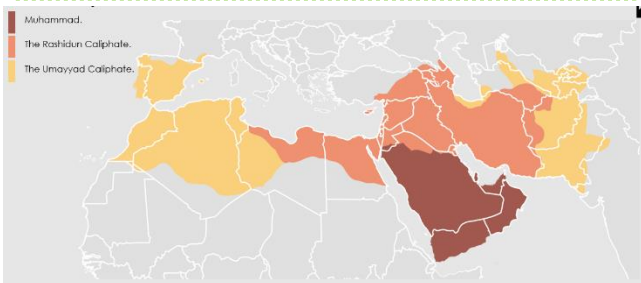


# Year 6 History – When did the Early Islamic Civilisation begin and how enormous did it become?



## Enquiry Questions

1. What impact did Muhammad have and what happened after he died?
2. Why was Baghdad a significant settlement?



## When did early Islamic civilisation begin?

The early Islamic period started in around AD600. Some historians believe it ended in the 13th century when Baghdad was destroyed.

## How did the early Islamic civilisation begin?

In Mecca in AD610 a man called Muhammad began to experience what he believed were messages from God. Those who believed in these messages became known as Muslims.

The religion they followed was called Islam. Muhammad later moved to the city of Medina and built a mosque (Islamic place of worship).

He later returned to Mecca and many more people became Muslims.

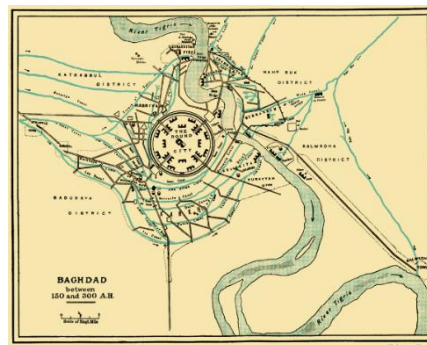
After Muhammad's death, leaders called caliphs ruled the Islamic Empire and it continued to grow.

## How did it grow?

The size of Islamic Empire peaked under the Umayyad Caliphate where territory was held in Asia, Africa and Europe. After the Abbasid revolution, the Umayyad's retained territory in Spain and North West Africa.

## Why was Baghdad a significant settlement?

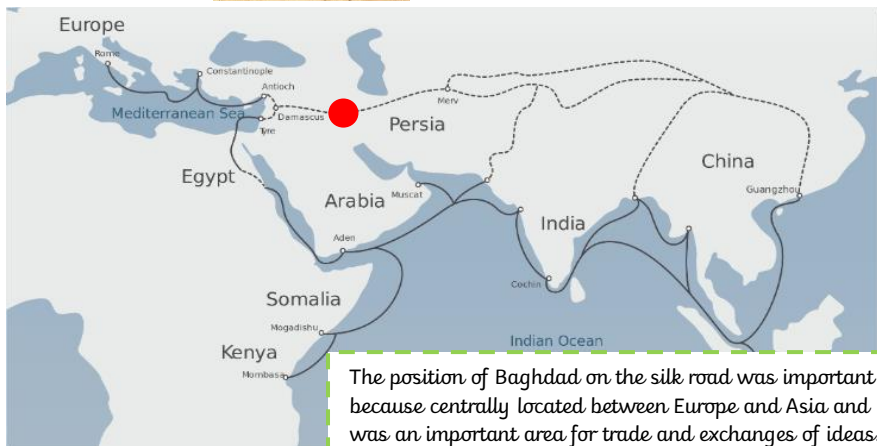
1. The position of the new capital city
2. The construction of the city
3. Its position on the Silk Road trade routes
4. The House of Wisdom



The Round City of Baghdad



The House of Wisdom



The position of Baghdad on the silk road was important because centrally located between Europe and Asia and was an important area for trade and exchanges of ideas.

Key Vocabulary	
<b>Islam</b>	A religion founded by Muhammad, who was born in Mecca in AD 570. People who practise Islam are called Muslims.
<b>Caliph</b>	A caliph is the leader of a caliphate - a political-religious form of government of a Muslim community. A caliph had to be Muslim, male, sane, fair, just and law-abiding.
<b>Scholar</b>	A person dedicated to learning, often at a high level and in a particular area of study.
<b>Dynasty</b>	A succession of rulers of a country or civilisation. Generally, the next ruler in the dynasty inherits the title.
<b>Silk Road</b>	A network of trade routes linking China to the Middle East and Europe, first used to carry Chinese silk
<b>House of Wisdom</b>	The House of Wisdom, also known as the Grand Library of Baghdad, was believed to be a major Abbasid-era public academy and intellectual centre in Baghdad.
<b>Baghdad</b>	In 762, the newly-founded city of Baghdad became the capital of the Muslim world.

