



Lost Civilizations: Egypt : Muslim Cairo



HD

Directed by Jacques VICHET

A documentary of 52'

French Version
English Version

High Definition
HD Cam & Digital Betacam 16/9

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Cairo,... some love it , some hate it, but no-one can remain indifferent.

Amongst the countless marvels to be found here, are a number of magnificent Islamic buildings.

Cairo's Islamic history started at the very dawn of Islam, when the Caliph Omar set out to conquer neighbouring regions.

The town of Fustat was built in 640, on the site of present day Old Cairo, and it was home to the first mosque on African soil.

One of the largest and oldest buildings in the city is the Ibn Tulun mosque.

Built in the IXth century, it's spiral-shaped minaret is reminiscent of the Samarra mosque in Iraq.

In keeping with the bare simplicity of this building is the famous al-Azhar (970-972), an extraordinary haven of peace in the centre of the bustling Egyptian capital.

Al-Azhar is one of the most important and longest-standing Islamic universities.

It includes to a mosque, a building whose architecture reflects the many different stages of its construction : Fatimid, Mamluk and Ottoman.

The citadel, built during the reign of the legendary Saladin, surrounds the city providing an incredible panoramic view over Cairo and the City of the Dead.