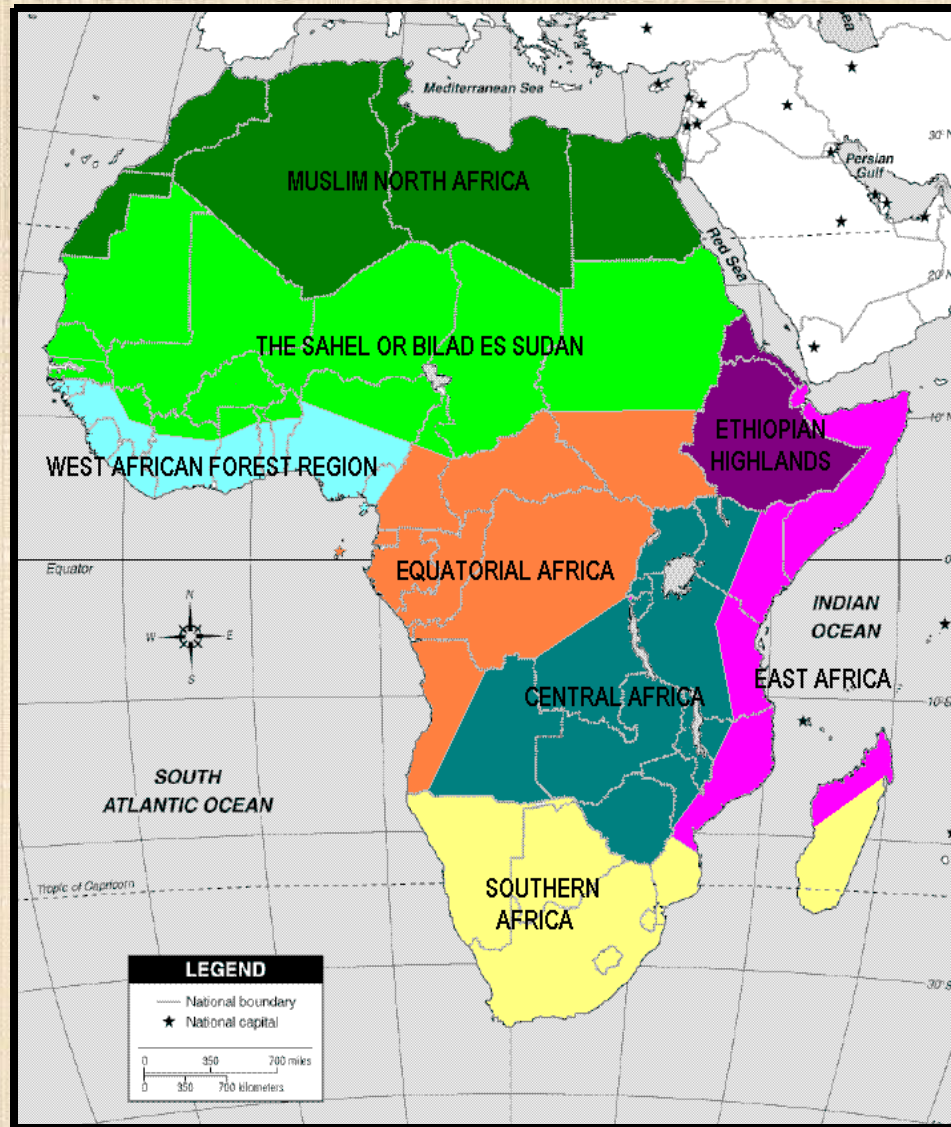
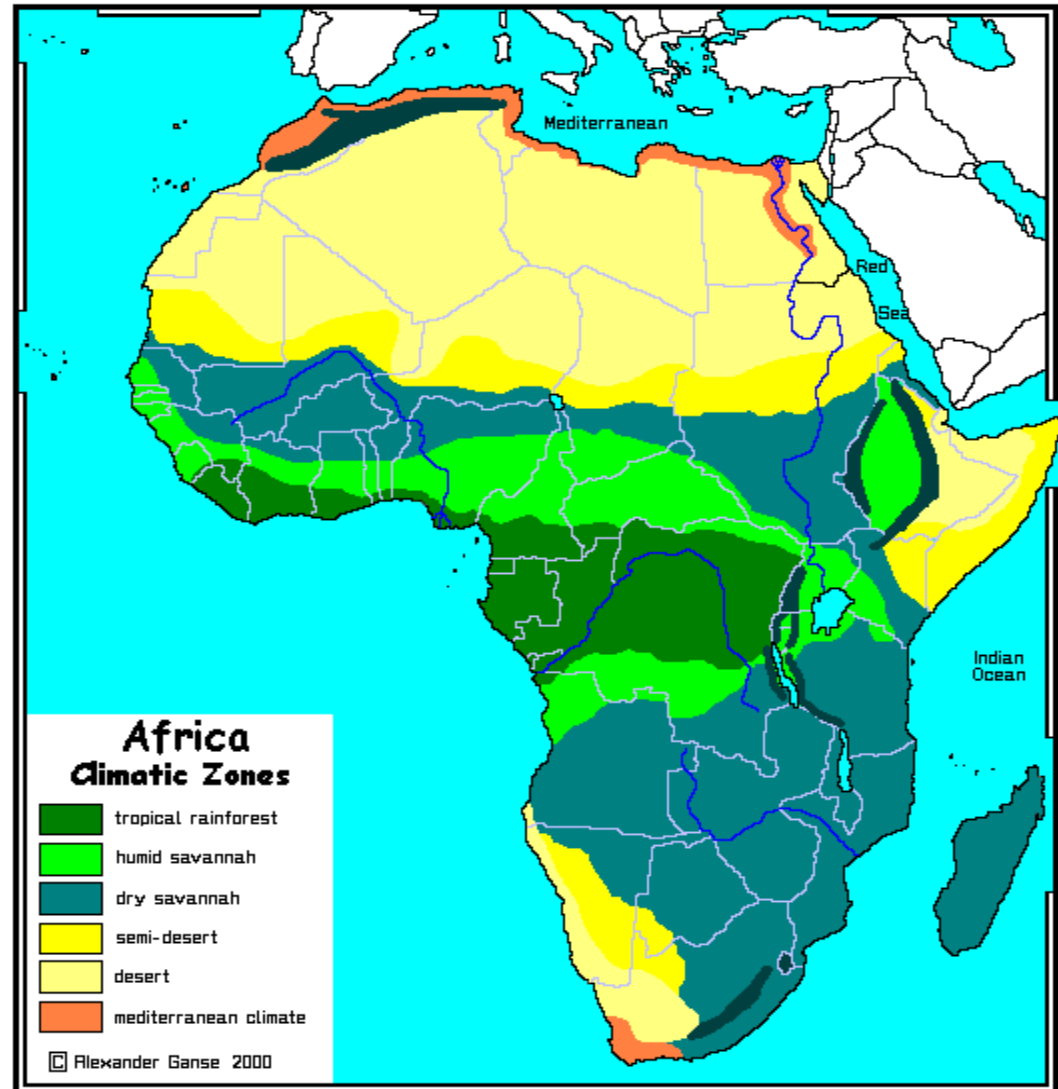


***SUB-SAHARAN
AFRICA FROM
PRE-HISTORY
TO 1500 C.E.***

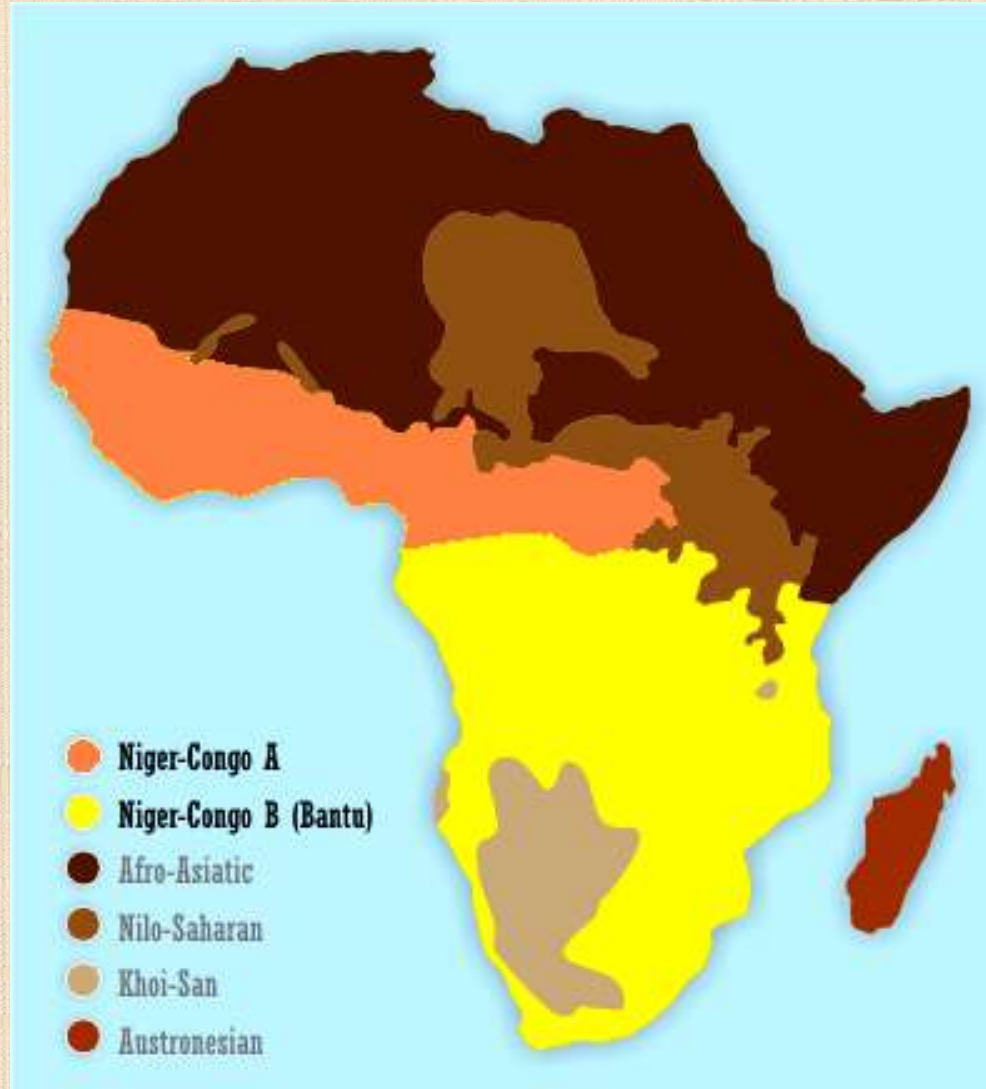
REGIONS IN AFRICA



AFRICAN CLIMATE ZONES



AFRICAN LANGUAGE FAMILIES



GHANA: 1ST SUB-SAHARAN CIVILIZATION

- **Camels**

- **Camels came to Egypt from Arabia, 7th century B.C.E.**
- **Romans introduced them to North Africa, patrolled desert**
- **After 500 C.E. camels replaced horses, donkeys as transport animals**
- **Camels' arrival quickened pace of communication across the Sahara**
- **Islamic merchants crossed the desert to trade in West Africa**
- **Established relations with sub-Saharan West Africa by 8th century**

The kingdom of Ghana (war chief)

- **Kings maintained a large army of two hundred thousand warriors**
- **A principal state of west Africa, not related to modern state of Ghana**
- **Became the most important commercial site in west Africa**
- **Controlled gold mines, exchanged it with nomads for salt**
- **Provided gold, ivory, and slaves**
- **Wanted horses, cloth, manufactured goods**

- **Koumbi-Saleh**

- **Capital city**
- **Thriving commercial center**



ARRIVAL OF ISLAM IN AFRICA

- **Islam in Africa**

- **North Africa**

- Arab armies conquered region by early 8th Century; pushed up Nile
 - Mass conversions of local inhabitants due to tax incentives

- **West Africa**

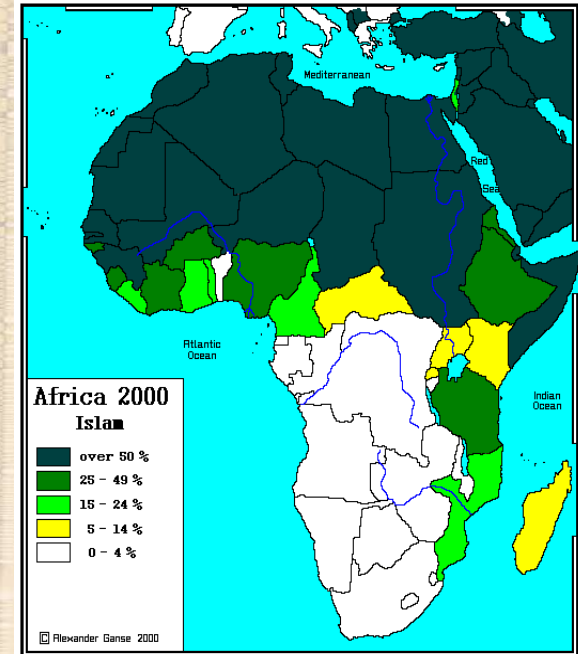
- Introduced by Trans-Saharan Trade route
 - Merchants were greatest contact with Islam
 - Local rulers, elites converted by 10th century
 - Gave elites control of trade, many benefits
 - Allowed people to observe traditional beliefs

- **Nomadic Berbers in North Africa**

- Berbers and Arabs were bitter rivals
 - Arabs settled coastlands, cities
 - Berbers lived in deserts, mountains
 - Berbers became puritanical Muslim, Shia
 - Berber fanatics invaded Ghana, Morocco
 - Ghana weakened, fell 10th century CE

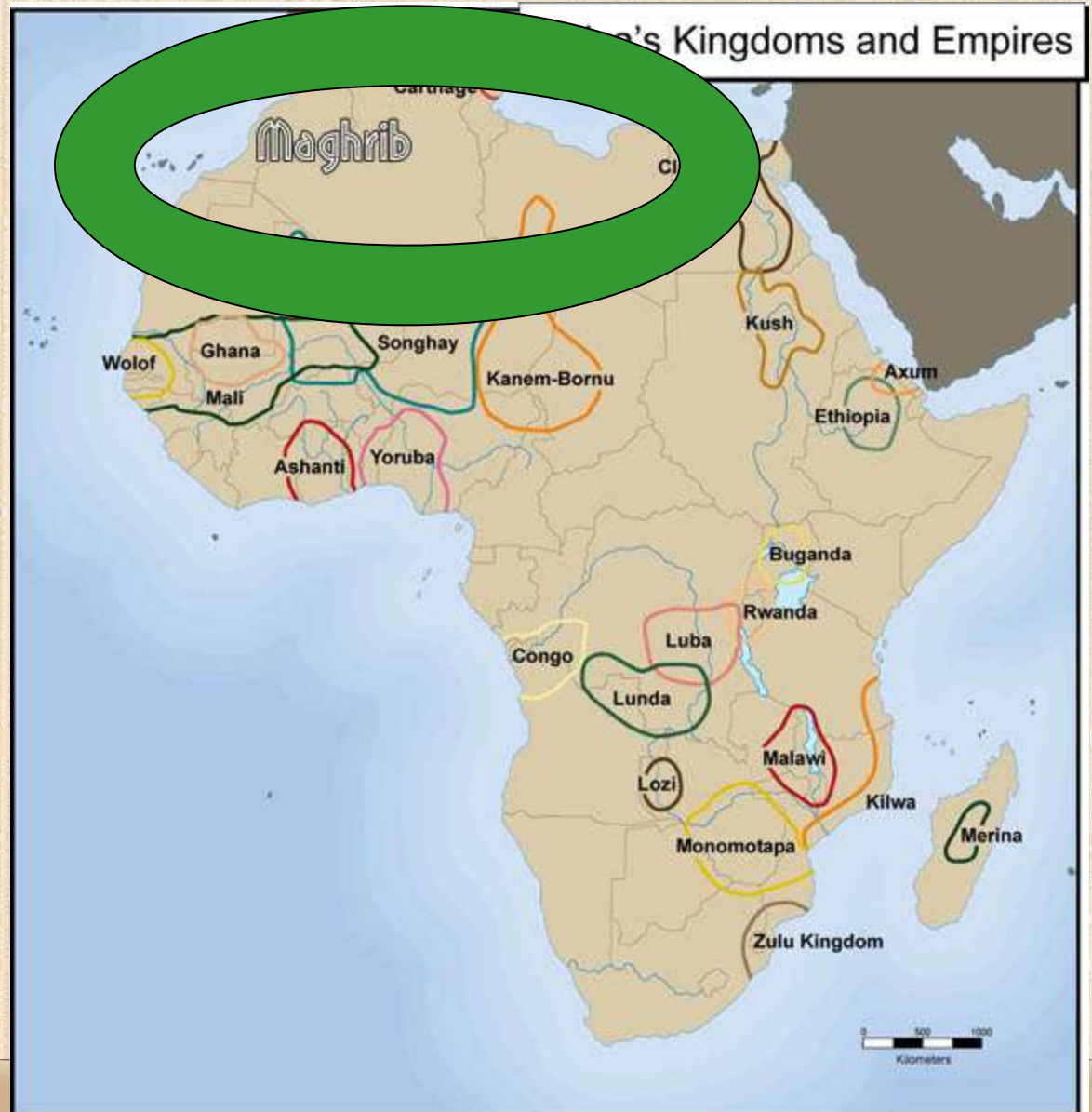
- **Elite religion vs. common practices**

- Most people remained polytheists especially outside of cities, towns
 - Produced syncretic blend such as accommodation of African gender norms
 - After conversion by elites, old beliefs remained; part of inherited traditions
 - Religion introduced writing, literary traditions



Maghrib

- By 670



Almoravid Reformers and Almohads

- The people living in the Maghrib at the time were called Berbers.
- The Berbers developed their own unique expression of Islam in a doctrine called Kharidjism. This doctrine emphasized equality amongst Muslims and criticized the ruling authority of the Arabs. It became the Berber's ideology of struggle against Arab domination. Their resistance was aimed not at Muslim Arabs, but specifically targeted towards the ruling class.
- Beginning in the late 8th century CE, the Idrisid dynasty strengthened the presence of Islam in the region through measures to convert the remainder of the non-Islamic population to Islam. By the 10th century, virtually the whole region known as the Maghrib had become Islamic.
- During this time of the Arab conquest of the Maghrib in the 7th and 8th centuries, there was an influx of Muslim merchants who became involved in the trans-Saharan gold trade with the Great Kingdoms of West Africa that were just forming around this time.
- Abd Allah Ibn Yasin came back to teach Islam: taught a strict religious brotherhood: Almoravids
- Conquered Morocco, Spain, and the empire of Ghana
- Ibn Tumart led Almohads who conquered Almoravids united all Maghrib under Islam for the first time

KINGDOM OF MALI

• Mandike Peoples

- Ghana was established by Mandika
- After fall of Ghana, Mandika established many small states
- Most people were not Muslims but merchants

• Sundiata

- After Ghana dissolved, political leadership shifted to Mali empire, a Mandika state
- The lion prince Sundiata (reigned 1230-55) built the Mali empire
- Ruling elites, families converted to Islam after his death

• The Mali empire and trade

- Controlled gold, salt; taxed almost all trade passing through west Africa
- Enormous caravans linked Mali to north Africa
- Besides Niani, many prosperous cities on caravan routes

• Mansa Musa

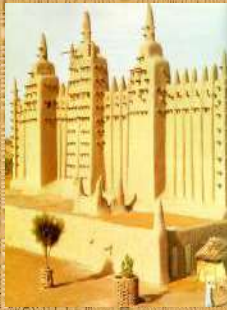
- Sundiata's grand nephew, reigned from 1312 to 1332
- Made his pilgrimage to Mecca in 1324-1325
 - Gargantuan caravan of thousand soldiers and attendants
 - Gold devalued 25% in Cairo during his visit

Mansa Musa and Islam

- Upon return to Mali, built mosques
- Sent students to study with Islamic scholars in North Africa
- Established Islamic schools in Mali

The decline of Mali

- Factions crippled the central government
- Rise of province of Gao as rival to Mali
- Military pressures from neighboring kingdoms, desert nomads



SONGHAI EMPIRE

- **Origins**

- Sorko fishermen of Niger became merchants
- Joined Gao state (part of Malian Empire)
- Mali could never collect taxes from Gao

- **Rise**

- Sonni Ali the Great build cavalry, war fleet
- Disputed Mali, conquer Timbuktu
- Anti-Muslim: saw them as a threat

- **Zenith**

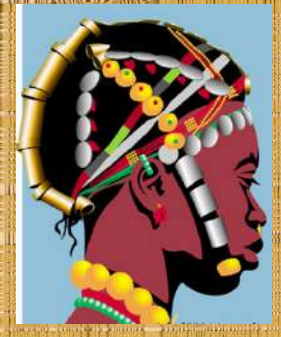
- Askia Muhammad seized power after Sonni's death
 - Devout Muslim, promoted Islam; launched jihads
 - Visited Cairo, Mecca; promoted Songhai to Muslims
 - Declared Caliph of the Sudan
 - Built centralized state using Muslim jurists as advisors

- **Tradition and Trade**

- Maintained tribal rituals of sacred drum, sacred fire, dress
- Privileged caste craftsmen; slaves important in agriculture
- Traded kola nuts, gold, slaves for horses, salt, luxuries, finished goods

- **Fall**

- Civil war erupted in 16th century
- Demographic Changes
 - Drought, desertification hurt economy
 - Diseases spread
- Moroccan Empire invades and destroys state in order to control gold trade



SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS

- **Diversity of African societies in Sub-Saharan Africa**
 - **Complex societies developed into kingdoms, empires, and city-states**
 - **Coexisted with small states and stateless societies**
 - **Lineages consisted of all members descended from a common ancestor**
- **Kinship groups of stateless societies**
 - **Extended families and clans as social and economic organizations**
 - **Communities claimed rights to land, no private property**
 - **Village council allocated land to clan members**
- **Sex and gender relations**
 - **Men undertook heavy labor, herding,**
 - **Women were responsible for child rearing, domestic chores, farming**
 - **Men monopolized public authority but women could be leaders**
 - **Women enjoyed high honor as the source of life**
 - **Many societies were matrilineal; aristocratic women influenced public affairs**
 - **Women merchants commonly traded at markets**
 - **Sometimes women organized all-female military units**
 - **Islam did little to curtail women's opportunities in sub-Saharan Africa**
- **Age grades**
 - **Publicly recognized "age grades" or "age sets"**
 - **Assumed responsibilities and tasks appropriate to their age grades**
 - **Coming of age ceremonies and secret societies restricted by age, gender**

SLAVERY

- **Slavery in Africa**
 - **Most slaves were captives of war, debtors, criminals**
 - **Kept for local use or sold in slave markets**
 - **Often used as domestic laborers especially agricultural workers**
 - **Generally not a social stigma attached**
 - **Slaves could receive freedom, become part of family, tribe**
 - **Children born to slaves were not slaves**
- **Slave trading**
 - **Slave trade increased after the 11th century CE**
 - **Primary markets**
 - **Across Sahara to North Africa and Egypt and ultimately Arabia**
 - **Out of East Africa to Arabia and Middle East**
 - **In some years, 10 to 12 thousand slaves shipped out of Africa**
 - **Males preferred, could also act as carriers of trade goods**
 - **10 million slaves transported by Islamic trade between 750/1500**
 - **Demand for slaves outstripped supply from eastern Europe**
 - **Original slaves preferred in Muslim world were Caucasian Slavs**
 - **Word “slave” comes from Slav**
 - **Slave raids against smaller states, stateless societies**
 - **Muslims could not be used as slaves (Quran) yet often ignored**

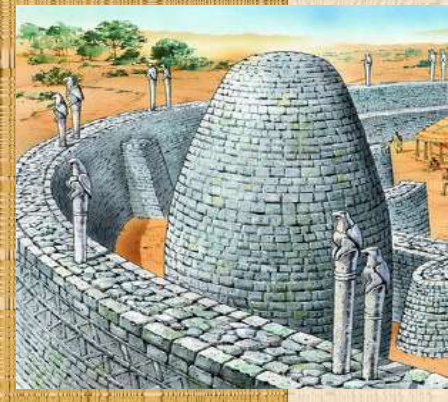
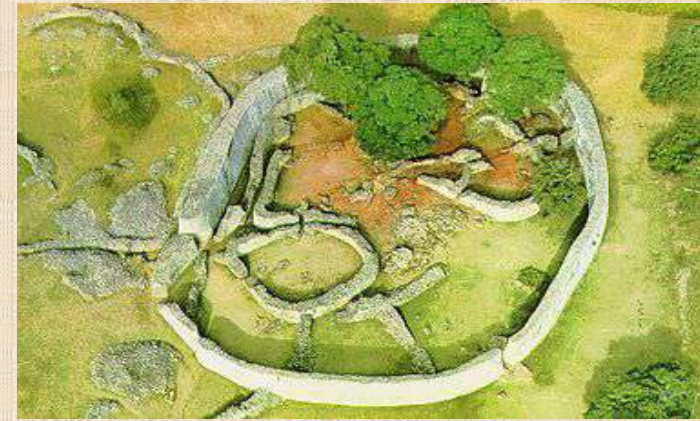
THE SWAHILI CITY-STATES

- **Intermarriage of the Bantu and the Arab produced Swahili**
 - An Arabic term, meaning "coasters"
 - Dominated east African coast from Mogadishu to Sofala
 - Swahili is a Bantu language mixed with Arabic
- **The Swahili city-states**
 - Chiefs gained power through taxing trade on ports
 - Developed into city-states ruled by kings, 11th-12th centuries
 - Controlled trade from interior: slaves, gold, ivory, spices
 - Exchanged goods for finished goods, cloths, dyes, luxuries
 - Craftsmen, artisans, clerks were Muslims
 - Slaves used for domestic, agriculture
 - Zanzibar clove plantations needed slaves
- **Kilwa**
 - One of the busiest city-states
 - Multistory stone buildings, mosques, schools
 - Issued copper coins from the 13th century
 - By 15th century, exported ton of gold per year
 - Merchants from India, China, Arabia visited
- **Islam in East Africa**
 - Ruling elite and wealthy merchants converted to Islamic faith
 - Conversion promoted close cooperation with Muslim merchants
 - Conversion also opened door to political alliances with Muslim rulers

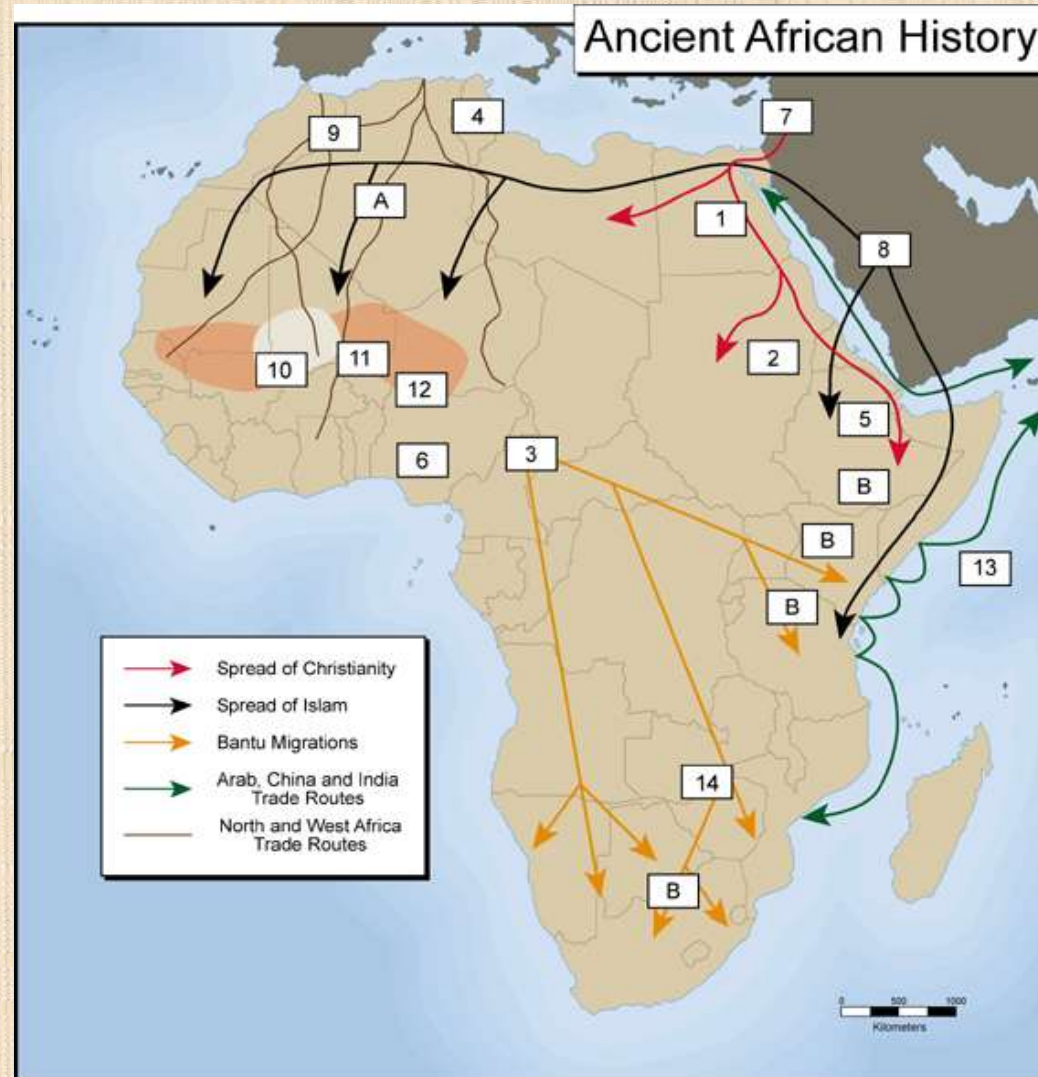


ZIMBABWE

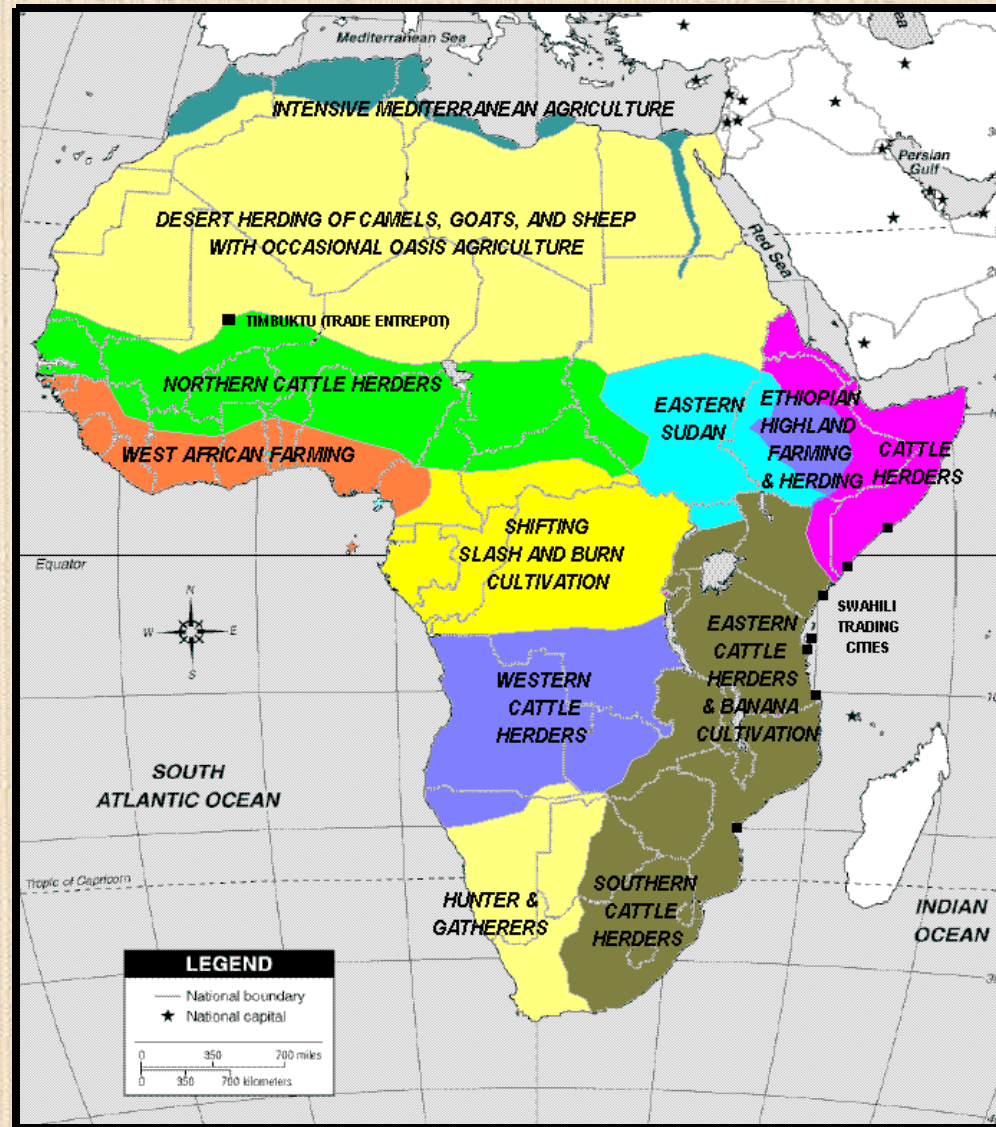
- **South Central Africa**
 - **Wooded and grass savannahs**
 - **Rich in minerals especially copper, gold**
 - **Bantu herders, ironsmiths found it wonderful**
- **Zimbabwe**
 - **A powerful kingdom of Central Africa arose in 13th century**
 - **From 5th centuries C.E. built wooden residences known as zimbabwe**
 - **By the 9th century began to build stone *zimbabwe***
 - **Magnificent stone complex known as Great Zimbabwe, the 12th century**
 - **18,000 people lived in Great Zimbabwe in the late 15th century**
 - **Kings and wealth**
 - **Organized flow of gold, ivory**
 - **Trade include slaves**
 - **Counted wealth in cattle, too**
 - **Traded with Swahili city-states**



MOVEMENT IN AFRICAN HISTORY



ECONOMIC REGIONS OF AFRICA



HISTORIC AFRICA IN REVIEW

