

30 years before The African empire of Mali under King Mansa Musa reached its height

# meanwhile, elsewhere...



The Mappa Mundi map of the world was created in Hereford Cathedral

## KEY INFORMATION:

The Mappa Mundi was created around \_\_\_\_\_. It is the largest surviving medieval example of a \_\_\_\_\_ of the World. It shows the lack of knowledge and understanding that Europeans had of the world, and the continent of \_\_\_\_\_.



“Whereas Europe is shown on the Mappa Mundi with its rivers and cities clearly marked and illustrated, the continents of Asia and Africa, which lay beyond the knowledge of the map’s creator, are depicted as the realms of monstrous races... At the fringes of Africa...are the strangest of all the monstrous races, the Blemmyes, a people who have no heads, but faces upon their chests. On the coast of Ethiopia can be found the Marmini people, who each have four eyes which can gaze in four different direction simultaneously. Near them are... the Agriophagi [who] apparently ruled under a cyclops king.” (D. Olusoga, *Black and British: a forgotten History*)

1. What does the map reveal about medieval European understanding of Africa?

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1. What is the Mappa Mundi?

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2. What can be found on the Mappa mundi?

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3. When and where was it created?

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Does the Mappa Mundi challenge any ideas you had about medieval Europeans?

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Useful websites, videos and podcasts

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ndijfk-ayul>

<https://www.themappamundi.co.uk/>

<https://www.herefordcathedral.org/mappa-mundi>

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