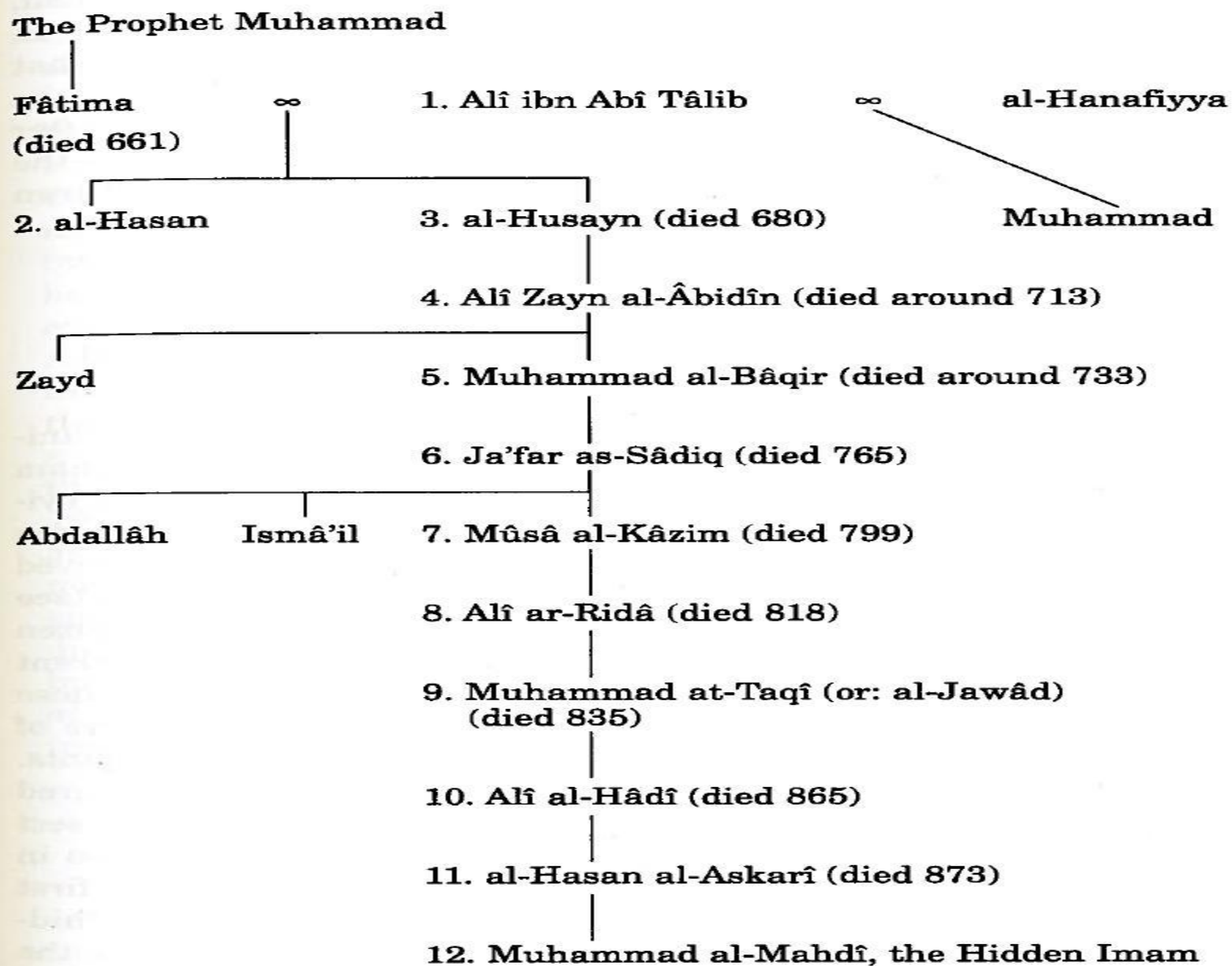


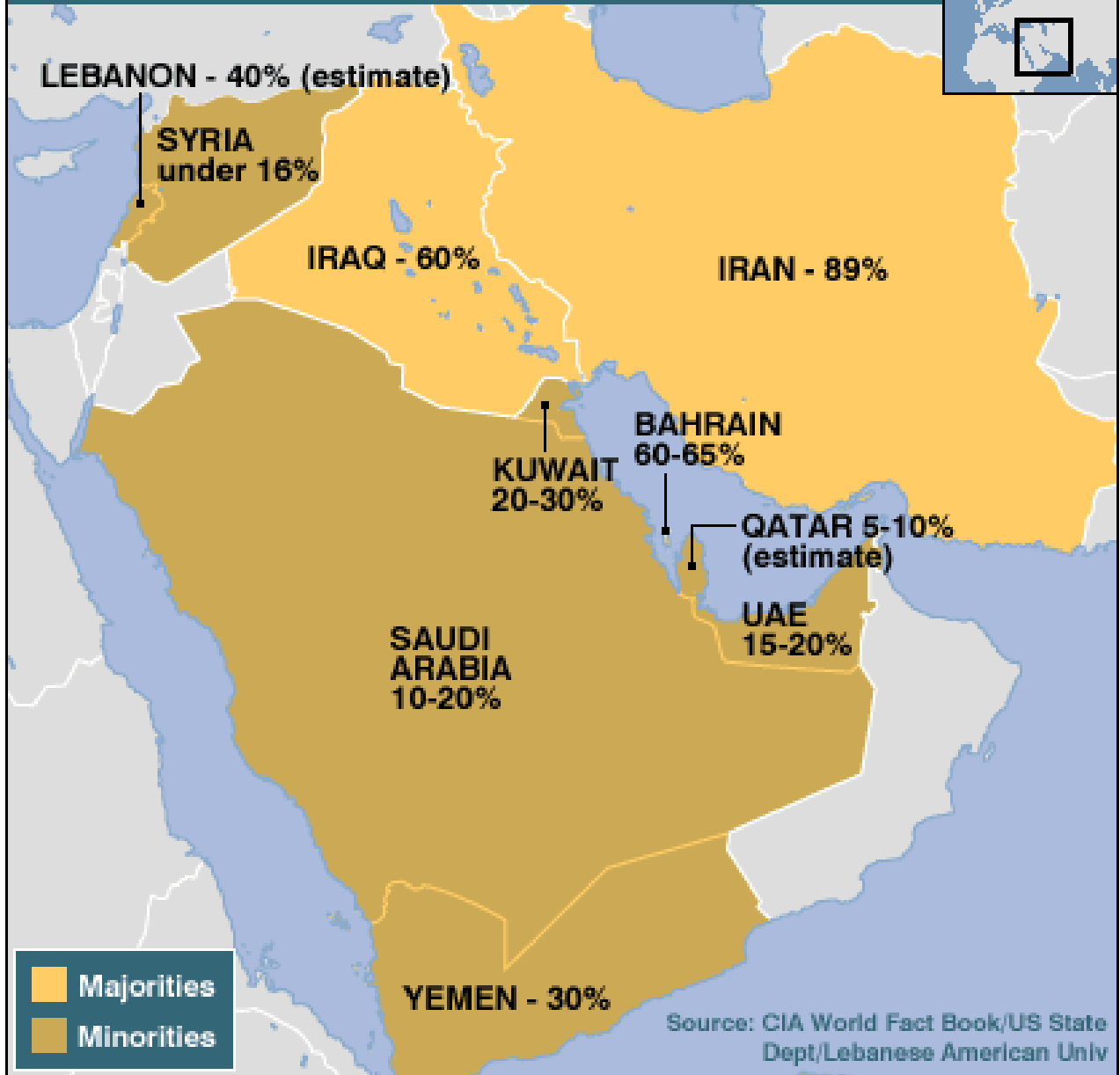
Shi'ism-Sunnism

The Twelve Imams





SHIAS IN THE MIDDLE EAST

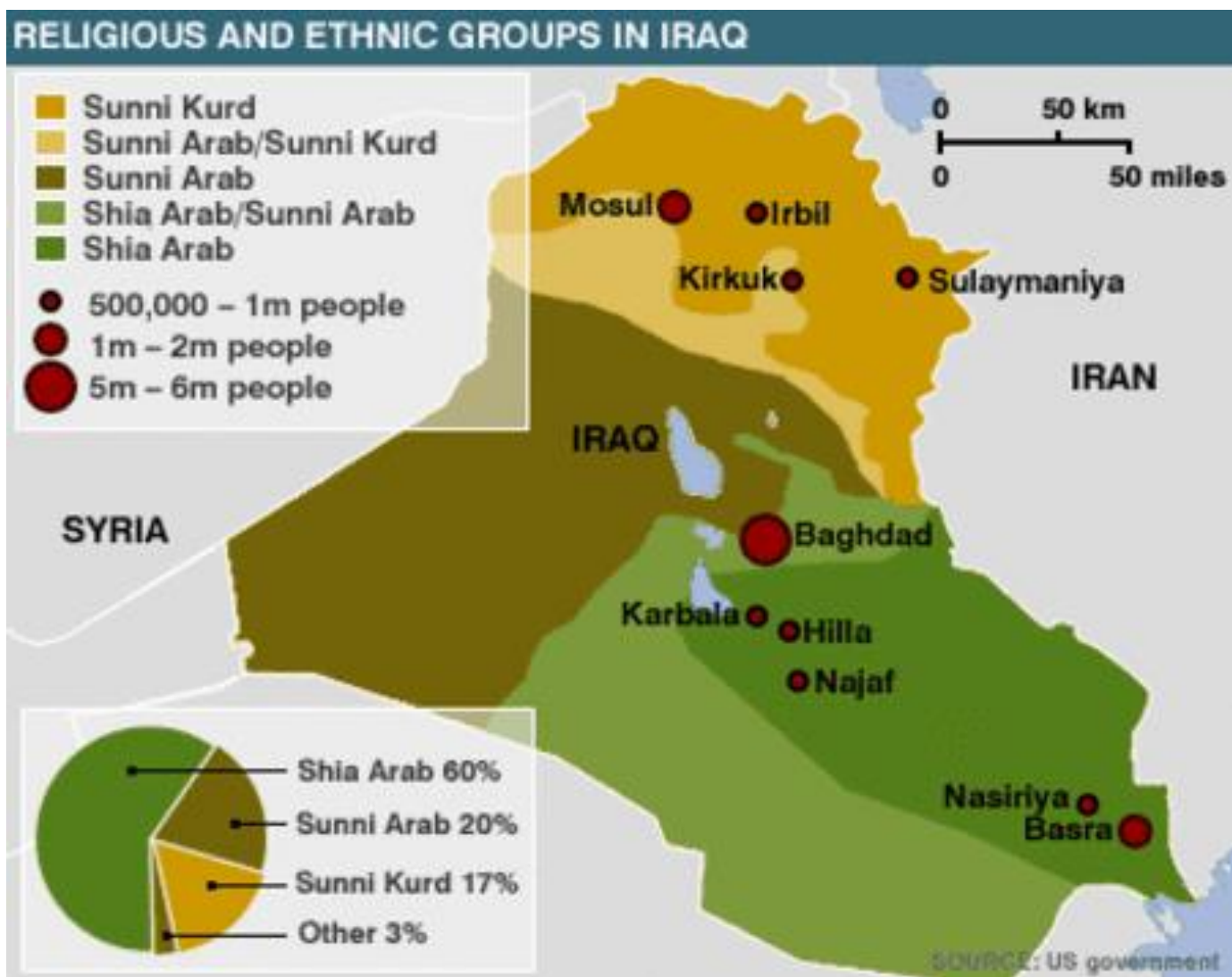
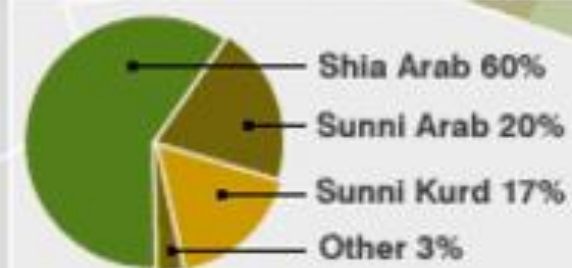


Source: CIA World Fact Book/US State Dept/Lebanese American Univ

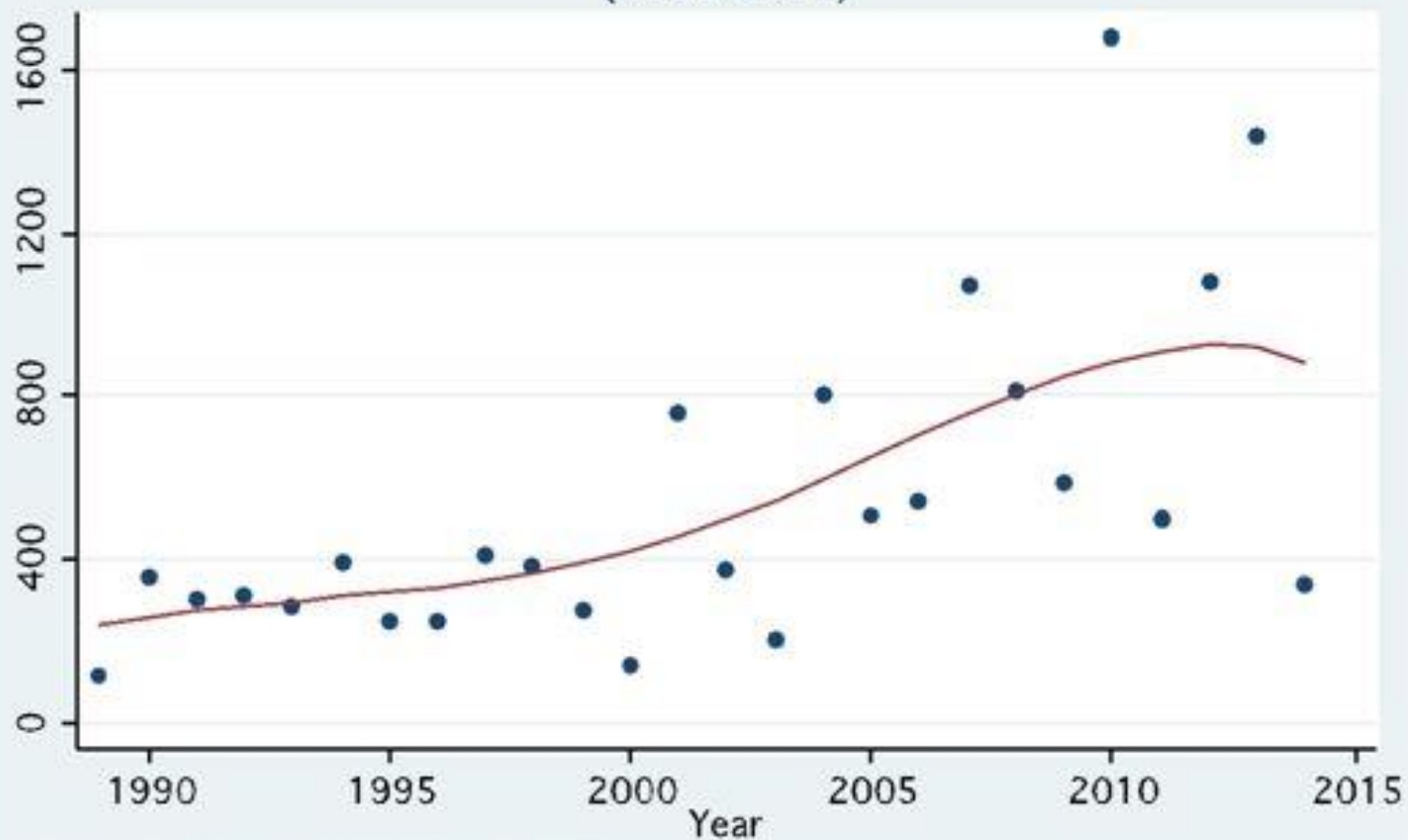
RELIGIOUS AND ETHNIC GROUPS IN IRAQ

- Sunni Kurd
- Sunni Arab/Sunni Kurd
- Sunni Arab
- Shia Arab/Sunni Arab
- Shia Arab

- 500,000 – 1m people
- 1m – 2m people
- 5m – 6m people



Number Killed or Injured in Sectarian Attacks in Pakistan
(1989-2014)



Source: South Asia Terrorism Portal (SATP)

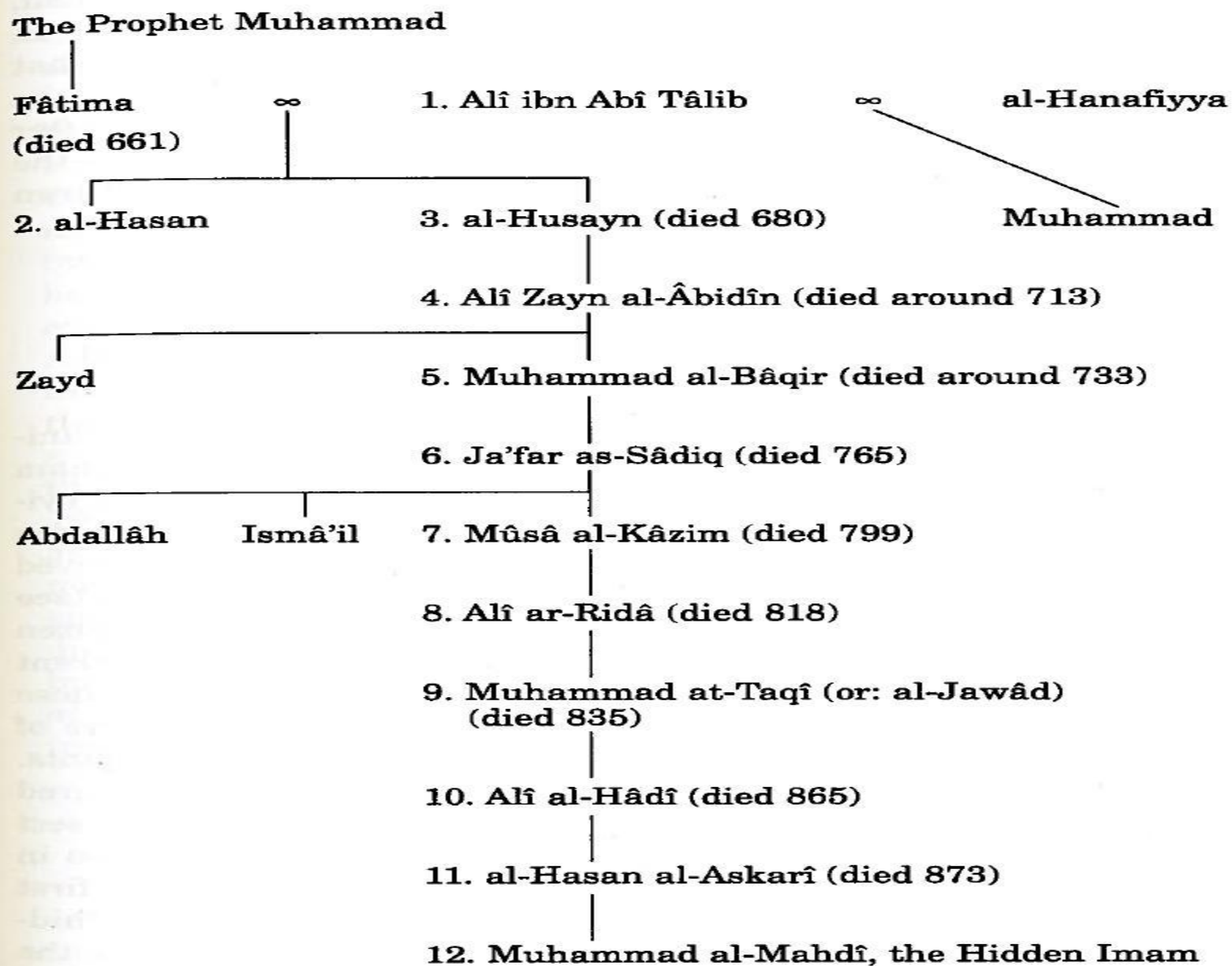




Early history

- Prophetic period (610-632)
 - Cousin 'Ali marries daughter Fatima—two sons (al-Hasan and al-Husyan)
- Early caliphate (632-661)
 - 656, Murder of 'Uthman and 'Ali installed as caliph
 - Possibly first use of term shi'a
 - 657, Battle of Siffin between 'Ali and Mu'awiya (governor of Syria)
 - 661, 'Ali assassinated in Kufa

The Twelve Imams



Imamis

- Explicit designation of each Imam from father to son among descendents of al-Husayn
- Occultation of 12th Imam, Abu al-Qasim Muhammad (the Hidden Imam)
 - Lesser occultation (874-941)
 - Greater occultation (941-present)
- Obedience and apostasy
- Martyrdom and intercession, ritual mourning and salvation
- Second largest denomination after Sunnis. Other Shi'is compose 10% of Muslim population
- Established in Iran, southern Iraq, Lebanon, Syria, parts of South Asia

Zaydis

- Followers of brother of al-Baqir, Zayd b. 'Ali
- Imam must combine political militancy with 'ilm (traditional knowledge) and descent from 'Ali
- At a time, no Imam or multiple Imams may exist
 - No specific line of infallible Imams
- Imamate established in Yemen, collapsed in 1962 with establishment of Arab Republic of Yemen

Isma'ilis

- Descent of Imams from Isma'il, son of Ja'far al-Sadiq
- Establish dynasty with Fatimids in Cairo, 909
- Esoteric knowledge and gnostic doctrine