

Date: _____

Early African History

First Civilizations

- Nile Valley- Near modern-day Egypt.
- Ancient Pharaohs expanded empires

Religions

- Polytheistic- believed in many gods.
- Pharaohs built tombs (pyramids) to include things they would need in the after- life.
- Such as: valuables, food, transportation, loved ones, pets etc.
- Also prepared their body through mummification.

Afterlife Video:

1. Why did Egyptians preserve the body? The Ka needed a body
2. How many pyramid tombs were built? 80
3. What happened to many of the tombs? Robbed

Achievements of Egyptians

- Hieroglyphics
- 365-day calendar
- Studied human body and performed early surgeries, set fractured bones, treated spinal injuries.
- Build temples and pyramids that lasted thousands of years.

Other Ancient Civilizations:

- Early Africans lived as hunter-gatherers but evolved into farmers and herders.
- Other civilizations including the Kush & Axum developed near the Nile. Civilizations also developed near the modern countries of Ghana, Mali, and Benin on Africa's west coast and Zimbabwe in South Africa.

African Slave Trade

- In the 1400-1500s Europeans began trading with African societies.

How did it begin?

- Portuguese Explorers searched for sea routes to India around Africa.
- Set up trading posts with people of West Africa-wanted the riches of Africa.
- The slave trade greatly increased with the discovery of the Americas (1500s).

Atlantic Slave Trade

- 1500-1800s- 10-15 million Africans were sent to the Americas to become slaves.
- African traders armed with European guns seized captives and delivered them to Europeans who shipped them to Americas to be sold into slavery.
- Many Africans died on ships to America (disease, suicide, killed for rebelling).

Abolition

- 1700s European thinkers begin to speak out against slavery because they believed all people should be equal.
- Former freed slaves in America began to expose the evils of slavery (Frederick Douglas).
- 1807 Great Britain outlawed the slave trade.
- 1834 Britain outlawed slavery.
- 1865 U.S. outlawed slavery.