

## Appendix C:

*The words in bold were removed in the presentation for the students to find as we discussed each slide. The presentation made be viewed here:*

<http://prezi.com/9ualzvjakzi/muhammads-life-and-the-sharia/>

### **Muhammad's life:**

He was born in **Mecca** in **570 AD** He lived with his **Grandfather** who was a powerful **leader** and taught Muhammad the basics in **Government** and **diplomacy** He accompanied caravans to trade centers and became known by older merchants as El–Amin, which means **.he who can be trusted**

He didn't like the **matirialism** and **Idolotry** of Mecca. In 610 AD, he began spending a lot of time in a **Mountin Cave**, where he fasted and was visited by an overpowering presence that told him words of such **Beauty** and **Force**, that he and other could only attribute them to **Allah**.

He began to tell others about his experiences and others of his tribe joined him in his belief, the verses would be collected into what was known as the **Qur'an**. The people of Mecca **persecuted** and put a **ban** on **trade** with Muhammad's people.

In 622 AD, Muhammad took his followers to a town called Yathrib, where there was a **civil war**. The leaders of this town had asked for Muhammad's help because of his **Wisdom**. He helped to end the fighting and the city became Medina, the **City of the Prophet**. Muhammad was able to build his first **muslim community** here.

Between 625 AD and 628 AD there were a lot of people who did not like how successful Muhammad had been and there were **three** battles that place and the Muslims won **two** of them. In 630 AD Muhammad was able to bring his people back to Mecca without bloodshed because so many people had begun to follow him.

Mecca became the **headquarters** of Islam and Muhammad united all of the Arabian Peninsula under **Isam**. He lived in Medina for the rest of his life, making one last trip to **Mecca** three months before he died. This final pilgrimage is what Muslims are honoring when they make their **Hajj**.

## The Caliphate

A **Caliphate** is the area of a Muslim community ruled by one **Caliph**. This is similar to a kingdom and a king. The last active caliphate was the Ottoman Caliphate that ended in **1924**. There is an age old dispute as to who is chosen to be the Caliph. The **Sunni** and the **Shia** are two groups of Muslims, whose practices are slightly different and they have been fighting each other since the death of Muhammad. The Sunni, who make up about **85%** of Muslims believers, believe that the Caliph should be **elected** by the community. The Shi'a believe that the Caliph should be a **descendant** of Muhammad.

## The Shariah

Many Islamic governments are a **theocracy**, meaning their religious beliefs strongly influence their government. Sharia, or Islamic law, influences the legal code in most Muslim countries.

Meaning "**Path**" in Arabic, sharia guides all aspects of Muslim life, including daily routines, familial and religious obligations, and financial dealings. It is derived primarily from the Quran and the **Sunnah**--the sayings, practices, and teachings of the Prophet Muhammad.

Sharia developed **several hundred** years after the Prophet Mohammed's death in 632 CE as the Islamic empire expanded to the edge of North **Africa** in the West and to **China** in the East. Since the Prophet Mohammed was considered the **pious** of all believers, his life and ways became a model for all other Muslims and were collected by scholars into what is known as the **Hadith**.

**Marriage** and **divorce** are the most significant aspects of sharia, but criminal law is the most controversial. There are categories of offenses: **those** that require specific punishment in the Quran, known as **Hadd** punishments, those that fall under a judge's discretion, and those resolved through a **tit-for-tat** measure (i.e., blood money paid to the family of a murder victim). There are five had crimes: adultery, false accusation of adultery, drinking some alcohol (Wine), **theft** and **highway robbery**