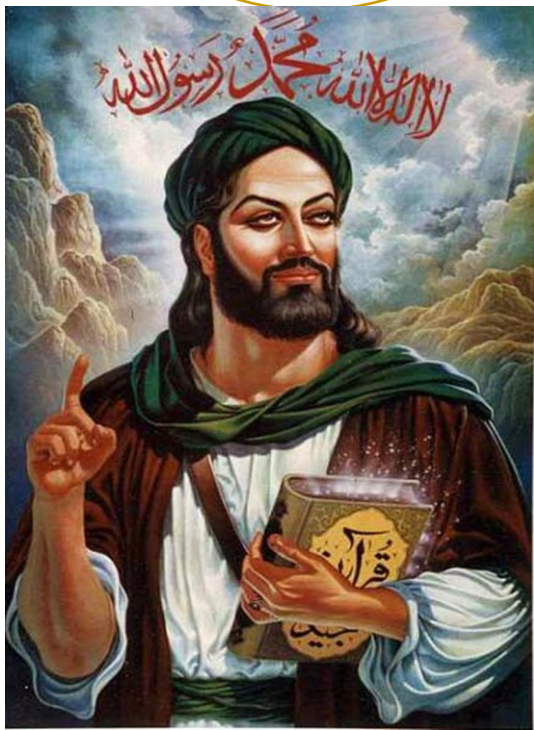


The history and basics of Islam I.

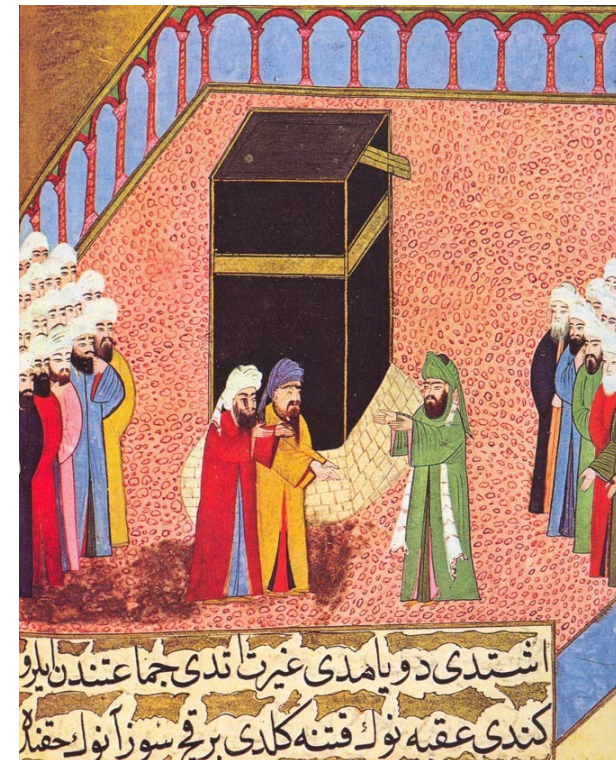


Islamic Political Thought (BSS474)

Josef Kraus

[Pre-Islamic Era]

- Arabian peninsula, 6th century
- Nomadic society, tribal and clan society, lack of agriculture, natural resources exploitation, traditional religions blood feud
 - influence of Judaism and Christianity
- City of Mecca
 - Center of religion (Ka'aba – center of religious pilgrimage), business and politics
 - Quraysh tribe in lead
 - Many local clans compete for power (Banu Umayya – the most important)



[Muhammad]

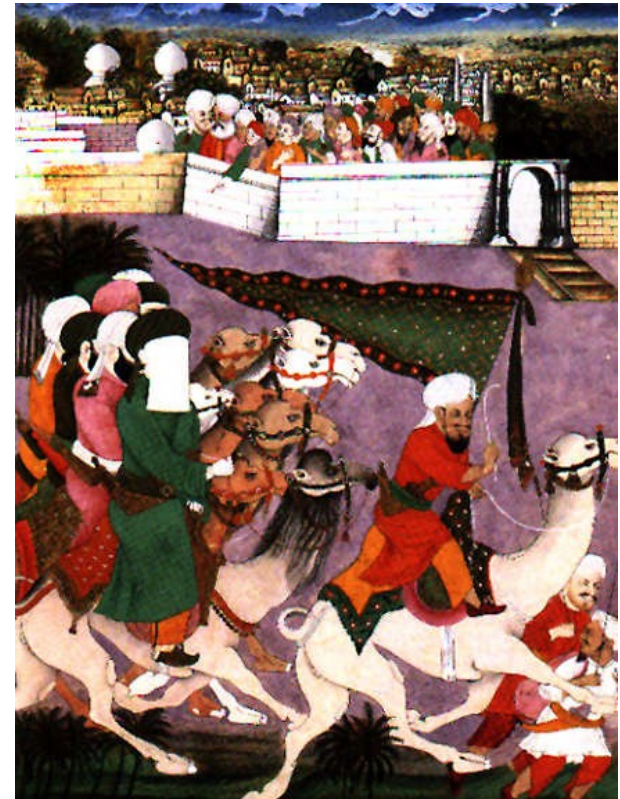
- *570 AD Banu (clan) Hashim
- Married to Khadija -> daughter Fatimah
- 610 AD – First vision of God (archangel Jibril), Muhammad started his preaching
- Increasing of influence within Mecca, deal with Banu Umayya “satanic verses”
- Protection by uncle Abu Talib ends by his death 619 AD
- 622 AD – Muhammad escaped Mecca (*Hijra*- migration) and moved to Yathrib (Medina)



[Muhammad]



- Establishment of the first Islamic state (caliphate)
- 624 AD – conquest of surrounding area
- Weakening of Mecca, strengthening of Medina
-> periodic pilgrimage to Ka'aba
- 630 AD – the conquest of Mecca
- 632 AD - Muhammad died in hands of his beloved wife A'isha



[The Contest for Power and Reign]

- Muhammad without man's descendant
- Dispute about an election of the new leader
 - Banu Umayya vs. Ali ibn Talib
- Abu Bakr (M.'s father-in-law) elected as first Muslim caliph
- Followers of Ali disagree (Shi'at Ali)
- Strong expansion and conquest of Arabian peninsula, Syria and Palestine
- 634 AD Abu Bakr died



[The Contest for Power and Reign]

- Elected Umar (634 – 644) as successor
- Creation of the first administrative system in IS
- Discrimination of non-Arabic Muslims
- Militarization of politics – conquest of Persia and whole Near East
- Intervention into religion – prohibition of recording and narration of Muhammad's traditions
 - Quran is enough



[The Contest for Power and Reign]

- Uthman (644 – 656) – elected
- Suspension of territorial expansion
 - Islamic state is too big to be controlled
 - Necessity of local governance (Mu‘awiyah in Syria)
- Codification of Quran (651 – 656) in Quraysh Arabic
- Growing opposition for Ali supporters – *umma* cleavages
- Uthman killed by rioters
- Ali ibn Talib finally elected



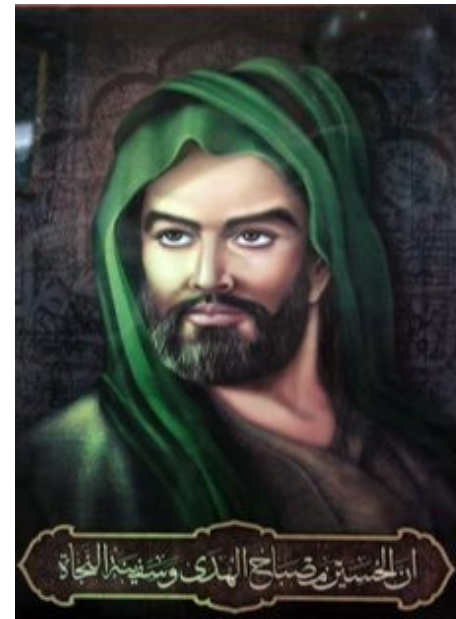
The Contest for Power and Reign

- Ali reign (656 – 661) – a prophet relative
- Elected, but not respected by provinces ruled by Ummayas (Mu'awiyah in Damascus)
+ opposition by A'isha
- Civil war – 656 Battle of the Camel
- Ali weak politician and leader
- Mu'awiyah continued fight, controlled Syria and Egypt
- 661 Ali murdered in a mosque in Najaf by Kharijites



[The Contest for Power and Reign]

- Mu'awiyah established (hereditary) Umayyad dynasty ruling from Damascus (not Medina)
- Hassan ibn Ali conciliated with Mu'awiyah
 - Promised respect of Shias
 - Promised election of next caliph
- Hassan left politics, got retired (+669)
- Husayn (Hossein) ibn Ali head of Shias
- Mu'awiyah broke promise about election
 - Caliphate leadership for his son Yazid



[The Contest for Power and Reign]

- 680 Mu'awiyah died, Husayn refused obedience to Yazid
- Expedition of Yazid for punishing Husayn and restore power over region
- Husayn left Medina to Kufa
- Caught and massacred close to Karbala - Ashura
- 2nd *shahid* of Shias
-> the cult of martyrs



[Husayniyeh



[Ashura celebration]

- <http://youtu.be/zhkB-Ybuvro>
- <http://youtu.be/THy0k9nl4js>

[Caliphate vs. Imamate]

- Shias follow prophet's blood line (Ahl al-Bayt)
- Husayn ibn Ali last „imam“ adored by all Shias
 - separation of Zaidiyyah – Husayn's grandson Zayd
- Following imams - Ali ibn Husayn (father of Zayd), Muhammad ibn Ali (al-Báqir), Ja'far ibn Muhammad...
- Separation of Ismaili (following Ismail ibn Ja'far) X Musa ibn Ja'far (followed by majority of Shias)
- Ali ibn Musa al-Reza (Ali Reza), Muhammad Jawad, Ali Hadi, Hasan Askari, Muhammad bin Hasan (al-Mahdi) – twelver Shias

[Mahdi – The Hidden Imam]

- *869 - ?
- Disappeared – The Occultation
- First the small occultation
 - Communicated with four chosen representatives for 72 years
- 941 – The great occultation
 - No contact or communication
- At the end of the time al-Mahdi come back to our world with prophet Isa
- Mahdi = messiah



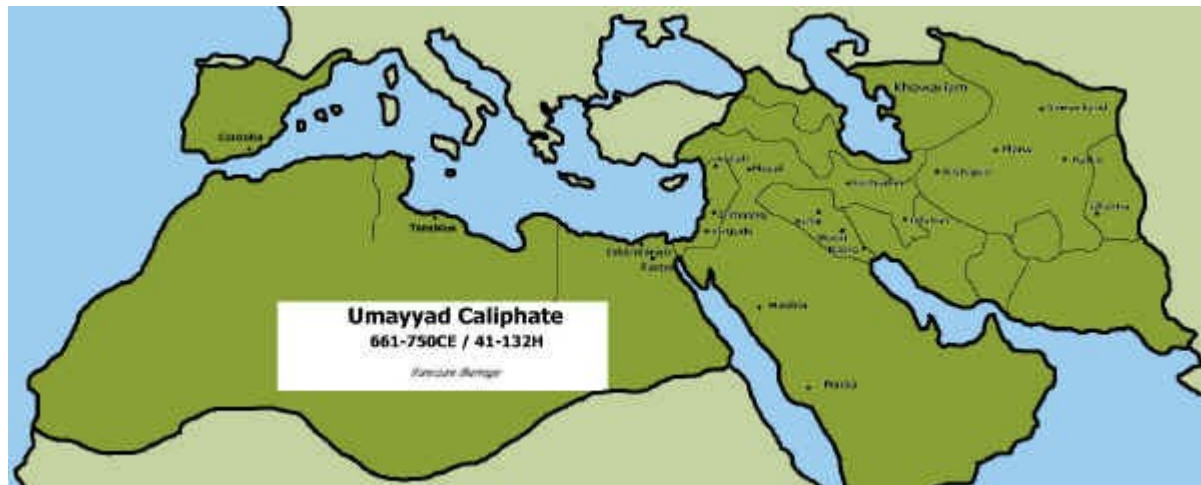
المهدي
عجل الله فرجه

al-Mahdi

and the Hidden Imam

Caliphate vs. Imamate

- Sunnis follow caliphs from Mu'awiya, Yazid...
- Hereditary Umayyad dynasty
- Mu'awiya II (ibn Yazid) had no son
- Marwan I (cousin of Uthman), Abd al-Malik ibn Marwan, Al-Walid... until Marwan II (+750)
- The end of Umayyad Caliphate
- Replaced by Abbasid caliphs



Another Important Islamic Sects

- **Ismailis** – close to Shias, follow the line until imam Ismail; no hidden imam, having the line to present time (Aga Khan – 49th imam), in Persian Gulf and Near East states, India, Pakistan...
- **Druze** – esoteric ethnoreligious group, creation in 11th century. Absorption of Abrahamic relig. Rigid, secretive, use of *taqiyya*.
- **Alawites** – twelver Shias, highly secular, living in Syria, Turkey...



Another Important Islamic Sects

- **Zaidiyyah** – Zayd, grandson of Husayn; Imam should protest against tyranny, living mainly in Yemen

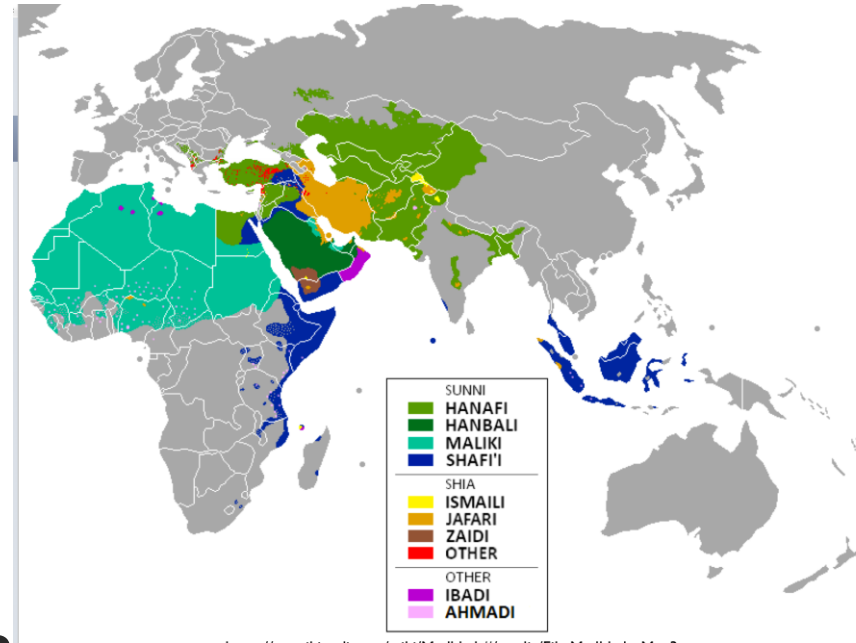
- **Baha'ism**– founded by Bahá'u'lláh in 19th-century Persia, based on Shia and Persian tradition, illegal in Iran

- **Sufisms**
„Islamic mysticisms“,
meditation, natural science,
ascetism – strong in Iran,
Egypt etc.



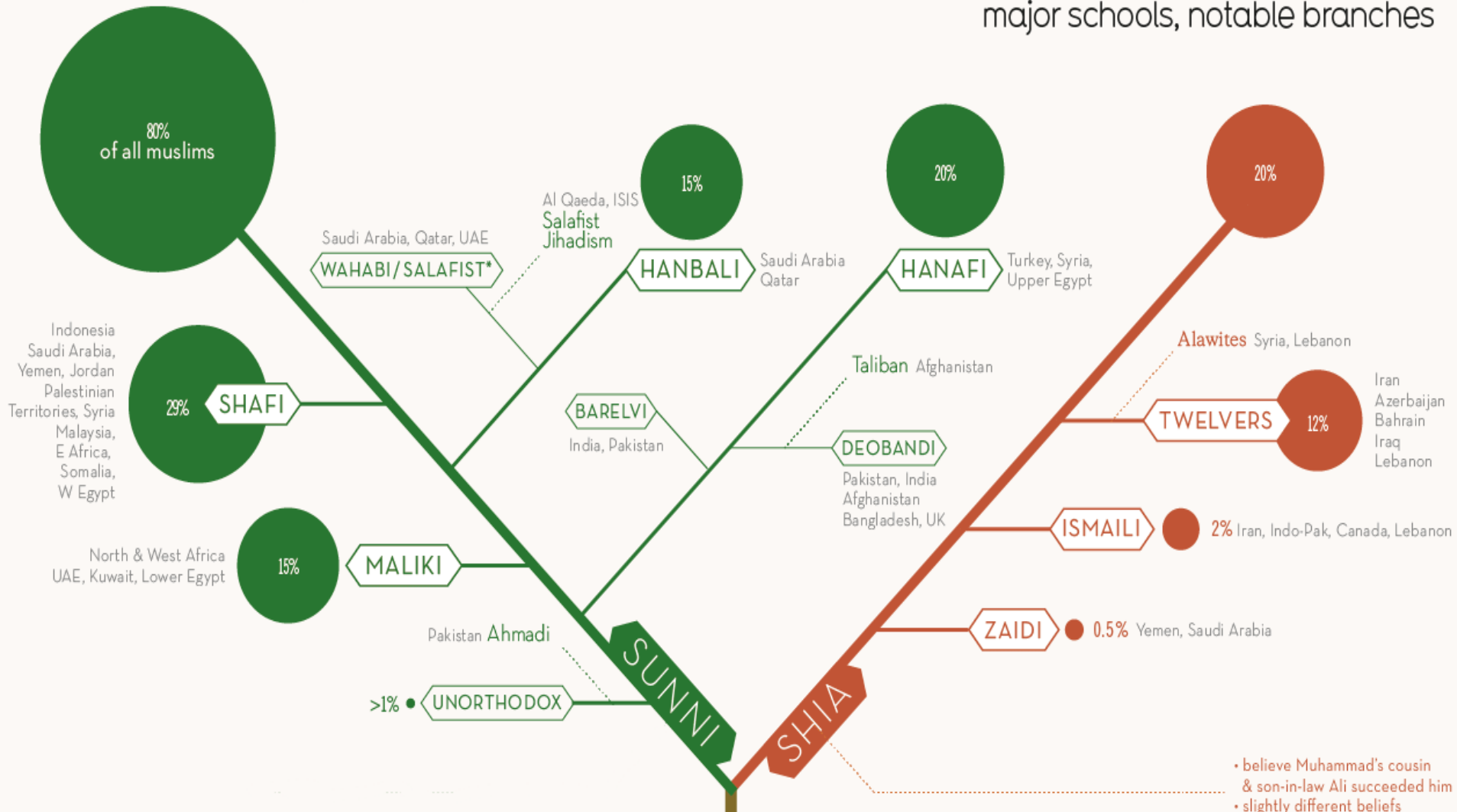
Another Important Islamic Sects

- Wahhabism
- Salafism
- Ibadism
- Ahmadiyya movement
- Gülen / Hizmet movement
- Liberal Muslim movements...



Islamic Sects

major schools, notable branches



[Time for Q&A]

