

## Medieval Night Sky—Handout

**UNESCO World Heritage astronomy sites** <https://www3.astronomicalheritage.net/>

<http://www.as.utexas.edu/~wheel/africa/index.htm>

Springer Encyclopaedia of the History of Science, Technology, and Medicine in Non-Western Cultures  
([https://link.springer.com/referenceworkentry/10.1007%2F978-1-4020-4425-0\\_8461](https://link.springer.com/referenceworkentry/10.1007%2F978-1-4020-4425-0_8461))

Thebe Medupe, South African astronomer Look for 2003 film, Cosmic Africa (interview  
<https://physicstoday.scitation.org/doi/full/10.1063/1.2207030>)

El Caracol observatory <https://www.exploratorium.edu/ancientobs/chichen/HTML/caracol3.html>

See this site also for other ancient observatories

**Beijing Observatory** details of instruments with photos

[http://hua.umf.maine.edu/China/astronomy/tianpage/0018Guo\\_Shoujing6603w.html](http://hua.umf.maine.edu/China/astronomy/tianpage/0018Guo_Shoujing6603w.html)

Rohr, Rene R. J.: *Sundials: History, Theory, and Practice*

### Su Song, and other Chinese innovations

Needham, Joseph, et. al. *The Science and Civilization of China* (see volume 4: Engineering and Mechanics)

Needham, Joseph, Wang Ling, & deSolla Price, Derek J.: *Heavenly Clockwork*

**Korean astronomical innovations:** Needham, Lu, Combridge & Major: *The Hall of Heavenly Records*

**Make your own:** <https://www.etsy.com/shop/LASERDEKO>

lasercut models of astrolabe, armillary sphere and tellurium that you can make at home

**Johanna Wittenberg blog on Navigation in the Viking Age**, <https://johannawittenberg.com/blog/>

Medieval Islamic astronomy: <https://www.astronomy.com/science/how-islamic-scholarship-birthed-modern-astronomy/>

Chaucer's Works, volume 3, includes his treatise on the Astrolabe, project Gutenberg:  
<https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/45027>

Name or Place of object discussed	Date as known
world's largest Armillary sphere	1593
Celestial globes	
Astrolabe China/ Greece	by 300 bce
El Caracol observatory (Yucatan, Mexico)	500 CE
Cheomseongdae (Korea)	632 CE
Quadrants and Sextants	
Frame sextants	

Astronomical clocks, su song in Song Dynasty China	1096 CE
Al-Jazari's clocks	1206
English 14th c. astronomical clocks found in many churches	
Prague Astronomical Clock	1410
Dengfeng Observatory	729, 1276
Beijing Observatory (renovated by the Jesuits)	1442, 1644
Galileo's telescope	1608
Greenwich Royal observatory	1675
Jantar Mantar (large-scale instruments in India)	1720
Planetarium at Franeker (ceiling of a home)	1774