



POP CULTURE IN MEDIEVAL ISLAM

Urban fabric
Revolts-Religion-Class

TERMINOLOGY

muhtasib-market inspector (mid 7th c Umar appoints two women, Samra' and al-Shifa'a as join inspectors of Mecca's market)

residential quarters: hawma, hara, mahalla

major market-suq

covered market-qaysariyya (later, bedesten)

goldsmith's market-sagha

caravanserai are called different things according to city: khan, funduq, wakala, samsara

GUILDS-URBAN AND SOCIAL ORGANIZATION

Existed from Byzantine times

Most evidence for guild-caliphate relations dates to 10th c. onwards: period of commercial development, banking system, social revolts

Some evidence that they fared better under Fatimids than Sunni Abbasid caliphate (restrictions, legal rights)

Interconfessional, each with their own market, annual processions

12-13th c. development of futuwwa, gangs of young men with their own ceremonial and ethical codes, allied with Sufis

Criminal elements also organized as guilds: Banu Sassan (bandits of Cairo), and thieves of Baghdad

ZANJ REBELLION

869-883 revolt of East African agricultural slaves outside Basra, movement included free people

Controlled several areas in Iraq before being defeated by Abbasids in 883

THE QARAMITA (CARMATHIANS)

Spread in late 9th c. in eastern Arabia, southwestern Iran, Iraq-syncretic Isma'ili philosophy, utopian society, “communist”/egalitarian/polyamorous

Splits eventually gave rise to Fatimids, recognized by some groups

Robust proselytizing and dissemination of literature, targeting artisans

Attack Mecca, steal the Black Stone 927 (ransom received from Abbasids 930)



Principal
of Kiev

n (Byzantine)
Empire

Tulunid
Emirate

Makuria
(Dongola)

Alodia
(Alwa)

Luo

Khazar
Khanate

Armenia

Abbasid
Caliphate

Qarmatians

Axum

Somalis

Oghuz
Turks

Samanid
Dynasty

Saffarid Dynasty

Oman

Saindavas
Chalukyas

Sindh

Gurjara - Pratiharas

Rashtrakuta
Dynasty

Cholas

Pandyas

Lambakannas

Tibetan Kingdoms

Nepal

Banas

Kalinga
(E Gangas)

Vengi
(E Chalukyas)

26

27

28

Basmyls

Xinjian
(Uyghurs)

Arakan

Kyro

The Saffarid Dynasty, 900 AD

Author: Thomas Lessman

Updated: 8-24-2008

www.WorldHistoryMaps.info

SAFFARIDS

861-1003 independent dynasty eastern Iran, led by “the coppersmith” (Ya’qub ibn Layth al-Saffar)

Controlled Khurasan and made inroads towards Baghdad before being defeated by Abbasids

