

# African Civilizations and the Spread of Islam

from *World Civilizations* chapter 9

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Key Terms</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">stateless society Ethiopia Sundiata juula griots Ibn Battuta Mansa Musa Timbuktu Songhay Kingdom Kilwa Swahili Benin Mwene Mutapa</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Big Picture</b></p> <p>Africa south of the Sahara prior to 800 CE had limited contact with the outside world. However, between 800 and 1500 CE the frequency of contact increased. The spread of Islam linked Africa to the outside world through trade, religion, and politics. Politically a few empires built upon military power and political alliances emerged (such as Mali and Songhay). In east and west Africa became tied to larger global trade networks.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Document Analysis</b> The Great Oral Tradition and the Epic of Sundiata</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>College Board Objectives</b></p> <p>Students should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• evaluate the rise and role of Dar al-Islam as a unifying cultural and economic force in Eurasia and Africa</li> <li>• explain the development and shifts in interregional trade, technology, and cultural exchange             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Trans-Sahara trade</li> <li>○ Indian Ocean trade</li> </ul> </li> <li>• identify the political systems and cultural patterns of Africa             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Sudanic Empires (Mali, Ghana, Songhay)</li> <li>○ Swahili coast</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Analyze gender systems and changes, such as the effects of Islam</li> <li>• Compare European and sub-Saharan African contacts with the Islamic World</li> </ul>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>In Depth</b> Two Transitions in the History of World Population</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Chapter Questions</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What are the common elements in African societies?</li> <li>2. Summarize the spread of Islam to north Africa. Consider who, what, why, and the impact.</li> <li>3. What were the major characteristics (political, economic, social, cultural, and environmental) of the Kingdom of Mali?</li> <li>4. What was the role of Islam in the political and social life of the Sudanic states? Focus on Mali.</li> <li>5. Summarize the nature of trade in East Africa. What was the role of Islam in East Africa?</li> <li>6. Identify the basic characteristics of Yoruba, the Kongo, and Great Zimbabwe.</li> </ol>