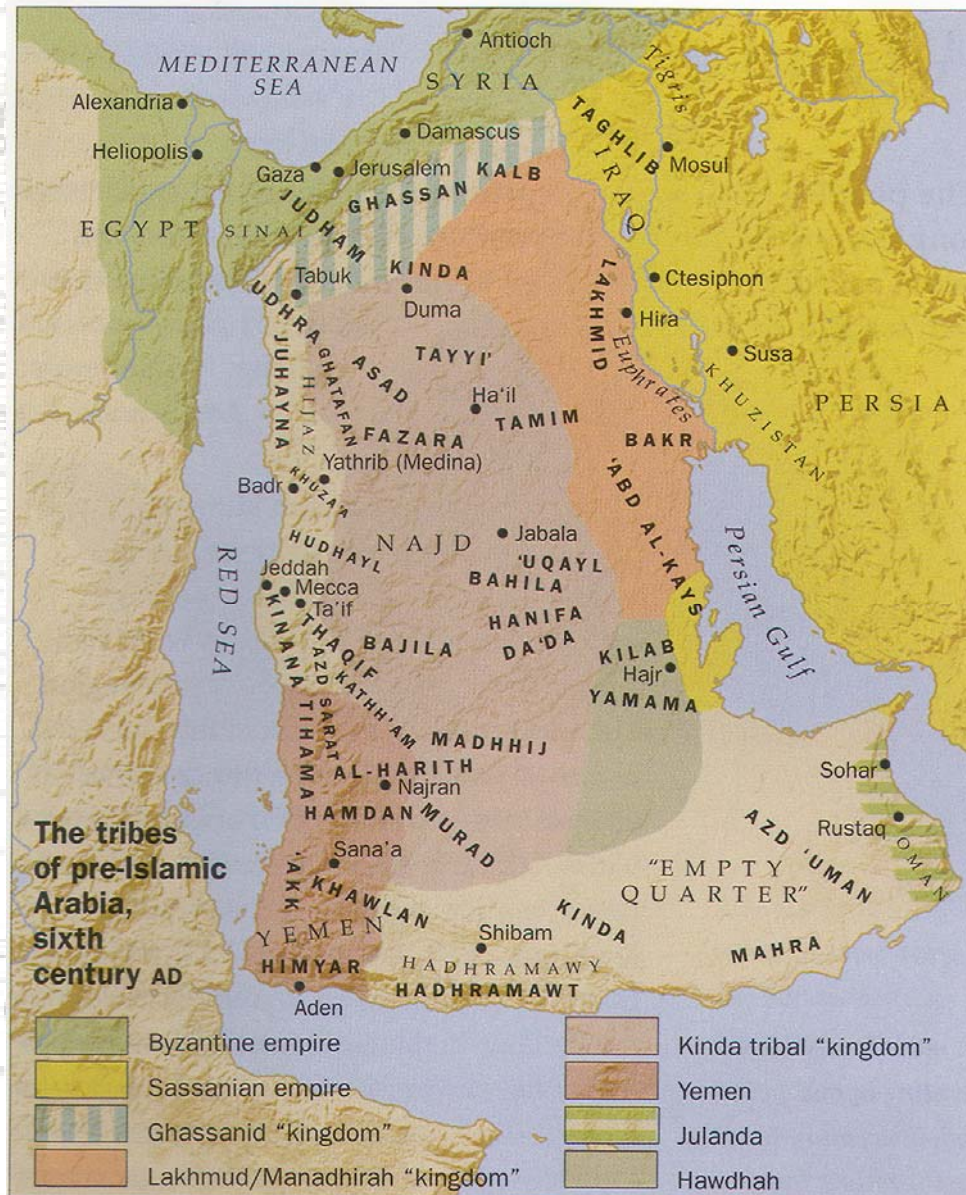




Arabia and the beginnings of the Muslim community

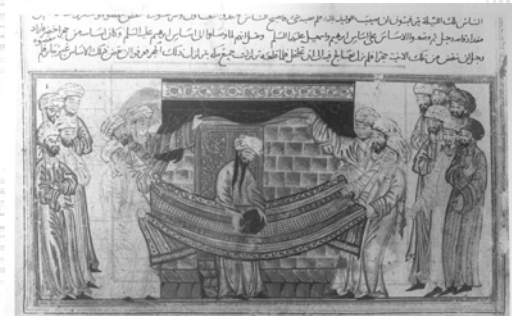
Mecca and Medina

A disunified Arabia?

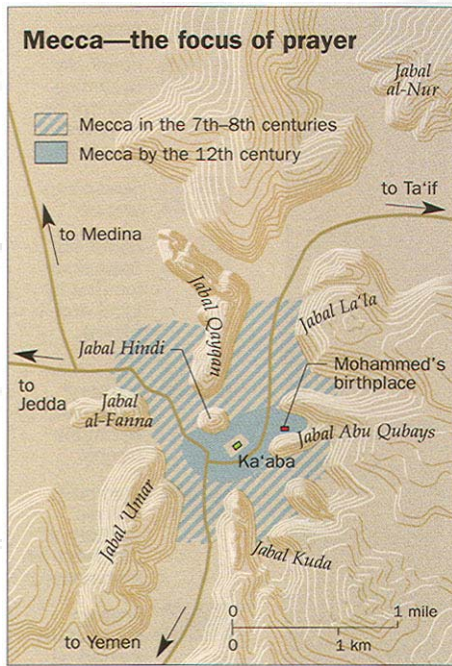


The Prophet Muhammad – A timeline

- **570 Birth of Muhammad (the year of the Elephant)**
- **574 Sasanian occupation of Yemen**
- **c. 600 Prophet marries Khadija – emerges as a prominent merchant**
- **610 first revelation**
- **616 Sasanian conquest of Syria and Egypt**
- **622 Hijra from Mecca to Medina (Yathrib)**
- **628 Peace treaty between Byzantium and Persia**
- **630 Muslims conquer Mecca**
- **632 Death of the Prophet Muhammad**



57. The Prophet replacing the Black Stone in the Kaaba (framed with a golden vine scroll), from the World History of Rashid al-Din.



Mecca

Key themes:

- Spiritual center and role in imagination of the Muslim community as united whole
- Symbol of political control and site of patronage
- Unique yet ubiquitous



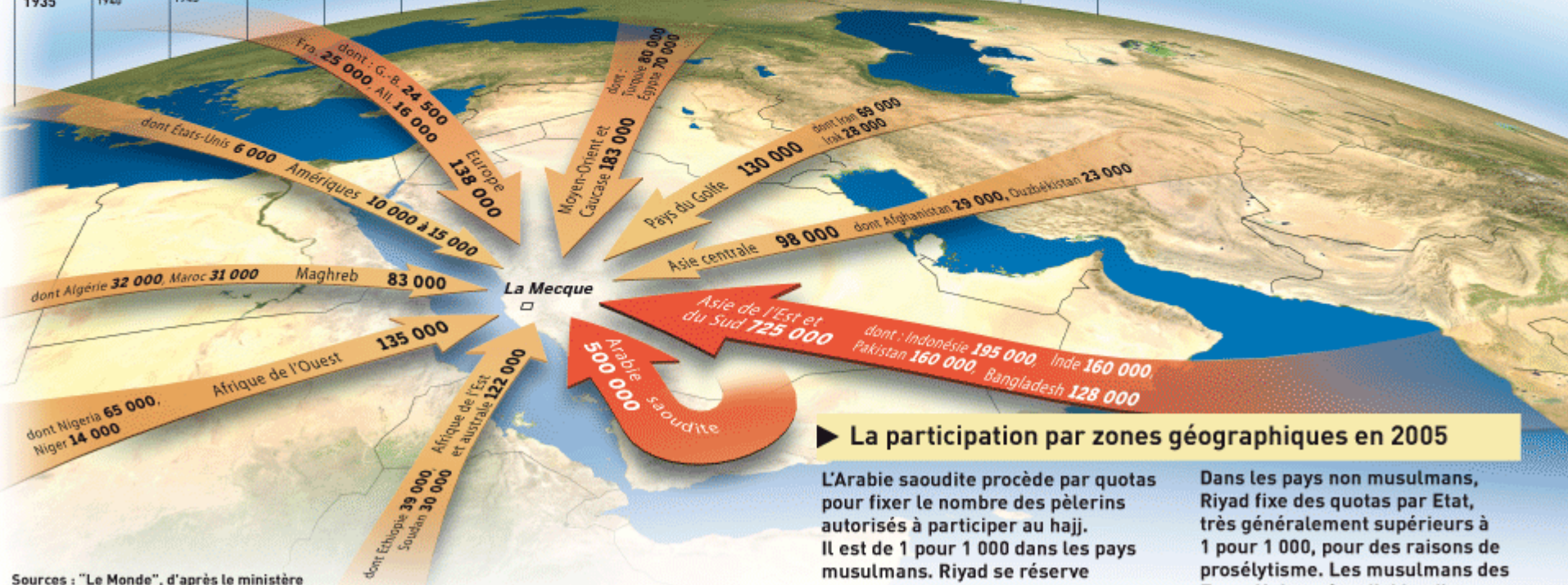
Le « hajj », événement massif et mondial

Cinquième pilier de l'islam, le pèlerinage à La Mecque connaît depuis trois décennies une croissance exponentielle.

L'Arabie saoudite attend deux millions de visiteurs musulmans étrangers, dont presque la moitié de femmes.

Une augmentation vertigineuse des pèlerins depuis dix ans

Nombre de participants au hajj (étrangers et pèlerins de l'intérieur)



La participation par zones géographiques en 2005

L'Arabie saoudite procède par quotas pour fixer le nombre des pèlerins autorisés à participer au hajj. Il est de 1 pour 1 000 dans les pays musulmans. Riyad se réserve d'augmenter ou de limiter ce quota en fonction d'impératifs politiques.

Dans les pays non musulmans, Riyad fixe des quotas par Etat, très généralement supérieurs à 1 pour 1 000, pour des raisons de prosélytisme. Les musulmans des États-Unis ne font l'objet d'aucun quota ni de limitation restrictive.

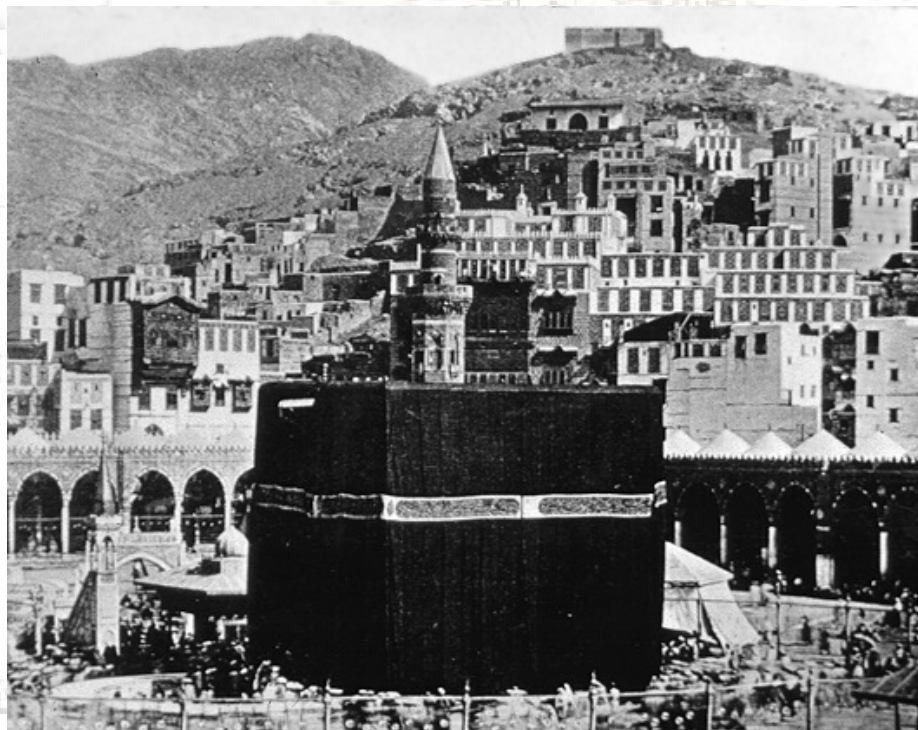
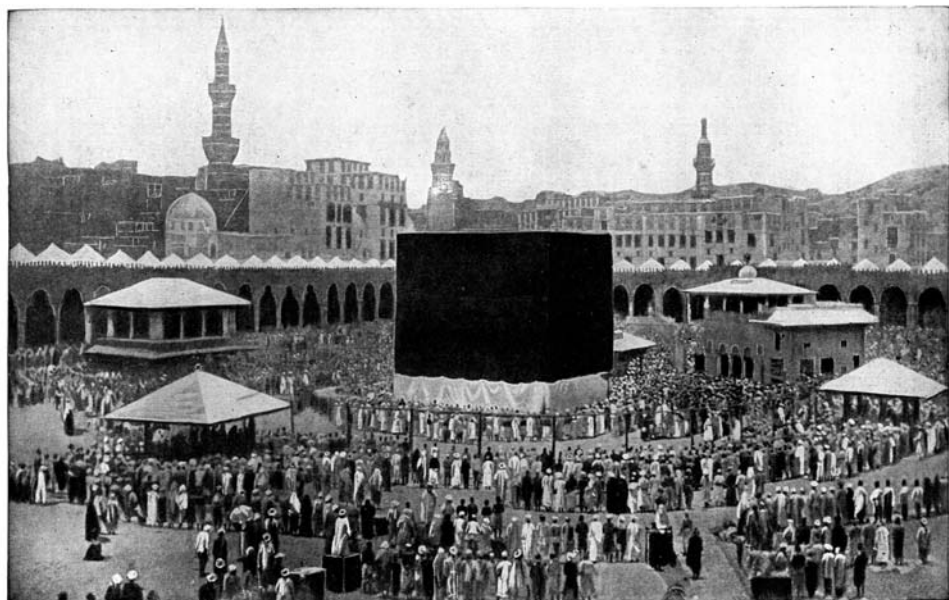
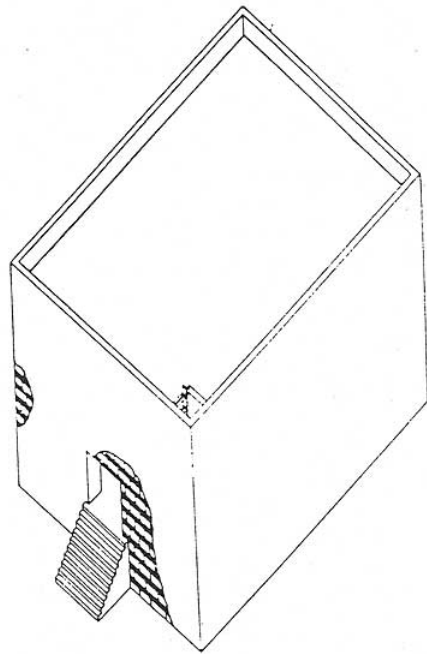
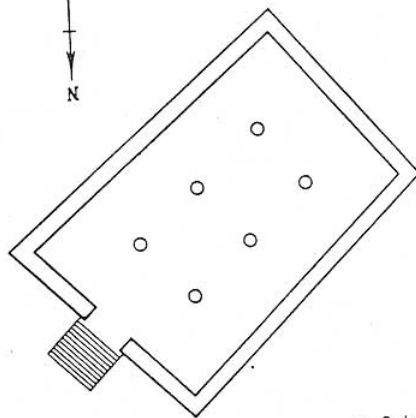


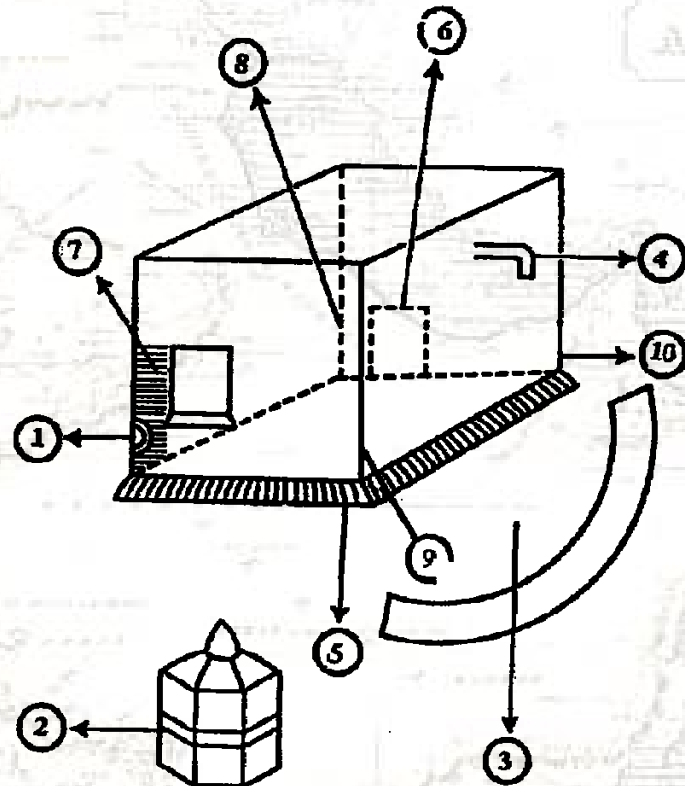
ILLUSTRATION OF THE KA'ABA



N



0 5 10 15 20 Cubits

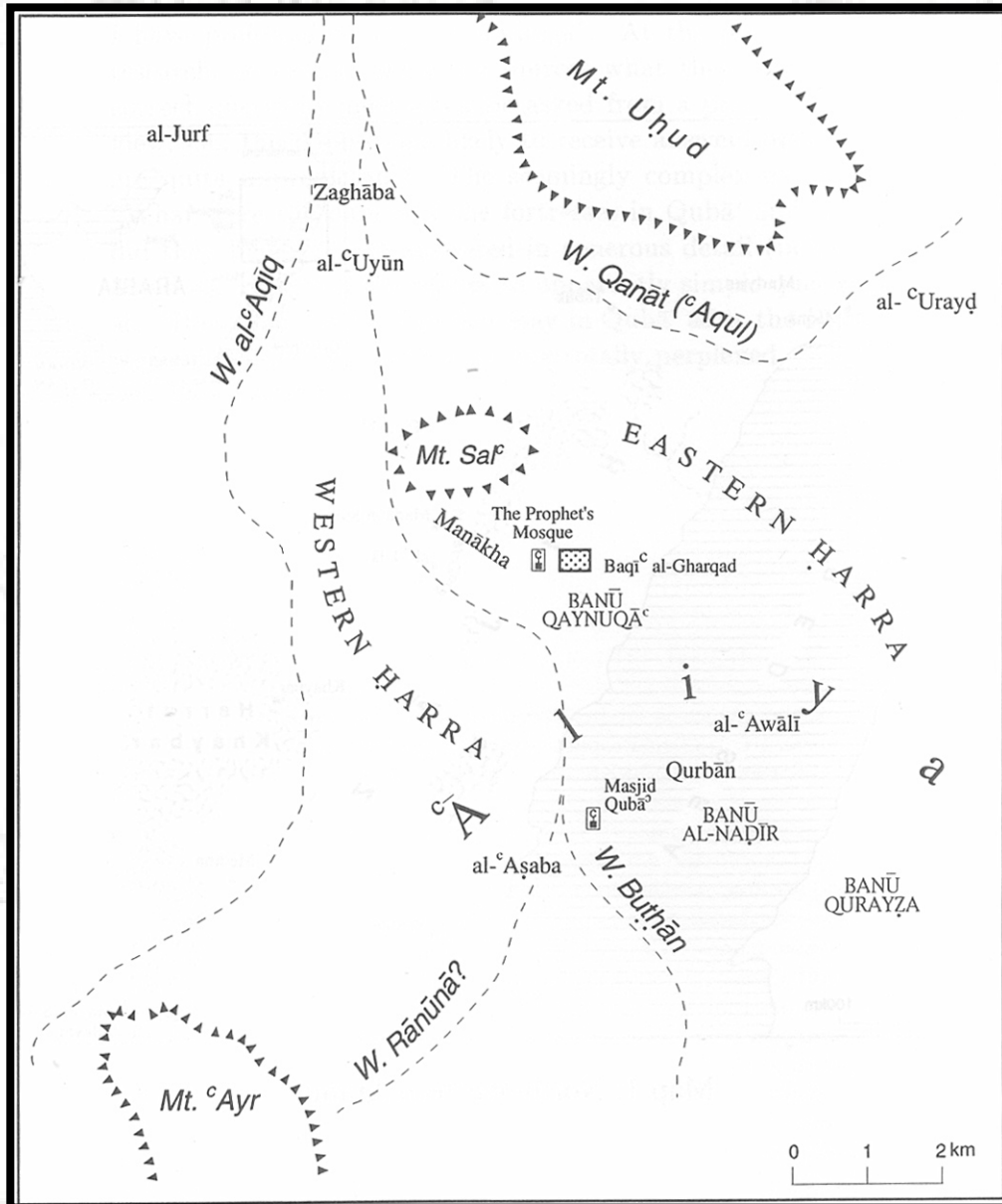


- 1) Hajar-e-Aswad
- 2) Maqam-e-Ibrahim
- 3) Hajar-e-Ismail
- 4) Meezab-e-Rahmah
- 5) Shaazarwaan

- 6) Mustajaar
- 7) Hateem
- 8) Rukn-e-Yamani
- 9) Rukn-e-Iraqi
- 10) Rukn-e-Shami

ARABIA

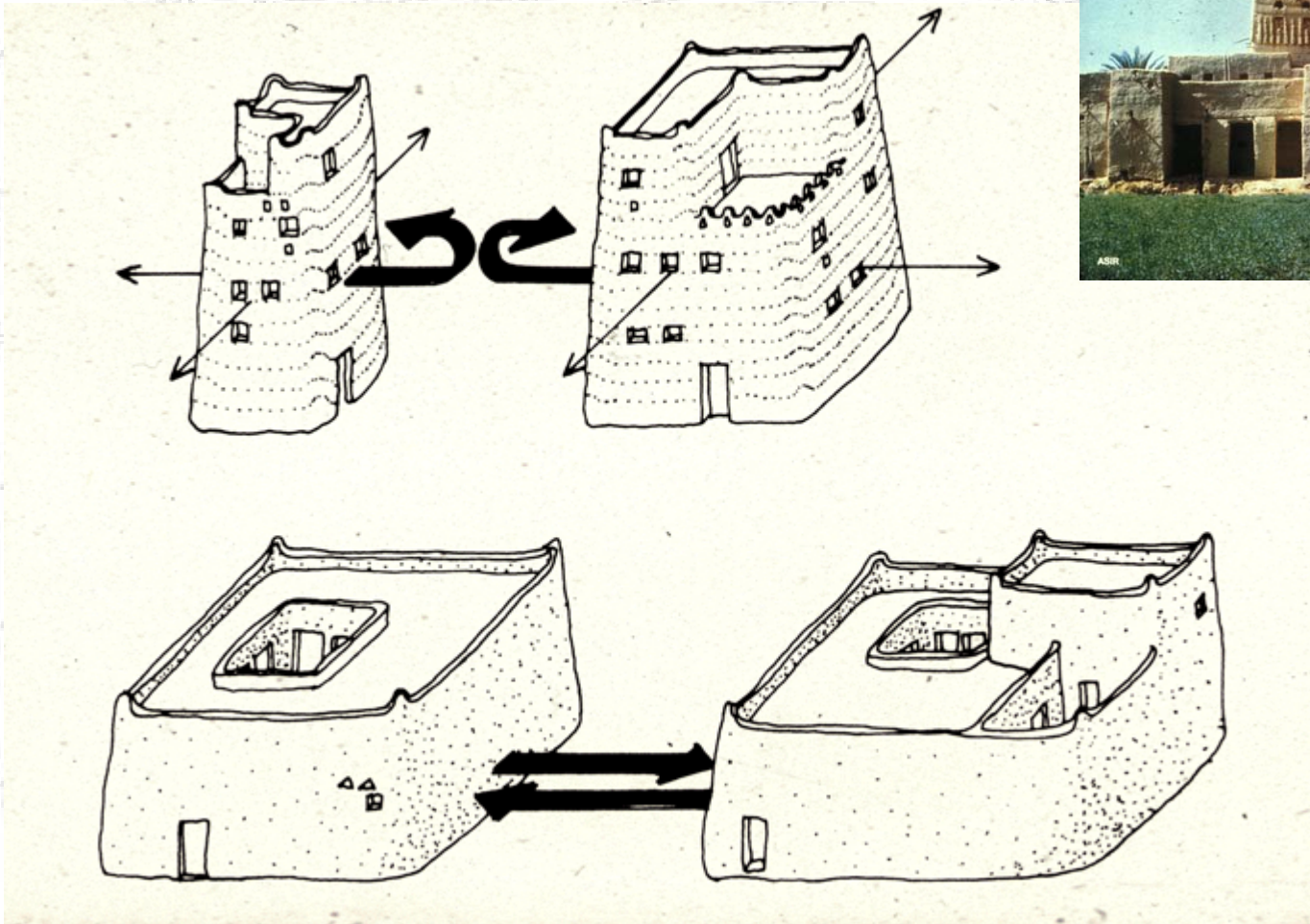
Yathrib/Medina



Key Questions:

- Was this a city? If not what was the nature of its settlement?
- What institutions did the Muslim community introduce?
- Was this a model for future Muslim settlements and territorial organization?

The *Utum* (pl *atam*)

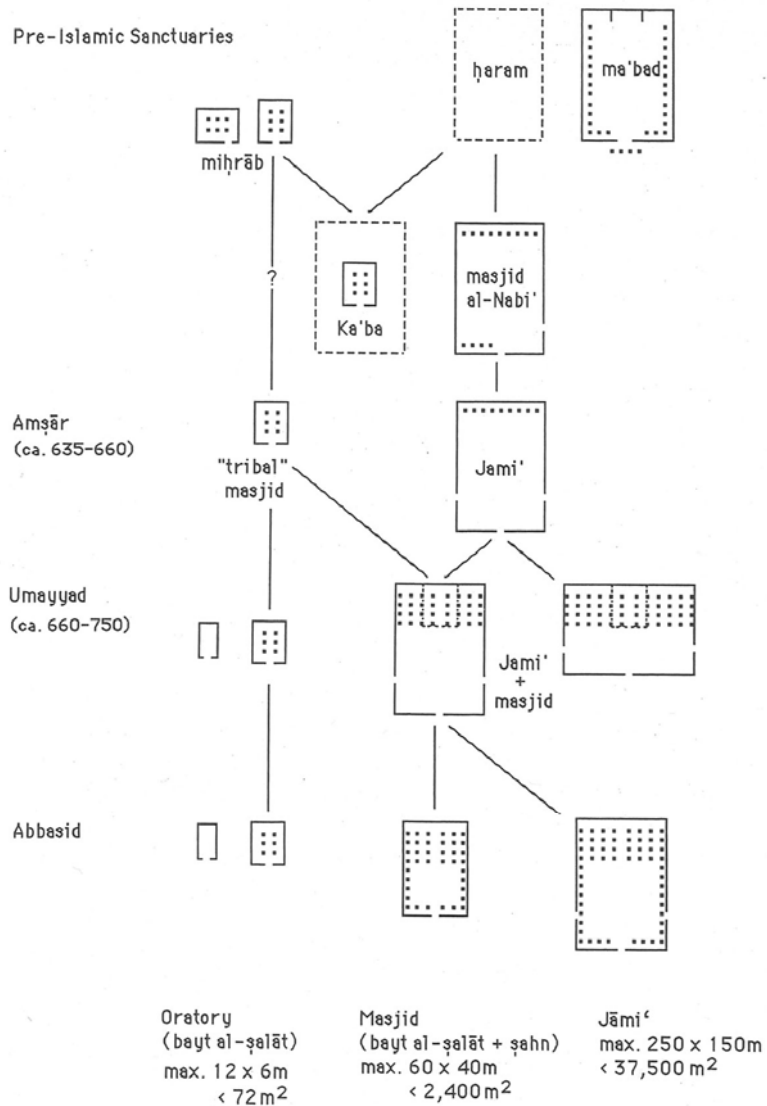


The architecture of a tribal society

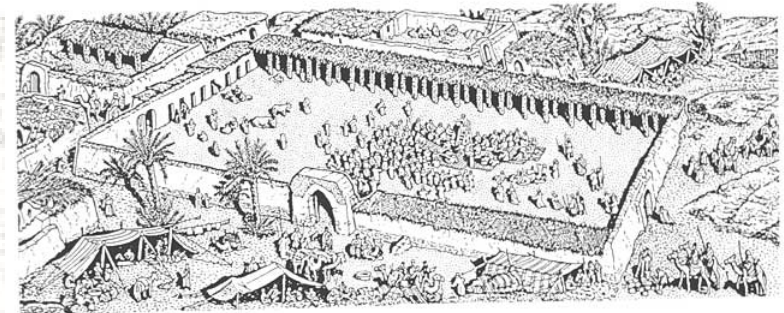
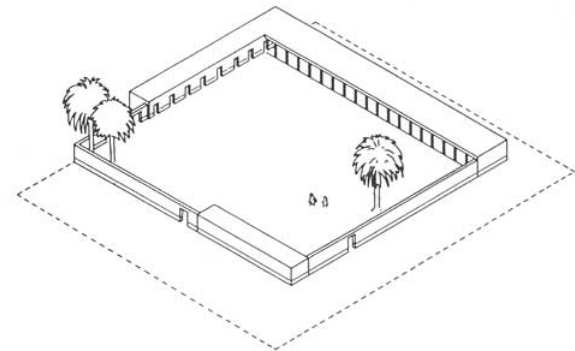
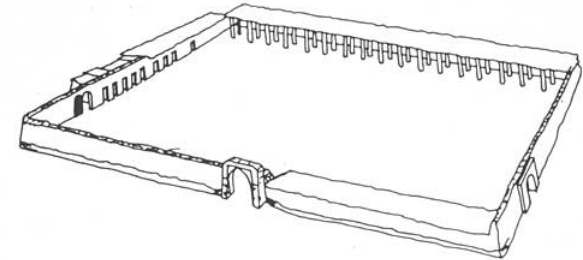
Masjid an-Nabi (the mosque of the Prophet) – present-day Medina



Pre-Islamic Sanctuaries



THE 'HOUSE OF THE PROPHET' AND THE CONCEPT OF THE MOSQUE



15. Isometric reconstructions of the Prophet's house:
(Top to bottom: after Hillenbrand 1994; Kuban 1974; Leacroft & Leacroft 1976)

The origin of the Mosque and the Urban Concept