



HOW TO USE THE GOLD ROAD

Map Basics

Visit the map: <http://thegoldroad.org/map.aspx#>

Welcome message. The map opens with a welcome message which introduces the map and which you can read or listen to for accessibility. Once done, click on the x to the right upper-hand corner to close the message.

Map “layers.” The map works in layers that can be clicked to be turned on or removed, depending on what aspects of the kingdoms you would like to examine with your students. The map layers are: Ghana Empire, Mali Empire, Songhai Empire, Landscapes, Places, People, Trade Items, Architecture, Trade Routes.

Why is The Gold Road map a useful tool?

The Gold Road is a library of detailed content for independent or scaffolded student inquiry and research. It allows students to explore and make connections within one time period’s people, places, trade items, buildings and routes, or across several time periods. Students could also choose a more focused inquiry on a specific item, a place, or a person and their significance. Thus a student can trace the linkages between people, items, places, routes, and significant buildings or focus on one aspect. A student can make meaning linking micro aspects of this history (e.g. a person or a building) with macro aspects (the role it/they/he/she played in the whole kingdom).





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More about the map layers

Ghana, Mali, and Songhai are time periods: The basic layers are time periods (Ghana (550-1235), Mali (1235-1469), Songhai (1469-1591)). The time period(s) selected determine which people, trade items, and architecture are shown. The themes of landscapes, places, and trade routes are independent of the time periods. See this table for a quick visual of the layers available.

| Ghana | Mali | Songhai |
|--|---|--|
| People (specific to the Ghana empire) | People (specific to the Mali empire) | People (specific to the Songhai empire) |
| Trade items (specific to the Ghana empire) | Trade items (specific to the Mali empire) | Trade items (specific to the Songhai empire) |
| Buildings (specific to the Ghana empire) | Buildings (specific to the Mali empire) | Buildings (specific to the Mali empire) |
| Landscapes (not time specific) | | |
| Places (not time specific) | | |
| Trade Routes (not time specific) | | |



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Additional Features

- **Primary Sources:** Wherever possible, primary sources are included in the markers whether they be texts or photographs/videos of artwork and other items.
- **Search Function:** A search function is available for easy look-up of key words.
- **Print Function:** If you want to print out specific markers (people, places, landscapes, buildings, trade items) for use in a classroom activity, use the “print” icon located to the upper right of each marker. This will remove the background colors to print black on white background.
- **Pronunciation icon:** some of the Arabicized names of people may be difficult for students to pronounce. A pronunciation icon is available to hear key Arabic names.
- **URLs for each marker:** Each marker, once opened, has a unique URL that you can copy and share with students. For example, perhaps you want to email the marker with information about the Timbuktu Djingueribère mosque. To do so, copy and paste the url for direct access. **Glossary:** A glossary is available for your use, providing specific definitions where needed. When a word is highlighted, a glossary definition is available for it.
- **Related Markers:** Some markers have “related markers” listed at the bottom. These related markers are there to support students as they link people to related people, places, buildings. However, related markers are not exhaustive. In some ways, all the maps markers are interconnected. Therefore, students should not rely solely on the “related markers” feature to examine interconnections, and should in addition rely on the text within the marker.
- **Note:** The map uses a modern Google satellite image of the region for a more authentic rendering of landscapes and places. In addition, the political boundaries of the modern nation-states are there for reference.



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List of All Markers on the Gold Road

Landscapes (all time periods)

- Niger River Headwaters
- Niger River Inland
- Oasis of Erfoud
- Sahara
- Sahel
- Savanna
- Senegal River

Places (all time periods)

- Agadez, Niger
- Akan Goldfield
- Arouane, Mali
- Awdaghust, Mauritania
- Bambuk, Senegal
- Buré, Guinea
- Djenne (modern town), Mali
- Fez, Morocco
- Gao, Mali
- Jenne-Jenno
- Kano, Nigeria
- Kouroussa, Guinea,
- Marrakech, Morocco
- Mecca, Saudi Arabia
- Niani, Guinea
- Sijilmasa, Morocco
- Sokoto, Nigeria
- Tadmekka-Essouk, Mali
- Taghaza, Mali
- Taouedenni, Mali
- Timbuktu, Mali
- Tripoli, Libya
- Walata, Mauritania
- Kukiya, Mali
- Kumbi-Saleh, Mauritania

People (time specific)

- Abd Allah Al-Tilimsani
- Abdallah Ibn Yasin
- Abu Bakr Ibn Umar
- Ahmed Baba Aqit Al Massufi
- Al Umari
- Al Bakri
- Al Idrisi
- Al-Sahili
- Al-Wangari
- Al Ya'Qubi
- Ali Murabus
- Askiya Dawud
- Askiya Ishaq II
- Askiya Mohamed Touré
- Askiya Nuh
- Bala Fasaké
- Basi
- Bouctou
- Dugha
- Faran Tunkara
- Ibn Battuta
- Ibn Hawqal
- Inari Konté
- Judar Pasha
- Kanta Dawud
- Leo Africanus
- Maghan Konfara
- Mansa Musa I
- Mansa Sulayman
- Muhammad ibn Abd Al karim Al Maghili
- Muhammadu Kanta
- Muhamma Rumfa
- Pasha Mahmud bin Zarqun
- Sakura
- Siliman Bana Niakhaté
- Sogolon Condé
- Sultan Ahmed Al Mansur of Morocco
- Sunjata Keita
- Sunni Ali Beeri
- Tunka Manin
- Yahya Ibn Ibrahim
- Zayneb An Nafzawiyah



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List of All Markers on the Gold Road (cont.)

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>Architecture (time specific)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ancient mosque at Manfara ● Djinguereber mosque ● Elmina castle ● Friday mosque of Chinguetti ● Gidan Rumfa, the emir's palace at Kano ● Ksar trading center, Morocco ● Larabanga mosque ● Old town of Djenné ● Sankoré mosque ● Did Yahya mosque ● Tomb/mosque of Askia Muhammad ● Touré University of Al-Qarawinyin | <p>Trade artifacts (time specific)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Animal hides ● Books ● Clay pottery ● Clay pottery (footed base) ● Cloth (woven, dyed) ● Cowrie shells ● Dates ● Gold coin molds ● Gold coins (Florence, Italy) ● Gold coins (Sijilmasa, Morocco) ● Gold dust & nuggets ● Gold jewelry (Durbi Takusheyi, Nigeria) ● Gold leaf painting (Sienna, Italy) ● Gold leaf Quran ● Gold leaf textile ● Horses ● Ivory sculpture ● Ivory tusks ● Kola ● Salt ● Terracotta horse (Djenne/Mopti, Mali) ● Timbuktu manuscripts ● Treatise by Ahmed Baba |
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