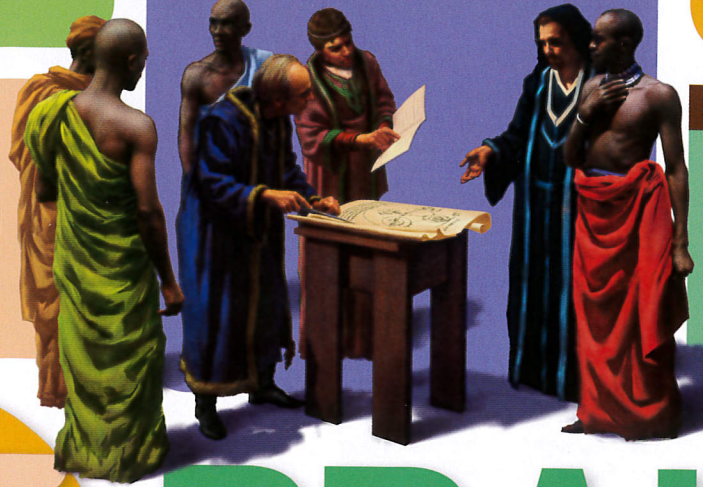


THOUSANDS OF YEARS AGO, **BAGHDAD** BOASTED THE TOP INTELLECTUAL ESTABLISHMENT OF THE DAY: THE **BAYT AL-HIKMA**, OR **HOUSE OF WISDOM**.

and Greek texts, the **HOUSE OF WISDOM SCHOLARS** accumulated one of the greatest **COLLECTIONS OF KNOWLEDGE** in the known world, then built on it through their own discoveries.

THIS LEARNING CENTER WAS THE 9TH-CENTURY BRAIN-CHILD OF FOUR GENERATIONS OF RULERS, OR CALIPHS, WHO BROUGHT THE TOP SCHOLARS FROM ALL OVER THE MUSLIM WORLD UNDER ONE ROOF.

RESEARCH AND DISCOVERIES AT THE HOUSE OF WISDOM PROVIDED A FOUNDATION FOR MUCH OF WHAT WE KNOW TODAY.



5 The House of Wisdom featured a massive library, with books on every subject written in many languages.

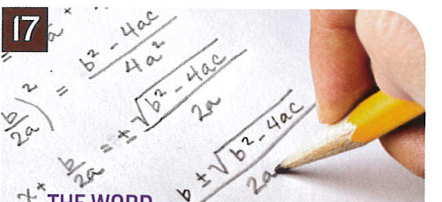


The legacy of Al-Ma'mun lives on through a lunar crater named **"ALMANON"**— a deserved tribute to a ruler who was a great lover of knowledge.

OTHER CITIES IN THE ISLAMIC WORLD FOLLOWED BAGHDAD'S LEAD AND ESTABLISHED THEIR OWN VERSIONS OF THE HOUSE OF WISDOM IN THE 9TH AND 10TH CENTURIES.



17 THE WORD **"ALGEBRA"** COMES FROM THE TITLE OF THE BOOK **AL-JABR WA'-L-MUQABALAH**, BY **AL-KHWARIZMI**, A SCHOLAR AT THE HOUSE OF WISDOM DURING THE EARLY 9TH CENTURY.



18 The three Banu Musa brothers, mathematicians and inventors of machines and trick devices, Al-Khwarizmi, the "father of algebra," and Al-Kindi, philosopher, mathematician, and inventor of decryption, are among the House of Wisdom's most famous **SCHOLARS.**



25 BRAINY

This intellectual powerhouse turned **BAGHDAD** into the headquarters for the arts, sciences, and writing and played a major part in the spread and development of **KNOWLEDGE** in these fields.

7 THE HOUSE OF WISDOM WAS OPEN TO TO MEN AND WOMEN OF ALL FAITHS.

8 CALIPH AL-MA'MUN USED **CAMELS** TO CARRY HUNDREDS OF BOOKS AND MANUSCRIPTS FROM OTHER PARTS OF THE MUSLIM WORLD TO THE HOUSE OF WISDOM.

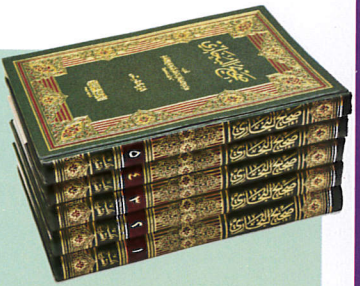


19 SOME LIBRARIES WERE SUPER-LAVISH: TOPPED WITH DOMES, WITH NUMEROUS ROOMS FILLED WITH BOOKS AND SURROUNDED BY GARDENS WITH LAKES.

22 DURING MUSLIM CIVILIZATION, HUNDREDS OF LIBRARIES OPENED, MAKING MANY THOUSANDS OF BOOKS AVAILABLE TO READERS.

20 AT ONE POINT BAGHDAD HAD **36** LIBRARIES AND MORE THAN A HUNDRED BOOK DEALERS.

21 DURING THE 12TH CENTURY **ONE STREET** IN MARRAKECH, MOROCCO, HAD **100** BOOKSHOPS AND LIBRARIES, **50** ON EACH SIDE!



THE LIBRARY **GREW** SO LARGE THAT AL-MA'MUN BUILT EXTENSIONS TO HOUSE DIFFERENT BRANCHES OF **KNOWLEDGE.**

10 SO MANY **SCHOLARS** WANTED TO COME THAT AL-MA'MUN KEPT HAVING TO EXPAND THE STUDY CENTERS.

CALIPH AL-MA'MUN IS SAID TO HAVE encouraged translators and scholars to add to the House of Wisdom library by paying them the weight of each **COMPLETED BOOK** IN GOLD.

12 AL-MA'MUN BUILT AN ASTRONOMY CENTER IN BAGHDAD AND SET UP DOZENS OF LEARNING CENTERS ALL OVER THE MUSLIM WORLD.



13 **SCHOLARS** MET EACH DAY FOR READING, WRITING, AND DISCUSSION, USING SEVERAL LANGUAGES, INCLUDING ARABIC, PERSIAN, GREEK, AND SYRIAC.

14 **EXPERTS** WORKED TO TRANSLATE WRITINGS FROM OTHER CIVILIZATIONS INTO ARABIC SO SCHOLARS COULD READ, DEBATE, AND BUILD ON THEM.

24 HISTORICAL RECORDS SAY THE FAMOUS MUSLIM SCHOLAR **AL-JAHIZ** DIED IN HIS PRIVATE LIBRARY WHEN A PILE OF BOOKS FELL ON HIM.

25 THE LIBRARY OF THE ZAYTUNA MOSQUE IN TUNISIA HAD MORE THAN **100,000** BOOKS.



MANY MUSLIM TOWNS ALSO HAD BOOKSHOPS, WHERE PEOPLE WOULD COME TO BUY BOOKS, EAT AND DRINK, AND SHARE IDEAS.