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**Empire of Ghana Two-Column Notes**

**Directions: Read Chapter 13 Section 1 “The Empire of Ghana” on pages 326-331 in the *Eastern World* textbook. Answer the questions below from the selection.**

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| 1. Where was the ancient empire of Ghana located?  | **In West Africa between the Niger and Senegal Rivers; between the Sahara Desert to the north and the forests of the south**  |
| 2. What were the two most valuable resources traded in Ghana?  | **Salt and gold** |
| 3. How did early Soninke farmers create a strong state? | **They banded together against nomadic herders, grew in strength, used iron tools to produce more food, and formed villages and towns.**  |
| 4. What was the silent barter of gold and salt?  | **The process in which people trade without any direct contact; in Ghana, it provided for peaceful exchange of salt for gold and kept the location of gold mines secret**  |
| 5. How did Ghana’s rulers raise money?  | **Traders had to pay taxes when they entered and exited Ghana; the people of Ghana had to pay taxes; the army conquered neighboring tribes, who paid tribute.**  |
| 6. How did Ghana’s rulers acquire huge amounts of gold?  | **From taxing and banning others from owning gold** |
| 7. What group attacked Ghana in the 1060s, and what effect did that attack have?  | **Almoravids greatly weakened Ghana’s trade empire** |
| 8. What was the significance of overgrazing and the downfall of the Empire of Ghana?  | **The Almoravids overgrazed the lands leaving the soil worthless for farming or herding. This greatly hurt Ghana’s society and economy and caused many farmers to leave.**  |