



# *Judaism, Christianity, & Islam*



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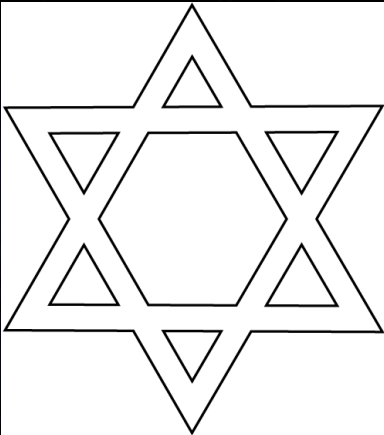
# *MONOTHEISM*

☞ Judaism, Christianity, and Islam are major faiths that are examples of **monotheism**, or belief in **one** supreme god.



# *I. JUDAISM*

- ☞ First practiced by a small group of people in Southwest Asia called the Israelites.
- ☞ Founded by **Abraham** around **2000 BC**.
- ☞ Followers today are known as **Jews** and there are **about 15 million** worldwide.
- ☞ Holy book is the **Torah**.



# *Jewish Beliefs:*

- ☞ Believe that they descended from Abraham and Sarah, the first people to worship Yahweh (God).
- ☞ Abraham lived at least 3,700 years ago in what is now Iraq.





# *Jerusalem, Israel*

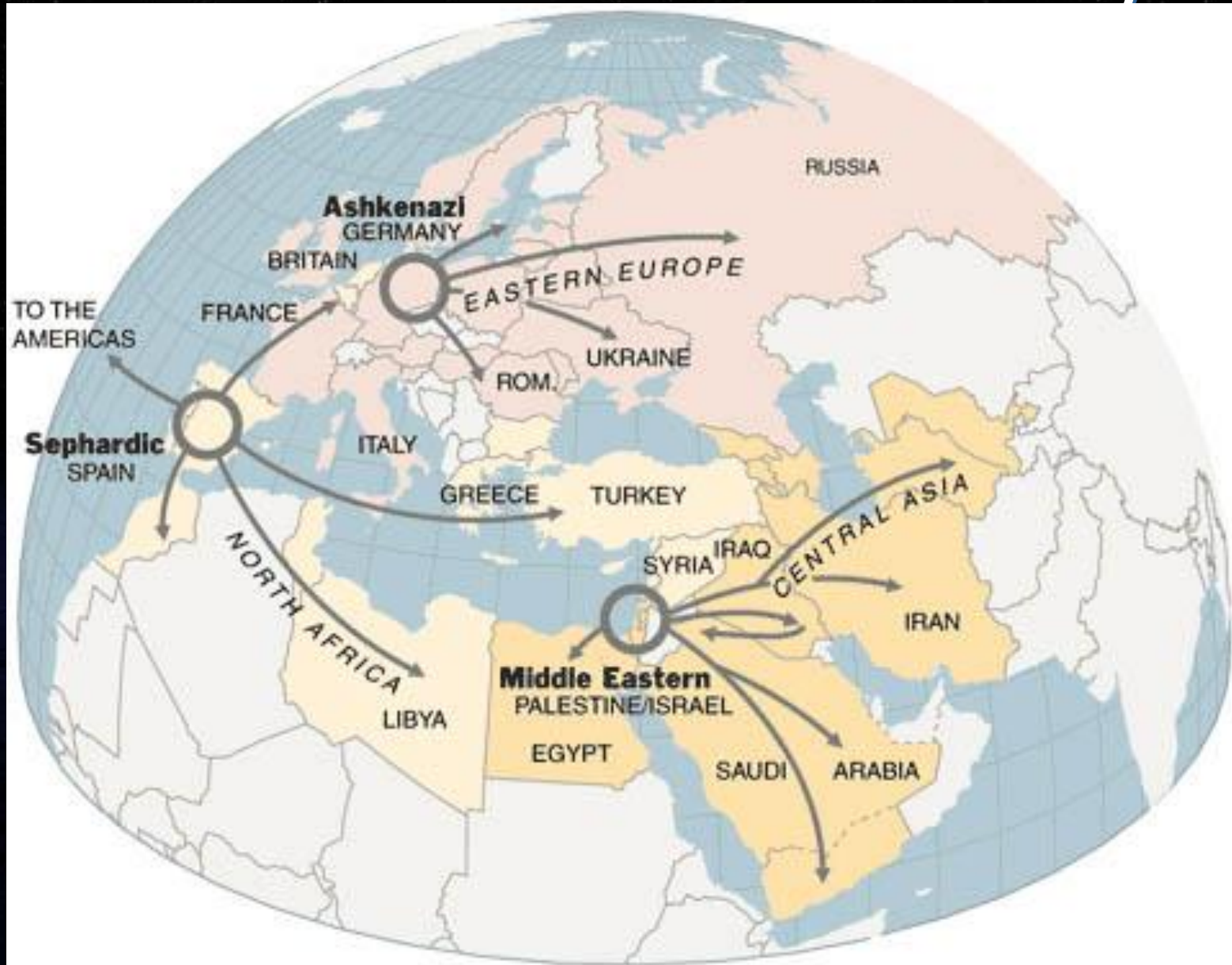


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# *Diaspora*

- ☞ Over the centuries, the Jews would be conquered and forced to leave their homeland many times.
  - ☞ Eventually, they spread to countries in many parts of the world.
  - ☞ Scattering of the Jews = Diaspora.
- ☞ In many areas, the Jews were treated cruelly...
  - ☞ European Jews were nearly wiped out by Hitler and Nazi Germany

# *Jewish Diaspora*



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# *Holy Days*

- ☞ **Passover:** festival that retells the story of the Israelites fleeing Egypt.
- ☞ **Rosh Hashanah:** Jewish New Year's Day.
- ☞ **Yom Kippur:** known as the Day of Atonement. People fast (go without food) and pray on this day.



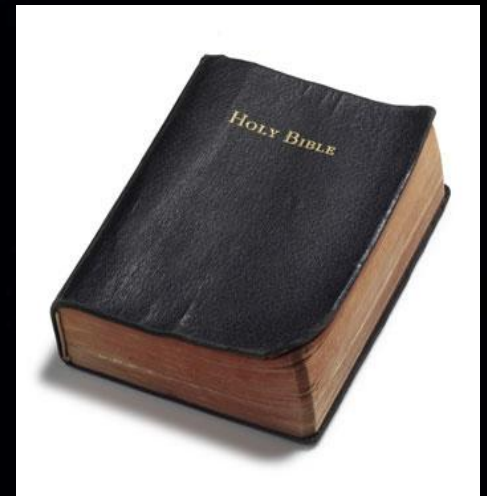


## *II. Christianity*

- ☞ Arose from Judaism in Southwest Asia.
- ☞ A Jew named **Jesus** began preaching in what today is Israel, the West Bank, and Jordan around **30 AD**.
- ☞ Some Jews greeted him as the messiah, or savior, who would deliver them from Roman persecution.

# *Christianity*

- ☞ Followers of Jesus are called **Christians**.
- ☞ The holy book of the Christians is the **Bible**; stories about Jesus became the New Testament.
- ☞ There are about **2.1 billion** followers worldwide.



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# *Christianity*

- ☞ Beliefs are based on the teachings of Jesus:
  - ☞ love of God and others,
  - ☞ a regard for justice,
  - ☞ a belief that Jesus is the Son of God
- ☞ Divided into 3 major groups: Eastern Orthodox, Roman Catholic, & Protestant
- ☞ Practiced in most parts of the world today

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# *Holy Days*

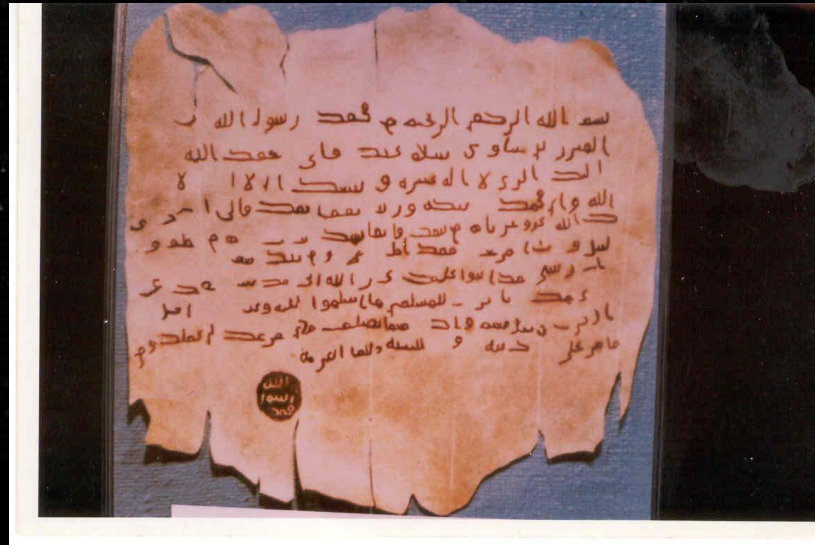
- ☞ Christmas: Jesus' birthday.
- ☞ Good Friday: day Jesus was crucified.
- ☞ Easter: most important day of Christian calendar; believed to be the day that Jesus rose from the dead.

# III. ISLAM

- ➔ Began around **610 AD** in Southwest Asia.
- ➔ In Arabic, *Islam* means “surrender” to the will of Allah (God).
- ➔ Followers of Islam are called **Muslims**, and the founder is **Muhammad**.
- ➔ Believe that Muhammad is the last and greatest **prophet** of Islam, which included Abraham & Jesus.

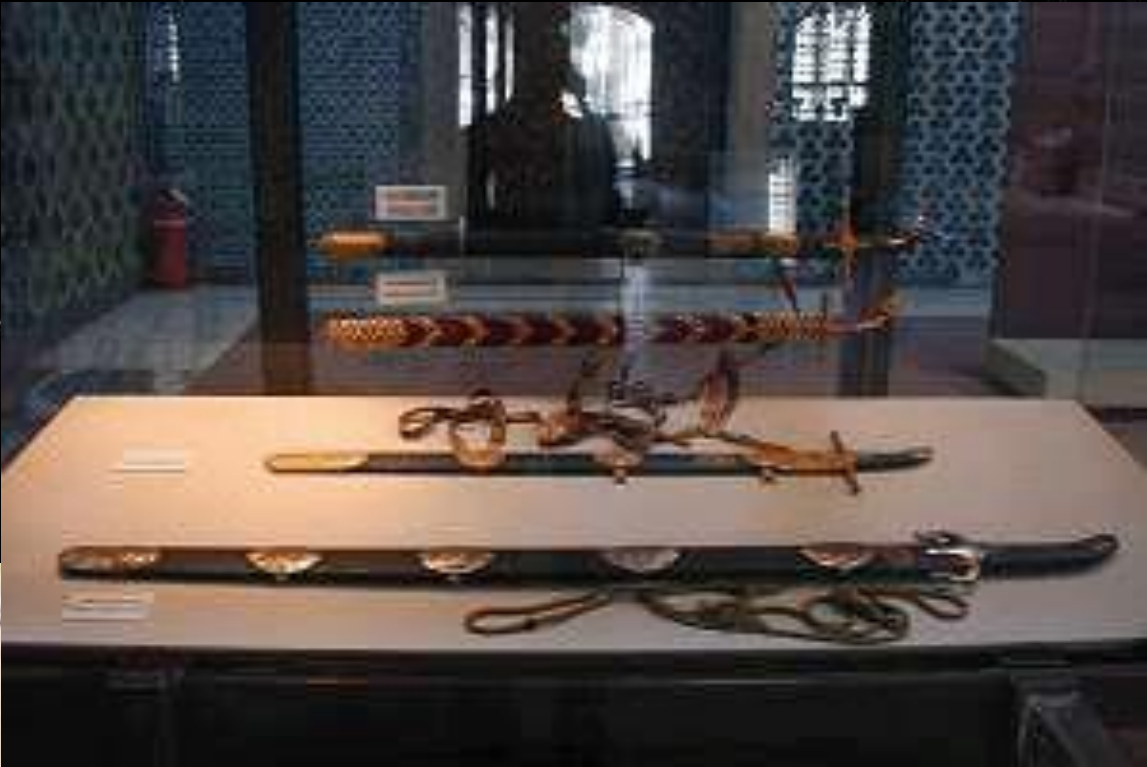






Two letters written by Muhammad...so old!

# Muhammad's swords



Muhammad's hat, robe, and staff



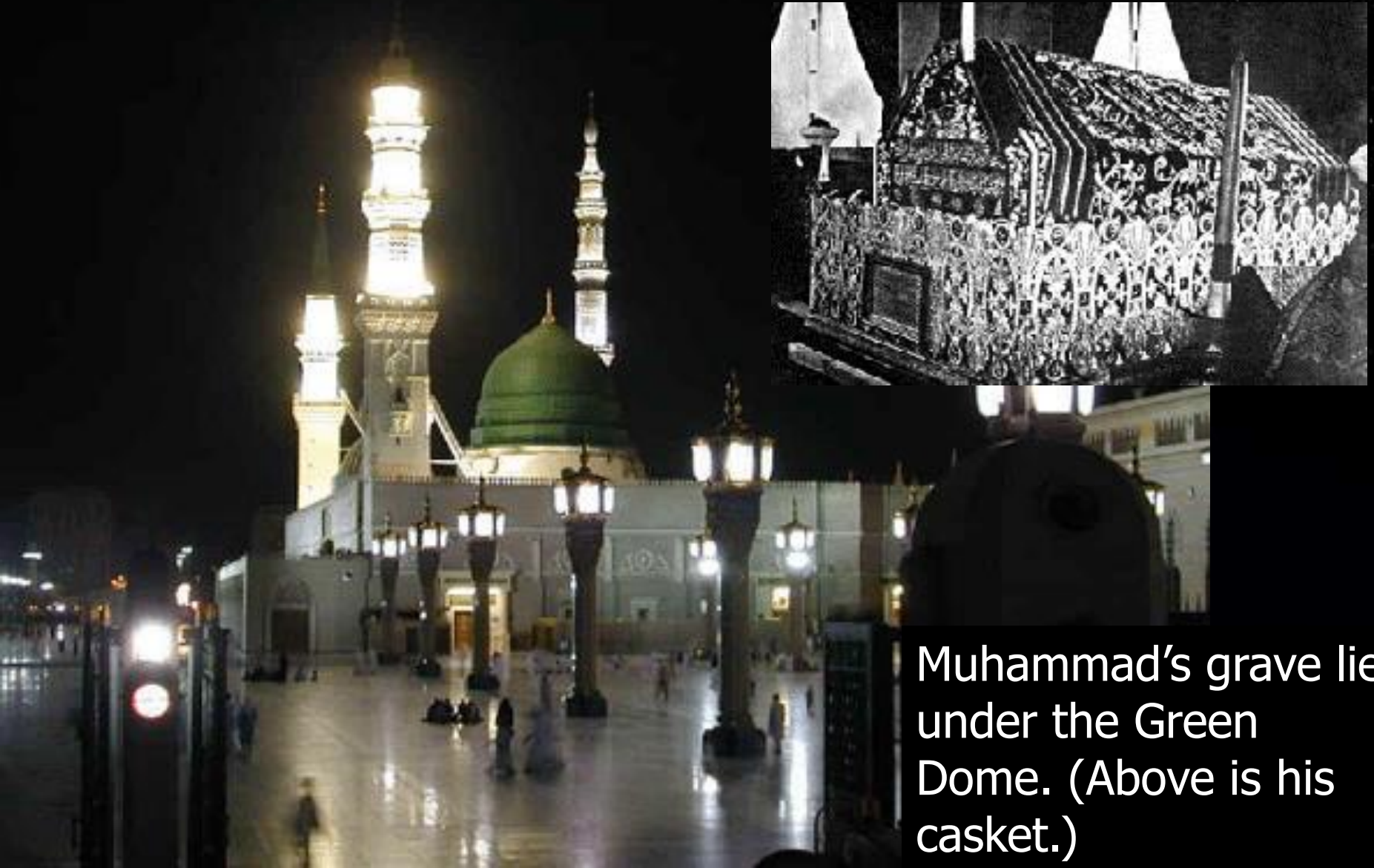


A piece of Muhammad's hair!




One of Muhammad's sandals

# *The Green Dome in Madinah*



Muhammad's grave lies under the Green Dome. (Above is his casket.)

# *Islam*

- 
- ☞ Is the main religion of the Middle East, North Africa, & Asia
  - ☞ Two largest groups of Muslims are the Sunnis and the Shiites
    - ☞ The Sunnis account for 90% of the world's Muslims
  - ☞ Number of followers is growing at a rapid rate; faster than the other 2 religions
    - ☞ **1.3 billion** followers worldwide

# *The Koran*

- ☞ The Muslim holy book is the **Koran**.
- ☞ Describes the Five Pillars of Faith (obligations all Muslims must fulfill).



# *Five Pillars of Faith:*

☞ The main duties of Muslims:

☞ Prayer,

☞ Giving to charity,

☞ Belief in and submission to one God (Allah),

☞ Fasting during the month of Ramadan,

☞ and a trip to Mecca once in a lifetime.

# *The Grand Mosque in Mecca*

