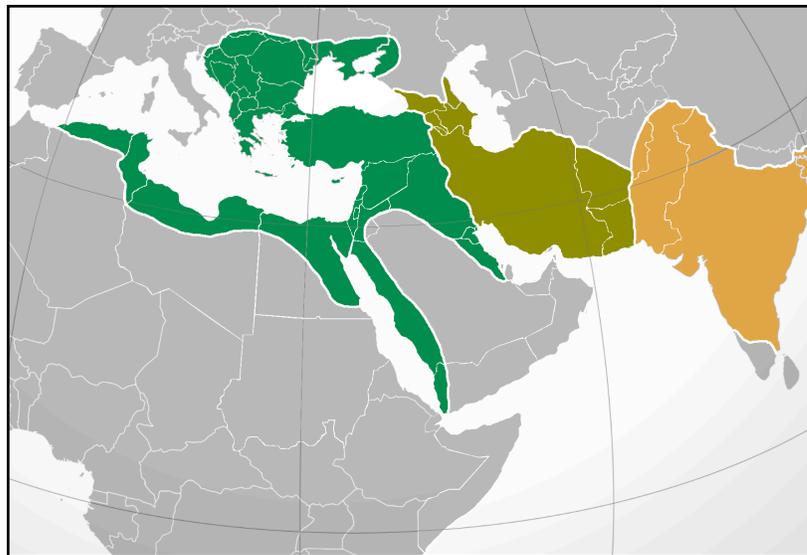


F. A Thousand Years of Triumphalism (c.622-1683)

1. When the Muslims invaded Europe c.711 AD, European culture was a group of tribes trying to get on its feet after the fall of the Roman empire in **476 AD**.
2. The strongest tribe, the Franks, managed to build an empire, thanks to their charismatic leader, Charlemagne, but when he died the empire broke up into the separate countries of France and Germany, which became separate nations after that.
3. Meanwhile the Arabs who had built the original Islamic empire lost control of it to another people called the “Turks,” who were originally from the region now known as “Turkmenistan” on the map, but had moved to “Turkey,” and claimed it as their new home.
4. These Turks were known for attacking Christian pilgrims to the Holy Land (which is Israel today). The Christians of Europe decided to fight back in the *Crusades*, where they tried to reconquer the Holy Land from Muslim rule.
5. The *Crusades* lasted from 1095 to 1291, but the Christians lost, and the leaders of *Triumphal Islam* continued to believe they would conquer the rest of the world.



By 1683, the original Islamic Caliphate had broken up into three empires: the Turkish “Ottoman” Empire (green), the Persian Empire (brown), and the Mughal Empire (orange). Even though it was politically divided, the “House of Islam” was still arguably more successful and triumphal than ever.

G. The Decline of Triumphal Islam (1683-)

1. Everything changed in **1683**, when the Turkish Empire known as the “Ottoman Empire” (named after one of its early leaders) laid siege to the city of Vienna, in the heart of central Europe.
2. On this occasion, however, they were defeated by Poland that came to help Austria. The Poles and their European allies then drove the Ottomans back consistently during a series of ***Euro-Ottoman Wars (1683-99)***.
3. This makes the failed siege of Vienna in **1683** an important “turning point” in history.
4. After that the Muslims lost almost all the wars they fought. The French Empire seized Algeria in northern Africa. The British Empire seized India in its entirety from the Mughal Empire and seized Egypt from the Ottomans. Greece won its independence.
5. Like China, the Turks were not able to change fast enough to figure out how to change the course of history. The collapse of all three Islamic empires continued all the way until **World War I (1914-19)**[‡].