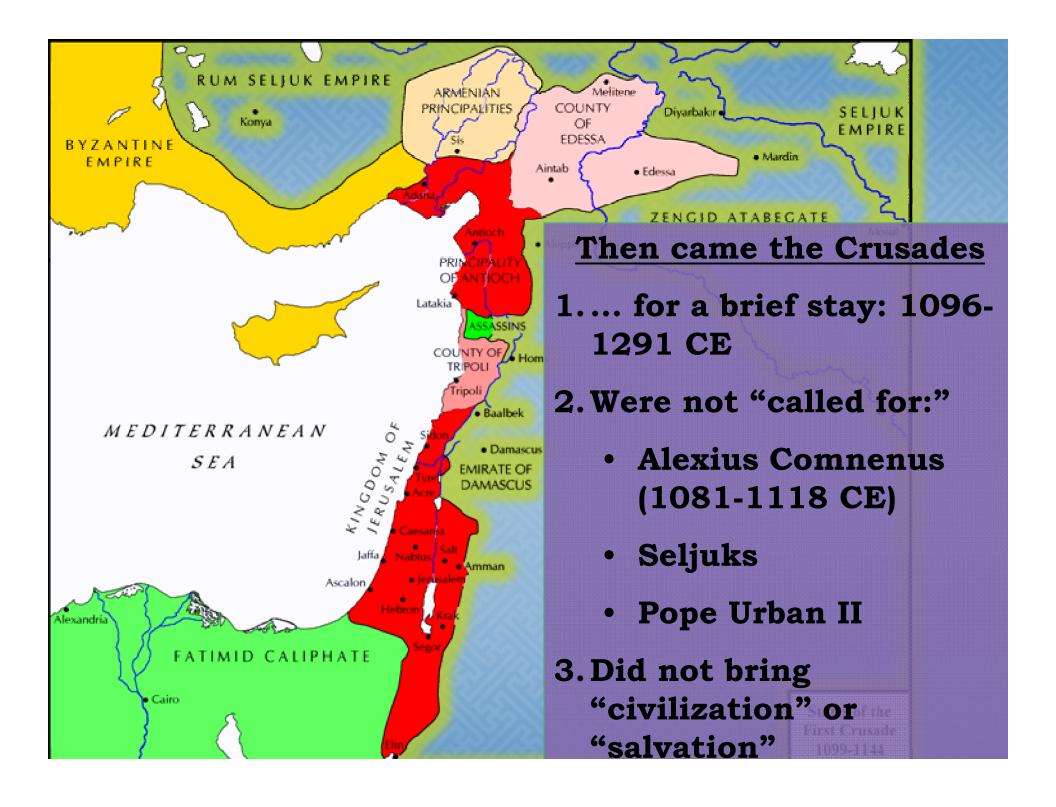


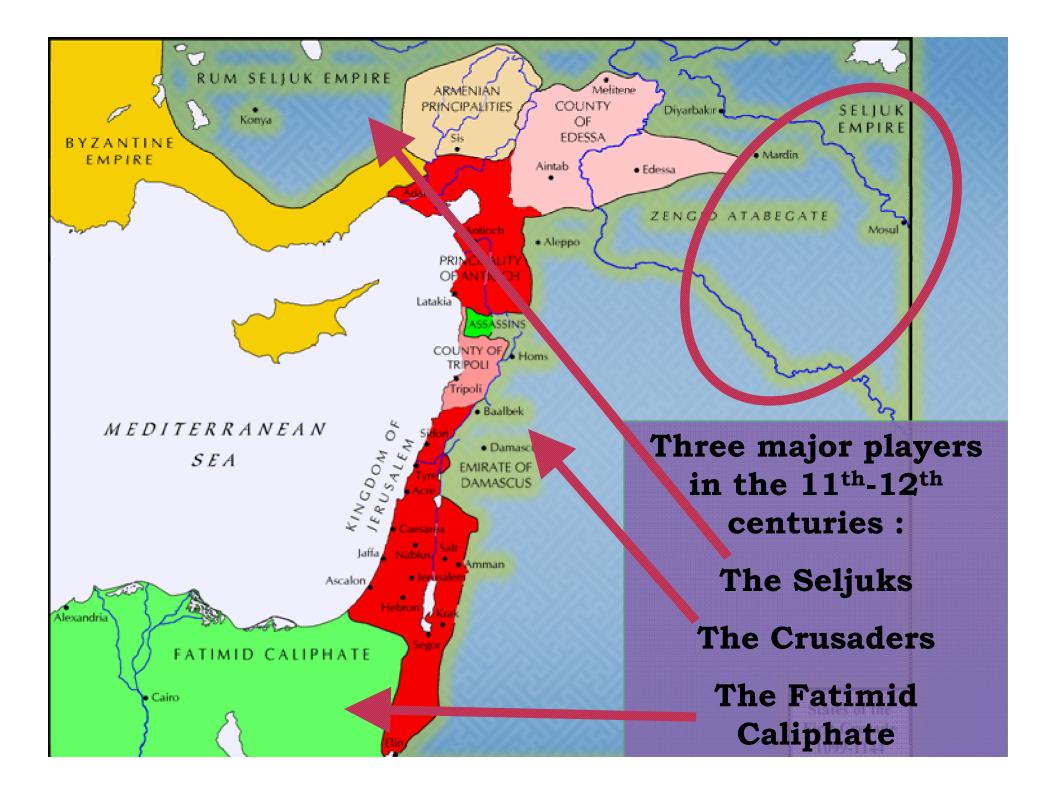
The Fatimid Caliphate and The Seljuks

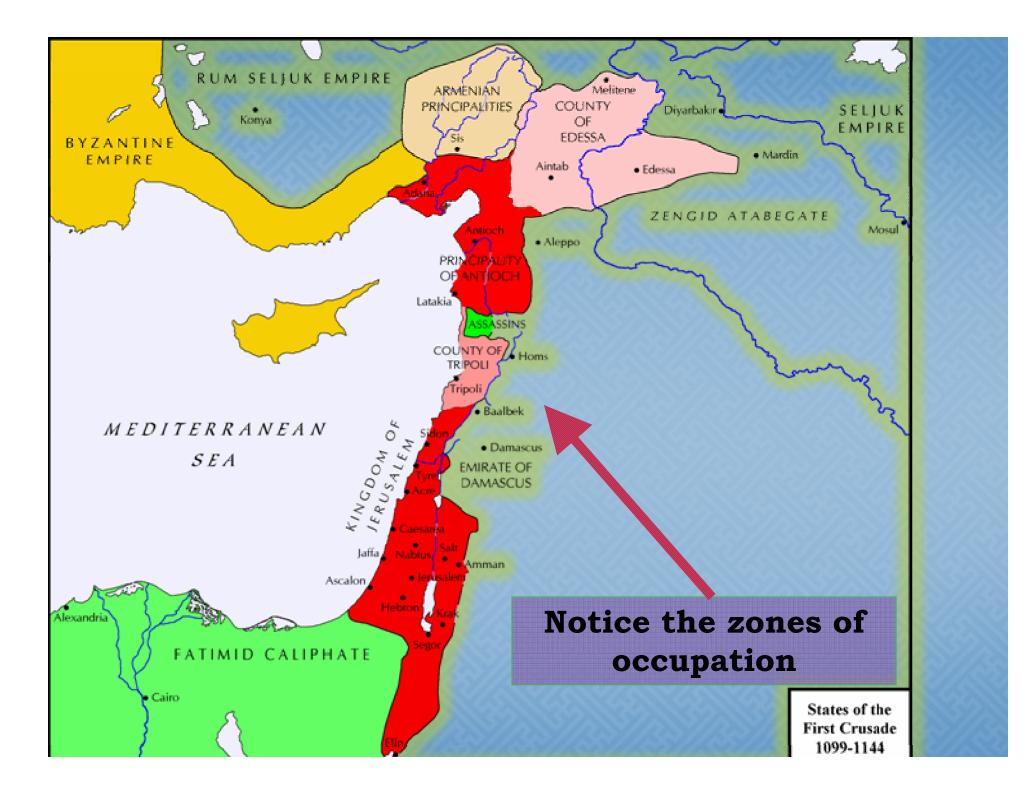


The Fatimid Caliphate and The Seljuks

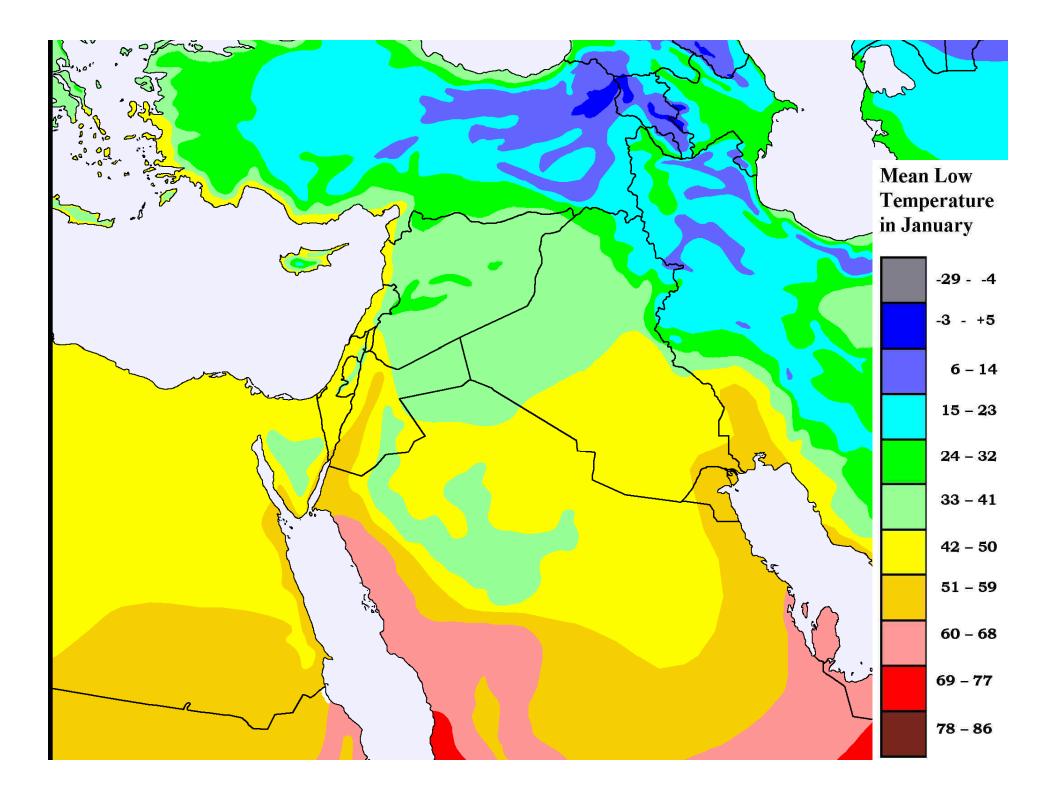


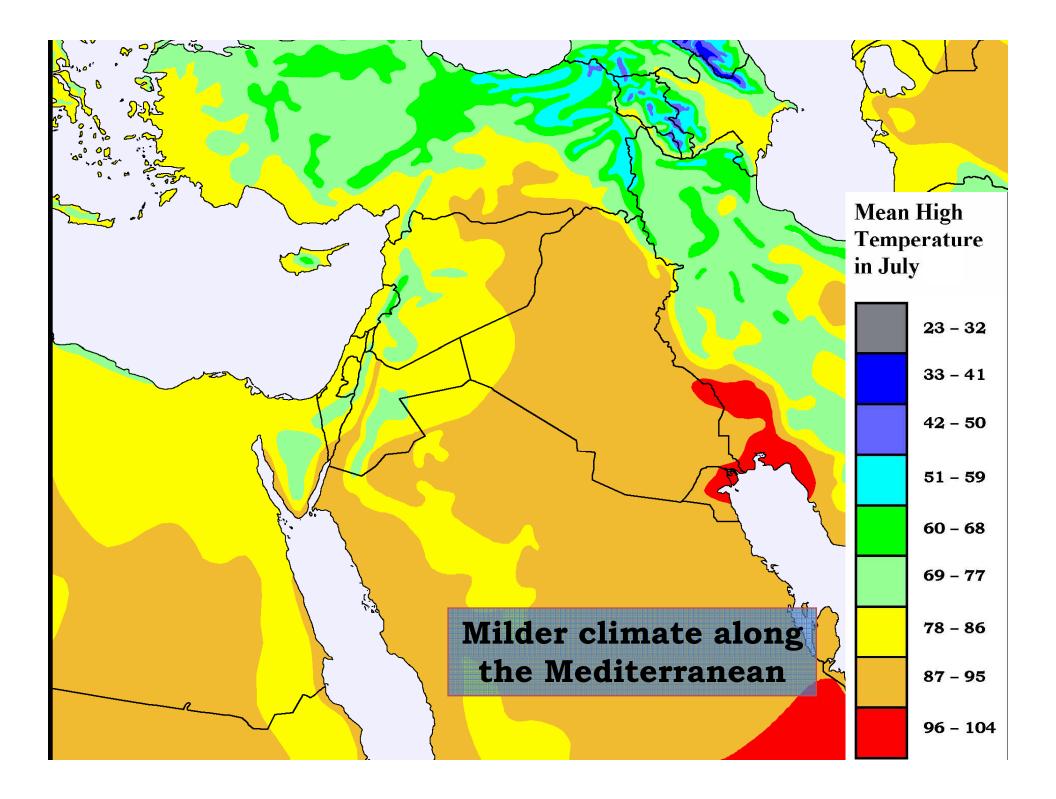


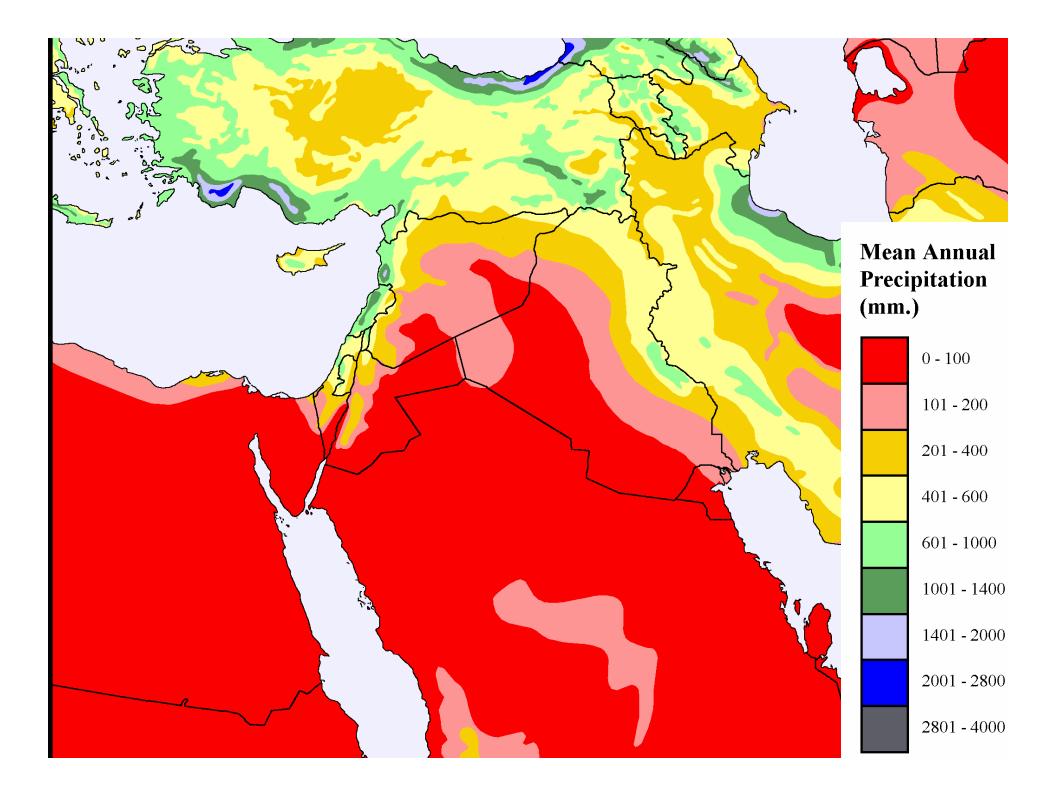




Mountains block the climatic effects of the Mediterranean







Agriculture in the Middle East

Primarily cereals

Fruits and industrial crops

Primarily grazing. Some farming.

Notice the zones of

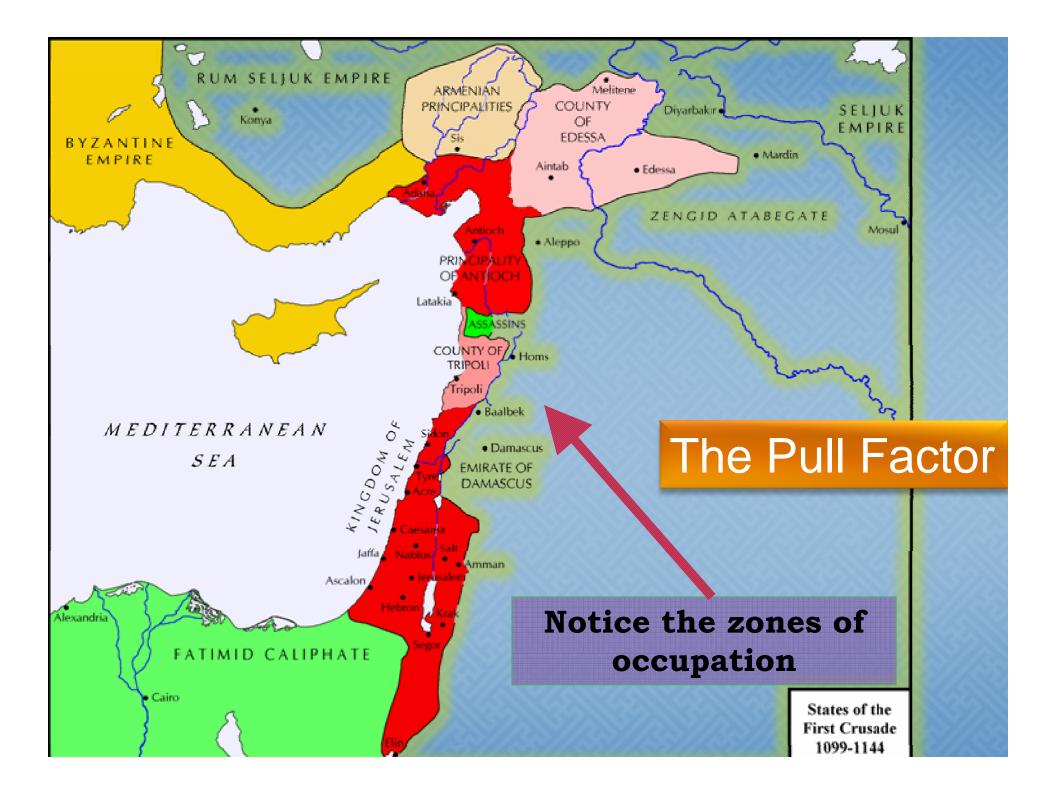
agriculture

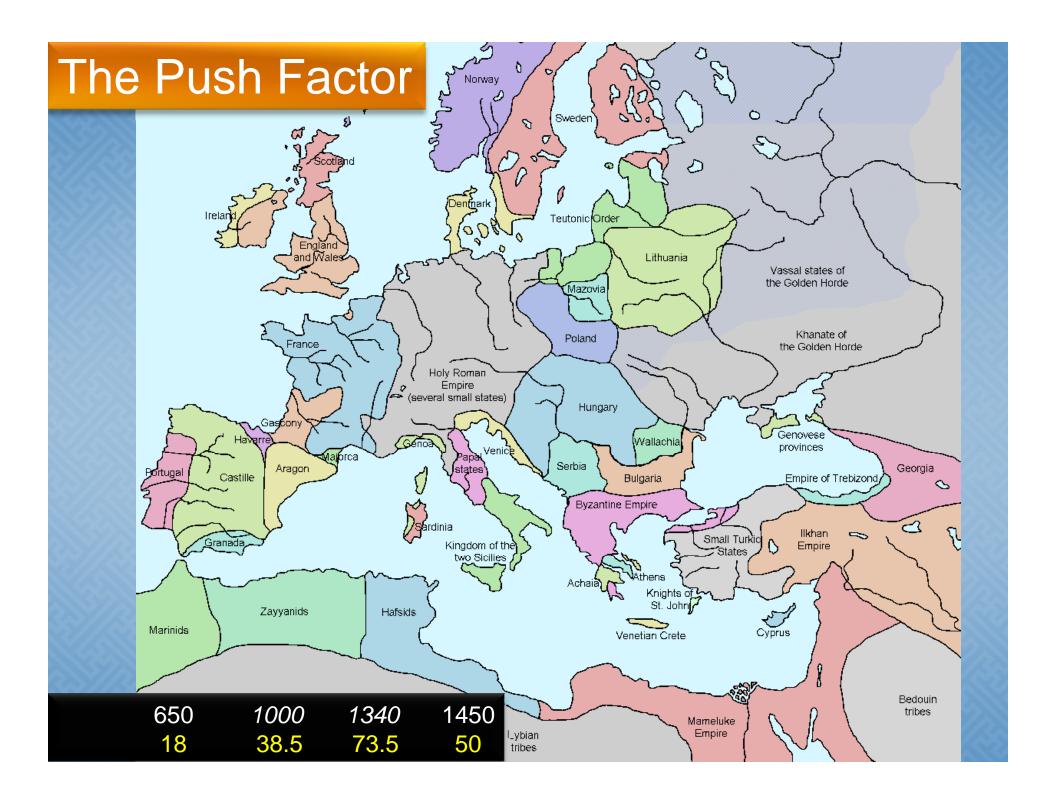
Oasis agriculture. Cereals vegetables, fruits

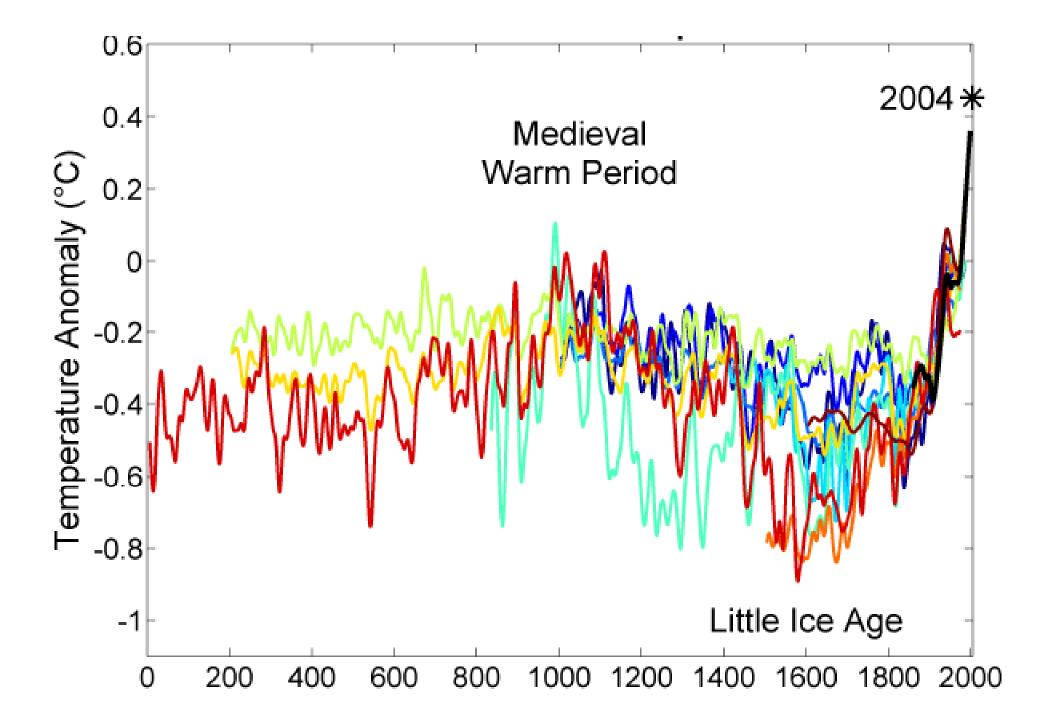
Forests with areas of farming and grazing

Nomadic, semi-nomadic. Animal breeding

Wastelands, underutilized agricultural lands







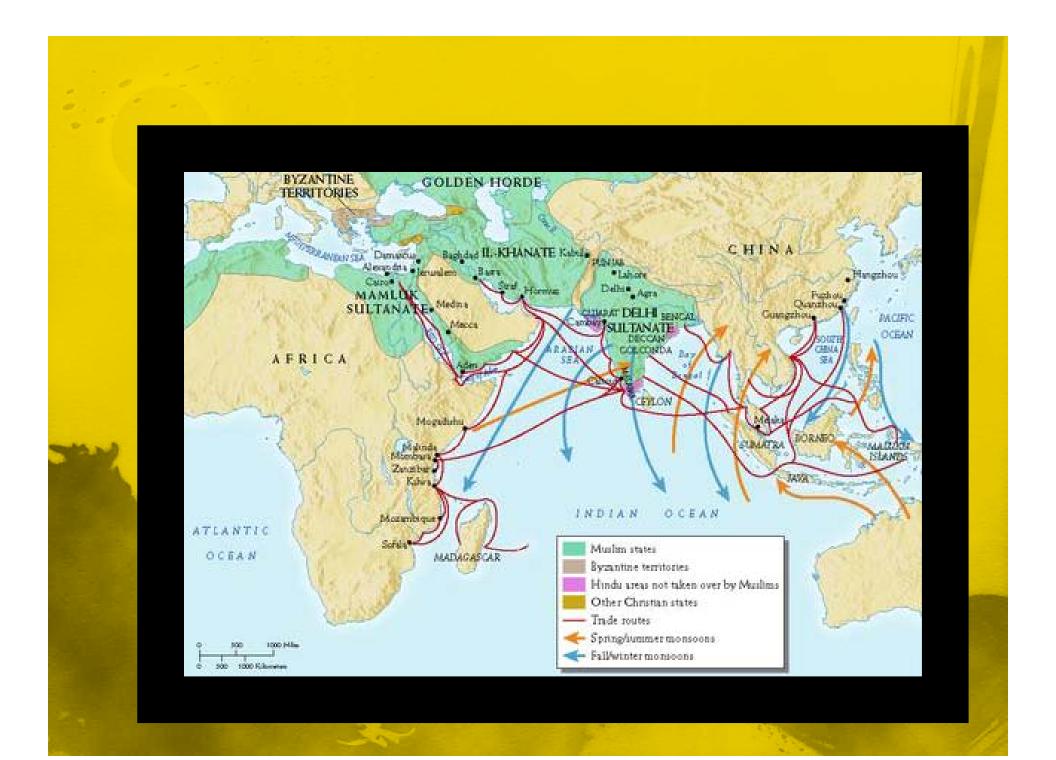
The Power of Towns

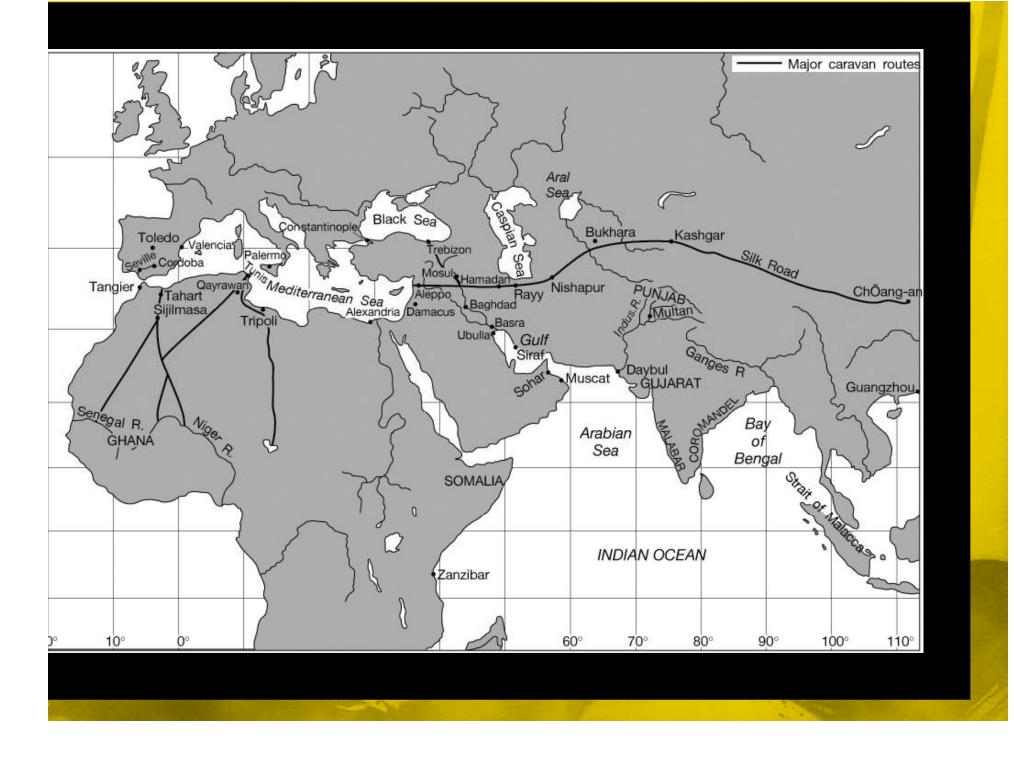


In the Western Mediterranean World, increased temperatures and Norman migrations led to increased population and urbanization in the 11th & 12th centuries. In the Eastern Mediterranean, similar climatic conditions and Turkic migrations enhanced the economic activity and the wealth of towns.

Port of Acre

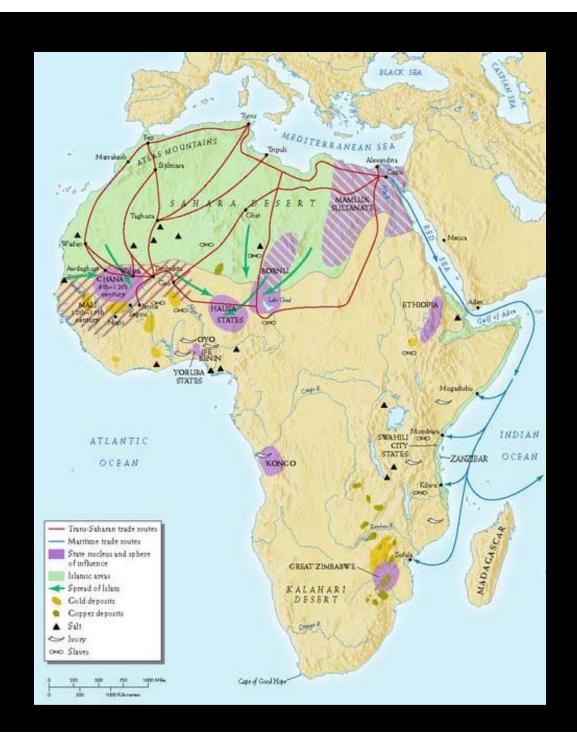






The capture of a caravan by King Richard reveals the variety and quantity of aoods transported from Asia to Europe in the twelfth century, and during all the Crusades.

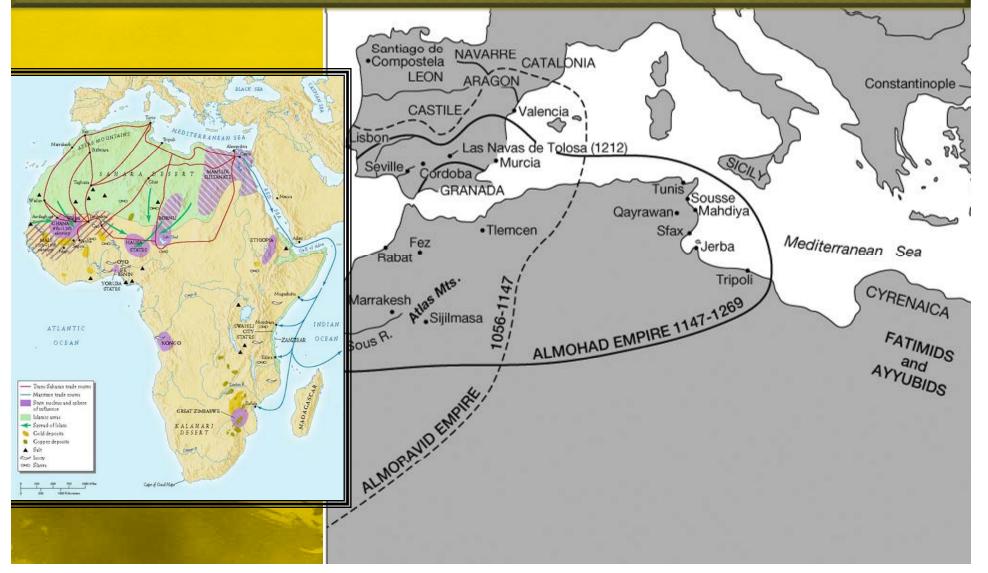
By this defeat the pride of the Turks was entirely cast down, and their boldness effectually repressed; whilst the caravan, with all its riches, became the spoil of the victors. Its guards surrendered to our soldiers themselves, their beasts of burden, and sumpter horses; and stretching forth their hands in supplication, they implored for mercy They led the yoked horses and camels by the halter, and offered them to our men, and they brought mules loaded with spices of different kinds, and of great value; gold and silver; cloaks of silk; purple and scarlet robes, and variously-ornamented apparel, besides arms and weapons of divers forms; coats of mail, commonly called gasiganz; costly cushions, pavilions, tents, biscuit, bread. barley, grain, meal, and a large quantity of conserves and medicines; basins, bladders, chess-boards; silver dishes and candlesticks; pepper, cinnamon, sugar, and wax; and other valuables of choice and various kinds; an immense sum of money, and an incalculable quantity of goods, such as had never before (as we have said) been taken at one and the same time, in any former battle.



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In the Southwest Mediterranean World, Norman migrations and political strife eventually led to the demise of the Umayyad caliphate during the 11th and 12th centuries and the rise of the Almovarid and the Almohad Empires.



A World of Wealth and Exchange

