

# **UKS2 Topic: Early Islamic Civilisation**

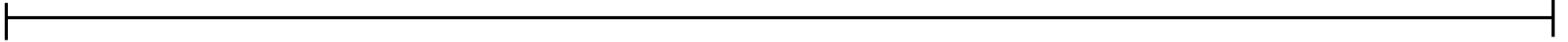
## **Block H: Important Places**

### Session 1 resource pack

Timeline for the foundation of Islamic Cities

2000 BCE

CE 1000



## Researching a historic city

Here are some good websites to find out information about historic cities:

[www.wikipedia.org](http://www.wikipedia.org)

Lots of people say Wikipedia is not that accurate because anybody can write things in the articles, but most of the silly stuff gets taken out.

Wikipedia articles should have references to back up all the facts. Type in the name of the city to find out the information about it.

<https://www.britannica.com/>

The Britannica website has articles written by experts in that subject, so is very reliable. At the bottom of the article you can find out who they are to make sure they know their stuff. Type in the name of the city to find out the information about it.

<http://lexicorient.com/e.o/>

The Encyclopedia of the Orient is another website that has lots of information about Islamic cities. Type in the name of the city to find out the information about it.

Some tips when looking for information:

- Sometimes the cities can be spelled differently, especially Mecca which can be Makkah, and Medina which can be Madinah, or Karbala which can be Kerbala.
- Sometimes the writer isn't sure when the city is founded, try to find two sources that agree or decide on a rough date

## **Founding dates of historic Islamic cities**

### **Mecca, Saudi Arabia**

Mecca may have been mentioned by a Greek writer called Diodorus Siculus about 40 BCE, but it was definitely around by CE 400.

### **Medina, Saudi Arabia**

Medina was first settled about 100 BCE, but was quite small. It got bigger by CE 100.

### **Jerusalem, Israel/Palestine**

Although archaeologists have found evidence of a settlement in the area of Jerusalem as far back as 3000 BCE, it might not have been continuously inhabited since then. It is mentioned in writing as far back as 1800 BCE.

### **Damascus, Syria**

Archaeologists have found remains of settlement near Damascus from 3000 BCE, but it is first referred to in writing in 1350 BCE when it is called Dimashka.

### **Karbala, Iraq**

Karbala was founded on the site of a historic battle in CE 680.

### **Istanbul, Turkey**

Istanbul was originally called Byzantium (and then was called Constantinople for a while in between) and is a very old city. It was founded in 660 BCE by Greeks.