

African Civilizations 200–1500 and the Eastern Hemispheric Trade System

I. Eastern Hemisphere Trade System

- A. Abu-Lughod's "Eight Circuits"
- B. Overlooked 9th and 10th Circuits

II. West Africa

A. Saharan Trade Routes

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|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Salt mines | 5. Walata |
| 2. Taghaza | 6. Tadmekka |
| 3. Sahel = (<i>Arab.</i> "border") | 7. Marrakesh |
| 4. Taureg | |

B. Gold Mines

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|-----------|---------|
| 1. Bambek | 3. Akan |
| 2. Bure | |

C. Niger River Kingdoms

1. Ghana (Ouagadou) (8th century or earlier to 13th century)
 - a. capital: Kumbi Saleh
 - b. people: Soninke
 - c. *ghana* = warrior king
2. Mali (13th to 15th centuries)
 - a. capital: Niani
 - b. people: Manlinke
 - c. Kankan Musa, Mansa of Mali (1312–1337)
 - d. Sulayman, Mansa of Mali (1341–1360)
3. Songhay (15th century to 1591)
 - a. capital: Gao
 - b. people: Do farmers and Gow hunters
 - c. Sonni Ali (d. 1492)
 - d. Muhammed Ture (1493–1528)

D. Niger River Cities

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|-------------|--------|
| 1. Jenne | 3. Gao |
| 2. Timbuktu | |

III. Northeast Africa

A. Egypt

1. Cairo – Ibn Khaldun's description
2. Fatimids (969–1171)
3. Ayyubids (1171–1250)

4. Mamluks (1250–1517)

B. Ethiopia

1. capital: Adefa
2. king: Lalibela (ca. 1200–1250)

C. Adal

1. coastal port: Zeila
2. capital: Harar

IV. East Africa

A. Indian Ocean Trade

B. Swahili City States (more than 50)

1. Mogadishu
2. Lamu
3. Malindi
4. Mombasa
5. Zanzibar
6. Mafia
7. Kilwa
 - a. “one of the most beautiful and well-constructed towns in the world”
 - b. sacked by the Portuguese in 1505
8. Sofala

V. Central and Southeast Africa

A. Bantu Migration

B. Pastoralism (mainly cattle) and Agriculture

C. Gold Mining and Trade

1. Great Zimbabwe — built by Shona (fl. ca. 1200 to ca. 1450)
 - a. 1872: Charles Mauch declared it a copy of the Queen of Sheba’s Palace
—thus, the ancient Israelites built it
 - b. 1891: Theodore Bent theorized the Phoenicians built it (land of Ophir)
 - c. others speculated it was the Egyptians or Chinese
 - d. 1905: David Randall-MacIver concluded it was built by the Shona ca. 1100
 - e. 1931: Gertrude Caton-Thompson, *The Zimbabwe Culture: Ruins and Reactions*
 - f. 1960s: Rhodesian government formally acknowledged the Shona built it
2. Other sites: Torwa and Mutupa

VI. Southwest Africa and the Khoisan