AIM: HOW CAN THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF AKSUM BE DEFINED?

*The ancient kingdom of Aksum became a center of international trade.

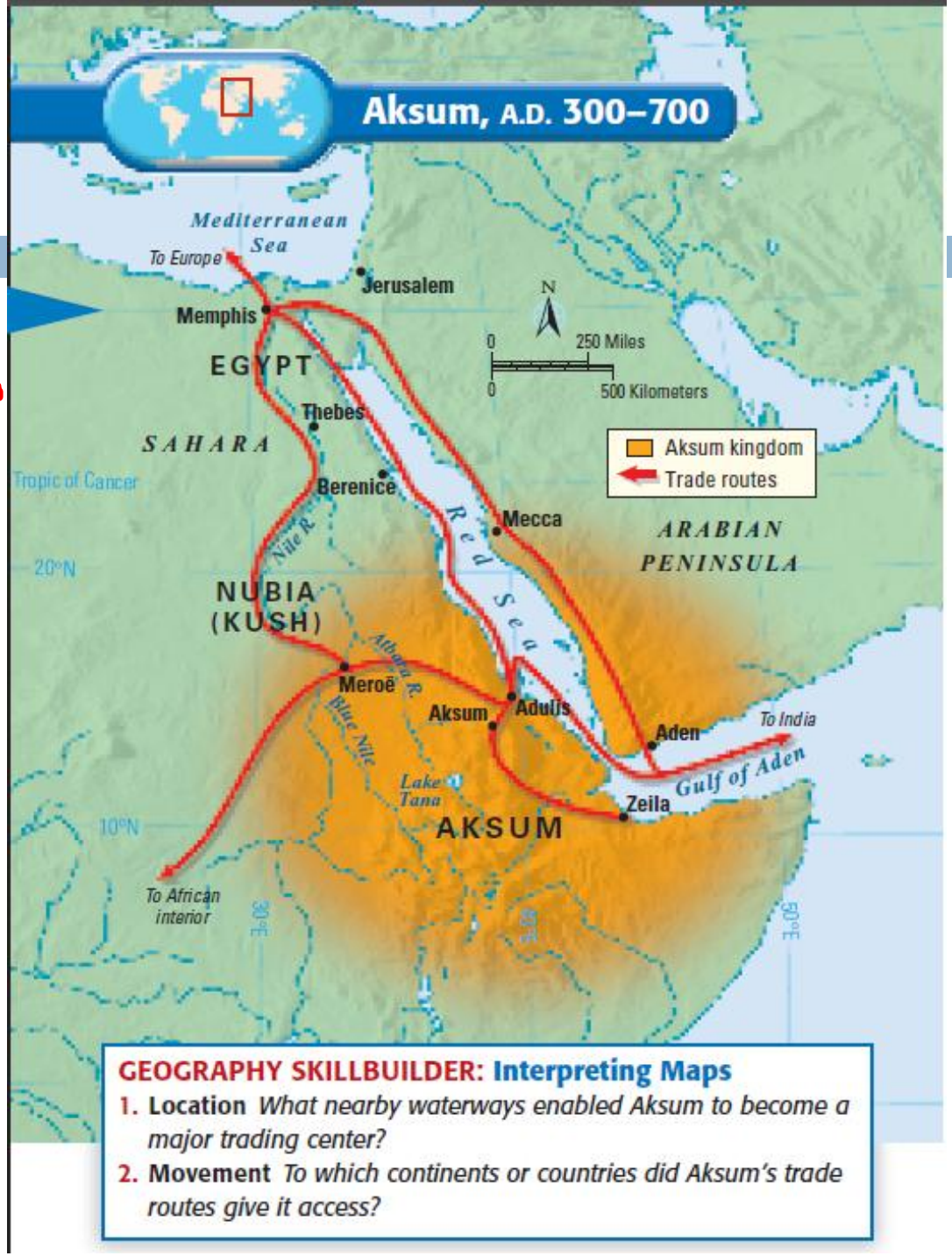
Do Now:

- Why is world trade so important?
  - interactions
  - peace / allies
  - improve the economy
  - get desired goods from other places
  - recover debts
  - get resources
- What are some of the most popular items throughout the world?

iPhones oil cocoa beans

~~bean~~ fish gold clothing

- Med world
- Middle East Asia
- interior of Africa



GEOGRAPHY SKILLBUILDER: Interpreting Maps

1. **Location** *What nearby waterways enabled Aksum to become a major trading center?*
2. **Movement** *To which continents or countries did Aksum's trade routes give it access?*

What are some facts about Aksum?

- Center for trade
- Adulis — major seaport for trade
- Conquered Kush
- Existed in modern-day Ethiopia
- Christianity was the religion of Aksum
- King Ezana
- First Sub-Saharan Kingdom to Mint
- their own Coins

Image 1:

http://www.bible.ca/islam/islam-aksum-map-0-700ad.jpg

3 help → access to waterways for trade

1. What nearby waterways enabled Aksum to become a major trading center?

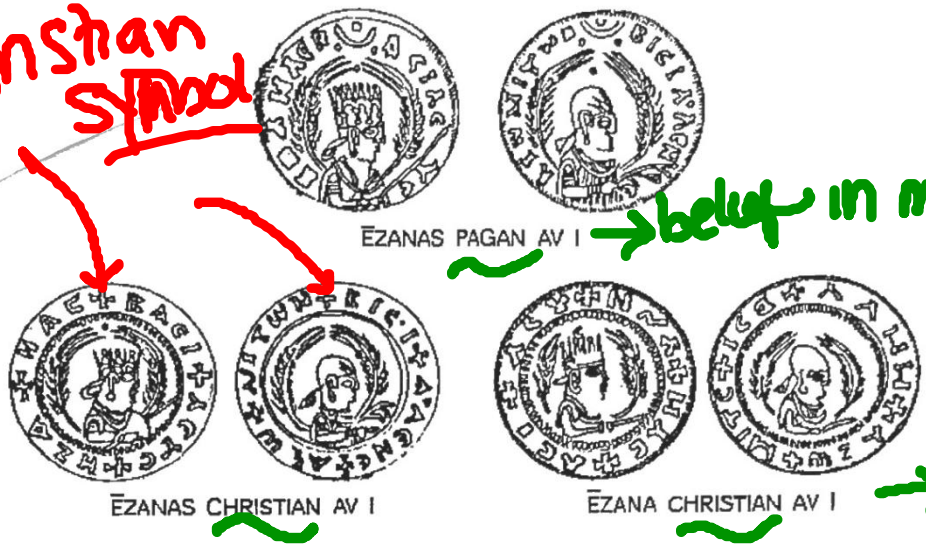
Red Sea, Gulf of Aden, Med. Sea, Nile River, Indian ocean

2. To which continents or countries did Aksum's trade routes give its success?

Middle East, Africa (Egypt), Asia (India), Mediterranean Sea Region (Roman Empire)

3. Did the geography of this part of Africa help or hinder the development of the Kingdom of Aksum? Give specific evidence to support your response.

Image 2:



Christian Symbol

belief in multiple Gods

monotheistic (one God)

http://0.tqn.com/d/archaeology/1/0/P/7/ezanas.png

1. Describe the Aksumite coins as depicted above.

- Image of King/ruler -Circular
- Symbols/language → ezana

2. What was the significance of these coins?

main form of currency
- helped with trade

3. What conclusions can we draw about the Kingdom of Aksum based on the analysis of these coins?

Image 3:

Primary Source:

"I carried war against [them] when they had rebelled...I burnt their towns of stone and their towns of straw. At the same time, my men plundered [stole] their grain, their bronze, their iron, and their copper, destroyed the idols in their homes, their stocks of corn and of cotton, and they threw themselves into the river."

-King Ezana of Aksum, quoted in "Africa: Past and Present."

1. Who is King Ezana referring to in this quotation? What evidence from last night's reading supports your answer.

- Kingdom of Kush / waged war and military campaigns

2. How does Ezana's promise to rule justly and righteously fit with his actions toward the groups of people he conquered? How might he justify these actions?

- waged war = violent
- conquered people were treated fairly

3. Describe other achievements made by King Ezana that depict his strength as a King?

- Recognized Christianity as official religion (but did not force people to convert)
- allowed Aksum to become a trading center

Agriculture in the Highlands

Collapse of Aksum

- The kingdom lasted about 800 years
- Muslim invaders attacked the city of Adulis

HOMEWORK: pgs 413-419 #1,3,4,8