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| Spread of Islam by Military | Both | Spread of Islam by Missionaries |
| * not as big of a contributing factor as missionaries * people under Muslim government paid a tax to practice a non-Islamic religion | * both led to the great expansion of Islam * military expeditions facilitated the conversion via missionaries | * major cause of spreading Islam, even more than the military * led to Islamic development in far lands such as Indonesia * Spread along trade routes, as missionaries moved along these regions |

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| Christianity | Both | Islam |
| * Generally limited to Europe during this period (more so at the start). * Not very accepting of other faiths (The Crusades are a prime example) | * Both are proselytizing faiths. * Both had significant impacts on gender relations. * Monotheistic * Originated from the Fertile Crescent | * Spread all over the world (Asia, Middle East, reached into Europe). * Even under the control of an Islamic Empire, people can practice different faiths. |