

Outline of the Islamic Conquests (7th–8th Centuries C.E.)

I. Introduction

a. Definition:

b. Scope:

c. Significance:

II. Preconditions for Expansion

a. The Unification of Arabia

i.

ii.

b. The Geopolitical Context

i.

ii.

c. Motivational Factors

i. Religious:

ii. Economic:

iii. Political:

iv. Social:

III. Phase 1: The Era of the Rashidun Caliphs (632–661 C.E.)

a. The Succession Crisis and the Ridda Wars (632–633 C.E.)

i.

ii.

b. Initial Conquests (Under Abu Bakr, 632–634 C.E.)

i.

c. The Great Conquests (Under Umar ibn al-Khattab, 634–644 C.E.)

i. Byzantine Front:

1.

2.

3.

ii. Sasanian Front:

1. Battle of al-Qadisiyyah (636 C.E.):

2. Battle of Nahavand (642 C.E.):

d. Consolidation and Expansion (Under Uthman, 644-656 C.E.)

i.

ii.

iii.

e. The First Fitna (Civil War, 656-661 C.E.)

i.

ii.

iii.

IV. Phase 2: The Umayyad Caliphate (661-750 C.E.)

a. Establishment of the Umayyad Dynasty (661 C.E.)

i.

ii.

b. The Second Great Wave of Expansion

i. North Africa and the Iberian Peninsula (the West):

1.

2. Battle of Guadalete (711 C.E.):

3. Advance

ii. The Eastern Frontier:

1.

2.

iii. The Byzantine Frontier:

1.

2.

c. Internal Factors and Limits of Expansion

i.

ii.

iii.

iv.

V. Phase 3: The Abbasid Caliphate and Beyond (750–circa. 850 C.E.)

a. Shift in Focus

i.

ii. Greater

b. Continued but Slower Expansion

i. Mediterranean:

ii. Byzantine Frontier:

iii. India:

c. Fragmentation and New Dynasties

i.

ii.

VI. Key Factors in the Success of the Conquests

a. Military:

b. Political:

c. Religious/Ideological:

d. Social/Administrative:

VII. Consequences and Legacy

a. Religious:

b. Cultural:

c. Political:

d. Economic:

e. Linguistic: