**Medieval Islam Project**

**TEAM ASSIGNMENTS**

Due: December 9/10, 2015

**Assignment 1: Learning About Your City**

* **Reading reference: Individual research**
* Once you have your city, learn about:
  + Geographical setting
  + Its famous palaces, masjids, suqs, and gardens
  + Its centers of learning (madrasas), including any famous Islamic scholars who studied or taught there
  + The natural resources it sent to the market and the goods it made and sold
* You will create the following:
  + A fifteenth century travel brochure that can be photocopied for other class members (it should include topics above)
  + A mural of the city and surrounding geography

**Assignment 2 and 3: Greek and Muslim Science**

* **Reading reference: “How Islam Won, and Lost, the Lead in Science” and Individual research**
* Once you have received your city, learn about:
  + A major Greek philosopher and the related science that developed in the Islamic world
* You will create the following:
  + Two-minute oral presentation
  + Poster with illustrations
  + A science fair demonstration
  + A 1 to 2 page fact sheet for visitors

**Assignment 4: Muslim Crafts**

* **Reading reference: Individual research**
* Each city has a specialized craft that will be available for trade with people living in other cities
* You will create:
  + Crafts that your city specialized in for trade

**Assignment 5: Food**

* **Reading reference: None**
* Each city will have information about produce it helps grow. From this sheet, you should learn about how it is used in cooking
* You will create:
  + Representations of the product for trade.

**Assignment 6: Poetry**

* **Reading reference: Individual research on Rumi (Islamic poet)**
* Each city must make a poem for the entertainment of the visitors. It should be on decorated paper.

**INDIVIDUAL ASSIGNMENTS**

**\_\_\_\_\_ Fate Cards (Due on date of simulation)**

* **Reading reference: *Voyages of Sinbad the Seaman***
* Each student must write out 10 “Fate Cards” for the travelers (5 for land and 5 for sea). They should vary between good and bad fates. These will be chosen at random during the simulation. Maximum values are 10 dinars.
* Examples:
  + You were lost several days in a storm and stole the goods of a seaman who was lost at sea, rather than returning them to his family. Deduct six dinars.
  + On your journey, you went out of your way to go on the hajj. Add nine dinars.

**\_\_\_\_\_ Muhtasib Cards (Due on date of simulation)**

* Reading reference: “Clean Streets and Fair Trade thanks to…The Muhtasib”
* Each student must write out 5 “Muhtasib Cards” for use in the simulation. All dinar values should be between 3 and 6.
* Examples:
  + A butcher in your city failed to sprinkle salt on leftover meat at the end of the day; thus bugs have infected the meat people buy. Pay a fine of four dinars to the Muhtasib.
  + The muhtasib has inspected several eating-houses in your city and has found that the pots are all covered with lids to that flies do not infect the food. You are rewarded four dinars.

**\_\_\_\_\_ Rihla (Due on first class of Spring Semester)**

* Reading reference: “The Journeys of ibn Battuta” and *The Voyages of Sinbad the Seaman*
* Create a *rihla* (similar to ibn Battuta’s) that describes your journey.
* Create your imaginary personality, with name. (Are you an Islamic cleric? A merchant? A Jew or Christian?) Give yourself a background
* Write an introduction. Describe your family, your city, where you have traveled before, where you want to travel, etc. Describe your goals based on the profession that you selected.
* Once you have received the travel brochures, write about your anticipated travels and what you hope to learn as you travel.
* Each night of the simulation, write a reflection about what you have seen and learned that day. Write about what you have negotiated and bought.
* Write about your travels, such as where you are staying and whom you are meeting (be creative), and write a story about the fates you encountered based on the fate cards drawn in class.

**Checklist for Visitors**

In each city, you MUST:

\_\_\_\_\_ Listen to an oral presentation about a Greek scientist and the science they created

\_\_\_\_\_ Watch a science demonstration

\_\_\_\_\_ Collect a fact sheet about the Greek scientist and the science

\_\_\_\_\_ Purchase crafts (prices negotiable)

\_\_\_\_\_ Buy a foodstuff and fact sheet about the food (prices negotiable)

\_\_\_\_\_ Purchase a poem