

# The Muslim West | Defence

Castles: defending the land.

Land was defended by castles and ribats, fortresses manned by warrior monks, and which were fortified enclosures surrounding a tower with strong walls. They were placed at strategic locations to provide a good lookout point over the surrounding area. They were used both to garrison the troops who patrolled and protected borders, paths, valleys, ports and mountain passes, and as a place of refuge for the population in times of peril.



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Castle

**Dynasty:**  
Hegira 354 / AD 965 Umayyad of al-Andalus, Caliphate period

**Details:**  
Gormaz, Soria, Spain

**Justification:**  
Castles and ribats were part of a defensive system based on exchanging signals between the castle and watchtowers.

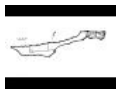


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**Dynasty:**

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**Details:**

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**Justification:**

Ribats were constructed all around the coast of the Maghreb.

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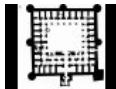
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