

"No people in the Early Middle Ages, contributed to human progress so much as did the Arabs, a term which in our usage would comprise all Arabic-speaking peoples, including the Arabians, that is, the inhabitants of the Arabian peninsula.

Arab scholars were studying Aristotle when Charlemagne and his lords were reportedly learning to write their names. Scientists in Cordova, with their seventeen great libraries, one alone of which included more than 400,000 volumes, enjoyed luxurious baths at a time when washing the body was considered a dangerous custom at the university of Oxford. "

The greatest economic impact of Muslim culture was felt in agriculture. Irrigation was improved and extended as huge water wheels were built to lift water from the rivers to the fields.

The mechanisation of corn milling spread in place of the labour-intensive pounding of mortars.

In Muslim Lisbon the city was commended by geographer Idrisi for its hot public baths and its good sanitation. Social life was dominated by music and dancing and the display of fine costumes.

Although there is not much information available about the presence of Arabs in Alvor, it is known that this region, as well as the Algarve, was populated by Arabs for many years and Alvor was even one of the most important during the Arab domination.

There are still many traces of the Arab presence through the ruins of houses, castles, churches, chapels and many mechanisms used in irrigation in agriculture.

Albur was the ancient town of Alvor in the presence of Arabs in this region.

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