

## **Unit 2: The Maghreb: Northernmost Africa and the Sahara**

*This section studies prehistoric rock art in the Maghreb and briefly reviews the history of the region's development and its present-day nomadic cultures. Arab culture has affected this region, particularly through the religious influence of Islam. After conquering the Phoenicians, the Romans infiltrated North Africa, and while substantial Roman architectural ruins remain, Arabs used some of them to construct mosques. Subsequently, most mosque architecture reflects a syncretistic blend of Arab traditions and indigenous forms of building throughout Africa. Note that Muslims pray individually in an open, communal space, traditionally punctuated by a courtyard area and a minaret ascended by clergy to call the faithful to salah (daily prayers).*

### **Unit 2 Time Advisory**

This unit should take you approximately 10 hours to complete.

Subunit 2.1: 5 hours

Subunit 2.2: 5 hours

### **Unit 2 Learning Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

- analyze prehistoric art in North Africa;
- evaluate the impact of Roman and Phoenician culture in North Africa in the ancient world;
- discuss the living heritage of the Amizagh, or Berber, peoples.