

CHAPTER  
**11**  
SECTION 3

# Note Taking Study Guide

## KINGDOMS AND TRADING STATES OF EAST AFRICA

**Focus Question:** What influence did religion and trade have on the development of East Africa?

*As you read this section in your textbook, complete the following flowchart to record the effects of trade on the societies of East Africa.*

<b>Effects of Trade on East African Societies</b>	<b>Great Zimbabwe</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>_____</li> <li>_____</li> <li>_____</li> <li>_____</li> <li>_____</li> <li>_____</li> <li>_____</li> <li>_____</li> <li>_____</li> </ul>
	<b>Coastal City-States</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Swahili language is developed.</li> <li>_____</li> <li>_____</li> <li>_____</li> <li>_____</li> <li>_____</li> <li>_____</li> <li>_____</li> <li>_____</li> </ul>
	<b>Ethiopia</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>_____</li> <li>_____</li> <li>_____</li> <li>_____</li> </ul>
	<b>Axum</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Christianity is brought to region.</li> <li>_____</li> <li>_____</li> <li>_____</li> <li>_____</li> <li>_____</li> <li>_____</li> <li>_____</li> </ul>

## CHAPTER

## 11

## SECTION 3

## Section Summary

## KINGDOMS AND TRADING STATES OF EAST AFRICA

## READING CHECK

What was Great Zimbabwe?

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## VOCABULARY STRATEGY

What does the word *unifying* mean in the underlined sentence? Its prefix *uni-* means "one." Use this word-part clue to help you write a definition of *unifying*.

## READING SKILL

**Understand Effects** How was Swahili an effect of mixed cultures in East Africa?

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The kingdom of **Axum** conquered Nubia about A.D. 350. Axum included two main cities—the upland capital city of Axum and the port of **Adulis** on the Red Sea. The peoples of Axum were descended from African farmers and people from the Middle East. By about A.D. 400, Axum controlled a rich trade network connecting Africa, India, and the Mediterranean. Traders exchanged many cultural influences in their travels.

Axum became a Christian kingdom in the 300s. At first, this helped strengthen trade ties with other Christian countries. When Islam began spreading across North Africa in the 600s, however, Axum became isolated and lost power. Civil war and economic decline combined to weaken Axum.

Axum's legacy, however, survived for centuries in a portion of present-day **Ethiopia**. There, Christianity was a unifying influence that helped give Ethiopia a unique identity among Muslim neighbors. A distinct culture developed in Ethiopia. In the 1200s, under **King Lalibela**, Christian churches were carved below ground into mountain rocks. Ethiopian Christianity absorbed local customs.

After Axum declined, Arab and Persian traders established Muslim communities along the East African coast. By the 600s, ships regularly took advantage of monsoon winds to sail to India and back, and the cities in East Africa grew wealthy by trading goods with Africa, Southeast Asia, and China. The cities were independent, and although they competed for power, relations among them were generally peaceful. By the 1000s, the mixture of cultures created unique architecture, as well as a new language and culture, both called **Swahili**. The language was Bantu-based, using some Arabic words and written in Arabic.

**Great Zimbabwe**, the capital of a great inland Zimbabwe empire, was built by a succession of Bantu-speaking peoples between 900 and 1500. It reached its height around 1300. The city included great stone buildings, and its people mined gold and traded goods across the Indian Ocean. By the 1500s, the empire of Zimbabwe was in decline. Later, Portuguese traders tried, but failed, to find the region's source of gold.

## Review Questions

1. How did the spread of Islam in North Africa affect the Axum empire?
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

2. How did Axum's decline affect trade in East Africa?
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