

MEDIEVAL ISLAMIC CIVILIZATION 500-1300

Economics & Trade

Engineering

Philosophical

Political & Dynastic

Art & Architecture

Religion & Faith

Science & Astronomy

INDIA CHINA

797 Frankish King Charlemagne and Abbasid Caliph Harun al-Rashid exchange embassies

- Silver (Abbasid) ↔ Raw goods (Franks) TRADE
- Long distance trade relations

MECHANICS WATER CLOCKS

"BANI MUSA" SOONS OF MUSA IBN SHAKIR

BOOK OF INGENIOUS DEVICES

Al-Dinawari (d. 895)

- Focused on agriculture hybrids
- Introduced eastern views of agric.
- "Green Revolution"
- Irrigation methods

786-809 Caliph Harun al-Rashid's "House of Wisdom" (Bayt al-Hikma)

- Continues until 1200s

PHILOSOPHY

ZOOLOGY

ASTRONOMY

CHEMISTRY

MEDICINE

CIVIL WARS - "FITNA"

656-661 (under Ali)

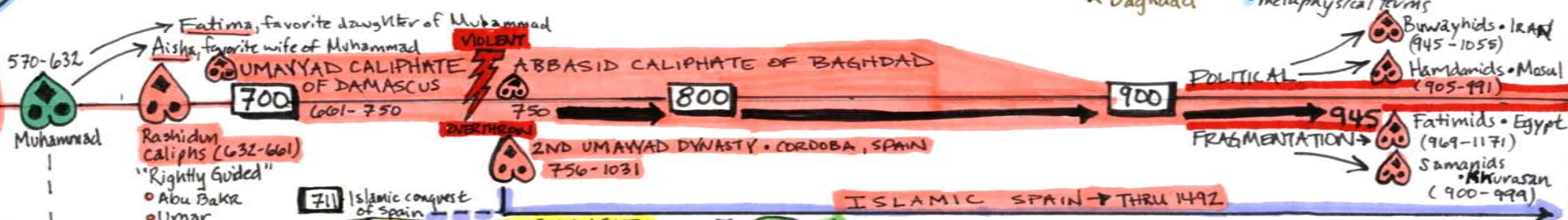
680-692 (under Yazid)

744-750 (Abbasid Revolt)

Abu Nasr al-Farabi (878-950) * Baghdad

"The Book of Letters" (Kitab al-Huruf)

- Origins of language, disciplines, philosophy, + Religion
- Metaphysical terms



SUFISM

SCHOOLS OF THEOLOGICAL INTERPRETATION

Hanafi School of Law

Maliki School of Law

Shafi'i School of Law

Hanbali School of Law

Baghdad

813 Mutazilite Theology (Kalam)

- Adopted by Caliph al-Ma'mun of Baghdad
- Belief in unity of God & transcendence
- Adopted Aristotelian language to describe God
- Believed Quran created by divine inspiration given to Muhammad, but not divine like God
- Developed Islamic metaphysics, cosmology, psychology, physics based on Aristotle, Democritus, Empedocles, + other Greeks
- Mutazali "rationalism"
- Enforced mihrza for caliph

"A Thousand and One Nights"

Scheherazade, daughter of the King's vizier, tells a story over 1001 nights to avoid her execution by the King... (Indiza, Islamic, Persian, + Egyptian elements)

SUFI AL-BALKHI (d. 810) - Renounce Body - Fears of God + Humility - Years for Paradise - Love of God

848 WATERSHED MOMENT: MIHNA LOYALTY OATH FOR CLERICS ENDS

Ibn Hambal RESISTS * CLERICS CONTROL FAITH

Flow of Knowledge

"according to al-Farabi"

Mawr (passes through)

Persia (al-Nadim claimed)

Greeks found philosophy in Persia during the time of Alexander the Great (334)

pre-Islamic Repositories of Knowledge (possible)

- Antioch (cradle of early Christianity)
- Havnan (noted in Islamic texts)
- Jundishapur (academics, hospitals, + observatories)

"Apothekesmatika" by Paulus Alexandrinus (c. 370)

"Elements" by Euclid (d. 265 bca)

"Conics" by Apollonius

"The Almagest" by Ptolemy (d. 150)

"Handy Tables"

"Arithmetic" by Nicomachus

Hunain b. Is'haq searches Byzantine lands for classical Greek texts

Shafi'i (d. 873)

Hanbali (d. 855)

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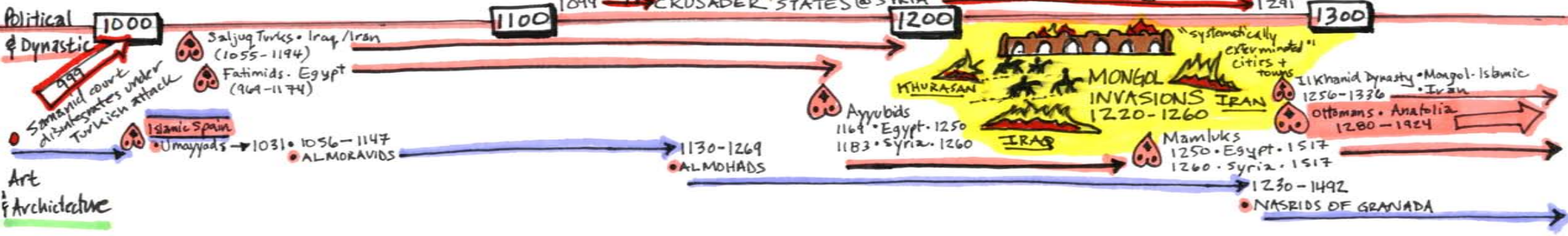
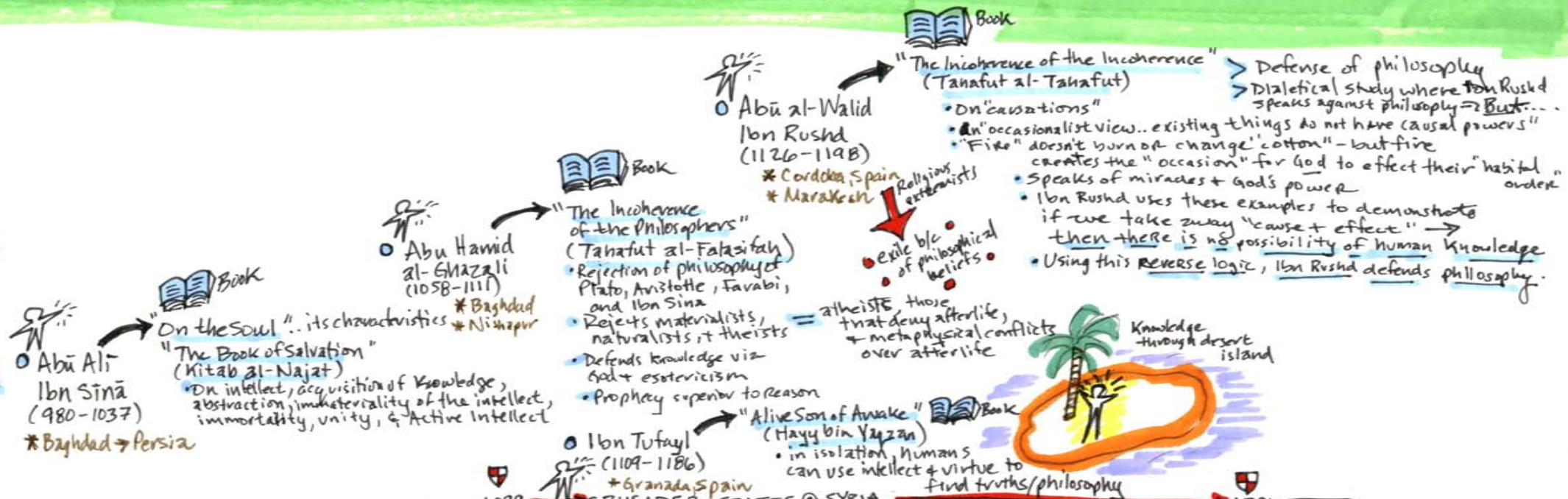
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Book... by Ibn Sina & Avicenna
"The Canon of Medicine"
 (Kitab al-Qanun fi-Tibb)
 • Standard European medical text until early modern era
 • Described in Chaucer's Canterbury Tales

• Al-Ghazali
 • "mathematics + ethics" are dangerous

