

Islam

Beginning of Islam

Began in the Arabian Peninsula.

Geography – Desert,
water found only
at oases.



People in Arabia worshiped many gods, the most important was Allah.

Allah was the creator.

Mecca was the largest and richest town in Arabia.

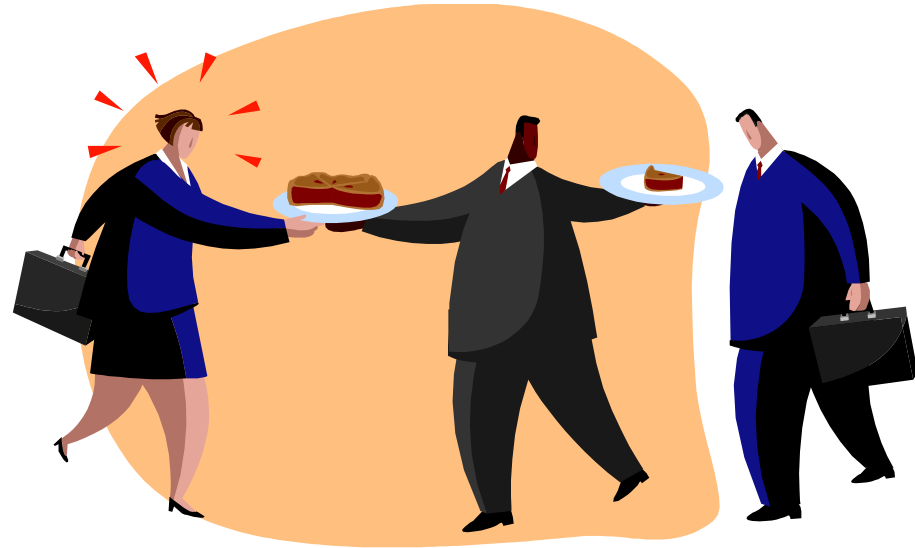


Muhammad

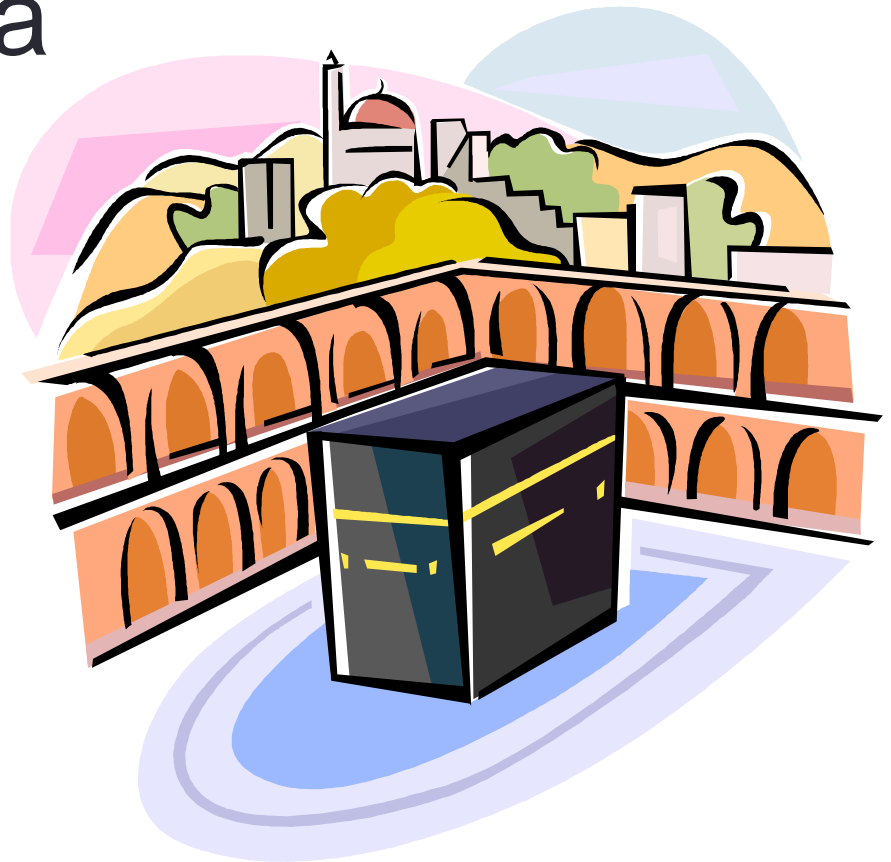
In 610 A.D. he was visited by an angel and told to preach Islam.

Preached:

- Destroy statues of false gods
- Worship only Allah
- All people are equal
- Rich should share their goods
- Wealth was not as important as leading a good life



- In 630 A.D. Muhammed's soldiers conquered Mecca
- Made it the holy city of Islam



Islamic Teaching

- Quran = Holy book of Islam
- God's written word, that Muslims strive to follow.



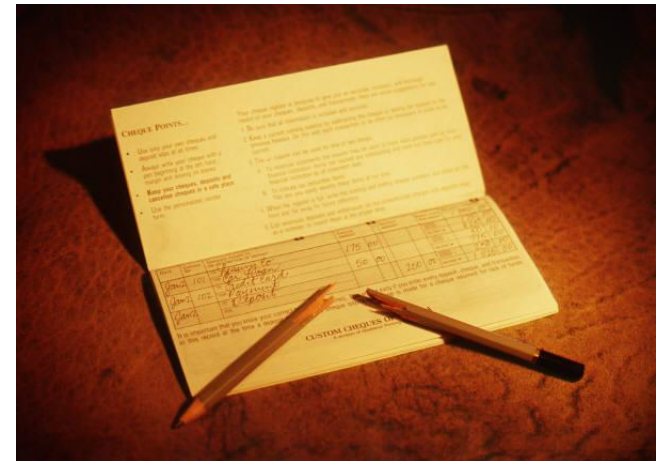
Five Pillars of Islam

Belief	Declare there is no God but Allah and Muhammad is his prophet
Prayer	5 times a day
Charity	Muslims must give to the poor
Fasting	No eating from dawn to dusk during Ramadan
Pilgrimage	Must visit Mecca one in their life

Early Muslim Life

Kept detailed banking records.

Used coins for trade.



Ran trade networks in Middle East and Northern Africa until 1400's.

Way of life

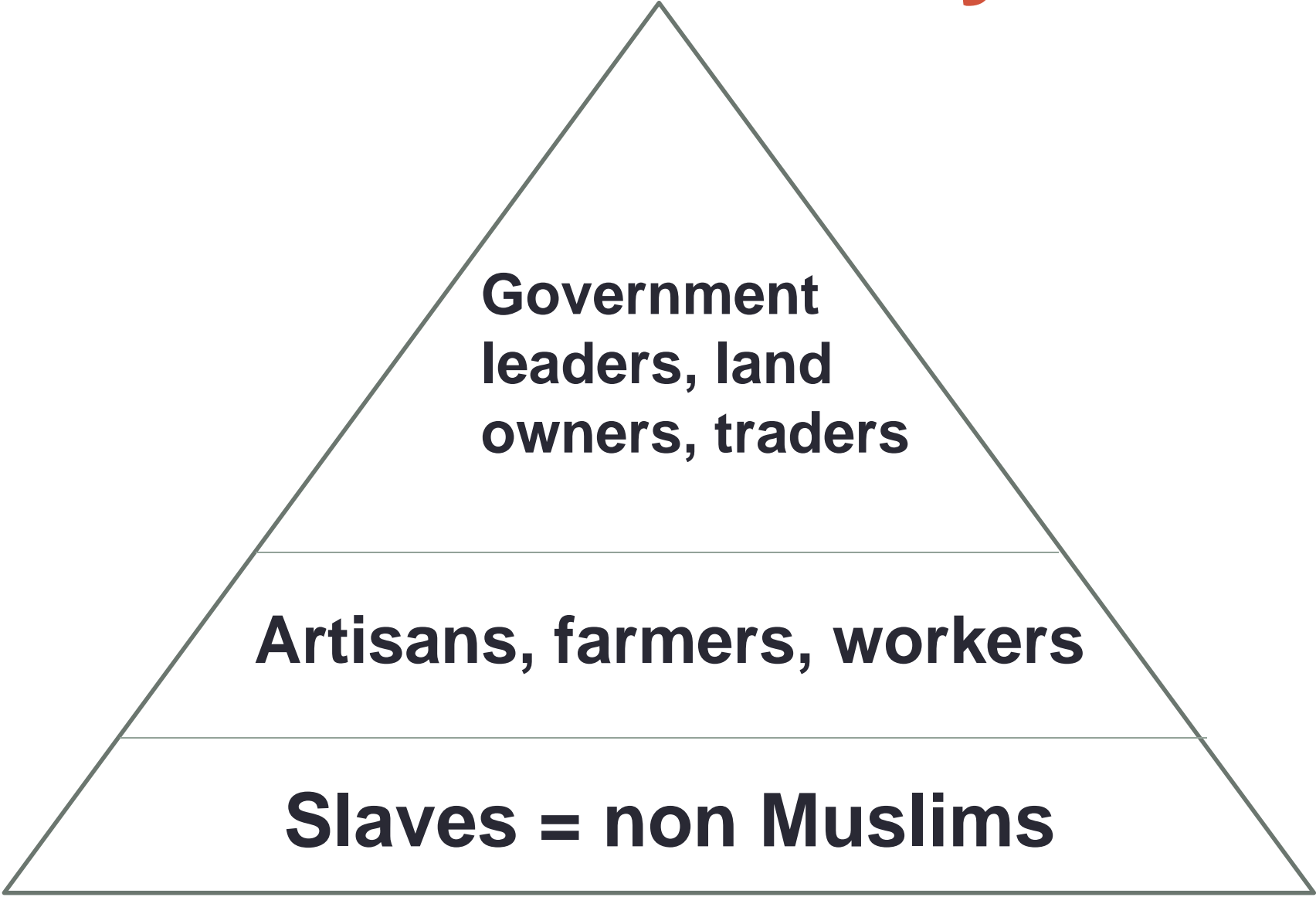
- Mosque = Muslim house of worship.
- **Crier = announcer who calls Muslims to prayer**





Bazaar =
market place

Muslim Society



**Government
leaders, land
owners, traders**

Artisans, farmers, workers

Slaves = non Muslims

Achievements

- Invented Algebra
- Studied astronomy (stars, planets)
- Perfected astrolable (tool used to study stars & location)
- Founded chemistry
- Famous writers and poets
- Constructed the Taj Mahal

Muhammad's successor

- When Muhammad died, two groups claim they should take over.
 - - Shiites = Muhammad's son-in-law should rule
 - - Sunnis = Umayyad dynasty should rule.
 - - Groups serious conflict and wars, even today.

Modern Day Islam

- Follow kosher diet, similar to Jews – no pork
- Rules for “modest” (polite dress)
 - women cover heads, wrists, ankles by wearing a “hijab”.



