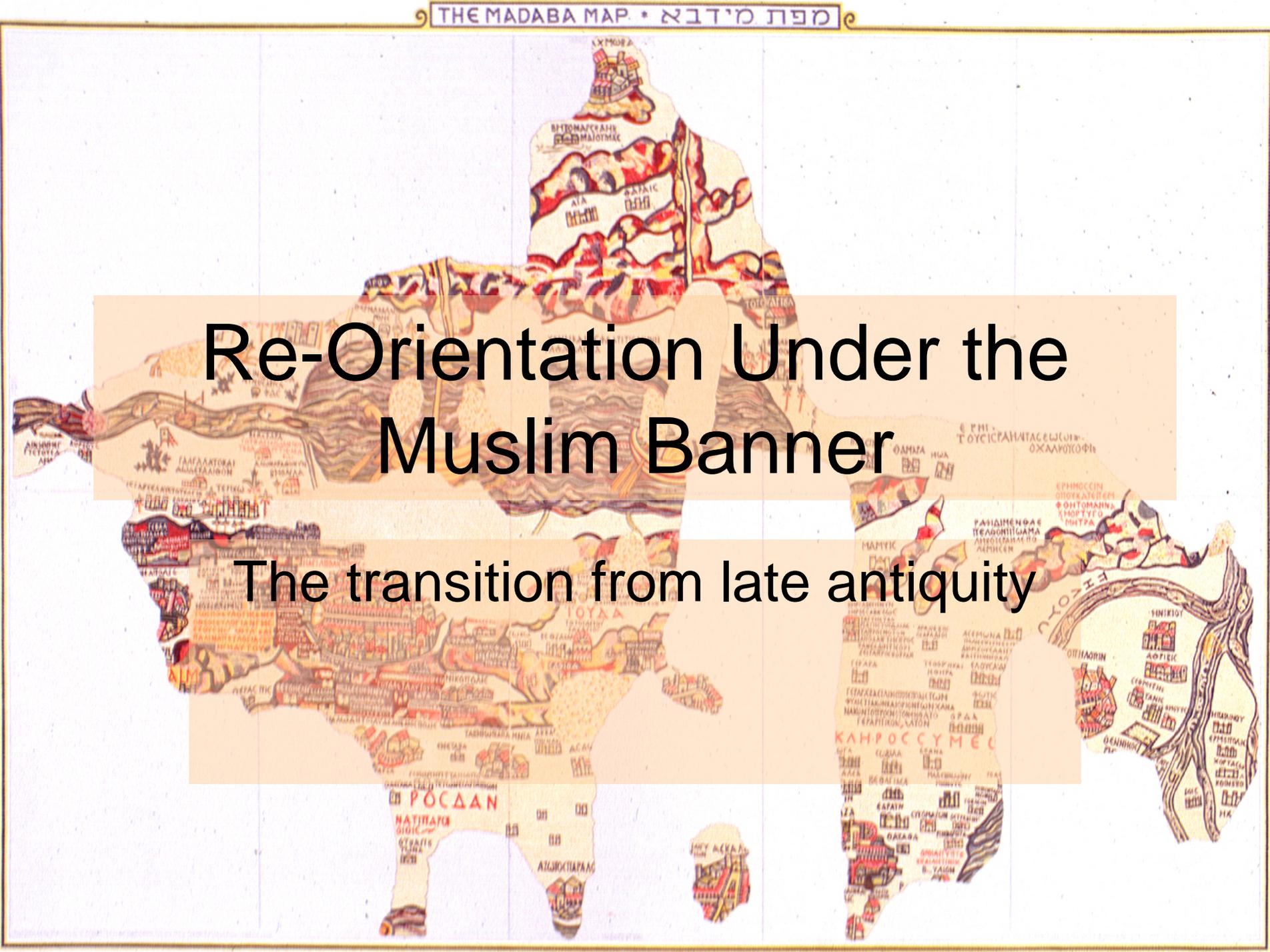


Re-Orientation Under the Muslim Banner

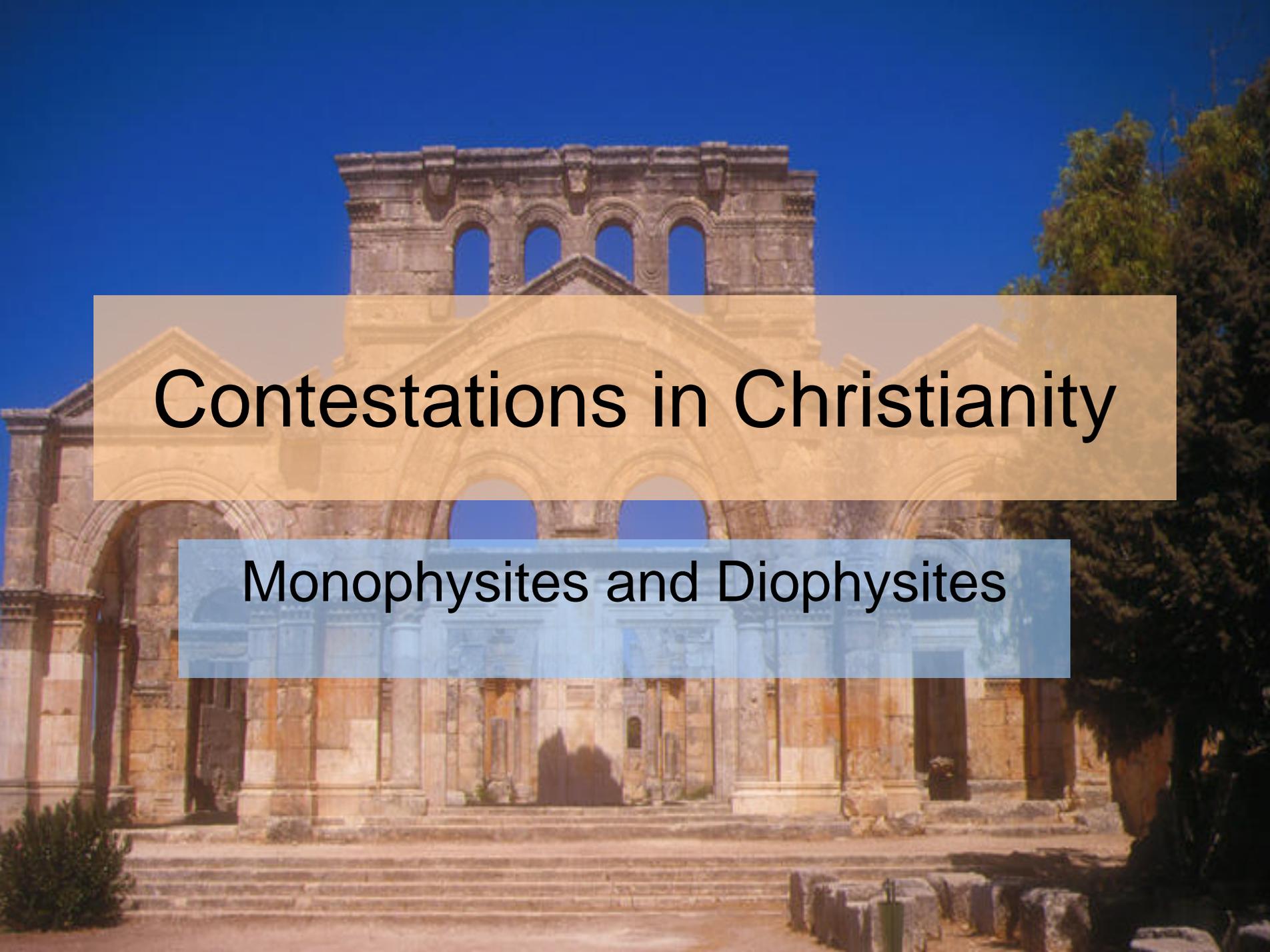
The transition from late antiquity



Constantinople and the Eastern Mediterranean



- Legacy of Rome and Hellenization
- The Urban Landscape
- Rise of the Church
- Problems with Barbarians



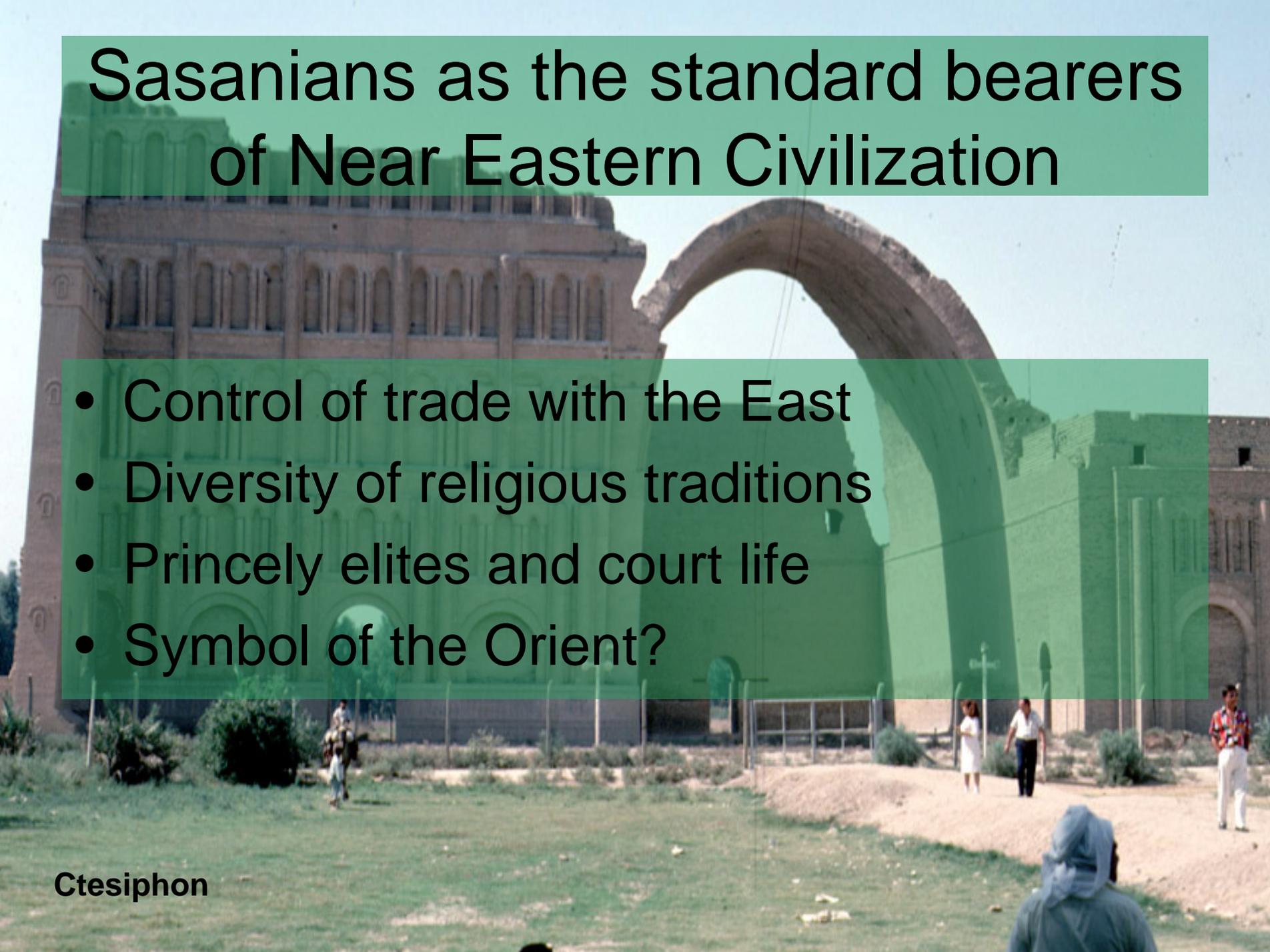
Contestations in Christianity

Monophysites and Diophysites

Sasanians as the standard bearers of Near Eastern Civilization

- Control of trade with the East
- Diversity of religious traditions
- Princely elites and court life
- Symbol of the Orient?

Ctesiphon



The Relationship with the Arabs



Ghassanids and Lakhmids

Arab proxies for the two empires



Arabia:

A new player on the world stage

- Religious context – monotheism and polytheism
- Emergence of state structures
- Interconnections with the outside world
- Tribal politics and the notion of *assabiya* or “group solidarity”

