



A F R I T E R R A
The Cartographic Free Library

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<http://www.afriterra.org>

Subject: Recommendation letter for Google Geo Challenge grant

Boston, December 18, 2008

To whom it may concern:

This letter is in support of Moravian Library in Brno, Czech Republic, and Petr Pridal, developer of MapTiler, for their application to receive a Google Geo Challenge grant. Afriterrra Foundation has the largest collection of rare maps of Africa in the United States. Since 2006, Afriterrra has digitized more than 1,500 maps and made them accessible for viewing through the Internet.

Afriterrra is very interested in the project that Moravian Library and Petr Pridal have proposed – that is, to develop an online georeference tool – because users will be able to georeference a map even if it is tiled by flash-based applications like zoomify, which we use in order to allow users around the world to browse our collection. If you award the grant to Moravian Library and Petr Pridal, Afriterrra will commit to test and validate the tool with suitable historical digital maps and report on its performance.

Afriterrra expects to make substantial use of the online georeference tool since its implementation will dramatically expand the accessibility and usability of our collection to the worldwide public, as mentioned in our presentation on Darfur at Barcelona 2008 (http://web.auth.gr/xeee/ICA-Heritage/Commission/3rd_Workshop/International_Workshop_on_the_Digital_Approaches_to_Cartog.pdf).

If you would like to discuss Afriterrra's recommendation and commitment, please contact us.

Best regards,

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