

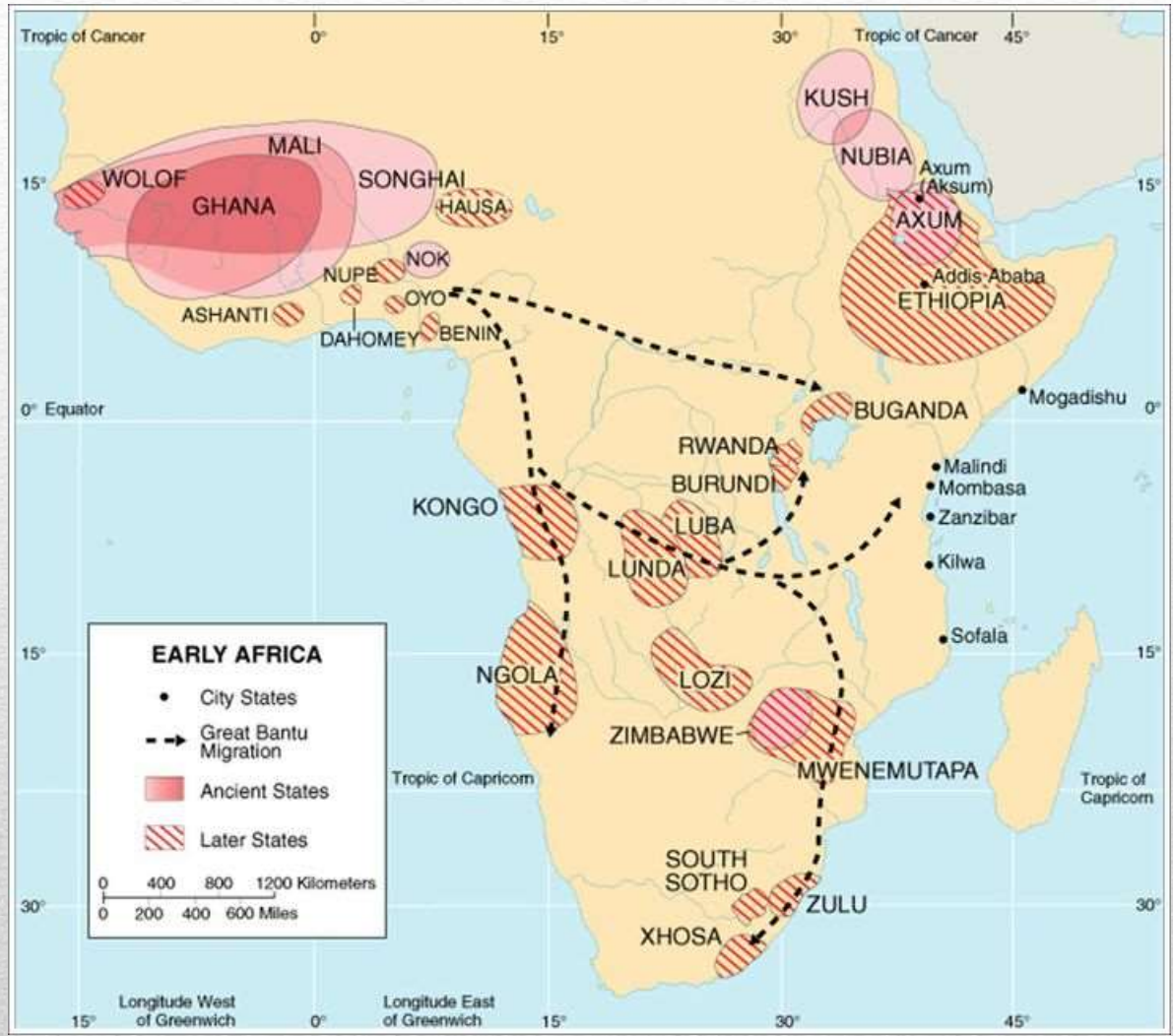
# East African Kingdoms



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• Main Idea (Objective):



• East African Kingdoms and States became centers for trade and new ideas.

# East Africa



- **Lecture Focus (Essential Question):**



- Have you ever met someone who used to live in a foreign place? Did their ideas or experiences help you think about the world differently? Lets look at how new ideas arrived along the coast of East Africa.

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# East Africa



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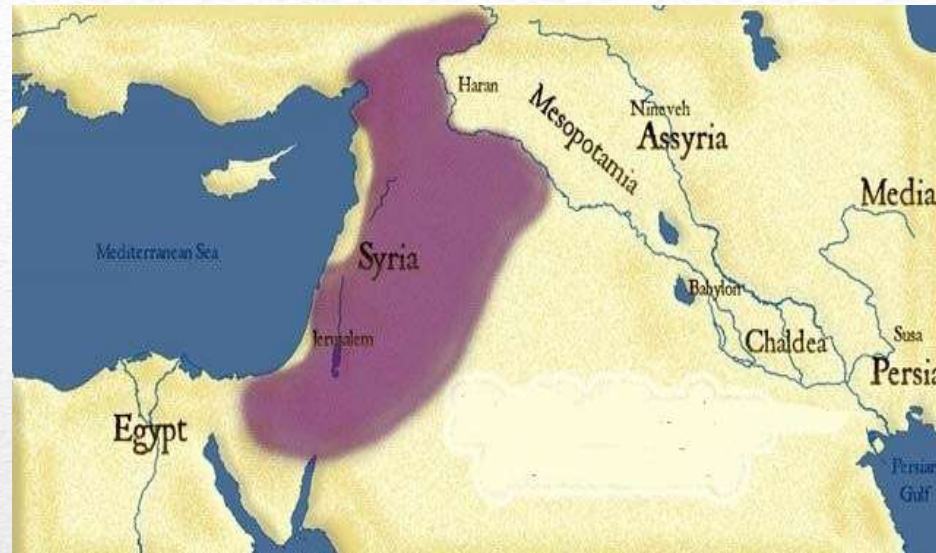
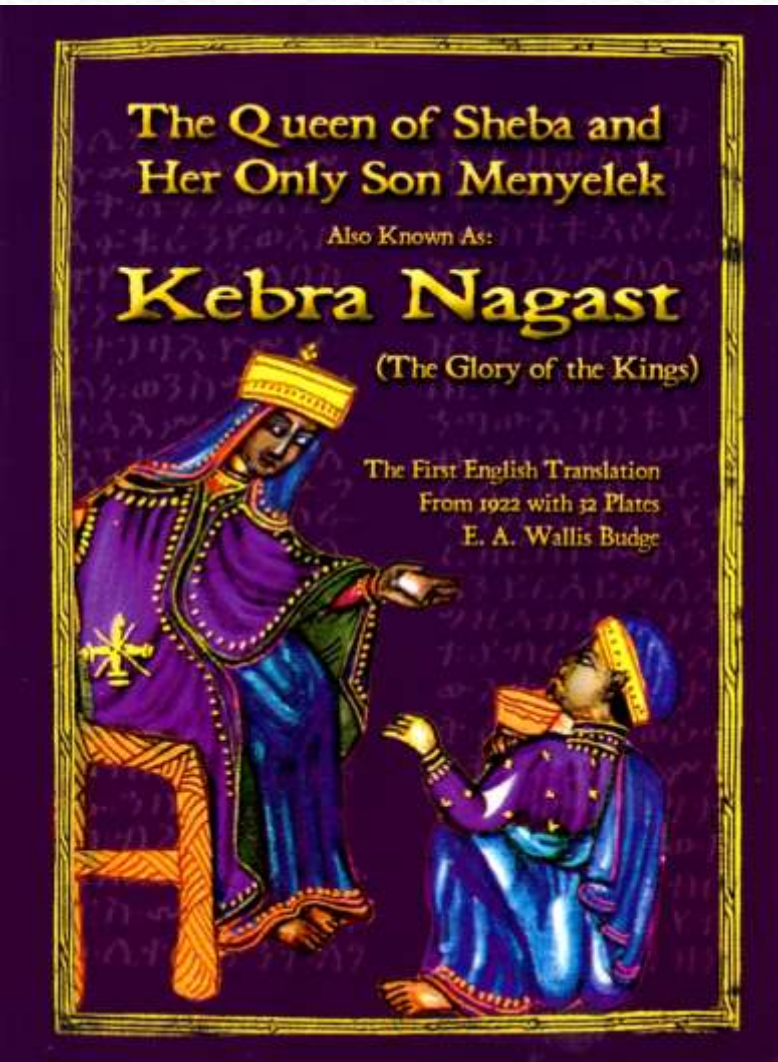
- People today in the East African country of Ethiopia can trace their history back to 1005 B.C.E.



- In 1005 B.C.E. **Queen Makeda** rose to the throne of a great Empire called the **Saba** or **Sheba**.

# East Africa





- According to the *Kebra Nagast* or, *Glory of Kings*, Ethiopia's oldest written history, Makeda traveled to meet with **King Solomon**, ruler of the **Israelites**, which was located in current day Palestine.

# East Africa



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- Queen Makeda's visit to the grand court of Solomon, King of Israel has become a bit of a riddle with some histories claiming it to be just a legend while some religions claim it to be fact.



- The Story can be found in three different ancient text, two of which are religious, the *Old Testament (Torah)*, the *Quran* and the Ethiopian *Glory of the Kings*.

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# East Africa



- The legend of Makeda states that she spent six months learning how to rule justly and wisely from Solomon.



- On her return, Makeda introduced ancient Israel's culture, the Jewish religion and administrative techniques to her Empire.

# East Africa



- Ethiopia has a long tradition of Judaism, and only converted to Christianity around 350 C.E.



- To this day, Ethiopian Orthodox Christianity retains a strong emphasis on the Old Testament and every Orthodox Church also maintains a replica of the Ark of the Covenant, a symbol of the connection between Makeda, Queen of Sheba, and Solomon the Wise.

# East Africa



- **Questions:**
- **1)** What is the name of the Queen who rose to power in Ethiopia and what was her Empire called?
- **2)** What King of Israel did this Queen meet and learn a variety of tactics from?
- **3)** What three different ancient texts can this story be found in?
- **4)** What were the lasting impressions that can still be found in Ethiopia today from this legendary meeting?

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# East Africa



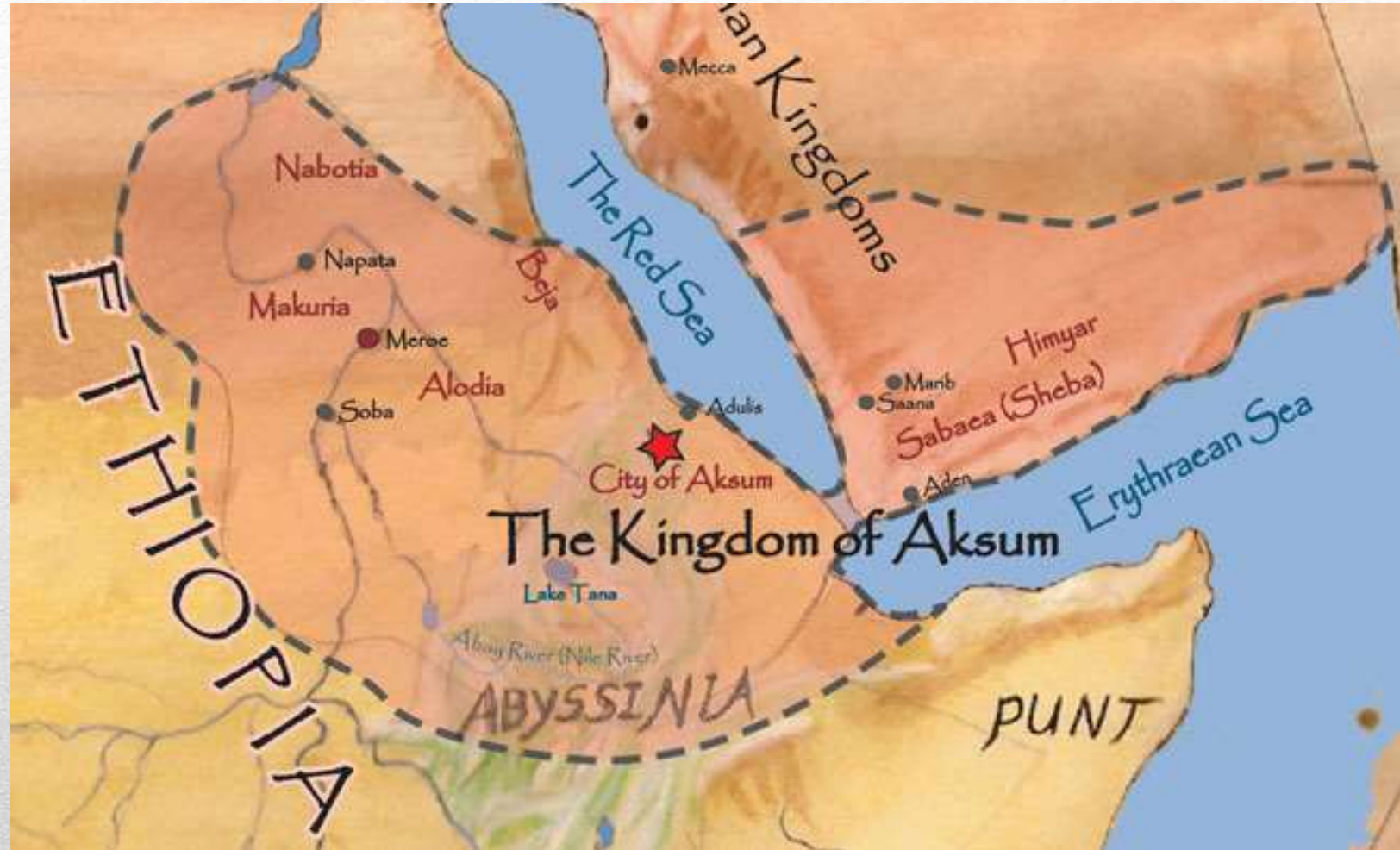
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- **Questions:**
- **1) What is the name of the Queen who rose to power in Ethiopia and what was her Empire called?**
  - **Queen Makeda and her empire was the Sheba or Saba**
- **2) What King of Israel did this Queen meet and learn a variety of tactics from?**
  - **King Solomon**
- **3) What three different ancient texts can this story be found in?**
  - *The Glory of Kings, Quran and the Old Testament (Torah)*
- **4) What were the lasting impressions that can still be found in Ethiopia today from this legendary meeting?**
  - **A tradition of Judaism and replicas of the Ark of the Covenant in churches**



- Like other empires, Sheba declined, however, Ethiopia, known in ancient times as **Abyssinia**, did not.



- Its power was centered in a city-state known as **Axum**, or **Aksum**.

# The Rise of Axum



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- Axum owed its strength to its location on the Red Sea.



- Goods from Africa flowed into Axum, which served as a trading center for the ancient Mediterranean and East Asian worlds.

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# The Rise of Axum



- Today the ruins of the ancient Kingdom of Axum are found close to Ethiopia's northern border and mark the location of the heart of ancient Ethiopia.
- The massive ruins include monolithic obelisks, giant stelae, royal tombs and the ruins of ancient castles.
- Long after its political decline in the 10th century, Ethiopian emperors continued to be crowned in Axum.



# The Rise of Axum



- Axum fought neighboring **Kush** for control of the trade routes to inland Africa.



- The **Kingdom of Kush** was an ancient African kingdom established after the collapse of the New Kingdom of Egypt...Kush kings were said to have ruled like the pharaohs of ancient Egypt until its collapse in 656 B.C.E.

# The Rise of Axum



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- Around 300 B.C.E., **King Ezana** of Axum sent his armies against Kush and defeated them in a series of epic battles.



- Ezana would go on to usher in a new time for Axum, bringing a new religion to his people known as Christianity.

# The Rise of Axum



- In 334 B.C.E. Ezana made Christianity the official religion of Axum.

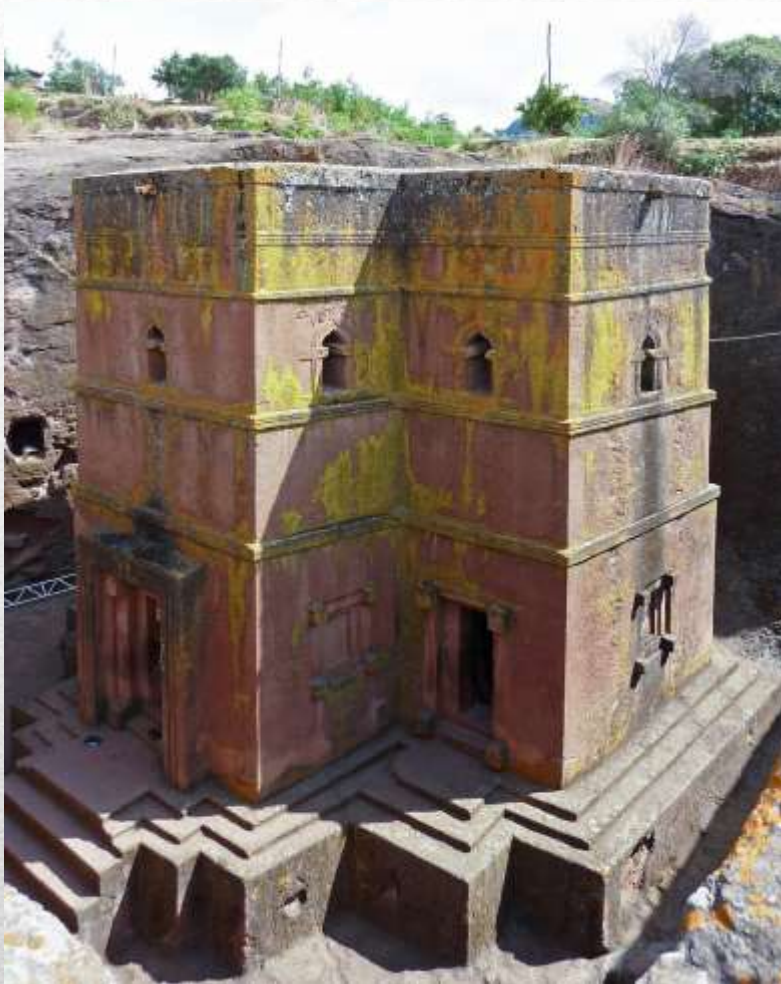


- Christianity would only last a few hundred years in Axum... Islam was gaining popularity along the coast of Africa and would usher in many changes to not only Axum but the entire region as well,

# The Rise of Axum



- The Ethiopian Orthodox Church claims to have the **Ark of the Covenant** locked away safely in a church in Axum.



- No one outside a select few is allowed anywhere near it...there is however, many ruined palaces and underground tombs to explore...the place is a authentic theme park for a wannabe Indiana Jones's

# The Rise of Axum



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- **Questions:**
- **1)** What was Ethiopia known as during ancient times?
- **2)** Axum was known for owing its strength to its location, why would its location be an advantage?
- **3)** What neighboring kingdom did Axum go to war with and what was the conflict over?

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# **The Rise of Axum**

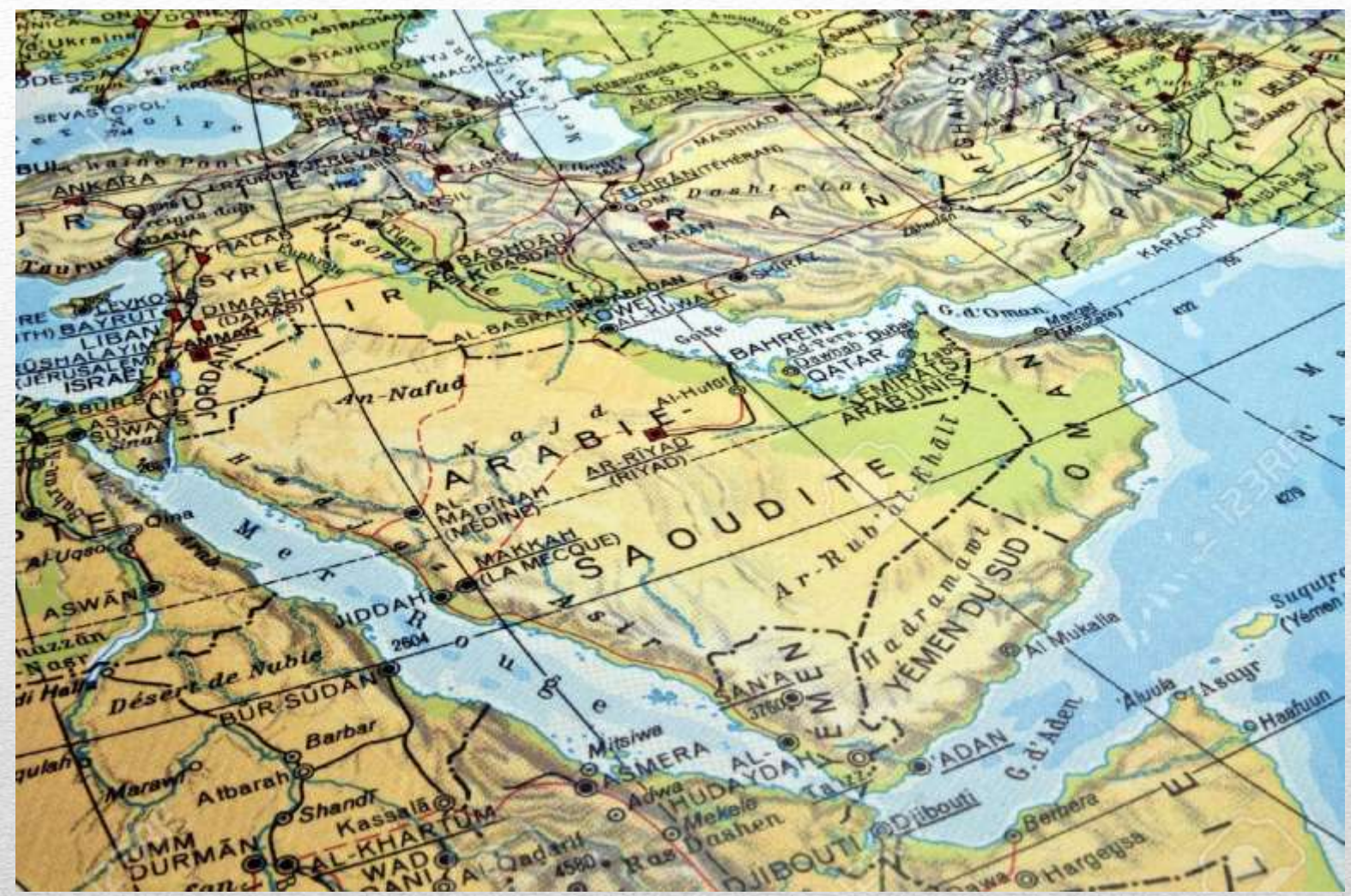


- **Questions:**
- **1) What was Ethiopia known as during ancient times?**
  - **Abyssinia**
- **2) Axum was known for owing its strength to its location, why would its location be an advantage?**
  - **Located on the Red Sea, a central trading location for Africa**
- **3) What neighboring kingdom did Axum go to war with and what was the conflict over?**
  - **The Kingdom of Kush, for control over African trade routes**

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# **The Rise of Axum**





- Arab traders from the Arabian Peninsula had been traveling to eastern Africa long before the rise of Islam took place along the African coast in 600's C.E.

# Coastal City-States



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- These Arab traders invented a wind catching, triangular sail that let them sail along the Red Sea with swift safety.



- These new sail powered sailboats called **Dhows** typically sported long thin hulls and were used as trading vessels primarily used to carry heavy items, like fruit, fresh water or merchandise, along the coasts of the Eastern Arabia and East Africa.

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# Coastal City-States



- In the 700's C.E., many Arab Muslim traders settled in East African city-states like Axum, Kush and Aden

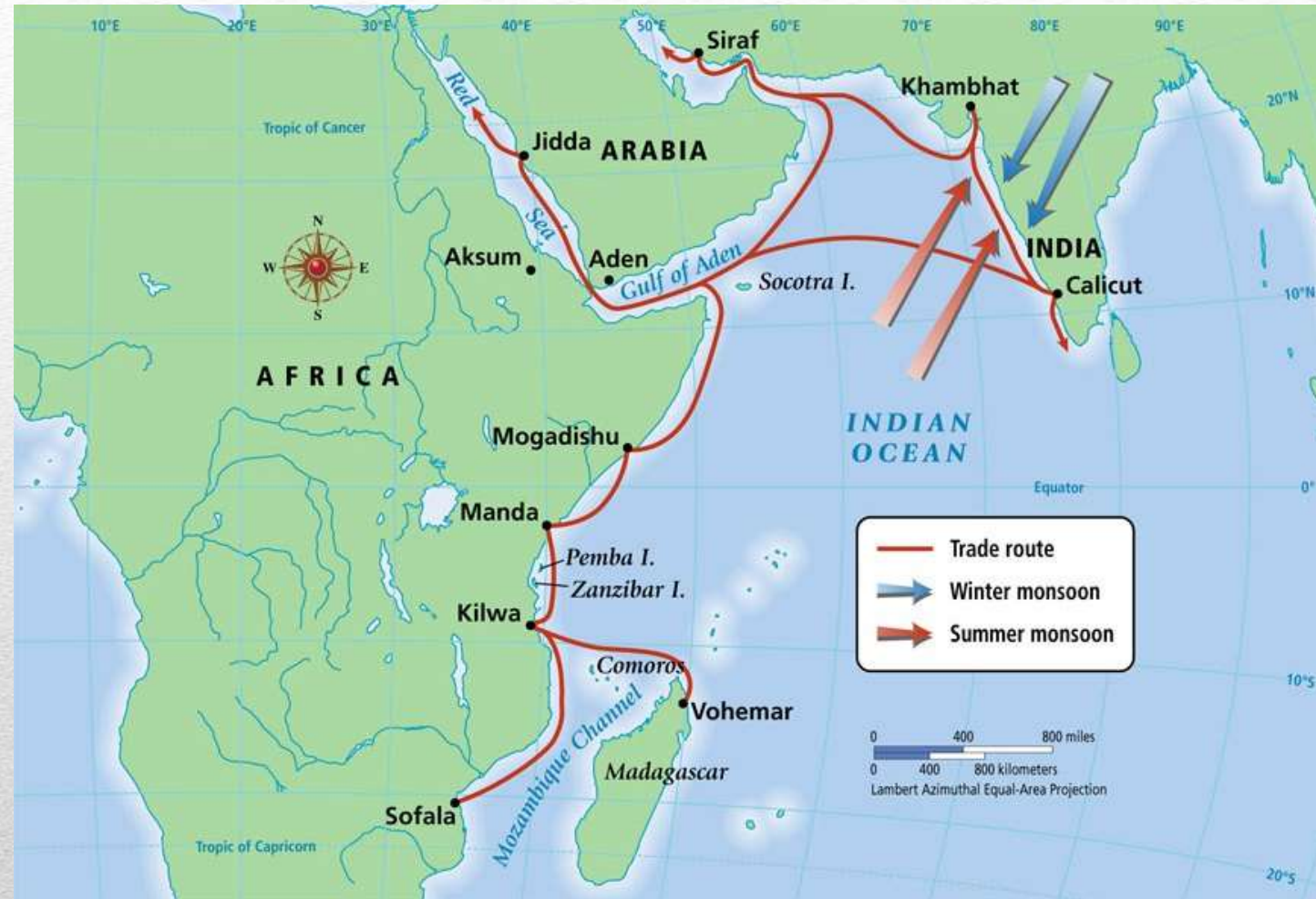


- Here Africans and Arab Muslims shared goods, religious values and most importantly, ideas...learning from each other.

# Coastal City-States



- By the 1300's C.E., a string of trading ports extended down the African coast.



- They included **Mogadishu**, **Kilwa**, **Zanzibar** and **Mombasa**.

# Coastal City-States



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- These ports became major links in a new massive Indian Ocean trading network.



- Using the long distance Dhows allowed traders to travel with relative safety all over parts of the Indian Ocean...even reaching some areas off the coast of China.

# Coastal City-States



- The **Indian Ocean** trade served an important role in history, and has been a key factor in East–West exchanges since the time of **Mesopotamia** and **Harappa**.



- These long distance trade routes made the Indian Ocean an active zone of interaction between peoples, cultures, and civilizations.

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# Coastal City-States





- **Questions:**

- **1)** What was the new type of sail boat created by Arab traders and what made them different?
- **2)** In the 700's C.E. many Arab traders settled in Africa, what was the outcomes of the interactions between cultures?
- **3)** Why do you feel the African coast would make for a great location in terms of a trade network?

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# **Coastal City-States**



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- **Questions:**

- **1) What was the new type of sail boat created by Arab traders and what made them different?**
  - **Dhows, which had long thin hulls capable of carrying heavy weight**
- **2) In the 700's C.E. many Arab traders settled in Africa, what was the outcomes of the interactions between cultures?**
  - **They shared goods, religious values and most importantly, ideas**
- **3) Why do you feel the African coast would make for a great location in terms of a trade network?**
  - **Answers will vary...for me its just the amount of diversity and intelligence among so many different peoples**

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# **Coastal City-States**





- Another great trading center known as **Zimbabwe** arose inland in Southeastern Africa.

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# The Great Zimbabwe



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- Zimbabwe was founded around 700 C.E. by the **Shona** people.
- The Shona are a group of **Bantu People**, which is a general label for the 300–600 different ethnic groups in Africa who speak **Bantu languages**.
- In the 700's C.E. the Shona group of the Bantu inhabited the South Eastern region of Africa.



# The Great Zimbabwe



- Zimbabwe was very rich in resources as was able to supply gold, copper and ivory to the many trading ports and cities located along the East African Coast.



- From the coast these African goods were shipped all over Arabia, Persia, India and China through the Indian Ocean Trade Network.

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# The Great Zimbabwe





- During the 1400's C.E., two kings **Mutota** and his son **Matope** made Zimbabwe into an extremely massive and rich kingdom...stretching from the South Zimbabwe River to the Indian Ocean.

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# The Great Zimbabwe



- Mutota and Matope brought artistic and stonemasonry traditions to their kingdom.



- The construction of elaborate stone buildings and walls reached its apex during the kingdoms time, especially in the capital city of **Great Zimbabwe**.

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# The Great Zimbabwe



- Eventually Zimbabwe would be eclipsed by the power and wealth of the **Kingdom of Mutapa**, which was established by a Zimbabwe Prince in 1430 B.E.,



- Within a generation, Mutapa surpassed Zimbabwe as the economic and political power and by 1450 C.E., the capital and most of the kingdom had been abandoned.

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# The Great Zimbabwe



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- Evidence of Zimbabwe's power can still be seen at Great Zimbabwe, a capital that still stands today.



- Here more than 300 huge stone buildings stand as a silent reminder of Zimbabwe's past greatness.

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# The Great Zimbabwe



- **Questions:**
- **1)** What group of people established the trading center of Zimbabwe?
- **2)** What goods did Zimbabwe supply to the coastal trading cities and where did these goods travel to?
- **3)** What two kings transformed Zimbabwe into a massive, wealthy kingdom?
- **4)** What lasting reminders do we still have today of the Kingdom of Zimbabwe?

---

# **The Great Zimbabwe**



- **Questions:**
- **1) What group of people established the trading center of Zimbabwe?**
  - **The Shona, Bantu people**
- **2) What goods did Zimbabwe supply to the coastal trading cities and where did these goods travel to?**
  - **They supplied gold, copper and ivory / shipped all over Arabia, Persia, India and China**
- **3) What two kings transformed Zimbabwe into a massive, wealthy kingdom?**
  - **King Mutota and his son King Matope**
- **4) What lasting reminders do we still have today of the Kingdom of Zimbabwe?**
  - **Massive stone buildings**

---

# The Great Zimbabwe



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- **Lecture Check:**

- Answer the following question in a well crafted two paragraph open ended response. Remember to not only draw upon the ideas discussed in todays lecture but on past lectures as well.
- **Think about the Indian Ocean Trading Network. This massive system was established during the first complex societies this planet has ever seen. Besides goods, what other things did the ancient societies of Mesopotamia, Harappa and Eastern Africa offer each other. How does this type of trade still effect us today?**

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# **The Great Zimbabwe**