Assimilation and Conquest: Byzantine Sources for Islamic Art

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Useful terms:

Western Empires:
Alexander the Great (356 – 323 BCE)
Roman Empire (27 BCE – 476 CE)
  Capital - Rome, Italy
  Dura-Europos, Syria (destroyed 256-7 CE)
  Dionysios, God of Wine
Roman Empire (324 – 1453 CE)
  Capital - New Rome, Constantinople (Istanbul, Turkey)
  Key Rulers
    Justinian (c.482- 14 Nov 565))
    Heraclius (c. 575 – 11 Feb. 641)
Jerusalem
  Wailing Wall, Jewish
  Holy Sepulcher, Christian
  Dome of the Rock, Muslim
Egypt
  Alexandria
    Monastery of St. Catherine at Sinai, Orthodox
    Red Monastery, Sohag, Coptic
Antioch
  Church of the East, Miaphysite
Dioscorides, De Materia Medica
Iconoclasm (726-842 CE), St. John of Damascus (676-749 CE)

Eastern Empires:
Parthian (Arsacid) (247 BCE -224 CE)
Sasanian (224- 651 CE)
  Ctesiphon, capital

Trade Routes for silks and spices:
  Red Sea Route to India
    Ethiopia
    Sana’a, Yemen
    Cosmas Indicopleustes (6th century)
  Palmyra – terminus Syrian overland route from China
  Silk Road – northern overland route to China
Rising Muslim Empires:
Muhammad, the Prophet (570 - d. 8 June, 632 C.E. / 11 A. H.)
Mecca, birthplace Muhammad, site Hajj
Medina, early center Islam, burial place Muhammad
Arabs, Ghassanids
Umayyad Caliphate (661 – 750 CE)
Damascus, capital
Abbasid Caliphate (750 CE - 1258 CE)
Baghdad, capital

Reading List:


