# Islamic Golden Age

Islamic Golden Age, the period in history when Islamic world was ruled by various caliphates, experiencing a <mark>scientific, economic and cultural flourishing</mark>.

## Articles

### Right to Education

The **University of Qarawiyyin** (*al-Karaouine*) mosque and madrassa in Fes was established in 859 by the daughter of a wealthy merchant by the name of Fatima al-Fihri. The madrasa is still in operation today as the University of Qarawiyyin (**world's oldest university**), and the mosque is one of the *largest* in North Africa.



Courtyard, Al-Qarawiyyin (al-Karaouine) University, Fes. Morocco.

### Healthcare

Muslim hospitals were the *first* to require medical diplomas to license doctors. In the **medieval Islamic world**, hospitals were built in most major cities.
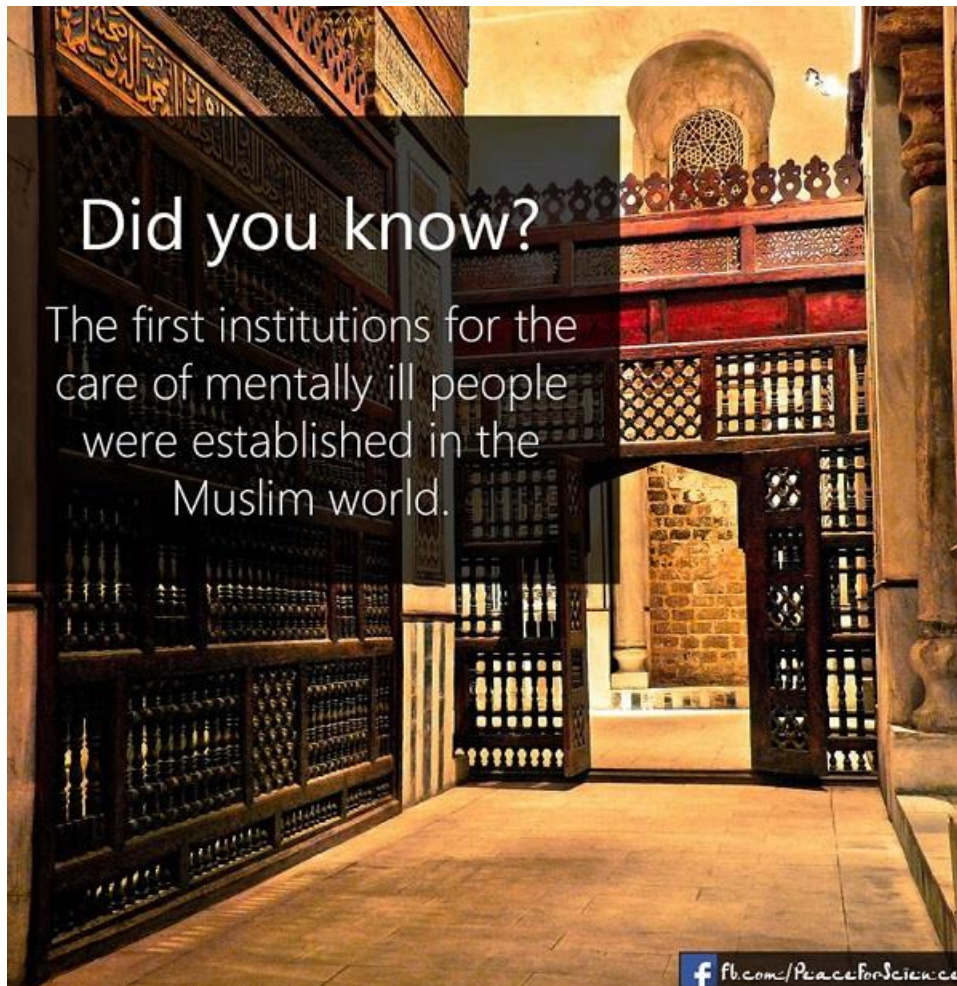
The Qalawun complex in Cairo, Egypt

Medical facilities traditionally closed each night, but by the 10th century laws were passed to keep hospitals open 24 hours a day, and hospitals were forbidden to turn away patients who were unable to pay. Eventually, charitable foundations called waqfs were formed to support hospitals, as well as schools/madrasas. This money supported free medical care for all citizens. In a notable example, a 13th-century governor of Egypt **Al Mansur Qalawun** ordained a foundation for the **Qalawun hospital** that would contain a mosque and a chapel, separate wards for different diseases, a library for doctors and a pharmacy. The Qalawun hospital was based in a former Fatimid palace which had accommodation for 8,000 people - "it served 4,000 patients daily." The waqf stated,

"...The hospital shall keep all patients, men and women, until they are completely recovered. All costs are to be borne by the hospital whether the people come from afar or near, whether they are residents or foreigners, strong or weak, low or high, rich or poor, employed or unemployed, blind or sighted, physically or mentally ill, learned or illiterate. There are no conditions of consideration and payment, none is objected to or even indirectly hinted at for non-payment."

# Interesting Facts



The first institutions for the care of mentally ill people were established in the Muslim world.

## Coffee: The Muslim Drink

- Discovered in the 1400s in Yemen
- Mocha is a region in Yemen, and Jawa is an island in Indonesia.
- It was seen as an "evil drink" in Europe in the 1500s because of its association with Islam.
- The first coffee house opened in Istanbul.
- Muslims used it to stay awake during night time prayers.
- European coffee houses helped spark the enlightenment, which borrowed many Islamic ideas.

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## A Few Books

- **Muhammad**: His Life Based on the Earliest sources by Martin Lings
- The Reconstruction of Religious Thought in Islam by Muhammad Iqbal
- The Principles of State and Government in Islam by Muhammad Asad

## Top Programming Languages

1. JavaScript
2. Java
3. PHP
4. C#
5. Python

HTML is the standard ~~programming~~ <u>markup</u> language used to create web pages. Its source code looks like: <html></html>

~~RS.50, 000~~ RS. 48, 000

$H_2O$ $3^2$

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