

# Caliphates Cheat Sheet

Version 3.0

*Caliphates are listed chronologically. **Bolded terms** appear frequently in tossups.*

Dynasty	Period	Details
Rashidun	600s CE	also called the <b>Rightly-Guided Caliphs</b> ; group of the first <b>four caliphs</b> to rule after Muhammad's death, starting with <b>Abu Bakr</b> ; ended with the <b>First Fitna</b> , an internal conflict resulting from the assassination of <b>Uthman</b> and that lasted through the reign of <b>Ali</b>
Umayyad	600s-700s	capital at <b>Damascus</b> ; founded by <b>Muawiyah</b> after the First Fitna; <b>Abd al-Rahman</b> was defeated at the <b>Battle of Tours</b> by <b>Charles Martel</b> in 732 while invading Gaul; included internal conflict between groups called the Sufyanids and Marwanids
Abbasid	700s-1500s	capital at <b>Baghdad</b> ; defeated the Tang dynasty at the <b>Battle of Talas</b> (Battle of the Talas River); defeated by <b>Hulagu Khan</b> , who destroyed their House of Wisdom during the sack of Baghdad; Caliph <b>Harun al-Rashid</b> sent a water-powered <b>clock</b> to <b>Charlemagne</b> as a diplomatic gift
Fatimid	900s-1100s	based in <b>Egypt</b> ; named for claiming descent from Fatima, a daughter of Muhammad; defeated the First Crusade; Al-Hakim, sometimes nicknamed the "Mad Caliph," destroyed the Church of the Holy Sepulchre