

## The Trading States of East and West Africa

**Essential Question”**

1. Analyze the important regional developments and cultural changes including the growth of states, towns, and trade in Africa south of the Sahara and China.(4.3)

- \_\_\_\_\_ I can describe the diverse characteristics of early African societies and the significant changes by (4.3.1):
- \_\_\_\_\_ Comparing and contrasting two civilizations such as Aksum, Swahili, Zimbabwe, Ghana, Mali, or Songhai in regards to economics, religion, political and social structures
- \_\_\_\_\_ Using maps to identify Bantu migration patterns and describe their contributions
- \_\_\_\_\_ Analyzing African trade networks by examining trans-Saharan trade in gold and salt, and connecting those to interregional patterns of trade
- \_\_\_\_\_ Analyzing the development of an organized slave trade within and beyond Africa
- \_\_\_\_\_ Analyzing the influence of Islam and Christianity on African culture and the blending of traditional and new beliefs

Aksum and Ethiopia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Most powerful kingdom in East Africa</li> <li>• King Enza was instrumental in bringing power to Aksum</li> <li>• Enza converted to Christianity and made it the official religion</li> <li>• Ge’ez was the written and spoken language of Aksum, one of the first written languages in Africa</li> <li>• By 100 AD, Aksum had developed into wealthy trading nation and would remain so until 700’s with the invasion of Muslims</li> <li>• Ethiopia referred to the larger region that surrounded Aksum</li> <li>• By the 1100’s the descendents of Aksum had established a new kingdom under the rule of the Zagwe dynasty.</li> <li>• King Laibela of the Zagwe dynasty was instrumental in constructing 11 stone churches</li> <li>• The second dynasty of kings to rule Ethiopia claimed to be descendants of King Solomon and Queen Sheba</li> </ul>
Coastal City-States	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A trade network would connect East Africa with Persia, Arabia, India and even Southeast Asia</li> <li>• By 1100 AD many of the market towns had grown to be wealthy cities like : Mogadishu, Mombasa, Kilwa, and Sofala</li> <li>• A number of valuable items were traded such as gold, ivory and slaves</li> <li>• With the increase in trade in coastal city states, the blending of African, Arab and Asian cultures of</li> </ul>

	<p>inevitable</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Swahili was the mixed language of the local Bantu language and Arab words</li> <li>Islam starts to take hold in the coastal region</li> </ul>
Great Zimbabwe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ancestors of the Shona people established the kingdom of Great Zimbabwe around the 1100's</li> <li>Served as a middleman between gold miners and ivory hunters</li> <li>During the 1400's they abandon the area between the Limpopo and Zambezi Rivers</li> <li>Power shifted to the Mutapa Empire and grew very wealthy by exporting gold and controlling trade within its region</li> </ul>
Empire of Ghana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gold was central to Ghana's wealth and becoming a powerful empire</li> <li>Unlike East African trading cities, Ghana had no easy access to the sea</li> <li>By 800 AD, Ghana controlled all Sub-Saharan trade for salt and gold</li> <li>Wealth was built through taxing on goods like salt</li> <li>Decline in the mid-1000's due to war with Almoravids</li> </ul>
Mali Empire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In the 1230's Mali rose to power</li> <li>Mali reached its height in the 1300's under the reign of the <i>mansa</i> or King Musa</li> <li>Mali's territory was expanding, population was at least 40 million</li> <li>Islam was taking root in Mali</li> <li>Timbuktu became West Africa's chief center for education, religion, and culture</li> <li>A series of weak <i>mansas</i> led to the decline of the Mali Empire</li> </ul>
Empire of Songhai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existed as a small kingdom paying tribute to the leaders of Ghana and Mali</li> <li>Songhai's rise took place under a military leader (<i>sunni</i>) Sunni Ali</li> <li>Skilled military with cavalry and navy led to many new conquered territories</li> <li>Askia Muhammad's reign was considered the golden age of Songhai</li> <li>1591 Songhai was captured by Morocco</li> </ul>
Other West African States	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kingdoms of Mali, Ghana, and Songhai were not the only successful regions in West Africa</li> <li>The Hausa city-states were based on farming, manufacturing, and trade</li> <li>The Yoruba kingdoms known for their artistic skills, especially sculpture</li> <li>The Kingdom of Benin participated in slave trade with Portugal, when that ceased they traded pepper, ivory, and cotton for gold</li> </ul>

