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## THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY, TAQIYYA, AND KITMAN

### Part Three

#### Introduction

The undertaking in *The National Geographic Society, Taqiyya, and Kitman, Part Three* is to examine the visual, graphic, presentation of statements on page 14 of the book *1001 Inventions The Enduring Legacy of Muslim Civilization*. The respective subject areas are numbered for the convenience of the reader. They will be examined in the numerical order in which they are presented on the respective page. Page 14 is a portion of the book's timeline. According to the book's back cover the timeline claims to show the "major scientific and technological developments in the Muslim world from the 7th through the 18th centuries" that "impact the way we live today."

The book *1001 Inventions* has over 300 photographs and illustrations that bring to life the inventions of Muslim intellectuals, which on closer examination will be shown as a contradiction in terms. Albeit, the book's presented inventions have accompanying texts that were written and "based on the scholarship of a distinguished group of advisors."

At this time the present author does not know the sources these distinguished advisors used in writing their accompanying texts. Whether or not what they wrote was checked or double checked by any knowledgeable personality outside of their group remains to be established. This author's present opinion is that there was no comprehensive proof undertaken by an independent expert. Because this is the situation, the present author has taken it upon himself to occupy the position of an independent expert whose goal is to proof what is contained on page 14, as well as to proof other claims that appear on the following pages in later parts of this exposé series.

This author's proofing will be validated by comprehensive and available documentation. This documentation was also available to the so-called "distinguished group of advisors". Evidently they did not want to be convinced of facts other than their own concocted, illogical, and historically, invalid representation of the so-called Muslim inventions.

False, historical presentation is also a heritage that is present in all cultures. Indeed, it is not a heritage, but a more so present disease in the Islamic sphere than in any other area of humankind. As such, *taqiyya*, the Islamic doctrine that allows lying in certain circumstances, and *kitman*, the Islamic doctrine that allows lying by

not telling the complete truth, are supported by *tawriya*, the Islamic doctrine that allows lying under all circumstances and at all times for the purpose of the advancement of Islam and sharia law.

## Map of Major Contributions in Muslim Civilization

**1** Dar al-Islam, or the Muslim world, stretched over three vast continents, from Toledo in Spain, through Arabia and Indonesia to China, and as far south as East Africa. It reached its peak in the 12th century under the Abbasids. Cities in the Middle East and Spain became global centers of culture, trade, and learning. Their atmosphere of tolerance and creativity stimulated groundbreaking advances in medicine, engineering, philosophy, mathematics, astronomy, and architecture. Explore the map below to see what happened, where—and when.

**2** **World Map**  
Al-Idrisi (1099–1166)  
Al-Idrisi was commissioned by the Norman king of Sicily, Roger II, to make a map. He produced an atlas of 70 maps called the *Book of Roger*, showing that the Earth was round, which was a common notion held by Muslim scholars.  
[page 236]

**3** **Gothic Rib Vaulting**  
(1000)  
The gothic ribs of the Toledo and Córdoba Mosque vaults inspired European architects and their patrons to adopt them in the Romanesque and Gothic movements.  
[page 199]

**4** **Surgical Instruments**  
Al-Zahrawi (936–1013)  
Cutting-edge surgeon Al-Zahrawi introduced more than 200 surgical tools that revolutionized medical science. These instruments would not look out of place in today's 21st-century hospitals.  
[page 158]

**5** **Exploration**  
Ibn Battuta (1304–1368/70)  
Ibn Battuta traveled more than 75,000 miles in 29 years through more than 40 modern countries, compiling one of the best eyewitness accounts of the customs and practices of the medieval world.  
[page 250]

**6** **Foundation of Sociology and Economics**  
Ibn Khaldun (1332–1406)  
This man traced the rise and fall of human societies in a science of civilization, recording it all in his famous *Al-Muqaddimah*, or *Introduction to a History of the World*, which forms the basis of sociology and economic theory.  
[page 262]

**7** **Horseshoe Arch**  
(715)  
Resembling a horseshoe, this arch was first used in the Umayyad Great Mosque of Damascus. In Britain, it is known as the Moorish arch and was popular in Victorian times; it was often used in railway station entrances.  
[page 195]

**8** **Al-Nuri Hospital**  
(1156)  
Hospitals provided free health care to all. Al-Nuri was an immense and sophisticated hospital where druggists, barbers, orthopedists, oculists, and physicians were all examined by “market inspectors” to make sure they met the highest standards.  
[page 154]

**9** **Blood Circulation**  
Ibn al-Nafis (1210–1288)  
Ibn al-Nafis of Egypt first described pulmonary circulation of venous blood passing into the heart and lungs via the ventricles, thus becoming oxygenated and arterial blood. He was finally accredited with this discovery in 1957.  
[page 166]

**10** **Pointed Arch**  
(ninth century)  
The pointed arch concept, on which Gothic architecture is based, came to Europe from Egypt's beautiful Ibn Tulun Mosque of Cairo via Sicily with Amalfitan merchants. It enabled European architects to overcome problems in Romanesque vaulting.  
[page 196]

**11** **Camera Obscura**  
Ibn al-Haytham (965–1039)  
In a darkened room (qamara in Arabic), Ibn al-Haytham observed light coming through a small hole in the window shutters producing an upside-down image on the opposite wall. This early pinhole camera has led to the cameras of today.  
[page 56]

**12** **Castles**  
(12th century)  
The invincible design of the castles of Syria and Jerusalem were imitated in Western lands with key features like round towers, arrow slits, barbicans, machicolations, parapets, and battlements.  
[page 210]

Source: Salim T. S. Al-Hassani, Chief Editor, *1001 Inventions The Enduring Legacy of Muslim Civilization*, third edition, National Geographic Society, Washington, District of Columbia: 2012, p.14.

## The Proofing

Each of the numbered subjects will be presented as they are explained on page 14. This will be followed by a TRUTHFUL COMMENT section. Some parts of the TRUTHFUL COMMENT section will be repetitive of Part One of this exposé because there are subjects that are also in the National Geographic Internet advertisement that are from page 14.

### Number 1.

STATEMENT: Dar al-Islam, or the Muslim world, stretched over three vast continents, from Toledo in Spain, through Arabia and Indonesia to China, and as far south as East Africa. It reached its peak in the 12th century under the Abbasids. Cities in the Middle East and Spain became global centers of culture, trade, and learning. Their atmosphere of tolerance and creativity stimulated groundbreaking advances in medicine, engineering, philosophy, mathematics, astronomy, and architecture. Explore the map below to see what happened – where and when.

***TRUTHFUL COMMENT: Dar al-Islam – the Muslim world – is a dogmatic phrase in Islamic dogma that excludes everything that is not Islamic. Dar al-Islam thus means all lands that are under Islamic control. This, however, is only half of the truth. Always associated with Dar al-Islam is Dar al-Harb, which means House of War. On the surface that proves to show that the world is divided into violence – Dar al-Harb, the House of War – and Dar al-Islam, the House of Islam, i.e., in this comparison the House of Peace. The truthful reality is that Dar al-Harb (House of War) is also called Dar al-Garb (House of the West) and is the Islamic terminology used for countries that are not under Islamic rule. The New Encyclopedia of Islam explains the meaning of the Dar al-Harb (lit. the "abode of war") as "the territories where Islam does not prevail. During colonial rule in India, the 'uluma decided that as long as the laws of Islam were not prohibited, or as long as the peculiar institution of Islam existed, the country could be considered to lie within Dar al-Islam ("abode of Islam"). Symbolically, the Dar al-Harb is the domain, even in an individual's life, where there is a struggle against or opposition to, the Will of Allah."<sup>1</sup> Moreover, jihad is the Islamic divine institution of warfare to extend Islam into the regions that are Dar al-Harb in order to defend Islam from danger, even though there may be no danger coming from these regions.<sup>2</sup> Thus it is also a method to intentionally and preemptively prohibit danger to Islam.***

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<sup>1</sup> Glasse, Cyril. *The New Encyclopedia of Islam: Revised Edition of the Concise Encyclopedia of Islam*. AltaMira Press, Walnut Creek, California: 2002, p. 111. Sometimes the Arabic *al* is capitalized. Sometimes it is not. The capitalization or non-capitalization has been kept as used in the researched sources.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid, p. 240.



*As seen from the position of Islam, the normal relationship between Dar al-Islam and Dar al-Harb is warfare, and should there be any peace between the two before final integration into Islamic slavery, it cannot be allowed to last longer than ten years because Mohammed set this time period as precedent.<sup>3</sup> The people living in Dar al-Harb are called Harbi, the definition of which is a non-Muslim who lives in a region that has not become subject to Islamic rule. The Harbi is considered to be a warfarer. The Harbis have no rights. Thus, according to Islamic law and philosophy, the Harbis can be legally killed and their property be taken by Muslims at any time.<sup>4</sup>*

*The implications for the modern world are as follows:*

*"... (W)e must clarify an important issue, and this is whether America is a country of war [Bilad Harb] or a country with which we have an agreement [Bilad Ahd]... It is agreed that it is a country of war, and it is permitted for Muslims to strike a country of war with all [kinds] of blows, because the blood, money, and honor of its residents are permitted. This is what the Messenger of Allah did with the Muharibeen [those from Dar Al-Harb, i.e., from territory not yet under Islamic rule that must be conquered]: He abducted them like he did with the Banu 'Uqail; he plundered their merchant caravans as he did with the Quraysh; he assassinated their leaders as he did with Ka'ab Ibn Al-Ashraf and Salamah bin Abi Al-Huqaiq; he burned their land as he did with Banu Al-Nadhir; he destroyed their fortifications as he did in Taif, and other things.*

*Perhaps someone will say that if those who died [on September 11, 2001] are innocent women, elderly, and children, who must not be harmed even if they belong to a group from Dar al-Harb, then how are these operations permitted by religious law?*

*We say [in response] that the sanctity of the blood of women, children, and the elderly [from among the people of Dar Al-Harb] is not absolute. Moreover, there are certain cases in which it is permitted to kill them when they [belong] to the people of Dar al-Harb...*

*The first case: It is permitted for Muslims to kill inviolable infidels [that is, children, women, and the elderly] in order to repay in kind. If the infidels target Muslim women, children, and elderly, then it is permitted for Muslims to repay them in kind*

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<sup>3</sup> Mark W. Janis and Caroline Evans, *Religion and International Law*, Kluwer Law International - Martinus Nijhoff Publishers, The Hague, Netherlands: 1999, p. 95.

<sup>4</sup> Bat Ye'or, *Islam and Dhimmitude: Where Civilizations Collide*, translated into English by Mariam Kochan, and David Littman, Associated University Presses, Cranbury, New Jersey: 2002, p. 55.

*and kill [their women, children and elderly] as they killed. This is because of the word of Allah the Supreme, 'Anyone who attacks you, attack him as he attacked you,' and also because of other evidence.<sup>5</sup>*

*The second case: It is permitted for Muslims to kill inviolable infidels in the event that they [the Muslims] attack them and cannot differentiate between those with immunity and the warriors or fortifications and, accordingly, they are permitted to kill them as a result [of inability to distinguish] and not with premeditation. This is because of what the Messenger said when asked about the offspring of the infidels [whom Muslims attacked] in an ambush and [during it] harmed their women and their children and said: 'They [the children] are of them [the warriors].' This proves that it is permissible to kill women and children because of [the deeds of] their fathers when it is not possible to distinguish between them [and the infidel warriors]...*

*The third case: It is permissible for Muslims to kill inviolable infidels if they are aiding the fighting in deed, word, opinion, or any other way. This is because of the Prophet's order to kill Duraid ibn Al-Simma, who was 120 years old and went with the Hawazin tribe [to fight against the Muslims] to give them counsel.*

*The fourth case: It is permitted for Muslims to kill inviolable infidels when there is a need to burn the fortifications or the fields of the enemy in order to weaken his strength, to breach the ramparts, or to topple the country, even if the inviolable ones die as a result, such as the Prophet did in the case of Banu Al-Nadhir.*

*The fifth case: It is permitted for Muslims to kill inviolable infidels if they need to use heavy weapons that cannot differentiate between those who are inviolable and the warriors, as the Prophet did at Taif.*

*The sixth case: It is permitted for Muslims to kill inviolable infidels if the enemy uses women and children as a human shield and it is not possible to kill the warriors except by killing this shield. In such a case it is permitted to kill them all.*

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<sup>5</sup> What constitutes an attack on Muslims is defined by Muslims. Even contractual agreements between Islamic states and the West can be considered an attack on Islam if one of the outcomes of the agreement is considered to be illegal exploitation according to Islamic law.

*The seventh case: It is permitted for Muslims to kill inviolable infidels if the latter had an agreement with the Muslims and broke the agreement, and the imam had to kill the inviolable ones to make an example of them, like the Prophet did with Banu Qurayza.'*<sup>6</sup>

*There are so-called Islamic scholars, like Sheikh Omar Bakri Muhammad, who argue that the positions of the Islamic concepts of Dar al-Islam versus Dar al-Harb no longer apply. This means that Muslims are no longer obligated to wage war on Dar al-Harb.<sup>7</sup> However, this is an exceedingly minority position and must be taken for what it is: only a statement with no validity, for every Muslim and every sheikh knows how to commit taqiyya, the Muslim doctrine that allows lying in certain circumstance. This indeed is a certain circumstance. It is meant to placate the West.*

*The statement in Number 1 is lying by the use of kitman. Of course, the Chief Editor of 1001 Inventions The Enduring Legacy of Muslim Civilization, Salim T. S. Al-Hassani knows this. Every time a Muslim hears or reads Dar al-Islam, that Muslim immediately knows that the phrase is in juxtaposition to Dar al-Harb, which must be defeated and converted into Dar al-Islam at all costs. Mr. Salim T. S. Al-Hassani, you are a liar! National Geographic Society, you are a supporter of these lies and a participant in cultural jihad!*

#### Number 2. World Map Al-Idrisi (1099-1166)

STATEMENT: Al-Idrisi was commissioned by the Norman King of Sicily, Roger II, to make a map. He produced an atlas of 70 maps called the *Book of Roger*, showing the earth was round, which was a common notion held by Muslim scholars.

**TRUTHFUL COMMENT: MAPS.** *We know the following concerning the so-called papers of Islamic geography, which were maps based on Hellenistic geography. The most notable developers from the 8th to the 12th centuries were Al-Khwārizmī, Abū Zayd Al-Balkhī, Abu Rayhan Biruni, and Muhammad Al-Idrisi. Yet, this does not mean that the maps available to explorers during Columbus' time and thereafter were based on maps of Arabic origin, which if available, were mostly copies with updated facts. The notable*

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<sup>6</sup> Contemporary Islamist Ideology Authorizing Genocidal Murder – MEMRI: Special Report – No. 25, January 27, 2004, at <http://www.memri.org/report/en/0/0/0/0/0/1049.htm>, retrieved 15.11.2012.

<sup>7</sup> Islamist Leader in London: No Universal Jihad As Long As There is No Caliphate – MEMRI: Special Dispatch - No. 435, October 30, 2002 at <http://www.memri.org/report/en/0/0/0/0/0/50/753.htm>, retrieved 15.11.2012

*Ottoman Turkish map scholars are Mahmud Al-Kashgari and Piri Reis.<sup>8</sup> Some of the most important maps available to both pre-and post-Columbian seafarers are:*

### *The World Map of Eratosthenes*

*This map is non-Arabic in origin. "Eratosthenes (276-194 BC) drew an improved world map, incorporating information from the campaigns of Alexander the Great and his successors. Asia became wider, reflecting the new understanding of the actual size of the continent. Eratosthenes was also the first geographer to incorporate parallels and meridians within his cartographic depictions."<sup>9</sup>*

### *The World Map of Ptolemy*

*This map is non-Arabic in origin. "Ptolemy was custodian of the library at Alexandria, which contained the greatest manuscript collection of ancient times, and it was there that he consulted the archaic source documents that enabled him to compile his own map. Acceptance of the possibility that the original version of at least one of the charts he referred to could have been made around 10,000 BC helps us to explain why he shows glaciers, characteristic of that exact epoch, together with 'lakes ... suggesting the shapes of present-day lakes, and streams very much suggesting glacial streams ... flowing from the glaciers into the lakes.'"<sup>10</sup>*

### *The Dulcert Portolano Map of 1339*

*This map is non-Arabic in origin. "The so-called Dulcert Portolano focuses on Europe and North Africa. Here latitude is perfect across huge distances and the total longitude of the Mediterranean and Black Seas is correct to within half a degree. ... (T)he maker of the original source from which the Dulcert Portolano was copied had, 'achieved highly scientific accuracy in finding the ratio of latitude to longitude. He could only have done this if he had precise information on the relative longitudes of a great many places ...all the way from Galway in Ireland to the eastern bend of the Don in Russia.'"<sup>11</sup>*

### *The Portolano Map of Iehudi Ibn ben Zara of 1487*

*Although Ibn ben Zara was an Arab, the map is not of Arabic origin. "The 'Portolano' of Iehudi Ibn Ben Zara, drawn in the year 1487 (is) a chart of Europe and North Africa (that) may have been based on a source even earlier*

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<sup>8</sup> Gerald R. Tibbetts, *The Beginnings of a Cartographic Tradition*, in: John Brian Harley, David Woodward, *Cartography in the Traditional Islamic and South Asian Societies*, Chicago: 1992, pp. 90-107.

<sup>9</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Early\\_world\\_maps](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Early_world_maps), retrieved 15.11.2012

<sup>10</sup> <http://www.bibliotecapleyades.net/egipto/fingerprintgods/fingerprintgods00.htm>, retrieved 15.11.2012

<sup>11</sup> <http://www.bibliotecapleyades.net/egipto/fingerprintgods/fingerprintgods00.htm>, retrieved 15.11.2012

*than Ptolemy's, for it seems to show glaciers much farther south than Sweden (roughly on the same latitude as England in fact) and to depict the Mediterranean, Adriatic and Aegean Seas as they might have looked before the melting of the European ice-cap.'*<sup>12</sup>

#### *The Hamy-King Chart of 1502-1504*

*"The Hamy-King Chart of 1502 was found to be based partly on Ptolemaic and partly on Portolano traditions, with recently discovered lands added by an early explorer, thought to be Amerigo Vespucci. The European section seems to be based on the most accurate of the portolano charts. This world map provides evidence of numerous and extensive geological changes since the first prototypes of its original local maps were drawn. ... (P)lacing the center of the portolano chart in the Indian Ocean, (allowed the) world map to include all of Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Americas as well. It is a much broader design than found on the Piri Re'is map.'*<sup>13</sup> *This map is not of Arabic origin.*

#### *The Piri Re'is Map of 1513*

*"In his day, Piri Re'is was a well-known figure; his historical identity is firmly established. An admiral in the navy of the Ottoman Turks, he was involved ... in numerous sea battles around the mid-sixteenth century. He was ... considered an expert on the lands of the Mediterranean, and authored a famous sailing book, the Kitabi Bahriye, a comprehensive description of the coasts, harbours, currents, shallows, landing places, bays, and straits of the Aegean and Mediterranean Seas. Despite this illustrious career, he fell afoul of his masters and was beheaded in 1554 or 1555.'*<sup>14</sup> *The source maps Piri Re'is used to draw up his 1513 map were in all probability lodged originally in the Imperial Library at Constantinople, to which the admiral is known to have enjoyed privileged access. Those sources (which may have been transferred or copied from even more ancient centers of learning) no longer exist, or, at any rate, have not been found. It was, however, in the library of the old Imperial Palace at Constantinople that the Piri Re'is Map was rediscovered, painted on a gazelle skin and rolled up on a dusty shelf, as recently as 1929. The Piri Re'is map is based on pre-Islamic sources.*

#### *The Mercator Map of 1538*

*This map is non-Arabic in origin. It is a map of the world that was the first ever to show America stretching from north to south.*<sup>15</sup>

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<sup>12</sup> [http://www.bibliotecapleyades.net/egipto/fingerprintgods/fingerprintgods\\_00.htm](http://www.bibliotecapleyades.net/egipto/fingerprintgods/fingerprintgods_00.htm), retrieved 15.11.2012

<sup>13</sup> [http://members.tripod.com/~Glove\\_r/Hapgood.html](http://members.tripod.com/~Glove_r/Hapgood.html), retrieved 15.11.2012

<sup>14</sup> <http://www.dreamscape.com/morgana/larissa2.htm>, retrieved 15.11.2012

<sup>15</sup> <http://www.mostlymaps.com/mapmakers/gerardus-mercator>, retrieved 15.11.2012.



### ***The Ptolemaeus Basilae Map of 1540***

***This cartographic work is non-Arabic in origin. It is a reproduction of the World Map of Ptolemy with updated changes that was published in Basel, Switzerland in 1540.***

### ***The Hadji Ahmed World Map of 1559***

***Although Hadji Ahmed was Arab, he had no access to contemporary maps and charts of the Americas and so was stuck with simply copying some mysterious mappamundi in his possession.<sup>16</sup> Therefore, this map is not of Arabic origin.***



***The image shows a Byzantine coin Struck sometime between 607 and 609 AD. It is thus pre-Islamic. The coin shows the crowned Emperor Phocas [Flavius Phocas Augustus], Byzantine Emperor from 602 to 610. He usurped the throne from the Emperor Maurice (539-602) and was himself overthrown by Heraclius (575-641) Byzantine Emperor from 610 to 641 after losing a civil war. Phocas is holding what is called a globus cruciger, an orb that represents the spherical earth. This is more than 400 years before Ibn Hazm had the idea that the earth is round and approximately 532 years before Al-Idrisi took a globe to the court of King Roger.<sup>17</sup>***

***The cross-bearing orb is a Christian symbol that represents Christ (the Cross) and His rule over the orb (the world). It began to appear in approximately 395 AD and was used in the many kingdoms throughout the Holy Roman Empire into the Middle Ages. Many early Christian scholars such as Anicius Boëthius (480-524), Bishop Isidore of Seville (560-636), Bishop Rabanus Maurus (780-856), the monk Bede (672-735), Bishop Vergilius of Salzburg (700-784), and Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274) wrote about the earth being round. It is not true that Medieval Christians believed that the earth was flat. Even the Ancient Greeks Pythagoras (570-495 BC), Aristotle (384-322 BC), and Hipparchus***

<sup>16</sup> <http://unmyst3.blogspot.com/2011/03/hadji-ahmed-map.html>, retrieved 15.11.2012.

<sup>17</sup> <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phocas>, <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phocas>, and [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ek2UA3ii9a4&list=PLdjdIP1QymP0yXovPTaSy55P0SdoW3mpZ&index=6&feature=plpp\\_video](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ek2UA3ii9a4&list=PLdjdIP1QymP0yXovPTaSy55P0SdoW3mpZ&index=6&feature=plpp_video), retrieved 15.11.2012

*(190-120 BC) came to the conclusion that the earth is spherical at least 1,600 to 1,200 years earlier than Al-Idrisi.<sup>18</sup>*

*In 240 BC, Eratosthenes of Cyrene (275-194 BC), a Greek mathematician, geographer, poet, athlete, astronomer, and music theorist measured the circumference of the earth and came very close to the circumference as we know it today. The method he used was to measure the distance between Alexandria and Aswan and thus measure the curvature of the earth between these two points. This method was also used by Hermannus Contractus (1013-1054 AD) a medieval Christian scholar. The Greek philosopher and mathematician Aristarchus (320-230 BC) had proven that the Earth revolves around the Sun and not vice-versa. He refuted geocentrism.<sup>19</sup>*

*The classical Indian astronomer and mathematician, Aryabhata (476-550 AD), investigated the sphericity of the Earth, as well as the motion of the planets. He wrote about his research and discoveries in the Aryabhatiya. He measured the earth to be 4,967 yojanas=39,968 kilometers=24,835 miles. The circumference of the earth at the equator is 40,075 kilometers=24,901 miles.<sup>20</sup>*

*Scientists in the pre-Islamic East and scientists in pre-Christian Greece knew more about the earth than any Muslim scholar or scientist. However, Salim T. S. Al-Hassani and the National Geographic Society want us to believe that only the Muslim scientists knew their geography and that we must believe them. If we do believe the crap then we must also believe that "The earth is flat. Whoever claims it is round is an atheist deserving of punishment."<sup>21</sup> This was substantiated in October 2007, on Al-Fayhaa TV in Iraq. A Muslim scientist also declared that the earth is flat because the Koran says it is. Moreover, the earth is larger than the sun and the sun revolves around the earth.<sup>22</sup> To accept the Muslim scientists' based-on-the-Koran proclamations in any century is to stifle scientific progress.*

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<sup>18</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Globus\\_cruciger](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Globus_cruciger); [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Myth\\_of\\_the\\_Flat\\_Earth](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Myth_of_the_Flat_Earth), retrieved 15.11.2012.

<sup>19</sup> <http://www.varchive.org/ce/orbit/arisam.htm>, retrieved 15.11.2012.

<sup>20</sup> J. J. O'Connor and E. F. Robertson - Aryabhata the Elder - The MacTutor History of Mathematics Archive, November, 2000, at [http://www-history.mcs.st-andrews.ac.uk/Biographies/Aryabhata\\_I.html](http://www-history.mcs.st-andrews.ac.uk/Biographies/Aryabhata_I.html), retrieved 15.11.2012 and William J. Gongol, *The Aryabhatiya: Foundations of Indian Mathematics*, University of Northern Iowa, December 14, 2003 at <http://www.gongol.com/research/math/aryabhatiya/>, retrieved 15.11.2012.

<sup>21</sup> Youssef M. Ibrahim - *Muslim Edicts Take on New Force* - *New York Times*, February 12, 1995 at <http://www.nytimes.com/1995/02/12/world/muslim-edicts-take-on-new-force.html>, retrieved 15.11.2012.

<sup>22</sup> *Iraqi Researcher Defies Scientific Axioms: The Earth Is Flat and Much Larger than the Sun (Which Is Also Flat)* - MEMRI TV, Video No. 1684, Al-Fayhaa TV (Iraq) - October 31, 2007 at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nPrEaFmtZww>, retrieved 15.11.2012.

### Number 3. Gothic Rib Vaulting (1000)

STATEMENT: The gothic ribs of the Toledo and Córdoba Mosque vaults inspired European architects and their patrons to adopt them in the Romanesque and Gothic movements.

***TRUTHFUL COMMENT: It is illogical to name the ribs of the vaults in the mosques of Toledo and Córdoba gothic because the term as referring to architecture originated in France in the 12th century and lasted until the 16th century. Gothic architecture evolved out of Romanesque architecture which began at the end of the Roman Empire in the 6th century and lasted until approximately 1100/1200. Examples of Romanesque architecture with the predecessors of rib vaults existed in the Byzantine Basilica of San Vitale in Ravenna, which was begun by Bishop Ecclesius in 527, and completed by Bishop Maximian of Ravenna in 546. It is this church that became an inspiration for architectural building in Europe before and after the completion of Emperor Charlemagne's Palatine Chapel, in Aachen, Germany, which was built around the year AD 800. "The pointed arch, the vault rib, and the flying buttress" are not "the invention of Gothic builders." The technology already existed in the Romanesque period.<sup>23</sup>***

***An inscription on the façade of the Toledo mosque tells the viewer that it was constructed by Musa Ibn Ali in 999 AD. It is now the Roman Catholic Church Mesquita del Cristo de la Luz.<sup>24</sup> However, the Toledo Mosque was built on a Visigoth church site. The Visigoths controlled Toledo and parts of Spain to the northwest from approximately the fifth to the early eighth century (711). Therefore, the Christian church which existed in the Romanesque-Visigothic period, was more than three hundred years older than the mosque that was built over it.***

***The Córdoba Mosque (now the Roman Catholic Mezquita–catedral de Córdoba, Mezquita de Córdoba) was the Visigothic church St. Vincent, which was built ca. 600. The Muslims began the conversion into a mosque in approximately 784.<sup>25</sup> Therefore, the conclusion is that what we today call gothic rib vaults were not explicitly known at the time of the existence of the Toledo Mosque and the Córdoba Mosque. However, predecessors of such rib vaults were present in the Christian churches before they were usurped into mosques.***

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<sup>23</sup> Spiro Kostof, *A History of Architecture Settings and Rituals*, Oxford University Press, New York: 1985, p. 332.

<sup>24</sup> <http://www.sacred-destinations.com/spain/toledo-mezquita-del-cristo-de-la-luz>, retrieved 15.11.12.

<sup>25</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cathedral%E2%80%93Mosque\\_of\\_C%C3%B3rdoba](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cathedral%E2%80%93Mosque_of_C%C3%B3rdoba). Therefore, the gothic rib vaults were not known as such at the time.

***What 1001 Inventions and the Chief Editor, Salim T.S. Al-Hassani do not tell the reader is that when Toledo revolted against the Muslim occupiers in 713, the town was pillaged by the Muslims, the inhabitants were killed and all of Toledo's notables had their throats cut.<sup>26</sup>***

***What 1001 Inventions and the Chief Editor, Salim T.S. Al-Hassani do not tell us about the Muslims in Córdoba between 1013 and 1015 is that hundreds of Jews – "the brothers of apes" – were slaughtered for being Jews.<sup>27</sup> Neither 1001 Inventions nor the Chief Editor, Salim T.S. Al-Hassani tell us that the Muslims in Spain instituted clothing identification for Jews and Christians: "the riqā [cloth patch] ... required to have an emblem of an ape for a Jew or a pig for a Christian."<sup>28</sup> Furthermore, the so-called Cordoban Eucumenism under the Muslims never existed. It is a myth.<sup>29</sup>***

#### Number 4. Surgical Instruments Al-Zahrawi (936-1013)

STATEMENT: Cutting-edge surgeon Al-Zahrawi introduced more than 200 surgical tools that revolutionized medical science. These instruments would not look out of place in today's 21-st century hospitals.

***TRUTHFUL COMMENT: On pages 158 to 161 of 1001 Inventions, some of the medical tool inventions of Al-Zahrawi are listed: cystolithotomy knife, catgut, scalpels, sharp knives for incisions, hooks with a blunt half-circular end used to clear blood clots from veins, sharp hooks to hold back flesh tissue after cutting, forceps, crushing forceps to remove bladder stones, and delivery forceps, scrapers, drill, and saws. "Rather than unsophisticated tools, surgical instruments from Muslim civilization bear much resemblance to those we still use today." (p. 159). It is more interesting to note and understand that these Muslim surgical instruments bear exact resemblance to those used in Ancient Rome by Roman and Greek surgeons. Take a look at the following image of surgical tools found in Pompeii and dated 79 AD and ask yourself whether or not these instruments are predecessors to those so-called inventions by Al-Zahrawi***

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<sup>26</sup> Andrew G. Bostom, *From Sacred Texts to Solemn History The Legacy of Islamic Antisemitism*, Prometheus Books, Amherst, New York: 2008, p. 98; Andrew G. Bostom, *The Legacy of Jihad Islamic Holy War and the Fate of Non-Muslims*, Prometheus Books, Amherst, New York: 2005, pp. 56, 423.

<sup>27</sup> Andrew G. Bostom, *Sharia versus Freedom The Legacy of Islamic Totalitarianism*, Prometheus Books, Amherst, New York: 2012, p. 82.

<sup>28</sup> Quoted and explained in *Ibid*, p. 373.

<sup>29</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 367-377.





Source: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Medicine\\_in\\_ancient\\_Rome](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Medicine_in_ancient_Rome)

*The surgical instruments were excavated in Pompeii in 1887. They were found in a house belonging to a Greek surgeon. The same kinds of surgical instruments were used by the Greek doctor Hippocrates (460-370 BC). He lived 1,000 years before the emergence of Islam and almost 1,500 years before Al-Zahrawi. The surgical instruments used by Greek and Roman physicians and some in the image include bladder sounds, bone drills, bone forceps, catheters, hooks, scalpels, uvula crushing forceps, vaginal speculum and others. A portable surgical tool kit was also excavated.<sup>30</sup>*

*Catgut to sew up wounds was used by the Greek physician and medical researcher Claudius Galenus (129-217 AD). It was not Al-Zahrawi. However, the so-called "Muslim" surgeon, the pious Ibn Sīnā (Avicenna), 700 years later (920 AD) used material cut from a swine's organ. "Greek manuscripts began to be collected and translated by enlightened Arabs in the 9th century, and about 850 Hunayn ibn Ishāq, an Arab physician at the court of Baghdad, prepared an annotated list of 129 works of Galen that he and his followers had translated from Greek into Arabic or Syriac. Learned medicine in the Arabic world thus became heavily based upon the commentary, exposition, and understanding of Galen.<sup>31</sup>*

<sup>30</sup> Source: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Medicine\\_in\\_ancient\\_Rome](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Medicine_in_ancient_Rome), retrieved 18.11.12.

<sup>31</sup> <http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/223895/Galen-of-Pergamum>, retrieved 18.11.12.

## Number 5. Exploration Ibn Battuta (1304-1368/70)

STATEMENT: Ibn Battuta traveled more than 75,000 miles in 29 years through more than 40 modern countries, compiling one of the best eyewitness accounts of the customs and practices of the medieval world.

**TRUTHFUL COMMENT:** *The logic is faulty. Ibn Battuta traveled during this time, yet these countries were not modern. There are maps of Ibn Battuta's travels.<sup>32</sup> The travels/explorations did take place. The statement indicates the best in Ibn Battuta's eyewitness accounts concerning the customs and practices of the medieval world. In fact, the racist, demeaning descriptions are probably more interesting than Ibn Battuta's travels. Here are some of Ibn Battuta's comments on the places and peoples he encountered during his travels.<sup>33</sup>*

- *"Of the neighbors of the Bujja, there is no marriage among them; the child does not know his father, and they eat people – but Allah knows best. As for the Zanj, they are people of black color, flat noses, kinky hair, and little understanding or intelligence."*
- *"The geographer Al-Idrisi ascribes 'lack of knowledge and defective minds' to the black peoples. Their ignorance, he says, is notorious; men of learning and distinction are almost unknown among them, and their kings only acquire what they know about government and justice from the instruction of learned visitors from farther north."*
- *"Like the crow among mankind are the Zanj for they are the worst of men and the most vicious of creatures in character and temperament."*
- *"[inhabitants of sub-Saharan African countries] are people distant from the standards of humanity" "Their nature is that of wild animals...."*
- *"We know that the Zanj (blacks) are the least intelligent and the least discerning of mankind, and the least capable of understanding the consequences of actions."*
- *"They [the Shu`ubiyya] maintain that eloquence is prized by all people at all times – even the Zanj, despite their dimness, their boundless*

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<sup>32</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ibn\\_Battuta](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ibn_Battuta), retrieved 18.11.12.

<sup>33</sup> [http://www.raceandhistory.com/cgi-bin/forum/webbbs\\_config.pl/noframes/read/911](http://www.raceandhistory.com/cgi-bin/forum/webbbs_config.pl/noframes/read/911), retrieved 18.11.12.  
Zanj is Arabic meaning *Land of the Negroes*. Consult: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zanj>, retrieved 18.11.12.  
The Bujja belong to India.

*stupidity, their obtuseness, their crude perceptions and their evil dispositions, make long speeches."*

- *"Galen says that merriment dominates the black man because of his defective brain, whence also the weakness of his intelligence."*
- *"As regards southern countries, all their inhabitants are black on account of the heat of their climate... Most of them go naked... In all their lands and provinces, gold is found.... They are people distant from the standards of humanity."*
- *"The Zanj are so uncivilized that they have no notion of a natural death. If a man dies a natural death, they think he was poisoned. Every death is suspicious with them, if a man has not been killed by a weapon."*
- *About the Zanj: "Their nature is that of wild animals. They are extremely black." About the Sudan: "Among themselves there are people who steal each other's children and sell them to the merchants when the latter arrive."*
- *"If (all types of men) are taken, from the first, and one placed after another, like the Negro from Zanzibar, in the Southern-most countries, the Negro does not differ from an animal in anything except the fact that his hands have been lifted from the earth, – no other peculiarity or property, – except for what Allah wished. Many have seen that the ape is more capable of being trained than the Negro, and more intelligent."*
- *"Therefore, the Negro nations are, as a rule, submissive to slavery, because [Negroes] have little [that is essentially] human and have attributes that are quite similar to those of dumb animals, as we have stated."*
- *A black man owned an Arab slave "A man of discernment said: The people of Iraq ... do not come out with something between blonde, buff and blanced coloring, such as the infants dropped from the wombs of the women of the Slavs and others of similar light complexion; nor are they overdone in the womb until they are burned, so that the child comes out something between black, murky, malodorous, stinking, and crinkly-haired, with uneven limbs, deficient minds, and depraved passions, such as the Zanj, the Somali, and other blacks who resemble*

*them. The Iraqis are neither half-baked dough nor burned crust but between the two."*

- *"beyond [known peoples of black West Africa] to the south there is no civilization in the proper sense. There are only humans who are closer to dumb animals than to rational beings. They live in thickets and caves, and eat herbs and unprepared grain. They frequently eat each other. They cannot be considered human beings."*
- *"[Blacks] are ugly and misshapen, because they live in a hot country."*
- *"The Zanj are slight-witted (kam 'aql), and Allah, most high, has created them stupid, ignorant, and foul (palid)."*

*Ibn Battuta's comments are exceptional proof of his own intelligence and tolerance, a characteristic that Islam often claims for itself. Naturally, 1001 Inventions and Salim T. S. Al-Hassani, Chief Editor are moot concerning this aspect. Based on these descriptions, perhaps Ibn Battuta is history's first recorded racist. Moreover, perhaps the characteristics of African Blacks were their qualification for the Muslims to capture them and turn them into slaves. What remains is that Ibn Battuta was exceedingly wrong in his descriptions and estimations of the peoples he encountered.*

#### Number 6. Foundation of Sociology and Economics Ibn Khaldun (1332-1406)

STATEMENT: This man traced the rise and fall of human societies in a science of civilization, recording it all in his famous *Al-Muqaddimah*, or *Introduction to a History of the World*, which forms the basis of sociology and economic theory.

**TRUTHFUL COMMENT:** *Ibn Khaldun did write the famous Al-Muqaddimah, or Introduction to a History of the World, yet whether or not it forms the basis of sociology and economic theory can be debatable, particularly when the predecessor Greek philosophers are taken into consideration. It is not often said that Ibn Khaldun relied on Greek sources and philosophy to write and philosophize about the subject matter with which he was concerned. His "dominant intellectual lineage is the rationalist thought that stretches from the Peripatetic philosophers, and especially from Aristotle (384-322 BC)." Ibn Khaldun "clearly acknowledged the presence of Greek ideas" in his work to the degree that the "Greek philosophical tradition*



*... became synonymous and almost identical" with Ibn Khaldun writings .<sup>34</sup> A prime example is his statement "man is political by nature". Persons knowing their history of philosophy know that Aristotle wrote, "man is by nature a political animal."<sup>35</sup> Another example is the description of social relationships. Ibn Khaldun terms it ta'awun, co-operation and he draws on Aristotle's units of association/cooperation: the household or the family; the village; and the city-state. Furthermore, Ibn Khaldun bases his presentations of logic, happiness, virtues, vices, ethics, and the divisions of mathematical science (quantity, structure, space, change) on Aristotle's philosophical and political philosophy. Indeed, he even references Plato (424/423BC-348/347 BC) by using the following quotation from Plato: "(N)o certainty can be achieved with regard to the divine, and one can state about the divine only what is most suitable and proper."<sup>36</sup> Ibn Khaldun's descriptions and presentation of the sciences of physics and metaphysics are Greek in their origin.*

*At the same time Ibn Khaldun uses the Greek philosophers as sources, he argues against them by stating that the Greek philosophers cannot be correct in all matters, especially concerning questions relating to the sharia law. Only Islam can relate and present sharia law. He maintains that the logic of the Greeks cannot be accepted by Islam and sharia law. Of course, any freshman student of philosophy can understand why. Greek philosophy and logic could lead a person to become emancipated and independent. This is a human condition that Islam and sharia law cannot allow to exist. Ibn Khaldun believed that when Greek philosophy and Islam conflict, Islam surpasses Greek philosophy because it is pure. Yet, Islam is quite impure due to the non-humanity of the dogma, i.e., the desire to kill non-believers. (Refer to Number 1.)*

*Ibn Khaldun was building on the shoulders of philosophical giants, but his conclusion that Greek philosophy was inadequate because it sought to seek the knowledge of the beyond and violated the limits of the human mind and was thus harmful to Islam, makes him a dwarf in comparison to the giants who came before him.*

#### Number 7. Horseshoe Arch (715)

SATATEMENT: Resembling a horseshoe, this arch was first used in the Umayyad Great Mosque of Damascus. In Britain, it is known as the Moorish arch and was popular in Victorian times; it was often used in railway station entrances.

<sup>34</sup> <http://www.iiste.org/Journals/index.php/HRL/article/view/2233/2246>, retrieved 18.11.12. The Peripathetic School was the Greek philosophical school in ancient Athens.

<sup>35</sup> Aristotle, *Politics*, 1252 b30-1253 a3, any edition.

<sup>36</sup> <http://www.iiste.org/Journals/index.php/HRL/article/view/2233/2246>, retrieved 18.11.12.

**TRUTHFUL COMMENT:** *Horseshoe arches are known from the Kingdom of Aksum or Axum, also called the Aksumite Empire. It existed from ca. 100 to 940. Its geographical location was comparable to modern day Ethiopia and Eritrea. Horseshoe arches began appearing in the Kingdom of Aksum around the 3rd–4th century, at about the same time as the earliest contemporary examples in Roman Syria. This suggests an Aksumite origin or a Syrian origin for the horseshoe arch, but definitely not a Muslim origin, since it appeared many years before the Mosque of Damascus, which was built on the site of a Christian basilica dedicated to John the Baptist, after the Arab conquest of Damascus in 634. It is typical of Islam to build mosques on the sites of former churches, cathedrals, etc, in order to symbolize the superiority of Islam over the non-believers<sup>37</sup> Furthermore, horseshoe arches were built by the Visigoths when they occupied Spain from 415 to 711, at which time they were defeated by the invading Moors from Africa. The Muslims took the use of the horseshoe arch from the Visigoths and the Mozarabs, who were Christians from North Africa. The Mozarabs used horseshoe arches in their church buildings.<sup>38</sup>*

Number 8. Al-Nuri Hospital (1156)

STATEMENT: Hospitals provided free health care to all. Al-Nuri was an immense and sophisticated hospital where druggists, barbers, orthopedists, occultists, and physicians were all examined by "market inspectors" to make sure they met the highest standards.

**TRUTHFUL COMMENT:** *The earliest documentation of hospitals for the care of the ill proves that the Sinhalese of Sri Lanka had lying-in-homes and hospitals throughout the country.<sup>39</sup> There are ruins of ancient hospitals in the country: The Anuradhapura, Medirigiriya, and Mihintale hospitals are examples. The latter is considered to be the oldest in the world and is dated to the ninth century.<sup>40</sup>*

*When Christianity became the accepted religion in the Roman Empire, there was a surge in providing care for the inhabitants. The First Council of Nicaea (325 AD) provided that a hospital be built in every cathedral town. Examples are those founded and built in Cæsarea in Cappadocia by Basil, Bishop of Caesarea, which is called the Basiliad, established in 369 AD. It had "the*

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<sup>37</sup> Consult Stuart Munro-Hay, *Aksum: A Civilization of Late Antiquity*, Edinburgh: University Press, Edinburgh: 1991, pp. 128-130.

<sup>38</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Visigothic\\_art](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Visigothic_art), retrieved 18.11.12.

<sup>39</sup> <http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/ihs/publications/pdf/No-42.PDF>, retrieved 18.11.12.

<sup>40</sup> <http://answers.yahoo.com/question/index?qid=20080416110428AAaZGYy>, retrieved 18.11.12.

*dimensions of a city with its regular streets, buildings for different classes of patients, dwellings for physicians and nurses, workshop and industrial schools.'*<sup>41</sup> *Early in the sixth century, St. Samson founded a hospital near the church of St. Sophia in Constantinople. These two examples prove that the concept of the modern hospital is the result of Christian love and mercy and Byzantine advancement. The Muslims and Islam had no influence because they had not been conceptualized at that time.*

*The city of Jundishapur (Gundeshapur), Persia was founded by King Shapur I in 271 BC. A large portion of the population was Syriac Christians. In 529 AD scholars from the Persian School of Edessa, a Christian and medical university, settled in Jundishapur. Here they translated medical texts and founded the hospital and medical center at Jundishapur, which consisted of a medical school, a hospital, a pharmacology laboratory, a translation house, a library, and an observatory.*<sup>42</sup>

*The Sassanid dynasty fell to Muslim Arab armies in 638 CE. The first physicians under the Muslims were Jews and Christians. The academy survived the change of rulers and persisted for several centuries as a Muslim-re-founded university and institute of higher learning. In 832, Caliph Al-Ma'mūn established the famous Baytu al-Hikma, the House of Wisdom. The House of Wisdom copied the methods of the early university by engaging renowned scholars from the Jundishapur university, which provided the major connection between Greek, Iranian, and Indian medicine. Jundishapur held high the traditions of Galen and Hippocrates and preserved their works. The Muslims later synthesized these experiences and re-titled the synthesis Islamic medicine.*<sup>43</sup>

*Hospitals existed in ancient Rome, Greece, Egypt, and India. Islam acquired the idea and knowledge from these predecessor cultures. The subtle listing of the Al-Nuri Hospital in 1156 is a concocted and intentional suggestion that the Muslims contributed the concept of the hospital to the rest of the world. Nothing could be farther from the truth. It is not only a devious, misleading myth. It is an outright lie.*

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<sup>41</sup> <http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/07480a.htm>, retrieved 20.11.12.

<sup>42</sup> Cyril Elgood, *A Medical History of Persia and the Eastern Caliphate*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge: 1951, p. 7.

<sup>43</sup> Michael Dols, Michael (1987). *The Origins of the Islamic Hospital: Myth and Reality* in *Bulletin of the History of Medicine* 1987: 61, pp. 367–91. Consult also <http://www.indianscience.org/essays/21-%20E--Hospitals%20in%20India%20in%20ancient%20period%20and%20medieval%20period.pdf>, retrieved 20.11.12, and R. Frye, ed., *Cambridge History of Iran*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge: 1975, vol. 4, p. 377, as well as <http://etb-history-theology.blogspot.de/2012/03/origins-of-hospitals.html>, retrieved 20.11.12.



Number 9. Blood Circulation Ibn al-Nafis (1210-1288)

STATEMENT: Ibn al-Nafis of Egypt first described pulmonary circulation of venous blood passing into the heart and lungs via ventricles, thus becoming oxygenated and arterial blood. He was finally accredited with this discovery in 1957.

經脈第十  
雷公問於黃帝曰禁脈之言凡刺之理經脈爲始  
營其所行制其度量內次五藏外別六府願盡聞  
其道黃帝曰人始生先成精精成而腦髓生骨爲  
幹脈爲營筋爲剛肉爲牆皮膚堅而毛髮長穀入  
于胃脈道以通血氣乃行雷公曰願卒聞經脈之  
始生黃帝曰經脈者所以能決死生處百病調虛  
實不可不通肺手太陰之脈起于中焦下絡大腸  
還循胃口上膈屬肺從肺系橫出腋腋下循臑內  
行少陰心主之前下肘中循臂內上骨下廉入寸  
口上魚循魚際出大指之端其支者從腕後直出  
次指內廉出其端是動則病肺脹滿膨膨而喘欬



**TRUTHFUL COMMENT:** *The process of the circulation of the blood might have been described by Muslim medic Ibn al-Nafis 300 years before William Harvey. However, the Chinese Book of Medicine describes this 1,600 years before Ibn Nafis.<sup>44</sup> According to the multi-linguist Swiss physician Prof. h.c. Dr. med. Claus C. Schnorrenberger, the above image is an "original page of the onset of chapter 10 (Jing-Shui) from the Ling-Shu-Jing explaining the development of the human embryo and the significance of human blood circulation."<sup>45</sup>*

#### Number 10. Pointed Arch (ninth century)

STATEMENT: The pointed arch concept, on which Gothic architecture is based, came to Europe from Egypt's beautiful Ibn Tulun B'Mosque of Cairo via Sicily with Amalfitan merchants. It enabled European architects to overcome problems in Romanesque vaulting.

**TRUTHFUL COMMENT:** *The pointed arch or ogival arch is one of the defining characteristics of Gothic architecture. Yet, it did not originate with the Muslim architecture. The Assyrians used it as early as 722 BC in their buildings and in their drainage architecture.<sup>46</sup> It is not a logical conclusion that medieval architects adopted the use of the pointed arch from Islamic architecture only. The pointed arch was common in the Near East before the arrival of Islam. Indeed, Islamic architecture adopted the pointed arch from predecessor pre-Islamic architecture before the pointed arches were structurally employed in medieval architecture.<sup>47</sup>*

#### Number 11. Camera Obscura Ibn a-Haytham (965-1039)

STATEMENT: In a darkened room (qamara in Arabic), Ibn al-Haytham observed light coming through a small hole in the window shutters producing an upside-down image on the opposite wall. This early pin-hole camera has led to the cameras of today.

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<sup>44</sup> [http://tedpriebe.com/documents/Anatomical\\_Foundations\\_of\\_Chinese%20Med.pdf](http://tedpriebe.com/documents/Anatomical_Foundations_of_Chinese%20Med.pdf), retrieved 20.11.12.

<sup>45</sup> Ibid. Consult pages 2, 15 and 16. Claus C. Schnorrenberger is Chairman of the LIFU INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE OF CHINESE MEDICINE (LICCM) EUROPE, Overseas Campus of the China Medical University, Taichung, Taiwan, Republic of China. The overseas campus is located at Karl Jaspers-Allee 8, CH-4052 Basel/Switzerland.

<sup>46</sup> Consult *The Columbia Electronic Encyclopedia* 2007, Columbia University Press, **arch** – at <http://www.1911encyclopedia.org/Arch>, retrieved 20.11.12.

<sup>47</sup> John Warren has concluded that the pointed arch was pre-Islamic . Consult *Creswell's Use of the Theory of Dating by the Acuteness of the Pointed Arches in Early Muslim Architecture* in *Muqarnas*, Volume 8, *An Annual on Islamic Art and Architecture*: 1991, pp. 59–65.



*In De Radio Astronomica et Geometrica (1545) Gemma Frisius presented the first drawing of the pinhole camera. A Neapolitan scientist, Giovanni Battista della Porta (1538-1615), described a pinhole camera in Magia naturalis (1558).<sup>51</sup> (See above image.)*

*The terminology camera obscura is Latin, which predates the Arabic language by ca. 1,600 years. The word camera in Latin means an arched or vaulted space. Camera comes from the Greek κἀμαρα, which means a place or anything with an arched covering. The source of the Greek is the Indo-European word root \*kam-er- meaning to arch, to bend.<sup>52</sup> Italian has the word camera, French chambre and English chamber. The Latin word obscura means dark. Its origin is the Indo-European word root (s)keu, meaning to cover, to hide.<sup>53</sup> Therefore, a camera obscura is a covered (dark) room. The term camera does not come from the Arabic qamara, although qamara may be related to camera. However the internationally renowned expert on the etymology of words Julius Pokorny in his Indogermanisches Etymologisches Wörterbuch cannot substantiate this connection. In the sense that people know the modern meaning of camera, a mechanism that takes pictures, we owe the use to the German scientist Johannes Kepler (1571-1630).<sup>54</sup>*

#### Number 12. Castles (12<sup>th</sup> Century)

STATEMENT: The invincible design of the castles of Syria and Jerusalem were imitated in Western lands with key features like round towers, arrow slits, barbicans, machicolations, parapets, and battlements.

**TRUTHFUL COMMENT:** *Castles are a European innovation of the ninth and tenth centuries that were introduced into England shortly before the Norman Conquest of 1066.<sup>55</sup> Concerning the following features, we have the respective explanations of their history.*

- **Round towers.** *Portchester Castle is often catalogued as a medieval castle. It was built in the late eleventh century. Until 1154 it belonged to an English baron. In that year it was taken over by the English crown.*

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<sup>51</sup> <http://www.pinholetours.com/history%20of%20pinhole/history%20of%20pinhole.html>, retrieved 20.11.12.

<sup>52</sup> Julius Pokorny, *Indogermanisches Etymologisches Wörterbuch*, Francke Verlag, Tübingen and Basel: 2005, p. 524.

<sup>53</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 951.

<sup>54</sup> <http://www.pinholetours.com/history%20of%20pinhole/history%20of%20pinhole.html>, retrieved 20.11.12.

<sup>55</sup> <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Castle>, retrieved 20.11.12.

*The defensive stone walls have integrated towers that were built in the 3rd century AD.*



*Left Image: Portchester Castle, Outer wall with integrated round towers.<sup>56</sup>*

*Right Image: Pembroke Castle in Wales has round towers. It was built beginning in 1093.<sup>57</sup>*

- *Arrow slits. Archimedes is given the credit for inventing arrow slits during the siege of Syracuse in 214–212 BC.<sup>58</sup> Corfe Castle, built in the tenth century has arrow slits.<sup>59</sup>*



*Source: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arrowslit>.*

- **Barbican.** *A barbican is an outer fortification, a fortified gate house. The origin of the word is disputable. Islam and Muslims, of course, claim that it comes from Arabic. However there is a more logical origin of the word in Persian, باب خانه bab-i-khanah meaning gate-house and towered gateway or it could be from the Medieval English word*

<sup>56</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Portchester\\_Castle](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Portchester_Castle), retrieved 20.11.12.

<sup>57</sup> [http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pembroke\\_Castle](http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pembroke_Castle), retrieved 20.11.12.

<sup>58</sup> Peter Jones and Derek Renn, *The military effectiveness of Arrow Loops: Some experiments at White Castle in Chateau Gaillard: Etudes de Castellologie medieval*, Centre de Recherches Archéologiques Médiévales: 1982, Vols., IX–X: pp. 445–456.

<sup>59</sup> [http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corfe\\_Castle](http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corfe_Castle), retrieved 20.11.12.



*burgh-kenning, meaning town watch tower.<sup>60</sup> There is surety that 1001 Inventions and Salim T.S. al-Hassani cannot claim that the terminology is purely Arabic.*



*Source: Pembroke Castle with its integrated gatehouse and expanded neck built from ca. 1093.<sup>61</sup> Notice that the towers are round.*

- **Machicolations.** *A machicolation is a downward opening or slit used to defend a castle or fort. There are box machicolations, concealed machicolations, and continuous machicolations. The box machicolations were used by the Romans. The Muslims adopted the use of machicolations from the Romans.<sup>62</sup>*
- **Parapets.** *A wall-like barrier at the edge of a roof or other places is called a parapet. The Great Wall of China, built between 800 BC and 1400 AD has parapets along the roadway. Some were built as early as the 4th century BC.<sup>63</sup>*
- **Battlements.** *"A battlement in defensive architecture, such as that of city walls or castles, comprises a parapet (i.e. a defensive low wall between chest-height and head-height), in which rectangular gaps or indentations occur at intervals to allow for the discharge of arrows or other missiles from within the defenses. These gaps are termed crenels (also known as carnels, embrasures, or wheelers), and the building operation of embattling a previously unbroken parapet is termed crenellation. Thus a defensive building might be designed and built with*

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<sup>60</sup> <http://www.etymonline.com/index.php?l=b&p=2>; <http://www.barbicanliving.co.uk/h3a.html>, retrieved 22.11.12.

<sup>61</sup> <http://www.castlewales.com/pembroke03.jpg>, retrieved 22.11.12.

<sup>62</sup> [http://archnet.org/library/dictionary/entry.jsp?entry\\_id=DIA0435&mode=full](http://archnet.org/library/dictionary/entry.jsp?entry_id=DIA0435&mode=full), retrieved 22.11.12.

<sup>63</sup> [http://www.travelchinaguide.com/china\\_great\\_wall/construction/wall/](http://www.travelchinaguide.com/china_great_wall/construction/wall/), retrieved 22.11.12.

*battlements, or a manor house might be fortified by adding battlements, where no parapet previously existed, or cutting crenellations into its existing parapet wall. The solid widths between the crenels are called merlons (also cops or kneelers). A wall with battlements is said to be crenelated or embattled. Battlements often have protected walkways (chemin de ronde) behind them. Battlements have been used for thousands of years; the earliest known example is in the palace at Medinet-Abu built during the New Kingdom (16th-11th century BC) at Thebes in Egypt, which allegedly derives from Syrian fortresses. Medinet-Abu was constructed as a mortuary for Rameses III (reigned ca. 1186-1155 BC).<sup>64</sup> Battlements were used in the walls surrounding Assyrian towns, as shown on bas reliefs from Nimrud and elsewhere. Traces of them remain at Mycenae in Greece, and some ancient Greek vases suggest the existence of battlements. The Great Wall of China has battlements."<sup>65</sup> Therefore, battlements are not a Muslim invention.*

*Round towers, arrow slits, barbicans, machicolations, parapets, and battlements were definitely used by warring Muslims, yet there is no decisive proof that Muslim engineers or architects invented these aspects of fortification. Indeed, many fortification elements like these were already used by the Romans and even the Chinese before the Romans. Both of these cultures transmitted the use of these fortification aspects throughout their empires.*

## **Conclusion**

At this stage of the inquiry and exposé of *1001 Inventions*, the conclusive evidence proves that Islam and Muslims did not invent the items that are contended on page 14. There is nothing that is a legacy of Muslim civilization. However, Muslims during the timeline on page 14 did conduct racism, hatred, dictatorship, totalitarianism, the extermination of other cultures, the modern concept of slavery, and various forms of lying like *taqiyya*, *kitman*, and of course, continuous lying known as *tawriya*. Perhaps we should call these practices Muslim Civilization inventions.

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Frederick William Dame  
Patriotic, Steadfast, and True  
November 27, 2012.

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<sup>64</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ramesses\\_III](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ramesses_III), retrieved 22.11.12.

<sup>65</sup> <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battlement>, retrieved 22.11.12.