Chapter 9: The Arab Empire 600-1400

Section 1

1. What is the significance of shari’ah in the lives of Muslims?

2. Use your notes to contrast the differences between the beliefs of early Arabs and the religion of Islam.

3. Why did the communities on the Arabian Peninsula prosper economically?

4. What was the significance of Gabriel’s messages to Muhammad according to Islamic teachings?

5. What beliefs and ways of life shape the religious traditions of Islam?
Section 2

1. What is the significance of Abu Bakr’s being named caliph?

3. Why was there tension over who should rule the empire after the death of Muhammed?

4. How did Muhammad’s successors help expand the Arab Empire after his death?

5. What internal struggles led to revolts against the Umayyads?

6. What changes did the Abbasid rulers bring to the world of Islam?
Section 3

1. Why was the bazaar an important part of a Muslim city or town?

3. What factors allowed both urban and rural areas to flourish after the 8th century within the Arab empire?

4. How were the principles of Islam reflected in the social structure of the Arab Empire?

5. What were the major contributions of Islamic scholars?

6. How did the arts convey the ideals of spiritual glory in Islam?