Economy Notes

**Ghana** 500AD-1000AD

* The capital two separate towns
* People believe that king ½ human ½ god
* Started by 1 trading post
* Taxed people coming in and out of city
  + Silent Barter

Growing the Empire

* Built huge armies
* Took over neighbors
* Offered protection

Location

* West side of Africa
* Niger River and Sengal River
* Many important cities
  + Trade routes go through
* Gold to South
* Salt to North
* No one could own large bars of gold besides king

What they traded/Wanted

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * Salt | * Cloth |
| * Gold | * Guns |
| * Copper | * Horses |
| * Slaves | * shells |

Decline

* Severe Drought
* Lost control of trade

**Mali – “Where the King dwells”**

1300-1500

Sundiata – First powerful king

* 1217-1255
* Overthrew current king

**First kingdom to utilize rivers**

Agriculture

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Grew | Animals |
| Rice | Cattle |
| millet | Sheep |
| papaya | Goats |
| gourds | Poultry |
| Cotton |  |
| peanuts |  |

Kingdom of Mali – Majority Muslim

* All trade had to go through
* Had to pay tax to pass though
* Discovered more gold mines

Mansa Musa – grandnephew of Sundiata

* Came to power in 1312
* Expanded the empire
* Ruled for 25 years
* Sought for peace and stability
* Famous for his pilgrimage to Mecca
  + 100’s of people/camels
  + Slaves all carry 5lbs of gold
  + First form of diplomacy
  + Everyone excited about Mali
* Timbuktu – center of Education

Last effects

* Millions still speak language
* Culture spread all over the world because of slavery.