**Chapter 8 Study Guide**

Introduction

Between 800 and 1500, what major change increased contacts between Africa and the outside world?

African Society: Diversity and Similarities

Which major monotheistic religions gained followers in Africa?

**Stateless Societies**

What is a stateless society?

What was the purpose of secret societies?

What are the disadvantages of a stateless society?

**Common Elements in African Society**

Describe the animistic beliefs held by most Africans? (give three examples)

Describe trade in:

North Africa

Sub-saharan Africa

Describe the role of professional merchants

Describe the market economy

**The Arrival of Islam in North Africa**

Which region of Africa was the first to convert to Islam?

In what area did puritanical reform movements attempt to reform Islam?

What does equality before God, inequality in the world mean?

**The Christian Kingdoms: Ethiopia and Nubia**

According to the text, what was the most important African Christian kingdom? Why is it the most important?

**Kingdoms of the Grassland**

What is the sahel?

**Sudanic States**

Describe the Sudanic states.

According to the map, in which centuries did the following rule:

Ghana

Mali

Songhay

**The Empire of Mali and Sundiata the “Lion Prince.”**

Where is Mali located?

Which ruler was responsible for the creation and expansion of Mali?

Describe the social organization of the Malinke people.

**City Dwellers and Villagers**

Describe the port cities.

Describe Malinke agricultural challenges.

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What is the social and political function of the griots?

**The Songhay Kingdom**

What was the dominant empire before Songhay?

Who was responsible for the creation of the Songhay empire?

How was Songhay defeated?

Who were the Hausa?

**Political and Social Life in the Sudanic States**

Why did ruling families convert to Islam?

Describe the impact of Islam on the African slave trade.

How were pagans treated after rulers converted to Islam?

How was slavery viewed in Muslim society?

The Swahili Coast of East Africa

**The Coastal Trading Ports**

What is Zenj?

Which groups of people migrated to coastal Africa?

**The Mixture of Cultures on the Swahili Coast**

How did Islam promote trade in East Africa?

Describe Swahili.

Which Africans did not convert to Islam?

To what extent were Portuguese able to control trade on the Swahili coast?

*In Depth*

What is demography?

Describe the “Demographic Transition.

**The Peoples of the Forest and the Plains**

How did sub-Saharan African societies develop differently than those influenced by Christianity and Islam?

**Artists and Kings: Yoruba and Benin**

Describe the political organization of the Yoruba people.

**The Kingdoms of Kongo and Mwene Mutapa**

Describe the political organization of the Kingdom of Kongo.

What are zimbabwe?

What is the Great Zimbabwe?

Describe the political organization of Great Zimbabwe by the 15th century.

**Global Connections**

Where in Africa was the impact of Islam the strongest?

The text says that Africa’s history during this period should not be defined by Islam. What evidence does the author give that Africans had important cultural achievements separate from Islam?

What major impact did Islam have on Africa before the 15th century?