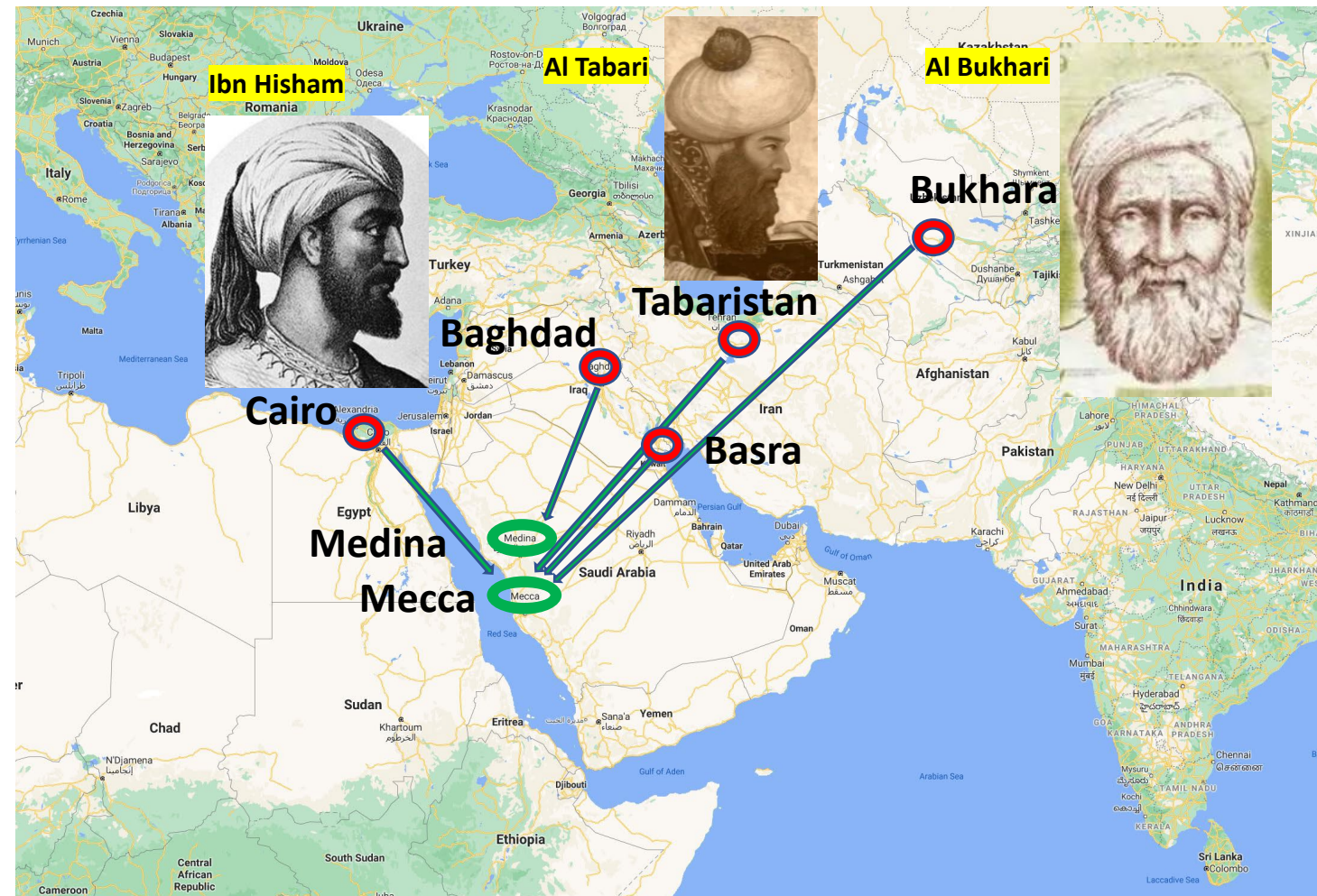
Basra – Mecca = 1,200 mi.

**Al Bukhari (The Hadith)** is from Bukhara

Bukhara – Mecca = 2,600 mi.

**Al Tabari (The Tafsir & Takhrikh)** is from Tabaristan

Tabaristan - Mecca = 1,700 mi.



632

652

670

690

710

730

750

770

790

810

830

850

870

890

910

930

**Conclusion:** None of the Traditional writers lived or worked in Mecca or Medina, They were too far to the north of Mecca, and came from the West and East of Baghdad

**NOTE:** All of these northern areas are where the **Abbasids** originated from



# Christianity's Emergence, according to our "Traditions"

Note: Most scholars would put the dates for the books of the New Testament in this timeline much earlier. We are using the latest possible dates, to make our point clearer

Jesus Dies  
33 AD

Paul's letters  
(Tafsir)  
48 – 65 AD  
(15 – 34 years)

Book of Acts  
(Tahrikh)  
52 – 62 AD  
(20 – 30 years)

Mark  
(Sira & Hadith)  
70 AD  
(37 years)

Matthew & Luke  
(Sira & Hadith)  
80 AD  
(47 years)

John  
(Sira & Hadith)  
90 AD  
(57 years)



← Within 29 – 57 years of Christ's death for the whole N.T. →

**Conclusion:** All of the New Testament writers lived in the same place Jesus lived, and they either knew him personally, or they got their material from others who saw what he did, and heard what he said



# Comparing Christianity vs Islam

When were the earliest biographies and sayings for both faiths written?

- Christianity      **15 – 60** years later, written by those from the same area
- Islam              **200 – 300** years later, hundreds of miles too far north
- Which would you guess is more authoritative?

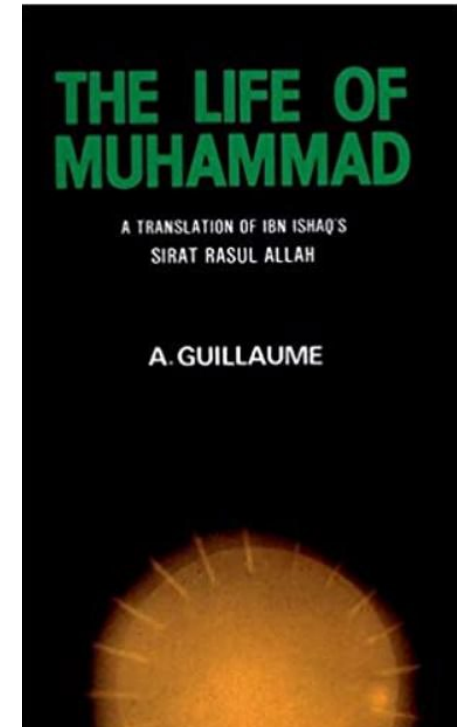
As a comparison: If we had to depend on sources for Jesus, comparable to what Muslims are dependent on for Muhammad, Jesus would not begin to appear until the **3<sup>rd</sup> century!**



# Who created the Sira?

Alfred Guillaume, taken from Ibn Ishaq?

- No, there was nothing about Muhammad's life up to 1819 AD
- It was **Heinrich Ferdinand Wustefeld** (1808 – 1899), who between 1858 – 1860 compiled the Sira
- Taken from libraries and museums in 4 German cities
- Then translated by Guillaume and others later
- In 1967 Fouad Sezgin compiled another Sira from documents found in Morocco



**Conclusion: The man whom Muslims are dependent on to know who their prophet is or what he did, is an elderly German linguist who wrote Muhammad's story 160 years ago, thus over 1,000 year too late!**



# 21<sup>st</sup> Century Scholar's Conclusions

Concerning these late dates...

- “**Islam**, as we know it, **did not exist in the 7<sup>th</sup> century**, but evolved over a period of 200-300 years” (Humphreys 1991:71,83-89)
- “The Qur’an probably was not revealed to one man in 22 years, but likely **evolved over a period of 50-100 years**” (Rippin 1985:155;1990:3,25,60; Lester 99:44-45; Wansbrough 1977:160-163)

**Conclusion:** The history of Islam, at least from the time of the caliph Abd al-Malik (685-705 AD) and before, **is a later fabrication** (Cook 1983:65, Robinson 1996:47)



# The Scholar's Concerns

If so much of Islam's history was created so late, then:

- Why did it take so long to write it all down?
- Were these people not literate?
  - They controlled Basra, Baghdad, Damascus, Jerusalem, Cairo by 642 AD (Umar's reign), and then from Spain to India by 685 AD (Abd al-Malik's reign).
- Where did the 9<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> c. Traditional compilers get their material from?
- Can it be trusted, if it is so late (200-300 years later)?
- Shouldn't we go to the period these events took place?
- Shouldn't we go to the 7<sup>th</sup> century, and see what we find?
- What then are they finding?
- That is what this talk is all about...

**Note: we are only interested in the 7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> centuries, not the 9<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> c.**

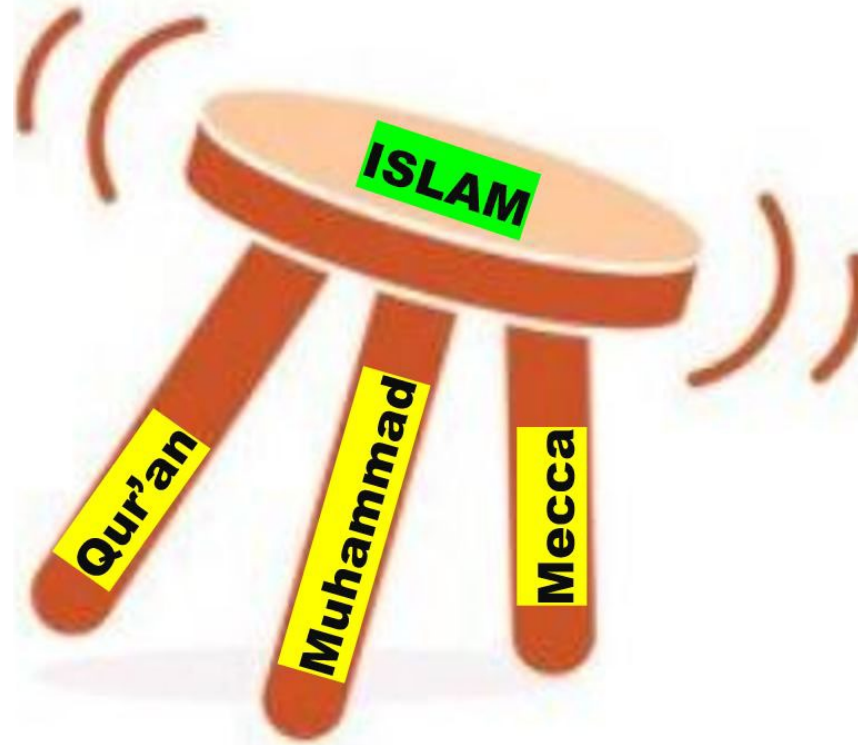


# THE PROBLEMS WITH MECCA

Mecca is all through the “SIN”!



## Why is Mecca so important?



Islam is dependent on 3 things:

the Book [Qur'an],  
the Man [Muhammad]  
and The Place [Mecca]

When you begin to  
attack the Place  
[Mecca], the other two  
begin to wobble

But once you destroy  
the Place [Mecca], you  
destroy the other two  
as well

So, let's begin by seeing what Muslims claim for Mecca

# What Muslims Claim

**MECCA** is the oldest and best-known city in history

- **Mecca** is where **Adam and Eve** were thrown down to, from the Garden of Eden (Surah 7:24)
- **Mecca** is where **Abraham** lived when he destroyed the idols within the Ka'aba (Surah 21:51-71)
- **Mecca** is the center of **trade** North, South, East and West (Montgomery Watt's 'Trade Route Theory')

So, it should be one of the best known and best documented places in history!



# Inferences to 'Mecca' in the Qur'an

Mecca is the center of Islam, and the center of history

(Note: none of the verses below use the word "Mecca". It's only implied)

- "The first sanctuary appointed for mankind was that at Bakkah (Mecca)"? (Sura 3:96)
- Mecca is the "mother of all settlements." (Sura 6:92 & 42:7)
- Mecca was where Adam & Eve were cast down to (Sura 7:24)
- Mecca was where Abraham lived in 1900 BC (Sura 21:51-71)
- Mecca was **where Muhammad** was born and lived until 622
- Mecca became the center for the Qibla in **624** (Sura 2:149-150)
- The above imply people have lived there from the very beginning
- Yet, the only reference to 'Mecca' in the Qur'an is in **Sura 48:24**...Why, if it is so important?

# It has much vegetation (thus, it has water)!

According to the Qur'an and the Traditions:

Mecca is referred to as **'The Place of the Prophet'**

- In a valley, & parallel valley (Ibn Hisham; Al Bukhari 2:645, 2:685, 3:891, 2:815, 2:820, 4:227)
- With a stream (Al Bukhari 2:685)
- Outside is the ruins, and a pillar of 'salt' (Surah 37:133-138)
- With fields (Al Bukhari 9:337)
- Has Trees (Sahih al-Tirmidhi 1535), Grass (al Bukhari 9:337), fruit (Al Bukhari 4:281), Clay and Loam (Al Tabari VI 1079 p.6)
- Has 'Olive Trees' (Surah 6:141; Surah 16; Surah 80)
- With Mountains overlooking the Kaa'ba (Ibn Hisham; Al Bukhari 2:645, 2:685, 3:891, 2:815, 2:820, 4:227)

Yet, Mecca is not in a valley, and has none of these listed above, because it is in a DESERT, so it's just too arid and dry to support any of the above!

# Notice where the Qur'an positions its narrative

## The Qur'an has just 65 Geographical references!

- Only 9 places named, mostly referring to people
  - **'Ad** (23x) (Biblical 'Uz)
  - **Thamud** (24x) (Nabateans)
    - *Cut dwellings into mountains*
  - **Midian** (7x) (Midianites)
    - *They must be important*
    - *Yet, all 3 civilisations are located in Northern Arabia and not near **MECCA!***
- **600 miles too far NORTH!**



# Note the Prophets who were buried in Mecca

- Adam and Eve
- Seth
- Ishmael
- Noah
- Hud (great-great grandson of Noah)
- Salih (grandfather of Hagar)
- Queen of Shebah
- Daniel
- 70 – 300 other prophets
- All lived or died, **and were buried (kneeling)** in Mecca, so their bodies should still be there
- Note the buildings being erected in Mecca, and the many cranes...so, why can't we find them?
- If the above were true, this would mean that almost all of the Bible would have to be re-written, and all of the stories be re-directed 600 – 1,000 miles further south
- Yet, there is so much evidence for the Biblical narrative historically, yet almost nothing for Islam's



Earliest literary reference to Mecca's existence:  
Apocalypse of Pseudo-Methodius Continuatio  
Byzantia Arabica

During the early reign of caliph Hisham

- 741 AD!

- The earliest maps don't show MECCA until.... 900 AD!

– Cröne: Greek trading documents refer to the towns of Ta'if (South-East of Mecca), Yathrib (later Medina), Kaybar , but never Mecca!

# Ptolemy's 2<sup>nd</sup> century References, mapped

(Created by Lienhart Holle - 1482)

## Mecca doesn't exist

2<sup>nd</sup> Century Map of Arabia



Where's Mecca?



# Ptolemy's 2<sup>nd</sup> century References, mapped

(Created by Laurent Fries – 1541 AD)

## Mecca doesn't exist at all!!

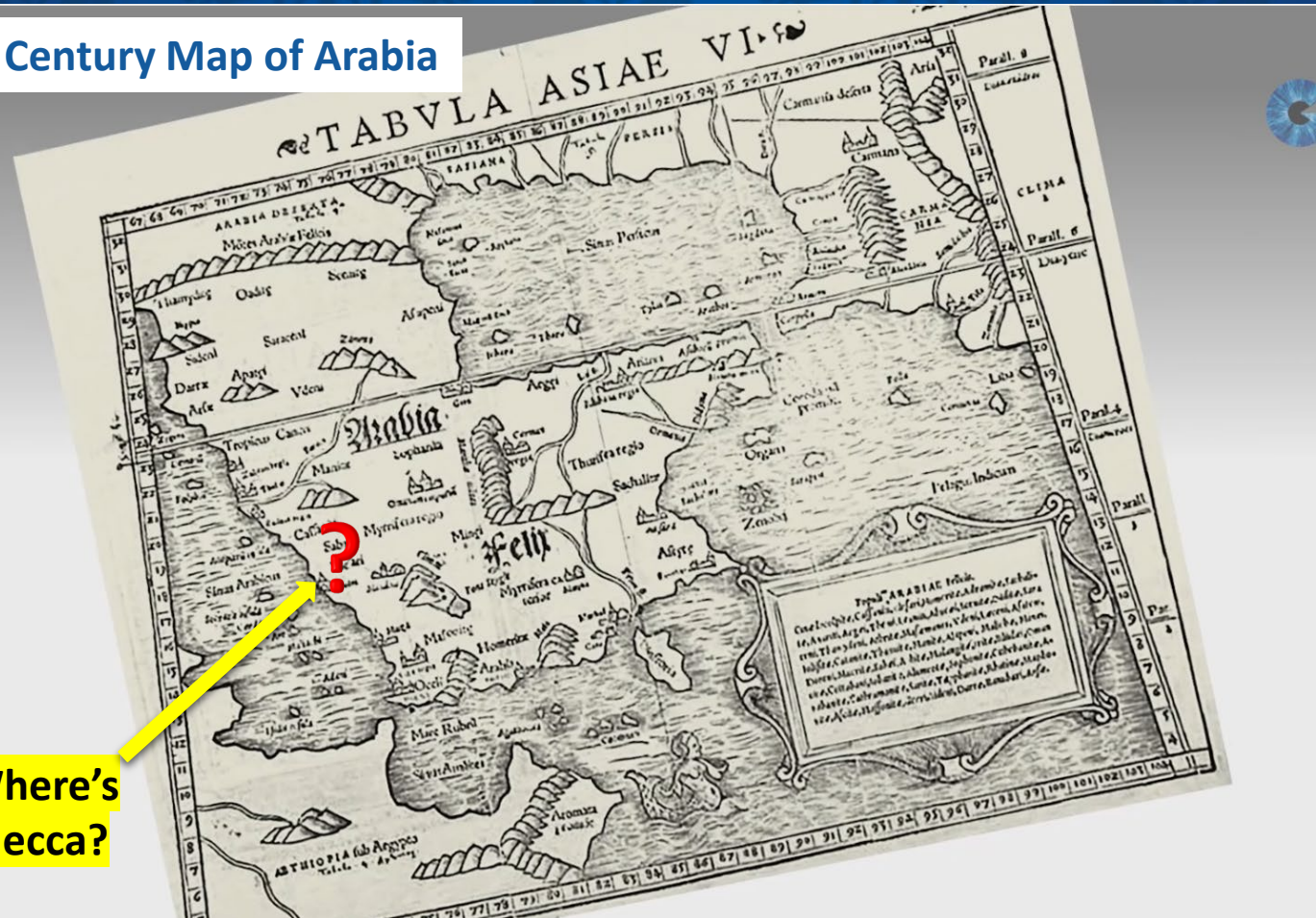


# Ptolemy's 2<sup>nd</sup> century References, mapped

(Created by Sebastian Munster - 1571)

## Mecca still doesn't exist

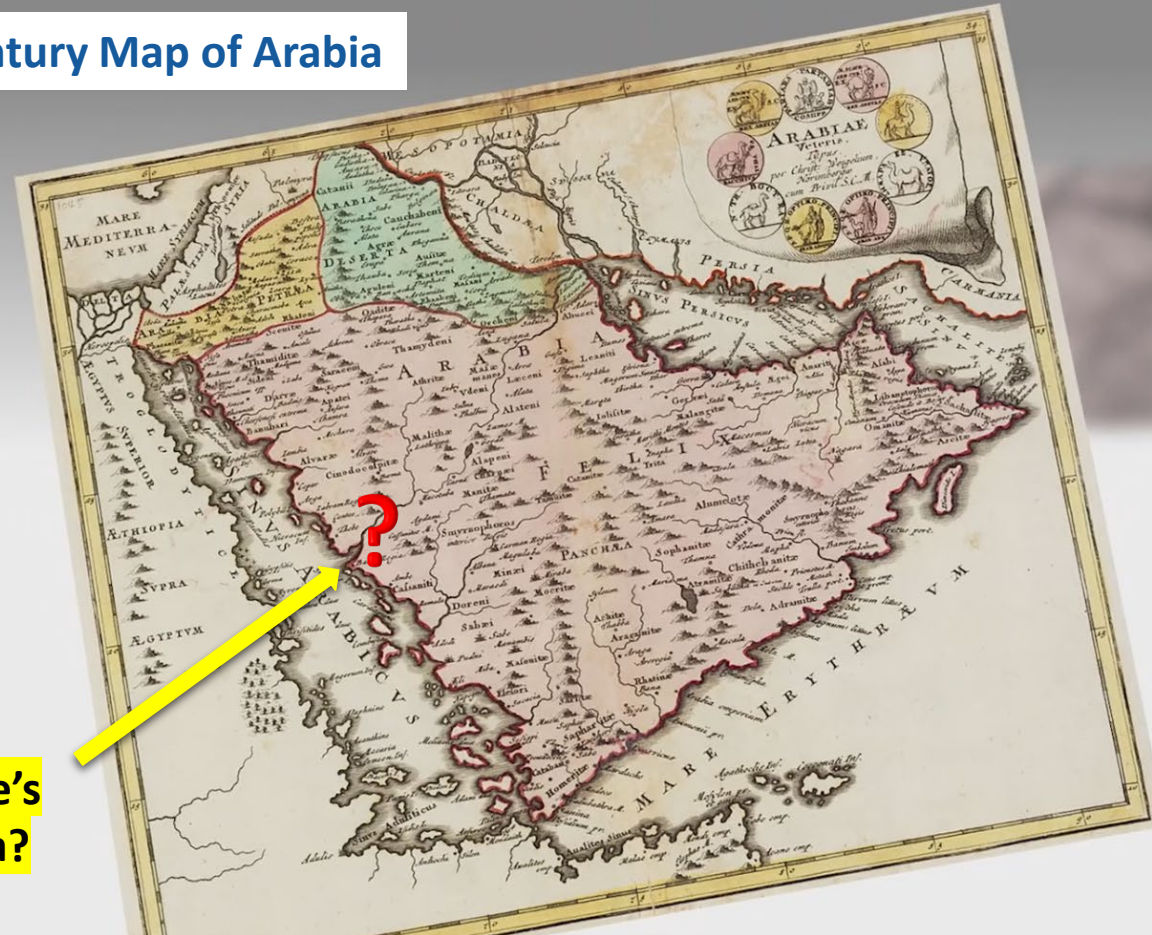
2<sup>nd</sup> Century Map of Arabia



Where's Mecca?

# 7<sup>th</sup> century Map (redacted) Mecca...missing again

7<sup>th</sup> Century Map of Arabia



Where's  
Mecca?

# 7<sup>th</sup> century Map (redacted) Mecca...just non-existent!

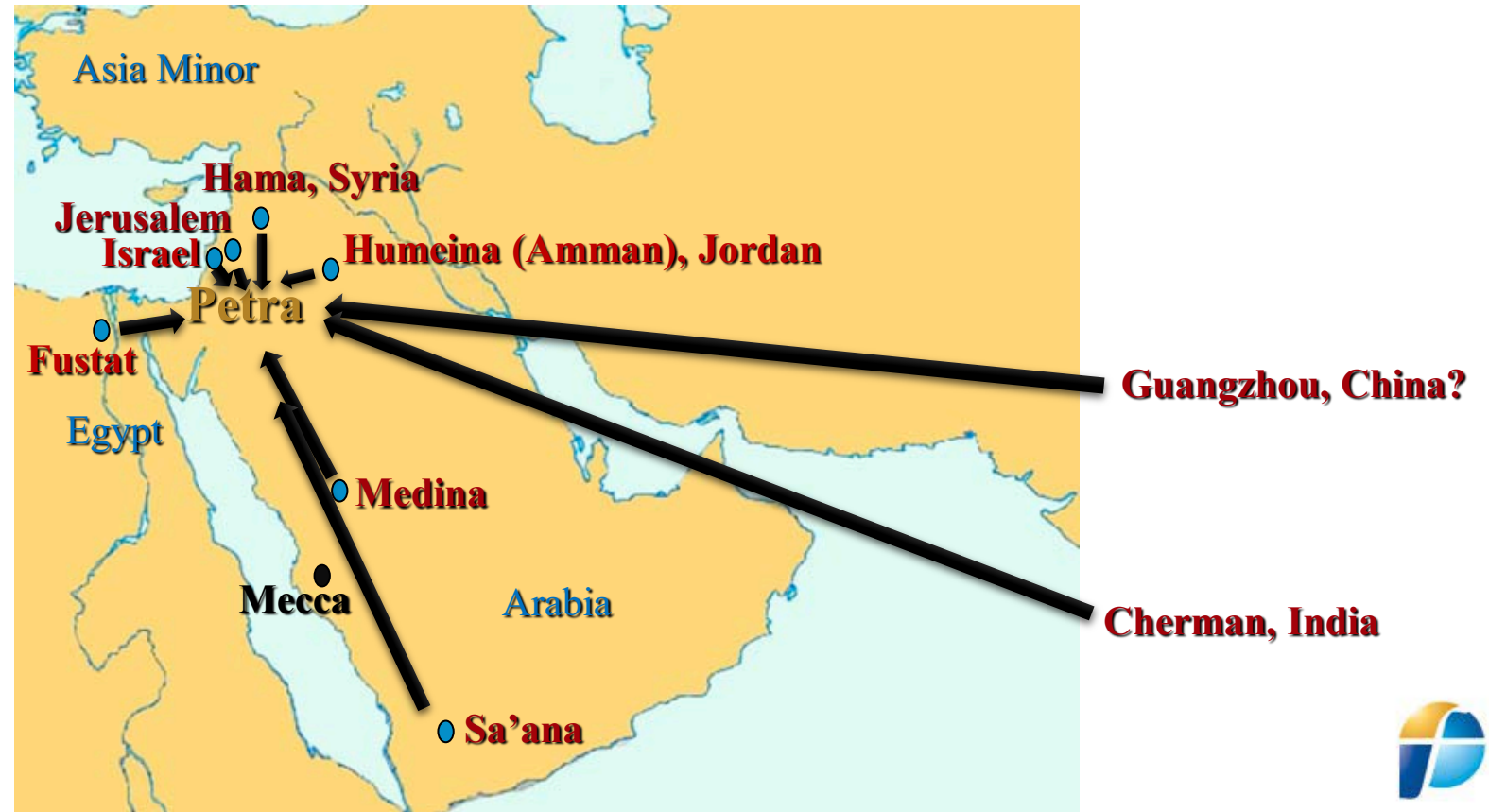


Even the Qiblas (the direction of prayers) are not towards Mecca, but towards Petra!

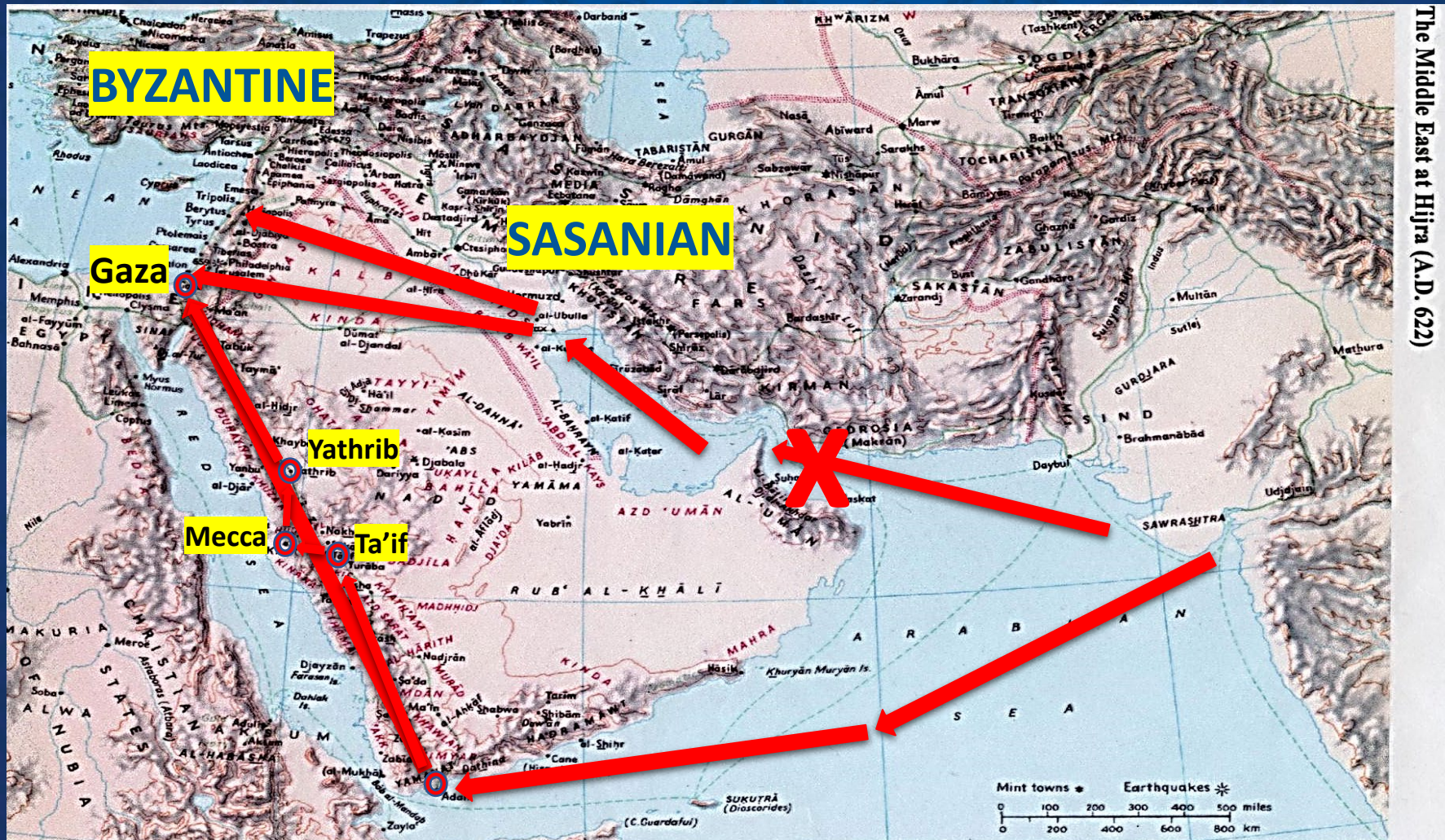
## Why all Qiblas facing Petra, and not Mecca up to 706 AD?

- Medina – 626 AD
- Guangzhou, China – 627 AD
- Cherman, India - 629 AD
- Jami' Hama al'Kabir, Syria – 637 AD
- Fustat, Egypt – 642
- Dome of the Rock, Israel – 690 AD
- Humeina, Jordan – 699 AD
- Amman, Jordan – 701 AD
- Grand Sa'ana, Yemen – 705 AD
- Khirbat al Minya, Israel – 706 AD

**Note: Every Qibla from 624 – 706 AD is facing Petra, and NONE are facing Mecca. In fact, the first Qibla facing Mecca is not until 715 AD!**



# 'Trade Route Theory' (Montgomery Watt) (Debunked)





**Note where Mecca is in relation to the other well-known cities in Arabia...**

**It's clear that Mecca is over**

**3,000 feet below the other cities on the Western Plateau**

**MECCA**

Gaza

Petra

Tabuk

Yathrib/Medina

Taif

Najran

Sana

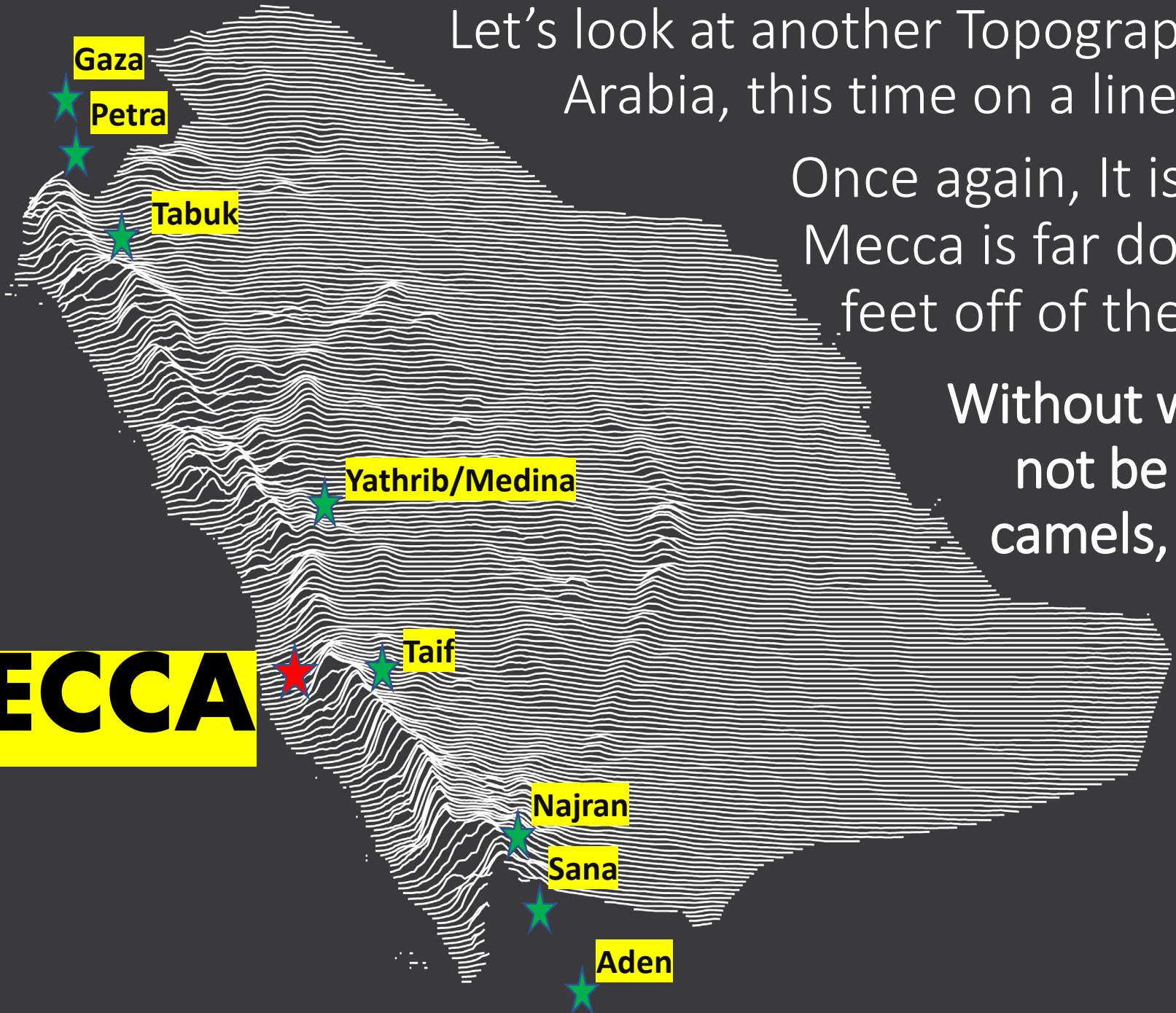
Aden

Let's look at another Topographical map of Arabia, this time on a lined graph

Once again, It is clear that Mecca is far down, 3,000 feet off of the Plateau

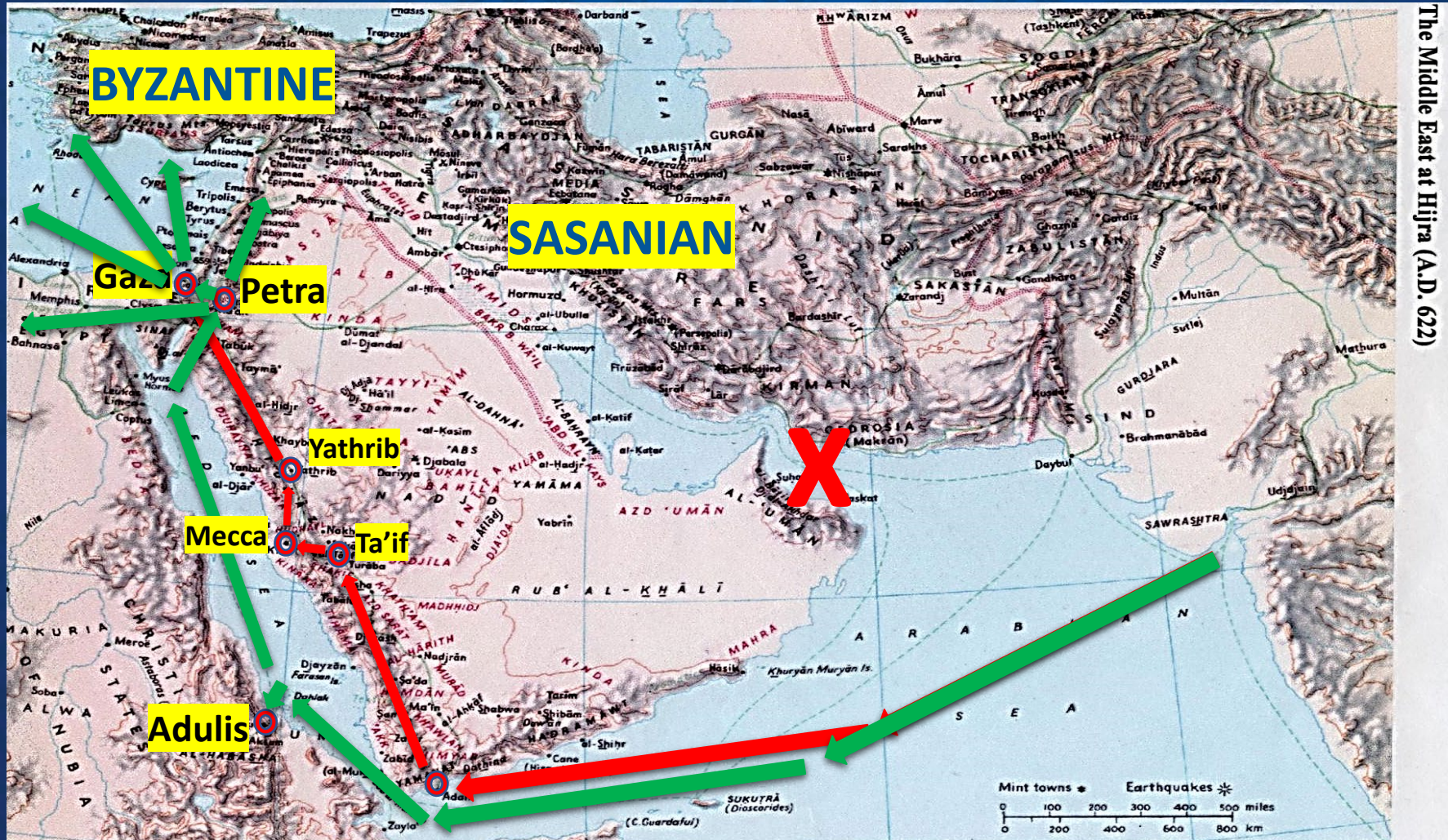
Without water it would not be a place for camels, or for trade

**MECCA**





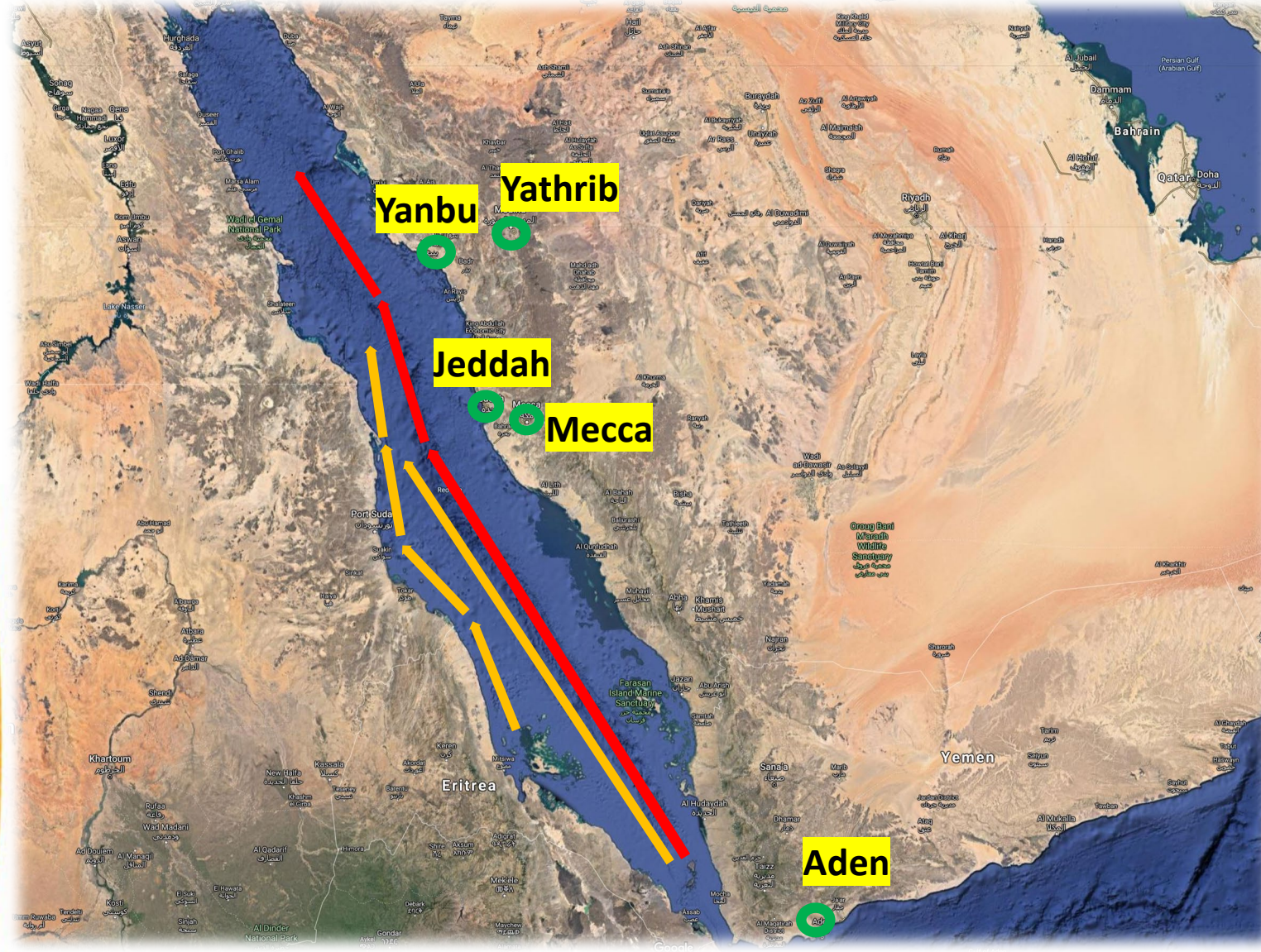
# So, what did Dr Crone find?



The Middle East at Hijra (A.D. 622)

**HOLD ON!!**  
We've just learned something new concerning the Red Sea Trade Route!

# The RED SEA via Mecca debunked!



- To understand the problem, we must use a Topographical map, to see the Water ways in the Red Sea (Chiara Zazzaro - 2013)
- In the center of the Red Sea is a deep-water channel (**Red arrows**), which accommodates large modern ships today
- To the West of this central channel are two shallower water channels (**Golden arrows**), where smaller ships can go, and stay close to the Western shore, for provisions
- Unlike the Eastern Arabian shore which was arid, with no fresh water, and thus few people, the Western African shore had plenty of fresh water, and had larger populations
- What's more, the West coast had easily accessible ports!
- We know their names...

# Ports along the WESTERN COAST of the RED SEA = AFRICA!



- The 5 coastal cities along the **Red Sea's Western coast**:
  - **Assab** Eritrea (246 BC)
  - **Adulis**, Eritrea (79 AD)
  - **Suaken**, Sudan (170 AD)
  - **Berenice**, Egypt (275 BC)
  - **Safaga**, Egypt (282 BC)
- Their dates all predate Islam
- All 5 are a day's distance
- On the **Red Sea's Eastern Arabian coast**, only **Yanbu** is known, as **Yathrib's** port city
- What about **Jeddah**, as a port for **Mecca**?
- We have no history for either Jeddah or Mecca until the 8<sup>th</sup> century AD (G. Hawting)
- Why? Because neither had water, nor a population large enough to accommodate early trade
- Without Mecca, what then happens to **7<sup>th</sup> c. Islam**?

• Were there other Civilizations which knew about Mecca...Let's look and see what we find...

# Was Mecca known?

What about those empires which were far away?

Not one of these kingdoms had heard of Mecca!

If Mecca was the oldest city in the history of mankind, then someone, somewhere in the areas surrounding it should have heard of it...right?

How about empires which were much closer?



Amianus Marcellinus (400 AD)  
Procopius of Caesarea (564 AD)  
['History of the Wars']

Strabo (24 AD)  
Pliny the Elder (79 AD)  
Ptolemy (170 AD)

Roman Empire

Assyrians

Nabataeans

Qedarites

Babylonians

Persian Empire

Kindah  
Dhu-Kahilum

Azdi

Nubia, Aksum & Abyssinia

Saba

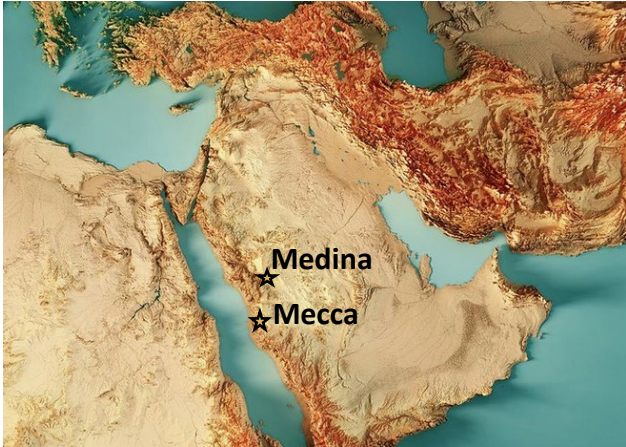
Himyar

# Perhaps all the cities in that area were also unknown?

- **Najran** (400 miles south):
  - Strabo “Geographica” (64-24 BC) (Strabo 1932:22-24)
  - Pliny the Elder (23-79 AD) (Bostock 1855:Bk.6, Chpt.1)
  - Ptolemy “Geographies” (100-170 AD) (Groom 1986:16)
  - Aretas’ martyrdom (524 AD) (Brock 1998:117)
- **Sana’a, Ta’if, Yathrib, Khaybar**: Greek trading documents in the 6<sup>th</sup> c. (Crone 1977:22)
- **Mamre**: Cline 2011:116
- **Petra**: Joukowsky 2002:#4
- **Ma’rib**: Muhammed Maraqtan 2002:32
- Why are ALL these insignificant towns referred to, but not Mecca? Let’s take a look at topographical maps to see why!

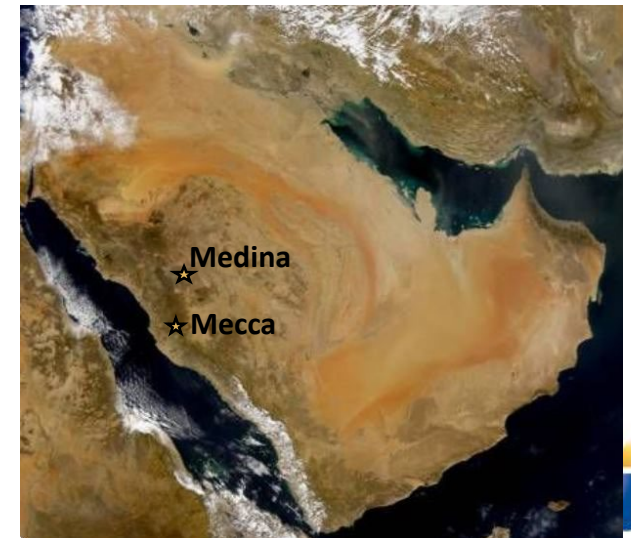


# History needs Civilizations, which need water...



- What can you observe about these 4 Topographical Maps of Saudi Arabia?
- The Central part, with Medina and Mecca, is all a DESERT!

- Where there is a desert, there's no water
- Where there is no water, there's no food
- Where there is no food, there's no people
- Where there are no people, there's no towns
- Where there are no towns, there's no cities
- Where there are no cities, there's no civilization
- Where there is no civilization, **there's no history!**
- **Just, like Mars, without water, there is no point in ever going there...**
- **So, what about the Hajj in Mecca...wouldn't it be the earliest sanctuary for mankind?**



# The Stages of the Hajj are mostly borrowed



## Meccan Kaaba

- Circumambulation Counter-clockwise

## Jerusalem Kaaba

- Circumambulation 7 times

## Petra Kaaba

- Also Circumambulation 7 times

So, the Kaaba was

7 times originally used in

Why? Jerusalem, then

moved to Petra,

and finally to

Mecca



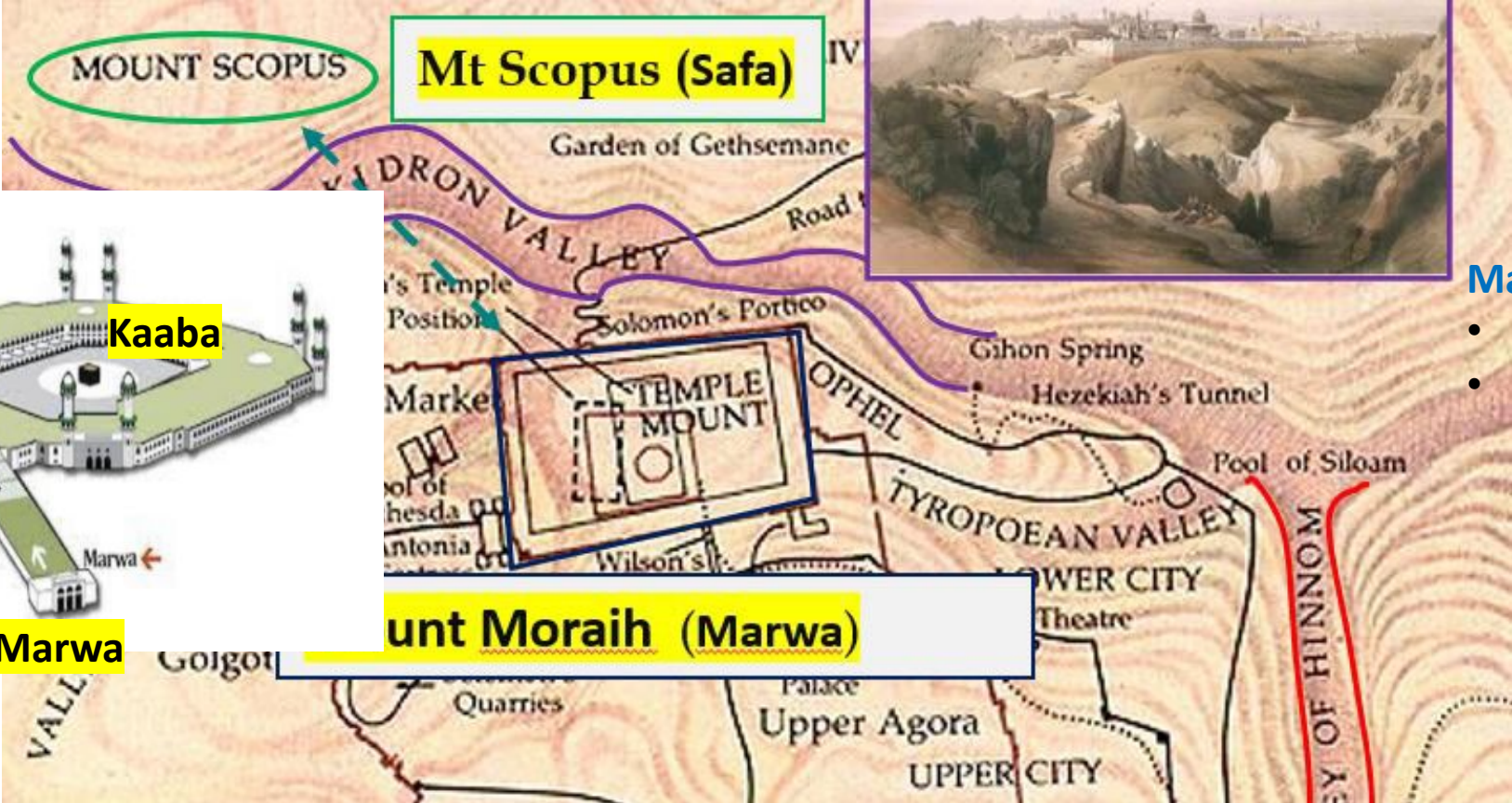
# Mount Marwa and Mount Safa

## Marwa & Safa (Mecca)

How high?  
 How many times do you run back-and-forth 7 times?

## Marwa & Safa (Petra)

- Marwa & Safa (Jerusalem)**
- But where do they run?
  - Mt. Moriah (Marwa)
  - Why here?
  - Mt. Scopus (Safa)
  - Kidron Valley in-between
  - These are the original Marwa and Safa mountains (and the original Ka'aba)





# Many of the Hajj traditions were borrowed



The Kaaba in Mecca



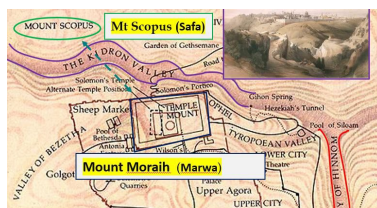
The Kaaba in Petra



Safa and Marwa in Mecca



Safa and Marwa in Petra



Safa and Marwa in Jerusalem



The Hill of Arafat in Mecca



The Hill of Arafat in Petra



The Kaaba (cube) in Jerusalem



Up to 1980 on 1 Jamarat in Mecca



The 3 Jamarats in Mecca. Yet, their narrative has only been created in the last 40 years...



The ZamZam well in Mecca



The ZamZam well in Petra



The Pool of Siloam In Jerusalem?



The 'Black Stone'?

This is Idolatry at the very center of Islam's holiest shrine! But borrowed from where?



The 1 Jamarat in Petra



# We need to pay attention to this stone historically



## The 'Black Stone' has a history

- It was possibly a meteorite discovered by the Phoenicians in the 300 – 400 BC, and worshipped as a 'gift from God'
- The Romans brought it to their territories in the 1<sup>st</sup> century BC
- The Roman emperor Aurelius Antoninus (Elagabalus) moved it to Damascus before he was assassinated in 222 AD, and started the belief that wherever the 'black stone' was, so was the presence of God
- It was moved to Petra in the 7<sup>th</sup> century
- Ibn Zubair in 687 AD destroyed much of Petra, and sent his women and children and the 'black stone' down to what later became Mecca
- The pilgrims started to go to Mecca, because that was where 'God's presence was
- The Abbasids allied themselves with Zubair because of the 'black stone' and possibly built the 'Masjid al Haram' in Mecca around 697 AD to house it...where it still remains today...to forgive sins???

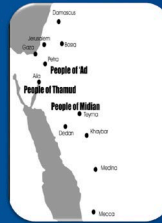


# 6 CONCLUSIONS CONCERNING MECCA'S HISTORICAL PROBLEMS

## The Qur'an Confuses its Geography

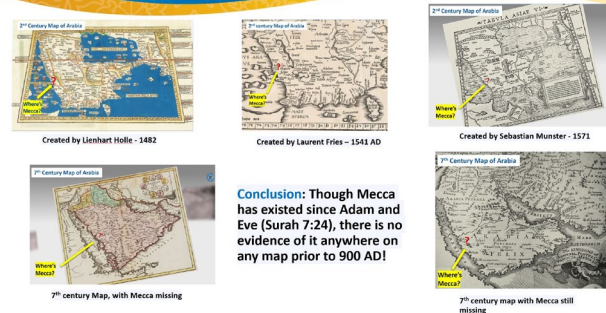
The Qur'an has just 65 Geographical references!

- Only 9 places named, mostly referring to people
  - 'Ad (23x) (Biblical 'Uz)
  - Thamud (24x) (Nabateans)
    - Cut dwellings into mountains
  - Midian (7x) (Midianites)
    - They must be important
    - Yet, all 3 civilisations are located in Northern Arabia and not near **MECCA!**
- 600 miles too far NORTH!



No-one could find Mecca placed in the Qur'an

## Ancient Maps don't show Mecca



Conclusion: Though Mecca has existed since Adam and Eve (Surah 7:24), there is no evidence of it anywhere on any map prior to 900 AD!

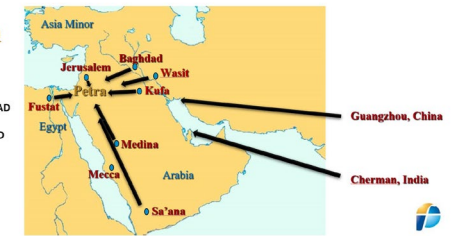
Crone couldn't find any Maps with Mecca until 900 AD (1987)

## (Qiblas- an Overview\*)

### Why Petra, and not Mecca?

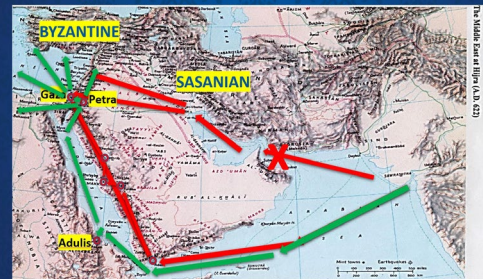
Note: Every Qibla from 624 – 706 is facing **Petra**

- Medina – 626 AD
- Guangzhou, China – 627 AD
- Cherman, India – 629 AD
- Jami' Hama al'Kabir, Syria – 637 AD
- Fustat, Egypt – 642
- Dome of the Rock, Israel – 690 AD
- Humeina, Jordan – 699 AD
- Amman, Jordan – 701 AD
- Grand Sa'ana, Yemen – 705 AD
- Khirbat al Minya, Israel – 706 AD



Gibson introduced early Qiblas facing Petra (2011-2017)

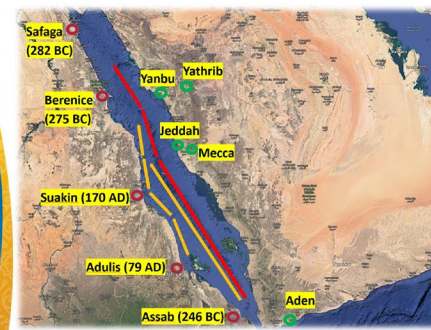
## 'Trade Route Theory' (Montgomery Watt) (Debunked)



HOLD ON!! We've just learned something new concerning the Red Sea Trade Route!

Crone Debunked the land-based trade via Mecca (1983)

## They were going up the WRONG COAST of the RED SEA!



- To understand the problem, we must use a Topographical map, to see the Water ways in the Red Sea (Chiara Zazzaro - 2013)
- In the center of the Red Sea is a deep-water channel (**Red arrows**), which accommodates large modern ships today
- To the West of this central channel are two shallower water channels (**Golden arrows**), where smaller ships can go, and stay close to the Western shore, for provisions
- Unlike the Eastern Arabian shore which was arid, with no fresh water, and thus few people, the Western African shore had plenty of fresh water, and had larger populations
- What's more, the West coast had easily accessible ports!
- We know their names...

We Debunked the sea-based trade via Mecca (2021)

## (The 5 Stages of the Hajj- an Overview\*)



Gibson debunked the 5 stages of the Hajj in Mecca (2022)

**Conclusion:** Though Mecca has existed since Adam and Eve (Surah 7:24), there is no evidence of it anywhere until 741 AD, and everything we now find in Mecca, we could previously find in Petra...and now, even earlier in Jerusalem!



# 3) THE PROBLEM WITH MUHAMMAD

**Just follow the evidence on the ground**

# What Muslims Claim

For the last 1400 years...

- **Muhammad** was the last and greatest prophet, who was born in **Mecca** in 570 AD, and died in Medina in 632 AD
  - He modeled 'Islam' as the paradigm for the world
  - He received the Qur'an as the 'final' revelation for the world
  - Everything we need to know about him we can find in the Sira of Ibn Hisham (d. 833 AD), and in the Hadith of Al Bukhari (d. 870 AD)
  - Unfortunately, these references are all in the 9<sup>th</sup> century, 200 years after the fact...
- So, is he referred to in the 7<sup>th</sup> century, in the time period he supposedly lived?
- Let's look at the Coins and Rock inscriptions to find out...



# Starting with coins, note where the 7<sup>th</sup> c. Mints are situated in relation to Mecca & Medina

The **Western Mints** were all situated in Modern day Syria, Lebanon, & Israel

**Note:** All of these mints would have been under the authority of any Arab leader, or Caliph in the 7<sup>th</sup> century, including any Muslim Caliph



The **Eastern Mints** were all situated in Modern day Iran

**Conclusion:**

None of these mints were in the Hijaz. Instead, they were all situated too far North

**WHY?:**

Possibly because the Hijaz was a desert, with no water, and where there is no water...



## USING A TIMELINE TELLS THE STORY – 7<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY NUMISMATICS



The text is introduced by a **Christian cross** and refers to **Muawiya** as ΑΒΔΑΛΛΑ ('abdalla') and ΑΜΗΡΑΑΛΜΥΜΕΝΗΝ ('ameraalmoumenhene'), direct transliterations into the Greek alphabet of the Arabic expressions *abd allah* and *amir al-mu'minin*, "**servant of God**" and "**commander of the believers**"

# Early Arabic Rock Inscriptions

Note where the 7<sup>th</sup> c. rock Inscriptions are found

- The 7<sup>th</sup> century inscriptions are all in the north, and the south
- A few begin to appear in the Hijaz in the 8<sup>th</sup> century, and later

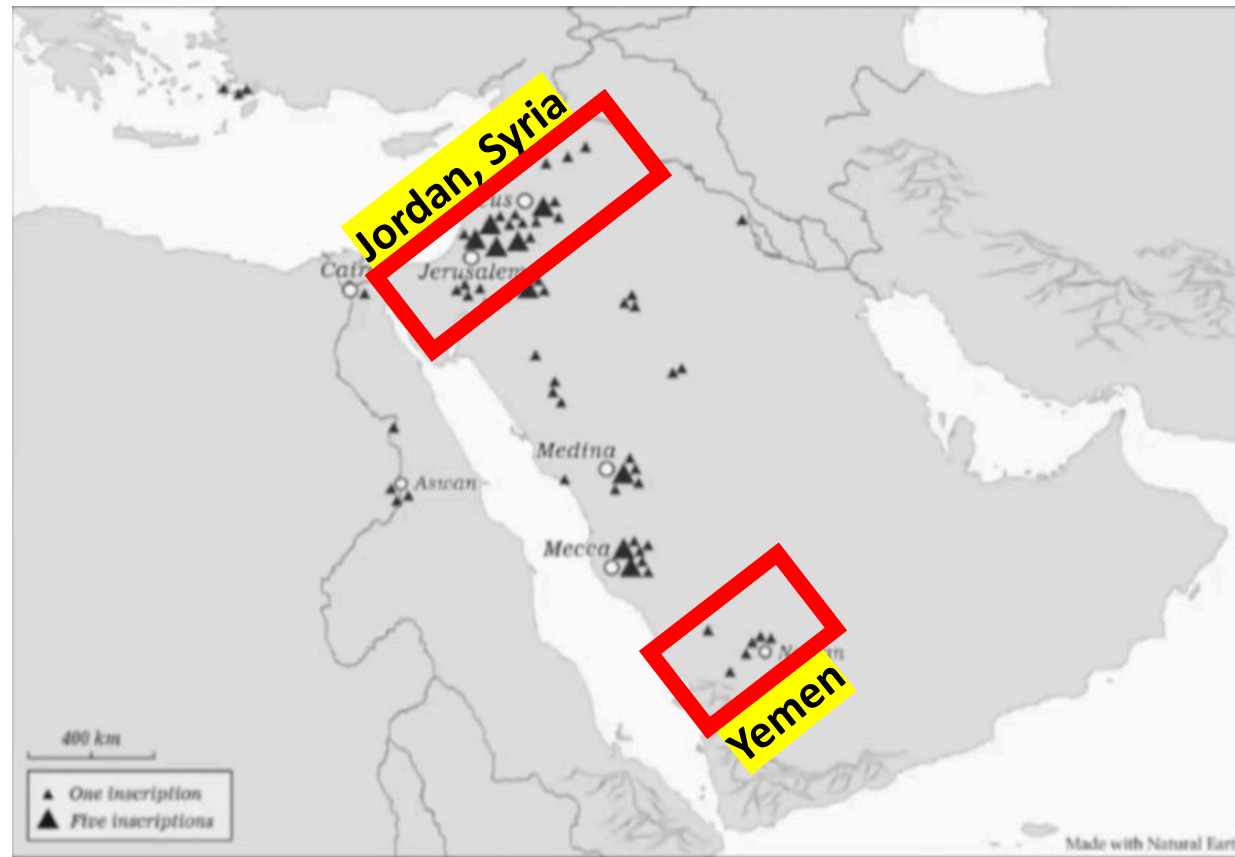


Fig. 1: The distribution of inscriptions contained in the Appendix.

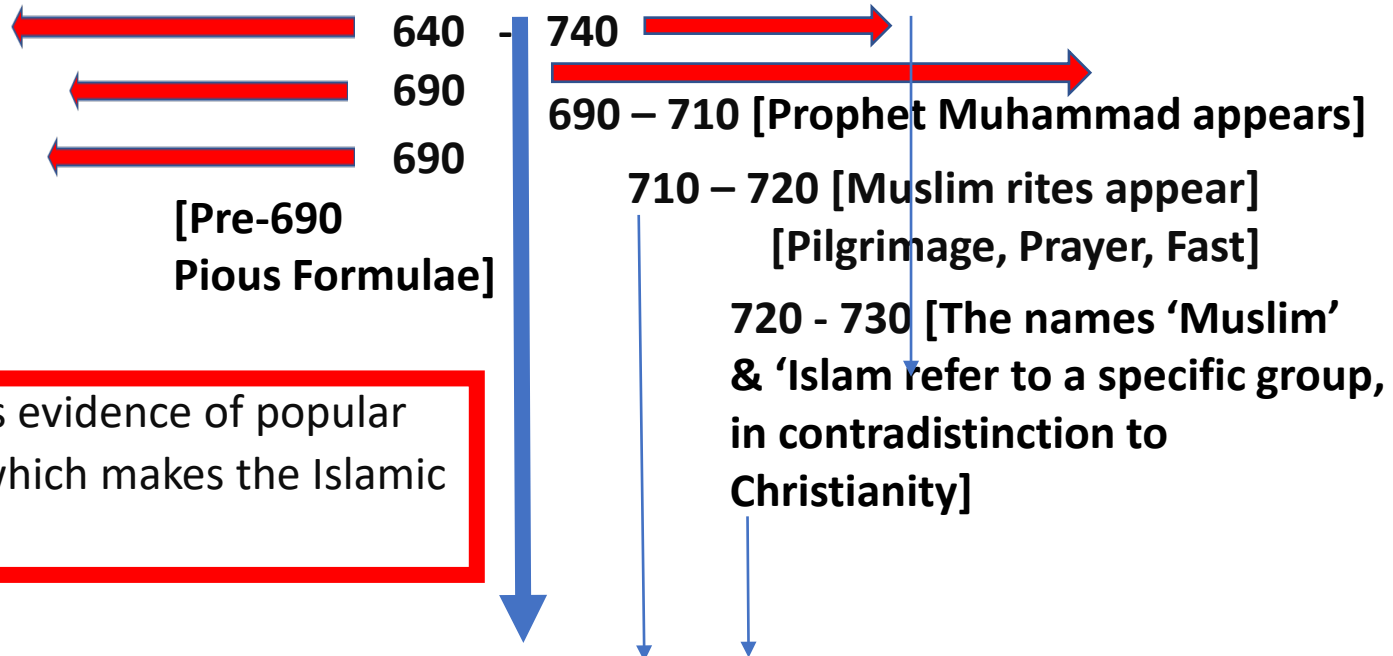




# The Rock Inscriptions give us a timeline of Islam's Origins

## Ilkka Lindstedt's 100 dated Rock Inscriptions

- Lindstedt looked at 100 Rock Inscriptions from 640 – 740 AD
- Prior to 690 there was no evidence of anything Islamic on the Inscriptions
- Except for formulae, everything comes after 690



**Conclusion:** It was only in the 730s onwards that there is evidence of popular devotion to Muhammad as a prophet and messenger, which makes the Islamic Traditions incredibly awkward.

570 585 600 615 630 620 630 645 660 675 690 715 730 745 760 775

**Furthermore:** There is a 100-year silence prior to this that indicates that Islam did not exist as a distinct religion until long after the time of Muhammad, which casts doubt on whether he had any part in starting Islam.



# What about references to Muhammad in the 7<sup>th</sup> century?

- 1) **634 AD:** Thomas the Presbyter = a battle between the Romans and the ‘**Tayaye d-Mhmt**’ in **Gaza**
  - Mhmt = Pahlavi, & Tayaye were Lakhmids (Iraq), fighting in Gaza, so too far north = another Muhammad
- 2) **636 AD:** A flyleaf = “**Arabs of. Mhmd**” killed many Syrians in **Yarmuk** (or Gabitha)
  - 7<sup>th</sup> c. Arabs = Jordan/Syria. Muhammad never was in Yarmuk (Syria), so too far north
- 3) **660s AD:** Sebeos “**an Ishmaelite called Mahmet...with 12,000 Israelites**”
  - No record of 12,000 Arabs partnering with Jews to invade Byzantium in the 7<sup>th</sup> c., so not historical
- 4) **690 AD:** John bar Penkaye = “**Muhammad...teacher/leader of the Arabs**”
  - First real good reference, but still too far north, and no suggestion of Islam, or of him as a Muslim
- 5) **730 AD:** John of Damascus = “**Mahmed, ludicrous doctrines...**”
  - Beginning of what later became the Muhammad of Islam, but 4 books (cow, women, table, & camel)?

**Conclusion:** Every reference to Muhammad in the 7<sup>th</sup> century places him in Gaza, Jerusalem, Damascus, or in Hira, which are situated too far north, and probably refer to another Muhammad = “the praised one”



# 4) THE PROBLEM WITH THE QUR'AN

**Eradicating its Preservation**

# What Muslims claim about the Qur'an

- 1) The Qur'an is **uncreated** and exists eternally on clay tablets in heaven (S.85:22)
- 2) The Qur'an was **sent down** to Muhammad between 610 – 632 AD
- 3) The Qur'an was **completed** by Uthman in 652 AD
- 4) The Qur'an is **unchanged** in the last 1400 years



# What Christians claim about the Bible

- 1) The Bible **was created**, as it was written by man
- 2) The Bible was **not sent down** to anyone, but inspired by God
- 3) The Bible was **complete** in its original form
- 4) The Bible has been **changed** in the last 2000 years, and we know where, and say so



# My remit

- We can't critique 'uncreated' or 'sent down'
- But we can critique 'complete' and 'unchanged'
- Thus, we would want to find:
  - **1 Qur'anic manuscript**
  - Dated from the **mid 7<sup>th</sup> century** (652 AD)
  - **Complete** (i.e. all 114 Surahs)
  - **Unchanged** (exactly like the 1924 'Hafs' Qur'an used today)



# Where do we go to find out about the Qur'an's Creation? = Sahih al Bukhari

Muhammad  
dies 632

Qur'an  
compiled  
652

Al Bukhari (d. 870 AD)

218 – 238 too late

632

652

670

690

710

730

750

770

790

810

830

850

870

890

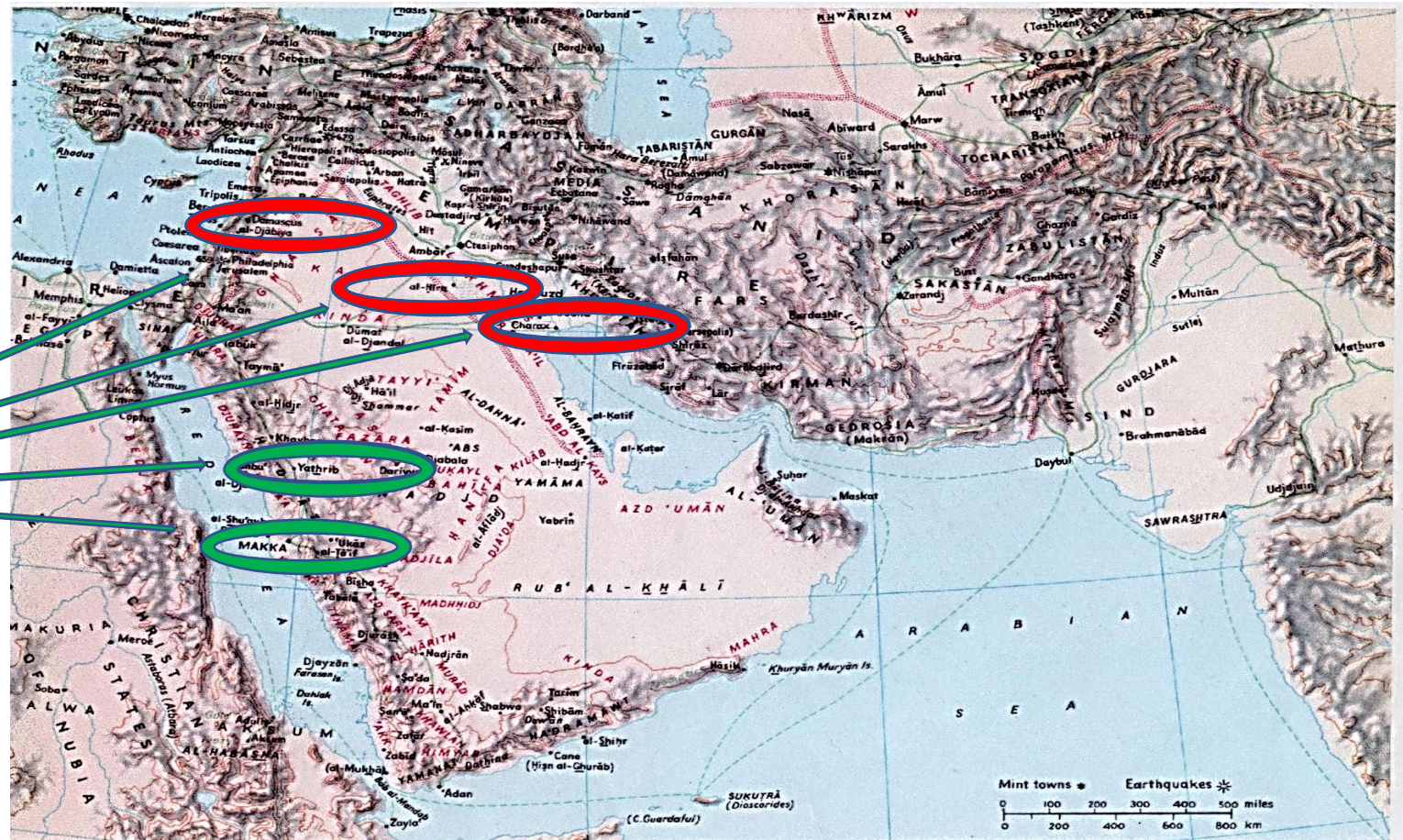
910

930



# 7<sup>th</sup> Century QUR'ANS?

Which cities, and which countries did the earliest Qur'ans come from (according to the Islamic Traditions)?



The Middle East at Hijra (A.D. 622)

Muhammad dies 632

5 copies, sent to 5 cities

Uthman's 'Quraishi' Qur'an 652

- Ubai Ibn Ka'b = 116
- Ibn Mas'ud = 110
- Ibn Musa = 114
- Zaid Ibn Thabit = 114

632 652 670 690 710 730 750 770 790 810 830 850 870 890 910 930

**Note:** There were at least 5 Qur'ans in the 7<sup>th</sup> century, from Medina, Mecca, Basra, Kufa (Iraq), Damascus (Syria).

**Conclusion:** We don't have even one of them today. But something then happens between the 7<sup>th</sup> century and the 8<sup>th</sup> century. The Qira'at Qur'ans begin to be introduced.





# What exactly are the Qira'at

## A Historical overview of where the Qira'at came from

- The Arabic which is used in the Qur'an today does not come from the Hijaz (i.e. from Mecca and Medina), but from much further north, from Nabataea.
  - The Arabic was 'Nabataean Aramaic'.
  - Today's current Arabic has 28 letters.
- 7<sup>th</sup> century Nabataean Arabic only had 16 consonantal letters, or 'Rasm'.
- Obviously, this caused a problem in understanding what was being written.
- A single consonantal letter could be pronounced 5-8 different ways, depending on where you put the dots and vowels.
- Thus, in the 8<sup>th</sup> century dots (*I'jam*) and vowels (*Harakah*) were added to the script to help Muslims read the text.



# RASM DEFINED



Samarkand Manuscript



Sana'a Manuscript

# 6 of 28 Arabic letters are Unique

خ	ح	ج	ث	ت	ب	ا
kha	haa	jiim	thaa	taa	baa	alif
ص	ش	س	ز	ر	ذ	د
saad	shiin	siin	zaay	raa	thaal	daal
ق	ف	غ	ع	ظ	ط	ض
qaaf	faa	ghayn	ayn	thaa	taa	daad
ي	و	ه	ن	م	ل	ك
yaa	waaw	ha	nuun	miim	laam	kaaf

The other 22 letters need dots to distinguish them

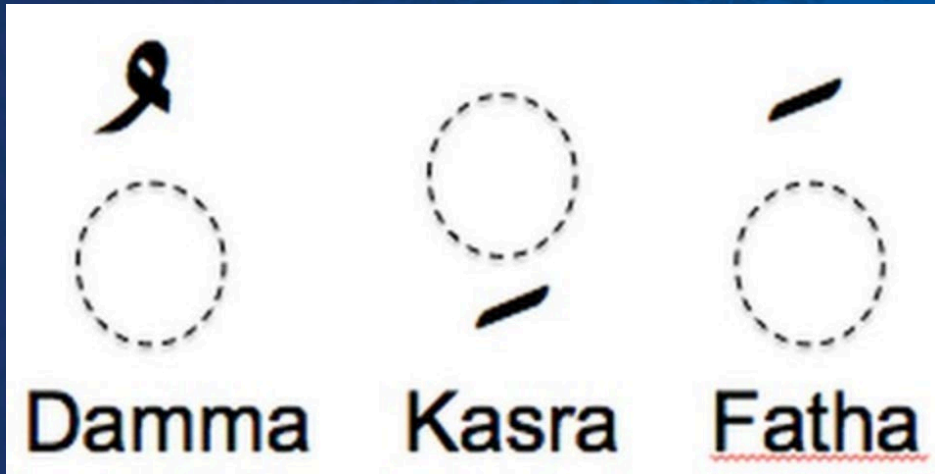
# With 5 dots, you can get 5 different letters in Arabic



- One dot above a letter = 'na'
- Two dots above a letter = 'ta'
- Three dots above a letter = 'tha'
- One dot below a letter = 'ba'
- Two dots below a letter = 'ya'

Thus, you can get five different letters with the same bowl-shaped letter, depending on how many of the five dots you use (and where)!

# You need 3 vowels in Arabic, to pronounce the letters



- A circle & tail above a letter = 'u' (Damma)
- A slash below a letter = 'e' (Kasra)
- A slash above a letter = 'a' (Fatha)

Thus, with these three signs (two above and one below), you can write the 3 vowels used in every word in Arabic, to pronounce them correctly.

# Note: 3 smiley faces give us 19 different words!

بَيْتًا	House	يُبَيِّتُ	He spreads/ he broadcast
تَبَيَّنَ	It sprouted	تُبَيِّنُ	She spreads/broadcasts
بَيَّتْنَا	Stayed over	نُبَيِّتُ	We spread/broadcast
بَنَاتٍ	A girl / daughter	تَبَيَّنَ	He Fixed / made firm
بَنَيْتِ	She built	تَبَيَّنَتْ	She destroyed
ثَبَّتَ	Stood firm	تَبَّأَ	We destroy
تَبَّأَتْ	Grew	تَبَّأْتَ	You destroy
تَتَّابٌ	We repent	تَبَّأَتْ	It was destroyed
يَتُّبُ	He repents	تُبَّأْتُ	I repented
تَتُّبُ	She repents		

# 30 official Readers & Transmitters (vs HAFS)

## Readers

- 1) Nafi' al-Madani (Medina 689-785 AD)
- 2) Ibn Kathir al Makki (Mecca 666-738 AD)
- 3) Abu 'Amr Ibn al-'Ala' (Basra 690-770 AD)
- 4) Ibn Amir ad-Dimashqi (Damascus d. 736 AD)
- 5) Aasim ibn Abi al-Najud (Kufa 700-745 AD)
- 6) Hamzah az-Zalyyat (Kufa 696-772 AD)
- 7) Al-Kisa'i (Kufa 737-805 AD)

**7 Chosen by Ibn Mujahid (d.936)**

- 
- 8) Abu Ja'far (Medina - d. 748 AD)
  - 9) Ya'qub al-Yamani (Basra - d. 821 AD)
  - 10) Khalaf (Kufa - d. 844 AD)

**9 Chosen by al-Jazari (d.1429)**

## Transmitters

- Qalun (835 AD)  
Al-Bazzi (d. 864 AD)  
Al-Duri (d. 860 AD)  
Hisham (d. 859 AD)  
Shu'bah (d. 809 AD)  
Khalaf (d. 844 AD)  
Al-Layth (d. 854 AD)

**14 Chosen by Al-Shatibi (d.1194)**

- 'Isa ibn Wardan (d. 777 AD)  
Ruways (d. 853 AD)  
Ishaq (d. 899 AD)

## 93,263 differences!

- Warsh (812 AD)  
Qunbul (d. 904 AD)  
Al-Susi (d. 874 AD)  
Ibn Dhakwan (d. 857 AD)  
**Hafs (d. 796 AD)**  
Khallad (d. 835 AD)  
Al-Duri (d. 860 AD)



# Hatun's 26 Qur'ans (now 37)

Abi Ja'far 2

Doori Abi Amr Al Basri (Kesaa'i)

Ibn Jamaz

Khalaf; Al Shaatebeyyah Way

Ya'quub 3

Al Susi Khalaf Al Asher; (Al Dorrah Way)

Warsh; Al Azraq Way

Al Kesaa'i (reading of Abu Haareth al Layth ibn Khaaled al Baghdaadi)

Ibn Aamer 5

Al Layth ibn Khaaled 7

Doori (Abi Amr al Alaa)

Sho'bah ibn Ayyaah ibn Saalem Al Asid Al Nahshali al Kufi

Ibn Kathir 22

Warsh; Al Asbahaani Way

Al Bazzi 17

Sho'bah (Ibn Abi) 19

Heshaam ibn Ammar 16

Qaluun; Al Shamiyah 21

Al Imam Abd Allah ibn Kathir al Mki (margin Bazzi) 15

Rawh 24

Al Imam ibn Aamer Al Demashqi 20

Warsh 23

Sho'bah 25

Khalaf 18

Qaluun 26



# 26 QUR'ANS AT SPEAKER'S CORNER - 2016



Holding up Hatun's 26 Qur'ans

Muslims trying to grab our hand-outs



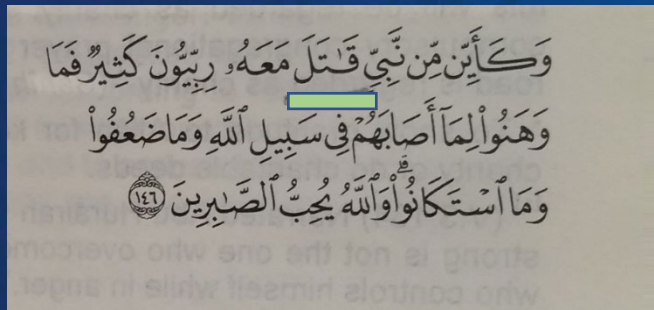
Mohammed Hijab calling Muslims to leave our ladder (June 2016) – Speaker's Corner

**Mohammed Hijab** calling the Muslims to him, asking them not look at what we were showing, nor listen to what we were saying. It was obvious that he didn't know how to engage with us, and probably went through a 'Crisis of faith' on that day.



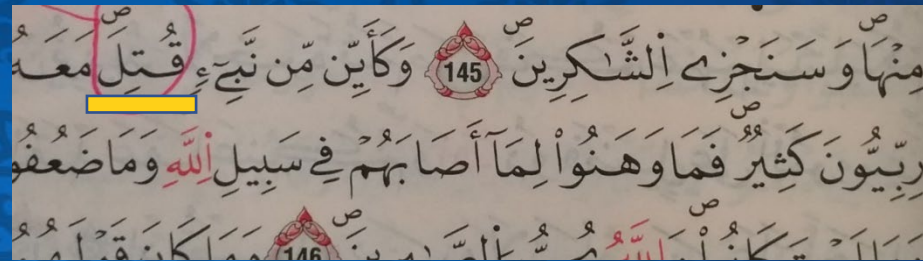
# Sura 3:146\*

## Hafs: Qaatala



Fought

## Warsh: Qutila



Were Killed!

Translation: “And how many a prophet **fought**, with whom were many worshippers of the Lord”

Translation: “And how many prophets **were killed**, with whom were many worshippers of the Lord”

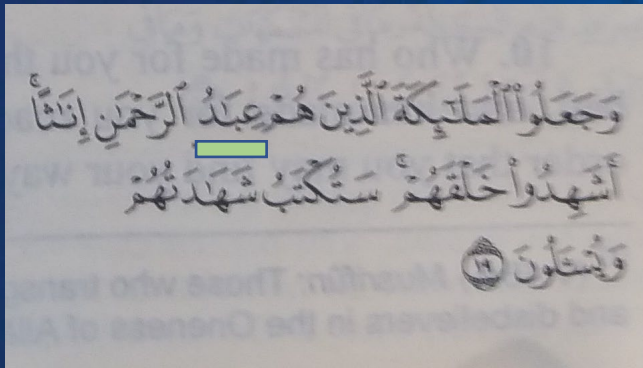
Significance: Did the Prophets simply **FIGHT**, or were they **KILLED**?

\* If I were a prophet, I would rather **FIGHT**, than be **KILLED**, as the former survives.

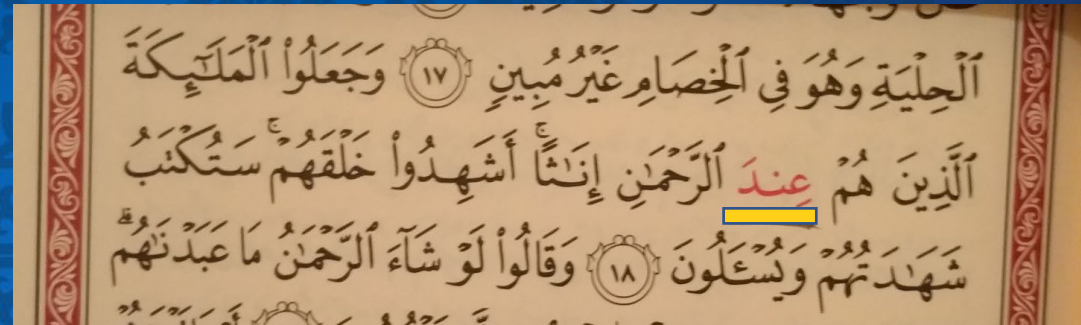
# Sura 43:19\*

Hafs: ibaadu

Rawh: inda



*slaves?*



*In the presence?*

Translation: And they make the angels, who are **slaves** of the Beneficent, females “

Translation: “. And they make the angels, who are **in the presence** of the Beneficent, females”

Problem-1: Are the angels **slaves** of Allah, or simply **in the presence** of Allah?

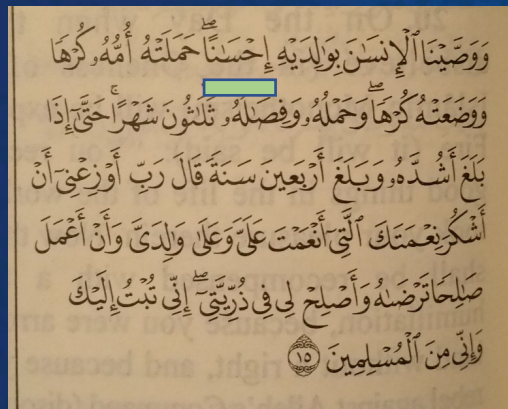
Problem-2: Is it the **slaves**, or those **in Allah's presence**, who will be made females?

\*If I were an angel, I would prefer being in **God's presence**, than his **slave**.

\*If I were an angel, I would prefer if only the **slaves** were made females thank-you.

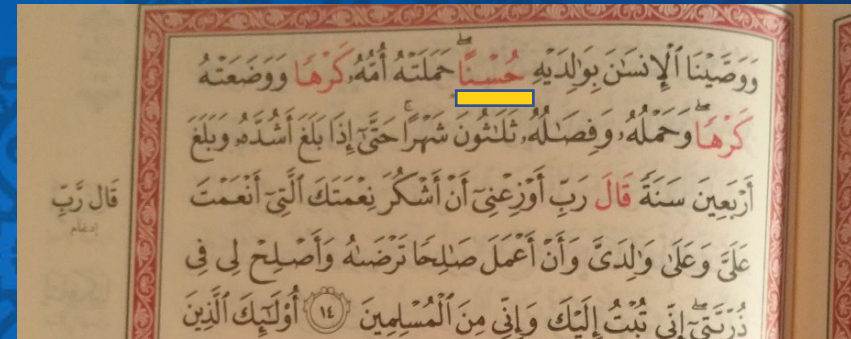
# Sura 46:15\*

Hafs: ihsaan



*Doing good?*

Al Doori (Abu Amir al-Alaa): husnan



*beauty?*

Translation: “And We have enjoined on man **doing good** to his parents “

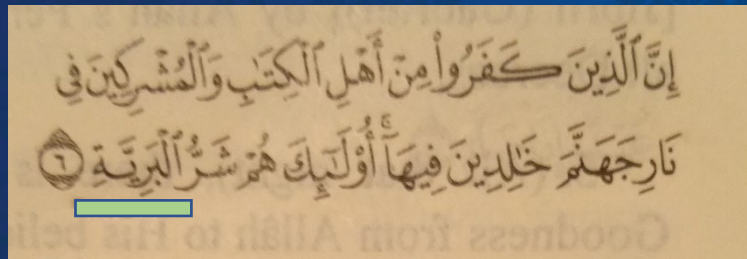
Translation: “And We have enjoined on man **beauty** to his parents.”

Problem: Are men supposed to **do good**, or be **beautiful** to their parents?

\*As a parent, I would prefer my son to **be good**, rather than be **good looking**.

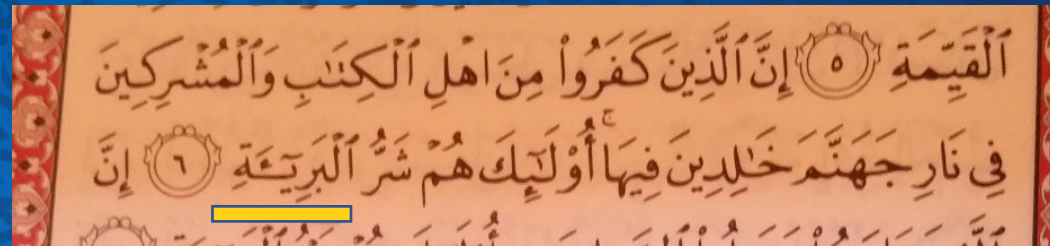
# Sura 98:6\*

Hafs: al bareiyyati



*creatures?*

Warsh (Al Asbahaani): al bare'ati



*The  
innocent?*

Translation: Indeed, they who disbelieved among the People of the Scripture and the polytheists will be in the fire of Hell, abiding eternally therein. Those are the worst of **creatures**“

Translation: “Indeed, they who disbelieved among the People of the Scripture and the polytheists will be in the fire of Hell, abiding eternally therein. Those are the worst of the **innocent**”

Problem: Are we Christians the worst **creatures**, or are we **innocent**?

\*What are **innocent** Christians, Jews, and polytheists doing in hell?

# Mohammed Hijab & Dr Yasir Qadhi

Quotes by Dr Qadhi from the Interview of June 8, 2020:

- 1) The Ahruf & Qira'at are **the most difficult topics for scholars**
- 2) You don't tell the new converts to Islam about the Qira'at
- 3) Only with the more advanced do you do a "deep dive" on the issue
- 4) **Scholars for the past 1,000 years have not solved the Qira'at problem**
- 5) Muslims have a "respect" for the Qur'an. We put a 'red-line' beyond which we do not go; unlike here in the West, where there are no red lines
- 6) **"The Standard Narrative has Holes in it"**
- 7) Western academics have jumped 'leaps and bounds' on this issue
- 8) They look at the rest of us like an 'emperor with no clothes'
- 9) **"I've never lectured on this subject, nor ever will, except in my class"**
- 10) **This subject should never be brought up in Public**
- 11) Don't ask me to say what should be written on the 'blank Mushaf'
- 12) Which of the Qira'ats is the Qur'an? **They are ALL the Qur'an!**



**So, what about the earliest Qur'anic Manuscripts...are they corrupted?**



# Topkapi (Turkey)



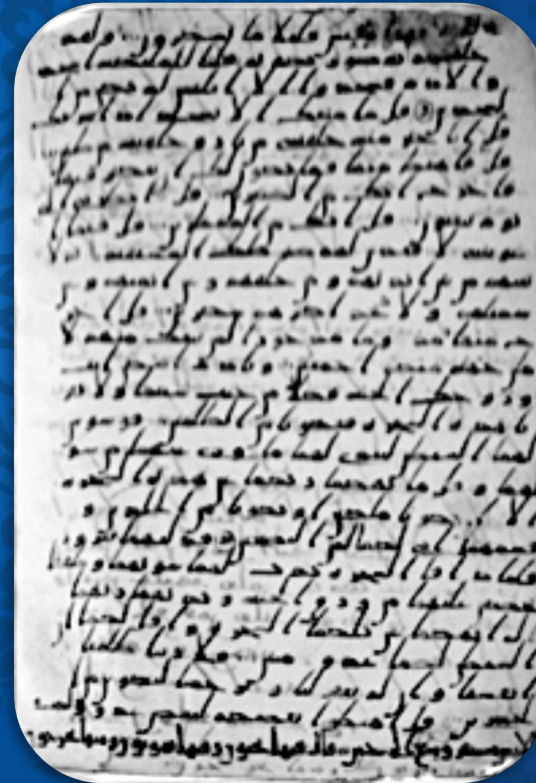
# Samarkand (Uzbekistan)



# Ma'il (London, England)



# Petropolitanus (Paris, France)

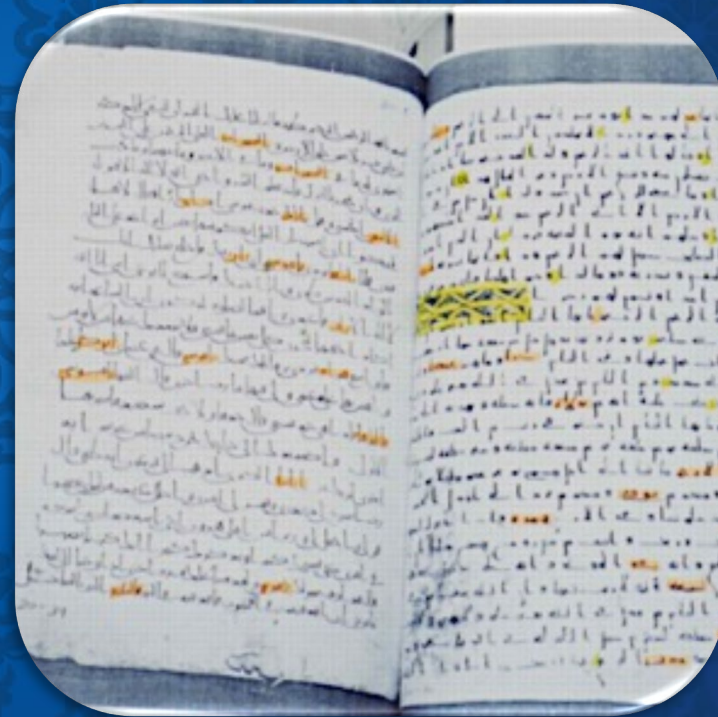




# Al Husseini (Cairo, Egypt)



# Sana'a (Yemen)



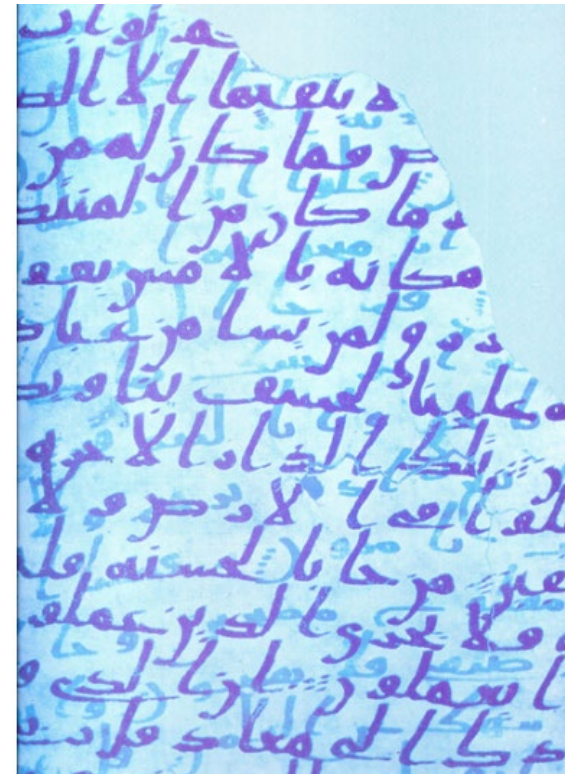
# Summary of the findings

**When we look at all 6 early Qur'anic manuscripts, we find that:**

- None of them are from the 7<sup>th</sup> century
- None of them are complete
- None of them completely agree with each other
- None of them completely agree with the current 1924 'Hafs' text
- All of them have 100s and even 1000s of subsequent 'manuscript variants'
- So, when was there a complete Qur'an?



# DISCOVERED IN SANA'A, YEMEN (1975)



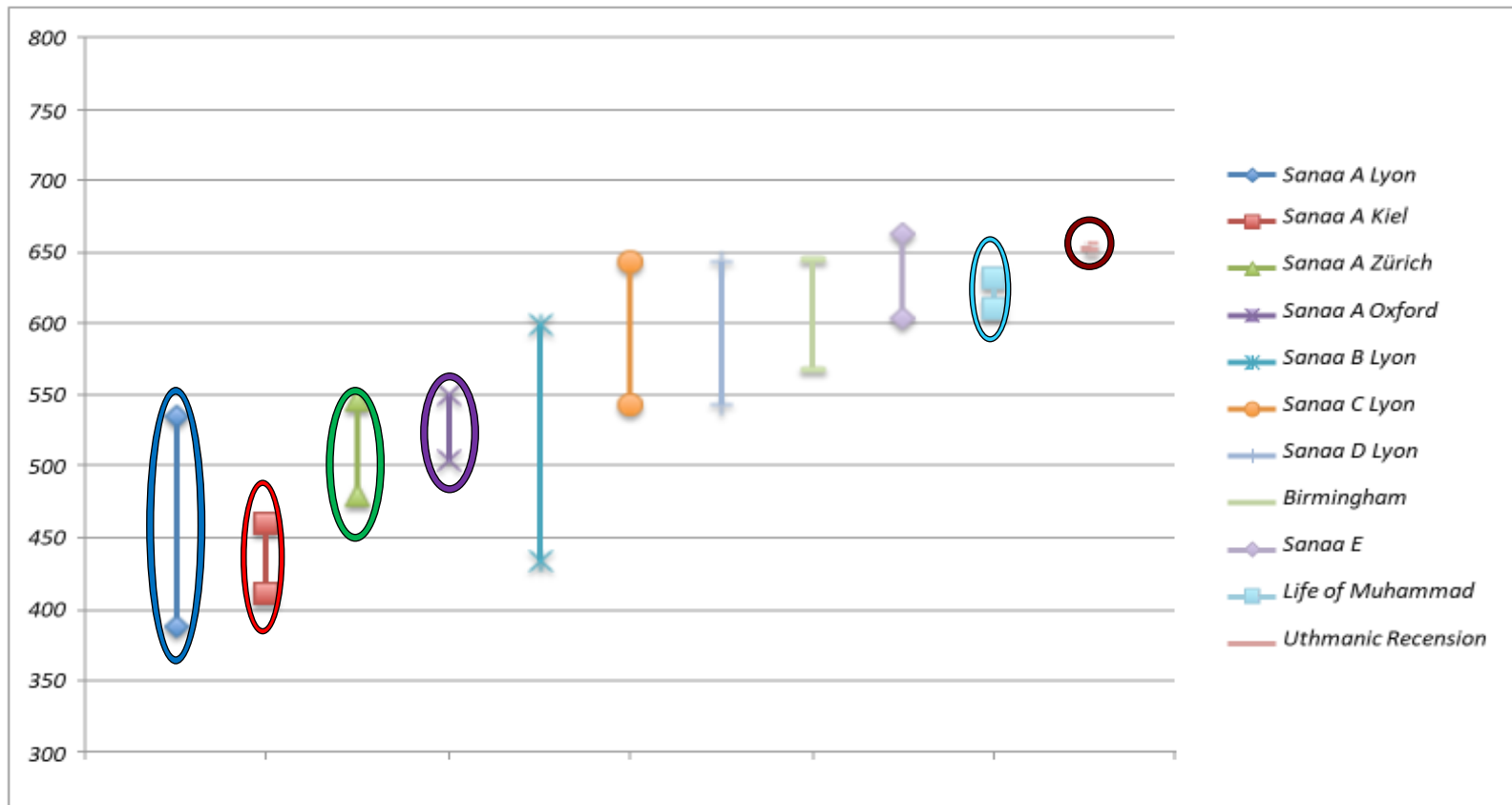
## LOWER TEXT VARIANTS\*

### 63 VERSES, WITH 70 VARIANTS

- Verbs, nouns (25 times), Articles, Participles, Conjunctions
- Prepositions, Isolated letters (29 times), and Expressions
- Entire sentences (16 times) [note: some overlap within the same verses]
- This is not a 'schooled text' (re: Asma Hilali) because it is too early, and where is the original?
- Dr Elisabeth Puin: This is a nascent Qur'an, with corrections, then washed off, and re-written in 705 AD



# CARBON DATES: LYON, KIEL, ZURICH, OXFORD



- Taken at four European laboratories
- Note: the four **Sana'a A** findings (on the far left)
- **Between 390 – 550 AD**
- Note: the Life of Muhammad's dates (570-632 AD)
  - **80-220 yrs too early**
- Note: the Uthmanic Recension dates (652 AD)
  - **102-260 yrs too early**

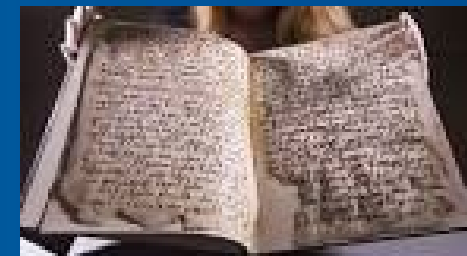


# BBC ANNOUNCEMENT - using RC-14! (July 22, 2015)

## “Oldest Qur’an fragments found in **Birmingham**”

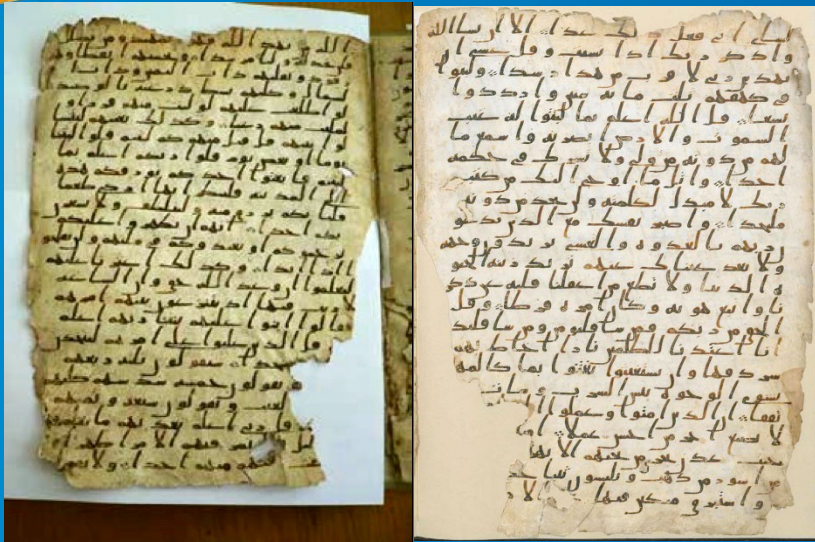
**Dr. David Thomas** (right)

*“The writer of this manuscript could well have known the Prophet Muhammad. He would have seen him probably, he would maybe have heard him preach. He may have known him personally - and that really is quite a thought to conjure with”*



# BIRMINGHAM FOLIOS (M157a) Dating: 568 - 645 AD

Includes: parts of S.18-20

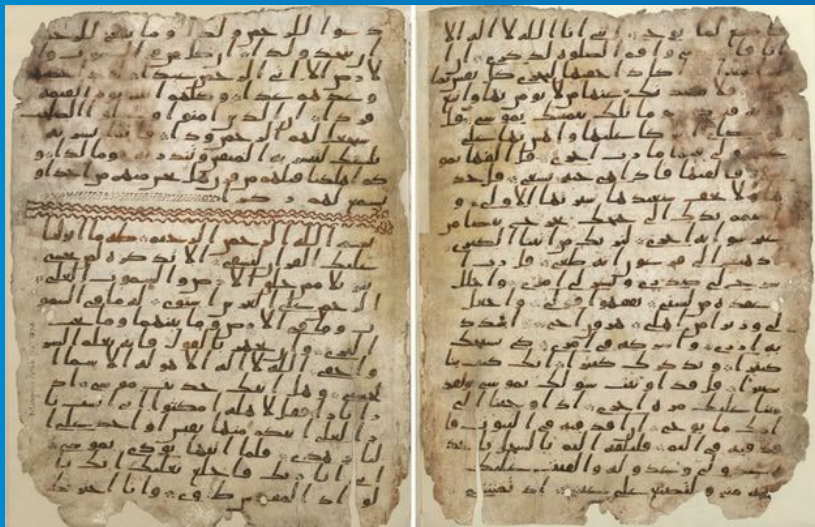


- Only 33 verses, out of 6,236 in the Qur'an
- Only 33 verse, out of 343 verses in these 3 chapters
- It's, thus not a full Qur'an at all!

Surah 18:17-31 - The 7 sleepers of Ephesus  
Syrian Bishop Jacob of Sarug (512 AD)

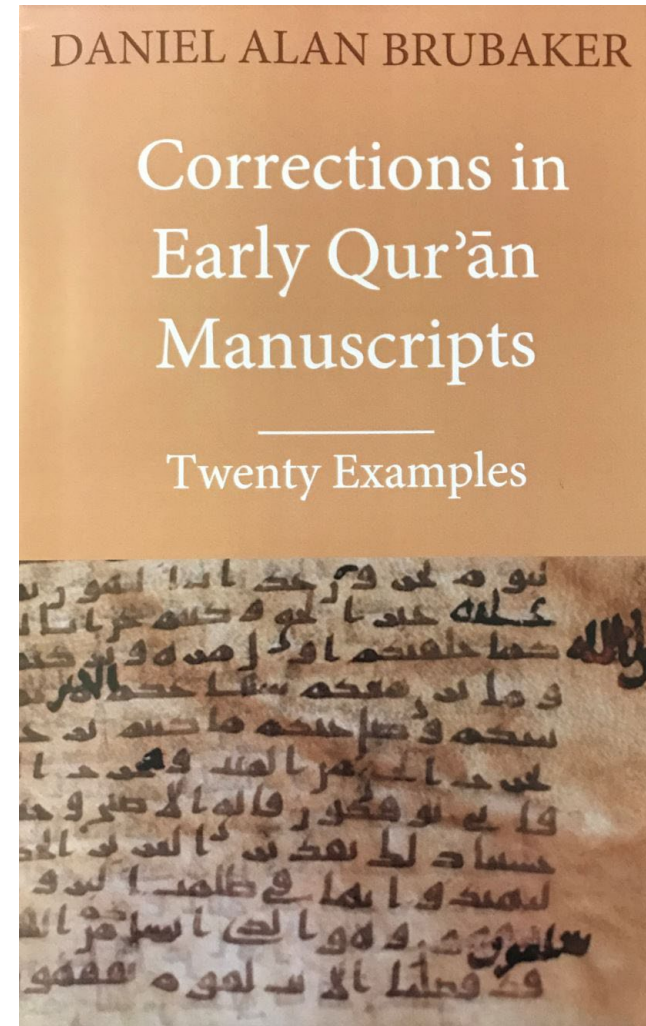
Surah 19:91-98 = Proto-Evangelium of James (145 AD)  
& The Pseudo Gospel of Matthew (600 AD)

Surah 20:1-40 = The story of Moses (1400 BC)



## Dan Brubaker's Book:

Highlighting just 22 out of a total of 4,000 he has now uncovered

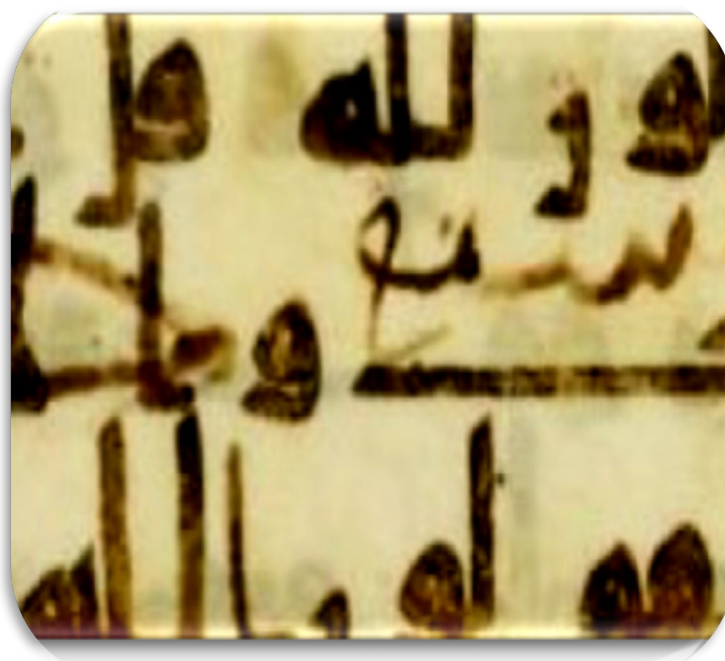




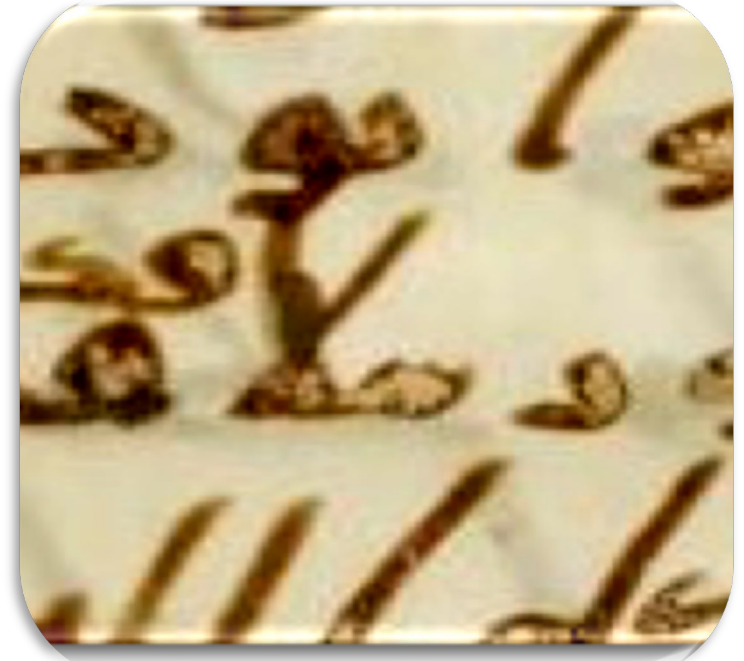
# Insertions



Words added



A post-production addition



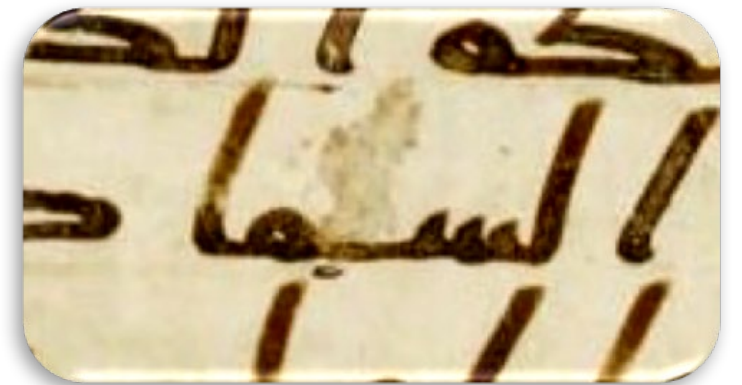
# Erasures



Intentional removal of text



Removal and overwriting



An *alif* removed?

# Erasures Overwritten



Different words written overtop



Letters added in new script & ink after the original



# Overwriting without Erasures



Either to restore a portion of text that has faded with time, or change the text entirely



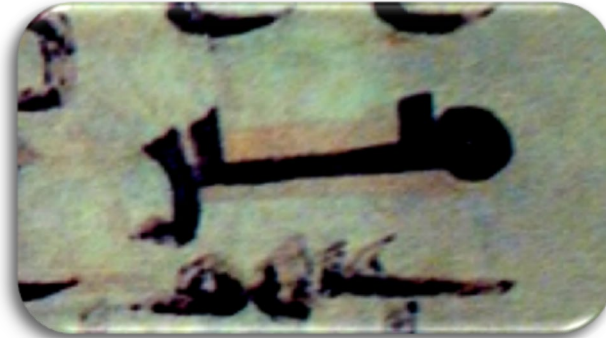
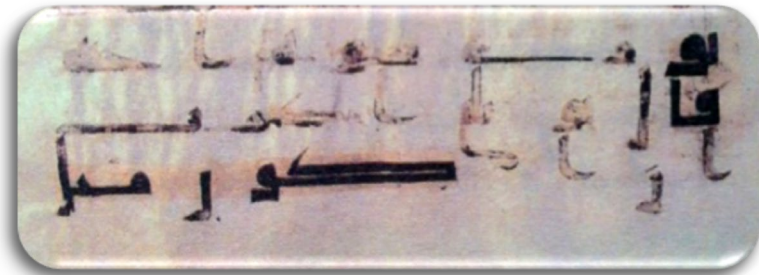
# Selective Coverings



Intentional changes directly over portions of text



# Selective Coverings Overwritten



Writing added into the text over the top of tape



# Tapings



A patch appears to be serving some other purpose than the repair of the page



# IS THERE A COMPLETE QUR'ANIC TEXTUAL TRADITION BACK TO UTHMAN?

Mansur Ahmed, during the debate on May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019, at Speaker's Corner, claimed:

1) a **continual Textual Tradition** of a **complete Qur'anic Manuscript back to 652 AD**

2) but he could not name one manuscript from **652 AD**, nor from **699 AD**, nor even from before **721 AD**

3) He claimed that by **721 AD they had only 97% of the Qur'an**.

What did he mean by only **97%**?





# They were 63 Fragments!

Of the **63 MSS** on the right, according to IA, **ALL** of them were dated before **719 AD**:

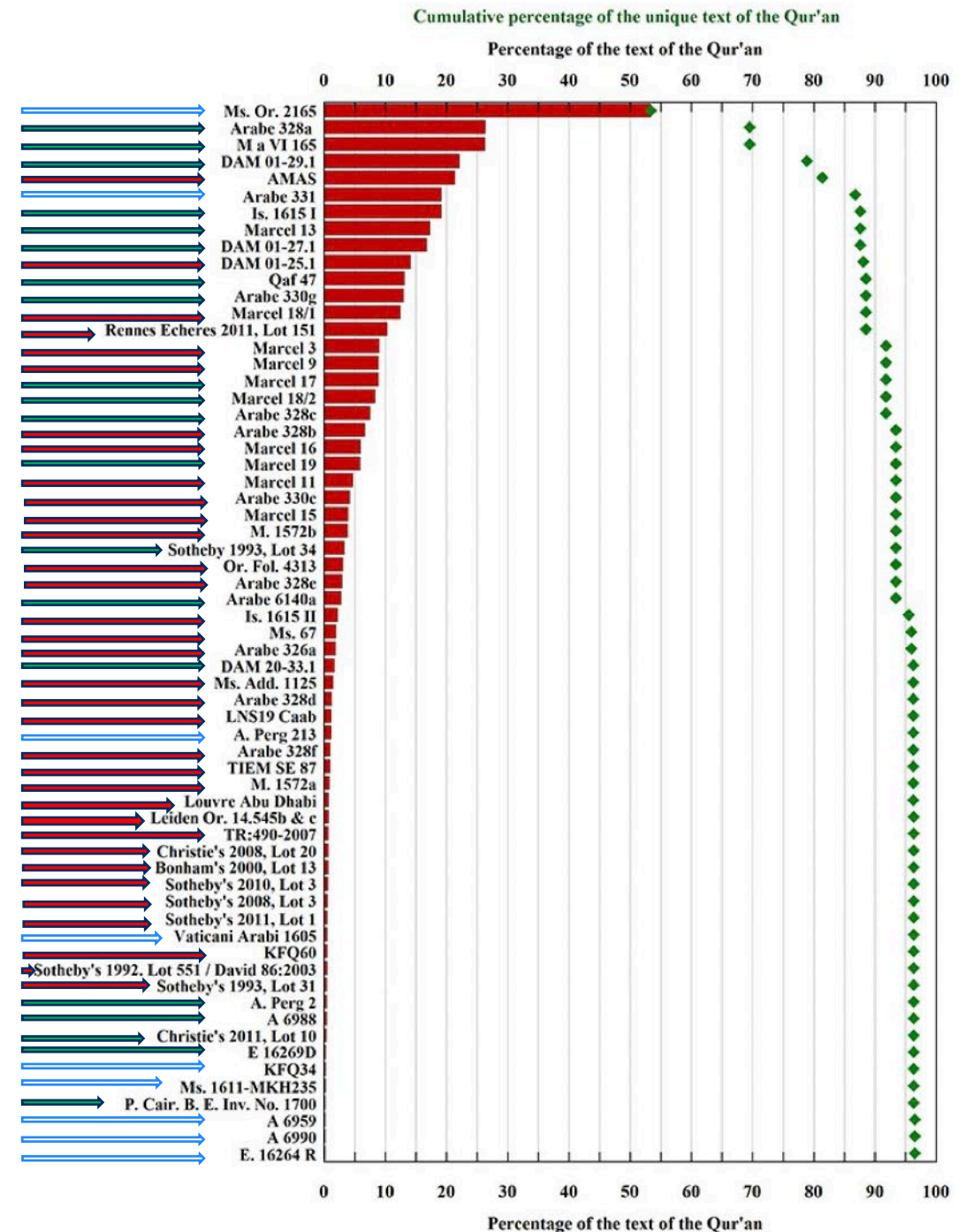
**20** = are tentatively dated, with disagreements between scholars (green arrows)

**9** = are dated after 719 AD (blue arrows)

**34** = In other words, over half of them, we have no way of knowing...thus, it's pure speculation by the Muslims! (red arrows)

Thus, none of them are really valid!

Since **all** of them are either **later**, or **tentatively dated**, or have **no supporting evidence**



# How then did we get our present 'Hafs' Qur'an?

## 1924 – CAIRO (99 years ago)

- In 1924, the department of Education in the city of Cairo, Egypt, were having problems with standardized tests, as they were getting conflicting answers with students who were quoting directly from the Qur'an, or rather 30 Qur'ans
- They went to Al Azhar University, and asked *Muhammad b. 'Ali al-Husayni al-Haddad* to choose just one of the 30 as the official Qur'an for their schools
- He chose the 796 AD 'Hafs' Qur'an for all the high schools, but just in **Cairo**
- All the other 29 'variant Qur'ans' they gathered together and threw them into the **Nile River**, and sank them...thinking that would get rid of them...
- Little did they know that you can still buy all of them, even today...



## 1936 – EGYPT (87 years ago)

- The government of Egypt realized how efficient the Cairene model was
- They decided to make the Hafs standard for all Qur'ans in Egyptian schools
- This was known as the '**Faruq Edition**', named after King Faruq, who came to power that year



## 1985 – SAUDI ARABIA (38 years ago!)

- The government of Saudi Arabia realized how efficient the Egyptian model was
- They decided to make the Hafs standard for all Qur'ans world wide
- This was known as the 'Fahd Edition', named after King Fahd, who came to power in 1982



What has been the latest discoveries concerning the Qur'an?

# Gunther Luling (d.2014)

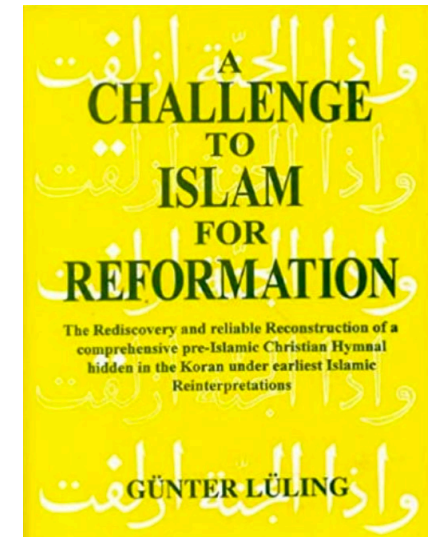
German Historian, Theologian, Philologist, Arabist

German Protestant theologian, [philological](#) scholar (Dr. in Arabistics and Islamics) and Pioneer in the study of early [Islamic](#) origins.

From 1962 to 1965 he was the Director of the [German Goethe-Institut](#) in [Aleppo, Syria](#).

## Research:

- Reconstructed a comprehensive pre-Islamic Christian Hymnal hidden in the Qur'an, taken from Syriac 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> century Christian hymns
- His 1970 PhD thesis received '**Eximium Opus**' grade, the highest available in Germany, which should have promoted him to professorship anywhere
- Was kicked out of his University, but for no reason ('He was a crack-pot'), possibly because his research was just too new and explosive (much like tectonic research)
- With the English translation (on the right), his material has finally been rehabilitated

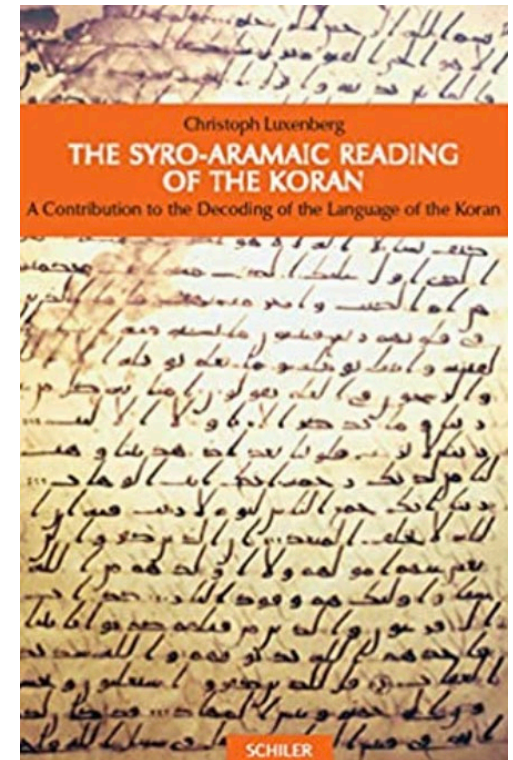


# Christoph Luxenberg



## Published under a Pseudonym

- An Arabist and Syriac scholar, who broke new ground on the Qur'an, discovering that much of it comes from previous Christian Lectionaries, Homilies, and Hymns, written in Syro-Aramiac, and then interposed into Arabic later on
- Like Luling, was ostracized by the German academic community, and so doesn't show himself publicly



# Luxenberg's 7 layered Textual Analysis

- 1) Check **al Tabari's 10th century Tafsir** (commentary) for Arabic meaning for words
- 2) Check the **Lisān al-‘Arab** (Tongue of Arabs = Arabic Dictionary) **Ibn Manzur (1290)**
- 3) Look for **homonymous (synonymous) roots** in Aramaic with a different meaning
- 4) Try different **diacritics**
- 5) Check for an **Aramaic root** using **different diacritics**
- 6) **Re-translate Arabic words into Aramaic** with semantics of the Syro-Aramaic words
- 7) Try to find lost meanings of Arab words **using 10th century Syro-Aramaic lexicons**

# What did Luxenberg find?

Once he took the Arab Qur'an back to its Aramaic roots:

- All the dark passages were Christian Lectionaries, Homilies & Hymns
- Every Lectionary, Homily and Hymn was about **JESUS!**
- It had nothing to do with 'what they found', but 'who they found'



# Conclusion

4 periods of **Textual evolution**:

- 7<sup>th</sup> century = **Aramaic** texts to Arabic
- 8<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> centuries = **Arabic 'Rasm' Manuscripts**
- 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> centuries = **Qira'at & Ahruf** diacritics (736 – 905 AD)
- 13<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> centuries = From **30 Official Qur'ans**, to just 1 (**'Hafs'**)

## And finally...

Remember, the 4 claims for Qur'anic authority? They do not fit the Qur'an...  
They don't fit our Bible either...but don't we have another 'Word of God'?  
The Logos, Jesus Christ Himself? Let's apply these 4 criteria to Him...

- Is Jesus **eternal**?
  - Was Jesus **sent down**?
  - Is Jesus **complete**?
  - Has Jesus ever **changed**?
- Thus, the 4 criteria Muslims are looking for in their Qur'an, their "Primary Revelation", we already have in Jesus Christ, our "Primary Revelation"!
- Let's "bring them Home" to a much greater and better Revelation, **JESUS CHRIST!**



# CONCLUSIONS

When all is said and done...

## 4 areas we investigated...

[1] THE PROBLEM WITH THE SOURCES

[2] THE PROBLEM WITH MECCA

[3] THE PROBLEM WITH MUHAMMAD

[4] THE PROBLEM WITH THE QUR'AN



# CONCLUSIONS

Our Remit was to investigate both the Mecca, Muhammad, and the Qur'an

**Sources:** It is obvious that everything Muslims are dependent on for their 'book, man and place' are based on Traditions (SIN) which are 200 – 300 years too late, and 100s of miles too far north

**Mecca** proves probably the biggest problem for Muslims

- The SIN refers to a place with much vegetation, existing since Adam & Eve, & with 300 prophets buried
- Yet, it's not referred to until 741 AD, and none of the early maps show Mecca at all
- Patricia Crone debunked Watt's land based 'Trade-Route Theory' going through it back in 1987
- We debunked the Red Sea Trade via Arabia, proving it was all via Africa, because it had water
- All of the 7<sup>th</sup> century Qiblas were facing Petra up to 706 AD, and not Mecca until 729 AD
- None of the surrounding empires ever heard of the Mecca
- All of the stages of the Hajj were simply borrowed from other places, mostly Jerusalem



# CONCLUSIONS

**Muhammad:** The coins prove that the area under “Islam” was either Christian or Zoroastrian until 692 AD

- The Rock inscriptions prove that Islam as we know it didn't appear until around 730 AD
- All of the references for Muhammad are too far north, or refer to someone else who is “the praised one”

**Qur'an:** The 6 earliest manuscripts prove that men created 6 different Qur'ans between the 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> centuries

- The Birmingham Folios prove that Muslims borrowed stories created long before the Qur'an
- The 30 Qira'ats which proliferated from the 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> centuries proved the Qur'an was evolving everywhere
- Holding up the 26 Qira'ats in 2016 opened up a whole 'can of worms' for Muslim scholars
- The interview of June 8, 2020 created a platform for us to go public with the Qira'at Narrative
- The 29 Qira'at Variants dumped into the Nile in 1924 prove that when Muslims find problems with their Qur'an, they either **burn** them, **wash** them, **erase** them, **cover** them, or **sink** them to destroy the evidence!



# CONCLUSIONS

- The 4,000 Consonantal Variants prove that Muslims have accreted, deleted and corrupted their text, before standardizing it in the last century
- The 63 fragments employed to find just 96% of the Qur'an proves they still cannot find a complete Qur'an for over 100 years, as their fragments are tentative, or have no sources
- The Aramaic proto-Qur'an proves that when we go back to the original text we will find Jesus!

**Overview:** The 7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> century Arabs in order to create their own distinct identity needed a 'book, a man, and a place', which they did with the Qur'an, Muhammad and Mecca; but it didn't take just 22 years as the SIN claims, but centuries, proving that Islam is as man-made as any other religion, unlike Christianity!

- We can use this material today to disprove the Preservation of the Qur'an, Muhammad and Mecca
- It is Islam and not us who are 'arguing from silence', as we have the 7<sup>th</sup> c. evidence they don't have
- These arguments hit at the very foundations of Islam; yet they are neutral and 'politically correct'



# Why is this 'Historical Critique' so popular?

- 1) **It is visual:** Notice that everything I have shown you has to do with pictures of coins, rocks, buildings, maps, timelines and manuscripts. Even speaking fast you still got the 'gist' of what I was saying
- 2) **You don't have to know Arabic to understand it, or use it:** One of the biggest fears I hear from so many Americans is that they don't want to have to learn Arabic in order to discuss Islam with Muslims
- 3) **It is foundational to everything Muslims believe:** It features one book, one man, and one place; yet, without any one of the three, Islam "falls to pieces" and is destroyed
- 4) **It is Historically neutral, and therefore NOT Islamophobic, or "hate speech":** Thus, everyone can use it
- 5) **But I really would prefer that Christians to use it...why?**
  - Because Christians have the only book, and man, and place which have passed these criticisms
  - Thus, we understand its power, and have the right to use it publicly...but mostly....
  - We are the only ones who have a better response, and a better solution = **Jesus Christ!**





## Yet, by Casting Doubt on Islam

Our Muslim Friends can Consider a Better Place, a better Book, and a better Man...Jesus, and His Gospel.

So, let's "bring them home"!

