

African Kingdoms

Part I: General Info

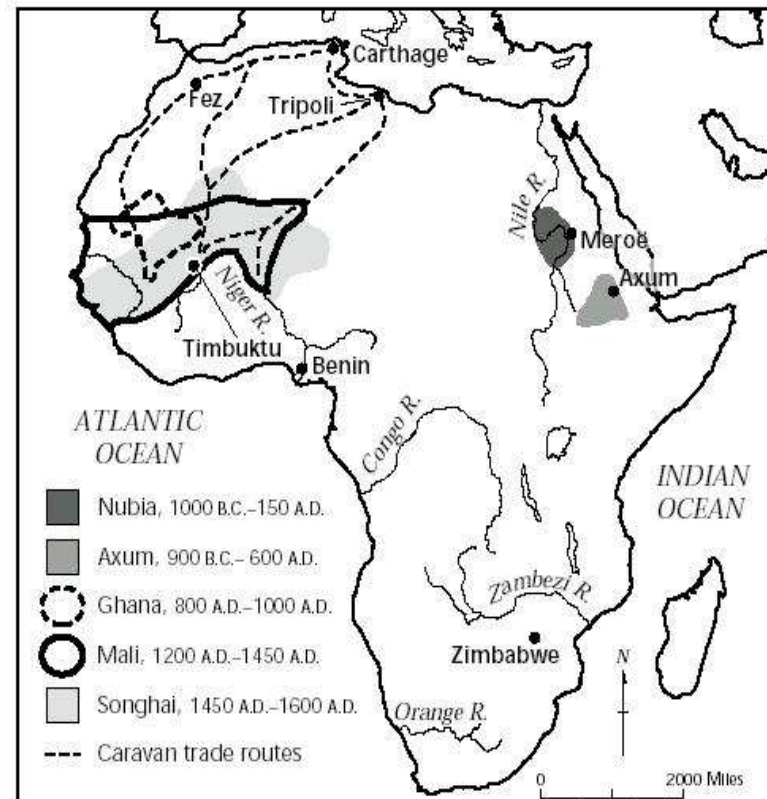
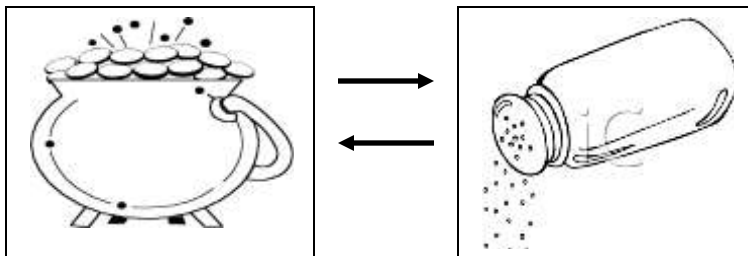
1. The interior of Africa was settled by large migrations referred to as the **Bantu Migrations**
2. Bantu means “**the People.**”
3. The main language of the African continent is **Swahili** which is a blend of **Bantu & Arabic** dialects.
4. Most Africans trace their heritage through their mothers known as **Matrilineal Societies.**

Part II: West African Kingdoms.

1. The **Nok** was the earliest known West African kingdom. They were primarily farmers but were also among the first to smelt **iron.**
2. What were the names of the 3 main West African Kingdoms?

- a. **Ghana**
- b. **Mali**
- c. **Songhai**

3. The two major religious influences were
 - a. Animism
 - b. Islam
4. West African kingdoms depended on trans-Saharan trade. Label the 2 major commodities traded.



5. The kings of **Ghana** made their money by collecting **tribute** from neighboring kingdoms.
6. The religion of **Islam** reached **Ghana** via North African merchants.
7. **Ghana** eventually fell because of invasions by **Almoravids**.
8. **Ghana** will be replaced by Mali in 1235.
9. **Mali's** first great leader was a man named **Sundiata**; known to be a great **administrator**, he promoted both **agriculture and trade**.
10. The most famous of **Mali's** rulers was a devout Muslim by the name of **Mansa Musa**.
11. Mansa Musa was famous for making a long **hajj** to the city of **Mecca**. He gave away so much **gold** as charity that he caused a drop in its value.
12. **Mali's** most famous city was **Timbuktu**, known to be a great Islamic center.
13. We have learned much about Islam in West Africa through the writings of the great traveler **Ibn Battuta**.
14. **Mali** will eventually fall due to weak **rulers after Mansa Musa** and the shifting of **trade to the east**.
15. The next great African kingdom will be the **Songhai**.
16. The first great **Songhai** ruler was **Sunni Ali** who captured the Mali cities of **Timbuktu and Dienne**.
17. The next great ruler of **Songhai** was **Askia Muhammad** He improved the government of **Songhai** by:
 - a. **Driving Ali's son son from power**
 - b. **Setting up a system of ministers to help rule**
 - c. **Creating a tax system**
18. The **Songhai** eventually fell to invading **Moroccans**.

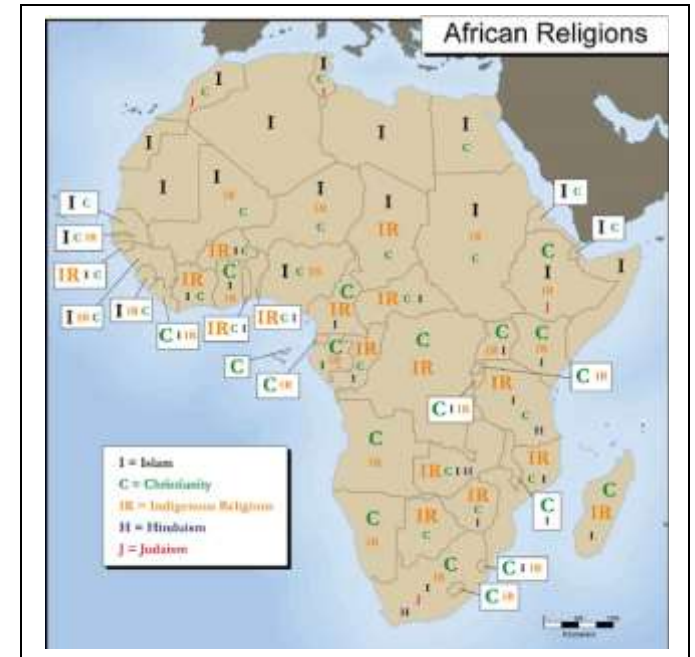
Part III: Eastern Trading cities

1. Unlike the West African kingdoms, trade in Eastern trading cities included goods from the **interior** of Africa with goods sailing from **Asia**.
2. Because of the intercontinental trade, the population of East African trading cities was **multicultural**.
3. The greatest of the East African trading kingdoms was **Axum**, located near the Red Sea.

- The primary religion of **Axum** was **Animism**, which is the worship of nature spirits.
- The monotheistic religion of **Christianity** will reach Axum through trade. Today it is the primary religion of the country of **Ethiopia**.
- Other Eastern trading cities include **Kilwa, Sofala, & Mombasa**.
- Trading ships between Africa & India depended on the seasonal winds known as **monsoons**.

Part IV: South Africa

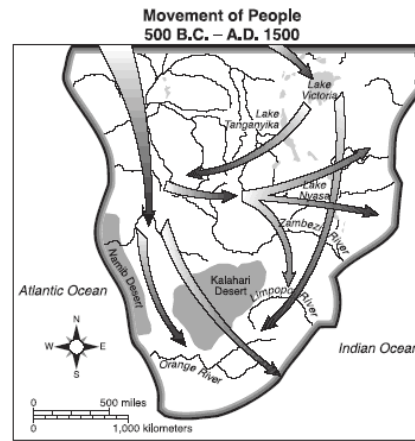
- South Africa was dominated by the kingdom known as the **Great Zimbabwe** which means “stone enclosure.”
- The Great Zimbabwe was established between the **Limpopo & Zimbabwe Rivers**.
- The primary religion of the **Great Zimbabwe** was **Animism**.
- The end for the **Great Zimbabwe** came around the year **1450**, but for no apparent reason.



African Kingdoms Review

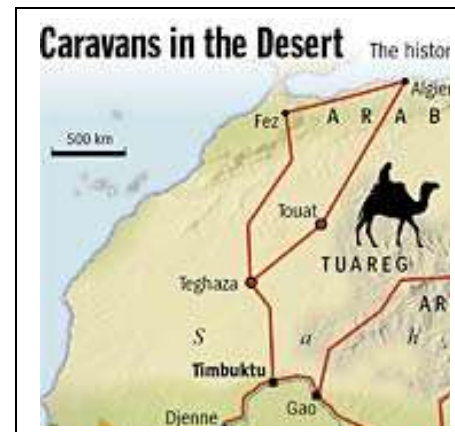
1. Describe the event demonstrated in the map.

Bantu migrations



2. What types of goods were being traded across the West African kingdoms?

Gold from West Africa to Arab North Africa in return for manufactured goods.



3. Name the types of religion found in each of the African territories.
 - a. West African Kingdoms = **Animism & Islam**
 - b. Eastern Trading cities = **Christianity**
 - c. Southern Africa (Great Zimbabwe) = **Animism**

1. The West African kingdoms of Ghana, Mali, and Songhai experienced economic prosperity because they all
 - a. **Controlled vast resources of oil and gold.**
 - b. Traded with many other nations
 - c. Maintained structural feudal systems
 - d. Solved tribal conflicts within their empires

“...the king is a declared enemy of the Jews. He will not allow any to live in the city. If he hears it said that a Berber merchant frequents them or does business with them, he confiscates his goods. There are in Timbuktu numerous judges, teachers, and priests, all properly appointed by the king. He greatly honors learning. There is more profit made from this commerce than from all other merchandise...”

- Leo Africanus, *The Description of Africa*, 1526

2. This passage suggests that Timbuktu was a city that
 - a. Participated frequently in war
 - b. **Emphasized literacy and trade**
 - c. Protected the human rights of all citizens
 - d. Selected political leaders through democratic elections
3. The wealth and power of Mali’s ruler Mansa Musa, were significant because they contributed to the
 - a. Start of the Crusades
 - b. **Spread of Islam**
 - c. Growth of European Imperialism
 - d. Rise of Arab nationalism
4. The movement of West African farmers and herders to southern Africa between 1000 BCE to 1000 CE is called the
 - a. Great Rift
 - b. Neolithic Revolution
 - c. Kush
 - d. Bantu migrations

5. Medieval Ethiopia’s unique sense of identity is derived from
 - a. Its contact Europe
 - b. **Its Christian faith**
 - c. Its use of Swahili
 - d. Its Muslim faith
6. Which statement describes a matrilineal culture?
 - a. Inheritance is determined by the father’s bloodline
 - b. Sons are valued more highly than daughters
 - c. **Descent is traced through the mother’s bloodline**
 - d. The wife is joins her husband’s family in his village.
7. Which African ruler converted to Islam and made a hajj in 1324, forging new diplomatic and economic ties with other Muslim states?
 - a. Ezna
 - b. **Mansa Musa**
 - c. Sunni Ali
 - d. Muhammad
8. Which cultural exchange involved the transmission of a religious belief from the Middle East to North Africa?
 - a. The missionary work of the monks who carried Orthodox Christianity north from Byzantium
 - b. The merchants who sailed between Venice and Constantinople
 - c. The movement of Buddhism along the Silk Road
 - d. **The spread of Islam from the Arabs**
9. Which statement describes the African kingdom of Axum?
 - a. **It lay between the Zambezi and the Limpopo rivers**
 - b. Its leaders ruled Egypt for a brief period
 - c. Its kings and people converted to Islam
 - d. Its kings and people were Christian.
10. ~~How did trade between East Africa and~~
 - a. West Africa
 - b. the Mediterranean
 - c. **India**
 - d. Egypt