

## Unit-1: **The Abbasid Khilafath: The Cosmopolitan Empire**

### **Introduction**

The Abbasid khilafath lasted from 750 CE to 1258 CE, was the first nonArab dynasty in the history of Islam. The establishment of Abbasid dynasty, marked the beginning of Intellectual development rather than political expansion. The Abbasid rulers were great patrons of learning and culture. Under them the Arab learning reached its zenith. They founded institutions of higher learning and their capital became the resort of scholars, poets, and scientists. Islamic jurisprudence also developed during this period. This unit deals with major concepts of policy and administration of Abbasids, scientific and literary progress, development of theology, Islamic law and fiqh, social life, art and architecture Abbasid culture and its features, role of Bait ul Hikma, and downfall of the Abbasids. Through the studies of this unit student understands the role of Abbasid rulers in the building of a great civilization and appreciates the contribution of Islamic community in the field of knowledge in the medieval age.

### **Values and Attitudes**

- Understand the futility of war and other political conflicts among the ruling class.
- Appreciates the intellectual awakening and imbibe its results
- Appreciates the progress of science and literature under Abbasids
- Develops an interest in reading
- Identifies the various types of architecture
- Appreciates Bait ul Hikma as a centre of educational and scientific developments
- Appreciates the importance of scientific interpretations of faith and other practices

<b>Learning outcome</b>	<b>Concept /Ideas</b>	<b>Activity / Process</b>
Familiarise the establishment of Abbasid khilafath	Establishment of Abbasid dynasty	Teacher asks some Questions about the downfall of Umayyad dynasty and explain the context of the emergence of a dynasty. The teacher introduces Abul Abbas, the founder of Abbasid dynasty.  CE. Discussion on the topic of the establishment of

<p>Explains political and administrative achievements</p>	<p>Administration of Abbasids</p>	<p>Abbasid dynasty after showing the chart of Abbasid genealogy. Students prepare the discussion note</p> <p>TE. Who was the founder of Abbasid dynasty?</p> <p>Student collect information about the administration of the Abbasids based on page no14-17 in the text book. Prepare an assignment on the major reforms of Abbasids.</p> <p>CE. Prepare chart showing the Revenue, judicial and military reforms of Abbasids</p> <p>TE. Explain the Revenue and military reforms of the Abbasids.</p> <p>The role of Barmakides in the making of a glorious period in the history of Islam.</p> <p>Students conduct a debate on “The Rise and fall of the Barmakids.” Understands the significance of Barmakid as the influential group in Abbasid Khilafath.</p> <p>CE. Chart showing the genealogy of Barmakid family</p> <p>Students prepare a note contains the causes for the downfall of the Barmakids</p> <p>TE: Described the Rise and fall of the Barmakids?</p>
<p>Analyse the contribution in the field of Medicine Philosophy, Mathematics Historiography,</p>	<p>Scientific and Literary progress.</p>	<p>Teacher asks some general questions about the legacy of Islam in the development of great civilization and conduct a discussion on the</p>

<p>Astronomy Alchemy and Theology</p>		<p>contribution of Abbasids in the field of science.</p> <p>Discussion note including the different branches of science.</p> <p>Students conduct a debate on The development of Medicine.</p> <p>Recognizes Al-Musaiwiyah, Al Razi, Ali Al Tabari, Ibn- Sina, and Al-Majusi as famous physicians under Abbasids and their contributions in the field of Medicine.</p> <p>CE: Chart showing major physicians and their works.</p> <p>TE: Who was known as Avicenna? List out major works of Avicenna?</p> <p>Students conduct a discussion on contribution in the field of Mathematics.</p> <p>CE: Prepare chart showing the name of major Mathematician and their famous works.</p> <p>Picture collection for `My Album`.</p> <p>TE: Assess the achievements in Mathematics and examine the influence of the Sanskrit book `Sidhantha` in the development of mathematics.</p> <p>Students conduct a discussions on the development of Astronomy, Alchemy and prepare a note on the contributions and achievements under Abbasids.</p> <p>CE: Prepare a chart showing the major astronomical contributions</p>
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	<p>Development of theology, Islamic law and fiqh</p>	<p>TE: Describe the development of Astronomy under the Abbasids.</p> <p>Who is considered as father of Arab Alchemy?</p> <p>Students conduct a discussion on “The progress in Historiography. Students understand that historiography attained great progress and so many historians gave their own contributions to this field.</p> <p>CE: Prepare chart showing the names of major historians and their major works</p> <p>TE: Explain the development of Historiography under Abbasids?</p> <p>Students conduct a seminar on the development of Philosophy</p> <p>CE: Prepare chart showing major philosophical contributions and philosophers?</p> <p>TE: Compare the Abbasid philosophy with Indian Philosophy?</p> <p>Prepare an assignment on the development of Theology based on textbook page No 31 – 33 students distinguish the different aspects of Islamic Theology</p> <p>Chart showing the Siha us Sitha.</p> <p>Chart showing the sources of Islamic law and Fiqh</p> <p>Chart showing the name four schools of Jurisprudence and its Imams.</p>
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		TE: Explain the significance of the four schools of Jurisprudence.
Develops sense of beauty and enjoyment through the analysis of art and architecture	Art and Architecture Abbasid culture and its features	With the support of ICT teacher shows different type of architectural monuments and students conduct a discussion on `Art and architecture under the Abbasids`. Students identify the beauty and glory of Abbasid architecture and appreciates the Abbasid rulers as the best patrons of art and architecture.  CE: Picture collection to set `My Album`.  Chart showing the calligraphy.  Analyses the features of Abbasid Architecture
Familiarises the literary contributions	Scientific and literary progress, Bait ul Hikma	With support of ICT Students conduct a discussion on `the literary contributions under the the Abbasids`.  Understand the importance of Bait-ul- Hikma in the Scientific and literary progress under the Abbasid period.  CE: Chart showing the name, picture and the works of famous scholars. Collect their pictures and photos to `My Album`. Analyse the role of Bait ul Hikma in the development of science and literature?
Identifies the social life and its peculiarities	Social life	Prepare on assignment on `the social life under Abbasid rule`. Students understands the different aspects and peculiarities of Abbasid society.  CE: Assignment “the Abbasid social life”  TE: Analyse the Salient features of Abbasid society?
Explains the causes of decay and down fall	Downfall of the Abbasids	Students conduct a discussion on the downfall of the Abbasids based on the content page No. 41 in the text book. Students understand that so many factors

		<p>constituted in the down fall of the Abbasid empire in 1258 CE. Compare the reason for the down fall of the Umayyads with the Abbasids.</p> <p>CE: Prepare a summary note</p> <p>Chart showing the different causes for the downfall of the Abbasids</p> <p>TE: Critically explain the causes for the down fall of the Abbasids.</p>
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### **Entry Activities:**

#### **Establishment of Abbasid dynasty**

Teacher ask some questions about Umayyad dynasty and ask the name of its founder. Students answered differently. Teacher concludes that Muawiyah was the founder of Umayyad dynasty. Again the teacher asks causes for the down fall of the Umayyads. Some of the students point out that the Abbasid propaganda is one of the reason for the downfall. Then teacher explains the content and introduces Abul Abbas-the founder of Abbasid dynasty and his successors.

#### **Political and administrative achievements**

Teacher gave a small description about the administrative reforms of the Abbasids and ask the students to prepare an assignment based on page no. 14-17, in the text book of the administrative reforms of Abbasids.

#### **Rise and fall of the Barmakids**

After dividing the students in to two groups they conduct a debate on the 'Role of the Barmakids in the achievements of the Abbasids'.

#### **Contributions of Abbasids in the field of Science**

With support of ICT students conduct a discussion on the 'contribution of Abbasids in science'. They discuss the growth of Medicine, theology, philosophy, Mathematics, law and fiqh, historiography, Astronomy and Alchemy under the Abbasids. They assess and conclude that these developments had great influence on the glory of Islamic civilization.

### **Art and architecture**

With the support of ICT, show different types of monuments. Conduct a talk of expert on Art and architecture under the Abbasids. Students identify the features of Abbasid architecture.

### **Literary contributions**

With the support of ICT students conduct a discussion and reach a conclusion that Bait-ul-Hikma had greatly influenced the scientific and literary development of the Abbasid age.

### **Social life and its peculiarities**

After collecting the information about the social life of the Abbasids students prepare an assignment and identify the peculiarities of Abbasid society.

### **Causes of decay and downfall of Abbasids.**

After arranging the Classroom conduct a discussion on the downfall of the Abbasids based on page no 41 in the text book. Students analyze causes for the downfall of a dynasty.

### **Teacher inputs**

Provide Map of West Asia and Africa

References

Different charts

Provide ICT support

Picture Collections

Reading materials

A Short History of the Saracens : Syed Ameer Ali

History of the Arabs – P.K. Hitti

History of Islam – Masudul Hassan

A History of the Arab Peoples: Albert Hourani

Encyclopedia of Britannica

### **CE Questions**

1. Locate the extension of Abbasid Empire in the map of Eurasia.
2. Prepare a chart showing the names and periods of the Abbasid rulers
3. Prepare a chart showing the genealogy of Barmakid family.
4. Prepare a chart showing the major scientific works and its authors of Abbasid age.
5. Collect pictures to set, 'My Album'.

### **TE Questions**

1. Who was the founder of Abbasid dynasty?
2. Abul Abbas was known as As-Saffah. How did he get this name?
3. What are the major sources of income under the Abbasids?
4. What are the causes for the downfall of the Barmakids?
5. Who wrote the book Kitab ul Mansuri?
6. Who was known as "the Prince of Physicians?"
7. Who translated the Indian book 'Sidhanta' from Sanskrit to Arabic?

8. Who was the father of Arabic Chemistry?
9. Tariq ul Rusul wal Muluk was the famous book written by:
10. Who was known as the `Philosopher of the Arabs`?
11. Who was the founder of Muatazila doctrine?
12. Islamic law is originated form :
13. Write a note on Islamic jurisprudence?
14. Describe the causes for the downfall of the Abbasid dynasty?

