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## Research and Writing 2

The safavid dynasty is one of the three big islamic empires of this time. The three include, from west to east, the Ottomans, the safavids, and the mughals. In 1501 the safavid dynasty was founded in persia by Shah Ismail I. Starting from that point, they were led by direct successions. Safavid had less connections than ottomans, they weren't well networked like the other empires around them. They were known for their artistic ways. Under their rule Persia became a great cultural center as they practiced painting, metalwork, textiles, and carpets. Their religious and political power were intertwined as a theocracy. They supported their religion and put forth tremendous amounts of money and work into having religious shrines and schools. They also had religious leaders that became tools of the government. However, they persecuted any people that had different beliefs or religious views. The emperor that was passed down through descendance was in power. There were other leaders of government such as religious leaders. The power was distributed like a hierarchy pyramid. They had a singular ruler (or a shah), common people, aristocrats, and merchants and peasants at the bottom.

The hierarchies described in this chapter are designed much differently than how the political system is set up in the United States today. We have a democracy government where the people vote for a leader, or president, rather than the rule be passed down by inheritance to the previous ruler. We also have more branches of government that are responsible for different affairs. The different parts of the government today have a voice and a vote in laws being passed

and vetoed that can actually overrun the president. For an empire the ruler would have the power over anyone's voice. We are privileged to have rights as citizens under the protection of our government. We have the right to also fight the government if we are falsely accused. Hierarchies are less forgiving and would find whatever they see fit for punishment.