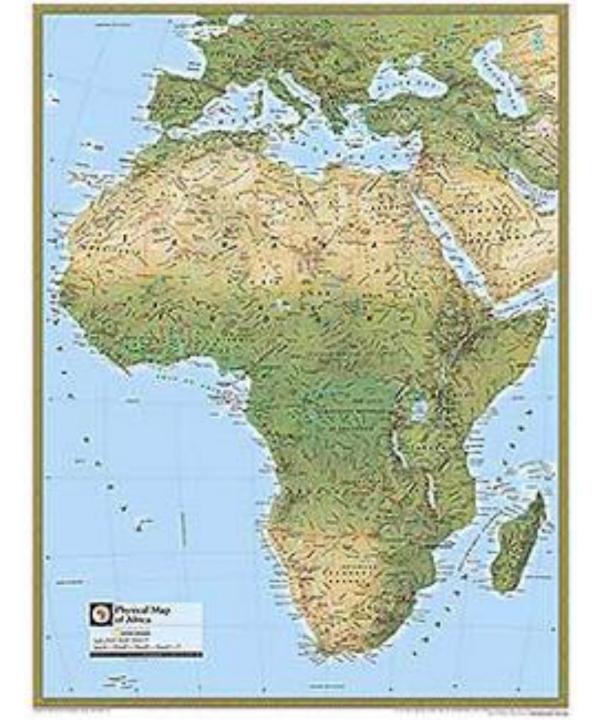# Slavery and the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade

# Background

- Most, if not all, ancient civilizations had slaves
  - How do you think slaves were acquired?
- In Africa, the Islamic Empire used slaves to bring trade goods across the Sahara
  - This slave trade was practiced for 600 years before European contact
- Portuguese set up trading posts in Africa in 1400's
  - What do you think they were after?
- Transported slaves to trade with Muslim merchants

Physical Map of Africa

# Increased Trade with Europe

- What do you think caused an increased demand for slaves amongst Europeans in the 1500's?
- African empires captured slaves and traded them with Europeans
  - Asante
  - Dahomey

# The Triangular Trade