**Africa 2 - Geography of Africa**

* **The Continent of Africa**
* Five Geographic Regions of Africa
* **North Africa**
  + Mountain Ranges (Atlas Mountains)
  + Sahara desert (world’s largest)
* **West Africa**
  + Grasslands
  + Most populated
* **East Africa**
  + Mountainous
  + Plateaus
  + Grasslands
  + Hills
* **South Africa**
  + Namib & Kalahari Deserts
  + Drakensberg Mountain Range
* **Central Africa**
  + Equator
  + Rain forests
* **Desertification** – The spreading of a desert region
  + The region of Sahel is most affected by the spreading desert.
* **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** – 4,000 mile giant fault, or break in the earth’s crust. From Red Sea to Zambezi River.
  + Evidence has found that the earliest Africans first lived in this area.
* **Major Rivers**
* **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** – **world’s longest (4,000 + miles)**

**Sources: White Nile (Uganda) & Blue Nile (Ethiopian highlands) flows into the Mediterranean**

* **Congo River** – **Central Africa – through rain forests, 2,720 miles long**
* **Niger River** – **Africa’s third longest- 2,600 miles long. Begins in West Africa (Guinea)**
* **Zambezi River** – **Fourth longest 2,200 miles – Southern Africa; contains Victoria Falls; flows into the Indian Ocean**
* **Climate and Diversity**
  + The equator runs nearly through the center of Africa
  + \_\_\_\_% of the nation is tropical
  + Further from equator = colder and Higher Elevation = colder
* Early Civilizations of Africa
* **Where Civilization Began**
  + \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – located on the edge of the Great Rift Valley in Tanzania
  + Archaeologists – Mary and Louis Leakey discovered bone over 2 million years old
  + This has led some scientists to believe that the first people were from Africa
* **Bantu Migration**
  + Today, close to 100 million people across the southern half of Africa speak related languages, collectively known as Bantu languages.
  + Linguistic evidence shows that the root Bantu language emerged in what is now Nigeria and Cameroon by 2000 BC.
* **The Gold – Salt Trade**
  + Traveling caravans crossed the vast Sahara desert to the Middle East
  + Travelers looked to profit from the desert crossing with large trades
  + The savanna lands of West Africa lacked salt, which is essential to survival
  + In West Africa, salt was more valuable than gold
* **The Empire of Mali is Born**
  + Influence of Islam
  + Muslim traders carried religion across West Africa
  + Mansa Musa adopted a new faith and Mandingos or farmers under Ghana’s rule also converted
  + He built many mosques in Mali
* **The Forest Kingdom of Benin**
  + Arose in a thickly forested area near the equator
  + Developed in the delta region of the Niger River
  + Ruler – set up a centralized government
  + Had intersecting streets, workers produced brass, wood, ivory, and woven goods
  + Best known for their Bronze art
* Early African Culture
* **Family Ties**
  + Farming and herding societies consisted of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
  + Kinships created strong bonds and a sense of community
* **Structure of African Society**
* **Inheritance and Descent**
* **Status of Women**
* **Economic Organization**
  + Most villagers were \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – They produced only enough food for their own needs with little or no surplus
  + \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – allowing the land to regenerate important minerals needed to grow crops
  + Land was community property
* **African Religions**
  + Supreme being had created everything
  + Supreme being was a distant figure
  + Many are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
  + Oral traditions and myths
  + Ancestors could help or harm them
  + Every object on earth was filled with a living spirit (**Animism**)
* **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** - The term animism is derived from the Latin word *anima* meaning *breath* or *soul*. The belief of animism is probably one of man's oldest beliefs, with its origin most likely dating to the Paleolithic age. From its earliest beginnings it was a belief that a soul or spirit existed in every object, even if it was inanimate. In a future state this soul or spirit would exist as part of an immaterial soul. The spirit, therefore, was thought to be universal.
* **Diviners and Healers**
  + Rooted in Tradition
  + Their purpose was to explain the cause of misfortune
  + Experts in herbal medicine
  + Today, doctors study the roots and herbs used in traditional African healing
* **The Slave Trade**
* How Does The Slave Trade Begin?
* **Triangular Slave Trade**
  + The Middle Passage
* **The Atlantic Slave Trade**
* Why was there a slave trade?
* Ending the Slave Trade
* Why did the slave trade end?
* **African Diaspora**
  + The slave trade sent millions of Africans overseas this created a scattering of individuals
  + Survivors struggled to hold on to their culture
  + African people and their culture of food, music, dance, and tradition was spread across a wide area.
  + 1787 – British set up a colony in West Africa for freed slaves (Sierra Leone)
  + Later, free blacks from the US formed Liberia, it became independent in 1847
* Age of Imperialism
* Tribalism in Africa
  + Tribalism – Pride and loyalty to ones people within Africa being based on tribal boundaries

Historical Significance

* Europeans did not understand or respect Tribalism.
* This has resulted in additional conflict being created in Africa which has continued to last to present day
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ - (Colonialism) (Colonization)
  + *“WHEN A MORE POWERFUL NATION TAKES OVER A WEAKER NATION FOR* ECONOMIC, STRATEGIC, OR POLITICAL REASONS.”

Economic Motives

* European factories need raw materials to run.
* (Coal / Iron Ore / Oil / Cotton / Rubber)
* These raw materials are found in Africa.

Strategic Motives

* Offers port city’s between Europe and Asia
* Causes of African Imperialism

Political Motives

* Prestige – The more land you control the more powerful you are

Religious (Spiritual) Motives

* Christians believed that it was their duty to spread the ideals of Christianity
* White Man’s Burden – Duty of the white race to bring the superior white culture to non-whites

African Independence

* **Apartheid in South Africa**
* **Origins of Apartheid**
  + 1910 Britain granted S. Africa self-rule
  + Whites make up 13% of Africa’s pop.
  + 77% are black
  + Supported by white farmers (Boers)
  + They set up \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – rigid separation of races
* **The Republic of South Africa**
  + S. Africans were classified as black, white, and “colored” (mixed)
  + Pass laws were created
  + White only busses, beaches, bathrooms, restaurants, and schools
  + Opposition groups were banned from speaking out (ANC)
  + Nelson Mandela is imprisoned for 27 years for opposing racial segregation
* **Apartheid Ends**
  + F.W. De Klerk lifts ban on opposition groups
  + 1990 – Nelson Mandela is released from prison
  + His release symbolized hope for the people of South Africa
  + 1991 – Africans were no longer classified by race
  + 1992 – citizenship is given to blacks
  + 1994 – Mandela is elected President