

# Islam in China

## History and Architecture



# The distribution of Muslim in China

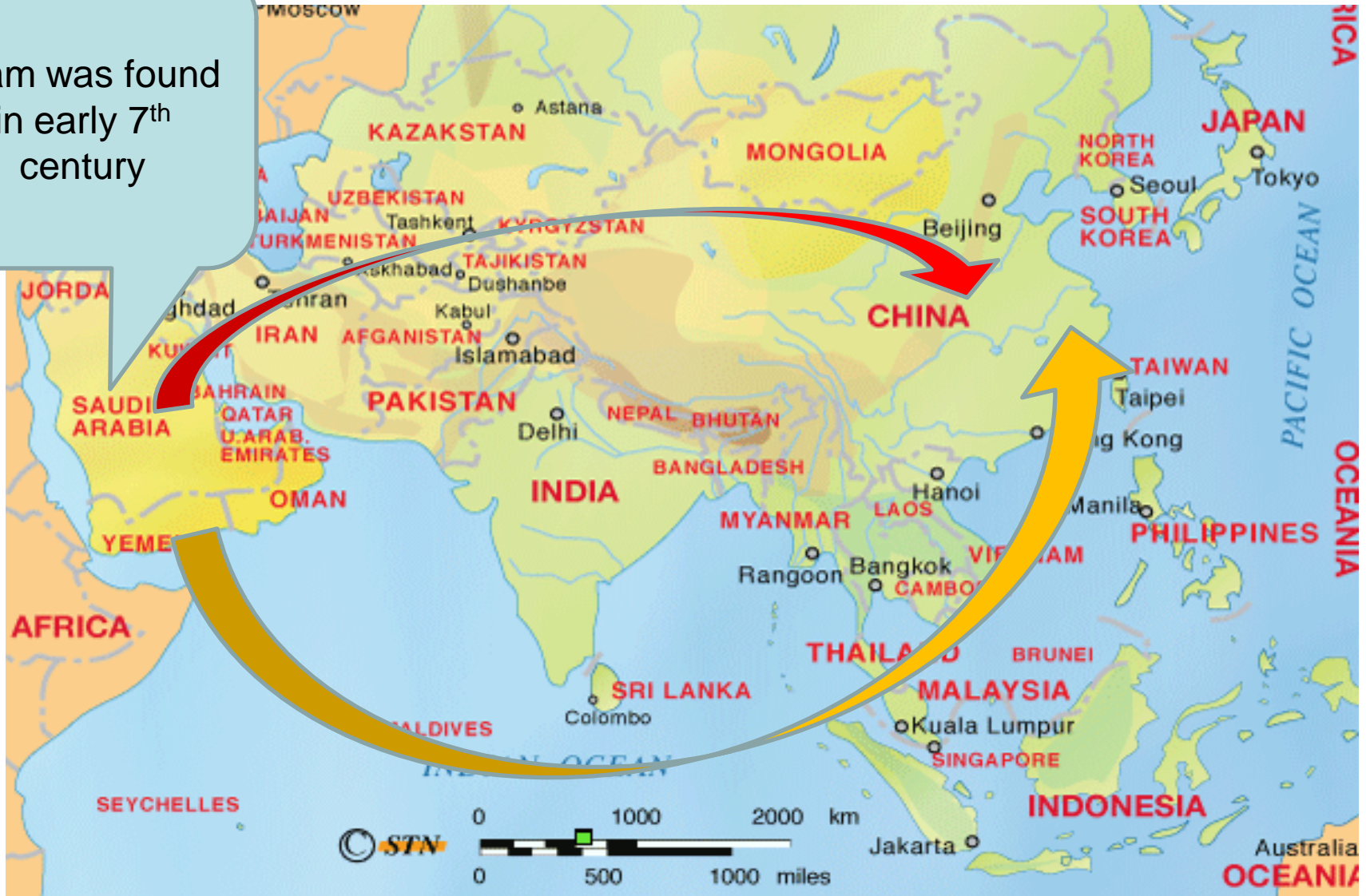


# **THE HISTORY OF MUSLIM IN CHINA**

# In 651 A.D.

## Islam was brought to China

Islam was found  
in early 7<sup>th</sup>  
century





- **The Tang emperor who received the Islam then ordered the construction of the Memorial mosque in Canton, the first mosque in the country.**
- **During the Tang Dynasty(618-907AD) that China had its golden day of cosmopolitan culture which helped the introduction of Islam.**



- **In that time, the Hui-Chi tribe accepted Islam, and helped to spread Islam in China.**
- **That is why Muslim in China is called “Hui-min” since Tang Dynasty.**



- **By the time of the Song Dynasty(960-1279AD), Muslims had come to dominate the import/export industry.**
- **The Song emperor Shenzong invited 5,300 Muslim men to settle in China**



- **During the Mongol Yuan Dynasty, (1274 – 1368), large numbers of Muslims settled in China.**
- **The Mongols gave Muslim immigrants an elevated status as part of their governing strategy, thus giving Muslims a heavy influence.**



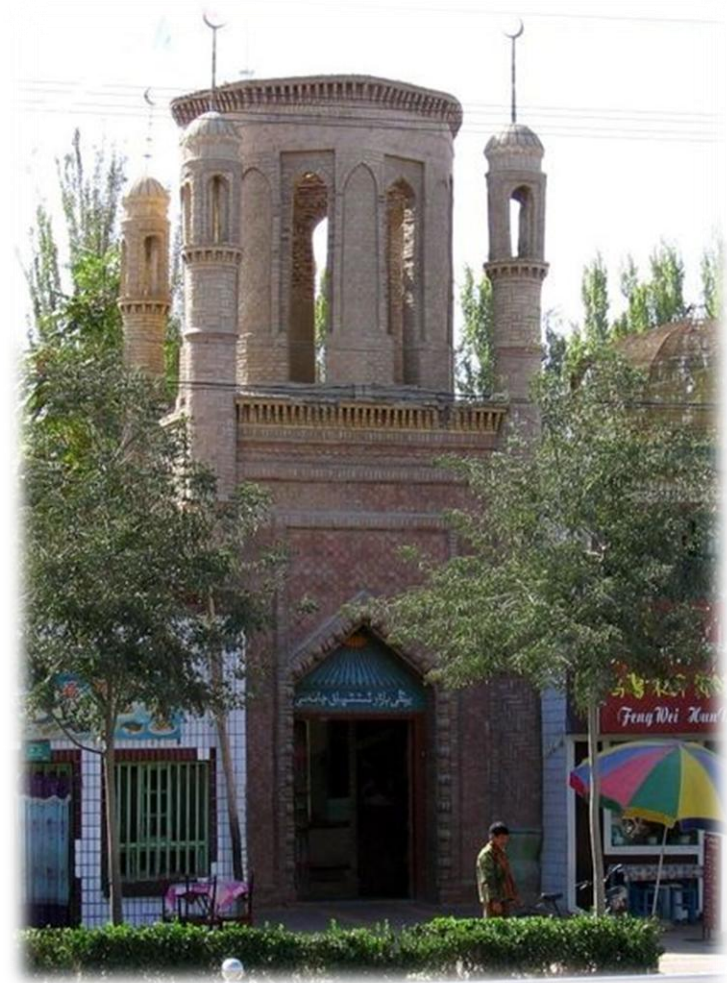


- **The Mongols used Persian, Arab and Uyghur administrators to act as officers of taxation and finance.**
- **Muslim scholars were brought to work on calendar making and astronomy.**



- During the following Ming Dynasty, new immigration to China from Muslim countries was restricted. The Muslims in began to assimilate by speaking Chinese dialects and by adopting Chinese names and culture. Mosque architecture began to follow traditional Chinese architecture.

- **the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911) made relations between the Muslims and Chinese more difficult by forbidding the construction of new mosques and the pilgrimage to Mecca.**





**Today, Islam is experiencing a modest revival and there are now many mosques in China. There has been an upsurge in Islamic expression and many nation-wide Islamic associations have been organized to co-ordinate inter-ethnic activities among Muslims.**

# **ISLAMIC ARCHITECTURE IN CHINA**

# Islamic Architecture

**-The first Chinese mosque was established in the 7th century during the Tang Dynasty in Xi'an.**

**-The Great Mosque of Xi'an is one of the oldest and most renowned mosques in the country.**



# Great Mosque of Xi'an



Entrance to the prayer hall

- It was first built in the Tang Dynasty , and renovated in later periods.
- It remains a popular tourist site of Xi'an, and is still used by Chinese Muslims today as a place of worship.

# Great Mosque of Xi'an



Arabic lettering

- Unlike most mosques in Middle Eastern or Arab countries, the Great Mosque of Xi'an is completely Chinese in its construction and architectural style, except for some Arabic lettering and decorations.



# Niujie Mosque



- One of the oldest Mosque in China
- Located in Beijing built in 996AD
- a mixture of Islamic and Chinese cultures.

# Niujie Mosque



Main Hall



Tombs in the Niujie Mosque

- **An important feature in Chinese architecture is its emphasis on symmetry, which connotes a sense of grandeur; this applies to everything from palaces to mosques.**
- **One notable exception is in the design of gardens, which tends to be as asymmetrical as possible. Like Chinese scroll paintings, the principle underlying the garden's composition is to create enduring flow; to let the patron wander and enjoy the garden without prescription, as in nature herself.**





**Id Kah Mosque in Kashgar**



Harbin Mosque



A Mosque in Khotan





**HongKong Islamic Centre**



**Turpan-minarete-emir**

- As in all regions the Chinese Islamic architecture reflects the local architecture in its style. China is renowned for its beautiful mosques, which resemble temples.
- However in western China the mosques resemble those of the middle east, with tall, slender minarets, curvy arches and dome shaped roofs.
- In northwest China where the Chinese Hui have built their mosques, there is a combination of east and west.

- That is all,thanks!