

## SOL 3.8 Ancient Empire of Mali

### 3.8a - Where Was Ancient Mali?

- a) locate ancient empire of Mali on a map of the world

The **ancient empire of Mali** was located in **West Africa**.

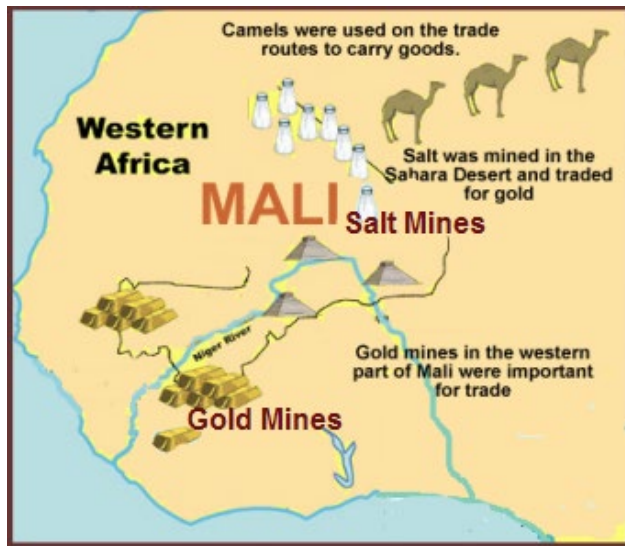


- It was in an area between the **Sahara Desert** and the **Atlantic Ocean**.
- The borders of Mali **changed over time** as it grew stronger.

- Mali today is still in **West Africa**, but its borders are smaller than they were in ancient times.

### 3.8b - Geography

- b) connect the geography of the ancient empire of Mali and its economy;



**Ancient Mali was located along** important trade routes.

- It was **between** gold mines in West Africa **and** salt mines in the Sahara Desert.
- **People** traded gold for salt — **salt was very valuable because it was needed for** health and preserving food.
- **People in Mali also** farmed the grasslands **and** raised animals.

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### 3.8c –Government of Mali

- c) identify and explain the government

Mali was ruled by **rich and powerful kings**.

- These kings controlled the **gold and salt trade**, which made them very wealthy.
- Mali became one of the **largest and strongest empires** in all of Africa.



Mansa Musa, Mali Emperor

### 3.8d –Arts, Learning, and Innovations

- d) describe the arts and innovations

**Timbuktu** was an important city in Mali.

- It had a **famous university** and a **large library** with books from Greece and Rome.

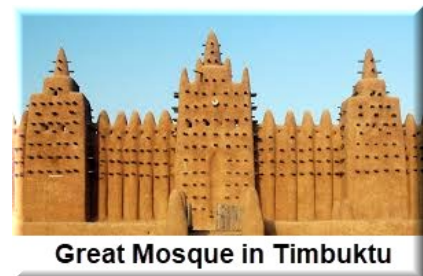
Mali is remembered for its **art, music, learning, and storytelling**.

- **Most of what we know about Mali** comes from **oral tradition** — stories passed down by **storytellers**.

### 3.8e –Architecture and Its Influence

- e) identify and explain the architecture and its influence in the world

Mali built **important buildings**, especially in the city of **Timbuktu**.



Great Mosque in Timbuktu

- The **architecture, trade, education, and art** from Mali still influence the world today.
- Mali helped spread **learning, culture, and trade** across Africa.