

Humanities 2111

Lecture 9

African History

- Travelers' accounts
- Oral traditions
- Archaeology
- Early Nok civilization



Medieval African Kingdoms

- Ghana



Medieval African Kingdoms

- Islamic West Africa



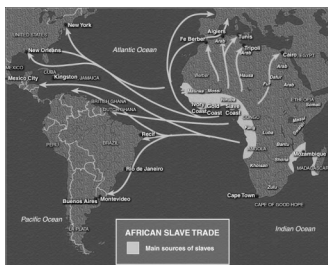
Medieval African Kingdoms

- Benin



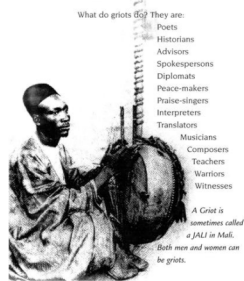
Post-Medieval Africa

- Colonialism
- Slave trade



Literature

- Written literature
- Oral literature
 - Mythology
 - Tales
 - Riddles
 - Proverbs
 - Poetry



Music

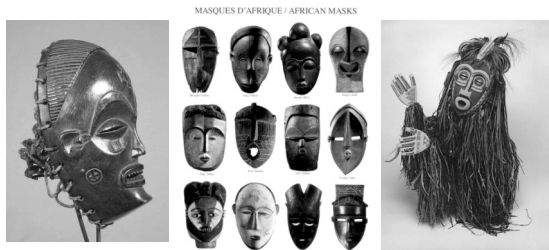
- Call-and-response
- Kimoyo
- “Talking drum”
- Masquerade



Visual Arts: Aesthetic Elements

- Human resemblance
- Clarity of form & detail
- Luminosity
- Complexity of composition
- Self-composure
- Balance & symmetry
- Youthfulness
- Smoothness of finish

Visual Arts: Masks



Visual Arts: Equestrian Figurines



Visual Arts: Terra Cotta Heads



Visual Arts: Figurines



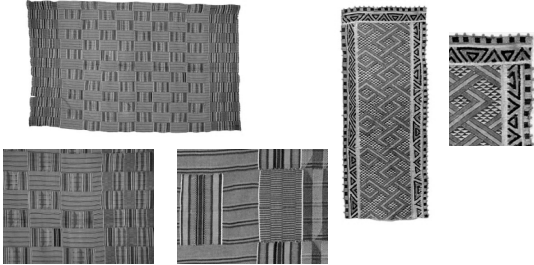
Visual Arts: Divination Trays



Visual Arts: Utilitarian Pieces



Visual Arts: Kente Cloth & Bark Cloth



African Cultural Commonalities

- Veneration of elders, ancestors, family
- Relationship between nature & spirit world
- Relationship between invisible & visible forces
- Integration of arts with ritual, education, & history
- Continuity between ancient & modern
- Definition of community
- Importance of intelligence & cunning
