

AP World History
Reading Questions: Islam
Reading #s47, 48, 49 & 50

Reading 47: Koran

1. What is the vision of “paradise”? How does it relate to the reality of Arabia? (see “The Great Event”)
2. Give a description on how Jesus is viewed in the Koran. Is it similar or different from the version in the New Testament? (see “The Family of Imram”)
3. How were women seen in the excerpt? Is it the traditional patriarchal vision or different? Explain? (see “Women” and “The Light”)
4. Summarize the “The Cow” reading. What does it tell us about the practice of Islam and is it different from eastern religions such as Hinduism? Why or why not?

Reading 48: Hadith

1. What are some of the “Rules of War” for the participants in a Jihad?
2. How had the view of “the People of the Book” changed (from early Islam) in this reading?

Reading 49: Wills and Slaves

1. Why was the master given the option of “confiscating” a slave’s possessions after he/she had been freed?
2. What rights did slaves have according to the reading and why?
3. Why wasn’t a person who was in serious debt allowed to free their slaves?
4. How was the estate of a deceased person divided? What were some of the rules for the handling of slaves in an estate?
5. When were slaves not allowed to be freed and why?

Reading 50: Kai Kaus Reading

1. List the three “essentials” in purchasing a slave.
2. What are some of the jobs slaves do? Be Specific.
3. Why does Kaus argue that a slave who is going to work with women should be “sour-visaged”?
4. How does the reading show the variety of peoples found in the Islamic lands? Describe some of these peoples and what was Kaus’ assessment of them when it came to using and/or buying them as slaves?
5. Why does Kaus argue that you should never buy a “Arabic” speaking slave?