What the Muslims knew

Piero Scaruffi
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• The Safavid and Ottoman age
• The Jews after the Middle Ages
What the Muslims knew

• Bibliography
  – Carter-Vaughn Findley: The Turks in World History (2005)
  – James Chambers: The Devil's Horsemen - The Mongol Invasion of Europe (2001)
  – Inalcik Halil: An Economic and Social History of the Ottoman Empire 1300 - 1914 (1995)
  – Stanford Shaw: History of the Ottoman Empire and Modern Turkey - Volume 1 - 1280-1808 (1977)
What the Muslims knew

• Bibliography
What the Muslims knew

Early Turkic-speaking empires of the steppes:

• Kok empire (552-741): Kol Tigin inscription: peace message from China general Kol Tigin (732)
• Uigur empire (741-1229): Manicheist, Tariat inscription of 9th c (stele on turtle)
What the Muslims knew

Methods of Islamic expansion
What the Muslims knew

1031: the Umayyad caliphate collapses
1055: The Seljuks (sunni) defeat the Buyids (shiite) and conquer Baghdad
1071: the Seljuqs capture Jerusalem and establish a sultanate in Anatolia
1092: the Seljuq empire breaks up into independent kingdoms in Iran, Iraq, Syria and Anatolia (Rum)
1172: the Almohads conquer Andalucia and move the capital to Sevilla
1169: Saladin, a Kurdish general, founds the Ayubbid dynasty
1187: Saladin retakes Palestine, Jerusalem and Syria from the Crusaders
What the Muslims knew
• Map of the world in 1200
What the Muslims knew

1248: Ferdinand III of Castilla conquers Sevilla, capital of the Almohads
1252: Egypt is overthrown by the Mamluks ("military slaves")
1258: the Mongols destroy the Abbasid caliphate of Baghdad
1301: Osman founds the Ottoman dynasty in Anatolia
1354: the Ottomans occupy Gallipoli, first outpost in Europe
1453: the Ottomans of Mehmet II capture Constantinople / Istanbul
What the Muslims knew

When Columbus discovers America, Islam is the largest world religion, expanding rapidly in three continents
What the Muslims knew

1492: the Christian kingdoms reconquer all of Spain
1516: the Ottomans defeat the Mamluks and annex Syria, Palestine, Egypt
What the Muslims knew

- The Ottomans succeed in doing what the Byzantines had failed to do: reunite Byzantium, Asia Minor, Balkans and northern Africa.
- Selim I is also appointed caliph of Sunni Islam.
- Suleyman II rules over approximately the same territory of the East Roman Empire under Justinian.
- The Ottomans are successors of both the Roman emperors and the Muslim caliphs.
- The Ottomans dominate the Mediterranean with their fleets of galleys.
- The Black Sea becomes a “mare nostrum” of the Ottomans.
What the Muslims knew

1520: Suleyman becomes the ruler of the Ottoman empire
1526: the Ottomans defeat the Hungarian army at the battle of Mohacs
1529: the Ottomans besiege Wien (Vienna)
1534: the Ottomans capture Baghdad
1571: Spain, Venezia and Genova destroy the Ottoman navy at Lepanto, the first major battle in which gunpowder determines the outcome
1587: Safavid king Shah Abbas I creates a gunpowder empire in Persia
1683: the Ottomans besiege Vienna
1699: the Ottomans lose Hungary to Austria ("Treaty of Carlowitz")
1729: the first book is published in the Ottoman empire
1774: the Russians defeat the Ottomans and annex Crimea
Rabat, Morocco, 1200

Alhambra, Granada, Spain, 14th c
Iran

- 900 BC - 550 BC: Medes
- 700 BC - 331 BC: Achaemenids
- 312 BC - 141 BC: Seleucids
- 141 BC - 224 AD: Parthians
- 224 AD - 650 AD: Sassanids
- 650 AD - 650 AD: Arabs
- 749 AD - 879 AD: Abbasids
- 879 AD - 1038: Buyids/Abbasids
- 1038 - 1194: Seljuks/Abbasids
- 1258 - 1335: Mongols
- 1365 - 1501: Timurids
- 1501 - 1722: Safavids
- 1794 - 1979: Qajar
- 1979 - : Islamic republic
What the Iranians knew

- Persian poetry
  - Ferdowsi (b 932): "Shah-nameh" (1010)
  - Omar Khayyam (Persia, 1050): "Rubaiyat"
  - Muslih al-Din Sadi (1184): "Bustan" (1257)
  - Jalal al-Din Muhammad Rumi (Afghanistan/Anatolia, 1207): "Mathnawi" (125#)
  - Hafez (1324): "Divan"
What the Iranians knew

- Iran under Turkic occupation
  - Seljuqs 1038-1194
  - Mongols (Ilkhanate) 1263-1335
  - Timurids 1370-1469
  - Safavids 1501 - 1722
  - Afghans 1722-1779
  - Qajar 1779 - 1979 (originally Turkish vassals)
What the Iranians knew

- Iran under Turkic occupation
  - Ilkhanate 1263-1335
    - Ghazan (1295-1304) allies with the ulama, converts to Islam and engineers an economic revival
    - Rashid al-Din/ Rashideddin (Jew of Persia, 1247): “Jami al-Tawarikh/ Compendium of Histories” (Muslim, European, Indian and Chinese history)
    - Mausoleum of Oljeytu (1317) at Sultaniya/ Soltaniyeh
    - Tabriz becomes an artistic center, especially for painting and manuscript illustration
What the Iranians knew

- Iran under Turkic occupation
  - Timurids 1370-1469
    - Ulug Beg (1317-): Transoxania becomes a center of poetry, philosophy, music, art, science
    - Husayn (1469-1506): Herat becomes a center of (Turkish) literature
What the Iranians knew

• Persian Art
  – Timurid art (1389-1501)
    • Architecture (Samarqand, Herat)
    • Book printing and manuscript illumination
    • Painting and calligraphy (Shiraz)
    • 1510: School of painting moves from Heart to Tabriz
  – Jahanshah Qara-Quyunlu (1439-67)
    • Darb-i Imam in Isfahan (1454)
    • Blue Mosque in Tabriz (1465)
What the Iranians knew

• Persian Art

(Iran, 13th c, Kuwait Museum)  (Iran, 14th c, Kuwait Museum)
What the Iranians knew

- Persian Art
  - Manuscript illumination
  - “Miraj Nameh/ Night Journey of the Prophet” (15th c)
What the Iranians knew

- Persian Art
  - Manuscript illumination
  - Jafar Baysonghor′s Illuminated edition of Ferdowski′s "Shah-nameh" (1429)
What the Iranians knew

• Persian Art
  – Manuscript illumination

Manuscript of Nizami's "Khamseh" (Iran, 1537, Kuwait Museum)

Manuscript of Jami's "Subhat al-Abrar" (Bukhara, 1496, Kuwait Museum)
What the Iranians knew

• Iran under Turkic occupation
  – Sufi brotherhoods (tariqa): the veneration of shrines (of the qutb, of the perfect human being) becomes the prevalent form of Islamic worship, but Sufis represent a heterogeneous theology
    • Kubrawi order in western Iran (14th c), intellectual, both Sunni and Shia
    • Hurufiya order (15th), exoteric
    • Sarbadar order (14th c), apocalyptic
    • Safavid order (14th c), messianic (and turns into a military movement)
What the Iranians knew

• Iran under Turkic occupation
  – Ulama: the formal scholastic learning, madrasa-style education, schools of law, administration of justice; not as popular as the Sufis but politically more influential in pre-Safavid Iran
What the Iranians knew

- Iran under Turkic occupation
  - Safavid order (14th c)
    - 1301: Shaykh Safi al-Din, of Kurdish descent, founds a Sunni Sufi order in Uzbekistan
    - 1334: Sadr al-Din, Safi's son, claims to be a descendant of the founder of Islam, Mohammed
    - 1447: Shaykh Junayd transforms the Sufi order into a military movement
    - 1501: Shah Ismail proclaims that he is the hidden imam, a descendant of the seventh imam, a reincarnation of Khird and the spirit of Jesus and even assimilates legends from Buddhism and Zoroastrianism
What the Iranians knew

- Iran under Turkic occupation
  - 1509: Ismail converts Iran to Twelver Shiism and persecutes Sunnis (that are the majority of the population)
  - The ulama report to the sadr who reports to the Safavid shah
  - The shah grants land to the religious establishment (patronage of the shrines) and the religious establishment becomes part of the landowning aristocracy
  - The administration of law also reports to the shah
What the Iranians knew

• Iran under Turkic occupation
  – Waves of persecutions against Sunnis and Sufis throughout the 17th c
  – Forced conversion of Jews (1656)
  – Forced conversion of Zoroastrians (1690s)
  – Exceptions: Armenians and Georgians (providing traders and military slaves)
  – Main religious symbols: the shrines of Mashhad and Qum, pilgrimage to Karbala, the hidden imam (instead of the Sufi qutb), processions with flagellation during the month of Muharram
What the Iranians knew

• Safavid Iran
  – Military elite created by Ismail after the Ottomans (but defeated by Ottomans at Chaldiran in 1514)
  – Slave forces from the Caucasus and gunpowder become the pillars of power under Abbas (1587)
  – 1597: New capital at Isfahan (Abbas’ grandeur)
  – Abbas revives the economy: carpets, silk, ceramics (mainly from Isfahan), a network of roads and caravanserays, and Armenian merchants to sell luxury goods abroad
  – 1622: Abbas conquers Portugal’s ports in the Persian Gulf
What the Iranians knew

• Safavid Iran
  – 1623-39: War with the Ottomans for Mesopotamia (won by the Ottomans)
  – 1700: Europeans control Iranian trade
  – It is not Europeans that conquer Iran (as it will happen in the rest of the Islamic world) but Iran that implodes and gets controlled by Europeans
  – 1722: Afghans conquer Isfahan
What the Iranians knew

• Iran under Turkic occupation
  – Persian Art
• Safavids (1501 - 1722)
  – Ali Qapu in Qazvin (16th c)
  – Chihil Sutun in Qazvin (16th c)
  – Jannat Saray, Ardabil (1540)
  – Caravanserai for the tomb of the Eighth Imam in Mashhad (16th c)
  – Masjid-i Shah in Isfahan (16th c)
  – 1666: Isfahan has 162 mosques, 48 colleges, 182 caravansaries, 273 public baths
Royal Mosque, Isfahan, Iran, 1629

Illuminated edition of Ferdowsi’s "Shah-nameh" (by Jafar Baysonghor, 1429)
What the Turks knew

- Turkification of Central Asia
  - Xsiung-nu (Mongolia): 200BC-48AD
  - Tribute empires (Central Asia): 209BC-551AD
  - Ashina Kaghanate (Chinese Turkestan, 552-659)
  - Second Turk Kaghanate (Chinese Turkestan, 682-744)
    - Cosmopolitan (Buddhism, but also Zoroastrianism and Taoism)
    - Sogdian script (Aramaic-like), eg Tonyukuk inscription (725)
  - Uigur state (Chinese Turkestan, 744-846)
    - Cosmopolitan (Manicheism, but also Buddhism, Zoroastrianism and Taoism)
    - Sogdian script
What the Turks knew

• Turkification of Central Asia
  – Karakhanid state (Transoxania, 846-955:
    • 955: converted to Islam
    • “Wisdom of Royal Glory” (1069) first major Turko-Islamic literature
What the Turks knew

- Islamification of the Turks
  - Forced conversion (8th-10th c)
    - 751: Battle of the Talas river between Arabs and Chinese
    - 819: the Samanids recruit Turkish slaves ("ghulam")
    - 833: Abbasids create a regiment of Turkish slaves ("ghulam")
    - 962: A Turk slave soldier of the Samanids overthrows the Samanids and founds the Ghaznavid state
What the Turks knew

• Seljuk empire (985-1092)
What the Turks knew

• Seljuk empire (985-1092)
  – 985: The Seljuks invade Transoxania
  – 1038: The Seljuks defeat the Ghaznavid in Persia
  – 1055: The Seljuks (sunni) defeat the Buyids (shiite) and conquer Baghdad
  – 1071: the Seliuqs defeat the Byzantines, capture Jerusalem and establish a sultanate in Anatolia (capital in Isfahan)
  – Seljuk empire (1038-1092): process of Sunni reunification
  – A dynasty of Central Asian nomads acquires control over an ancient agrarian culture
  – Armenians, Georgians, Abbasids, Qarakhanids and Gaznawids are vassals of the Seljuks
What the Turks knew

- Seljuk empire (985-1092)
  - The Seljuk Empire broke into these successor states:
    - Khorasani Seljuks (Transoxania, Marv)
    - Iraqi Seljuks (Iraq and Azerbaijan, Hamadan)
    - Syrian Seljuks (Syria, Damascus, later Aleppo)
    - Kermani Seljuks (Iran, Kerman)
    - Rum Seljuks (Anatolia, Iznik/Nicaea, later Konya)

- Rum state of Anatolia (1092-1243): one million Turks move to Anatolia
What the Turks knew

- Turkish epics
  - “Kitab-i Dede Qorqud” (9##)
  - “Koroglu Destani” (10##)
  - “Battal-name” (11##)
  - “Danismend-name” (120#)
What the Turks knew

- Mongol empire (1243-1365)
  - Karakorum
  - Horses
  - Siege warfare
  - Catapult
  - Biological warfare (animal and human corpses)
  - Scribes in Karakorum produced documents in Chinese, Persian, Uighur, Tibetan, Tangut, Mongolian
  - Census taking
  - Taxation
What the Turks knew

- Mongol empire (1243-1365)
  - Capitals
    - Karakorum
    - Batu’s Blue Horde: Sarai (southern Russia)
    - Hulegu’s Ilkhanate: Baghdad
    - Kublai’s Yuan dynasty: Beijing
What the Turks knew

- Mongol empire (1243-1365)
  - Pax mongola: safe passage from Crimea to Beijing
  - The merchants of Venice who sell exotic commodities have never been in India or China themselves until the Mongols create a free trade and free movement area from the Middle East to China
  - Religious tolerance (Catholics, Nestorians, Armenians, Manicheans, Buddhists, Muslims)
  - 1245: Pope dispatches Pier del Carpine to the Mongol capital
  - 1253: William of Rubruck visits the Mongol khan
  - Protection of free trade
  - Printing press
What the Turks knew

• Islamification of the Turks
  – Timurid empire (1365-1506)
    • Samarkand
    • Heavy cavalry (instead of the Mongols’ light cavalry)
    • Patronage of Islam
    • Chinese-style government based on meritocracy
    • Ulug Beg’s astronomical observatory
    • Registan
    • Husayn Baykara’s patronage of the arts at Heart (till 1506)
What the Turks knew

- Islamification of the Turks
  - Gunpowder empires of Turkic descent
    - Ottoman Empire (Edirne, later Istanbul)
    - Safavid Empire (Isfahan in Iran)
    - Moghul Empire (Fatehpur Sikri in north India)
What the Turks knew

- Islamification of the Turks
  - Ottoman Empire
    - Orhan: Bursa (1326), Gallipoli (1354), Kosovo (1389)
    - Murad I: Adrianopole/Edirne (1361)
    - Bayazid: Bulgaria (1393)
    - Murad II: Serbia (1439)
    - Mehmet II: Constantinople/Byzantium (1453 - when he was 20), Greece (1460), Bosnia (1463)
    - Selim I: Arabia from the Safavid Empire of Persia (1514), the Mamluk Empire of Egypt, Palestine, Syria (1516)
What the Turks knew

• Islamification of the Turks
  – Ottoman Empire
    • Major peace treaties that defined the boundaries of Ottoman influence
      – 1580 divides the Mediterranean
      – 1606 divides the Balkans
      – 1639 divides the Middle East
What the Turks knew

• Islamification of the Turks
  – Ottoman Empire
  • See logos2
What the Turks knew

• Ottoman Empire/ Society
  – Istanbul was one of the few cities in the world (before the USA) that attracted immigrants from all over the world (Europe, Asia, Africa)
    • Conquered Greeks
    • African, European and Central Asian slaves
    • Jews fleeing persecution in Europe
    • Armenians fleeing racism/poverty in Anatolia
    • Slavs fleeing from Catholic Austria
    • Slavs fleeing from Russia
    • Arabs looking for better life
    • Western merchants looking for opportunities
    • Muslims from Central Asia fleeing Russian expansion
What the Turks knew

- Ottoman Empire/ Society
  - Higher castes
    - Turkish soldiers
    - Arab and Persian scholars
    - Balkan Christian lords
    - Greek aristocracy (prominent merchants)
    - Leaders of the Orthodox Greek Church
    - Jewish immigrants from Iberia (eg Yasef Nassi)
  - Dhimmi population
    - Non-Muslim communities regulates themselves
What the Turks knew

- Ottoman Empire/Society
  - Muslim population
    - Organized around schools of law, Sufi brotherhoods (especially in rural societies), urban religious orders (e.g., the Mevlevi, i.e. whirling dervishes)
    - Both ulama and Sufi orders absorbed into the Ottoman state bureaucracy by the 16th c
  - Dhimmi population
    - Non-Muslim communities regulates themselves
- Guilds
  - Guilds report to state bureaucracy too (even guilds for entertainers and prostitutes)
What the Turks knew

• Ottoman Empire/ Society
  – Ottoman empire vastly better organized and more powerful internally than the Safavid empire
What the Turks knew

• Ottoman empire
  – Causes of decline
    • Uneducated sultans (kept in isolation during childhood from 1617 on)
    • Western naval routes to the Far East that bypass the Ottoman empire
    • Russian expansion
    • See logos2
What the Turks knew

• Ottoman empire
  – Causes of decline
    • Islam
      – Belief that everything in the Islamic world is superior to anything in the non-Muslim world
      – Western technology anathema
        » 1580: A fanatical mob destroys the astronomical observatory of Istanbul (the next one will be built only in 1868)
      – Western books anathema
      – The Quran is a trascendental book that exists in the heavens and can only be transmitted by being copied by hand like it was done since the beginning
What the Turks knew

• Ottoman empire
  – Causes of decline
    • No scientific revolution
    • No industrial revolution
What the Turks knew

• Ottoman empire
  – Establishment of a Turkish high literary culture
  – Imperial vision of Islamic expansion
What the Turks knew

- Ottoman empire
  - Urban planning
    - Kulliye: unit of urban expansion built around a mosque
    - Citadel: administrative center
    - Bazaar: commercial center, built around the Friday mosque
What the Turks knew

• Ottoman empire
  – Urban planning
    • Kulliye of Mehmed II

(Melchior Lorichs)
What the Turks knew

• Poetry
  – Navai (1441): "Hamsa" (1501)
  – Fuzuli (1483): "Dastani Leyli vu Mecnun/ The Epic of Layla and Majnun" (15##)
  – Baki (1526): "Mersiyei Hazreti Suleyman Han/ Elegy for His Excellency Suleyman Khan"" (15##)
  – Nedim (1681): "Sarki/ Songs" (17##)
What the Turks knew

- Poetry
  - Nedim’s Divan
What the Turks knew

- Jerusalem

Pilgrims entering Jerusalem ("Passages d'Outremer", 1472)
What the Turks knew

- Selim Sinan (1489, Ottoman architect)
  - Tekiya, Damascus (1554)
  - Selimiye, Edirne (1574)
  - Suleymanye, Istanbul (1587)
  - Blue Mosque, Istanbul (1619)
Istanbul, Turkey, 1616

Blue Mosque (1619), Istanbul
What the Muslims knew

• Illuminated manuscripts

Arifi: “Shahname-i al-i 'Osman/ Book of Kings of the House of Osman” (16th c)
What the Muslims knew

- Sadr al-Din al-Shirazi (Persia, 1572)
  - Four journeys of the soul:
    - from the Creation (al-Khalq) to the Supreme Reality (al-Haqq)
    - to Reality
    - to Creation
    - to Reality as manifested in Creation
What the Muslims knew

• Sadr al-Din al-Shirazi (Persia, 1572)
  – Philosophy is divided in two disciplines
    • Practical philosophy: improving one’s soul to become more like Allah
    • Theoretical philosophy: knowing the nature of the world
  – Philosophy was founded by Seth/Shiith and Hermes/Idris/Enoch who initiated and spread the study of wisdom
What the Muslims knew

- Sadr al-Din al-Shirazi (Persia, 1572)
  - Application of Greek and Sufi concepts to Shiite theology
  - The world is generated through a series of manifestations, first ones being the Shiite “fixed entities” (intelligible forms) that form the Shiite “world of command” (intelligible world)
What the Muslims knew

- Sadr al-Din al-Shirazi (Persia, 1572)
  - Suhrawardi’s Illuminationism
    - The soul is a mixture of light and darkness
    - The soul is the link between the intelligible and material world
    - The world is made of concentric spheres, each with a different degree of light corresponding to the degree of manifestation and knowledge of “Allah’s face”
What the Muslims knew

• Sadr al-Din al-Shirazi (Persia, 1572)
  – Time and the world are not infinite: they were created, they undergo continuous change, and they will perish
What the Muslims knew

- Mir Damad and Mulla Sadra (Persia, 17th c)
  - School of philosophy that creates a Shiite version of Sufism
  - Neo-Platonic
  - Three stages: dahr (eternal divine world), sarmad, zaman (temporary material world)
What the Muslims knew

• Compass and sundial (Istanbul, 1749)
What the Muslims knew

- Decline of Islamic civilization
  - Economy: the discovery of new routes from Europe to the Far East and the discovery of America hurts the economies of the Islamic world
  - Culture: the Turkish invasions de facto replaces the Greek-Jewish-Persian-Indian synthesis with the culture of the Central Asian steppes
  - Muslims are an absolute majority minority (the “inshallah” syndrome prevails)
What the Muslims knew

- Mecca in the 19th c
What the Jews knew

• The Jews are the only people in the world who can trace their ancestry back thousands of years
• Jews penetrated most societies of the world.
• Writing a history of the Jews entails writing a history of the world.
What the Jews knew

• Still waiting for the Messiah
• After 70AD rise of the rabbi (a religious scholar who is also a working Jew), who replaced the priests
• The intellectual is not separated from political power as in Christian and Islamic societies
What the Jews knew

- Jews in the Islamic world
  - Kairouan (Tunisia) from the 7th c
  - Granada (Spain) from the 8th c
  - 25% of the population of Baghdad under the Abbasids from the 8th c
  - Cairo (Egypt)
- Jews lived in separate quarters
- Jews were mainly traders and scholars
- In medieval times Jews constituted the main economic link between the Islamic and Christian worlds, operating as far as China
What the Jews knew

- Jews in the Islamic world
  - Jews expelled from Spain in 1492 resettle are welcome in the Ottoman Empire and help the Ottomans wage war against the Christian powers
What the Jews knew

• Jews in the Christian world
  – Jews sometimes demanded to live in separate quarters
  – Jews were mainly traders and financiers
  – In medieval times Jews constituted the main economic link between the Islamic and Christian worlds, operating as far as China
  – After the Crusades the Knights Templar of Jerusalem become the first Christian bankers and make the Jews less relevant for Europe
  – Jews banned from universities (create their own schools)
What the Jews knew

- Jews in the Christian world
  - Jews persecuted (continuous emigrations, mainly towards Eastern Europe)
  - Persecutions led by Franciscan and Dominican friars (the most educated Christians)
  - Jews expelled from Spain in 1492 are welcome in the Ottoman Empire and help the Ottomans wage war against the Christian powers
  - Jews expelled from Spain in 1492 move to Italy
  - Poland becomes the safest country for Jews (150,000 Jews out of seven million people in 1575)
  - Jews move into the underdeveloped lands of Eastern Europe (Poland, Lithuania, Ukraine) and develop them
What the Jews knew

• Jews in the Christian world
  – Food-supply chain of Eastern Europe: andowners were (Polish) Christians, port managers were (German) Protestants, ship owners were (Dutch) Calvinists, Jews funded and ran the food-producing estates
  – Legend of the "Wandering Jew" (first published in 1223 in Italy but boom of books in the 16th c)
  – Jews accepted oppression and discrimination as long as it came with stable, definite rules
  – Jews welcomed segregation (meant to protect Christians from Jewish influence) when it protected them from persecution (and from un-Jewish secular lifestyles)
What the Jews knew

• Jews in the Christian world
  – The Reformation eliminates the friars (the Jews' main enemies) from Protestant countries
  – After the Reformation Jews are welcome based on their usefulness
  – Jews help fund the big European wars (Thirty Year War, Austro-Turkish wars) supplying all the powers
  – Vienna saved from the Ottomans (1683) by Samuel Oppenheimer who equips the Austrian troops
  – William of Orange invades Britain (1688) with money from Lopez Suasso
  – Jewish loans finance the great projects of the new nation states
What the Jews knew

• Persecution of Jews
  – Christians think Jews crucified the son of god
  – Muslims think Jews sin for rejecting Mohammed (but did not crucify him)
  – Christians and Jews have different traditions (circumcision, diet, etc)
  – Arabs and Jews have similar traditions (circumcision, diet, etc)
What the Jews knew

- Persecution of Jews
  7th c: Visigoths massacre Jews and force them to convert to Christianity
  711: Jews help Muslims invade Spain
  1096: Pogroms in France and Germany during the first Crusade
  1215: Anti-Jewish code of the Lateran Council
  1278: Mass arrests of Jews in England
  1290: England expels all Jews
  1421: Mass expulsion of Jews from Austria
  1442: Mass expulsion of Jews from Bavaria
  1481: Dominicans set up the Spanish Inquisition that burns hundreds of Jews in the next twelve years
  1489: Expulsion of Jews from Milano
  1492: Mass expulsion of Jews from Spain after the Christian "Reconquista"
What the Jews knew

• **Persecution of Jews**
  1494: Expulsion of Jews from Firenze
  1495: Mass expulsion of Jews from Poland and Lithuania
  1497: Mass expulsion of Jews from Portugal
  1516: Venezia decides to confine the Jews in a "ghetto" (2,400 Jews out of a population of 98,000) and charge them special taxes
  1518: Ottomans massacre Jews in Hebron
  1541: Jews expelled from Napoli
  1557: The Pope creates a ghetto for Jews in Roma
  1597: Expulsion of Jews from Milano
  16th c: Russian czar Ivan the Terrible orders to drown Jews who refuse to convert to Christianity
  1648: Thousands of Jews are massacred by peasants in Poland-Ukraine
What the Jews knew

- Kabbalah
  - The numbers associated with the letters of the torah provide a way to perceive god
  - Based on the “zohar”, a mystical commentary on the torah
  - First appears in Spain in the 13th c
  - Initially an esoteric discipline limited to an elite but after 1492 a popular superstition
  - 1558 a full edition of the zohar is printed in Italy
  - Popular in Poland because of Jewish printing presses
What the Jews knew

• The Messiah
  – The 1492 expulsion from Spain seen as the prodrome to the coming of the Messiah
  – Between 1500 and 1530 several false Messiahs
  – Legend of the Golem (that comes to life when God’s secret name is pronounced)
  – The greater the tragedies affecting the Jews, the greater the belief in the imminent coming of the Messiah
  – Excitement peaks after the 1648 pogroms
  – 1665: Shabbetai Zevi announced as the Messiah in Gaza (forced to convert to Islam by the Ottomans!)
What the Jews knew

• Isaac Luria (Israel, 1534)
  – Jewish philosopher (Kabbalah)
  – It projects the drama of the Jewish expulsion from Iberia onto the divine world
  – The En Sof withdraws into itself at the outset of creation, making room for the world, but also for a cosmic catastrophe that yields evil
  – Humans are the ones who can redeem the world
  – By their prayers and piety they can hasten the coming of the Messiah
What the Jews knew

• Jews in the Christian world
  – 1648: Following the massacres in Poland-Ukraine, Jews resettle in the West
  – 1649: Puritans (filo-Jewish) seize power in England
  – 1655: England de facto readmits Jews
  – 1688: Most stock brokers are Jewish
What the Jews knew

• Jews in the Christian world/ USA
  – 1664: New Amsterdam falls to the British (New York) that grants freedom of worship
  – The USA is the first country in which Jews achieve full integration with the other religious groups
  – 1776: The USA is the first (non-Israeli) country in which Jews are not vulnerable (they are protected by the constitution)
  – 1792: Jews help set up the New York Stock Exchange
What the Jews knew

- **Persecution of Jews**
  - 1756 Voltaire writes that Jews are “a totally ignorant nation”
  - 1770 Holbach writes that Jews are “the enemies of the human race”
  - 1791: Russia confines Jews to Pale of Settlement
  - 1819: “Hep Hep” riots in Germany
What the Jews knew

• Jews in the Christian world
  – Jewish bankers benefit from the financial needs of the wars of the Napoleonic age
  – 1806: Napoleon recognizes Jews as French citizens
  – 1812: Prussia emancipates the Jews
  – 1815: Jewish bankers well positioned to take advantage of the peace (e.g. Rothschilds)
  – Demise of the ghetto
What the Jews knew

• Jews in the Christian world/ 18th-19th century
  – Jews criticized for their financial innovations, but slowly society accepts them
  – Jews pioneer advertising and marketing
  – Jews specialize in low-quality low-price products for the masses
  – Jews open general stores that sell everything
  – Jews de facto pioneer the economy of scale
  – Jews dedicated to education (printing presses and libraries in every ghetto)
  – Many Jews convert to Christianity in order to be accepted in society
What the Jews knew

• Jews in the Christian world/ Britain
  – 1827: Britain protects Jews who settle in Palestine
  – 1848-70: Emancipation of Jews in various regions of Italy
  – 1858: Jews are admitted to the British parliament
  – 1866: Jews outnumber Muslims in Jerusalem
  – 1868: Benjamin Disraeli (a Jew converted to Christianity) becomes prime minister of Britain
  – 1910: Edwin-Samuel Montagu is appointed undersecretary of state for India and champions India’s independence
What the Jews knew

• Jews in the Christian world/ France
  – Pseudo-scientific theories of Jewish racial inferiority
    • Joseph de Rabineau’s “Essai sur l’Inegalite des Races Humaines” (1853)
    • Ernst Renan’s “Vie de Jesus” (1863)
  – Jews are successful despite being inferior because there is a “Jewish conspiracy”
    • “Panama scandal” in France (1892) exposes a financial network of Jews
    • Alfred Dreyfus affair (1894-1906), won by the Dreyfusard (pro and anti Dreyfus salons in Paris)
What the Jews knew

• Jews in the Christian world/ France
  – Boom of Jewish population in France (120,000 refugees from Russia after 1881)
  – French Jews at the vanguard of ballet (Ballets Russes), painting (Chagall, Modigliani, Pissarro), philosophy (Bergson)
What the Jews knew

• Jews in the Christian world
  – The European population of Jews increases from two million to seven million between 1800-80
  – Largest Jewish communities in 1880: Warszaw (150,000), Odessa (100,000), Vienna (50,000), Budapest (50,000), Berlin (50,000)
  – Notable exception: Russia scientifically persecutes Jews (especially in 1881)
  – 1881-1906: More than one million Jews leave Russia
  – 1881-1914: More than two million Jews emigrate to the USA
What the Jews knew

• Jews in the Christian world/ Germany
  – German Jews are the best assimilated in Europe
  – Converted Jews: Heinrich Heine, Karl Marx (anti-Semitic), Gustav Mahler
  – Boom of Yiddish
  – German Jews at the vanguard of science (Einstein, Freud), of music (Schoenberg), literature (Kafka, Broch, Doeblin, Zweig), theater (Schnitzler), cinema
  – Germany is the cultural center of Jewish intellectual life
  – German is the official language of Zionist congresses
What the Jews knew

- Jews in the Christian world/ Germany
  - Richard Wagner: “The Jewish race is the born enemy of humanity”
  - Wilhelm Marr founds the Anti-Semitic League (1879)
  - First International Anti-Jewish Congress (1882)
What the Jews knew

• Jews in the Christian world/ Zionism
  – 1881: First exodus ("aliyah") of Russian Jews towards Palestine
  – 1881: Eliezer ben Yehuda migrates to Palestine and adopts Hebrew as his family’s language (first Hebrew-speaking household since antiquity)
  – 1896: Theodor Herzl’s “Der Judenstaat”
    • Jews can end their exile by themselves
    • An independent Jewish state in Palestine is the best protection against Christian anti-semitism
  – 1897: Zionism: the Jewish goal shifts from assimilation in the Christian world to establishment of a Jewish homeland
What the Jews knew

• Jews in the Christian world/ Zionism
  – Theodor Herzl’ “Der Judenstaat” (1896)
  – Herzl views Britain as the sponsor of a Jewish homeland in Palestine
  – The Rothschilds run the Jewish colonies in Palestine
  – 1904: Second exodus (“aliyah”) of Russian Jews towards Palestine
  – 1909: First kibbutz in Palestine
  – 1911: To counter British influence, France supports the creation of Al Fatah in Paris
What the Jews knew

• Jews in the Christian world
  – World War I
    • Jews fight in the German army against Russia (their mortal enemy) and in Poland hail German troops as liberators
    • Defeat of the Ottomans and victory of the British opens opportunity for a Jewish state in Palestine
    • After 1917 (collapse of Russia and British conquest of Palestine), Jews turn to the British as their protectors (“Balfour Declaration”)
What the Jews knew

• Jews in the Christian world
  – 1914: 5.5 million Jews live in Russia, 2.5 in Austria-Hungary, 4 million in the USA
  – 1917: 100,000 Jews live in Palestine (out of a total of 600,000 people)
  – 1920: 1.6 million Jews live in New York
  – 1922: Jews are 11% of Palestine's 750,000 inhabitants (British census). More than 300,000 Jews arrive in the next 15 years.
  – 1925: 4.5 million Jews live in the USA
What the Jews knew

- Jews in the Christian world
  - Jews associated with Bolsheviks
    - Dreyfusards in France
    - Karl Marx in Germany
    - Leon Trotsky, Zinoviev, Kamenev, Rykov, Radek in Russia (1917)
    - Bela Kun in Hungary (1919)
    - Kurt Eisner in Bavaria (1918)
    - Rosa Luxemburg in Berlin (1919)
    - Leon Blum in France (1936)
- Jews organize the communist parties in Germany, Poland and Romania
What the Jews knew

- Jews in the Christian world
  - Jews associated with Bolsheviks
    - The anti-Semitic reprisals for the activities of politicized Jews hit the non-political Jews
    - “Red Scare” of 1919 in the USA targets Jews as Bolsheviks
What the Jews knew

• Jews in the Christian world
  – Jews create modern entertainment in the USA
    • Broadway, radio and tv shows
    • Amusement arcades
    • Nickelodeons
    • Hollywood (six of the big eight were Jewish)
    • German cinema and theater
What the Jews knew

• Jews in the Christian world/ Palestine
  – 1920: British mandate over Palestine
  – 1921: Mohammed Amin al-Husseini’s campaign against Jews and Arab moderates
What the Jews knew

• Persecution of Jews
  1871: Pogrom in Odessa, Ukraine
  1881: Pogroms and mass expulsion in Russia
  1887: Theodor Fritsch’s “Anti-semitic Catechism”
  1898: anti-Semitic riots in Paris and Algiers
  1904: Pogroms in Russia
  1905: Pogrom again in Odessa, Ukraine
  1915: William Simmons founds the Ku Klux Klan in the USA
  1917: 70,000 Jews murdered by the Mensheviks in Ukraine
  1919: Judaism is banned in the Soviet Union
  1919: Mensheviks hold Jews responsible for communism and kill 100,000
  1921: 43 Jews killed in riots in Palestine
  1924: Hitler’s “Mein Kampf”
  1929: Arab mobs kill 133 Jews in Palestine
  1930s: Jews are among the main victims of Stalin’s purges
What the Jews knew

• Jews in the Christian world
  – Anti-Semitism in Germany
    • Between 1870 and 1933 Germany was the best educated nation in the world
    • First country to achieve universal adult literacy
    • Best universities in the world in most disciplines
    • Berlin is the cultural capital of the world until 1933, followed by Vienna
    • Until 1933 Germany won more Nobel Prizes than any other nation (about one third to Jews)
    • German ascent as a power paralleled Jewish ascent as a powerful class within Germany
What the Jews knew

• Jews in the Christian world
  – Anti-Semitism in Germany
    • 1930s: Jews represent 16% of lawyers, 11% of doctors, 2.6% of teachers
    • Greatest success of anti-Semitic theories is among German students
    • Jews are viewed as Bolsheviks
    • Biggest crime the Jews are accused of: kidnapping German culture (“Kulturbolschewismus”)
    • Jewish philosophers (Walter Benjamin, Herbert Marcuse, Theodor Adorno, Erich Fromm) are Leftists
    • Great Depression blamed on Jews (1929)
What the Jews knew

• Jews in the Christian world
  – Anti-Semitism in Germany
    • Adolf Hitler (1933) blames all German problems on Jews
    • Dual policy of persecution: lawless gang violence and discriminatory state laws
    • As the German economy recovers, the Jewish economic power is scientifically destroyed
    • Business collaborates with Hitler, profiting from the persecution of Jews (especially banks)
    • Ordinary people silent
What the Jews knew

• Jews in the Christian world
  – Anti-Semitism in Germany
    • World War II (1939) blamed on the Jews
    • German war operations paralleled by giant bureaucracy to kill Jews, as if the latter helped winning the former
    • Invasion of the Soviet Union (1941) justified to destroy the center of Jewish-Bolshevik aggression
    • Hitler’s regime kills six million of the nine million Jews living in German-occupied territories (3.3 million in Poland alone)
What the Jews knew

• Jews in the Christian world
  – Anti-Semitism in Germany
    • Killing the Jews becomes detrimental to winning the war
      – Massive waste of resources to carry out the deportations, jailing and killings
      – Loss of highly-skilled Jewish workers
      – Highly educated Jews join the enemy
      – Mobilization of world Jews to fight Hitler
What the Jews knew

• Jews in the Christian world
  – Anti-Semitism in Germany

• Jews oppose minimal resistance
  – Century-old experience that resistance is more likely to increase rather than decrease the number of deaths
  – Militant Jews were more interested in emigrating to Palestine than fighting Hitler
  – Germans devised elaborate deceptions in order not to alarm Jews
  – Devout Jews believed that it was God’s design, that it was martyrdom to fulfil God’s plan
What the Jews knew

• Jews in the Christian world
  – Collaboration with Hitler
    • 1. Austria contributed disproportionately to the SS and to the deportations
    • 2. Romania was more brutal than Germany in the extermination campaign (they also tortured and raped)
    • 3. France (preexisting anti-Semitism, eg Celine’s “Bagatelle pour un massacre” of 1937, plus Vichy regime’s collaboration)
What the Jews knew

• Jews in the Christian world
  – Collaboration with Hitler
• 4. Britain and the USA tolerated the extermination campaign
  – Fear of mass Jewish emigration to Anglo-saxon countries
  – Anti-Semitic sentiment of USA leaders
    (president Franklin Roosevelt even justified German grievances against the Jews, general George Patton called them “lower than animals”)
  – Agreement with Jewish leaders that defeating Hitler was the best way to help the Jews
What the Jews knew

• Jews in the Christian world
  – Collaboration with Hitler
    • Notable exception: Italy
      – Jews widespread in the government (two prime ministers in 1906 and 1910), army (first Jewish general in 1888) and even in the Fascist Party
      – Ordinary Italians frustrate German raids to arrest Jews despite retaliations against civilians
  • Holland and Denmark too saved thousands of Jews
What the Jews knew

• Persecution of Jews
  1933: “Krystallnacht” in Germany
  1933: First concentration camp at Dachau
  1936: Arabs massacre almost all the Jews in Hebron
  1937: Celine’s “Bagatelle pour un massacre”
  1938: German Jews are expelled from schools and lose driver licenses
  1939: The first gas chamber opens in Brandenburg
  1941: The German “Einsatzgruppen” (mobile killing troops) kill more than one million Jews in one year throughout Russia and Ukraine
  1941: Romanians massacre 200,000 Jews in Bessarabia and burn 30,000 alive in occupied Odessa (Ukraine)
  1944: Romanians massacre 217,000 Jews in Transnistria (mostly from Russia)
What the Jews knew

• Persecution of Jews

1945: Of the nine million Jews in German-controlled territory, about six million have been exterminated (two million at Auschwitz, 1.4 million at Majdanek, 800 thousand at Treblinka, 600 thousand at Belzec)

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What the Jews knew

• Jews in the Christian world
  – Reasons for Jewish persecutions over the centuries
    • Indifference towards national borders
    • Indifference towards the plights of gentiles
    • Higher learning, thus preeminence in business, technology, science, arts
    • Gospels accused Jews of killing God
What the Jews knew

- Jews in the Christian world
  - Between the two world wars Jews are considered responsible for both communist and capitalist conspiracies (most of the communist leaders in Europe are Jews, many bankers and businessmen are Jews)
What the Jews knew

• Jews in the Christian world
  – The massacres of 1492 led Jews to colonize Eastern Europe and amass huge fortunes
  – The massacres of 1648 led to the return of Jews to Britain and to America
  – The massacres of 1881 and 1906 led to Zionist migration to Palestine
  – The massacres of World War II led to the creation of Israel
What the Jews knew

• Jews in Palestine
  – Three Zionist strategies
    • Chaim Weizmann: obtain Palestine from Britain through diplomacy
    • Ben Gurion (the Haganah): win the war against Hitler first
    • Menachem Begin (the Irgun): use terrorism to drive Britain out of Palestine
  – Terror campaign works: Britain leaves, but it also leaves the Jews unprotected against the Arab armies
What the Jews knew

- Jews in Palestine
  - Creation of Israel
    - Jews are a minority used to be conquered and ruled
    - Arabs are a majority used to conquer and rule
    - Arabs refuse to negotiate
    - Israel goes from 20% of Palestine (1937 partition plan) to 50% (1947 partition plan)
What the Jews knew

• Jews in Palestine
  – Creation of Israel
    • The anti-Semitic Roosevelt dies and is succeeded by filo-Semitic Truman who pushes for the United Nations to recognize Israel and an Arab Palestine
    • USA oil companies oppose the creation of Israel
    • The Soviet Union supports the creation of Israel in order to weaken Britain (first country to recognize Israel, and Czechoslovakia arms Israel)
What the Jews knew

• Jews in Palestine
  – First Arab-Israeli war
    • “This will be a war of extermination” (Azzam Pasha, secretary-general of the Arab League)
    • Israel obtains 80% of Palestine
    • 650,000 Arabs leave Palestine
    • 567,000 Jews are expelled from Arab countries (1948-57)
  • Arabs again refuse to negotiate
  • Permanent threat from the Arabs transforms Israel from a pacifist, socialist utopia into a militaristic state
What the Jews knew

• Jews in Palestine
  – First Arab-Israeli war
    • 1953: Nasser allies with the Soviet Union and the Arab-Israeli conflict becomes part of the Cold War
    • 1956: Second Arab-Israeli war: Israel conquers Sinai and Gaza
    • 1967: Third Arab-Israeli war: Israel conquers Jerusalem, West Bank and Golan Heights
    • 1973: Fourth war: status quo
  • The Arabs can afford to lose many wars, Israel cannot afford to lose one
What the Jews knew

• Jews in Palestine
  – Israel
    • Growing economic importance of oil-producing Arab countries isolates Israel on the world scene
    • Population grows from 650,000 in 1947 to 3 million in 1972 (685,000 immigrants only in the first three years)
    • Melting pot: Russians, Eastern Europeans, Western Europeans, Arabs, Ethiopians, Indians...
    • Hebrew is the unifying force
What the Jews knew

• Jews in Palestine
  – Israel
    • Largest Jewish communities: USA (almost six million), Soviet Union (almost two million)
    • For the first time 50% of Jews live in the Americas (6.6 million out of 13.5 million)
What the Muslims knew

• Abd Wahab (1750)
  – Return to Ibn Hanbal (strict obedience to the Koran and the Hadith)
What the Muslims knew

• History of the Wahabi sect
  – 1760: Abd Wahab allies with Muhammad Ibn Saud of Diriyya and founds the Saudi state in Arabia
  – 1804: Wahabis of the Saudi state capture Mecca and Medina
  – 1902: Abdul al-Aziz conquers Riyad and unites Arabia under the puritanical Wahabi Islamic order
  – 1988: Osama bin Laden in Afghanistan creates Al Qaeda, inspired by Mohammad ibn Abd al-Wahab
  – 1996: the Taliban militia installs a Wahabi regime in Afghanistan with help from Osama bin Laden
  – 1996: Osama bin Laden calls for a terrorist campaign against the USA
What the Muslims knew

- The Turkic world in 1900 (Ottoman, Iran, China, Russia)
Islam in 2002

http://ccat.sas.upenn.edu/~rs143/map6.jpg
A short history of the Middle East

622-755: A unified caliphate expands from Arabia to Spain, Iran, Transoxania

756-912: Spain, Tunisia, Iran, Egypt become independent caliphates

992-1194: Seljuqs invade Iran, Iraq, Turkey, Syria, Palestine

1220-1301: Mongols (Ilkhanate) invade Transoxania, Iran, Iraq

1301-1574: Ottomans conquer Turkey, Greece, Balkans, Syria, Palestine, Egypt, Arabia, Tunisia

1301-1722: Safavids conquer Iran, Afghanistan, Transoxania

1497-1858: the Moguls conquers Afghanistan, Pakistan and India (Mughal empire)

1747-1973: Durranis conquer Afghanistan

1749-1760: Formation of the kingdoms of the Gulf: Saudi Arabia, Oman, Kuwait

1794-1921: Qajars conquer Iran and Transoxania
A short history of the Middle East

1811-1918: Disintegration of the Ottoman empire: Greece, Serbia, Romania, Bulgaria, Turkey, Yemen
1830-1919: France conquers Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco, Lebanon, Syria
1868-1919: Russia conquers Transoxania
1882-1919: Britain conquers Egypt, Sudan, Iraq, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait
1885-now: Jews emigrate to Palestine (Zionism)
1921-1979: Iranian republic
1923-now: Turkish republic
A short history of the Middle East

1927: Oil discovered in the Middle East
1928-1980: Muslim Brotherhood (establish Islamic republic)
1931-1946: Jewish terrorism (against British rule)
1936: Palestinian intifada (against British rule)
1939: Arab countries supply 5% of the world's oil
1941: Baath party (unify the whole Arab world)
1945: League of Arab States (Egypt, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Yemen)
1948: First Arab-Israeli war: Israel defeats Egypt, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Iraq
1949: 620,000 Palestinians leave Israel, 180,000 remain
1952-now: Egyptian republic
1956: Second Arab-Israeli war: France, Britain and Israel defeat Egypt
1956: Israel's nuclear program
A short history of the Middle East

1958-now: Iraqi republic
1960: OPEC
1961-1991: Kurdish liberation war in Iraq (200,000 dead)
1962-2002: Christian liberation war in Sudan (1.1 million dead)
1963-now: Syrian republic (Baath)
1964-now: Palestinian guerrilla (PLO)
1967: Third Arab-Israeli war: Israel defeats Jordan, Egypt, Iraq, Syria
1969-now: Lybian republic (Qaddafi)
1969-1989: International Palestinian terrorism
1970: Palestinians expelled from Jordan
1973-1996: Afghani republic
1973: Fourth Arab-Israeli war: Israel defeats Egypt and Syria
1973: OPEC oil embargo
1975-now: Sahrawi liberation war in Morocco
A short history of the Middle East

1975-1990: Civil war in Lebanon
1978-now: Peace process between Palestinians and Israel
1979-now: Islamic republic of Iran
1979: Peace treaty between Egypt and Israel
1979-now: Saddam Hussein
1979-1988: Soviet invasion of Afghanistan
1980-now: Berber liberation war in Algeria
1980-1988: Iraq invades Iran (one million dead)
1987: First intifada
1988-now: Al Qaeda holy war
1990-1991: Gulf War
1992-1999: Civil war in Algeria (150,000 dead)
1996: Al Jazeera
1996-2001: Taliban
2000-now: Second intifada (2,000 dead)
What the Muslims knew

• Arab nationalism (Nasser)
• Arab terrorism (Arafat)
• Islamic republic (Khomeini)
• Al Jazeera
• Al Qaeda
The Arab world
Central Asia

[Map showing locations of Iranians, TURKIC, SLAVS, and CHINESE in Central Asia]
What the Muslims knew

Piero Scaruffi
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