### KINGDOMS OF AFRICA

#### LESSON 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kingdom</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ghana</strong></td>
<td>Upper Niger River Valley, prospered from trade, skilled blacksmiths, abundance of gold, strong, wealthy rulers, no laws, large, well-trained army</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mali</strong></td>
<td>Extended from Atlantic coast to Timbuktu, wealthy from gold and salt trade, most people were farmers, converted to Islam, founded by Sundiata Keita, most powerful ruler was Mansa Musa, who created a strong, central government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Songhai</strong></td>
<td>Near Niger River, south of Timbuktu, largest empire in African history, Islamic rulers, benefited from trade routes, Sunni Ali expanded empire, Muhammad Ture brought peace and security</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### MEDIEVAL AFRICA

#### LESSON 1

#### Geography
- Four climate zones: mild, desert, rain forest, and savanna
- Diverse land features: mountains, coasts, rivers, deserts, lakes, grasslands, and canyons

#### Society
- Based on family and relatives: the smallest group was the extended family with grandparents, parents, children, and other relatives. Several extended families that were all related to a common ancestor made up a lineage group.

#### Religion
- Many cultures believed in one creator god with lesser gods.
- Many gods were not to be trusted. People had to perform ceremonies to honor the gods.
- Ancestors were believed to be closer to the gods. They could influence people’s lives.

#### Culture
- Artwork included wood carving, sculpture, and painting. Much of the artwork was religious in nature.
- Storytelling and singing were used for worship and for passing on traditions and history.