

The background of the slide features a stylized, colorful illustration of an Islamic city. In the center, a tall, multi-tiered tower with a red roof and white walls stands prominently. The tower is flanked by two large, green palm trees. Below the tower, there are several smaller buildings with red roofs and white walls, arranged in a row. The entire scene is set against a light yellow background with a subtle pattern of small, repeating geometric shapes. The overall style is reminiscent of traditional Islamic art or a tapestry.

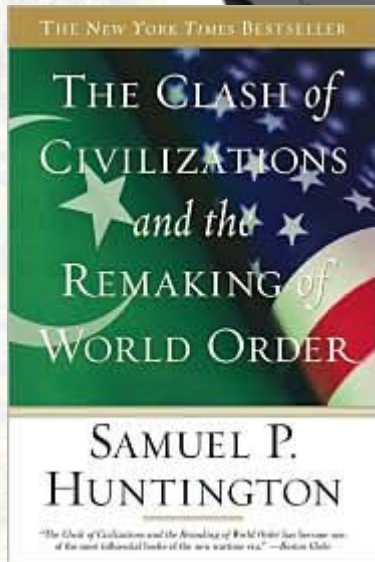
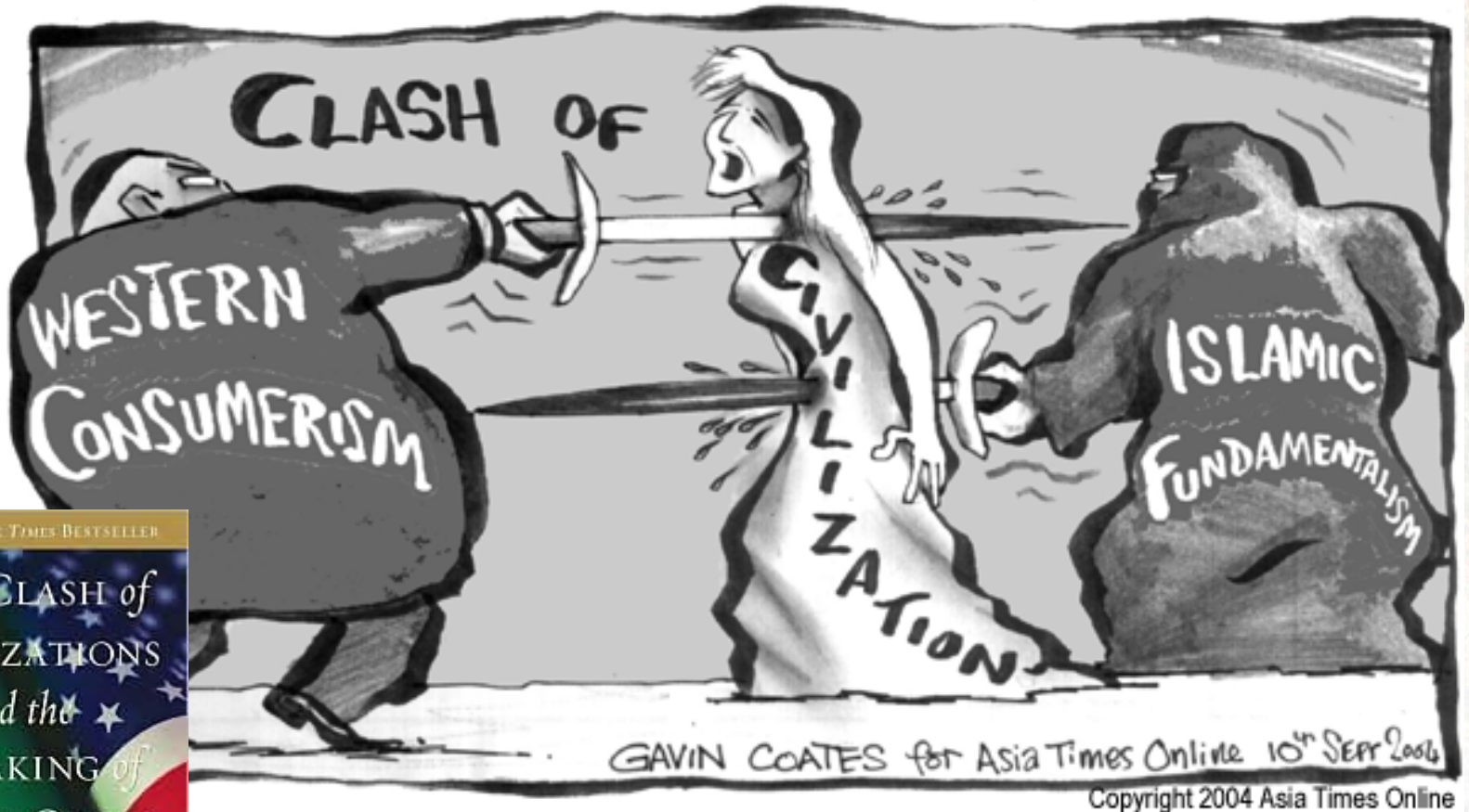
# Islamic Civilizations: The Formative Periods

<http://proteus.brown.edu/islamiccivilizations/Home>

Prof. Ian Straughn  
Semester II - 2009



# Clash of Civilizations?





# Bridging Islam and the West

## Misconceptions/Stereotypes of Islamic Civ.

- Inherently Violent/Terrorist
- Misogynist (veil)/ sexually repressed
- Religious automatons/fanatics
- Anti-science/ Non-modern
- Oil sheikhs and poor Bedouin
- Authoritarian dictatorships
- Arab/tribal
- Anti-Semitic, anti-west

## Misconceptions/Stereotypes of Western Civ.

- Colonialist/Imperialist
- Promiscuous/immoral
- Materialist
- Individual vs community
- Hypocrisy of ideals and actions
- Apolitical/apathetic
- Irreligious





# *Ibn Khaldun*



1332-1406 CE

## Key terms:

- *'Umran* – “civilization”
- *'Asabiyya* – “group solidarity”
- *dawla* – “state” and “dynasty”
- *Mulk* – “royal authority”



## Some Terminology:

- Islam
- Islamic
- Muslim
- Islamicate



What is encompassed by these terms?

Are these *emic* or *etic* categories? Why does it matter?



# Categories of Analysis:

- Religion
- Culture
- Ethnicity
- Civilization
- Tradition
- Ideology
- Politics
- Gender

