**The Battle of Tours: Two Accounts**

What was the relationship between Musa and Caliph Abd-el Melek?

What did St. Denis think of Prince Charles?

What evidence is provided to show that the Franks won the Battle of Tours?

**From an Arabian Chronicler**

**Musa being returned to Damascus, the Caliph Abd-el Melek asked of him** about his *conquests*, saying "Now tell me about these Franks---what is their nature?"

"They," replied Musa, "are a folk right numerous, and full of might: brave ….in the attack, but cowardly…. in event of defeat."

"And how has passed the war (between) them and thyself? Favorably or the reverse?"

"The reverse? No, by Allah and the prophet!" spoke Musa. "Never has a company from my army been beaten. And never have the Moslems *hesitated* to follow me when I have led them".

**Chronicle of St. Denis**

The Muslims planned to go to Tours to destroy the Church of St. Martin, the city, and the whole country. Then came against them **the glorious Prince Charles**, at the head of his whole force. He drew up his host, and **he fought as fiercely as the hungry wolf** falls upon the stag. By the grace of Our Lord, he *wrought* a great slaughter upon the enemies of Christian faith, so that---as history bears witness---**he *slew* in that battle 300,000 men**, likewise their king by name Abderrahman. Then was he [Charles] first called "Martel," for as a hammer of iron, of steel, and of every other metal, even so he dashed: and smote in the battle all his enemies. And what was the greatest marvel of all, **he only lost in that battle 1500 men**. The tents and harness [of the enemy] were taken; and whatever else they possessed became a prey to him and his followers. Eudes, Duke of Aquitaine, being now *reconciled* with Prince Charles Martel, later slew as many of the Saracens as he could find who had escaped from the battle.

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| Match one of the underlined and italicized words from the readings with a synonym or definition below: |
|  | Produced;created |
|  | Killed |
|  | Waited;delayed |
|  | Made up;Back together |
|  | Victories |

1. Identify two differences in the sources.
2. Why do you think the two chroniclers have such very different interpretations of the same battle? Suggest at least two reasons.