

# Ibn Battuta and the Longest Hajj

**Questio:** Are the travel accounts of Ibn Battuta a valuable source of information for historians?

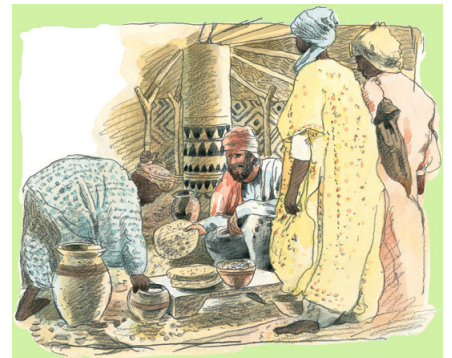
**Background:** Many different goods traveled along the trade routes that connected Asia, Europe, and Africa. Travelers like **Ibn Battuta** also spread ideas and information. Ibn Battuta was a 14<sup>th</sup> century Muslim traveler who spent 24 years traveling the world meeting scholars and rulers. His travel journal gives us a first hand account of people, places, and historical events he witnessed.



**Directions:** Read the journal entry about Ibn Battuta’s visit to your assigned region and record his observations and opinions about each place. Then discuss with your group the degree to which this information would be valuable to historians today. Then, you will make “appointments” with two other students, one in each of the other groups, to teach each other about the place you studied and Ibn Battuta’s observations and opinions.

## Ibn Battuta visits west africa

1. Describe key observations made by Ibn Battuta when he visited this location. What are the things he saw? What parts of the society might he have missed?
2. Describe opinions or feelings Ibn Battuta had of this location. Does he show any examples of bias in his response? Explain your answer.
3. Do you feel like these accounts would be valuable to historians? Why or why not, and in what way?



## Ibn Battuta visits east africa

4. Describe key observations made by Ibn Battuta when he visited this location. What are the things he saw? What parts of the society might he have missed?

5. Describe opinions or feelings Ibn Battuta had of this location. Does he show any examples of bias in his response? Explain your answer.



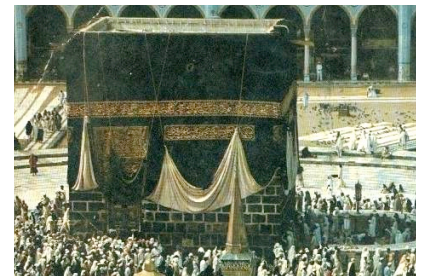
6. Do you feel like these accounts would be valuable to historians? Why or why not, and in what way?

## Ibn Battuta visits beyond Africa

7. Describe key observations made by Ibn Battuta when he visited these locations. What are the things he saw? What parts of the societies might he have missed?

8. Describe opinions or feelings Ibn Battuta had of this location. Does he show any examples of bias in his response? Explain your answer.

9. Do you feel like these accounts would be valuable to historians? Why or why not, and in what way?



## Ibn Battuta visits west Africa

10. How did you and your group members perform in this activity? Were you on task? Did you work well together? How could you improve in the future?

11. How well did this activity help you learn about and analyze the topic? What could have made it better?