NIGER
NILE
CONGO
ZAMBEZI

www.mountainlight.com

http://www.contrast.cx/africa/congo.htm

http://www.micro.utexas.edu
http://www.safarimkt.com
http://www.oxfam.org.uk

CLIMATE

THE ATLANTIC SLAVE TRADE

THE ATLANTIC SLAVE TRADE
1701 – 1801

COlonialism

European Colonial Objectives
- A water route to South Asia and Southeast Asia
- A port along the West African coast
- 1500's looking for resources; Slaves
- 1850's industrial revolution occurs in Europe
  - Increased demand for mineral resources
  - Need to expand agricultural production
BERLIN CONFERENCE
1884
- 14 States divided up Africa without consideration of cultures
- Results of superimposed boundaries
  - African peoples were divided.
  - Unified regions were ripped apart.
  - Hostile societies were thrown together.
  - Hinterlands were disrupted.
- Migration routes were closed off.
- When independence returned to Africa after 1950, the realm had already acquired a legacy of political fragmentation.

COLONIAL POLICIES
- **Great Britain**: “Indirect Rule” (Ghana, Nigeria, Kenya, Zimbabwe)
  - Indigenous power structures were left intact to some degree and local rulers were made representatives of the crown.
- **France**: “Assimilationist” (Senegal, Mali, Ivory Coast, etc.)
  - Enforced a direct rule which propagated the French culture through language, laws, education and dress (acculturation)
- **Portugal**: “Exploitation” (Guinea-Bissau, Angola, Mozambique)
  - First to enslave and colonize and one of the last to grant independence
  - Maintained rigid control; raw resource oriented
- **Belgium**: “Paternalistic” (Rwanda, Zaire, Burundi)
  - Treated Africans as though they were children who needed to be tutored in western ways; did not try to make them Belgium
  - Raw resource oriented; ignored the development of natives

INDEPENDENT STATES IN AFRICA
- 1950
- 1960
- 1970

THE LEGACY
- Several hundred languages are spoken.
- Antagonism between tribes (e.g., Rwanda)
- Low level of development is linked to colonization
  - Transportation facilities - Movement of goods is from the interior to coastal outlets.
  - Communication within Africa is impeded by desert, dense forest, and lack of navigable rivers in certain regions.
  - Dual economy remains intact; most states rely on a single crop or mineral and are vulnerable to world markets.
**POPULATION DISTRIBUTION**

**SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA’S ECONOMIC CHALLENGE**
- Economic growth rate: 1.5% - world’s lowest
- The region’s 646 million people have a combined GNP of less than $150 billion, roughly the same as Belgium and its 10 million people.
- Population - growing at a rate of 2.6% annually, vs 1.7% for South America and 1.9% for South Asia

**MEDICAL GEOGRAPHY**
- Studies spatial aspects of disease and health
- Africa is an extraordinary laboratory.
  -- Disease incidence and diffusion
  -- Widespread nutritional deficiencies
- Millions suffer from:
  - malaria
  - river blindness
  - yellow fever
  - sleeping sickness
  - AIDS
  - bilharzia

**MALARIA**
Malaria is probably Africa’s No. 1 most widely spread disease and in most regions of Africa you should take protective measures. Although it is not possible to protect yourself totally you can reduce the risk of getting a serious, sometimes life-threatening, bout of the disease. Malaria can take from 7 days to several months to incubate and the symptoms range from headaches, pain and flu-like aches to disorientation and high temperatures.

**SLEEPING SICKNESS**
African sleeping sickness affects as many as 500,000 people, 80 percent of whom eventually die, and the bite of the fly causes more than $4 billion in economic losses annually.

**MEDICAL GEOGRAPHY**
- Endemic
  -- Exists in equilibrium with the population
  -- Many develop an immunity of sorts
  -- Saps energy, lowers resistance, shortens lives
- Epidemic
  -- Sudden outbreak at local, regional scale
- Pandemic
  -- Worldwide spread

Much of Africa’s best land — particularly in river valleys and moist areas, where the potential for mixed farming is good — remains uncultivated while tsetse free areas face collapse from overuse by humans.
AIDS IN AFRICA

In just the past year, the AIDS epidemic in Africa has claimed the lives of an estimated 2 million people in this region. More than twelve million children have been orphaned by AIDS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HIV/AIDS in Africa, 2005</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Sub-Saharan Africa</td>
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<tr>
<td>New infections</td>
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<tr>
<td>Child (under 15) infections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deaths</td>
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<tr>
<td>Child deaths</td>
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<tr>
<td>People living with HIV/AIDS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Africa Renewal from UNICEF and UNAIDS data

Limited formal education, lack of access to reliable information, and inadequate healthcare all promote harmful myths about AIDS. Common myths about getting and treating AIDS in developing countries include:

- Sex with a virgin cures AIDS (which has resulted in rape of women, children, and infants).
- If you feel healthy you can’t be HIV Positive.
- AIDS is caused by evil spirits.

SCHISTOSOMIASIS (BILHARZIA)

Among human parasitic diseases, schistosomiasis (sometimes called bilharziasis) ranks second behind malaria in terms of socio-economic and public health importance in tropical and subtropical regions.

Schistosomiasis enters the body through contact with infested surface water, mainly among people engaged in agriculture and fishing.

Fresh water becomes contaminated by Schistosoma eggs when infected people urinate or defecate in the water. The eggs hatch, and if certain types of snails are present in the water, the parasites grow and develop inside the snails.

SAHEL

- A narrow band of semi-arid land south of the Sahara, the Sahel attracted both Arabs looking for gold from Sudan and Europeans looking for slaves from West Africa.
- The Sahel is widely French-speaking, Islamic and takes its name ("shore") from Arabic.
- In the 1970s, the Sahel captured international attention when drought and famine killed nearly 200,000 people. Though conditions have since improved, it has yet to shake a vicious cycle of soil erosion, insufficient irrigation, deforestation, overpopulation, desertification and drought.

- The area tends to find Islam religions in the North and non-Islam in the South. Since a majority of this region is religiously divided, there have been many civil wars between the Islamic and non-Islamic people in the countries.

AIDS IN AFRICA

- In sub-Saharan Africa, where the world’s AIDS epidemic has hit the hardest, 3.2 people became newly infected in 2005 and 2.4 million adults and children died of AIDS related illnesses.
- The region has just over 10 percent of the world’s population, but more than 60 percent of all individuals infected with HIV/AIDS live in sub-Saharan Africa.
- There are now 24-28 million living with the virus in the region.
- The number of AIDS orphans is expected to rise from the current estimate of 11 million to 20 million by 2010.
Cultural Patterns

African Languages - Most of Africa's more than 1,000 languages do not have a written tradition, making classification and mapping difficult. There are six basic language families in SubSaharan Africa.

African languages
1. Niger-Kordofanian Family
   a) Niger-Congo Subfamily
   b) Kordofanian Subfamily
2. Nilo-Saharan Family
   a) Nilotic Subfamily
   b) Saharan Subfamily
3. Khoisan Family
4. Afro-Asiatic Family
5. Malay-Polynesian Family
6. Indo-European Family

About forty different African languages are spoken by one million people or more, and six languages are spoken by ten million or more. The most popular are Hausa, Yoruba, Igbo, Swahili, Lingala, and Zulu. French is spoken along the west coast of Equatorial Africa, and English is spoken in the western and southern regions.

Cultural Patterns - Religion in Africa

Long before the Muslims and later the Christians spread their faiths throughout Africa it was a place of strong religious beliefs.

Africans had a consistent view of their place in nature. Natural environment (in forests, rivers, and mountains) not supreme deity. Gods reward the virtuous and penalize those whom misbehave.

Islam advanced out of Arabia, across the deserts, and down the east coast. Christianity began in the northeast and most of SubSaharan Africa is nominally, although not exclusively, Christian.

Cultural Patterns - Population and Urbanization

This realm is the least urbanized of any in the world, but it is also the fastest urbanizing realm today. About 27% of the realm's population now resides in the cities, which means many are severely overcrowded, encircled by some of the worst slum developments in the world.

REGIONS OF SUBSAHARAN AFRICA

WEST AFRICA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Capital</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mauritania</td>
<td>Nouakchott</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mali</td>
<td>Bamako</td>
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<td>Niger</td>
<td>Niamey</td>
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<td>Senegal</td>
<td>Dakar</td>
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<td>Gambia</td>
<td>Banjul</td>
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<td>Guinea</td>
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<td>Guinea</td>
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<td>Freetown</td>
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<td>Liberia</td>
<td>Monrovia</td>
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<td>Ivory Coast</td>
<td>Yamoussoukro</td>
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<td>Ouagadougou</td>
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<td>Ghana</td>
<td>Accra</td>
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<td>Togo</td>
<td>Lome</td>
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<td>Benin</td>
<td>Porto Novo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>Abuja</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

West Africa

Land Forms
- Niger River
- Adamawa Highlands
- Sahel Zone

Ancient Civilizations
- Ghana
- Mali
- Songhai
Equatorial Africa

Astride the equator
Mainly lowland country
Congo River
Vast areas of rainforest

Equatorial Africa

Cameroon.................Yaounde
Central African Republic...Bangui
Equatorial Guinea...........Malabo
Gabon....................Libreville
Congo...............Brazzaville
The Congo...........Kinshasa

East Africa

Ethiopia.................Addis Ababa
Somalia..................Mogadishu
Kenya....................Nairobi
Uganda..................Kampala
Rwanda..................Kigali
Burundi.................Bujumbura
Tanzania..............Dar-es-Salaam

Landforms:
Great Rift Valley
Mt. Kenya
Mt. Meru
Mt. Kilimanjaro
Lake Victoria
Nile River
Serengeti Plain

Southern Africa

Angola...............Luanda
Zambia.................Lusaka
Malawi................Lilongwe
Mozambique.............Maputo
Zimbabwe..............Harare
Namibia...............Windhoek
Botswana..............Gaborone
Lesotho...............Maseru
Swaziland..............Mbabane
Madagascar............Antananarivo
South Africa.........Cape Town

Landforms:
Namib Desert
Kalahari Desert
Zambesi River
Okavango Swamp
Great Escarpment
Southern Africa

Apartheid - Literally, apartness. The Afrikaans term for South Africa's pre-1994 policies of racial separation, a system that produced highly segregated socio-geographical patterns.

Separate Development - The spatial expression of South Africa's “grand” apartheid scheme, whereby nonwhite groups were required to settle in segregated “homelands.” The policy was dismantled when white-minority rule collapsed in the early 1990's.

APARTHEID - Over 350 apartheid laws were passed by the National Party, among the most important ones:

- South African Act 1909 - Established the South African Union, consolidated the power in all-white parliament.
- Mines & Works Act 1911 & 1926 - Imposed a color ban on certain jobs, white people should have higher salaries than blacks at all times.
- Natives Land Acts 1913 & 1936 - Limited black people use of land to 13%.
- Natives (Urban Areas) Act 1923 - Established segregation in the cities, forced blacks to carry special papers at all times to be allowed to stay in the cities.
- Prohibition of Mixed Marriages Act 1949 - Banned marriages between the races.
- Population Registration Act 1950 - Forced all South Africans to register as Black, White, Asian or Colored.
- Immorality Act 1950 - Banned sexual relations between people from different races.
- Bantu Education Act 1953 - Enforced racial segregation of schools.

As the list suggests, apartheid evolved through a steady accumulation of laws and amendments. The cumulative effect was to create a comprehensive and deeply entrenched system of racial discrimination in South Africa.
Botswana — one of the highest life expectancy rates at 59 for men and 65 for women.
Ethiopia — greetings include three or four kisses to the cheek and holding hands with same sex is common. At birth, a witch doctor provides a small leather pouch containing holy verses to be secured around the babies neck for protection.
Ghana — although a polygamous society, men do not socialize with their wives. Staring is taboo. The staple food crop is boiled root crops mixed together, and the right hand is used to eat because the left hand is used to clean oneself after elimination.
Kenya — this culture is male dominated and polygamy is traditional but changing. The economic value of girls predisposes one tribe to practice somewhat preferential treatment in health care and nutritional resources for girls. Nairobi women hold positions in business and some government offices.
Madagascar — ancestor worship is practiced. Young boys and girls, as well as husbands and wives, avoid contact in public.
Malawi — housework, obedience, and politeness are encouraged for girls, while boys are encouraged to be bold and participate in outside activities.
Nigeria — women who are overweight by western standards are admired. Highest rate of twins in world. Thumbs up gesture is considered rude.
Zimbabwe — acceptance of the married mother’s breast milk by an infant is a sign of its legitimacy of the father.