

Early Islamic World

Daily Life

What was daily life like during the early part of the Islamic Empire?

The Islamic Empire was one of the largest empires in world history. It covered a wide range of cultures, climates, and geography. Below we will discuss what the daily life was like during this time for Arab Muslims living in the Middle East.

Section	Notes
Homes	Like with all societies, the size and style of homes were _____ for the rich and the poor. Poor people lived in _____ or _____, while the wealthy lived in large single-family homes. The large homes usually had a _____ in the center with a fountain where people could cool off from the desert heat. Sometimes they had _____ that would force wind through the house like air conditioning.
Jobs	During the Middle Ages, the Islamic Empire had a booming _____ economy. As a result, people worked a variety of jobs including farmers, merchants, craftsmen, teachers, herders, and _____.
Food	A common meal during that time would have consisted of dates, _____, and _____. This same meal is often used today by Muslims to break their fast during Ramadan. Other common foods included eggplant, lentils, and _____ to drink. Meat, such as lamb and chicken, was rare and typically only eaten by the _____. Some foods were forbidden by Islam including pork and alcohol. _____ foods are called "haram" and _____ foods are called "halal."
Clothing	To protect themselves from the hot sun of the Middle East, early Muslims wore _____ that covered their entire bodies. Both men and women wore long _____ and loose _____. Women often wore head scarves and _____. Men also used head coverings including _____. Dressing modestly and covering up was also part of the Islamic religion.

School	_____ was an important part of the early Islamic Empire. Young boys attended _____ where they studied and memorized the Quran. They also studied other subjects including _____, philosophy, astrology, and _____.
Nomads	While some people lived in towns and villages, others were _____. Nomads moved about the desert looking for new pastures and water for their animals. They lived in long, low _____ that were easy to move about. Some of the first _____ to Islam were nomads. They helped Islam to _____ rapidly throughout the Middle East as they moved from place to place.

Write two interesting facts that stood out to you.

1.

2.