

Art History 331  
Muslims, Jews, and Christians in Medieval Spain  
Prof. Stephen Clancy

MEDIEVAL SPAIN: A "THUMBNAIL" HISTORY OF PUSH AND PULL

1. **Rome**: 2<sup>nd</sup> Punic war (3<sup>rd</sup> c. B.C.E.) and after
  - Jewish arrival??
2. the **Visigoths**: 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> C.E.: Arians vs. "Catholics"; Visigoths vs. Jews
3. the **Muslim** arrival/invasion: 711 C.E.
  - the Umayyad emirate and caliphate (Abd al-Rahman III)
  - Cordoba: the "ornament of the world"
  - flowering of **Jewish** culture
  - civil war and disintegration: 1009 and after
4. the Christian kingdom of **Asturias** (8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> c.)  
militant and mythological
  - + population of "**Mozarabs**"
5. the **Taifa** (petty) kingdoms/states: 11<sup>th</sup> c.
  - first the fundamentalist **Almoravids**, then the fundamentalist **Almohads** to the "rescue", late 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> c.
  - a peak of **Jewish** political and cultural expression in 11<sup>th</sup>; persecution under the Almohads
6. meanwhile, the **Christian "Reconquista"** in full swing
  - deep incursions (El Cid) and territorial conquest (Toledo, Visigothic capital, falls in 1085)
  - art and architecture as visual tools of kings and monks
  - fanning of the "flames" of pilgrimage to Santiago
7. fall of the Almohads (1212), and the dominance of **Christianity/Léon-Castile**
  - isolation of **Nasrids** in Granada
  - new (but eventually waning) **Jewish** flowering under Christians
  - new Arab-acized population under Christians: **mudéjars**
8. the **Expulsion** of 1492, under Ferdinand and Isabella