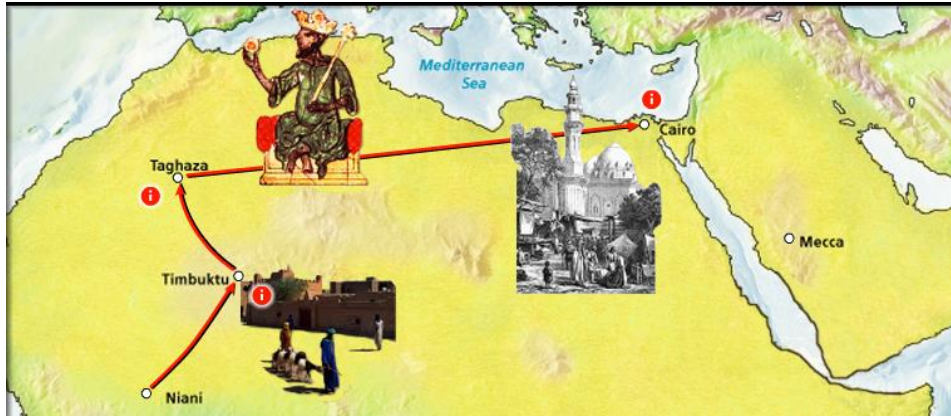


# AFRICAN CIVILISATIONS - KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

## Mansa Musa's pilgrimage to Mecca - 1324



## The Kingdom of Benin



<b>Civilisation</b>	A society that has developed certain features such as economic, military, political, religious, social, artistic and scientific.	
<b>Ancient Egypt</b>	The civilization of ancient Egypt lasted for over three thousand years, starting around 3,000 BC. The rulers of Ancient Egypt, known as Pharaohs, were regarded as gods on earth. (North-eastern Africa)	<b>Key Fact:</b> They were one of the first civilisations to invent writing.
<b>The Kingdom of Benin</b>	Until the late 19 <sup>th</sup> century, the Kingdom of Benin was one of the major powers in West Africa. The ruler was known as the Oba, who lived in beautiful palaces with shining brass. (West Africa)	<b>Key Fact:</b> People believed that brass had the power to drive away evil.
<b>Kilwa</b>	The former Islamic city state. In the 10 <sup>th</sup> Century it became one of the most active commercial centres on the east coast of Africa. It was held briefly by the Portuguese (1505-12), it thereafter gradually declined in importance and was finally abandoned. (East Africa)	<b>Key Fact</b> A massive palace was constructed in the 14 <sup>th</sup> C with 100 rooms and an octagonal swimming pool.
<b>Empire of Ghana</b>	Medieval trading empire. Ruled between 100 to 1100 AD. The Empire first formed when a number of tribes of the Soninke people were united under their first king, Dinga Cisse. "Ghana" was the word that the Soninke people used for their king, it meant "warrior king." The main source of wealth was iron and gold. (West Africa)	<b>Key Fact</b> Iron smiths were considered magicians because they worked with fire and earth to create iron.
<b>Mansa Musa</b>	The 14 <sup>th</sup> Century Emperor of the Mali Empire. He is considered the richest man that ever lived. Most of his wealth came from gold and salt. He was a devout Muslim and went to Mecca in 1324. He took with him 60,000 people, 21,000 kilograms of gold and 80 camels. (West Africa)	<b>Key Fact</b> During his pilgrimage to Mecca, Mansa Musa gave away so much gold, the value of gold fell
<b>Chimurenga</b>	In 1896-97, the Zimbabwean tribes united to fight against British rule. The British Army were called in to defeat the tribes. A 2 <sup>nd</sup> Chimurenga started in the 1960s and lasted until the removal of the British in the 1980s. (Southern Africa)	<b>Key Fact</b> The first Chimurenga is now celebrated as Zimbabwe's First War of Independence

## TIMELINE OF MAJOR EVENTS

<b>3100 BC – 30 BC</b> Ancient Egypt	<b>100 AD</b> – Kingdom of Ghana begins to rise. It lasted until 1100 AD.	<b>900 AD</b> – Kingdom of Benin began	<b>1100 AD</b> – Great Zimbabwe city founded. The period of prosperity lasted until the mid-15 <sup>th</sup> Century.	<b>1324 AD</b> – Mansa Musa's pilgrimage to Mecca	<b>1500's AD</b> – The Atlantic Slave trade began	<b>1875 AD</b> – Slavery legally ended in West Africa.	<b>1881 AD</b> – Scramble for Africa began	<b>1900 AD</b> – Britain ruled over 30% of Africa's population.
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