

Empires and States of Africa

► Gathering the Facts

1. Turn to pages 84–85 in the Atlas. Read the introduction. Use the information to complete the following sentences.
 - a. New empires and states began to emerge in Africa in the _____.
 - b. West African empires grew wealthy from _____.
 - c. A new culture known as _____ developed in East Africa. This new culture was a mix of _____ and _____ cultures. Along the eastern coast Swahili _____ developed.

★ Places, Regions, and Landscapes

2. Look at picture A and read its caption. Then look at map B, “Empires of West Africa.” Use the information to answer the following questions.
 - a. What trade center is shown in picture A? _____
 - b. To which North African cities was Jenne linked by trade routes?
_____, _____,
_____, and _____
 - c. Picture A is a present-day photo. What does the picture indicate about the city today? _____

► History Through Maps

3. Use map B, “Empires of West Africa,” to classify the statements below. Next to each statement, write a **G** if it describes Ghana, a **M** if it describes Mali, or a **S** if it describes Songhai. Some statements apply to more than one empire.
 - a. First of the West African empires _____
 - b. Grew wealthy from controlling Saharan trade _____
 - c. Conquered by Morocco _____
 - d. Existed in 1500 _____
 - e. Its capital was Koumbi Saleh. _____
 - f. Overtook the Mali Empire _____
 - g. Its capital was Niani. _____

★ **Thinking About History**

4. Look at picture C and read its caption. Also look at map D, "Central and East Africa," and map D, "Religions in Africa, 1500," on page 83. Use the information to answer the following questions.
- a. The ruins of what city are shown in picture C? _____
 - b. In what part of Africa was it located? _____
 - c. Who built this city? _____
 - d. How would you describe the landscape in picture C?

 - e. What do you think the stone wall was used for? _____

 - f. Look at map D. What made this city wealthy?

 - g. Look at map D on page 83. What religion did the people in this city practice?

➤ **Location**

5. Use map D, "Central and East Africa," to match each state listed below with the its description.

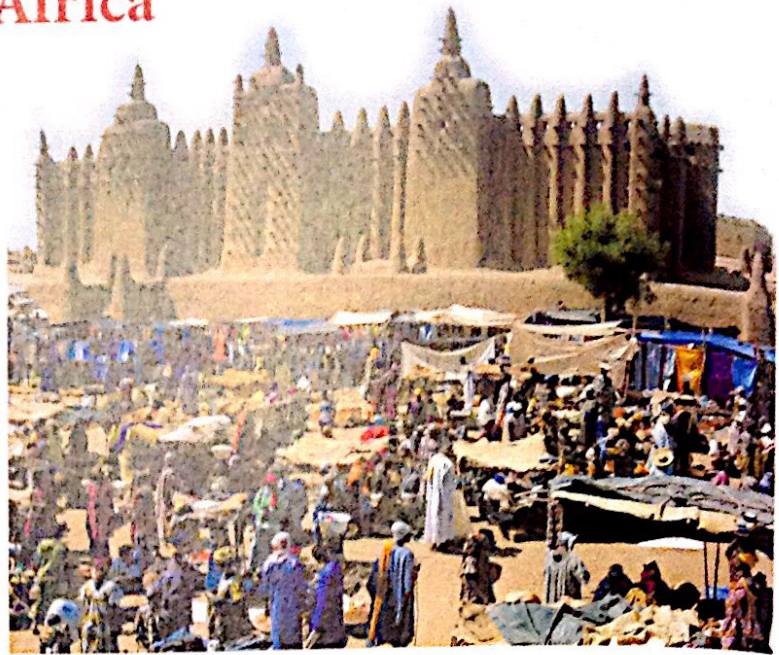
State

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| a. Luba • | • Bordered by the Atlantic Ocean and the Congo River |
| b. Oromo • | • Its neighbor was Lunda. |
| c. Mwenemutapa • | • Blue Nile formed part of its northwest boundary |
| d. Kongo • | • Located south of the Zambezi River |
| e. Ethiopia • | • Lake Chad was inside its territory |
| f. Funj • | • White Nile and Blue Nile joined inside this territory |
| g. Kanem-Bornu • | • Only Christian state |

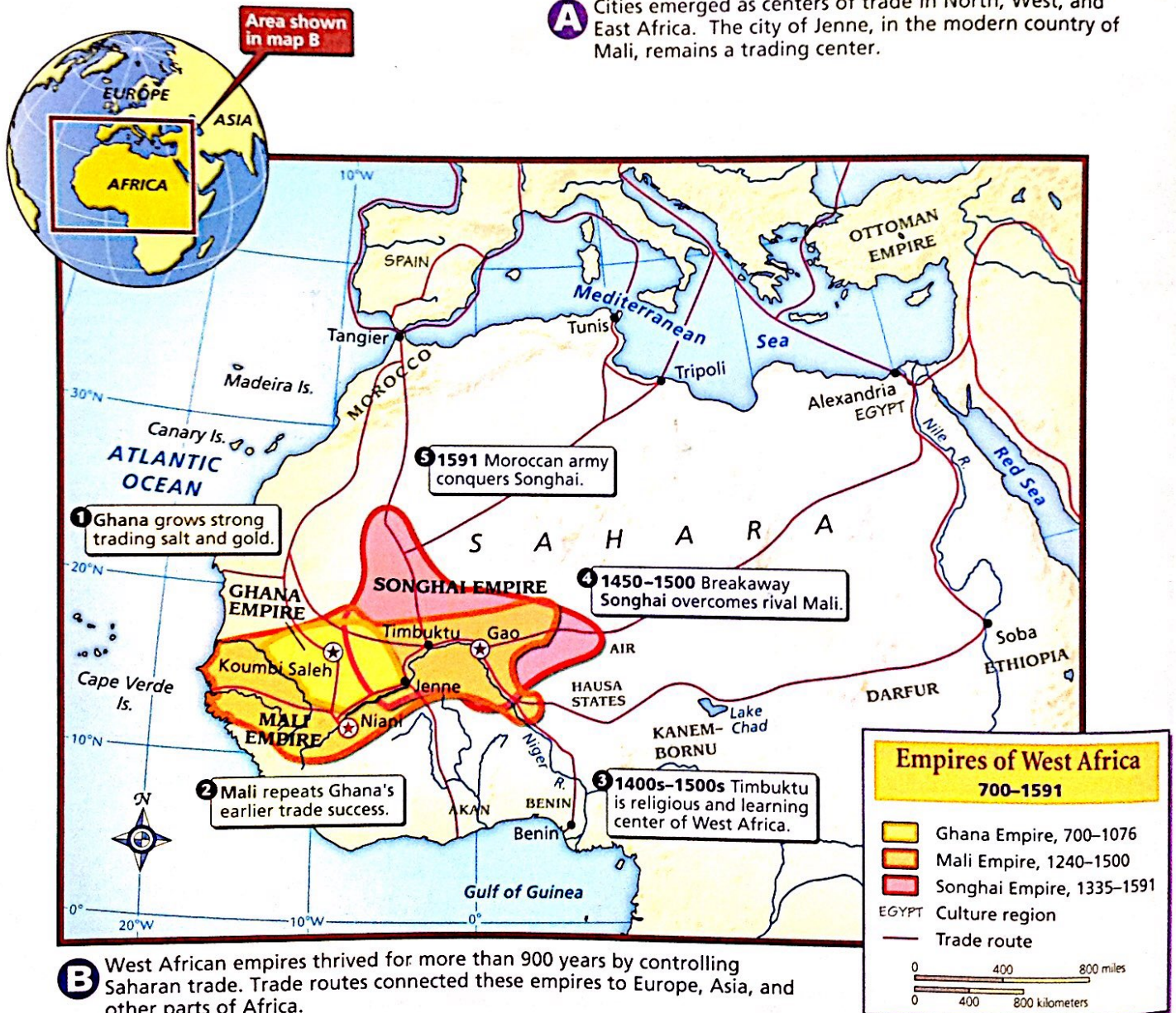
Empires and States of Africa

Beginning in the 700s, new empires and states developed in Africa.

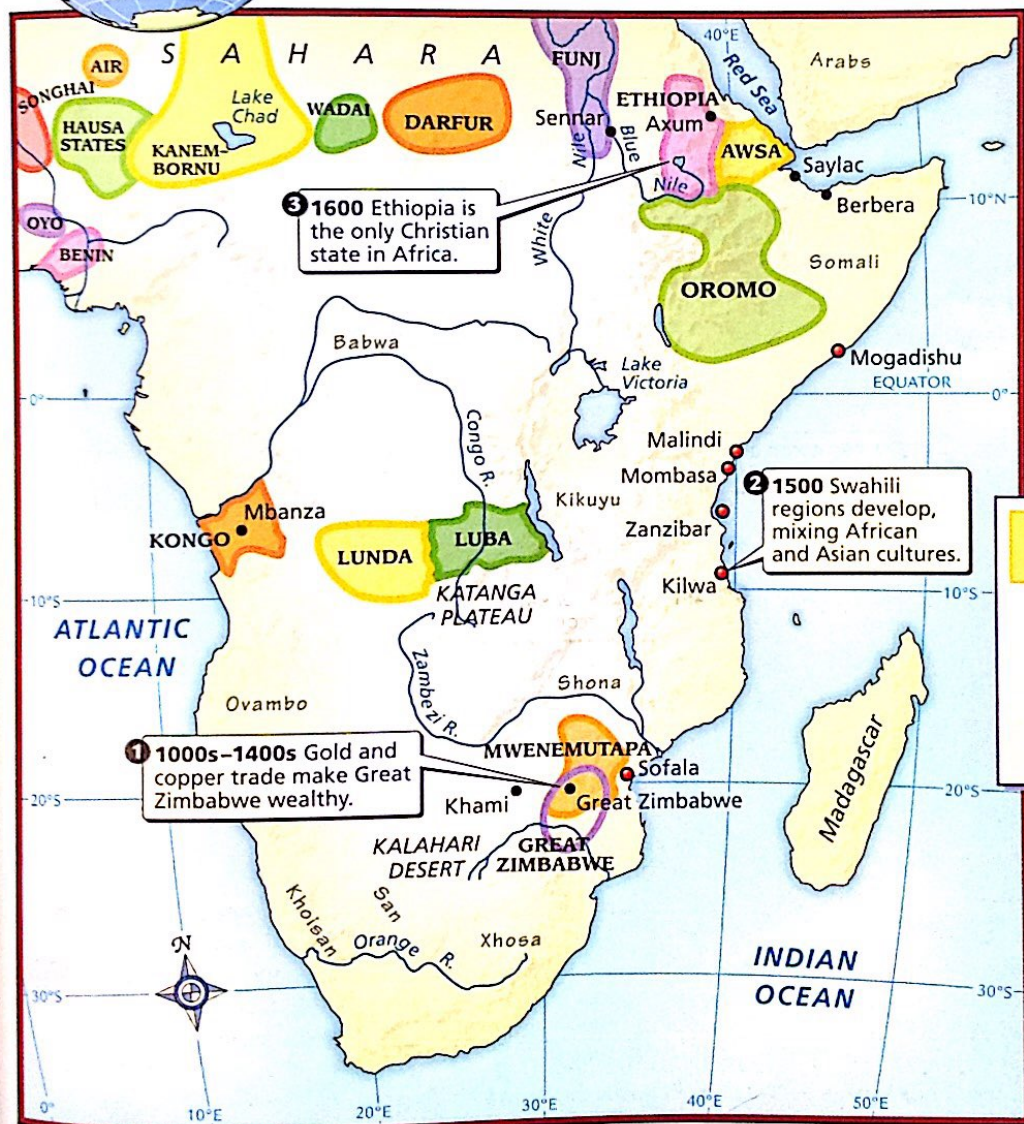
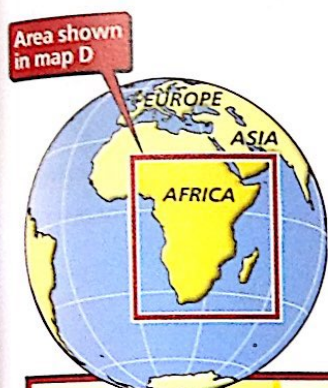
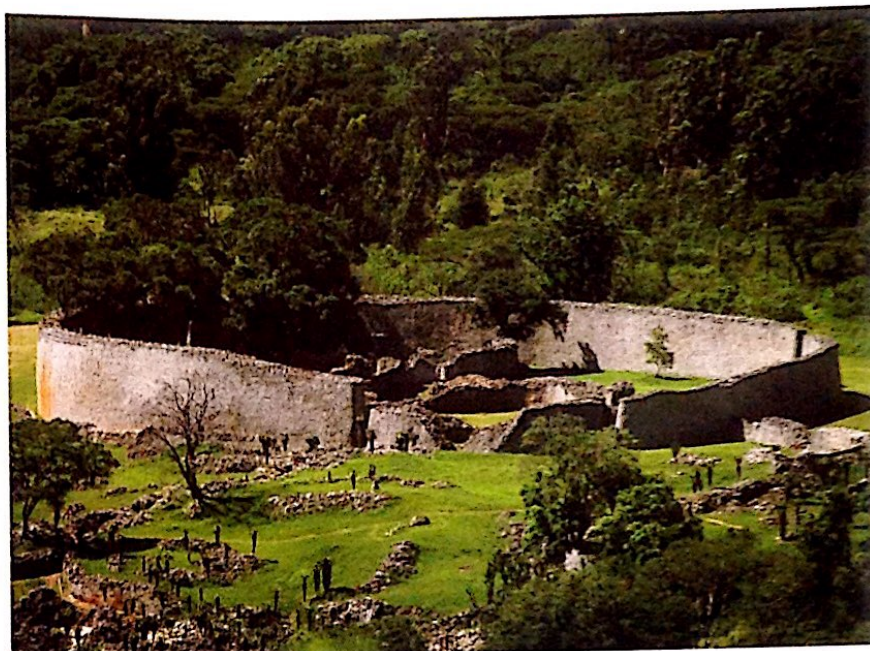
- West African empires developed south of the Sahara. These empires became wealthy through trade within and outside of Africa.
- In East Africa, Islamic and indigenous African cultures mixed to form a new culture known as Swahili. Swahili city-states developed along the coast.
- Cultures in central and southern Africa developed organized governments. Many different states emerged in the region.



A Cities emerged as centers of trade in North, West, and East Africa. The city of Jenne, in the modern country of Mali, remains a trading center.



- C** The Shona people of southeastern Africa built a city called Great Zimbabwe. It became a center of trade. These ruins of the city show a huge stone wall up to 32 feet high. Locate the city of Great Zimbabwe on Map D.

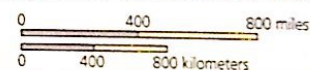


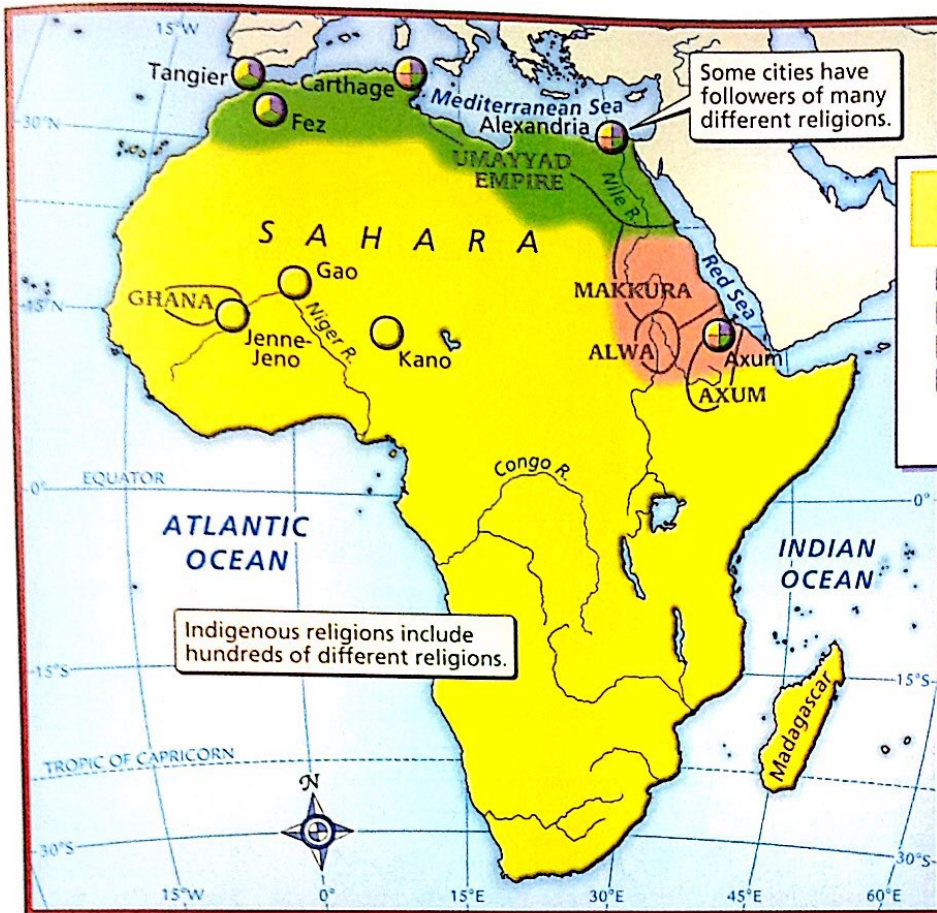
- D** By 1600 many states had emerged in Central and East Africa. These states had diverse cultures, systems of government, economic activities, and religious beliefs.

Central and East Africa 1000-1600

- Swahili city-state
- Shona Culture group

Map shows boundaries of 1530.

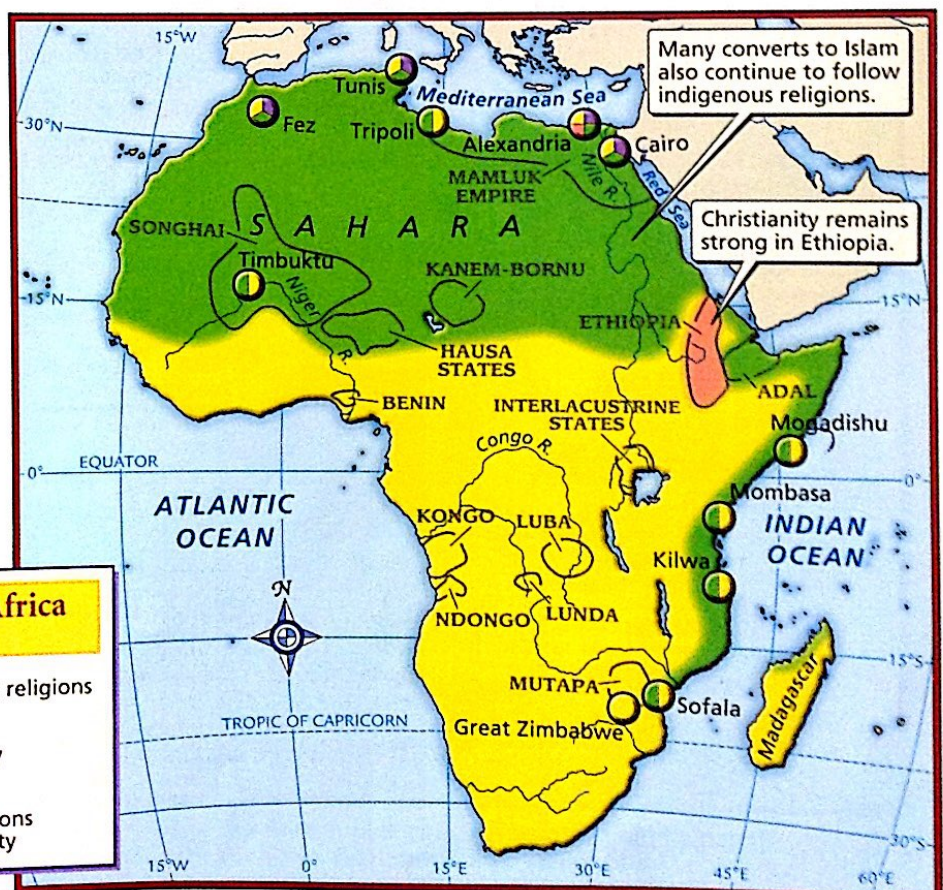




Even after Islam was introduced to Africa, most of the continent practiced indigenous African religions. Indigenous religions had many different beliefs, customs, and rituals.

Who was first?

Indigenous describes a region's original people or cultures. The Bantu people are indigenous to Africa, but Arab Muslims are not.



Compare map C and map D. Identify areas where Islam spread between 750 and 1500.