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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ وَصَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَي سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ وَسَلَّمَ تَسْلِيمًا

Chapter Seven

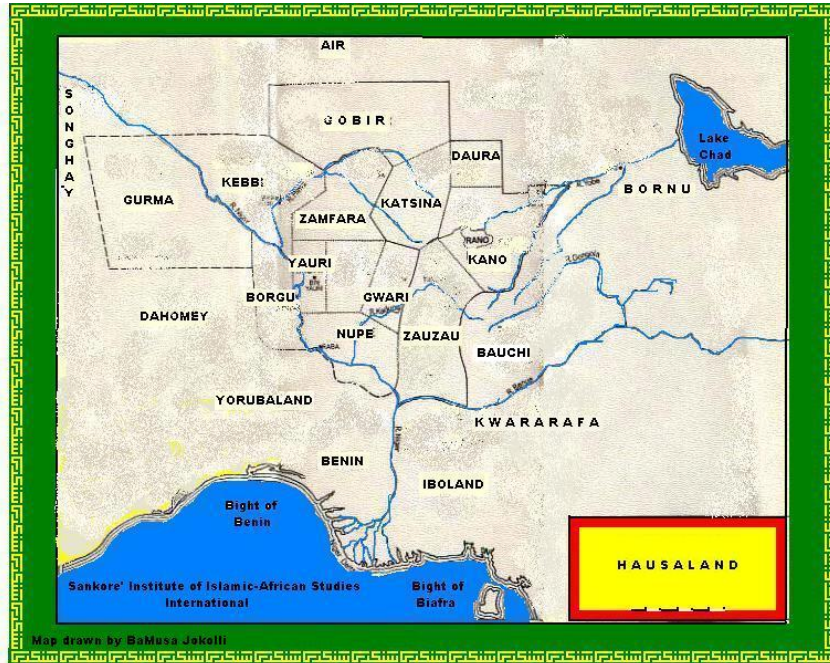
On the Land of Hausa, It's Regions and Those Who Reside There

Adjacent to the land of Ahir in the direction of the southwest of Bornu is the land of **Hausa**. It is divided into seven regions. Their language is one. Over each region there is an *Amir* similar to the others. Before this *jihād* of ours, the most central one was Katsina, the most extensive was Zakzak, the most barren was Gobir, and the most blessed was Kano.

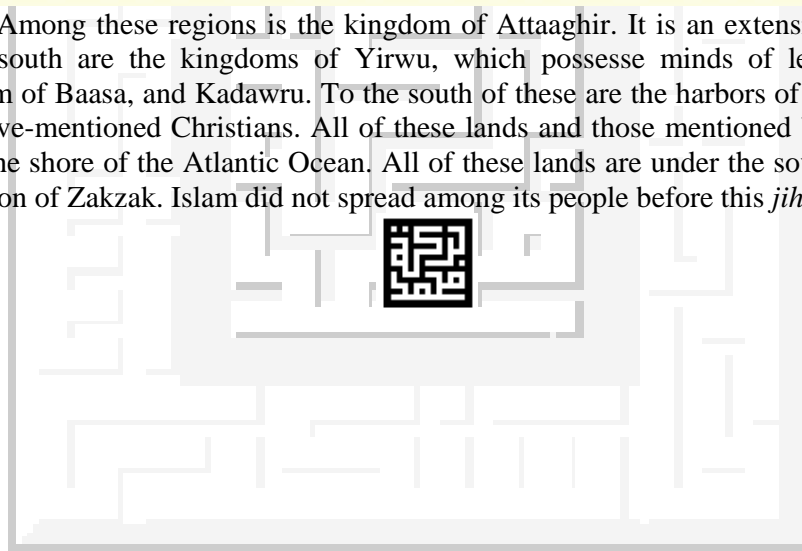
It is a country with much forestry, rivers, desert areas, mountains, valleys and thickets; and was inhabited by the *Sudanese* (who were once slaves of the Berber of the people of Bornu), Fulani and Tuaregs. They claim that a slave of the *sultan* of Bornu named Bawa is the one who fathered the *Sudanese* of this land. It is for this reason that we say that they are from the slaves of the people of Berber of the people of Bornu. Our colleague **Amir 'I-Mu'mineen Muhammad al-Baquri** ibn *Sultan al-'Adl* said, "Katsina, Kano, Zakzak, Daura, Rano and Brima - all of them were among the sons of Bawa, the slave of the *Sultan* of Bornu." As for the people of Gobir, they were free from the beginning. They are a remnant of the Coptics who left Egypt and headed in the direction of the west. This is what I have found in the history about them.

These seven regions witnessed many unusual and strange events. The first to establish government among them, as it has been claimed, was **Amina**, the daughter of the *Amir* of Zakzak. She made military assaults upon these lands until she proclaimed herself over them by force. The lands of Katsina and Kano were forced to hand over levy to her. She also made incursions into the lands of Bauchi until she reached the Atlantic Ocean to the south and west. She died in a place called Attaagar. It was for this reason that the kingdom of Zakzak was the most extensive among the kingdoms of Hausa, since Bauchi included many regions. They are regions inhabited by the least developed of the *Sudanese*. Among these regions is the region of Gawaara. It includes seven regions whose language is one. Islam has not spread among them. Among these regions are the lands of Gandaw, Duuma, Yasku, Kutu, Adamawa and Karanrafa. These regions comprised of more than twenty distinct territories. Their ruler was one, the *Sultan* of Karanrafa. The authority was granted him until he eventually controlled all of these twenty territories. He made military incursions against Kano and Bornu and destroyed many towns. This country possesses mines of kohl, salt mines and gold. To the south of this region are the harbors of the ships of the Christians from two kingdoms who trade among the *Sudanese*.¹

¹ Here the author is speaking of the ships of the Portuguese, French and British who trade in slaves the pagan tribes along the coast in the Bight of Benin.



Among these regions is the kingdom of Attaaghir. It is an extensive country. To its south are the kingdoms of Yirwu, which possess mines of lead and the kingdom of Baasa, and Kadawru. To the south of these are the harbors of the ships of the above-mentioned Christians. All of these lands and those mentioned before them lie on the shore of the Atlantic Ocean. All of these lands are under the sovereignty of the region of Zakzak. Islam did not spread among its people before this *jihad* of ours.



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