

Chapter 15.1 – North and Central African Societies

1. Setting the Stage

- a. Different groups of Africans have found different ways to organize themselves to meet political, economic and social needs
- b. Climate, topography, influenced how communities in different regions developed

2. Hunting-Gathering Societies

- a. Hunting-gathering societies form the oldest social organization in the world

b. Forest Dwellers

- i. _____ – live in the **Ituri forest** of central Africa
 1. Live in small groups between 10-100 members, whom all are related
 2. Their search for food makes them somewhat _____ – move to new camps as they use up the resources in the surrounding area
 3. Women are the gathers and the men are the hunters

c. Social Structure

- i. A respected _____, typically serves as _____
 1. Members listen to and value his _____, he does not give _____ or act as _____
- ii. Each family within the band makes its own decision and is free to come and go
- iii. If conflict cannot be settled by _____, groups may decide to move to a different hunting band
- iv. No _____ govern the daily lives of the Efe

3. Stateless Societies

- a. Family organization is central to African society
 - i. _____ – families would organize in groups and members believed they are descendants of a _____
 1. Includes past and future generations and members felt a strong loyalty to one another
- b. South of the Sahara desert, many African groups set up systems of governing based on lineage
 - i. Stateless societies – _____ that took the place of a _____ and did not have a _____
 1. _____ was balanced among lineages of _____ so that no one family had too much _____

c. Tracing Family Descent

- i. In African society there are 2 ways to trace lineage and how possessions and property are passed on
 1. Patrilineal – traces their ancestors through their _____ – inheritance goes from _____
 2. Matrilineal – traces their ancestors through their _____ – _____ from matrilineal culture inherit land and wealth from their mother's family
 - a. Men still hold the position of authority

d. Age-Set System

- i. Young people form _____ to individuals outside their lineage through the _____ system
 1. An age set consists of people with in a region born in a certain time period
 2. Each age set passes together through clearly identified _____ – warrior or elder

How is lineage important to stateless societies?

4. Muslim States

- a. After the death of Muhammad in 632, Islam swept across North Africa
 - i. Many people were converted by the _____ and other peacefully
- b. By 670, Muslims ruled Egypt and had moved into the _____ – today the Mediterranean coast of Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, and Morocco
- c. As Islam spread and more African rulers converted, they based their government upon Islamic rule
 - i. Muslim rulers usually relied on religious _____ as government _____

d. Islamic Law

- i. Following the law is a religious obligation and Muslims do not separate their personal life from their religious life
 1. _____ helped to bring order to the _____
- ii. The _____ – fiercely independent desert and mountain dwellers of north Africa who accepted Islam as their faith but kept many of their old traditions

1. The Almoravids and the Almohads founded empires that united the Maghrib under Muslim Rule

e. Almoravid Reformers

- i. 11th c. Muslim reformers founded the Almoravid empire – members came from a Berber group from western Sahara
 1. _____ – a strict religious brotherhood founded by Ibn Yasin
 - a. Group lived in a _____ or fortified monastery and people called the “_____” where they got their name from
 2. 1050's, Ibn Yasin led the Almoravids in an effort to spread Islam through conquest and by the time of his death in 1059, they had taken Morocco and set up their capital at Marrakech
 3. 1076 – they overran the _____ and take control of parts of _____

f. Almohads Take Over

- i. _____ – another group of Berber Muslim reformers who in the mid-1100's seized power from the _____
 1. They followed the teachings of _____ and after a pilgrimage to Mecca, he criticized the _____ rulers for moving away from traditional practice of _____
 2. 1148 – they had taken control of Morocco, ending the Almoravids rule
 - a. By the end of the 12th c. they had control of most of southern Spain and most of the Maghrib
 - b. United the _____ under _____ for the first time

How did the Almoravids and the Almohads differ?

Name _____ Date _____

GUIDED READING *North and Central African Societies*

Chapter 15 Section 1

A. Drawing Conclusions As you read this section, take notes to answer questions about three types of societies that developed in the various topographical regions of Africa.

Hunting-gathering societies formed close-knit family groups.

1. What are some characteristics of a hunting gathering society?

2. Why are written laws not necessary in these societies?

Stateless societies, which existed near the coast, were based on extended family ties.

3. What are some characteristics of a stateless society

4. What are some advantages of an age-set system?

Muslim societies developed in North Africa.

5. What are some characteristics of a Muslim theocracy?

6. How did Muslim law affect individual Islamic states?