


Early Islamic Civilisation



Photo:

Vocabulary	
prosperous	rich and successful
depicted	represented in a work of art
arabesques	designs made up of flowing lines
influential	makes people take notice
renowned	well known
tolerance	allowing others to say and do things even if you don't approve or agree
Caliphate	the rule or reign of a Caliph
Silk Roads:	an ancient network of trade routes

Books
 <p>The Golden Age of Baghdad- Richard Platt</p>


Other Information
<p>The Middle East</p> 

Sticky Knowledge

After the death of the Prophet Muhammad, in 632, the Middle East underwent a period of significant change. Over the next 200 years, Islamic civilisation spread as far as Spain in the west and China in the east.

The Golden Age of Islam also saw Muslim artists developing lots of different techniques to decorate textiles, jewellery, glassware and metalwork.

Out of respect for Allah, or God, no images of living creatures are depicted in Islamic art, so the art of writing (calligraphy) and the science of geometry took on great importance in art and architecture in the Muslim world.

One of the most influential cities in early Islamic civilisation was Baghdad, in modern day Iraq. During the Golden Age of Islam, between 900 and 1200, Baghdad was the largest city in the world, with a population of over 1 million people.

Early Islamic civilisation relied heavily, as many great cultures did, on trade and agriculture. Growing various crops, including dates, sugar, cotton and oranges, was essential to feed the rapidly growing populations and to create surplus food to trade.