

HISTORY GRADE 11

UNIT -11

UNIT SUMMARY

Addis Ababa Education Bureau

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Peoples and States in Pre- colonial Africa (1000-1884)

- ❑ This unit includes the following sub-topics
 - 11.1 .North Africa
 - 11.2.Western Africa
 - 11.3.Equatorial,Eastern and South-Eastern Africa
 - 11.4.Southern Africa
 - 11.5.The trans-Atlantic slave trade

11.1 .North Africa

- ❑ After the end of this lesson you will be able to:-
 - ❑ Explain about the difference between Almoravids and Almohads
 - ❑ List the factors how Mamluk control the political power of Egypt
 - ❑ Explain about the Funj sultanate.

11.1 .North Africa

I. Mamluk of Egypt

- It was a self –preserving **military aristocracy** that ruled Egypt from about **1250 to 1517** virtually and up to **1805** nominally.
- ❖ They originated from white **Turkish slaves** first brought to Egypt in the late 12th century.
 - **Mamluke** is an Arabic word meaning ‘owned’ or ‘slave’.

- ❖ **The Mamluks** were trained as a soldiers and rose to high **army and government posts** before they revolted and seized control of Egypt.
- ❖ Before the Mamuluks rise to power in 1250,Egypt was under the rule of Muslim dynasty **called Ayyaubid**
 - ❑ From 969-1171 AD, Egypt was ruled by **Fatamid** dynasty
 - This dynasty declared Egypt independence from Bagdad
 - ❑ From 1171-1250 AD Egypt was ruled by Ayyaubid.

The major cause for the rise of Mamluks to power and the downfall of Ayyaubid

- ❑ The prevalence of an acute power struggle within the Ayyaubid family
- ❑ In the different provinces the princes always fought against each other to take the position of Sultan in Egypt
- ❑ To avoid political rivalry the Ayyaubid sultans began to depend on **mercenary soldiers**, who were loyal to them alone. The Mamluks were some Mercenaries.

Ψ The Ayyubid Sultan who employed the regiment of Mamulks was Sultan **al-Malik al-Salih**

□ **The immediate factor** that enabled the **Mamulks** to **seize power** in Egypt was

- Mongol invasion of the Middle East
- At the time of the invasion ,the ruling Sultan ,**al-Malik al-Salih** was died.
 - Succeeded by **Turan Shah** .He was involved in a campaign on the Euphrates .

- There was no authority to organize the defense of Egypt. But ,the Mamluks confronted the crusaders ,defeated them and took their leader ,**Louis IX(9)**, prisoner.
 - Thus ,they saved Egypt from possible destruction.
 - **Turan Shah**, the last Ayyubid ruler of Egypt was treacherously **assassinated in 1250AD**.
- Then Egyptian sultan selected from Mamluks
 - In fact ,the Ayyubids did not accept the Mamluks

- ❖ However another round invasion of Mongol once again served the Mamluks to continue war
- ❖ Mongol controlled **Bagdad** and executed **caliphate in 1258.**
 - But during their confrontation with in the Mamluks ,they were defeated and Mamluks again saved Egypt.
 - It help Mamluks to **got acceptance** and **successfully seize** power in Egypt. .

Ψ Egypt attained **greatness and prosperity** under Mamulks by the following reason.

- Mamulks actively participated in the **Trains-Saharan trade**
- The rulers of west Africa **Empires passed through Cairo** laden with gold on their pilgrimage to **Islamic Holy land**
- **The Red sea** became the spice route and his valuable item passed to Europe thought Egypt.

Ψ The economic growth in Egypt strengthened the power of **Mamluks**. Then the Mamluks launched military expansion to south. The aimed were:-

- To conquered the Christian kingdom in Nubia in 1275
- The rulers of the kingdoms were subsequently **converted to Islam**

Ψ In the 15th century ,the Mamulks began face the danger of foreign invasion .

❑ The invasion again by Mongol .The leader of Mongol army **Tamerlane** chose first to **established Anatolia** ,where he turned against the Ottoman and defeated them1402.

❑ But Mongol did not attack Egypt ,because another problem arose in the **Far East** and Mongolians' army was **back to Asia**.

- ❑ Ottoman Turkey were the main treat of Egypt for two centuries.
- Ψ The end of Mamuluk virtual rule in Egypt as caused by the revival of Ottoman power in the 16th century.
 - At the time rivalry between Portuguese and Turkey for the **control of Red sea and Indian ocean** region.

Ψ Ottomans invaded Egypt in 1516. The force of Mamulks was defeated in 1517.

- Ottoman rule was extended to the whole of Egypt.
- Ottoman rule Egypt **from 1517 up to the rise of Mohammed Ali of Egypt in 1805.**
 - The Mamluks continued to rule in Egypt under the Suzerainty of Ottoman Sultans.

II. The Funj Sultanate

- ❖ The Funj sultanate was **established in 1504** in Nubia (present day part of republic of Sudan)
 - Funji capital **Sennar**.
 - Before the rise of Funj there were two Christian kingdoms existed in Nubia the **Alwa and Makurria**
- ❖ It was founded by the cattle breeding nomads **Shilluk people** .Other associated the founder with state of Bornu around Lake Chad
 - Some scholars also explained the founder of Funj associated with Ethiopians.

❖ Rival Arab state called **Abdallabi Arabs** existed in Nubian, but they were defeated by the Funj sultanate.

- Abdallabi continued for **grazing right** in the southern Gezira as well as political supremacy
- Abdallabi Arabs people were lived in the central sudan ,who claimed descent from Abdullah Jamma'a

➤ **Amara Dunqas** was one of known chief of Funj who fought many battles with Abdallabi state for Nubian supremacy.

❑ Finally victory went to Funj .The Funj ruled Nubia in the **partnership with Abdallabi Arabs.**

❖ Funj sultanate existed until 1821. Mohammed Ali finally conquered Funj in 1821.

Ψ Before Egypt conquest the Funj sultanate was attacked by the Christian kingdom of Ethiopia

- ❑ First the expedition of **Susenyos in 1620**. He burnt and looted the village of Funj .

- ❑ 2nd Iywasu II in the year 1730's attacked Funj, but he was defeated by Funj.

- Later the Funj extending hegemony over **Kordofan and Darfur**

III. The Almoravids

Ψ The western half of North Africa is called **Maghreb**, the name was **given by Arabs**.

□ In the 11th century ,the Maghreb region was the center of **Islamic revival** movements called Almoravids.

➤ The movement was organized by the **Sanhaja Berbers**

Ψ The movement was a reaction of Berbers to the attack of Arabs in the **North Africa**

➤ The victims of Arab attack were who lived around the present day **Mauritania**.

➤ The invading Arabs destroyed everything the Berbers had

▪ Farmers and towns were looted

□ The Berbers were forced to look for **a new means of livelihood** and they started the movements.

- ❑ At the beginning of the movement had religious character.
 - The leader of the movement was called **Abdullah Ibn- Yasin**, a devoted and strict Muslim and perches.
 - He established center on an island in the Senegal River and he also preached Jihad to against ***non – Muslim***.
 - Abdullah and his followers become known as the peoples of the hermitage **al –Murabitun**. This was later corrupted to **Almoravids**

Ψ Almoravids launched their jihad in two directions

- ❑ One branch led by **Abdullah himself**.

- He brought the Berber communities in the far Western lands under his authority.

- He opened attack and controlled the city of **Sijilmasa** in 1056.

- **Morocco** and part of Spain fell under the Almoravids in **the second half of 11th century**.

❑ The **second branch** of Almoravids was led by *Abu Bakr*

- He expanded southwards
- He made alliance with the people of **Tekrur** and against **Ghana**.
- They captured the city of **Audaghust** in 1054
- They also captured **Kumbi Saleh** the capital of Ghana in 1076

IV. The Almohads

- ❖ The Almohads movement also began as a religious reform movement .
 - It was antagonistic to the Almoravids.
 - It strongly opposed Almoravids.
 - The economic goal was to control the **Trans - Saharan trade routes**, While the political goal was aimed at **building an Islamic Empire**
 - ❑ The leader of the movement was **Ibn Tumart** who criticized the Almoravids.

Who was Ibn Tumart?

Ibn Tumart(c.1080-1130)

- ❖ He was born in Morocco from Masmuda Berber family.
 - ❑ He was the leader of the Almohads movement
 - ❑ He was a learned and pious man.
 - ❑ He had been a well -experienced administrator and community leader.
 - ❑ His reforms were mainly related to *morality, theological dogma and law*
 - ❑ He criticize the Almoravids for their religious laxity.

- ❖ The rebellion of Ibn Tumart started in the capital of Almoravids *Marrakesh*
 - **IbnTumart** gave a serious of lecture that criticized the rule of the Almoravids .
 - When the Almoravids attempt to detain him, he fled to nearby village **called Aghmet**, where he started open rebellion.
- ❖ The main purpose of the movement to overthrow the Almoravid regime.

❖ As a Muslims ,the Almohads were believers in one God in Arabic ,***al-Muwahhidun*** ,*which was later corrupted to Almohads*

- Ibn-Tumart and his follower played important role for the expansion of the movements.
- Ibn-Tumart got wide acceptance from Berber tribes
- He preached in the Berber language which was an important factor for attracting the Berbers.
- His political principles **kinship** organization and **tribal** membership .

Ψ Almohads were not successful to overthrow Almoravids when **Ibn Tumart** alive .

- By 1122 the Almohads scored their first victory over the Almoravids
- Ibn Tumart died in 1130 before **he overthrew** Almoravid rule .
- **Ibn Tumart** was succeeded by **Abd al-Mumin** (1133-1163) .

Al-Mumin (1133-1163)

- ❖ He was the rulers of Almohads after the death of **Ibn Tumart**.
- ❖ He had established strong base for Almohads
- ❖ He built strong empire and defeated the Almoravids completely
- ❖ He conquered most of Maghreb
 - ❑ Muminid dynasty ruled until mid-13th century. The empire collapsed.

- ❑ Factors for the collapse of Almohad Empire
 - The conquest of vast territory made efficient and centralized administration very difficult.
 - To solve economic problem imposition of heavy taxes led to popular dissatisfaction.
 - Military weakness of Almohads were decisive factor.

- ❑ The Almohads measures in the later periods
 - The Almohads army began to include in its rank heterogeneous groups such as **Arabs and Christians** mercenaries. Because of this it lost original fighting spirit .
 - It led military weakness of the Almohads
- Ψ By 1212 the Almohads army was defeated by the combined force of **Spanish Christian** kingdoms.
 - The territory of Almohads decrease Muslim Spain, **Ifriqiya**(today Libya)and central Maghrib slipped out of Almohads control.

Ψ However, the Muminid dynasty continued to exist with administering territory in Morocco until 1269.

- In 1269 the last Almohad caliph *al -Wathiq* (r.1266-1296) was overthrown by a rival family called *Marinid*
- By this action the Almohads' movement and its Empire came to an end.

Ψ Generally today we have seen about

□ North Africa

- Mamluk
- Funj
- Almoravids
- Almohads

Questions

1. Explain how Mamluk control political power in Egypt
2. How Mamluk overthrow from power
3. Explain about the formation of Funj sultanate
4. Who was the Almoravid movement leader at the beginning?
5. Explain about the Almohads movement success and failure

Unit -11

Peoples and States in Pre- colonial Africa (1000-1884)

11.2 Western Africa

- ❑ After the end of this lesson you will be able to:-
 - Explain about the formation of kingdom of Ghana.
 - List the contributions of Mansa Musa of Mali.
 - List the Hausa city-states.

11.2.Western Africa (western Sudan)

Ψ The region immediately south of Sahara is part of west Africa

- ❑ The Arab called the region '**Bila d al Sudan**' in Arabic meaning the country **of the blacks**.
- ❑ The region that runs from **Atlantic Ocean** to the Lake Chad is **called western Sudan** ,while the region from **lake Chad to Nile valley** is known as Eastern Sudan.

I. Ghana

- ❖ Ancient Ghana was located several **hundred kilometer** north west of present day Ghana
 - It was the oldest kingdom in the western Sudan
 - The kingdom got its name from the title of the kings known as Ghana meaning '*war chiefs*'.
 - Ghana was founded in **4th century AD**, and reached its peak around 1000 AD .**Kumbi Saleh** was most important one and largest capital of the country.

- ❖ In the 8th century Muslim Spanish writer called **Ibn Hawkals** reported that the proper name of the kingdom was *Aoukar*
- ❖ The main factors for prosperity of Ghana was trade .
 - It benefited a lot from the trans Saharan trade routes between **North Africa and the forest belt**.
 - The merchant of the Kingdom were middle men.
 - Which helped the rulers of Ghana to established strong government

- ❖ Ghanaian craftsmen were skilled in iron works.
- ❖ Rulers of Ghana built vast Empire including present day *Mali and Mauritania*

□ The decline and fall of Ghana caused by the invasion of the **Almoravids** in the 11th century.

- In 1054 the Almoravids captured **Audaghaust** then they captured **Kumbi Saleh**, the capital Ghana in 1076.
- This brought an end to the kingdom of **ancient Ghana**.

II. Mali

Ψ The kingdom of Mali was founded before 1000 AD by the *Kangaba people*, one of the clans of the Mandinka people.

- Its first ruler was **Sudiata**.
- The Knagaba were mainly traders engaged in gold trade
- They took the gold of **Wangara region** to the market of Ghana..

Ψ After the fall of Ghana ,there was fierce power struggle in the former territory of the kingdom.

- The powerful chief of called **Sumanguru** emerged as a strong ruler .
- After the decline of Ghana he control **Kumbi Salah** and trade routes of the region.

Ψ But he unable to create **peace and stability**. It led to the rise of opposition from other group .The opposition group leadership was **Sundiata** .

- **He became the rulers of Mali.**

- ❑ According to tradition, the name of the kingdom initially **Kangaba**.
 - Later changed to Mali, which means “**where the king resides**”.
- ❑ **Sundiata** ruled Mali (r 1230---1255) and
 - He was succeeded by **Mansa Uli** (r .1255-1270)who continued the conquests began by Sundiata.
 - During the reign of the two rulers they control **Wangara and Bambak** gold bring land to Mail.

❑ Mansa Kankan Musa(**Mansa Musa**) (r.1312-1337)

- Mali reached its greatness size and power under Musa reign.
- At the time Mali becomes the largest and powerful **Empire in the world**.
- The first person to be converted to Islam in Mali was **Mansa Musa**.
- In 1324, he made pilgrimage to Mecca.

Ibn Battutah

- ❖ He was Arab historian ,who heard about the reputation of **Mansa Musa** and his empire.
 - He wrote that “Mansa was the most powerful ,richest ,the most fortunate ,the most feared by enemies and most able to do good to those around him.”

The Decline of and Fall of Mali

- ❖ The kingdom of Mali collapsed because of its vast territorial extent .
- ❖ Mansa Musa successors are very weak. Because did not effectively led the Empire and not defense the enemy of Mali.
 - So the **Tekrur and Wolof** seceded and made themselves free from the **domination of Mali**
- **Finally in 1550** the Empire of Mali came to an end

III. Songhai

□ It extended from the central area of present day of Nigeria to Atlantic. Its capital **Gao**

+ It was the West African Empire, centered on the largest bend of the Niger River that reached **its Zenith in the 15th and 16th centuries.**

➤ Songhai , a **fishing and trading people** who originated in the **Dendi region** of north western Nigeria in the 8th century.

➤ By 800 AD, established themselves at Gao,

✚ In the 13th century ,power in Songhai consolidate in the **Sunni** dynasty ,which gradually gained independence from Mali.

☐ Sunni encroach up on the weakening Mali power

✚ Songhai expansion was most aggressively advanced by **Sunni Ali (r.1464-1492).**

➤ He incorporated Eastern part of Mali to his empire, subjugating **Djenne** in 1471.

✚ Sunni Ali was succeeded by *Mohammed Ture(Askia Mohammed)* of Askia dynasty who further extended Songhai influence and **Timbuktu** again a thriving cultural center.

➤ **Askia Dynasty** rivalry weakened the Empire and finally 15 91, **Moroccan army** defeated Songhai at the battle of **Tondibi**

IV. Kanem -Bornu Empire

- It was African state in the Lake Chad region.
- ❖ Kanem Bornu state was founded by the **Kanuri** people a mixed of **Negriob and Berber people** living in the East of Lake Chad.
 - It existed from 9th to 19th century and ruled by the Mais or Sultan of **Saifuwa dynasty** which came to power 850AD and rule until 19th century.
 - The capital city was called **Nijimi**
- ❖ The economy of state was based on trans Saharan trade

- In the 11th century the state accepted Islam .
- ❖ The Kanem-Bornu Empire expanded as far as west Niger river and **East to Wadani**, to North its power extended in to the **Fezzan**.
- ❖ In the 14th century war with the **Bulala people** forced the sultan (mais) to move to Bornu
- ❖ Mais reestablished the Empire under the leader **Ali Ghaji**
 - He founded a new capital at **Nagzargmu**

- ❖ In the 16th century was also the territory expanded under **mai Idris Alooma**, who had acquired firearms from **North Africa Turks**.
 - In the 18th century the Empire decline ,due in part to infiltration **by Fulani** from west
- ❖ Barely withstanding an onslaught by *Usman dan Fodio* in 1808-9, the Empire finally absorbed by **Wadi in 1846**.

V. The Hausa city states

- ❑ Originally the Hausa people lived in a small region in the southern edge of **Sahara Desert**.
 - They expanded their territory as a result of continuous **migrations and assimilations**.
 - Non-Hausa people example **Tuareg and Fulani** entered the region and settled there. They adopted the Hausa **culture and language**.

- ❑ At present the people of the region have no particular ethnic identity and they are simply known as the **Hausa-speaking group** of peoples
 - The Hausa language speakers had no particular name. It was simply called '**Kasar Hausa**'. It means the country of Hausa language.
 - European called the area **Hausa Land**.
 - Source of income for this state Agriculture and **trans-sharan trade**.

- Hausa city states emerged after the 14th century, but **the Hausa land had** never been united.
- Different people were assimilated into Hausa culture
- ❑ Most important Hausa city- states were:-
 - *Kano, Katsina ,Zazzu(Zaria) Gobir, Kebbi, Rano and Zamfara*
- ❑ For example:- Zazzu-----major supplier of slave
 - Kano –famous in craft technology.

❖ Hausa **city states** were **prosperous** by the following factors

- Hausa land rich in deposit of iron ore
- The region was endowed with rich and fertile soil
- The region also produced commercial crops like cotton and indigo
- The Hausa land located between the **Sahel and the Sahara** in the north and tropical forest in the south. The location gave the Hausa city advantage of being **intermediaries** in the trade.

- ❑ The Hausa also closer relation with neighboring state of Kanem- Burnu.
 - Islam spread into Hausa city states form Kanem Bornu
- ❖ They also took administrative structure was organized hierarchically
- ❖ The relation of Kanem Bornu and Hausa city state not continued in the 19th century. It rather the rise of **Fulani Jihad**.
 - By 1811 the Fulani had become the masters of **Hausa land** as a whole

- ❑ Generally today we have seen about
 - ❑ West Africa
 - Ghana
 - Mali
 - Songhai
 - Kanem-Bornu
 - The Hausa City-states

Questions

1. Explain about the ancient kingdom of Ghana
2. How kingdom of Ghana was declined?
3. List the Hausa city states
4. Explain about the Kanem –Bornu Empire
5. How the kingdom of Songhai was declined?
6. Who was Mansa Musa?
7. Mention the main factors for the prosperity of Hausa city states