



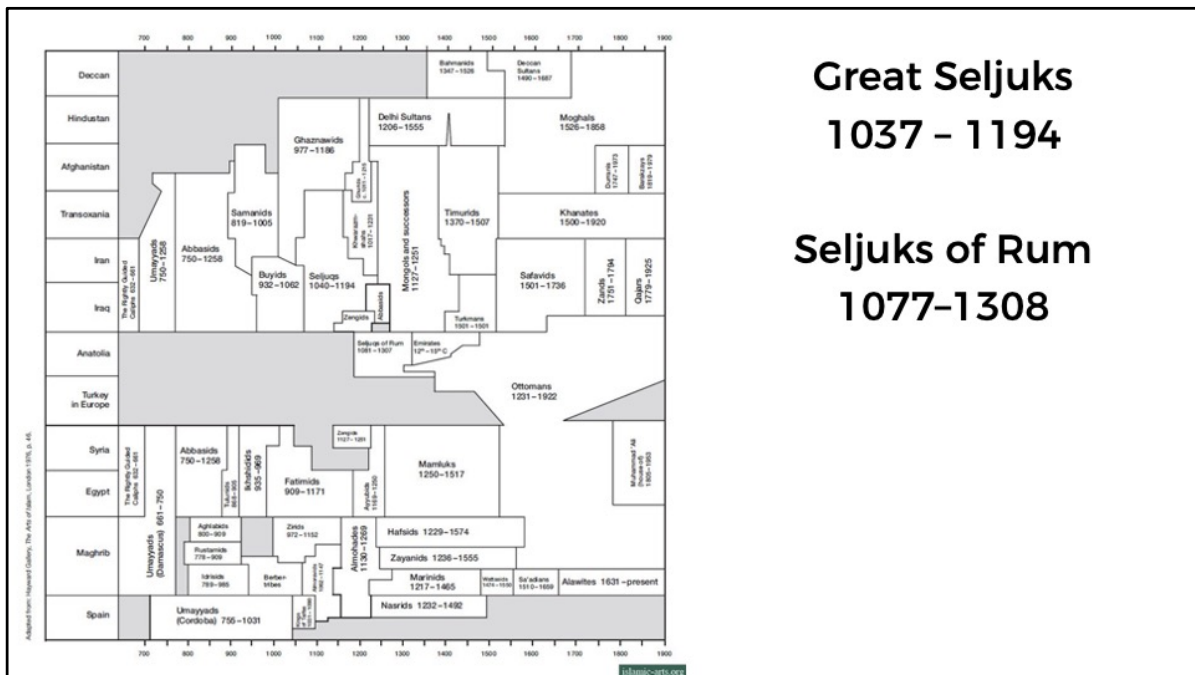
# The Rise of the Seljuks

- This lesson is a birds eye view of the Seljuks
  - Who were the major movers and shakers?
  - What were some of the major events that took place at their hands?
  - What were some of their major achievements?

## Preview Version



- This lesson is a birds eye view of the Seljuks
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- There has been a renewed interest in Muslim History and one of the reasons has been...



**Great Seljuks  
1037 - 1194**

**Seljuks of Rum  
1077-1308**

- Before the Seljuks, Khurasan and Transoxiana were under the Samanids and then the Ghaznavids.
- The Samanids spread Islam amongst the Turks.
- Some state the Great Seljuks ended with Malik Shah in 1092, while others state with the Battle of Qatwan in 1141 against the Kara Khitai, while others mention with the death of Ahmad Sanjar in 1157. Some state with the death of Ghiyath ad-Din Mas'ud in 1152 while most count the dynasty until Toghril III who died in 1194. The Abbasid Caliph al-Nasir used the Khwarazm Shahs to eventually end the Great Seljuks by killing Toghril III.
- Shift of power: Seljuks->Zenkids->Ayyubids->Mamluks.
- Some date the Seljuks of Rum from around 1060 during the reign of Qutalmish.
- Seljuks of Rum reached their peak during the rule of Sultan Alaudeen (1220-1237).
- After the Battle of KoseDag in 1243, the Seljuks of Rum were a vassal of the Ilkhanate Mongols.



## Preview Version



- Major Personalities
  - Major Events
  - Major Achievements
- 
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- It all started with this.
- Over 65 million viewers.
- Subtitled into +- 25 languages & dubbed into many including Urdu.
- It's the story of the Ottomans, their origin & foundation story.
- Previous dramas on Ottomans would make fun/distort/mock the Ottomans.
- This series is testament to the Muslim Ummah's hunger for good leadership.

## Preview Version



- Sultan Alaudeen of the Seljuks of Rum.
- Ottomans rose upon the ashes of the Seljuks.
- After the success of this series, they continued with...

## Preview Version



- The story of Osman I who lays the foundations.





- Then another series went back in time to the Great Seljuks in Isfahan.
- Uyanış: Büyük Selçuklu – Awakening: The Great Seljuks
- Also called the Great Seljuks, Guardians of Justice.
- Was a hit in Turkey, Season 1 was about Malik Shah the Great & Season 2 goes earlier to the time of Muhammad Alp Arsalan.
  
- Malik Shah, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ruler of the Great Seljuks. The Great Seljuks reached their peak during his rule & decline began after his demise. This turmoil post the death of Malik Shah allowed for the success of the **First Christian Crusade**.
- Ahmad Sanjar, son of Malik Shah and other brothers and prominent ones of the family were engulfed in infighting after the death of Malik Shah.
- Terken Hatun, wife of Malik Shah wanted her 4/5 year old son Mahmud to succeed as sultan after the death of Malik Shah. She and the Wazeer Nizam al-Mulk did not see eye to eye.
- Zubayda Hatun, wife and cousin of Malik Shah was the mother Barkiyaruq.
- Hasan al-Sabbah, leader of a group of **Nizari** Ismailis. He controlled a group of followers known as Hashashin/Assassins & they were based in the Alamut Mountain Fortress. It is featured in the Assassins creed game!
- Nizam al-Mulk was the powerful Grand Wazir of Alp Arsalan and his son Malik Shah.





- *3 Major Rulers of the Great Seljuks:*
- Toghril ibn Mikail ibn Seljuk - Founder & the one who comes to Baghdad & rescues the 26<sup>th</sup> Abbasid Caliph al-Qaim from the Buwayhid Shiites.
- The Great Seljuks come from the line of Mikail ibn Seljuk while the Seljuks of Rum come from Arsalan ibn Seljuk who was captured by Mahmud of Ghazni & kept prisoner for 7 years until his death.
- Alp Arsalan (Great Lion, Muhammad ibn Dawud Chagri) – Nephew of Toghril Beg and the one who led the Muslims to victory at the Battle of Manzikert in 1071 against the Byzantines where the Emperor Romanos IV was captured.
- Malik Shah – son of Alp Arsalan who takes the Great Seljuks rule to their peak.
- More details later...



### Three Major Events

1. Seljuk victory in the Battle of Dandanaqan, in 1040 against the Ghaznavids.
2. Seljuks enter Baghdad in 1055.
3. Alp Arslan leads the Muslims to a great victory against the Byzantines at the Battle of Manzikert, 1071.

- Battle of Dandanaqan, 1040, near Merv in current day Turkmenistan (Alp Arslan & Ahmad Sanjar are buried Merv).
- The Seljuks led by Toqhril Beg and his **brother** Dawud Chaghri were on the rise and the Ghaznavid Dynasty, under Sultan Mas'ud were going into decline.
- The two groups had been in conflict for some time and this battle gave the Seljuks the upper hand.
- Mahmud of Ghazni had previously captured and jailed Arslan, the son of Seljuk & his son Qutalmish in the Kalinjar Fort in India for 7 years. Seljuks were looking for revenge.
- The Seljuks were the new kids on the block and soon dominated Khurasan. Ghaznavids focused more towards al-Hind in the South East.
- After Dandanaqan, in 1041, the Abbasids acknowledged the rule of the Seljuks.
- Imam al-Bayhaqi was witness to the Ghaznavid-Seljuk conflict.
- The Seljuks moved west and soon took **Isfahan** from the Buyids in 1051 & made it their new capital.



- Capital of the Seljuks (1051-1118) and later the capital of the Shite Safavids under Shah Abbas in 1598.
- The beautiful Naqsh e Jahan Square, in the centre of Isfahan on the right, built during the rule of Shah Abbas of the Safavids.
- In Persian they would say Isfahan Nisf Jahan – Isfahan is half of the world.
- It is said that Salman al Farsi was from Isfahan.
- Abu Nuaym al Asfahani & the Hanbali Ibn Mandah were from Isfahan. Between them were issues.
- Season 1 of the Great Seljuks revolves around the rule of Malik Shah who is based in Isfahan.





## 2. Seljuks enter Baghdad in 1055

- The Seljuks answer the call of the Abbasid Caliph al-Qaim Bi Amrillah and enter Baghdad in 1055 ending Buwayhid political control.



- Battle of Manzikert 1071/463.
- After this victory, Anatolia/Asia Minor was open to Muslim settlement.
- In 1073 Atzis, of the Seljuks took Jerusalem from the Fatimids.





- Designed by two female architects, Bahar Mızrak and Hayriye Gül Totu, at a cost of around TL 150 million (\$66.5 million).
- Built in the Seljuk Ottoman style.
- 63 000 capacity.
- Six minarets reaching **107.1m** high.
- 2071 Turkish Millennium Plans.



Three Important Personalities, The Patron and The Scholars

1. Nizam al Mulk
2. Imam Ghazali
3. Omar Khayyam – Mathematician & architect of the Jalali calendar

Other Scholars who lived during this period:

- Abu Ishaq al-Shirazi
- Imam al-Mawardi
- Imam al Haramain al-Juwayni
- Abu Ismail Al-Ansari al-Harawi
  - Was a Hanbali
  - Wrote Manazil al-Saaireen
  - Incident with Alp Arsalan & Nizam al-Mulk when they visited Herat
- Imam al-Baghawi
  - Was a contemporary of many Seljuk rulers
  - He wrote Ma'alim al-Tanzil, Sharh al-Sunnah & Masabih al-Sunnah



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### 3 Major Achievements

1. Halting the Ismaili Shia domination & advance
2. Founding of the Nizamia Colleges
3. Islamization of Anatolia

THE  
RISE OF THE  
SELJUKS

- Remember 4th Islamic century was called the “Golden Age of Shiasm”.
- Gave life to the Abbasid rule and delayed its fall.

- **Recap questions**

- Who were the 3 Major figures of the Seljuks?
- The two Seljuk Dynasties were?
- The Great Seljuks reached their peak during the rule of who?
- Which battle took place in 1071? And what the result of that battle?
- Why is 4<sup>th</sup> Islamic Century called the Shite Century?





- Toghril was based in Rayy, former capital of the Buyids.
- Toghril had taken Nishapur from the Ghaznavids in 1037 & declared himself the Sultan of Khurasan.
- In 1040 he defeated the Ghaznavids in the Battle of Dandanaqan.
  
- The Seljuks answer the call of the Abbasid Caliph al-Qaim Bi Amrillah, 26<sup>th</sup> Abbasid ruler and enter Baghdad in 1055 ending Buwayhid political control.
- The Messenger between al-Qaim and Toghril was Ali ibn Muhammad al-Mawardi, author of the famous Ahkam al-Sultaniyah and student of Khatib al-Baghdadi.
- He had announced as not to arouse suspicion that he was heading for hajj and then to face the Fatimids, but instead took control of Baghdad.
- Toghril Bey was a military genius. He dealt with the revolt of his brother Ibrahim Yanal and Basasiri effectively.
  
- The Buwayhids were an Iranian Persian Twelver Shia dynasty that controlled the caliph in Baghdad from 945 to 1055.
- There were many instances of hostilities between the Sunnis and Shias under their watch.
- Sharif al-Radi, author of Nahj al-Balagha died in 1015.
- Sheikh al Mufid, the most prominent shia scholar of the Buwayhid period died in 1022.

- The famous “Four Books” of the Shia were authored during the Shite Century.
- The Sunni Seljuks replace the Shia Buwayhids and maintain political power in their hands.
- Story of the arrows (attributed to many).
- Toghril Beg eventually marries the caliph's daughter, Sayida Khatun in 1062 & the Caliph al-Qaim married Toghril's niece.
- Toghril Beg died at the age of 70 in 1063 & did not have any sons and thus his nephew Alp Arsalan succeeded him. Was there a peaceful transition?
- The Wazir of Toghril Beg was ‘Amid al-Mulk al-Kundari who was a fanatical Hanafi/Karrami. He supported the succession of Suleiman instead of Alp Arsalan. He also ordered the cursing of the Rafidha and Asharis from the pulpits. Many ulama fled to avoid his persecution.



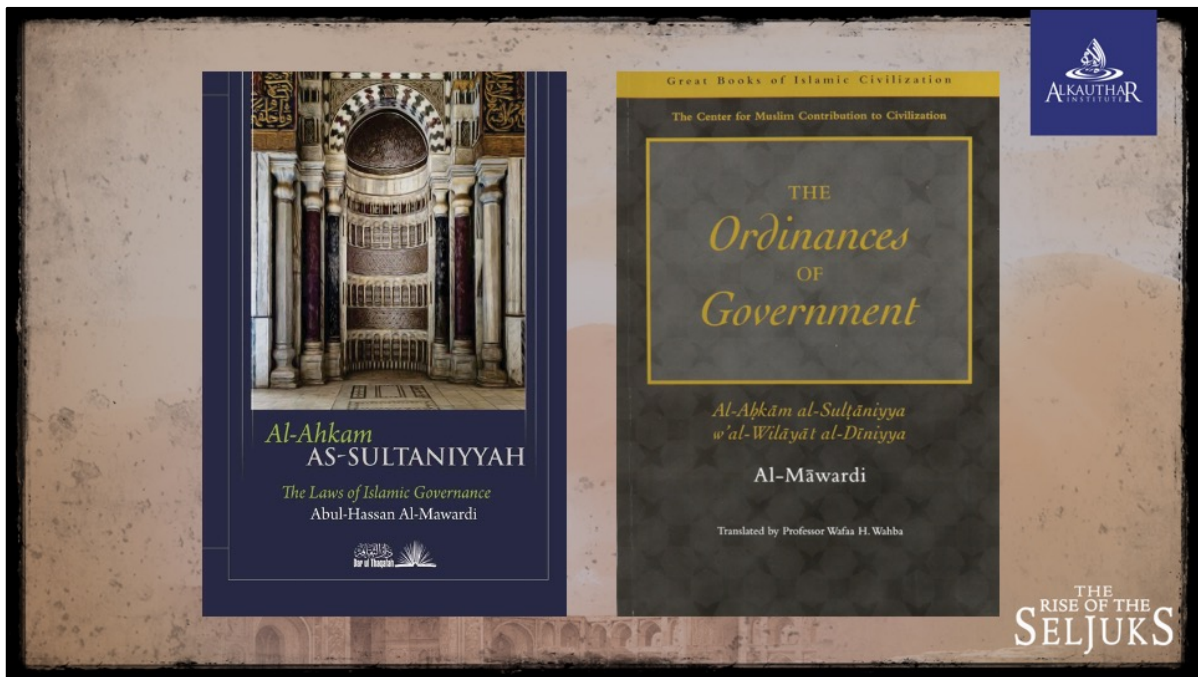
**High Middle Ages 1000-1250/Hijri 390-648**

- 1037 Death of Ibn Sina
- 1064 Death of Ibn Hazm
- 1031-1086 Fall of Umayyad Spain and emergence of Petty States
- 1030 Mahmud Ghaznavi dies
- Rise of the Ghurids
- Rise of the Murabitun Berbers
- Rule of Toghril Beg
- 1063 Rule of Alp Arsalan
- 1058-1111 Life of al-Ghazali
- 1072 Rule of Malik Shah
- 1078-1166 Life of Abdul Qadir Jilani
- 1085 Toledo is lost to the Christian advance
- 1086 Murabitun halt the Christian advance in the Battle of Zallaqah
- 1091 Muslim Sicily is lost
- 1095 Crusades are launched
- 1099 Jerusalem is lost
- 1123 Emergence of the Muwahidun Berbers
- The Zenkids in Sham
- 1142-1236 Life of Moinuddin Chishti
- 1145-1217 Life of Ibn Jubayr the traveller
- 1193 Death of Salahuddin
- 1206-1555 Delhi Sultanate replaces the Ghurids
- 1206-1227 Reign of Genghis Khan
- 1207-1273 Life of Jalaludin Rumi
- 1212 Battle of Las Navas where the Muwahidun lose
- 1233-1277 Life of Imam al-Nawawi
- 1240 Death of Ibn Arabi
- 1243 Battle of Kosedag
- 1250 Mamluks take Egypt from the Ayyubids
- 1258 Baghdad falls to the Mongols
- 1260 Mongols lose to the Mamluks in the Battle of Ayn Jalut
- 1263 Birth of Ibn Taymiyyah
- 1280 Rule of Osman I

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THE RISE OF THE SELJUKS

## Preview Version



- Authored by Ali ibn Muhammad al-Mawardi.



- It is claimed that Toghrol is buried here.





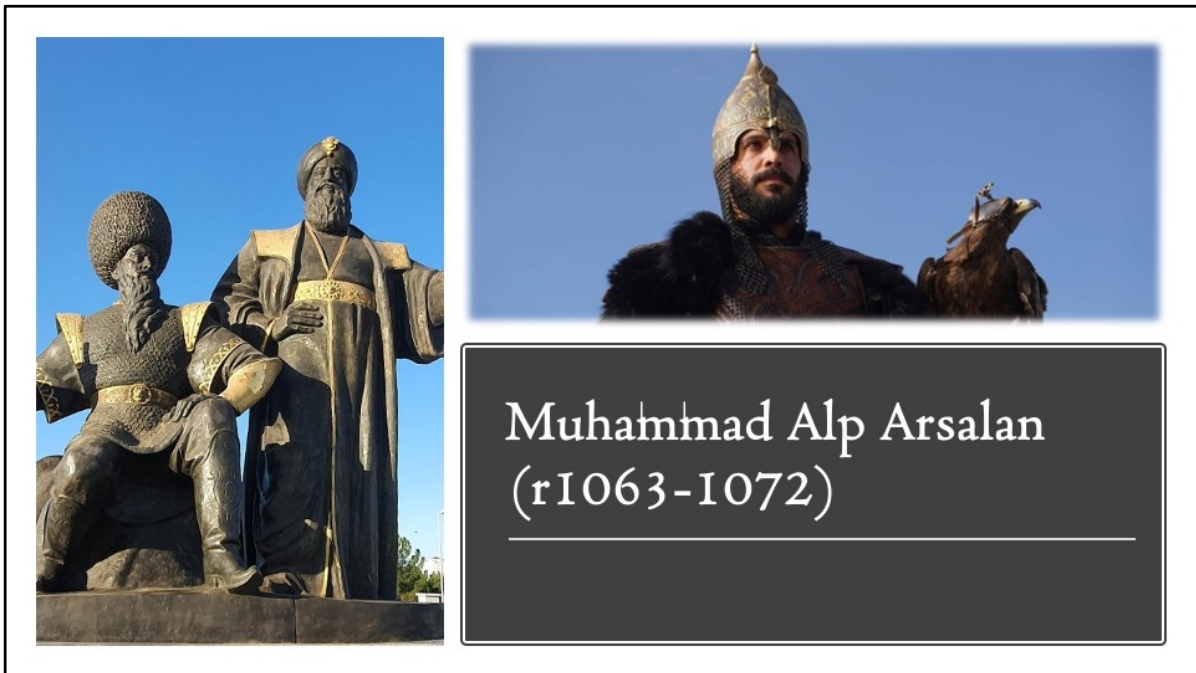
- Battle of Manzikert/Malazkirt , Friday 26 August 1071.
- This attack was initiated by Emperor Romanos.
- Alp Arslan offered a peace proposal, but Romanos rejected it.
- +-40 000 Byzantine forces faced +-20 000 under Alp Arslan.
- First and only instance of the Byzantine Emperor being captured by Muslim forces. Emperor Romanos 4<sup>th</sup> was ransomed and then released but later died a miserable death.
- Aftermath of the battle:
  - ❑ Allowed for the gradual Turkification/Islamization of Anatolia.
  - ❑ Even thou the Eastern Byzantine Empire continued for another four centuries, Edward Gibbon and other historians regard this defeat as the beginning of end for the Byzantines.
  - ❑ Alp Arslan’s conquest of Anatolia is seen as one of the precursors to the launch of the Crusades, especially since the Seljuks also took Jerusalem from the Fatimids (1073) around the same time. The Byzantine Emperor Alexios Komnenos will seek the help of Western Europe to rid Anatolia of the Seljuks.

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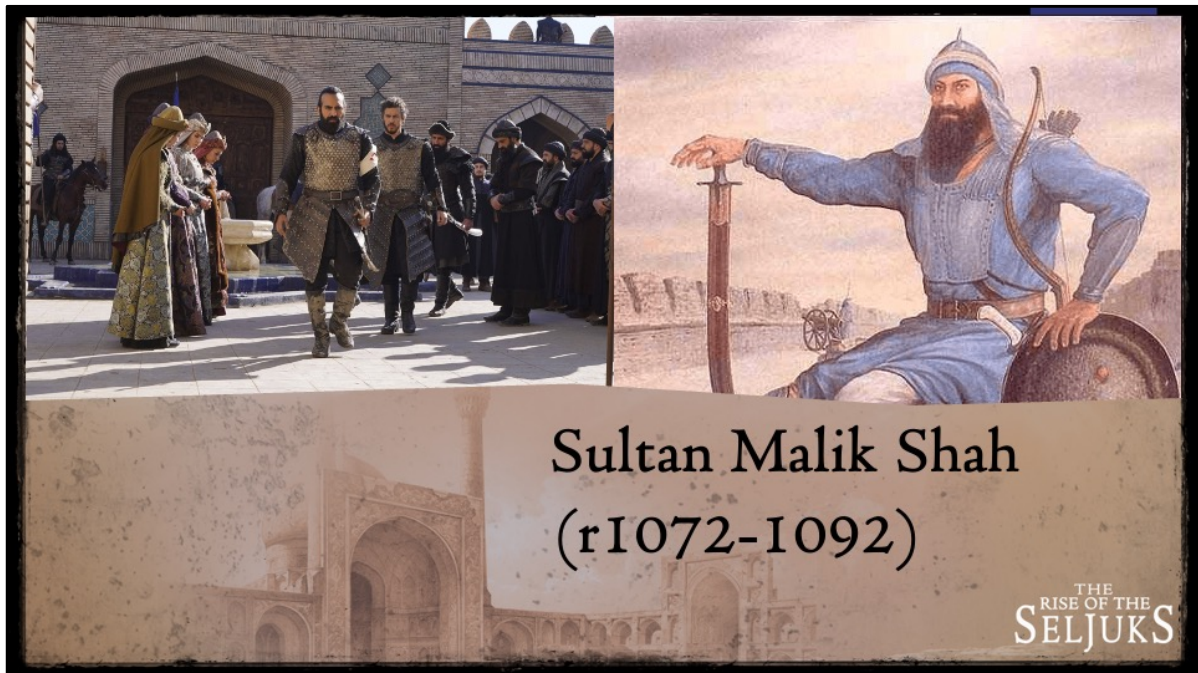


- Manzikert movie starring Turgut of Ertugrul.





- Alp Arslan (Great/Valiant Lion) Muhammad ibn Dawud Chaghri was the nephew of Toghril Beg.
- He is described as very tall and having a very long moustache.
- After the death of Toghril, Alp Arslan struggled for power against his brother Suleiman and cousin of Toghril, Qutalmish ibn Arslan and eventually succeeded against them.
- Suleiman, the son of Qutalmish, was captured and set free. Suleiman will eventually set up the independent Seljuk Sultanate of Rum.
- Alp Arslan's Wazir was the famed powerful Nizam al-Mulk.
- He conquered Armenia and Georgia in 1064.
- Took Aleppo from Fatimids and returned it to the Abbasids.
- He was assassinated at the age of 42, 1 year after Manzikert.
- He was buried in Merv, Turkmenistan.



- Jalāl al-Dawla Mu'izz al-Dunyā Wa'l-Din Abu'l-Fatḥ Malik Shah ibn Alp Arslān
- Mailk = King, Shah = King
- Was under 18 when he took over & thus Nizam al-Mulk exerted great influence. Nizam al-Mulk was his AtaBeg (father leader).
- The Abbasid Caliph, al-Qaim biAmrillah died in 1075.
- Malik Shah's daughters Mahi Mulk married the next Caliph, al-Muqtadi, Jawhar married Masud III of the Ghaznavids, and Ismah married the later caliph al-Mustadhir.
- The father of Imad al-Din Zenki, Aq Sunkur was appointed the governor of Aleppo by Malik Shah.
- His capital was Isfahan.
  
- He died in 1092, three years before the Crusades were launched. A few months before him, Nizam al-Mulk was killed by the Nizari Ismaili Batinis.
- With the death of Malik Shah, the golden age of the Seljuks ended. Internal strife, fragmentation and independent principalities led to its weakening. Rum/Anatolia was under Kilij Arslan ibn Suleiman ibn Qutalmish, Sham under Tutush ibn Alp Arslan and his sons and Iraq/Faris was under Barkiyaruk and the claimants to his seat.



- Internal chaos ensued after his death. His eldest son 13yr old Barkiyaruq (Firm unwavering light) who was based in Isfahan claimed leadership and was supported by the family of Nizam al-Mulk while his wife Terken Hatun and minister Taj al-Mulk based in Baghdad pushed for the leadership of the 4/5-year-old Mahmud.
- The Abbasid Caliph, al-Muqtadi acknowledged the sultanate for Mahmud, and he was given the title of “Nasir al-Dunya wa al-Din”.
- Terken Hatun ordered the arrest of Barkiyaruq, but he soon escaped and announced he was the rightful sultan. The two factions were in conflict for two years until the death of Mahmud in 1094.
- Barkiyaruq appointed Izz al-Mulk, son of Nizam al-Mulk as his Wazeer.
- Abbasid Caliph Al-Muqtadi died in 1094 and al-Mustadhir was the new caliph.
- Tutush, brother of Malik Shah also rose against Barkiyaruq & declared himself the Seljuk leader. He was eventually killed in battle with the forces of Barkiyaruq.
- The sons of Tutush, Daqaq (Damascus) and Radwan (Aleppo) continued in their fathers' footsteps and eventually became rivals to one another. Seljuk Sham was thus divided.
- This climate of internal strife was ideal for the crusaders & followers of Hasan Sabbah to take advantage of the situation.

- Later, conflict arose between Barkiyaruq and his two brothers Muhammad Tapar and Sanjar for five years from 1098-1203. Both eventually agree to a truce and to govern different regions.
- After the death of Barkiyaruq, his son Malik Shah II who was 5 years old, was appointed but was soon killed by Muhammed Tapar.
- Muhammad Tapar ruled from 1105–1118 but the Great Seljuks had now disintegrated with the east under Sanjar, the north under Muhammad Tapar, Sham under the sons of Tutush and Anatolia under the sons of Sulieman ibn Qutalmish.
- Imam Ghazali lived through a lot of this chaos and wrote to Muhammad Tapar advising him in his work “Tibr al Masbuk”





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- Imad al-Din Zenki was placed in charge of Mosul by Muhammad Tapars son, Mahmud II in 1127. History will testify to the efforts of Imad al-Din and his son Nur al-Din in preventing the Crusaders from taking Sham. Imad al-Din, Nur al-Din and Salahuddin will lead the Muslim revival and fight back against the Crusaders.
- After the death of Muhammad Tapar, his son Mahmud II & his brother Ahmed Sanjar fought over leadership until Ahmed Sanjar managed to gain the upper hand. They reached a settlement with Mahmud II in Iraq and Western Iran & Ahmad Sanjar in Khurasan and Transoxiana. Ahmed Sanjar was the last of the Great Seljuks.
- When Mahmud II died in 1131 aged 26, a civil war ensued between his son Dawud, and his brothers Mas'ud, Suleiman-Shah, and Toghrul II.
- The relationship between the Abbasid Caliphs and Seljuk Sultans deteriorated until eventually Abbasid al-Mustarshid and Seljuk Mas'ud went to war.
- After the death of Ghiyath al-Din Mas'ud (1152), the Great Seljuks were in reality over.
- End of power opinions:
  - Death of Malik Shah 1092
  - Loss at the Battle of Qatwan against the Kara Khitai -1141
  - Death of Ghiyath al-Din Masud -1152
  - Death of Sanjar – 1157
  - Death of Toghril III - 1194
- The Abbasid Caliph al-Nasir used the Khwarezm Shah to eventually end the Great Seljuks by killing Toghril III.



- He was appointed the Governor of Khorasan in 1096.
- Was in a position of authority for about 60 years (Dhahabi).
- He was captured and held prisoner from 1153 to 1156.
- The Khawarizm Shah rulers took over most of regions previously under Ahmed Sanjar.



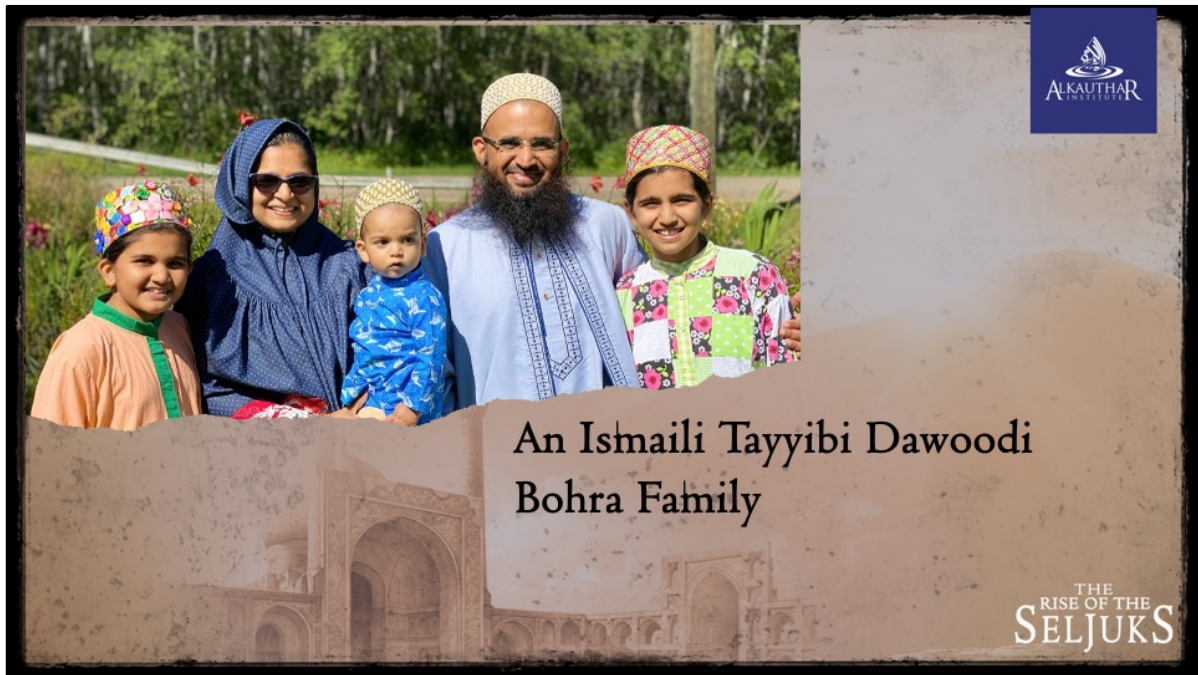


- Aq Sunqur al-Hajib was the governor of Malik Shah in Aleppo. He was executed by Tutush I of Damascus in 1094 when his son, Imad was only 10 years old.
- Mahmud II, the son of Muhammad Tapar appointed Imad al-Din Zenki as governor of Mosul in 1127 & Aleppo in 1128, this was the beginning of the Zenki state. He broke away from the Seljuks and was determined to stop the rot. He eventually and managed to take Edessa, the first of the four crusader states.
- His son Nur al-Din continued the efforts and united Sham under his authority.
- Ibn al-Athir describes Nur al-Din as a “Saintly King” figure and says about him “I have studied the careers of the rulers of the past but, apart from the first four Caliphs and Umar ibn Abd al-Aziz, there has been no prince so generous and pious, law-abiding and just”.
- Had it not been for the efforts of Imad al-Din Zenki and Nur al-Din Zenki, the crusaders would have taken Sham.
- Salahuddin was the nephew of Nur al-Din’s Kurdish commander Shirkuh.
- The wife of Salahuddin was Ismat al-Din. She was previously married to Nur al-Din Zenki and is described as “having courage beyond that of most women”.

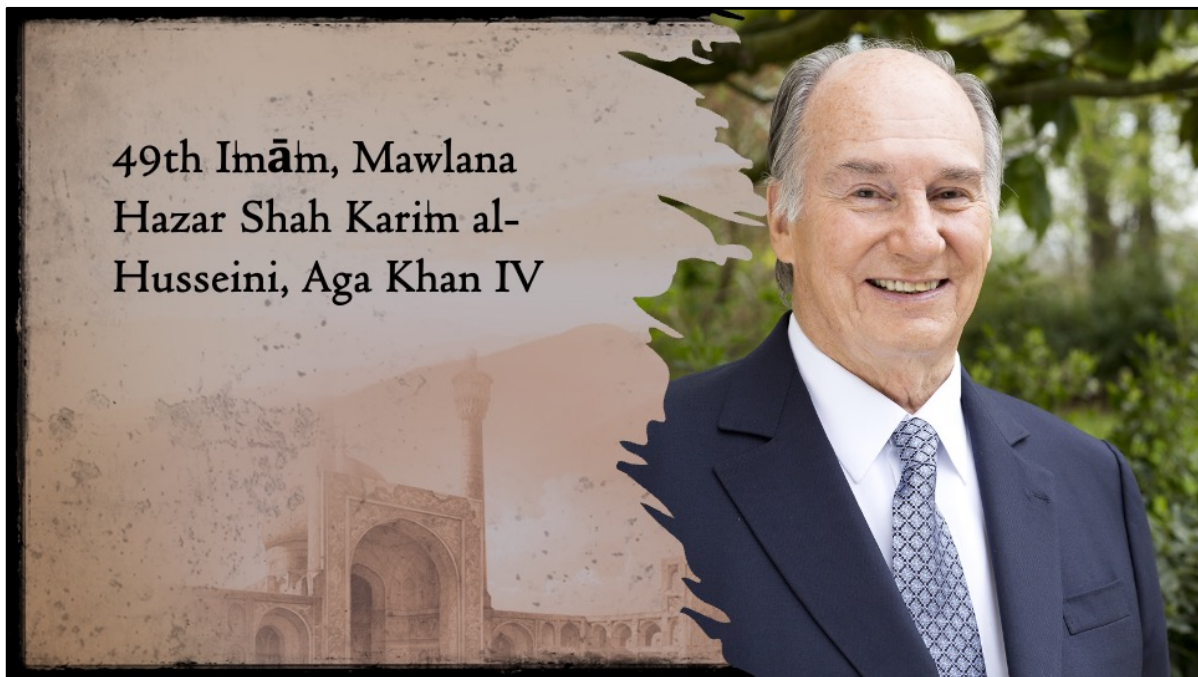




- Ismailis - an offshoot from Shi'ite Islam. Followers of Ismail, the eldest son of Jafar al-Sadiq ibn Muhammad al-Baqir ibn Ali Zayn al-A'bideen ibn Husain ibn Ali. Sevener Branch of Shi'ite Islam.
- Batinis – those who follow esoteric interpretations e.g. salah (dua), hajj (audience with the Imam), siyam (avoid bad habits & so fast all year), qiyamah (the shariah is applicable until qiyamah comes, so they proclaimed qiyamah & thus the shariah function has come to an end).
- Nizari – followers of Nizar, son of the 8<sup>th</sup> Fatimid caliph al-Mustansir Billah al-Fatimi.
- Hasan al-Sabbah set up the Nizari state in the east & the Order of the Assassins.

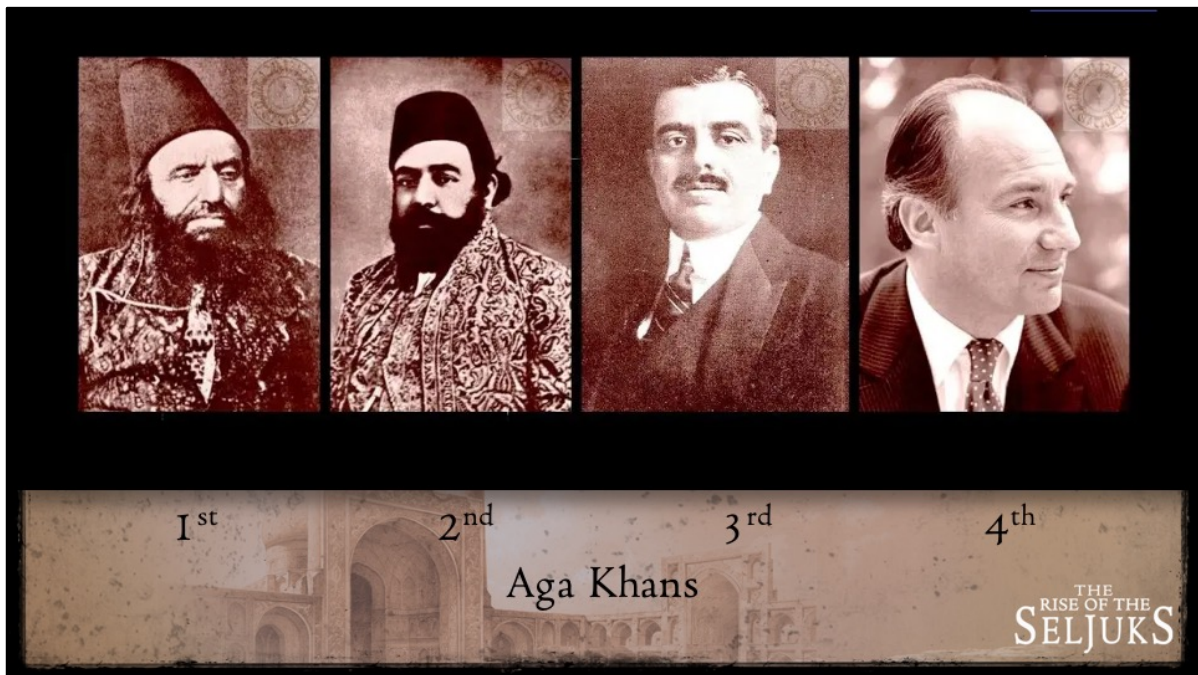


- Easy recognizable by their unique clothing style.
- They number between 2-5 millions worldwide.



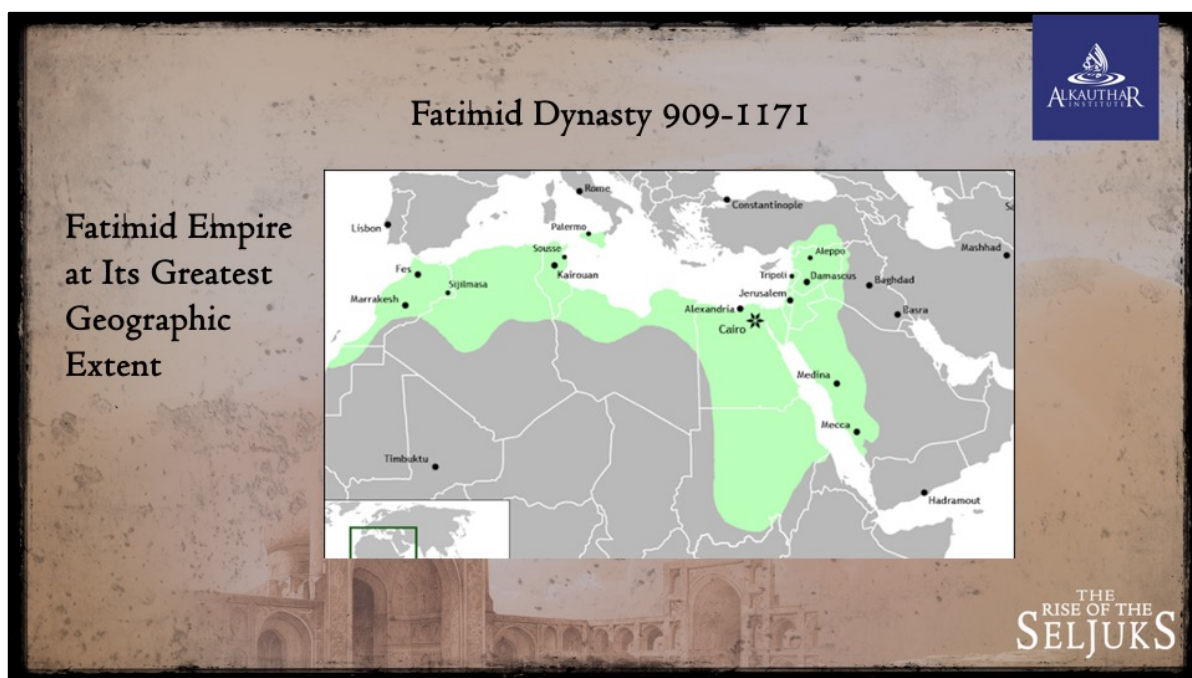
- Worth over 13 Billion USD.
- Known for his costly marriages and more costly divorces amongst other things.
- Appointed in 1957 as the Imam of the Nizari Ismailis.
- Nizaris make up the majority of the Ismailis today, around 15 million.
- The Aga Khan Development Network is one of the largest NGOs in the world & has a budget of over \$950 million annually.





- Aga = elder, khan = ruler.
- The 46<sup>th</sup> Imam, Aga Khan 1<sup>st</sup> fled from Iran to India in the 19<sup>th</sup> century & ever since the Aga Khan Imams and their followers have maintained a public presence.
- He was given the title Aga Khan by the Qajar Persian monarchy – political title.
- Names: Hasan Ali Shah, Ali Shah, Muhammad Shah, Shah Karim respectively.
- Aga Khan III appointed his grandson and skipped his own son.



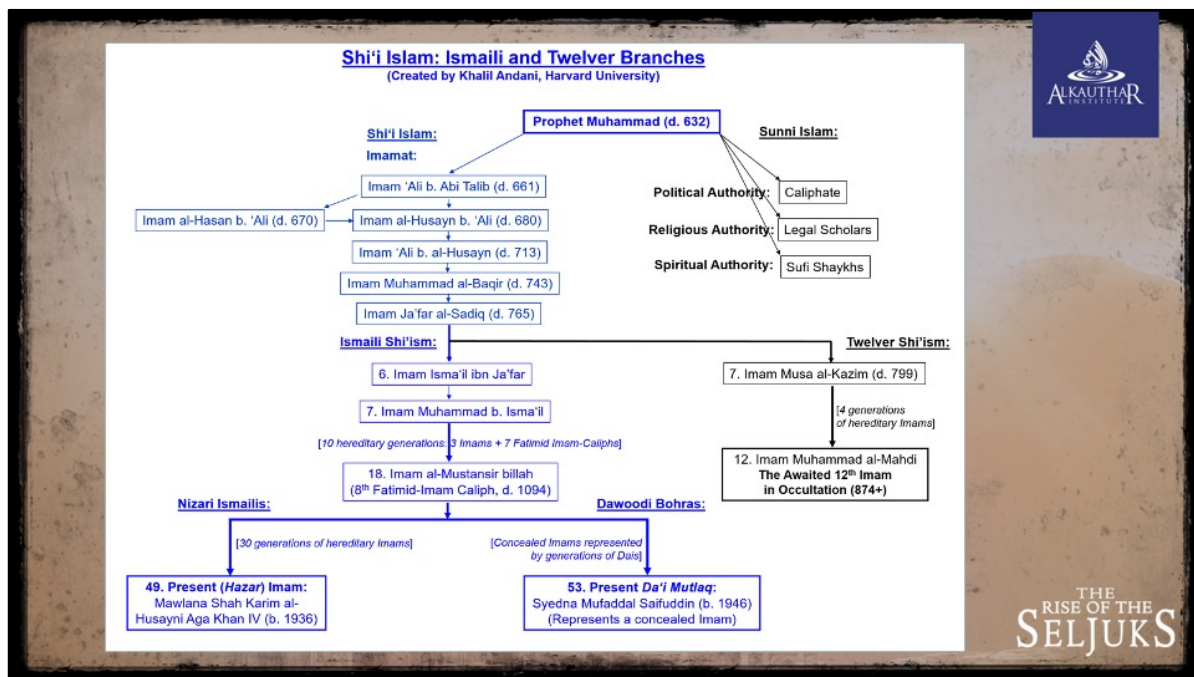


- 262-year dynasty, 2.5 centuries.
- They ruled over a Sunni majority.
- They were the only Shia rulers of Egypt & only Shite caliphate in history.
- Their identity colour was white while black was the choice of the Abbasids. The Ka'bah was draped in white during their rule.
- They introduced the celebration of the birthday of the Prophet (saw) & other festivals.
- The rulers were Imami caliphs, holding both religious and political authority.
- The name of the Fatimid Caliph was pronounced in Makkah, Madinah and Jerusalem for decades. Makkah generally was under a Hasani and Madinah under a Husseini who then agreed to offering homage to different dynasties.
- Salahuddin, who was a the wazir to the 14<sup>th</sup> and last Fatimid ruler al-Adid , eventually dismantled the Fatimids.
- Abdullah al-Mahdi set up the coastal city of al-Mahdiyyah in Tunisia in 921 and eventually moved east as they got stronger. Before him they were in hiding for around 150 years.
- Qadi al-Nu'man was their main scholar.
- He wrote "Da'aaim al-Islam" listed the 7 Pillars of Ismaili Islam which was approved by the Fatimid caliphs.
- Al-Hakim biAmrillah, 6<sup>th</sup> Fatimid rule, 996-1021.

- Appointed at the age of 11 and ruled for 25 years.
- He is described as the “Mad Caliph” due to his bizarre orders.
- The Druze ascribe divinity to him & that he will eventually return.
- He disappeared in 1021.
- His mosque survives in Cairo & was renovated by the Bohras in 1980.



- Ka'bah with white kiswah.



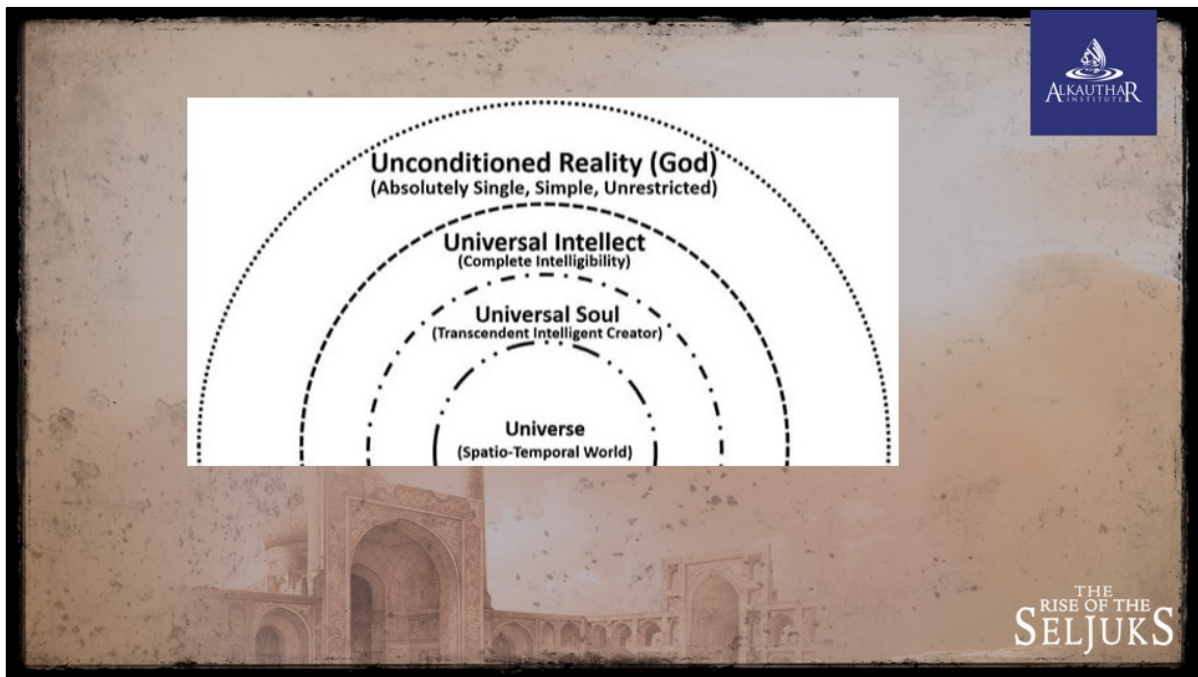
- Hasan ibn Ali was a temporary Imam
- Jafar al-Sadiq designated his son Ismail to be the Imam after him, but Ismail dies before Jafar. Majority of the Imami's followed Musa Kadhim while others followed Muhammad the son of Ismail
- Technically Ismail was the only Ismaili Imam who didn't perform his function as Imam
- The Fatimid Ismailis of Egypt followed the younger son al-Musta'li Billah. Dawoodi Bohras are Musta'li while the Aga Khanis are Nizari.
- Beliefs
- God is above all names and attributes. Can't even say God exists.
- Can't say God is all-knowing but rather God originates all knowledge. God is beyond the beyond.
- They believe in the radical transcendence of God
- They have a neo-platonic worldview: God creates a spiritual light which emanates all celestial beings in the universe.
- Imamate is a pillar of the faith, and the Imam is like the human reflection of the first divine intellect
- The Universal Intellect ( 'Aql-i Kull) is the first being originated by God and the noblest of all existents. Intellect is a spiritual being of light (nur) –



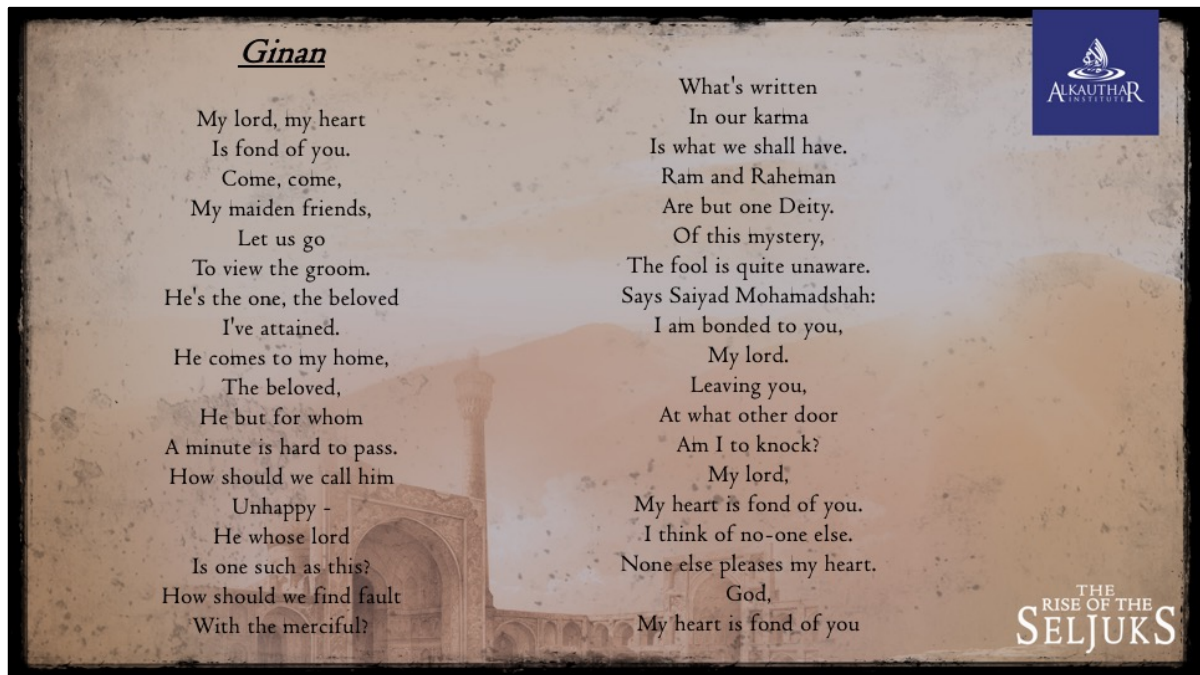
it is therefore called the Muhammadan Light, the Light of Imamatus,

- The Universal Soul emanated from the Universal Intellect and created the Cosmos
- There is a Universal Soul that our souls came out of. When our souls are perfected, it will unite with the Universal Soul.
- The words and actions of the Imams are expressive of the Universal Intellect.
  
- The Imam an intercessor with God & can be called on for help
- Aga Khan 4<sup>th</sup> is the 49<sup>th</sup> Imam
- They believe that there must always be a present visible Imam on earth while the Bohra believe the Imam is hidden
- The Imam decodes the Quran. The Quran is not a book of guidance on its own. The Imam is the stand-alone guide. The Imam is inspired from the same source as the Quran. The Imam is the speaking Quran. His words and the Quran have the same authority.
- He is the bearer of the Muhammadan light. The Muhammadan light exists within the Imam
- Ismaili practice has evolved over time based on the guidance of the Imam.
- The Imam can change an order in the Quran, can over-ride a previous Imam, can overrule previous guidance.
- The Imam is the absolute authority. What he says is what God say.
- The life of an Ismaili revolves around the Imam
  
- They believe in reincarnation of the souls
- Their place of prayer is a Jamat Khana and not a Masjid
- No 5 Pillars of Islam like Sunni Muslims.
- No 5 daily prayers, no wudhu, no adhan, no qiblah, no fasting in Ramadan, face veils for women banned
- Instead of Salah they have a dua that they make 3 times daily. It has 6 parts and in it they recite the names of the 49 Imams
- Place of prayer is restricted to their Jamat Khanas. They do not pray in Mosques.
- They do pay zakah which is 10-12.5% of the net income & this is handed over to the aga Khan. Called dasond. There is no batini explanation of zakah
- Eid holds no great significance, but do it to show solidarity with other

Muslims



- Ruling of the Nizari Ismailis?
- Sunnis and Shia Ulama state they are not Muslims



- A Gitan that is recited in the dua.





- During the rule of the 4<sup>th</sup> Fatimid ruler al-Muiz in 969, they managed to take control of Egypt.
- They named it al-Qahirah (the Vanquisher).
- The Fatimids set up al-Azhar to spread the Shi'i Ismaili thought in 972.



- The Fatimid Ismail Batinis are responsible for assassinating Nizam al-Mulk, his son Fakhr al-Mulk, al-Mustarshid al-Abbasi, al-Rashid al-Abbasi, Ahmed ibn Nizam Mulk, Sharaf al-Din Mawdud, al-Afdal al-Fatimi, & attempted to kill Malik Shah, Salahuddin al-Ayyubi and many others
- The followers were ready to die for their leader. Suicide story.
- Hasan went to Egypt and met al-Mustansir who supposedly mentioned to him that Nizar is the next Imam but Musta'li was preferred by the Wazir and Nizar will jailed and killed.
- Hasan al-Sabbah declared independence from the Fatimids and set up a Nizari state in the east.
- His followers are infamous for the political assassinations.
- Was based in the Alamut fort for 35 years



- Located in Qazwin, Iran.
- Was a Nizari Ismaili stronghold.
- Muhammad Tapar's forces tried to take it but were unsuccessful.
- It survived the Seljuk period but fell to the Mongols in 1256.
- Nizaris then went underground for about 500 years practising taqiyyah.
- In the 19<sup>th</sup> century the 46<sup>th</sup> Imam, Aga Khan I made a more public appearance & fled Iran to India.
- The Imams that followed have maintained a public presence.



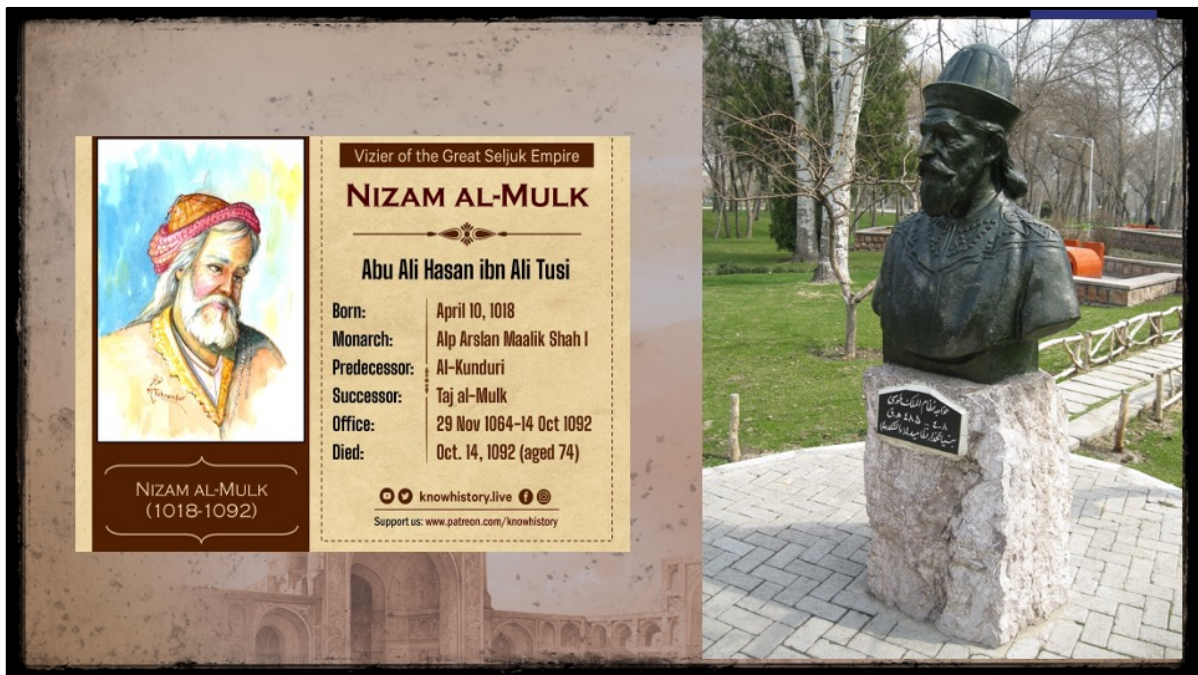


- The Fatimids officially recognized al-Musta'li and not Nizar as the 19th Imam.
- The Bohras claim descent from the Musta'li line. Later there was another split between the Tayyibi branch and the Hafizi branch.
- Bohra means trader.
- They are different from the Nizaris in that they believe that the Shariah remains intact. They pray 5 times daily, fast in Ramadan and perform hajj.
- A split resulted in 1588 in the Bohra community between followers of **Dā'ūd** ibn Quṭb Shāh and **Sulaymān**, who both claimed leadership of the community. Thus, the Dawoodi Bohra and Sulaymani Bohra groups emerged.
- The Dawoodi Bohra base is in India while the Sulaymani Bohra base is in Yemen.
- The Imam is in ghayba, and his representative is the Dai Mutlaq. The current Dai Mutlaq of the Dawoodi Bohras is Mufaddal Saidudeen who is the 53<sup>rd</sup> Dai while
- They are known to practice *katna* – female circumcision.





1. Nizam al-Mulk Kawajah Buzruk Abu Ali Hasan ibn Ali al-Tusi. Tus is the same village that Imam Ghazali, Ferdowsi the poet were from. Tus is close to Mashad in present day Iran.
2. Nizam al Mulk – Order of the Realm.
3. The “Mulk” and “Din” titles grew in popularity during this period.
4. He was the first one to have the title AtaBek (father ameer)
5. Memorized the Quran while young.
6. Was the Wazeer for Alp Arsalan and Malik Shah.
7. Wrote “Siyasat Nama” on Political Administration.
8. He was a Shafi’ and promoted this school.
9. He loved the Ulama and the Sufis.
10. Had the best ulama recruited to teach at the Nizami colleges.
11. Was assassinated by Nizari assassins 2 months before Sultan Malik Shah died.



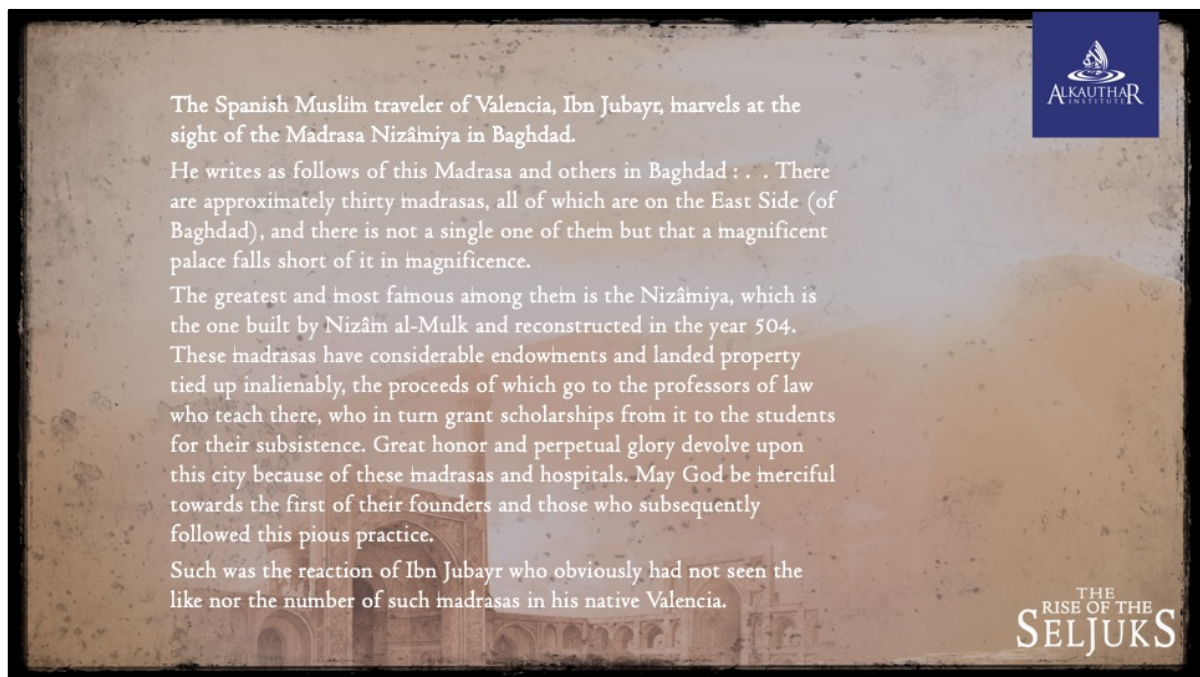
- Nizam al Mulk statue in Mashhad, Iran.
- He was the director of what some term the “Sunni Project”.
- Was the Wazir for around 30 years. Sometimes this period is called “Dawlah al-Nizamiyyah”.



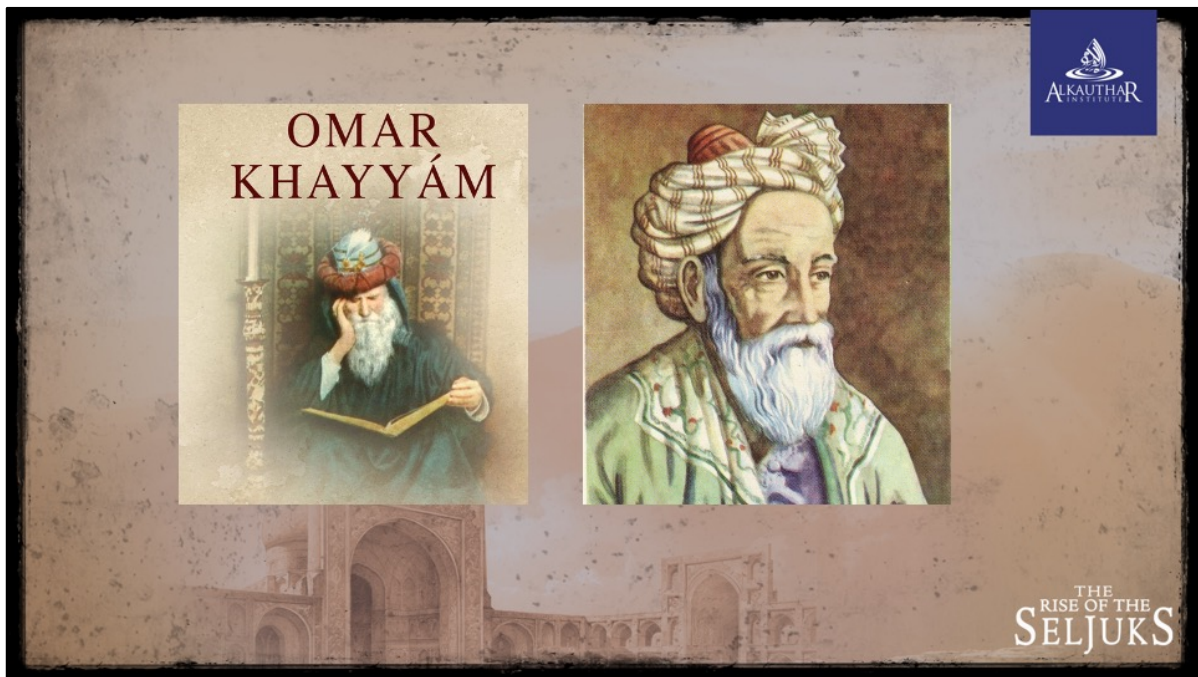
- Set up Nizamiya Colleges from 1067 in **Baghdad**, Balkh, Nisapur, Tabarstan, **Isfahan**, Herat, Basrah, Merv, Mosul. Baghdad was the Abbasid capital and Isfahan was the Seljuk capital during the rule of Alp Arslan & Malik Shah.
- The Ismaili Fatimids had set up the Azhar in 972 to help spread their ideology.
- Established many awqaf to service the colleges.
- The teachers were restricted to Shafi' Asharis & at times even the students.
- Many scholars of other schools changed schools to be accommodated.
- These Madaris served to counter the spread of the Shi'ites.
- They also provided the human resources required by the state administration apparatus.
- Was the patron of many Ulama & would have them in his court.
- The longest surviving Nizami Madrassah's of them all was the one in Baghdad, it last 400 years.
- Abu Ishaq al Shirazi (d 1083) taught in Baghdad and Imam al-Juwayni taught in Nisapur for 20 years.
- Abu Ishaq authored al-Muhadhab which was elaborated upon by Imam al-Nawawi in al-Majmu'.
- The Nizamiyah of Baghdad and Nisapur had around 300 students each.
- The Fitnah of Ibn al-Qushayr in 1077:

- Abu Nasr al-Qushayri, son of Abul Qasim al-Qushayri was teaching at the Nizami college in Baghdad and promoted the Ashari school while criticizing the Hanbalis. His followers stormed the masjid of Sheikh Abu Jafar ibn Abi Musa al-Hanbali and fights occurred. The Hanbalis retaliated and the many students of the Nizami college barricaded themselves inside. Between 10 to twenty people lost their lives during this fitna.





- Nizami colleges are different from the Dars Nizami curriculum devised by Nizamuddin Sihalvi (d 1748) of India.



- Omar Khayyam, 1048-1131.
- Was a Persian polymath, mathematician, philosopher and poet.
- Designed the Jalali solar calendar which is more accurate than the Gregorian calendar which was introduced in 1582.



- Persian Scholars Pavilion in Vienna includes Omar Khayyam, Abu Bakr al-Razi, the physician, Biruni, Ibn Sina.



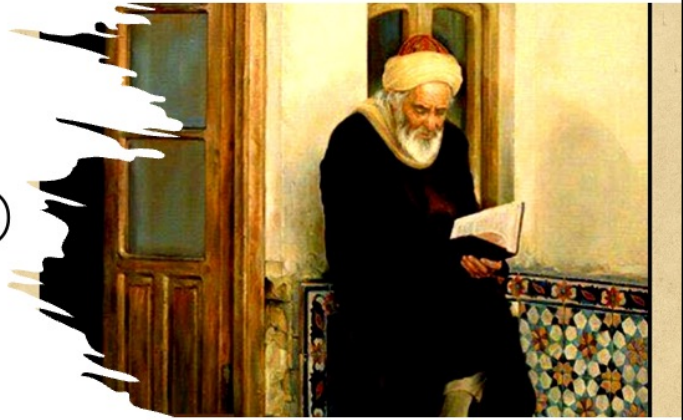
- 12 Abbasid caliphs.
- Power and authority was always a tussle between the Caliph and the Sultan.
- After the death of Alp Arslan, soon after al-Qaim died. The same occurred between Malik Shah and al-Muqtadi and between Mahmud and al-Mustadhir.
- During al-Mustadhir's rule, Yusuf ibn Tashfeen of the Murabitun gave allegiance to the Abbasids.
- Al-Mustadhir married the sister of Muhammad Tapar, daughter of Malik Shah during the sultanate of Muhammad. This strengthened the relationship between the caliph and the sultan.
- During the period of al-Mustarshid, the revivalist movement had began. He tried to reinstate power to the caliphate.
- al-Mustarshid was taken prisoner by the forces of Mas'ud and killed by Nizari Assassins.
- al-Rashid was deposed and his uncle al-Muqtafi was appointed.
- al-Rashid was later killed by Nizari assassins.
- Yahya ibn Hubayrah al-Hanbali was the Wazeer of al-Muqtafi and al-



Mustanjid for a total of 16 years. He wrote al-Ifsah, an explanation of Bukhari and Muslim.

- al-Nasir encouraged the Khwarizmis against Toghril III.
- al-Mustansir set up the al-Mustansiriyah Madrassah in Baghdad which was visited by Ibn Batutah (d 1369) in 1327.
- From 1152-1258, Abbasids were independent of the Seljuks until their collapse at the hands of the Mongols in 1258.

## Session 5 Imam Abu Hamid al- Ghazali (1058-1111)



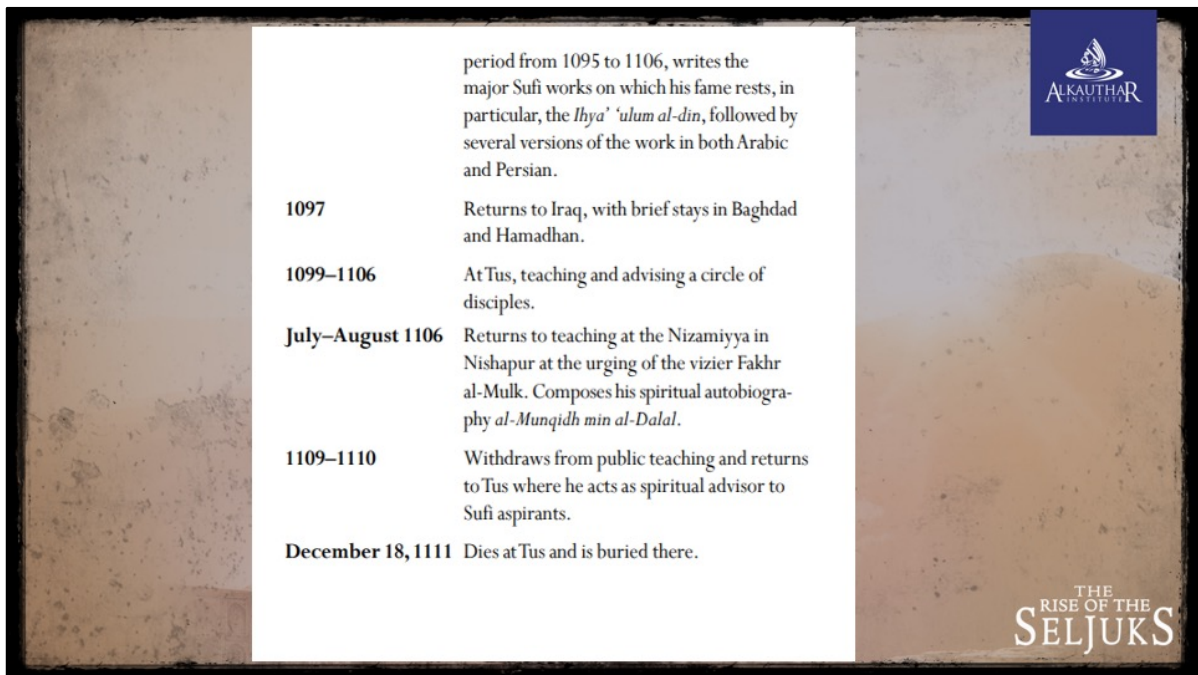
### Imam Abu Hamid al-Ghazali

- Born 3 years after Toghril took Baghdad.
- One of the most influential figures of the Islamic heritage.
- His background and context.
- “A man becomes a man at 40 years”
- Main stages/phases of his life:

1058	Born in a village near Tus in northeast Iran.
c. 1072–73	Studies at Tus under the Imam Radhakani and at Jurjan with the Imam Abu Nasr al-Isma'ili.
c. 1077–78	Returns to Tus for three further years of study. Travels to Nishapur where he pursues advanced studies with the jurist and theologian Juwayni and the Sufi master Farmadhi.
1085–86	Death of Juwayni. Attracts the patronage of the vizier Nizam al-Mulk and joins the court-camp of the Seljuq Sultan Malik Shah as professional jurist and theologian.
June–July 1091	Appointed professor by Nizam al-Mulk at the Nizamiyya college in Baghdad.
1091–1095	Period of professional celebrity in Baghdad; present at the investiture of the Abbasid Caliph Mustazhir in 1093. Assassination of Nizam al-Mulk on 14 October 1092; death of Sultan Malik Shah one month later.
July–Nov. 1095	Period of spiritual crisis leading to renunciation of his position and departure from Baghdad.
1095–97	Period of seclusion, first in Damascus for two years, with subsequent journeys to Jerusalem and Hebron; makes the pilgrimage; returns to Damascus. During the eleven-year



THE  
RISE OF THE  
SELJUKS

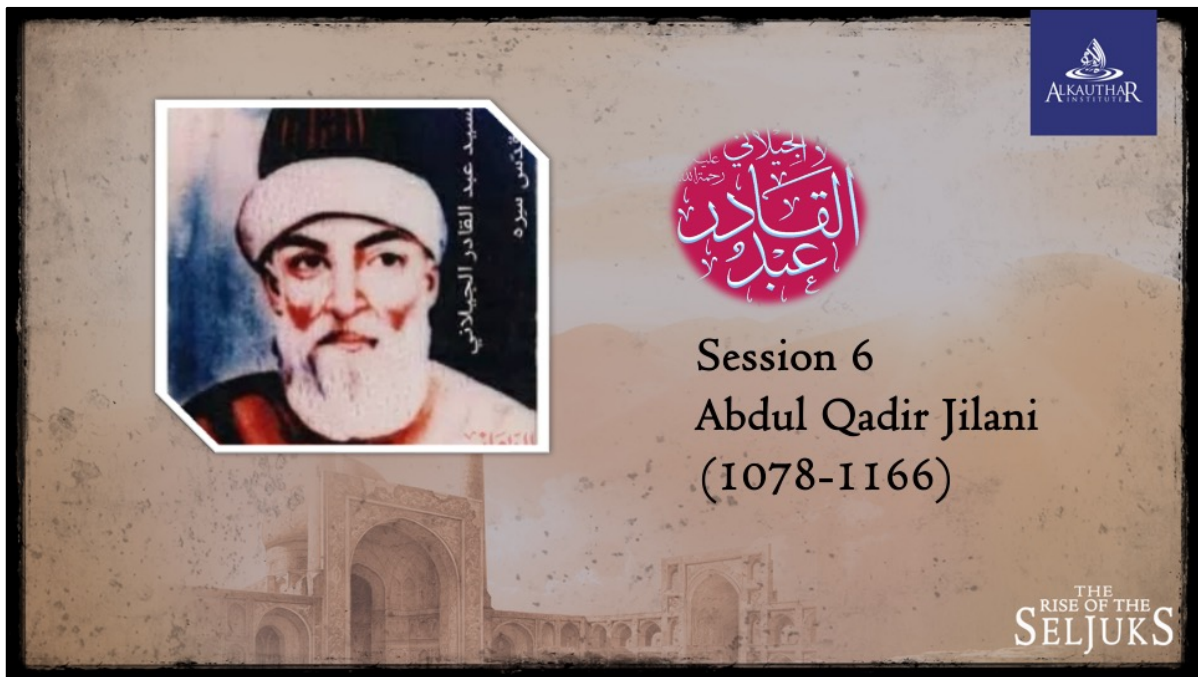




## Preview Version



- His works:
- Criticism of the Ulama:
- Lessons from his life:



### Imam Abdul Qadir Jilani

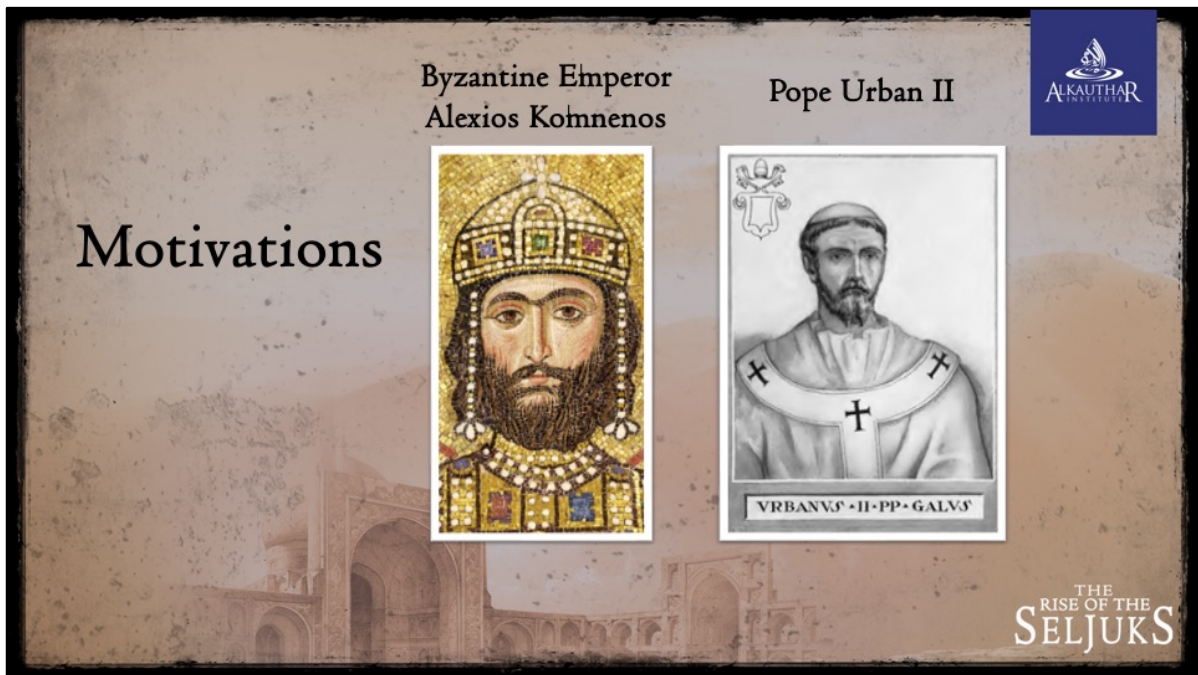
- Background and context.
- His advices.
- Between him and Ibn al Jawzi.





- It's said the Crusades lasted around 200 year, but that's dependant on how you count.
- Jerusalem was taken during the first crusade.
- Muslim divisions – a house divided falls. As someone commented “the rulers were all at variance...and so the Franks conquered the lands”.
- E.g. Ridwan of Aleppo and his younger brother Duqaq of Damascus were at each others throats at the time.
- Barkiyaruq and Muhammad Tapar were fighting one another.

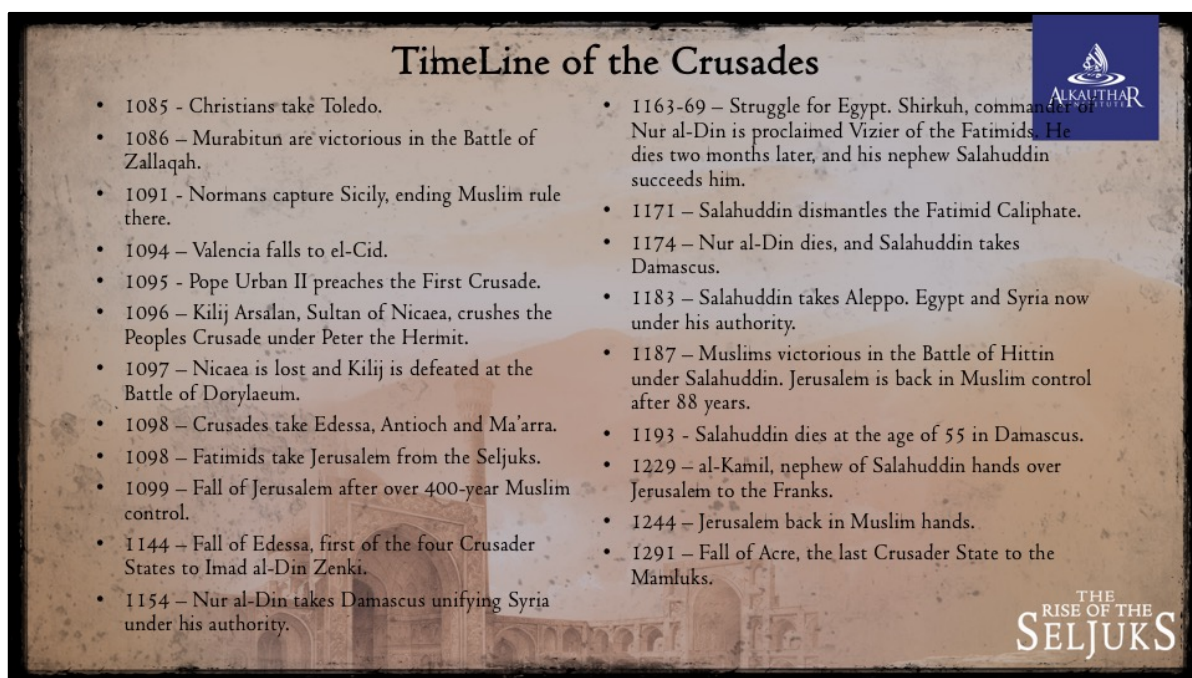




- From 1091 Alexios Komnenos was appealing to the West for help. They would mention horror stories to stir up the Western Christians against the enemies of Byzantium. Note. There was no talk of Jerusalem.
- 1095 - Pope Urban II preaches the First Crusade to Western Christians.

**Motivations behind the Crusades:**

- Assist Byzantines who are fast losing Asia Minor
- Religious zeal
- Forgiveness of sins
- Politics (create unity back home)
- Pope wanted to strengthen the papacy in Italy
- Financial Gain (Whatever the warrior plundered; the Pope sanctioned)
- Church gained a lot financially, Adventure
- End of the world & second coming of Christ was near



1085 - Christians take Toledo. At the same times they were fast taking over Sicily

1086 – Murabitun are victorious in the Battle of Zallaqah.

1091 - Normans capture Sicily, ending Muslim rule.

From 1091 Alexios Komenos was appealing to the West for help. They would mention horror stories to stir up the Western Christians against the enemies of Byzantium. Protect Constantinople.

1092 – Death of Malik Shah.

1094 – Valencia falls to el-Cid.

1095 – 27 Nov in Claremont, Pope Urban II preaches the First Crusade to Western Christians. Deus Vult! God wills it, the crowd chanted.

Muslims call them Franks as a collective group.

They stitch crosses on their clothes, tattoo a cross on forehead or chest  
Around 80 000.

1096 – Kilij Arsalan, Sultan of Nicaea, of the Rum Sultanate crushes the

Peoples Crusade under Peter the Hermit. Kilij was around 17yrs old.  
It is said he had previously visited the Holy Lands. Claimed he saw Jesus in a dream.

They killed jews on the way.

Travelled through Southern Germany to Belgrade, through the Balkans and reaching Constantinople.

1097 – Nicaea is lost after a 7-week siege and Kilij is defeated at the Battle of Dorylaeum. Kilij had taken Konya as his new capital after Nicaea.

1098 – Crusades take Edessa, Antioch (after a traitor gave them access) and Ma'arra (Cannibalism)

1098 – Fatimids take Jerusalem from the Seljuks after 40-day siege.

1099 – Fall of Jerusalem after over 400-year Muslim control. 3 Years since the Crusades began. Many areas just allowed the crusades to march past. Many sent tributes in the hope they will be left alone. Around 15 000/50 000/70 000 reached Quds.

1144 – Fall of Edessa, first of the four Crusader States to Imad al-Din Zenki.

1154 – Nur al-Din takes Damascus unifying Syria under his authority.

1163-69 – Struggle for Egypt. Shirkuh, commander of Nur al-Din is proclaimed Vizier of the Fatimids. He dies two months later, and his nephew Salahuddin succeeds him.

1171 – Salahuddin dismantles the Fatimid Caliphate.

1174 – Nur al-Din dies, and Salahuddin takes Damascus.

1183 – Salahuddin takes Aleppo. Egypt and Syria now under his authority.

1187 – Muslims victorious in the Battle of Hittin under Salahuddin.  
Jerusalem is back in Muslim control after 88 years.

1193 - Salahuddin dies at the age of 55 in Damascus.

1229 – al-Kamil, nephew of Salahuddin hands over Jerusalem to the Franks.

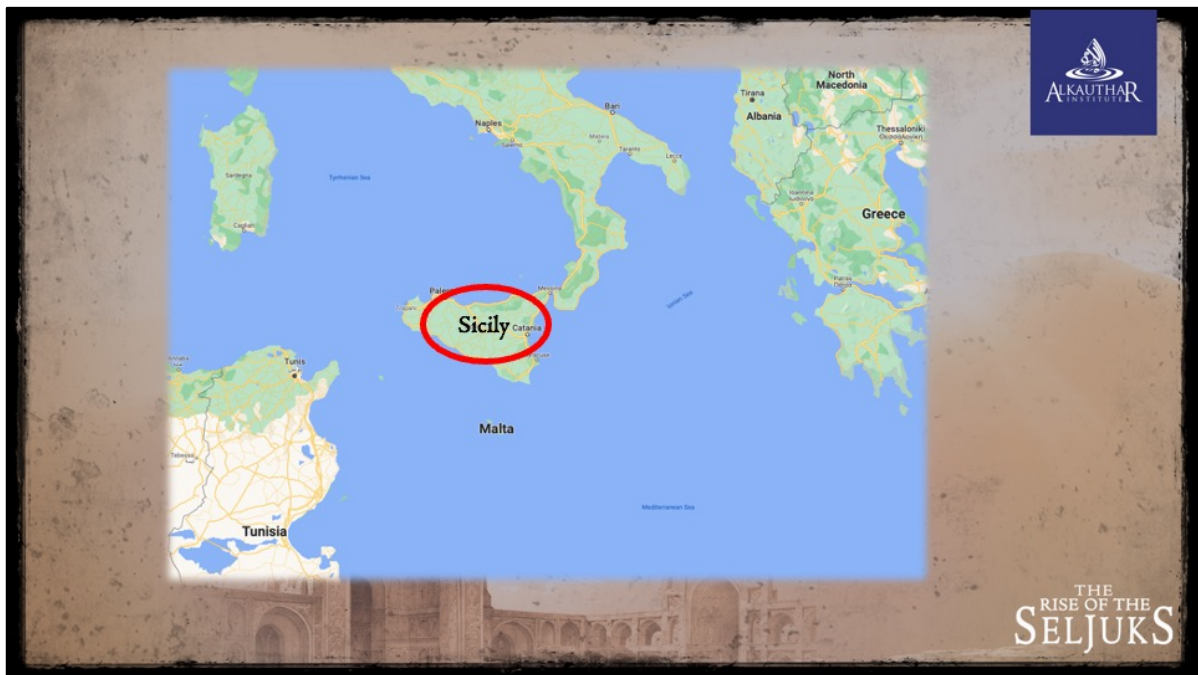
1244 – Jerusalem back in Muslim hands.

1291 – Fall of Acre, the last Crusader State to the Mamluks.

Others say the Crusades ended with the fall of Granada in 1492 with the completion of the reconquesta.



## Preview Version



- Sicily, largest island of the Mediterranean.
- Malta was lost in 1090.
- Muslim infighting -> Petty states -> by 1091 all was lost.

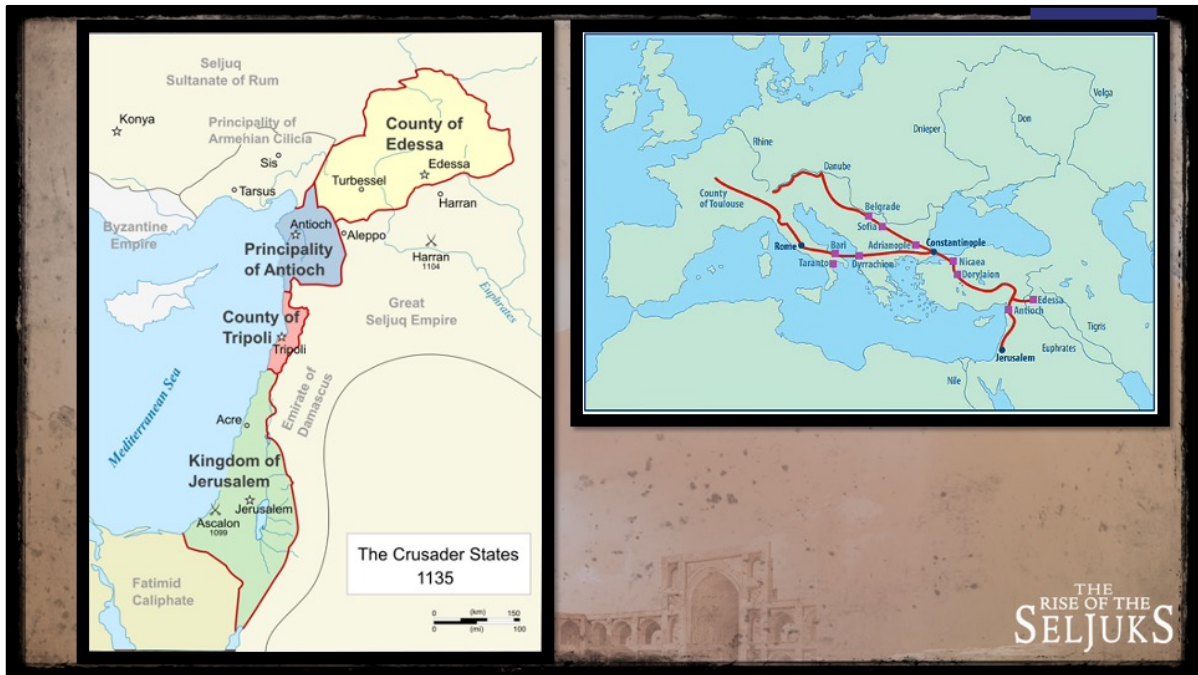
## Pope Urban II, Council of Clermont, 1095



...and you must hasten to give them the aid which has often been promised them. For, as the most of you have heard, the Turks and Arabs have attacked them and have conquered the territory of Romania [the Greek empire] as far west as the shore of the Mediterranean and the Hellespont, which is called the Arm of St. George. They have occupied more and more of the lands of those Christians and have overcome them in seven battles. They have killed and captured many and have destroyed the churches and devastated the empire. If you permit them to continue thus for awhile with impunity, the faithful of God will be much more widely attacked by them. On this account I, or rather the Lord, beseech you as Christ's heralds to publish this everywhere and to persuade all people of whatever rank, foot-soldiers and knights, poor and rich, to carry aid promptly to those Christians and to destroy that vile race from the lands of our friends. I say this to those who are present, it meant also for those who are absent. Moreover, Christ commands it.

"All who die by the way, whether by land or by sea, or in battle against the pagans, shall have immediate remission of sins. This I grant them through the power of God with which I am invested. O what a disgrace if such a despised and base race, which worships demons, should conquer a people which has the faith of omnipotent God and is made glorious with the name of Christ! With what reproaches will the Lord overwhelm us if you do not aid those who, with us, profess the Christian religion! Let those who have been accustomed unjustly to wage private warfare against the faithful now go against the infidels and end with victory this war which should have been begun long ago. Let those who for a long time, have been robbers, now become knights. Let those who have been fighting against their brothers and relatives now fight in a proper way against the barbarians. Let those who have been serving as mercenaries for small pay now obtain the eternal reward. Let those who have been wearing themselves out in both body and soul now work for a double honor. Behold! on this side will be the sorrowful and poor, on that, the rich; on this side, the enemies of the Lord, on that, his friends. Let those who go not put off the journey but rent their lands and collect money for their expenses; and as soon as winter is over and spring comes, let hem eagerly set out on the way with God as their guide."

THE  
RISE OF THE  
SELJUKS



- Travelled through Southern Germany to Belgrade, through the Balkans and reaching Constantinople.
- “Saladin, nous voilà!” (Saladin, We're Back!) France's general Henri Gouraud/Mariano Goybet is said to have declared when he entered the Kurdish warrior's tomb beside the Umayyad Mosque in August 1920 after the French had seized Damascus.
- British General Edmund Allenby reportedly said “the wars of the crusades are now complete”.
- Bush after Sept 11<sup>th</sup>.



- 15 July 1099 after a 40-day siege.
  - Massacre of Muslims and Jews.
  - Many burned alive.
  - Babies ripped from their mothers and smashed against walls.
  - This was mass extermination.
  - Christians were riding knee deep in blood.
  - More than 70 000 killed.
- 
- In Aug 1099, Abu Sa'd al-Harawi went to Baghdad to seek help from the Caliph, but nothing came out of this plea.





### Seljuks of Rum

- 10 Quick Facts of the Seljuks of Rum
- During the rule of Sultan Alaudin they reached their peak.
- Suliman ibn Qutalmish was the governor of Rum but eventually operated independently.
- Kilij Arsalan ruled from 1092-1107 and took the title of Sultan of Rum. He was once kept prisoner by Malik Shah & freed after the death of Malik Shah. He established the Seljuks of Rum after the death of Malik Shah.
- He was the first Muslim leader to face the Crusaders.
- Nicaea was their first capital and later it was moved to Konya.
- Seljuks of Rum reached their peak during the rule of Sultan Alaudeen (1220-1237)
- Eventually they disintegrate into small beyliks and amongst them rise the Ottomans

## Preview Version





## Preview Version



- Sultan Alaeddin Mosque, Konya.



Battle of  
Kosedag  
1243





### Jalaludin Rumi

- 8 Quick Facts of Jalaludin Rumi:
- Details:
- His Works:
- Some of his statements:



- Rumi Mausoleum in Konya, Turkey.



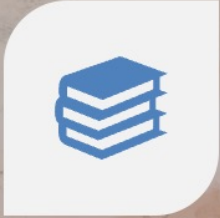


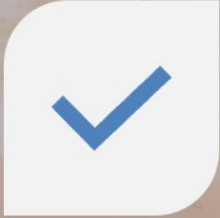
## Preview Version




- The Mathnawi

**Closing Session**

 **RESOURCES USED & FURTHER READING**

 **LESSONS**



**THE RISE OF THE SELJUKS**