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The Birth of Islam, the West in the Middle Ages, and the Rest

Foundation of Civilizations 9

Note: all of the following information in addition to your reading is important.

The Birth of Islam
 Describe the Bedouins advantageous location in terms of trade and religion (include Mecca, the Kaaba, and Allah) –
Describe Muhammad Ibn Abdullah (570-632 CE), and his revelations written in the Qur'an –
Briefly discuss how Islam is an Abrahamic faith, why the followers are called Muslims, and the concept of umma –
Identify and briefly describe the Five Pillars of Islam, as well as jihad –
Briefly discuss how the Islamic community grew in power up through 632 CE –
Define sharia, and explain how it is different from the law in Christendom –
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Describe how Islam expanded through contagious diffusion as well as hierarchical diffusion –
Briefly explain why many Jews, Christians, and Zoroastrians converted to Islam –

Briefly explain the split (schism) between Sunni and Shia Muslims –
Describe the Sufis in terms of their beliefs and practices –
Compare the rights and treatment of women in Islamic societies with most of the other patriarchal third-wave societies –
Western Christendom in the Early Middle Ages
Describe how Charlemagne established the largest European empire during the Middle Ages
Define: feudalism, and describe social hierarchy that was established in Medieval Europe –
Define: manorialism, and describe the economic system established in Medieval Europe –
Define: Medieval Warm Period, and describe its impact –
The Americas During the Classical and Post-Classical Eras
Contrast the Afro-Eurasian advantages of geography and resources with those of the Americas –
Contrast the civilizations of South America with the societies that developed in North America during the Classical and Post-Classical Eras –