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Chapter 3 - Islam and its Impact

D. Answer in brief:

1. What is the Hijrat?

Ans. Muhammad's increasing popularity upset the priests of Mecca. So in 622 CE, he had to migrate to Medina. This migration from Mecca to Medina was called the Hijrat.

2. Who were the Caliphs? How many Caliphates were there?

Ans. The religious and civil leaders of the Islamic world were called the Caliphs. There were four Caliphates.

3. What new name was given to Constantinople in 1453 CE? Who renamed it?

Ans. New name Istanbul was given to Constantinople in 1453 CE. The Ottomans renamed it.

4. Why did early Islam forbid the painting of humans?

Ans. Early Islam forbade the painting of humans as it was thought to lead to the worship of idols.

5. Who introduced Islam in India and when?

Ans - The Arab traders introduced Islam in India in 7th Century CE.

E. Answer in detail.

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1. Discuss in detail the teachings of Prophet Muhammad.

Ans. The teachings of Prophet Muhammad:-

- i) There is only one God, Allah.
- ii) All true believers are equal.
- iii) After death, there is life of eternal happiness for those who are faithful and righteous.

2. Trace the spread of Islam under the Rashidun, the Umayyad and the Abbasid Caliphs.

Ans) In following ways Islam was spread:

The Rashidun Caliphs

- (i) After Muhammad's death, his father-in-law Abu Bakr, was elected to be the leader of Islam.
- (ii) This first Caliph was followed in turn by Umar, Uthman and Ali.
- (iii) Together, they came to be known as the Rashidun Caliphate and ruled from 632 to 661 CE.

The Umayyad Caliphs

- (i) The Umayyad Caliphs ruled from 661 to 750 CE.
- (ii) Under them, the administrative centre of Islam shifted from Madina to Damascus.
- (iii) By 712 CE, the Islamic Empire stretched

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from Spain to the river Indus.

The Abbasid Caliphs

- (i) The Abbasid Caliphs, who were descendants of the paternal uncle of Prophet Muhammad, overthrew the last of the Umayyads.
- (ii) They moved their capital from Damascus to Baghdad and ruled for 500 years.
- (iii) The dynasty fell to a Mongol attack in 1258 CE.

3. How did the Arab traders come to dominate international trade? Who destroyed their control?

Ans: The Arab traders came to dominate international trade in following ways:

- (i) Between 7th and 10th centuries CE, the Arab traders politically controlled Iraq, Persia, Central Asia and parts of the Indian subcontinent and they dominated the trade routes from Persian Gulf.
- (ii) The Silk Route was disrupted by the Mongol raids from Central Asia.
- (iii) This encouraged sea-borne trade, with the Arab traders who became the link between the products of the East and markets of the West.

The control of the Arab traders were destroyed by the Portuguese.

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4. Discuss the contribution of the Arabs to literature and science.

The contribution of the Arabs to literature:

- (i) The House of Wisdom, a famous library and a centre for translation was established in Baghdad during the rule of the Abbasids.
- (ii) The most famous prose in the Arabian literature is the Arabian Nights.
- (iii) In poetry, the most famous work was the Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam.

The contribution of the Arabs to Science:

- (i) Alberuni, a famous astronomer and mathematician determined the circumference of the earth.
- (ii) Ibn Sina was a greater physician. He was famous for his medical encyclopaedia.
- (iii) Al Qanun recognised the infectious nature of tuberculosis and phthisis. He earned the title of 'Prince of Physicians'.

Bangte Su (Kau)

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