

## The Journal of Ibn Battuta

### Introduction:

In 1325, an African explorer named Ibn Battuta began a journey of tens of thousands of miles. It was almost thirty years before his travels ended, and by that time he had visited countless kingdoms and empires of medieval Africa, Arabia, Southwest Asia, Central Asia, and Europe. Battuta wrote a book about his journey, leaving us with a valuable record of the cities he visited, the people he observed, and the friends and acquaintances he made. In this lesson, you will study a portion of his book that describes the medieval kingdom of Mali and the world he visited.

**Objective:** Students will gain an understanding of the early African kingdoms and their relationship with the world.

<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/1354-ibnbattuta.asp>

### Task:

1. Using the, students will select 8 different items from Ibn's travels, and create a journal.
2. Rewrite the journal entry in your own words.
3. Include an illustration of each entry. (Follow artwork criteria)
4. You will be provided 5 sheets of blank white paper for the journal. (use the front and back of each)
  - a. Cover page
  - b. 8 entries
  - c. Summary on the back of the last page
  - d. Summarize those aspects of world culture and society that Ibn Battuta found good or impressive. Summarize those aspects that Battuta viewed negatively. Does Battuta seem to be a fair judge of world culture, or does he appear to be biased? Include specific examples in your response that support your point of view.