

Early Christian, Byzantine & Islamic Art

Guided Notes

Chapter 13 Art in Focus

Objectives:

- Explain how early Christians used art to express their religious beliefs
- Describe the events that brought about the fall of Rome
- Identify the rich and brilliant Byzantine art
- Describe the Alhambra and explain its purpose

Vocabulary

Alcazar - _____

Campanile - b_____ t_____

Catacombs - u_____ p_____ places to b_____ the dead and hold occasional religious services

Koran- the holy scripture of I_____

Mihrab- a n_____ in the wall, which indicates the direction of Mecca and is large enough to accomplish a single standing figure

Minaret- s_____ t_____

Mosaic- d_____

Mosque- M_____ place of worship

Muezzin- p_____

Piers - hint not a dock! Massive vertical pillars

Manuscript - Coll_____ of writings on pages often b_____ together as a b_____

Illumination - Ill_____ or the draw_____ and p_____ of pictures to decorate books

Page 287 & 288

The rising power of Christianity touched on every aspect of life, especially the visual arts. Before A.D. 313, Christianity had been illegal in the Roman Empire, so art was created in c_____, or u_____ p_____. Unlike those who believed in the Roman religion, Christians believed Christ to be their savior. Early Christian art was meant to illustrate Christ's glory and tell the story of his life. This art had hidden meanings, in which common Roman features such as animals served as sym_____ for Christian ideas

Peacock symbol for:

Dog= _____

Ivy = _____

Great Circle = _____

Sheep = _____

Pg 289

Emperor C_____ granted Christians f_____ to practice their faith openly.

Christians chose the design of a b_____

Campanile was a b_____ t_____

Pg. 290

When the emperor C_____ finally granted Christians the right to practice their faith, churches were built in the West using the form of the basilica. They were decorated with m_____, designs made with small pieces of g_____ and st_____ set in cement. While the Roman West declined and the p_____ took over in place of the Roman rulers, the eastern part of the Roman Empire continued to thrive.

Pg 292

The city of Con_____ was a great cultural center where brilliant art was created in the name of Christianity. There huge domed churches such as H_____ S_____ were built using a central plan. Dazzling mosaics decorated this church and told familiar stories from the Bible. When the emperor Justinian extended his control into the West in A.D. 540, he had the great church of San Vitale built in Ravenna. M_____ in the church's apse at the end of the nave show J_____ and his wife, Theodora, with the church authorities.

Pg.293

Construction created the appearance of lighter weight. A dreamlike setting is produce by dim lighting and richly shimmering surfaces inside the Hagia Sophia. Through rows of windows placed on several levels light filters into the church. Light from these windows illuminates the different colors of stone and marble. Works of art in this church can be seen from great distances and are brightly colored. These colors create familiar stories from the Bible.

Pg. 294

When the emperor J_____ extended his control into the West in A.D. 540, he had the great church of San Vitale built in Ravenna. Mosaics in the church's apse at the end of the nave show Justinian and his wife, Theodora, with the church authorities.

Pg. 295

In the mosaic, the emperor and empress are in a floating re_____ procession. The most important figures overlap the less important. Some people believe that this is to show the archbishop is the leader of the people.

Pg. 296

These works of arts lacked _____ and _____ unlike the works of art in Greece and Rome.

Section Two

In the seventh century A.D. a religion known as I _____ emerged in the Middle East. Islam is based on the teachings of the prophet Muhammad, who said there is only one god, Allah. Today more than 925 million Muslims recognize Muhammad as the Messenger of God.

The messages he received were recorded in the Koran, the holy scripture of Islam. The early center of Islam was the Fertile Crescent. Here Muslim builders built places of worship known as mosques. The massive ninth-century mosque in Samarra, Iraq, had a minaret, or tower, from which people were called to group worship.

In A.D. 711 Muslim armies controlled Spain, establishing their court in Cordoba. The mosque there, known as the Mosque, had an orange grove where worshipers could bathe before prayer. The art in Islamic mosques does not portray humans or animals, but consists of ornate calligraphy and geometric patterns. One Muslim ruler in Spain built a magnificent alcazar, or fortified palace, near Cordoba.

Later rulers built the Alhambra palace-fortress in Granada. Walls and columns with delicate stucco decorations surround this palace's Court of the Lions. Muslim rule came to an end in Spain in 1492 when King Boabdil surrendered Granada.

Richly illustrated books were created throughout the Islamic empire. Book illustrators could depict images that would not have appeared in mosques, such as scenes of banquets and popular stories. The figures in these illustrations appear flat, with the emphasis on rich patterns and intense colors.