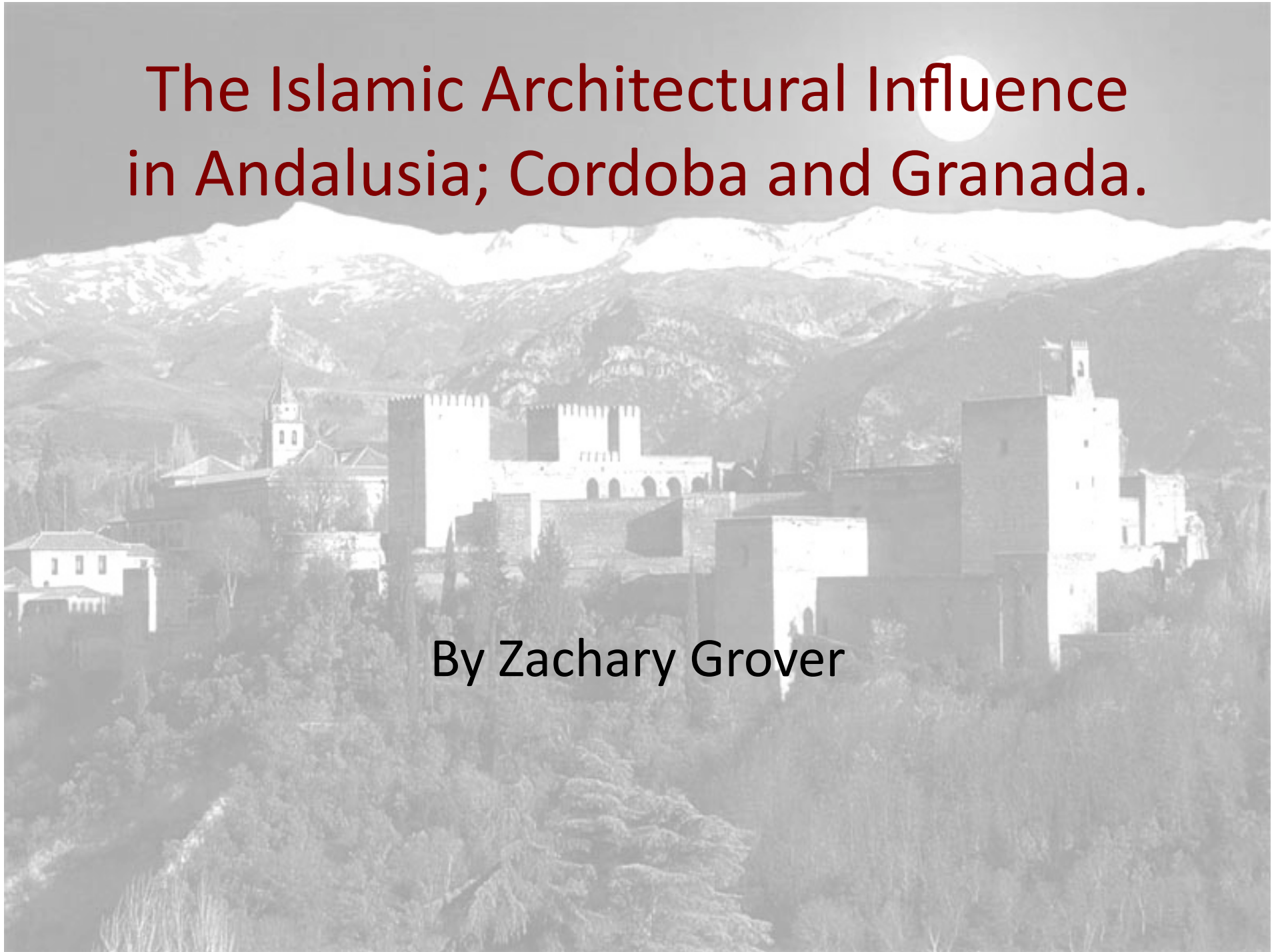


The Islamic Architectural Influence in Andalusia; Cordoba and Granada.

By Zachary Grover



Agenda

- Introduction
- History
- Architecture
 - Mezquita de Córdoba
 - Alhambra de Granada
- Conclusion

Introduction

- In 711 The Iberian Peninsula was conquered by Islamists and converted
- For the next 500 years, through multiple caliphates and changes of leadership, a lasting Islamic impact was created
- Through architecture, art, music, language, and ideas, this influence is prevalent today
- My research will primarily cover the architectural art of Southern Spain



The Conquest

- In 711 The Iberian Peninsula was conquered by Islamists and converted
- First conqueror was Tariq under reign of Musa
- Continuous advances to the north
- Cordoba became capital
- For the next 500 years, through multiple caliphates and changes of leadership, a lasting Islamic impact was created

The Umayyads (Omeya)

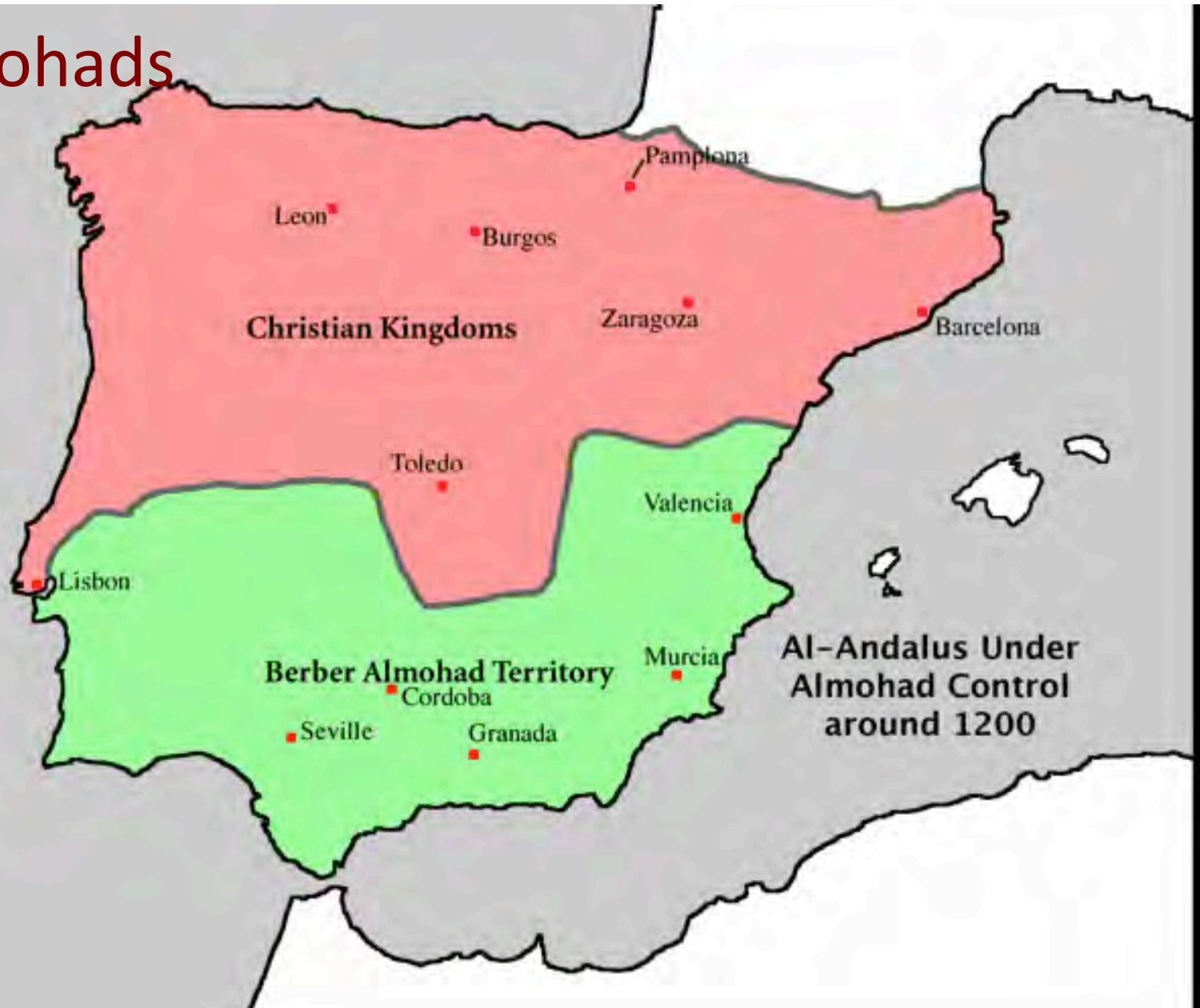
- Abbasids took control of Syria
- Abd al-Raman I exiled
- Arrived in Cordoba
- Started construction of Mosque
- Time of peace and unity



Almoravids



Almohads



Nasrids



The Great Mosque of Cordoba



Adb al-Raman I

- Attempt to rival Mosque of Damascus
- Motif of columns and horseshoe arches
- Reuse of materials
- Repeating color pattern
- Continuous style throughout courtyard







Adb al-Raman II

- Addition to prayer hall of 9 columns
- Relocation of Quibla
- Reconstruction of Quibla
- Ribbed interlocking arches



Abd al-Raman III

- Construction of the Minaret
- Addition to prayer hall by 10 columns
- Madinat al-Zahra private retreat



The Caliphate of Cordoba

- The Golden Age
- Largest library in Europe
- Unity of religions, ethnicities, ideas
- Peace and economic prosperity
- Fell to the Almoravids in 1000s
- Resulted in economic recession and led to the collapse of the empire.

The Alhambra of Granada

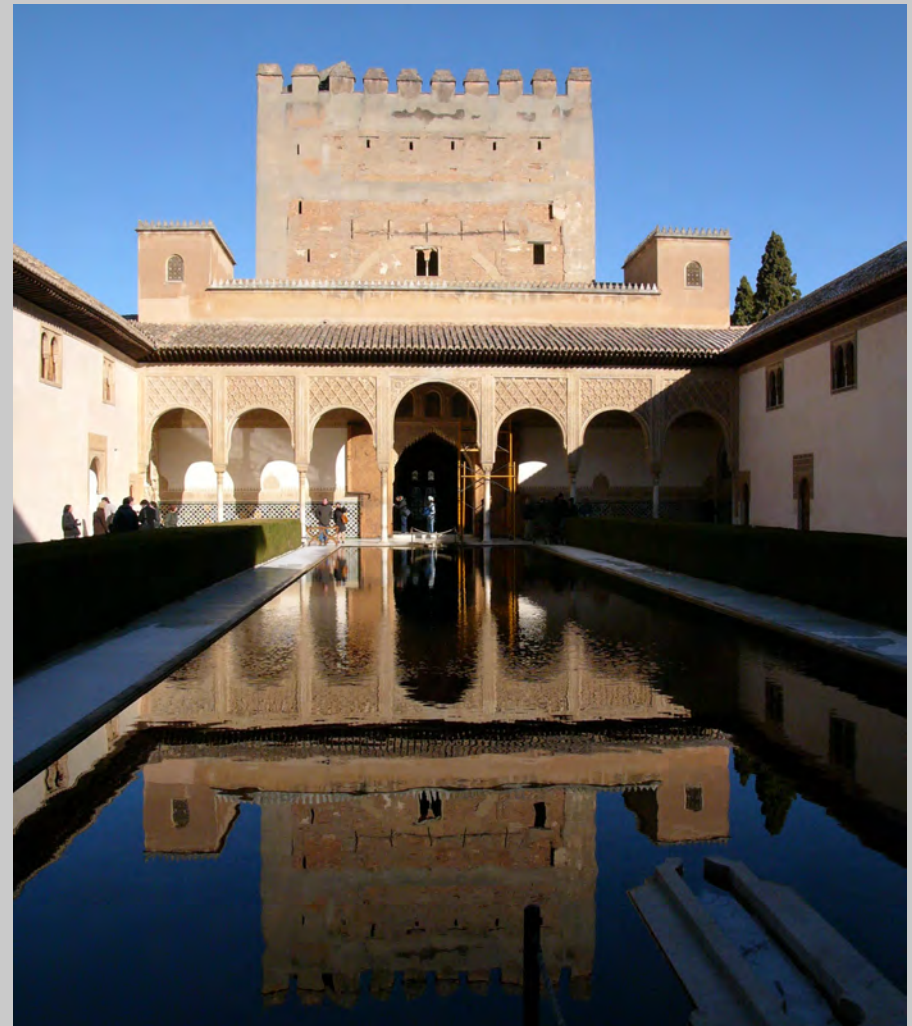


The Nasrid Dynasty

- Founded by Muhammad ibn Nasr
- Represented the last Islamic reign in Al-Andalus
- Agreed to live within the Christian government
- Period of unity, prosperity, and artistic expression
- Exclusive to the community of Granada

El Palacio de Comares

- Initiated by Yusuf I and completed by Muhammad V in 1370
- Served as an executive, judicial, and administrative building
- Walls are decorated in “mudejar” style
- Engravings of scriptures of the Quran decorate the walls



El Salón de Comares

- Courtroom
- Wooden ceiling of stars and “mudejar”
- Levels of the ceiling represent the seven heavens of Islam
- At the center, a hole emerges and represents the throne of god
- Made of more than 8,000 wooden polygonal panels



El Patio de los Leones

- Constructed by Yusuf I between 1333-1354
- Name comes from the fountain of 12 marble lions that sit in the center of the palace
- The lions represent the 12 prophets of Muhammad
- The palace is a tribute to the return of Yusuf after his time in exile
- Was a private space for the king's family
- Known for stalactite motif that adorns every archway
- Consistent with the celestial and planetary style of the Alhambra





The fall of the Islamic Kingdom

- 1492 Isabella and Franz Ferdinand invaded Granada
- Boabdil surrendered the Alhambra without war
- Marked the end of the Islamic Kingdom in Al-Andalus
- La Alhambra became a retreat for the King and Queen



foto nf

Conclusion

- Mosque of Cordoba vs. La Alhambra
- 400 year gap
- Alhambra is criticized for its cheap materials
- Nasrids took advantage of new forms of technology (Plasters and geometric wooden panels)
- We don't see a loss of aesthetic, we see a new goal.

