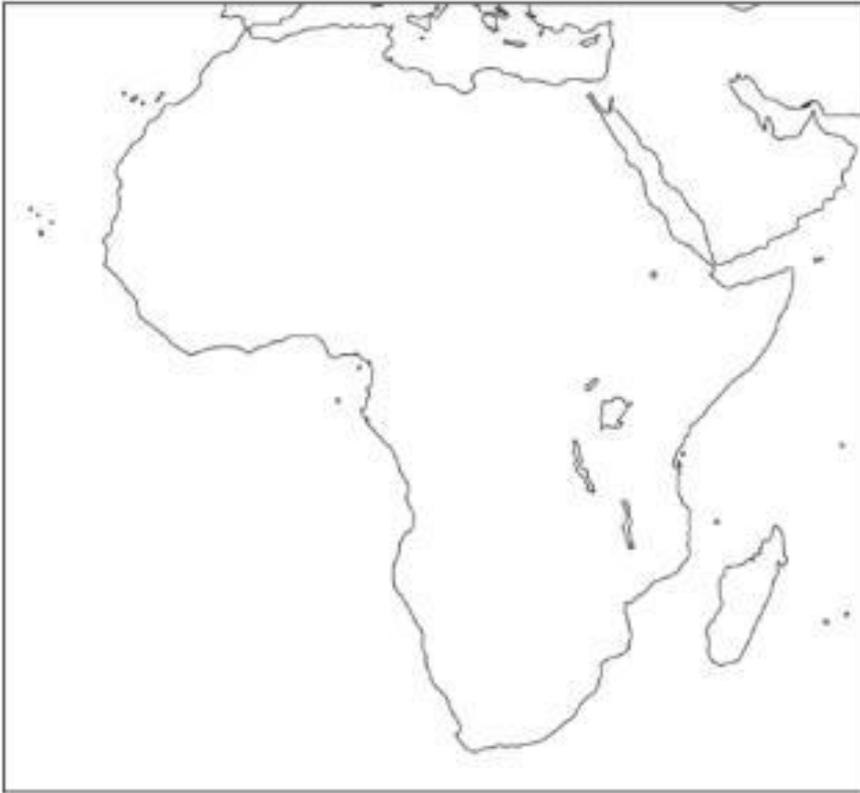


How did Mansa  
Musa's Pilgrimage put  
the kingdom of Mali  
on the maps?

Term	Hint	Definition
Ferba		Governor appointed by Mansa Musa to rule over a small region within the Mali Empire
Griot (gree-oh)		Oral historian whose job it was to memorize events and share them with music, poetry, story telling, etc



Illustrate Africa.

Draw and label the following:

Mali Empire

Timbuktu

Sahara Desert

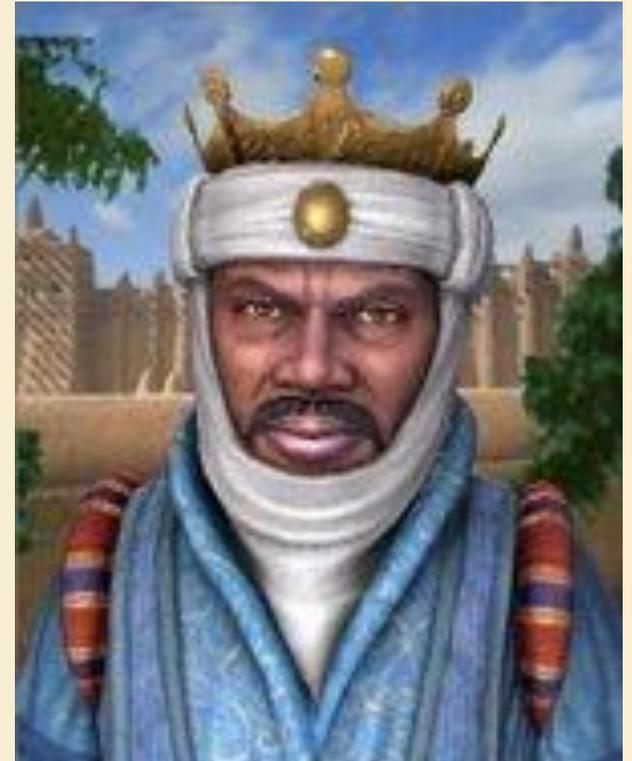
Cairo

Mecca

Niger River

Nile River

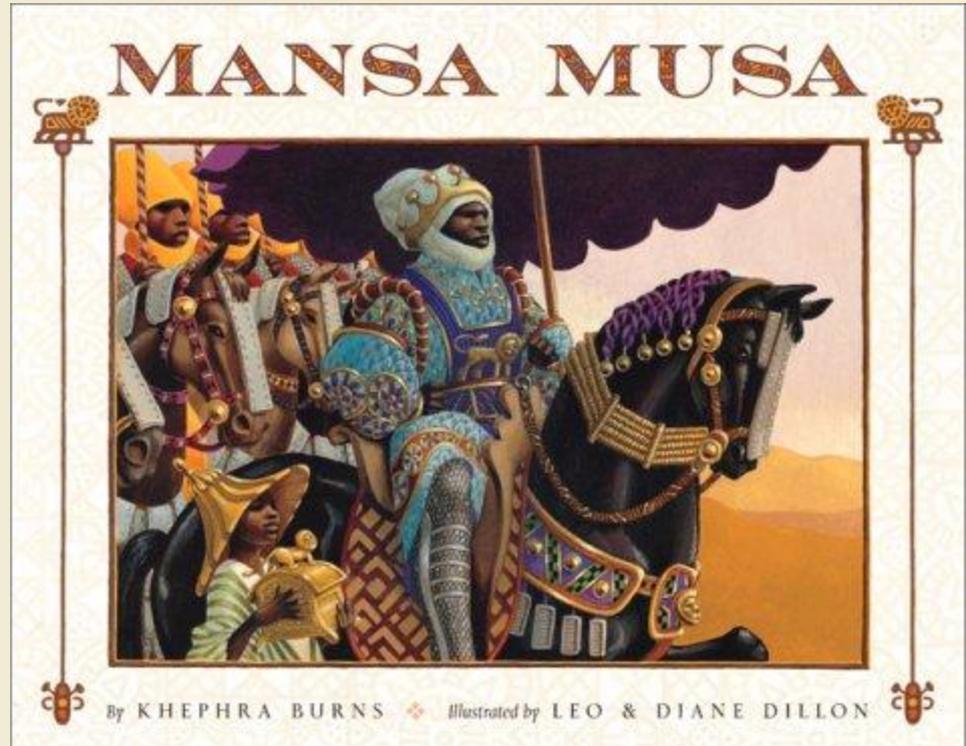
# Mansa Musa



How did Mansa  
Musa's Pilgrimage put  
the kingdom of Mali  
on the maps?

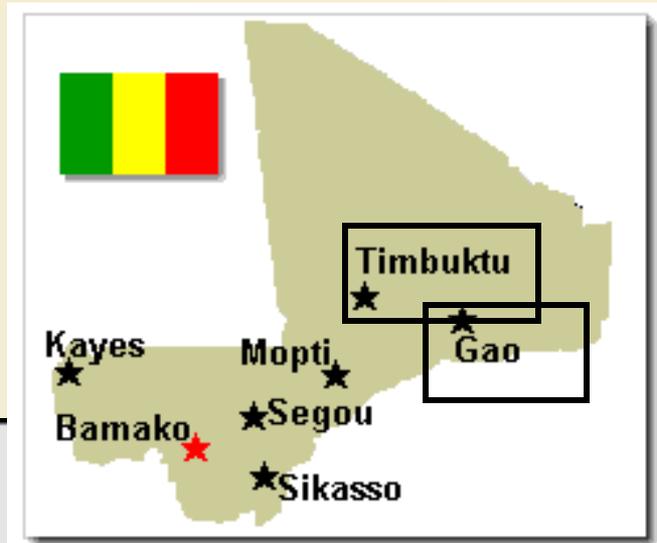
- Mansa Musa

- Mali's most famous king
- A Muslim
- Under rule Mali reached wealth, power, & fame
- Islam spread
- Ruled for 25 years



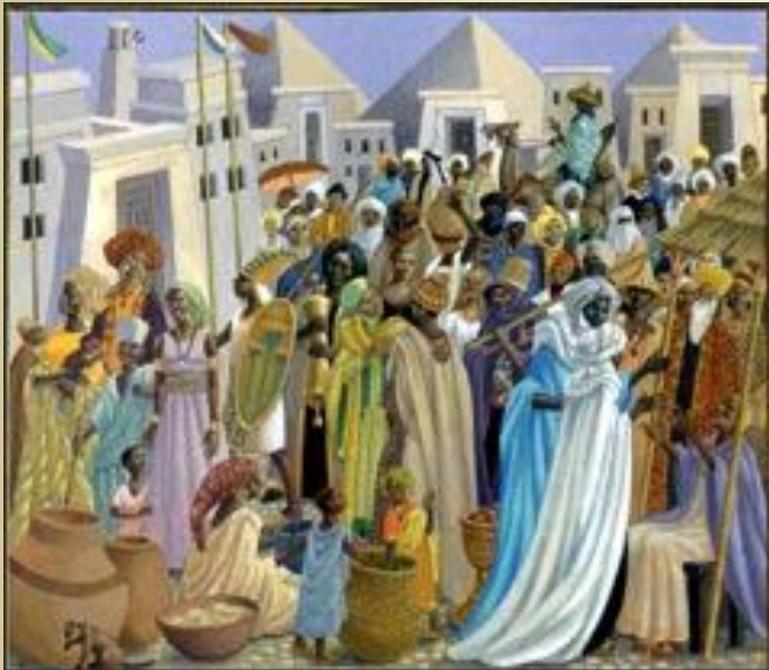
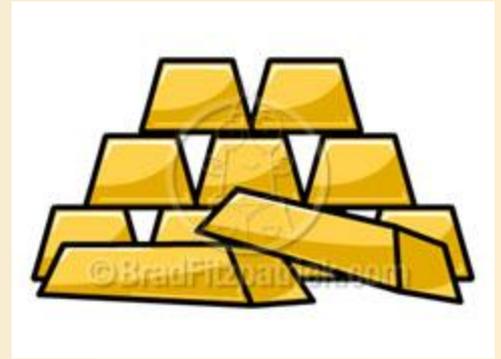
- Conquered trade cities

- Timbuktu
- Gao
- Djenne
- Became part of Mali's empire



- Mecca

- Mansa Musa went to Mecca on hajj
- Stopped in Cairo
- Had 100 camel & nearly 60,000 men
- Each camel w/ 300 lbs of gold
- Gave out so much gold no longer rare

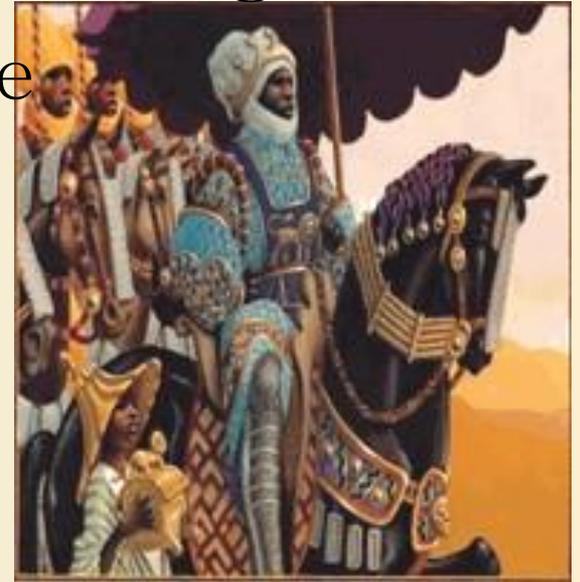
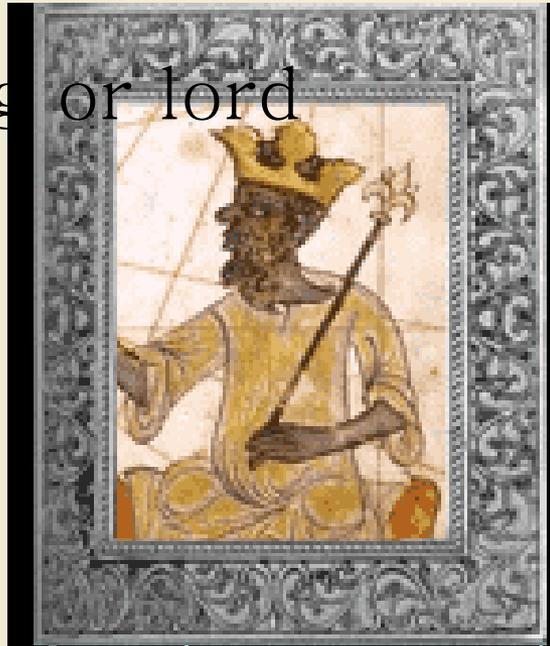


- His Doings
  - Treated people w/ much courtesy & respect
  - Supported faith & education
  - Believed important to read & write
  - Built schools
  - Arabic became main language for:
    - Religious Study
    - Government
    - Trade



- More Info

- Hired architects to build Mosques
  - This helped spread Islam
- Mosques became centers of learning
- Never forced Islam on anyone
  - No official religion
- Died in 1337
- Mansa = King or lord



## Notes

- Mansa Musa was the leader of the Mali Empire for 25 years. During that time, Mansa
- Musa brought prosperity and stability to Mali.
- His empire controlled the lucrative salt and gold trades of Africa, providing Mansa Musa with the money and power to expand his empire.
- He was a devoted Muslim who practiced religious tolerance. He built magnificent mosques throughout Mali.
- Mali was recognized among the leading trade centers throughout Africa, the Middle East and the Mediterranean Coast.

## Notes

- In 1324, he organized a pilgrimage (hajj) to Mecca.
- Estimates of the size of Mansa Musa's caravan vary based on the source:
- Camels: 60 to 100 with 100 to 300 pounds of gold each
- People: 50,000 to 100,000
- The pilgrimage is said to have included 12,000 slaves, 500 of whom each carried a solid gold staff.

## Notes

- He helped improve the status of Timbuktu, the famous religious and learning center of West Africa. Timbuktu became a meeting place for scholars and artists.
- Some reports say that Mansa Musa spent so much gold in Egypt that its value fell and did not recover for a number of years.
- He brought back to Mali an Arabic library, religious scholars and architects.

# Pilgrimage to Mecca

- Musa and entourage impressed people with their lavish clothing, generous gifts
- Trip to Mecca led to great changes in Mali
- Returning to kingdom, Musa brought artists, architects who designed beautiful mosques; also built schools, libraries where people could study Qu'ran, other Islamic writings

## ***Effects Outside Africa***

- Musa's hajj brought Mali to attention of Europe
- Mali began to appear on European maps for first time
- Within a century, Europeans began to search West Africa for source of Mali's riches

## ***Decline of Mali***

- Rulers following Musa not as strong
- Several peoples broke away, set up independent kingdoms
- Mali also invaded from outside
- Among invaders, Tuareg
- 1433, captured Timbuktu, a blow from which Mali never recovered

## AP # 1

What effects did Mansa Musa's travels have in Mali and Europe?

**Answer(s):** brought Mali to the attention of Europeans, who would later travel to West Africa in search of Mali's riches; made Timbuktu a center of learning

# Label the Pilgrimage

[http://phschool.com/atschool/california/webcodes/history\\_interactive/mxp-3053/common\\_player.html](http://phschool.com/atschool/california/webcodes/history_interactive/mxp-3053/common_player.html)

## GO: Manda Musa's Pilgrimage

- Place: *Mali Empire*
- Significance: *Mansa Musa's empire in Western Africa. He ruled Mali for 25 years. Mali controlled the salt and gold trade in Africa.*
- Place: *Timbuktu*
- Significance: *Great trading city in Mali Empire. During Mansa Musa's reign it became known as a city of learning with many scholars and artists.*
- Place: *Sahara Desert*
- Significance: *Great desert in northern Africa. Mansa Musa's pilgrimage had to cross the desert to get to Egypt. It took about 60 days to cross the desert and could only be done in certain seasons. Before the use of camels, the Sahara Desert was impossible to cross. Mansa Musa's caravan is said to have included 60 to 100 camels to aid in crossing the desert.*

## GO: Manda Musa's Pilgrimage

- Place: *Cairo*
- Significance: *Major city along the Nile River in Egypt. The caravan stopped in Cairo while Mansa Musa met with the Sultan of Egypt. Musa is said to have spent and given away so much gold while he was in Cairo that he caused the decline of its value.*
- Place: *Mecca*
- Significance: *The holy city of Islam which was the destination of Mansa Musa's pilgrimage (hajj). One of the Five Pillars of Islam is the completion of a pilgrimage (hajj) to Mecca.*

## GO: Manda Musa's Pilgrimage

- Place: Niger River
- Significance: The caravan began its journey in the capital city of Niani on a tributary of the Niger River.
- Place: Nile River
- Significance: Major river in Egypt flowing from the south to the north. The Nile was difficult to travel because of its cataracts.

# Mansa Musa's Haji by the Numbers

- Work with your group table to answer the four questions on the bottom.
- You will paste the half sheet into your journals

# The Bottom Line

1. Which of the following was not a trade city that Mansa Musa conquered?

A. Gao

C. Timbuktu

B. Cairo

D. Djeene

2. Who was Mali's most favorite king?

A. Sundiata

C. Alladin

B. Mansa Musa

D. Sungi Hunghi

3. What were the camels carrying?

A. Sand

C. Gold

B. Water

D. Salt

4. Which of the following did Arabic become the main language for?

A. Trade

C. Religious Study

B. Government

D. All of the Above

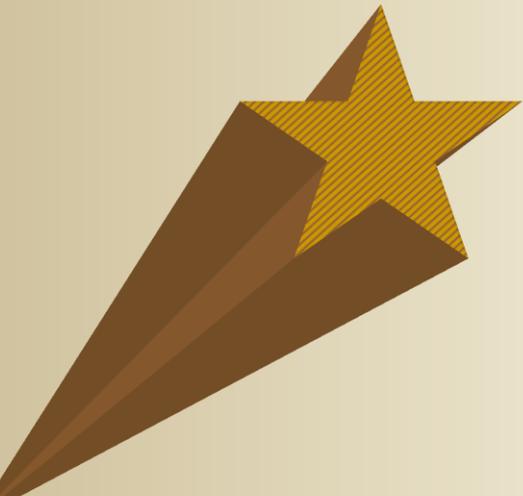
5. Mansa Munsu was Muslim.

A. True

B. False

THE END

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## **Ferba**

To govern more efficiently, Mansa Musa divided his empire into provinces. Over each province, he appointed a governor called a “ferba”. He typically chose relatives or other people he trusted for this position. Ferbas oversaw the day-to-day running of the government. They had to rule according to strict instructions given them by Mansa Musa. Many ferbas went on the *hajj*. Perhaps this was a way to keep them from plotting rebellion during the king’s long absence.

## **Griot (“gree-oh”)**

Mansa Musa and the other officials brought many griots on the *hajj* to serve as oral historians. A griot’s job was very hard and took a long time to learn well. Griots had to serve as the living memory for an individual, village, or clan. They combined history, music, poetry, dance, and drama to capture these memories and then entertain their audiences.

## **Muslim Scholar**

Scholars went on the *hajj* to offer advice and record observations of the journey. Many scholars were educated in Niani, the capital of Mali, where Mansa Musa had established a mosque and school. Scholars could read and write. They were fluent in both Arabic and various African languages. Scholars gave advice that helped Mansa Musa and his officials in difficult situations. The written observations of scholars became important records once the caravan returned to Mali.