Sand Roads: Trans-Saharan Trade

The Trans-Saharan Trade Route
— Linked __________________ and the __________________ world with the land and peoples of interior _______________ Africa.
— Environmental Variations
  • North African coast
    — Cloth, glassware, weapons, books, and manufactured goods
  • Sahara Desert
    — Copper and __________
    — Sweet and nutritious _______________ at its oases
    — Sparse populations were most _______________ or nomadic
  • Sub-Saharan Africa
    — Agricultural with a variety of crops
    — Produced their own textiles and metal products
    — _______________
    — Savanna grasslands = __________ crops
    — ________________ to the south = root and tree crops

Camels
• The introduction of the camel to North Africa made the ____________ across the desert possible.
• Camel-owning people who lived in the oases ________________ trans-Saharan commerce by 300-400 CE.
• Several centuries later, North African Arabs, now bringing __________, organized trans-Saharan caravans.

Gold
• Transported by ________________ from the borders between the grasslands and the forests to caravan points along the southern edge of the desert. Then ________________ to camels for the longer journey.
  — African ivory, kola nuts, and slaves were also in high ________________ in the desert and the Mediterranean basin.
  — In return, the peoples of the Sudan received horses, cloth, dates, manufactured goods, and __________

A New International Trade Route
• The caravans that made the desert crossing could be as many as ____________ camels and hundreds of people.
  — Traveled mostly at ________________
  — Journey could take up to ______ days (15-20 miles per day)
  — Linked the ________________ of West Africa with land and people far to the ________________
  — Caravans traveled the desert for over ________________ years
New Political Structures
• Between 500 and 1600 CE we see the creation of a series of ____________ in western and central Sudan, including Ghana, Mali, Songhay, Kanem, and Hausa city-states
  – All were _____________ with elaborate court life and at least some _____________ and _____________ forces.
  • _____________ merchants and goods
  – All had a reputation for great _____________

Slavery
• As in all civilizations, slavery was prevalent in West Africa.
  – At first, most slaves were _____________ (domestic servants or concubines)
  – With the development of _____________, male slaves were used as officials, porters, craftsmen, miners, agricultural laborers
  – Most slaves came as a result of _____________ on non-Islamic and stateless societies farther south
• While most slaves were used in West Africa, some _____________ slaves a year crossed the Sahara between 1100 and 1400
  – Most were sold in _____________ Africa
  – A few ended up in _____________
    • _____________-speaking slaves (from eastern Europe) were much more _____________ in Europe (origin of word “slave”)
    • African slaves only became common in Europe starting in _____________ (Atlantic slave trade)

Urban and Commercial Centers
• The states of _____________ Africa developed substantial urban/commercial centers (such as Koumbi-Saleh, Jenne, Timbuktu, Gao, Gobir, and Kano)
  – Some became _____________ centers
  – Cosmopolitan places where court officials, artisans, scholars, students, and local and foreign merchants all rubbed elbows.
  – _____________ became an important element of urban culture
Research each of the following using your textbook and/or the Internet. Take notes on the key developments of each empire as well as the key characteristics of each city.

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<th>Mali Empire</th>
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# Cities of Post-Classical Africa

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