**Islam Foundations and African Trade/State-Building**

1. Mecca- City in western Arabia; birthplace of the Prophet Muhammad and ritual center or the Islamic religion.
2. Muhammad- Arab prophet (570-632 CE); founder of religion of Islam

1. Muslim- An adherent of the Islamic religion; a person who “submits” to the will of God
2. Islam- Religion expounded by the Prophet Muhammad on the basis of his reception of divine revelations, which were collected after his death into the Quran.
3. Medina- City in western Arabia to which the Prophet Muhammad and his followers emigrated in 622 to escape persecution in Mecca.
4. Umma- The community of all Muslims.
5. Caliphate- Office established in succession to the Prophet Muhammad; to rule the Islamic empire (leader called Caliph)
6. Quran- Book composed of divine revelations made to the Prophet Muhammad between around 610 and his death in 632; the scared text of the religion Islam; literal word of God.
7. Shia (Shiites)- Muslims belonging to the branch of Islam believing that God vests leadership of the community in a descendant of Muhammad’s son-in-law Ali. Shi’ism is the state religion of Iran.
8. Sunni- Muslims belonging to branch of Islam believing that the community should select its own leadership. The majority religion in most Islamic countries.
9. Umayyad Caliphate- First hereditary dynasty of Muslim caliphs (661 to 750) and second caliphate. From their capital at Damascus, the Umayyads ruled an empire that extended from Spain to India. Overthrown by the Abbasid Caliphate.
10. Conquest of Hispania- Expansion of the Umayyad Caliphate over the Iberian Peninsula from 711 to 718 which marked the westernmost expansion of Muslim rule into Europe.
11. Abbasid Caliphate- Descendants of the Prophet Muhammad’s uncle, al-Abbad, the Abbasid’s overthrew the Umayyad Caliphate and ruled an Islamic empire from their capital in Baghdad (founded 762) from 750-1258. (“Golden Age of Islam”)
12. Nasir al-Din al-Tusi- Persian scholar and author who made several advancements in astronomy, science, and math. He achieved notoriety in the Muslim world and is generally considered the creator of trigonometry and his ideas may have influenced the later Copernican heliocentrism.
13. House of Wisdom- Refers to either a major Abbasid public academy and intellectual center in Baghdad or to a large private library belonging to the Abbasid Caliphs during the Islamic Golden Age. Was destroyed in the Siege of Baghdad in 1258, leaving very little archaeological evidence.
14. Mamluks- Under the Islamic system of military slaves, Turkic military slaves formed an important part of the armed forced of Abbasid Caliphate of the 9-10th centuries. Mamluks eventually founded their own state, ruling Egypt and Syria (1250-1517).
15. Ulama- Muslim religious scholars; primary interpreters of Islamic law and the social core of Muslim urban societies.
16. Sharia- Religious law forming part of the Islamic tradition. It is derived from the religious precepts of Islam, particularly the Quran and the Hadith.
17. Hadith- refers to reports of statements or actions of Muhammad, or of his tacit approval or criticism of something said or done in his presence. Unlike the Qur'an, not all Muslim believe Hadith accounts (or at least not all hadith accounts) are divine revelation.
18. Ghana- First known kingdom in sub-Saharan West Africa between the 6th and 13th centuries CE. Also, the modern West African county once known as the Gold Coast.
19. Mali- Empire created by indigenous Muslims in western Sudan of West Africa from the 13th to 15th century. It was famous for its role in the trans-Saharan gold trade.
20. Ibn Battuta- Moroccan Muslim scholar. The most widely traveled individual of his time. He wrote a detailed account of his visits to Islamic lands from China to Spain and the western Sudan.
21. Mansa Musa- Ruler of Mali (r. 1312- 1337). His pilgrimage through Egypt to Mecca established the empire’s reputation for wealth in the Mediterranean world.
22. Timbuktu- City on the Niger Rover in the modern country of Mali. It was founded by the Tuareg as a seasonal camp sometime after 1000. As part of the Mali Empire, Timbuktu became a major terminus of the trans-Saharan trade and a center of Islamic learning.
23. Berbers- Ethnic group indigenous to North Africa who were early converts to Islam through commercial connections/exchanges.
24. Trans-Saharan Trade- Usually conducted by caravans of camels guided by Berbers, this trade network required travel from North Africa across the Sahara to reach sub-Saharan Africa; commonly traded salt for gold from West Africa and led to the spread/adoption of Islam.
25. Swahili Coast- East African shores of the Indian Ocean between the Horn of Africa and the Zambezi River. Islam established its presence in the area around the 9th century when Bantu traders settling on the coast tapped into the Indian Ocean trade networks. Most Swahili people are Sunni Muslims.
26. Jizya- A tax paid by non-Muslim populations to their Muslim rulers/state governed by Islamic law
27. Sufism (Sufis)- A mystic body of religious practice, found mainly within Sunni Islam but also within Shia Islam, who played an important role in spreading Islam through their missionary work. Although they were opposed to dry legalism and challenged the religious authority of the ulama, they strictly observed Islamic law.