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REFLECTIONS FROM *SECRETS OF THE KORAN*

*Objective:* Analyze characteristics of the Koran (Quran).

Directions:

1. As you view the History Channel’s *Secrets of the Koran* record key idea**s** for the following questions. You will need to complete viewing the film, and you can revisit any section of the film at
2. Part 1- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nj4x1aGxzsU&t=645s>
3. Part 2- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P9--aBaJuiA>

2) After viewing the entire film, you will need to compose detailed responses to each question.

3) Your responses will be graded both for completion and through a class discussion as you share your responses.

1. How is *The Koran* **distinct** from other religion’s holy books (i.e. *The Bible* or *The Tanakh*)?

2. What were significant/defining **social, religious, political, and economic** characteristics of sixth and seventh century Arabian society prior to Muhammad and Islam?

3a. Describe how Mohammad received his revelations over the years.

3b. Who was his message appealing to? Why?

 3b. Who did his message infuriate? Why?

4. How did the nature of the messages in *The Koran* change during the “Medina period”?
 Give examples and explain why it changed.

5a. What significant, but controversial, permission did Muhammad’s revelations in Medina give? (the answer is not polygamy!)

5b. What was happening at the time that helps explain the historical context of these verses?

6. What Christian beliefs/doctrines does the *The Koran* refute? Why?

7. How do the revelations about the apocalypse help explain why *The* Koran is so significant to Muslims?

8. How does the absence of a single religious authority impact the interpretation of *The Koran*?