

# Why I'm NOT ...

~~Atheist~~



~~Agnostic~~



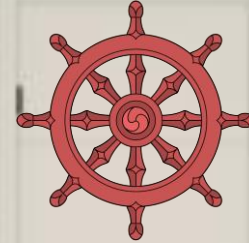
Hindu



Muslim



~~Buddhist~~



Jewish/  
Christian



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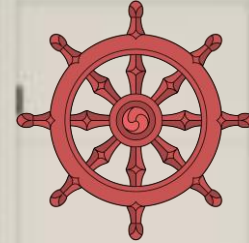
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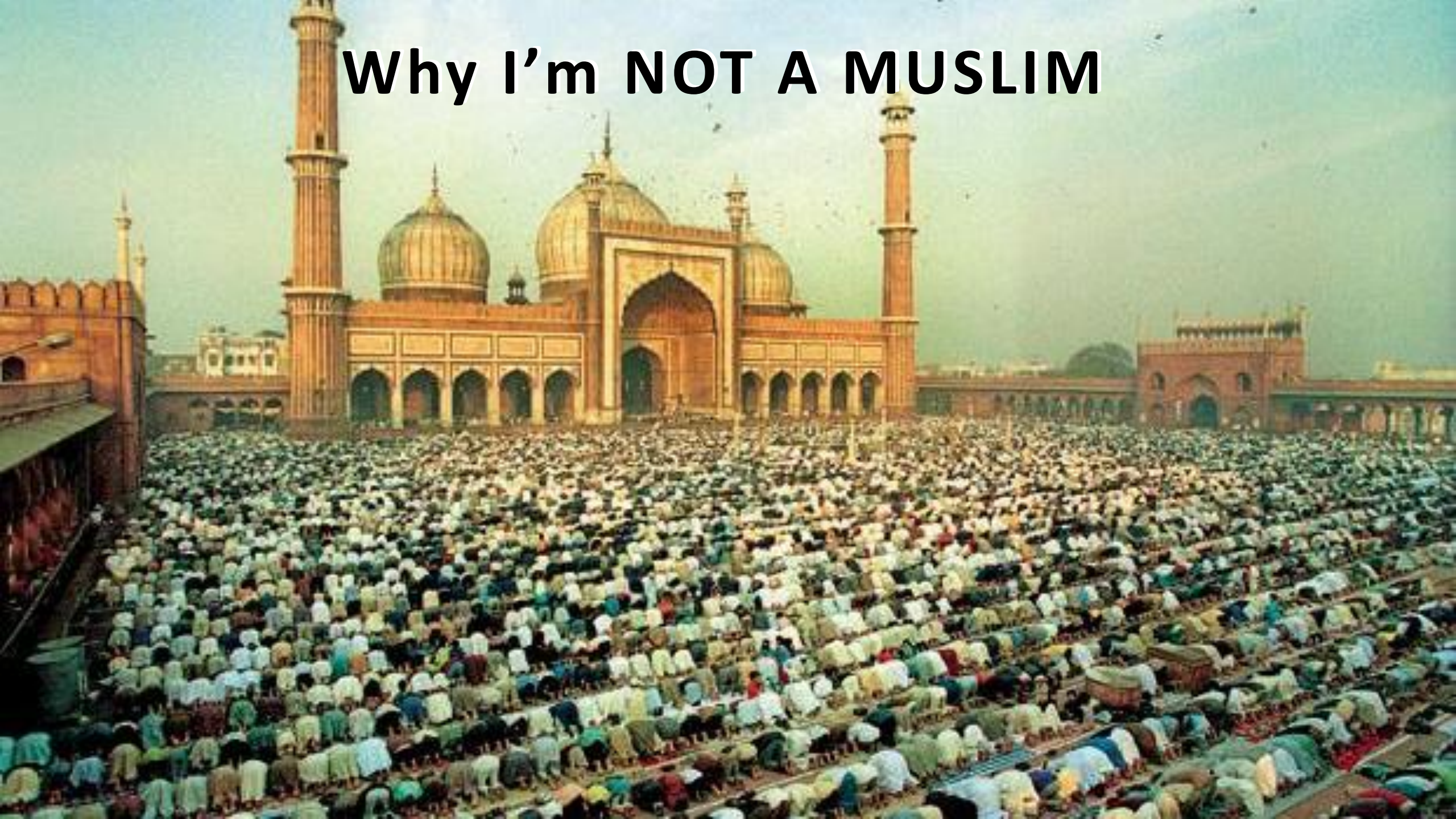






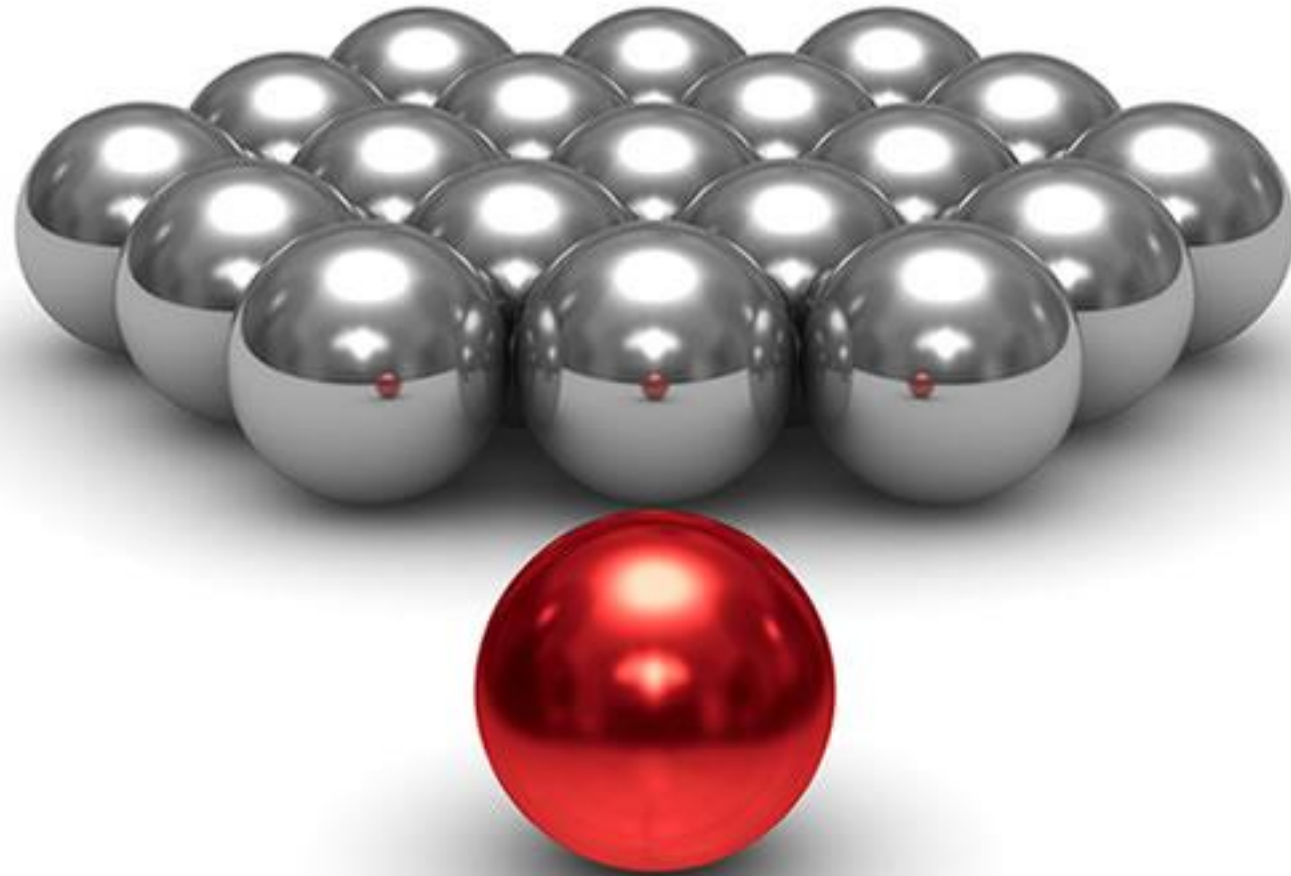


**Why I'm NOT A MUSLIM**



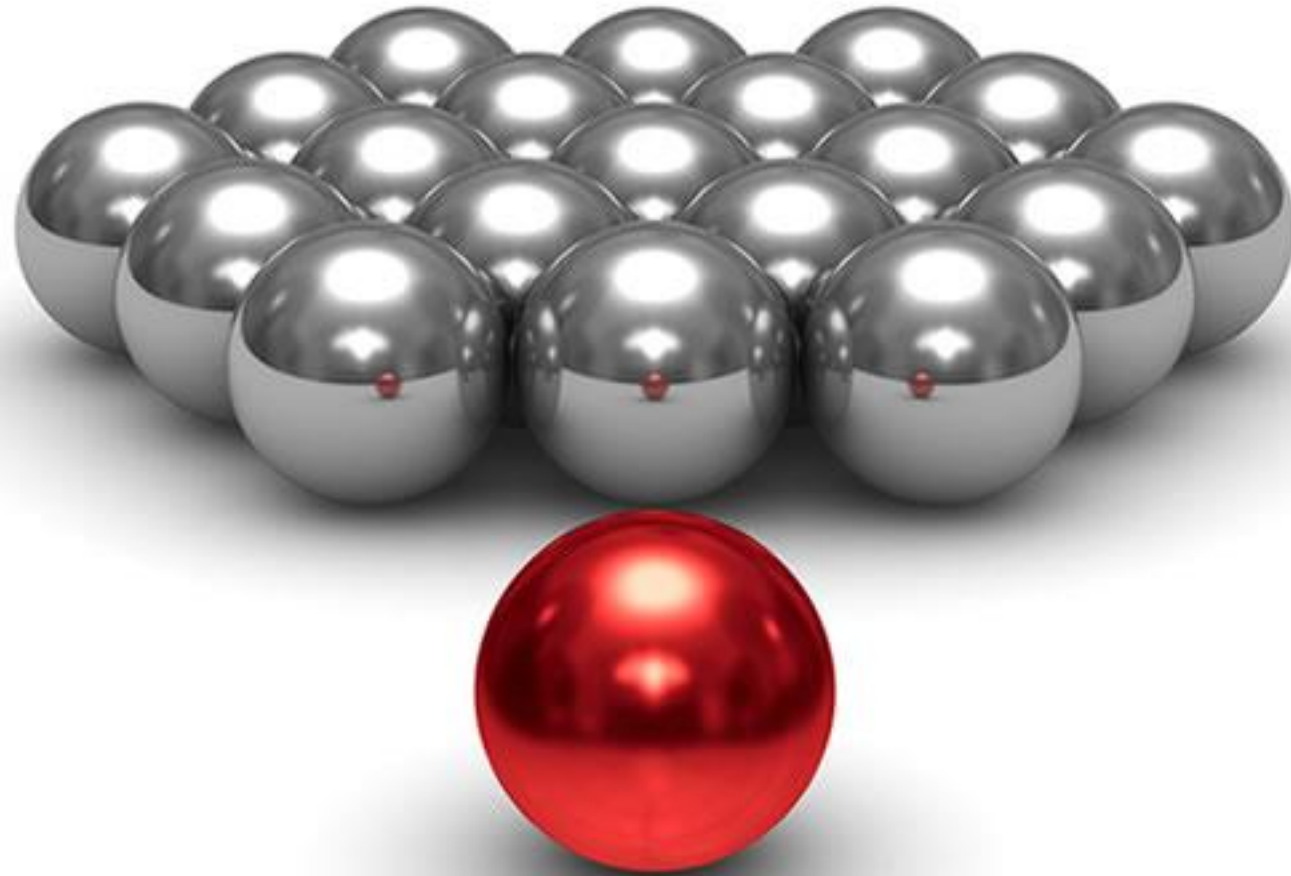


# Why I'm NOT A MUSLIM



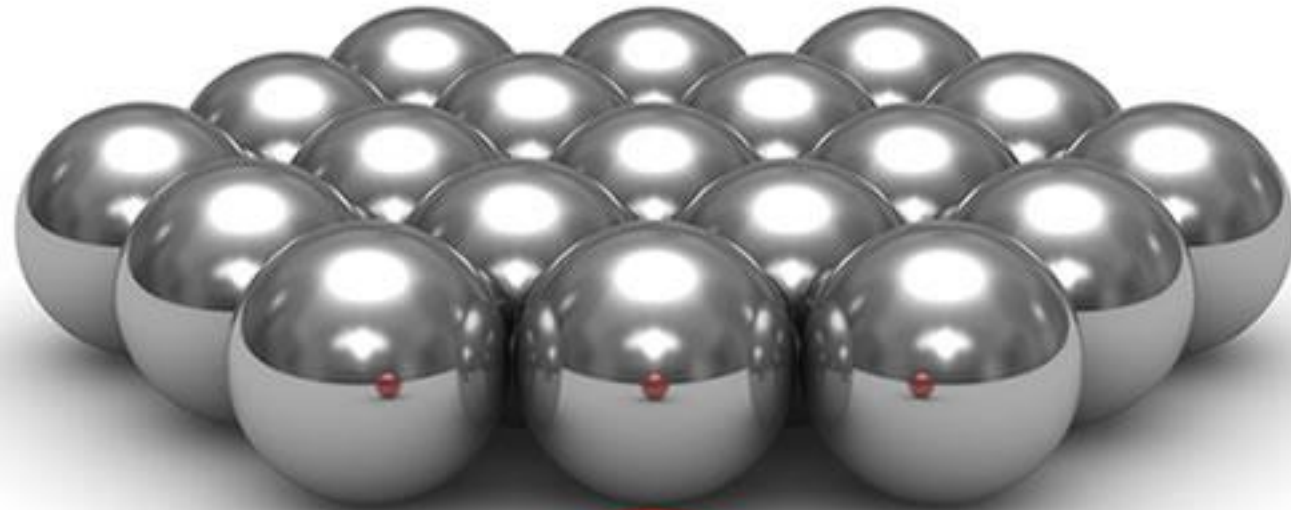
# Why I'm NOT A MUSLIM

One reason that stands out from the rest:



# **Why I'm NOT A MUSLIM**

**One reason that stands out from the rest:**



**HISTORICAL**



**ACCURACY**



# Why I'm NOT A MUSLIM



**Historical accuracy is  
important in my job**

# Judaism, Christianity, and Islam are all history-based religions





**I don't find the history recited in the  
Qur'an reliable or accurate**





**There is an  
inherent difficulty  
in reasoning from  
history**





**Eastern Roman (Byzantine) Empire**

**Sasanian Empire**

**Nomadic tribes**

**Saharan Nomadic Tribes**

**Zaghawa Tribes**

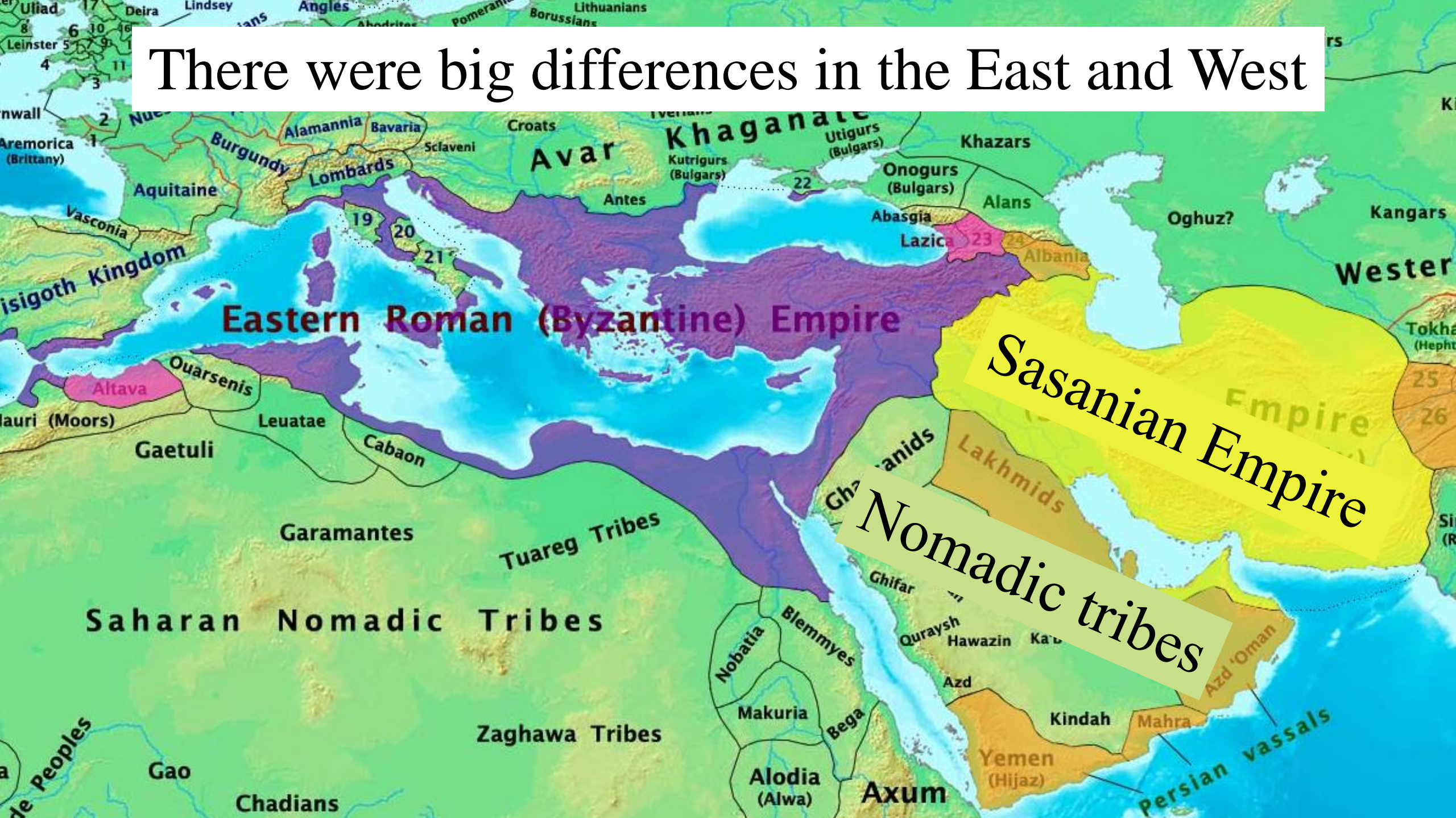
**Axum**

**Chadians**

**Persian vassals**



There were big differences in the East and West

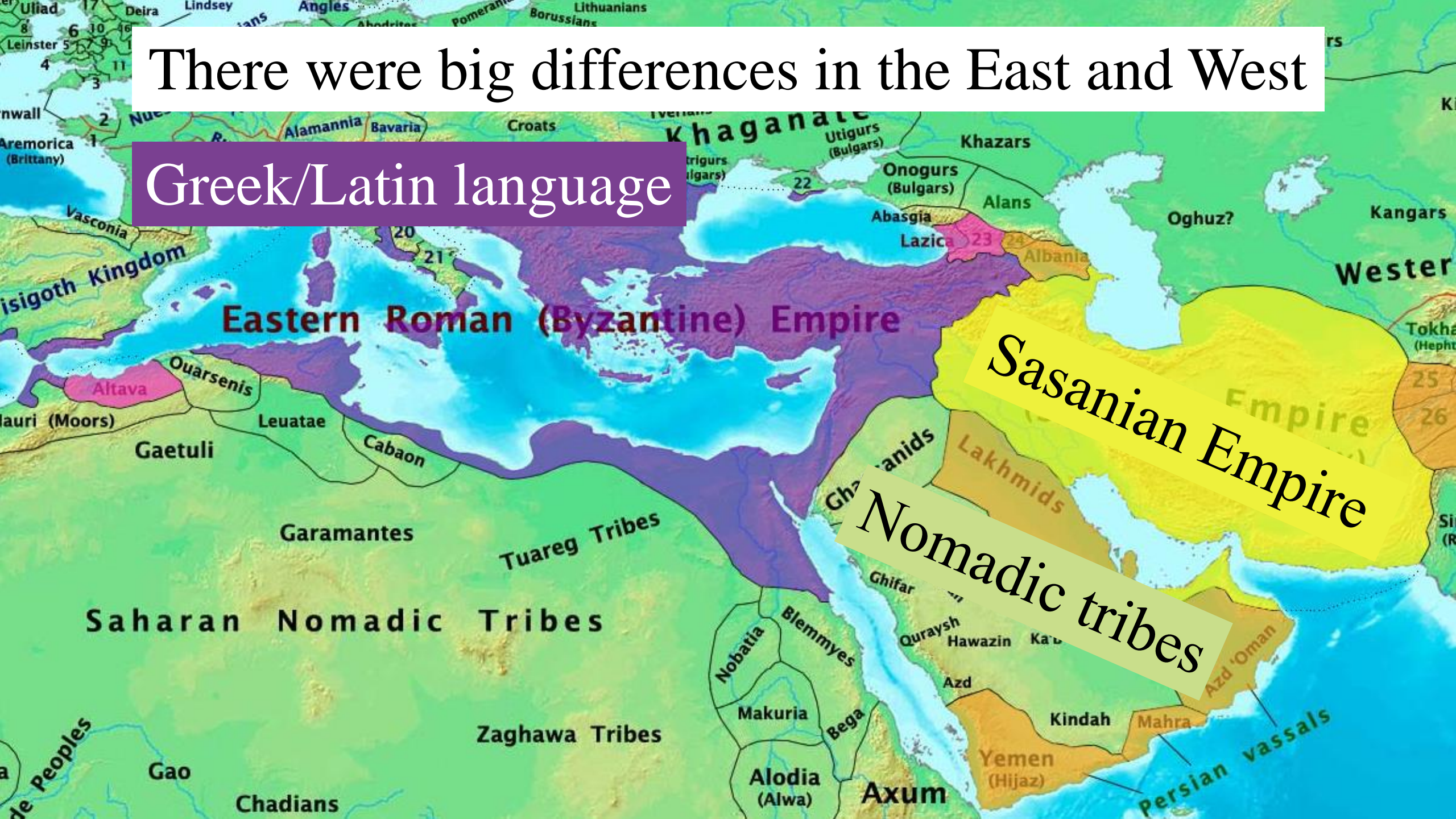


The map illustrates the Eastern Roman (Byzantine) Empire in purple, centered on the Mediterranean Sea. To the west, the Western Roman Empire is shown in yellow. To the east, the Sassanian Empire is depicted in orange. The map also shows various nomadic tribes in green, including the Avar, Khaganate, and Tuareg Tribes. Other regions like the Kingdom of the Frisians, Lombards, and the Sassanid Empire are labeled. The map highlights the geographical context of the Eastern Roman Empire during the late antiquity period.



There were big differences in the East and West

## Greek/Latin language

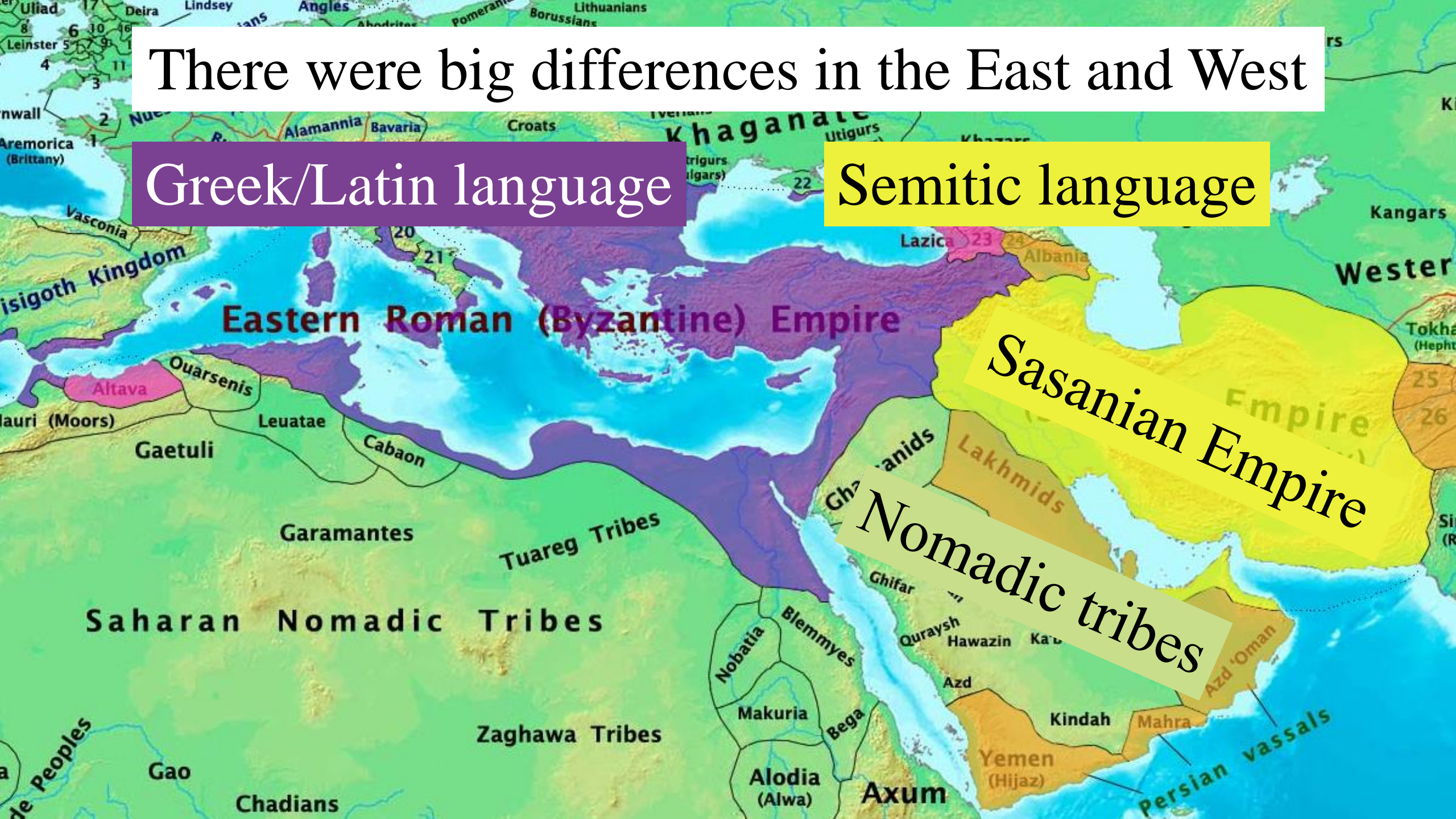




There were big differences in the East and West

Greek/Latin language

Semitic language





There were big differences in the East and West

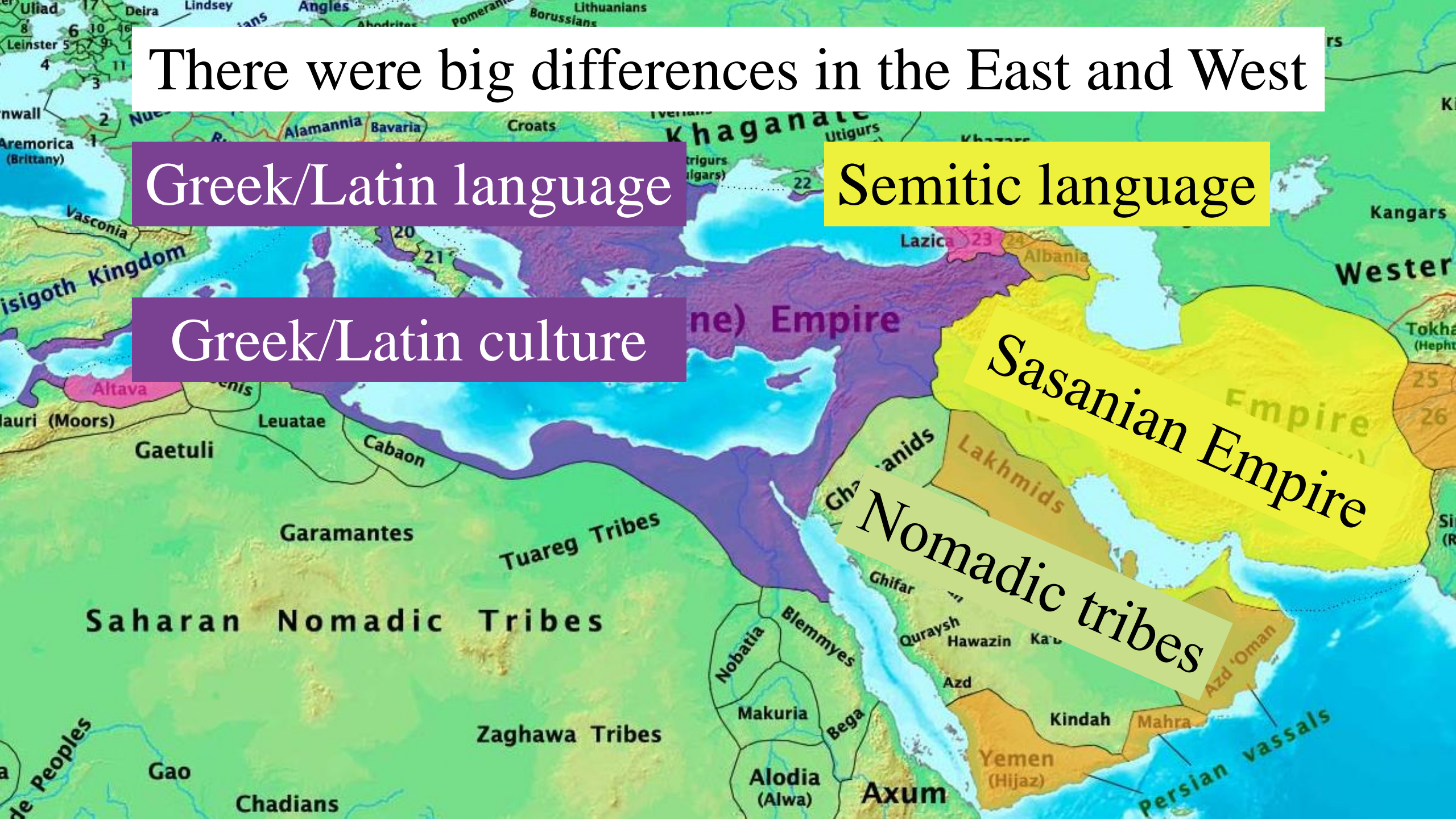
# Greek/Latin language

# Semitic language

## Greek/Latin culture

A map of the Sasanian Empire, showing its extent across the Middle East and Central Asia. The empire is highlighted in yellow, with the text "Sasanian Empire" written across it. Other regions shown include the Parthians (green), Akhuids (brown), and the Roman Empire (blue). The map also shows the Persian Gulf, the Red Sea, and the Mediterranean Sea.

# Nomadic tribes





There were big differences in the East and West

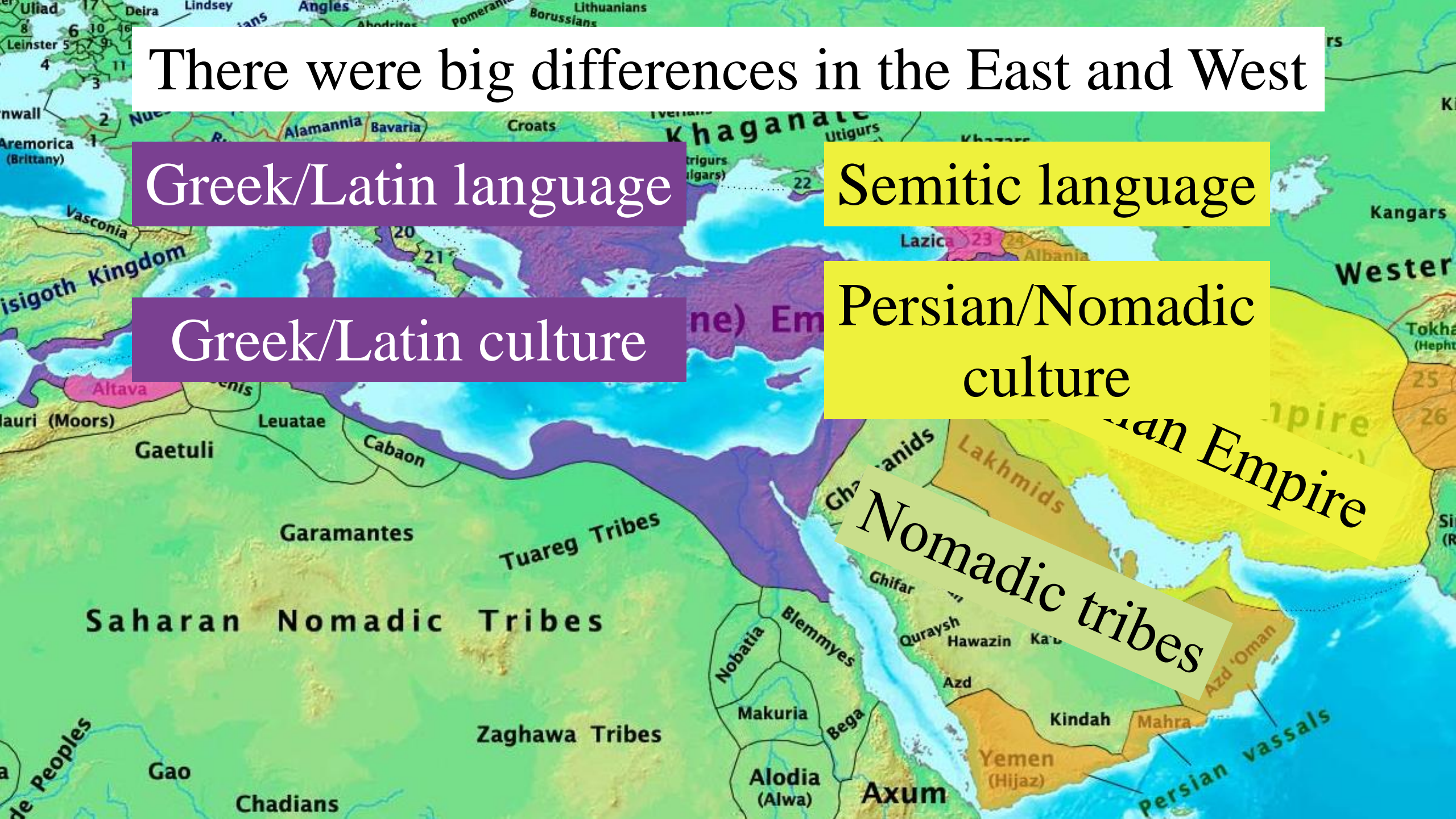
## Greek/Latin language

## Semitic language

## Greek/Latin culture

# Persian/Nomadic culture

A map of the Arabian Peninsula and surrounding regions. The map is color-coded: yellow for the Sassanid Empire, green for Ghassanids, brown for Lakhmids, and blue for the Red Sea and Persian Gulf. Various tribes are labeled, including Ghifhar, Quraysh, Hawazin, Ka'b, Azd, and Azd 'Oman. A large, semi-transparent yellow banner with the text "Nomadic tribes" is overlaid across the center of the map. Another yellow banner at the top right contains the text "Sassanid Empire".





There were big differences in the East and West

# Greek/Latin language

# Semitic language

## Greek/Latin culture

# Persian/Nomadic culture

# Christianity as a national religion

A map of the Arabian Peninsula and surrounding regions. The map is color-coded: yellow for the Sassanid Empire, green for Ghassanids, brown for Lakhmids, and light blue for the Red Sea and Persian Gulf. A large, semi-transparent yellow banner with the text "Nomadic tribes" is overlaid diagonally across the center. Below this banner, several tribes are labeled: Ghifar, Quraysh, Hawazin, and Ka'b. In the bottom left, "myes" is partially visible. In the bottom right, "Azd" and "Azd 'Oman" are labeled. The top right corner shows "Sassanid Empire".



There were big differences in the East and West

Greek/Latin language

Semitic language

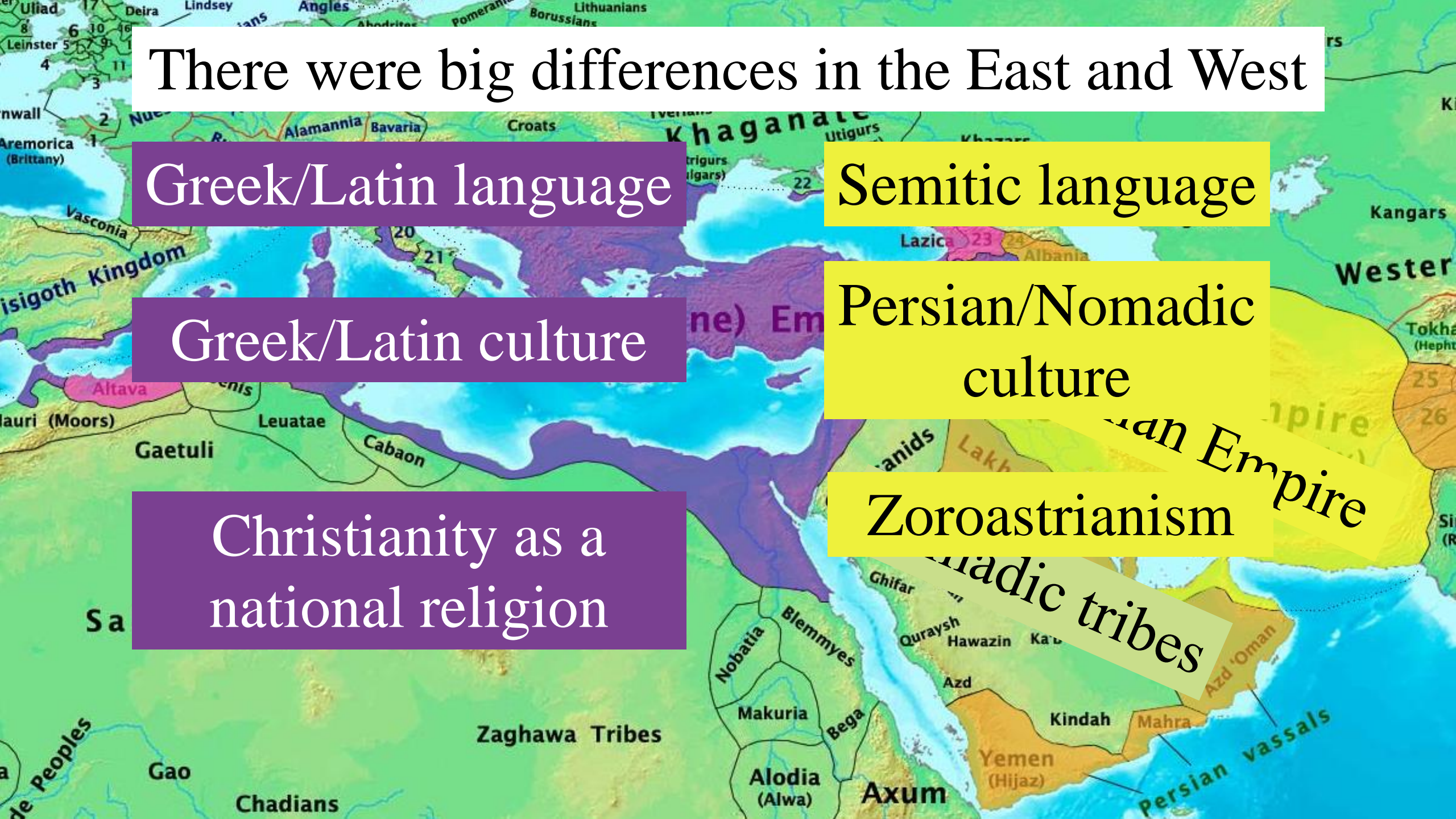
Greek/Latin culture

Persian/Nomadic  
culture

Christianity as a  
national religion

Zoroastrianism

Nomadic tribes







There were big differences in the East and West

Greek/Latin language

Semitic language

Greek/Latin culture

Persian/Nomadic culture

Christianity as a national religion

Zoroastrianism

Tribal gods



# Competitive markets drove an East and West division

A map of the Eastern Roman (Byzantine) Empire and surrounding regions. The empire is highlighted in purple, covering the Balkans, the eastern Mediterranean, and parts of the Middle East. To the west, the Western Roman Empire is shown in yellow. To the south, the Sasanian Empire is in orange. Various nomadic tribes are labeled, including the Avars, Khazars, and Tuareg Tribes. The map also shows the Persian Gulf, the Red Sea, and the Mediterranean Sea. Other regions like the Kingdom of the Frisians, the Kingdom of the Frisians, and the Kingdom of the Frisians are also labeled.





## Competitive markets drove an East and West division





# Competitive markets drove an East and West division



Eastern Roman (Byzantine) Empire

Sasanian Empire

Nomadic tribes

Indian spices,  
silk. etc.

The nomadic tribes  
were family based,  
not empire-based  
or city-based



The nomadic tribes  
were family based,  
not empire-based  
or city-based



The nomadic tribes  
were family based,  
not empire-based  
or city-based



Family



The nomadic tribes  
were family based,  
not empire-based  
or city-based



Family



Clans



The nomadic tribes  
were family based,  
not empire-based  
or city-based



Family



Clans





The nomadic tribes  
were family based,  
not empire-based  
or city-based



Family



Clans





The nomadic tribes  
were family based,  
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or city-based



Family



Clans



Tribes



**Muhammad (c. 570-620)**

The map shows the Eastern Roman (Byzantine) Empire in purple, the Sasanian Empire in yellow, and various nomadic tribes in green. Key regions and tribes labeled include:

- Eastern Roman (Byzantine) Empire:** Purple-shaded area covering the Mediterranean coast and inland regions.
- Sasanian Empire:** Yellow-shaded area in the east, including Persia and Mesopotamia.
- Nomadic tribes:** Green-shaded areas representing various nomadic groups like the Avars, Khazars, and others.
- Other regions:** Includes the Avar Khaganate, Khazars, Onogurs (Bulgars), Alans, Abasgia, Lazica, Albania, and various tribal territories like the Tuareg Tribes, Zaghawa Tribes, and Saharan Nomadic Tribes.

**Muhammad (c. 570-620)**

The map illustrates the Eastern Roman (Byzantine) Empire in purple, centered on the Mediterranean Sea. To the north, the Avar and Khaganate are shown in green. To the east, the Sasanian Empire is depicted in yellow. To the south, the Saharan Nomadic Tribes are shown in light green, including the Tuareg, Zaghawa, and Garamantes. The map also shows various other regions and tribes, such as the Lombards, Bulgars, and Persians. The text 'Muhammad (c. 570-620)' is overlaid on the map, indicating the time period of his life.

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A detailed map of the Eastern Roman (Byzantine) Empire and its surroundings. The empire is shown in purple, covering the Mediterranean coast and inland areas. To the north are various Khaganates and tribes like the Avars, Magyars, and Khazars. To the east is the Sasanian Empire in yellow. To the south and west are Saharan Nomadic Tribes, including the Tuareg, Zaghawa, and Garamantes. Other labeled regions include the Kingdom of the Frisians, Lombards, and Axum. The map also shows the Persian Gulf, Red Sea, and parts of Africa and Asia. Overlaid on the map are three text boxes: "Muhammad (c. 570-620)" at the top left, "Sasanian Empire" in the center right, and "Nomadic tribes" in the bottom right.

**Muhammad (c. 570-620)**

The map illustrates the Eastern Roman (Byzantine) Empire in purple, centered on the Mediterranean Sea. To the north, the Avar and Khaganate are shown in green. To the east, the Sasanian Empire is depicted in yellow. To the south, the Saharan Nomadic Tribes are labeled in green, including the Tuareg, Zaghawa, and Garamantes. The map also shows various other regions and tribes, such as the Lombards, Bulgars, and Persians, as well as the Red Sea and the Persian Gulf. The text 'Nomadic tribes' is written in a large, stylized font across the bottom right, and 'Sasanian Empire' is written in a similar font across the top right.

**Muhammad (c. 570-620)**

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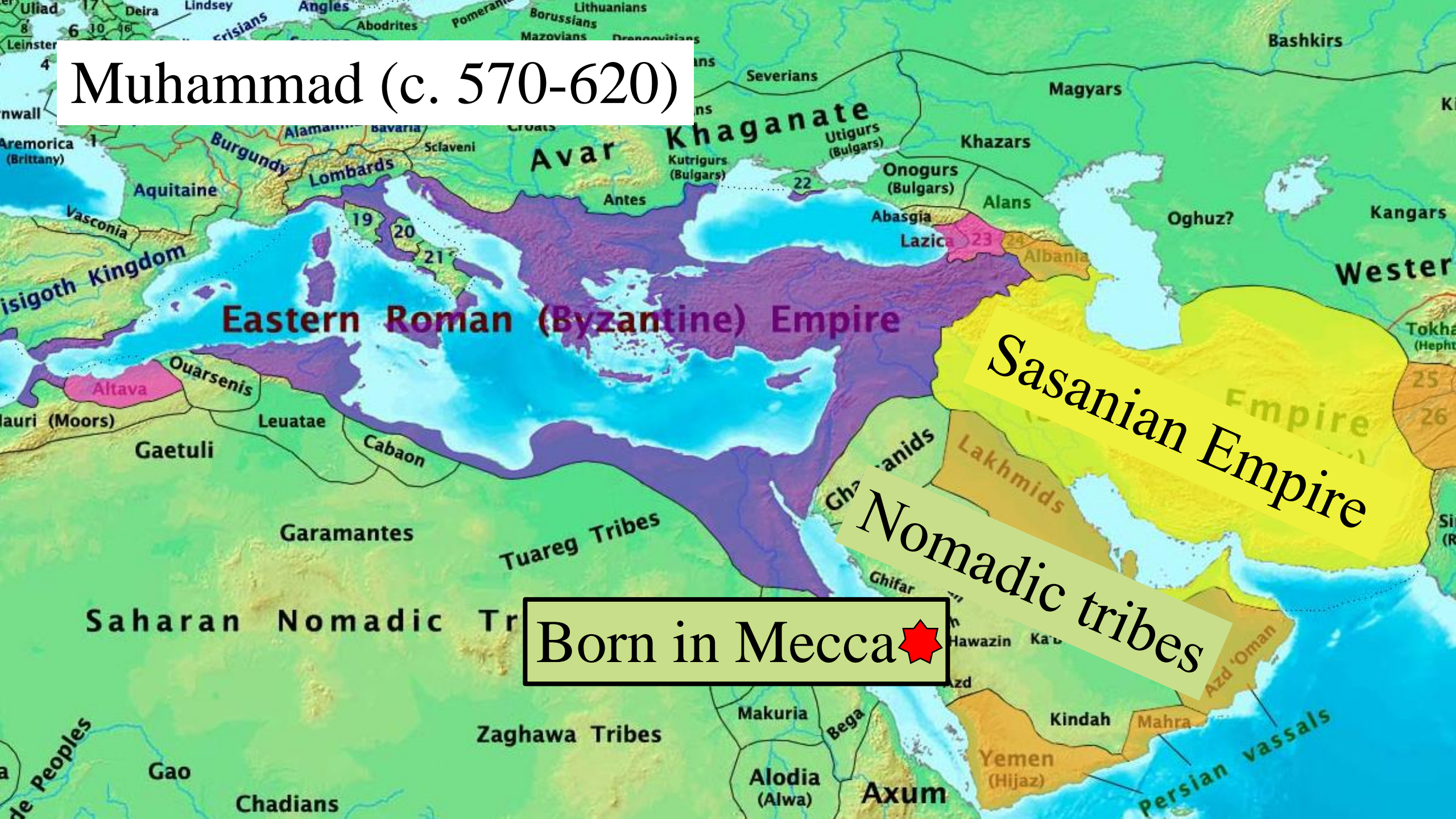
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- Nomadic tribes:** Green-shaded areas including the Avar Khaganate, Khazars, Onogurs (Bulgars), Alans, and various tribes in the Caucasus and Central Asia.
- Saharan Nomadic Tribes:** Green-shaded areas in North Africa, including the Tuareg Tribes, Zaghawa Tribes, and various other nomadic groups.
- Other regions:** Includes the Kingdom of the Franks, the Kingdom of the Lombards, the Kingdom of the Visigoths, and the Kingdom of the Ostrogoths.



Muhammad (c. 570-620)



Eastern Roman (Byzantine) Empire

Sasanian Empire

Nomadic tribes

Born in Mecca★



# Muhammad (c. 570-620)

The Ka'ba



The gurgling  
spring:  
“zummi  
zummi”  
becomes the  
Zamzam  
spring





=

Family



=

Clans



=

Tribes



# The Zamzam well



=

Family



=

Clans



=

Tribes



# The Zamzam well



=

Family



=

Clans



=

Tribes

The Quraysh



# The Zamzam well



Family



Clans



The Hashamite



Tribes

The Quraysh

# The Zamzam well



Family

Muhammad



Clans

The Hashamite



Tribes

The Quraysh



# Mohammad and the Syrian monks



Mohammad  
becomes a respected  
caravan leader





Mohammad leads  
restoration of  
the Ka'ba

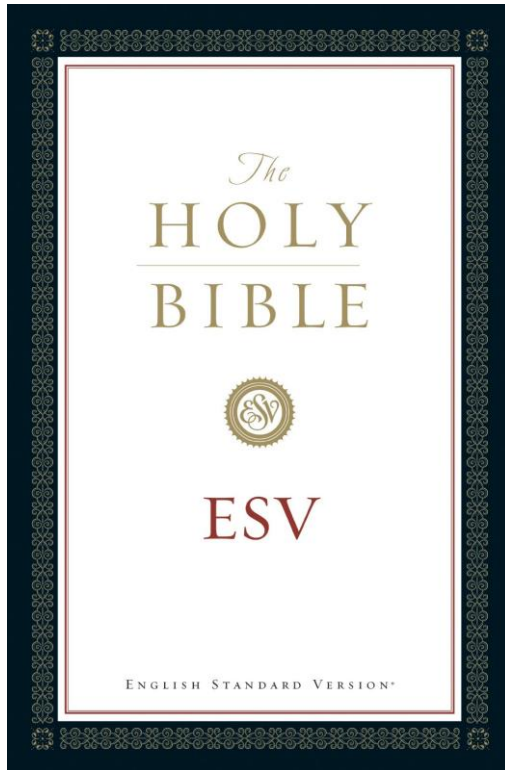


Muhammad's  
revelation on  
Mount Hira



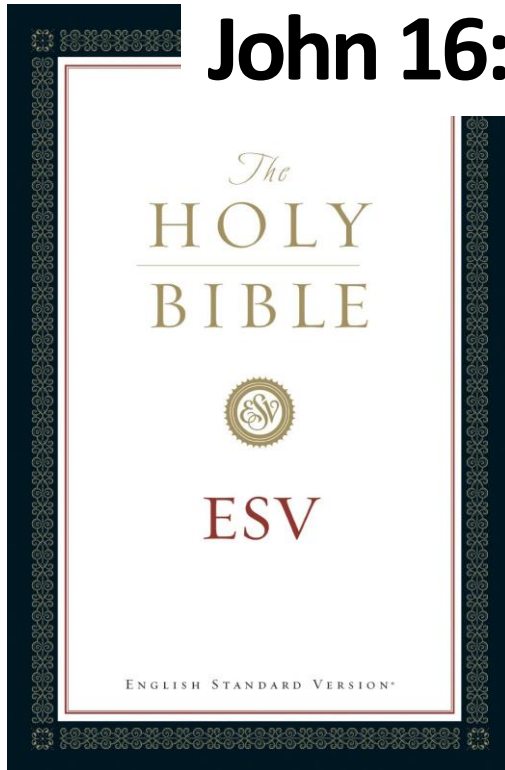


# Muhammad as “the messenger”



# Muhammad as “the messenger”

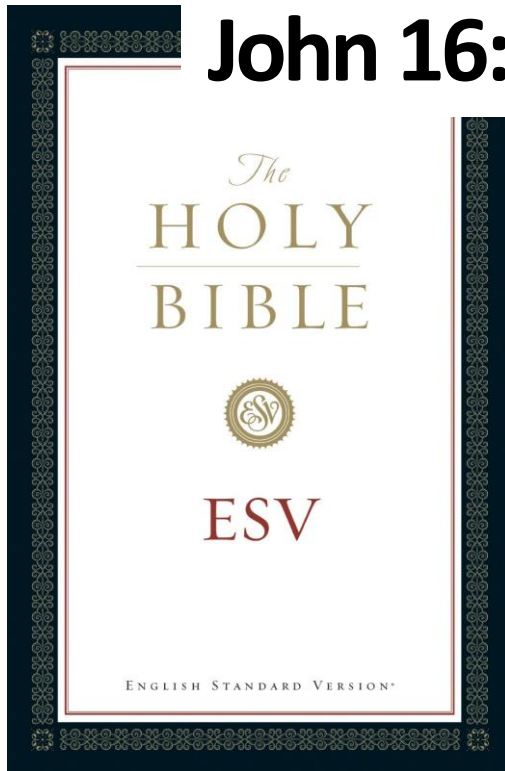
**John 16:7-14**





# Muhammad as “the messenger”

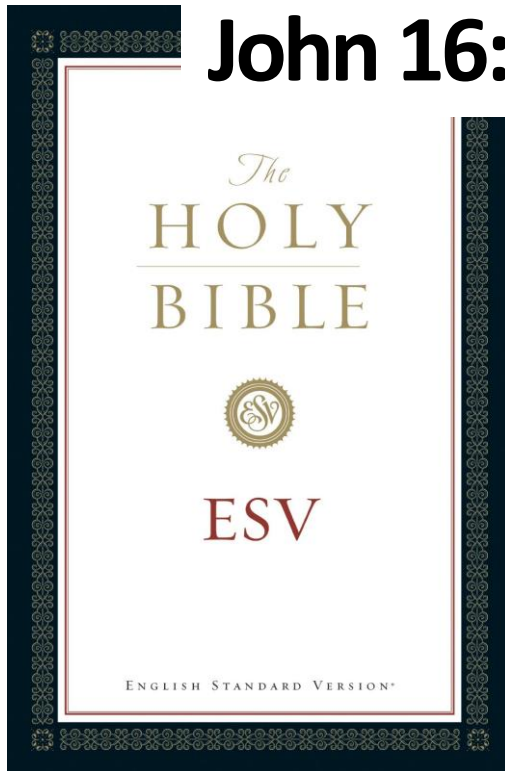
## John 16:7-14



But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment: in regard to sin, because men do not believe in me; in regard to righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; and in regard to judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned. I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. But when he, the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. He will bring glory to me by taking what is mine and making it known to you.

# Muhammad as “the messenger”

## John 16:7-14

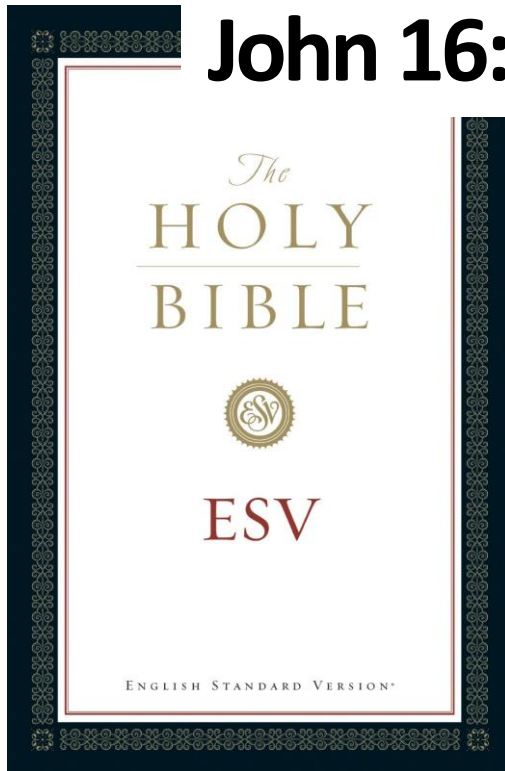


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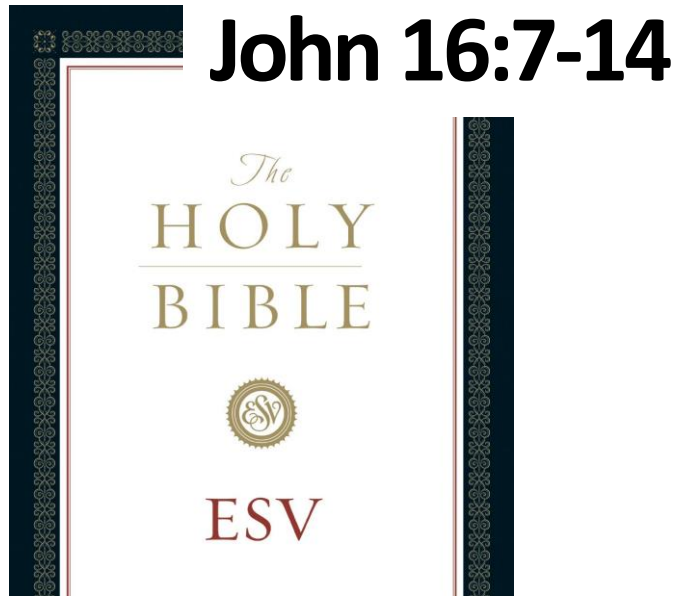
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## John 16:7-14



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# Muhammad as “the messenger”



**See also John  
14:16-20**

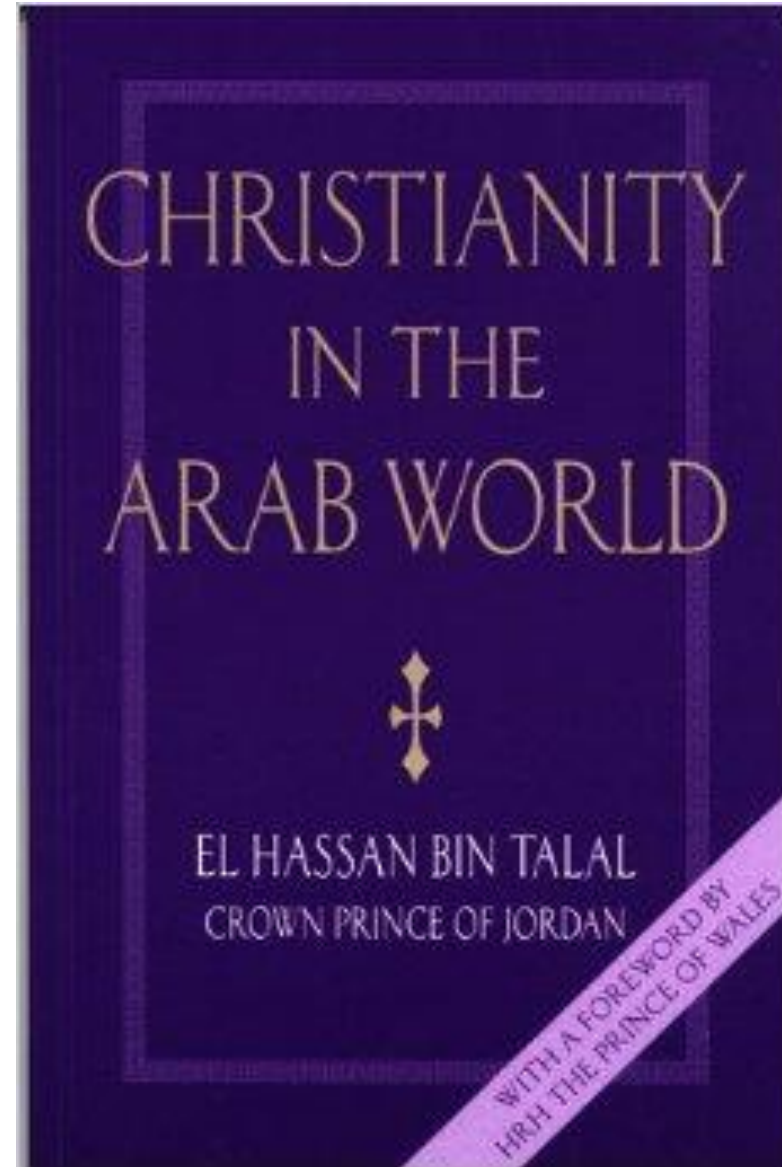
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# Muhammad unites the Arabian Peninsula



Muhammad  
Christians and  
“the ordeal”





# Points for home



## Points for home



*“When he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth... He will bring glory to me [Jesus!] ”  
(Jn 16:13-14)*



## Points for home



*“When he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth... He will bring glory to me [Jesus!] ”  
(Jn 16:13-14)*

**I want to bring glory to  
Jesus this week**

## Points for home



*“Now brothers, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you have received and on which you have taken your stand. By this gospel you are saved ... that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day”  
(1 Cor. 15:1-2)*



## Points for home



*“Now brothers, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you have received and on which you have taken your stand. By this gospel you are saved ... that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day”*

*(1 Cor. 15:1-2)*

**I am guided by a  
historical faith**

## Points for home



*“If we or an angel from  
heaven should preach to you  
a gospel other than the one  
we preached to you, let him  
be eternally condemned”  
(Gal. 1:8)*



## Points for home



*“If we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let him be eternally condemned”  
(Gal. 1:8)*

**I want to determine  
truth and stand on it**

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~~Agnostic~~



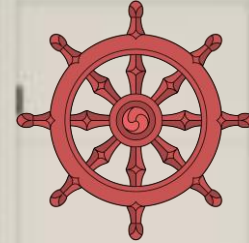
Hindu



Muslim



~~Buddhist~~



Jewish/  
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