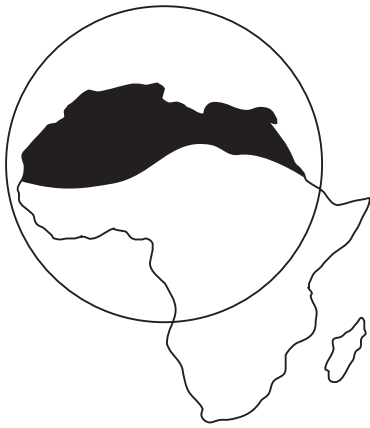


Spread of Islam 670–1000

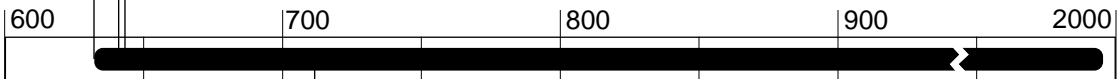


After the death of the Prophet Mohammed in 632, Islam spread rapidly throughout the Middle East and North Africa. The Arabs began their conquest of North Africa in 640, and the year 642 saw Muslim rule in Egypt. The expansion westward to modern-day Tunisia had begun by 670, and by 711 the whole of North Africa (conquered by 710) and Spain were under Islamic control. From then on the religion spread slowly southward through trade, migration, jihads, and the word of *mahouts* (wandering preachers). As the Arab Empire grew larger, it became more difficult to control from Arabia and, as a result, independent emirates came into being.

632 Death of the Prophet Mohammed

640 Arab conquest of North Africa begins

642 Muslim rule in Egypt



711 Whole of North Africa and Spain under Islamic control

